

T-42

## Ratcliffe Manor (Radcliffe Manor)

### **Architectural Survey File**

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site ([mht.maryland.gov](http://mht.maryland.gov)) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

***Last Updated: 03-21-2013***

T-42  
Radcliffe Manor Dairy Complex  
7768 Radcliff Manor Road  
Easton Vicinity  
Ca. 1910-1940  
Private

*Note: This appends the MHT survey form for T-42 written in 1976 for the Radcliffe Manor main residence only.*

Radcliffe Manor is located on a peninsula of land between the South Fork of the Avon River and Dixon Creek, west of Easton in Talbot County. The property consists of a ca. 1762 main house and a ca. 1910-1940 agricultural and dairy complex. The twelve buildings in the agricultural complex consist of an overseers' house, a tenant house, and a dairy complex with a dairy barn, milk house, silo, fodder shed, hog house, chicken house, two machinery sheds, a smokehouse, and a shed. The agricultural resources are located to the northeast of the main residence, outside of the wood post-and-rail fence, and along the entry driveway.

Radcliffe Manor is significant in the area of architecture for the high-style Georgian house built in 1762 by Henry Holliday. The property is also locally significant for its intact collection of agricultural buildings associated with the historically important dairy industry in Talbot County. Dairy operations began during the ownership of Andrew Hathaway, who purchased the property in 1902. The Hathaway family resided on the property until 1936, when Andrew Hathaway's heirs sold the property to John W. McCoy. The dairy operation was begun during the Hathaway's residency and was continued by the McCoy's. The property was sold in 1945 to Ambassador Gerard C. Smith and his wife, Bernice, who restored the house and grounds. The property was sold by the Smiths to the present owners in 1995.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. T-42

## 1. Name of Property

historic Radcliffe Manor Dairy Complex

other

## 2. Location

street and number 7768 Radcliff Manor Road N/A not for publication

city, town Easton \_X\_ vicinity

county Talbot

## 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Anthony S. and Hope R. Harrington

street and number 7768 Radcliff Manor Road telephone 410-820-9264

city, town Easton state MD zip code 21601

## 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Courthouse liber 799 folio 880

city, town Easton tax map 34/13 tax parcel 23 tax ID number 082086

## 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- Other: Previous MHT Inventory of Historic Properties Form

## 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	12	0 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	0	0 sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	1	0 structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	0	0 objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	13	0 Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
				<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b>	
				1	

## 7. Description

Inventory No. T-42

### Condition

excellent       deteriorated  
 good             ruins  
 fair               altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

### **Summary Description**

Radcliffe Manor is located on a peninsula of land between the South Fork of the Avon River and Dixon Creek, to the west of Easton in Talbot County, Maryland. The property currently consists of the ca. 1762 main residence and a ca. 1910 to 1940 agricultural and dairy complex. There are twelve buildings in the dairy complex, consisting of an overseers' house, tenant house, and twentieth-century dairy complex, with a dairy barn, milk house, silo, fodder shed, hog house, chicken house, two machinery sheds, a smokehouse, and a shed. These resources are located to the northeast of the main residence, outside of the wood post and rail fence, and along the entry drive. Additional tenant houses and other agricultural buildings were located elsewhere on the property, but have recently been demolished.

The ca. 1762 residence is a two-and-a-half story, high-style Georgian brick masonry structure with a one-and-a-half story side hyphen leading to the kitchen. The house has had only minor alterations since its original construction and retains the majority of its historic building fabric. The residence is located at the tip of the peninsula and is separated from the dairy complex by a wood post and rail fence and vegetation.

The agricultural complex is arranged on a linear plan that runs parallel to the access road. The paved access road for the property runs through the site. The ca. 1920 tenant house is located on the eastern side of the road, closest to the main house. The dairy complex, begun ca. 1935, is located directly to the northeast of the tenant house and is separated from the access road by a wood post and rail fence. The ca. 1910 overseers' house is located across from the dairy complex on the western side of the access road and is also separated from the access road by a wood post and rail fence. The buildings are surrounded by grassy fields and cultivated agricultural fields with the main house complex located to the southwest. Trees are planted between the overseers' and tenant houses and the main house, obstructing the view between these properties.

### **Dairy Barn, ca. 1935**

The main building of the complex is the gambrel-roofed dairy barn, built ca. 1935. The barn is a two-story timber frame structure with a poured concrete slab foundation. The building is eight bays deep and has a center aisle plan with a hayloft on the second level. The gambrel roof is clad with asphalt shingles and has hay hoods on either end and four shed roof dormers. Two dormers with paired six-pane wood awning sash windows are located on each side of the roof. Eight lightning rods are located along the roof ridge.

The main building entries are located on the east and west gable ends. The gable ends have rusticated rock-faced concrete masonry units forming the lower two-and-a-half feet of the wall. The upper portion of the wall is clad with beveled wood siding. The building is entered through a central set of sliding wood plank doors with diagonal bracing. The doors are flanked by nine-pane wood awning sash windows. Two sets of hinged hayloft doors are located on the west façade. The lower door is constructed of wood planks with diagonal bracing. The upper set of doors is also constructed of wood planks with diagonal bracing. Two nine-pane wood awning sash windows are located between the hay loft doors.

The side walls have rusticated rock-faced concrete masonry units forming the lower two-and-a-half feet of the wall. The upper portion of the wall is clad with beveled wood siding. The south elevation has five Dutch doors on the eastern half of the wall constructed of wood planks with diagonal bracing with nine-pane wood awning sash windows located to the right of the four eastern-most doors. The two eastern most doors have been converted into sliding doors. Four evenly spaced nine-pane wood awning sash windows are located along the western half of the wall. The north façade has a central hinged wood plank door with diagonal bracing and 8 lights. The door leads to the adjacent milk house, which is connected to the barn via a covered walkway. Four evenly spaced nine-pane wood awning sash windows are located on either side of the doorway.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Radcliffe Manor  
Continuation Sheet

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The interior of the building is unfinished with a poured concrete floor. The lower two-and-a-half feet of the wall is constructed of the smooth rear face of the exterior rusticated, rock-faced concrete masonry units. The upper portion of the wall is clad with three inch horizontal tongue and groove beadboard. The ceiling of the first floor is clad with the same beadboard. The twelve interior columns are of steel. The first floor is evenly divided into two spaces by a timber frame wall with a sliding wood plank door with diagonal bracing. Two storage rooms are located in the northeast and northwest corners of the western half. The eight stalls in this portion of the building are of wood plank construction. The stalls in the eastern half of the building have been replaced with tubular steel stanchions. The second floor hayloft is an undivided space accessed via a wood ladder. The space is unfinished, with a wood plank floor and exposed trusses and framing.

### ***Milk House, ca. 1935