

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED **APR 25 1979**
DATE ENTERED **MAY 9**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Little Venture

AND/OR COMMON

Little Elk Farm (PREFERRED)

LOCATION

NW of Providence

STREET & NUMBER

**One mile north of Maryland Route 273 on
Little Elk Creek Road**

CITY, TOWN

Providence, Md.
Near Rock Church

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

COUNTY

Cecil

CODE

015

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Richard D. Mackie

STREET & NUMBER

R.D. 8

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland 21921

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland 21921

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Little Elk Farm is a late 18th century (1775-1800) stone structure located a mile north of Maryland Route 273 on Little Elk Creek Road. The main facade faces southwest with the primary gable running on a northwest/southeast orientation. The farmhouse has a scenic view of meandering Little Elk Creek.

The structure consists of two 18th century stone sections with a late 19th century stone kitchen addition. All sections rest on an uncoursed stone foundation. The slate roof is of medium to steep pitch.

The main block is a 2½-story modified side hall/double parlor plan structure with a smaller 1½-story, 2 bay x 1 bay stone wing on the east gable and that was built at approximately the same time. The late 19th century kitchen addition was attached to the rear (north) and east side of this wing. The wing and kitchen are located on a slightly lower level than the main block due to the slope in the property.

The southwest (front) facade is laid with cut and coursed stone with larger cut quoins. The entrance is the third of five bays from the west. A late 19th century door with multi-pane transom has replaced the earlier door. The door has two horizontal panels below the lock rail and is glazed above. The window openings are symmetrically placed. A 2/2 sash with half-round molding for window surrounds has replaced the earlier sash in every instance. There are two 2/2 sash dormers on the main roof. The eaves on the dormers are extended with short returns. The sides are weatherboarded. The main cornice was replaced when the roof was recovered.

The front porch, that extends across the main block, was added in the late 19th or early 20th century. It has a pediment in the front and is supported by Doric columns. The roof is of standing seamed tin.

The west gable end of the main block is laid within uncoursed fieldstone. There are two windows on the first floor and two double-pane attic windows. The first floor windows have large stone lintels with keystones. A bricked-up datestone opening is located in the peak of the gable. The eaves are extended with returns at the base. The stone chimney pile rises out of the gable but is laid with brick above the roof line. The last detail is a late 19th century porch that extends around to this side from the north wall. It consists of a turned balustrade and turned main supports which held up a sloping standing seam tin roof. There are small cross gables on both sides of the porch (west and north). A smaller spindled balustrade is located between the supports and under the eave.

The north (rear) side of the main block is three bays across with the central bay as an entrance with French doors. There are only two windows on the second floor. Dormers identical to those on the front of the house are also located on the north slope of the roof. The back porch extends across the full length of the north wall.

The east wing has two 2/2 sash windows on each floor of the front facade (southwest). The western window on the second floor is slightly to the west of the one below it. The shutters, as on the rest of the house, are paneled on the first floor and louvered on the second. The east wing has been partially stuccoed.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

01001951 10/17/77

SPECIFIC DATES **1775-1800**

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

Architecturally, Little Elk Farm is an important structure along the Little Elk Creek. It is one of the best examples of a side hall/double parlor plan in this general area. Later alterations reflect changing tastes and the prosperity of its owners. The 18th century woodwork that survives is in excellent condition and typical of the period. The architectural integrity of the structure has been retained, as the 19th century additions were made without hindering the overall appearance of the structure. The 19th century woodwork is also exemplary of its time and in good condition.

HISTORY

The house is located on a tract called "Little Venture", patented to Robert Mackey on October 11, 1769 and willed to his son, David Mackey, in 1771 (Will Book BB 2/348). The area has remained primarily agricultural with various industrial activities located along the creek. In addition to his agricultural pursuits, David Mackey was a Lieutenant Colonel of the 6th Battalion in the Chester County Flying Camp Battalion (Biographies and Histories of Chester County, p.41). The house was later purchased by William Mackey (1787-1845). The property remained in the Mackey name until the late 19th century when Walter and Annie Armstrong bought the farm from L. Marshall Haines, a trustee for a number of Mackey heirs (JAD 6/312). The Armstrongs were a prominent family in the area and may have been the ones to add the Victorian details and kitchen addition. Stockford Farms, owned by the du Ponts, purchased the property from the Armstrongs (SRA 12/433). The house and farm have passed back into the hands of the Mackie family and are presently owned by Richard D. Mackie, delegate to the Maryland General Assembly.

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Little Elk Farm
Cecil County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

The east gable end of the main block is mostly covered by the wing addition except for the area above the roof line which has been stuccoed. The east gable end of the wing addition has also been covered with stucco. There is a single 2/2 sash window on each floor of the wing along with a small two-pane attic window. There are paneled shutters on both full size windows.

The three bay by one bay kitchen addition extends across the north wall of the wing and around the corner to the east side. The north slope of the roof is a continuation of the roof of the wing. The addition juts out farther to the east than the wing and is gabled beyond the end of the wing. A tall brick chimney rises out of this gable end. The windows have 2/2 sash with paneled shutters. A 2/2 sash dormer is located on the north slope of the addition roof; it has extended eaves and shingled sides. An entrance to the kitchen is located between the two windows, and there is a cellar entrance below the western bay.

The first floor interior of the main block was partially remodeled in the late 19th century. The main quarter turn stair, however, has remained with its 18th century balustrade. The newel is square with paneled sides and a molded cap. There are two rectangular balusters to each tread and they support a molded handrail. The stringer is decorated with elaborately scrolled trim. The triangular area below the stair is outlined with an ovola banded molding. Plain boards set on a diagonal fill the triangular area. A half-rail, to match the main handrail, extends up the adjacent wall. It is supported by an applied column with a paneled inset. The stair becomes enclosed halfway up with a beaded partition wall. The soffit is also beaded and held in place with T-shaped wrought nails. A fairly simple chairrail remains in the main hall along with a six-panel door with wrought hardware that leads to the basement.

The earlier double parlor plan was modified when the wall between the parlors was removed and the corner fireplaces taken out. Presently there is one long room with a fireplace parallel to the west wall. The mantel is of mid to late 19th century design with fluted pilasters which support a molded architrave. The end blocks project from the plain frieze at either end. The thick mantel shelf is supported by a series of stepped moldings above the frieze. The molded baseboard and fluted window and door surrounds also date from the mid to late 19th century. The door and window surrounds have a bullseye decorated corner block.

The room behind the stair hall has been divided for a cloakroom and downstairs bathroom. The corner fireplace was removed from this room, too.

The second floor retains more of its 18th century detail. Six-panel doors with wrought hardware remain on all the doorways. An interesting enclosed space is found at the head of the stair. It is constructed of beaded boards with T-shaped wrought nails.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.

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Little Elk Farm
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CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

The chairrail on the second floor is fairly plain with a beaded lower edge and a top piece with a half round profile. The stair is completely enclosed as it rises to the third floor. The third floor was completely remodeled in the 20th century. An access panel in the northwest room leads to a small attic space with wide flooring and lapped rafters.

A full basement is found only under the main block. The basement is divided into two rooms, separated by a stone wall and a heavy board door with a mortise and tenon timber frame. Remnants of whitewash are found throughout the basement.

The contemporary stone wing consists of one room on the first floor with a back stair leading to a hall and bedroom on the second floor. An access panel in the ceiling at the head of the stair leads to the attic space. The interior of the main room on the first floor has been completely paneled with vertical pine boards. The once exposed beams with corner beads were also covered over. The second floor was presumably one large room until it was finished off. Second floor whitewashed floor joists uncovered in the attic attest to the fact that they were once exposed. A solid oak ladder with pinned treads remains in the attic space and was undoubtedly the means by which one entered the attic. The rafters are lapped and pinned and the floorboards fastened with rosehead nails.

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Little Elk Farm
Cecil County
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 3

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cecil County Wills and Deeds, Cecil County Courthouse, Elkton, Maryland.

Rock Presbyterian Church Records, vicinity of Fair Hill, Maryland.

George Johnston, History of Cecil County, Maryland, Elkton, published 1881
by the author.

The Mackies (variously spelled) An Allied Family, compiled by Beatrice Mackie
Doughtie, copyright 1957, Bowen Press, Inc., de Catur, Georgia.

Bibles owned by various members of the Mackie family.

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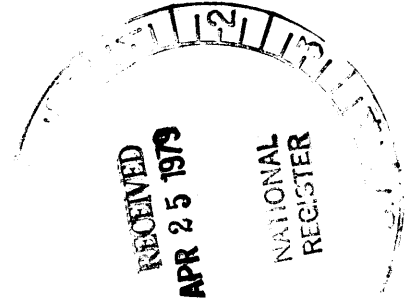
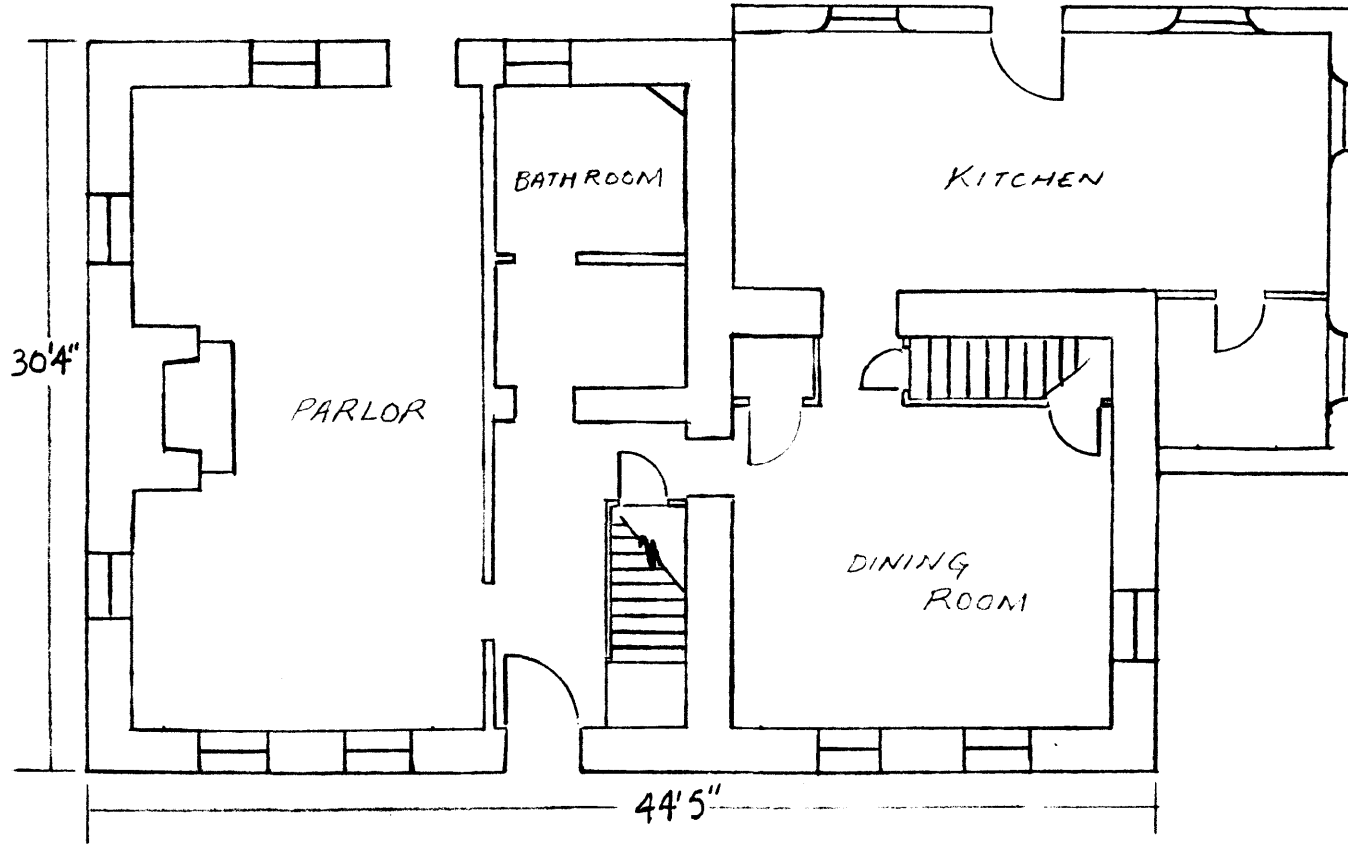
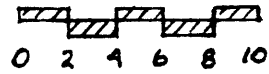
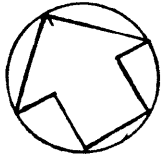
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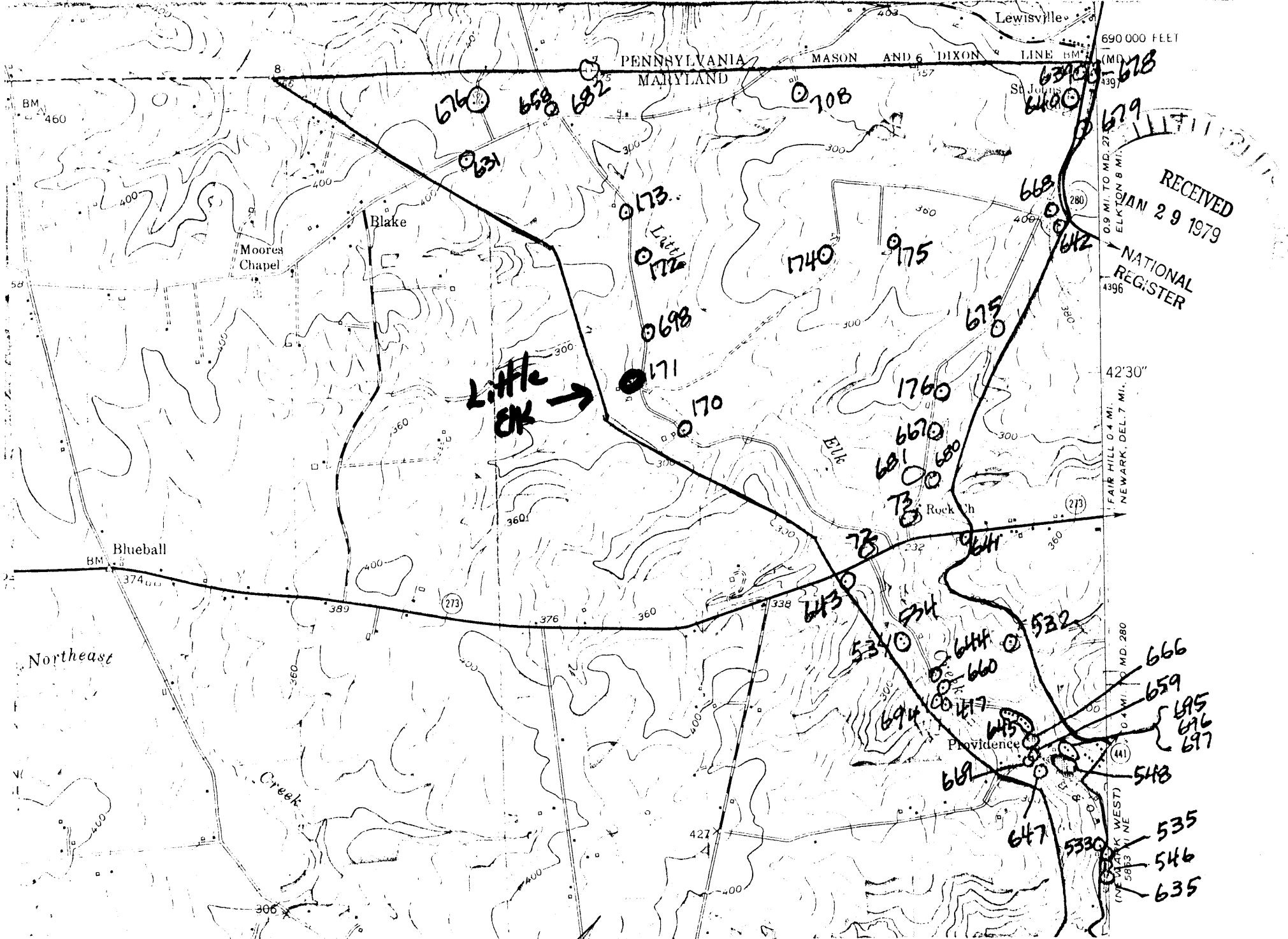
Little Elk Farm
Cecil County
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 4

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The acreage accompanying the Little Elk Farm nomination is the immediate land around the farmhouse which begins along Little Elk Creek Road about 300' below the house and runs in an easterly direction for approximately 100' to the Little Elk Creek and following the same for approximately 600' in a northerly direction. From thence in a westerly direction to the said road and finally south to the place of beginning, containing approximately two acres.





PENNSYLVANIA
MARYLAND

MASON AND DIXON LINE

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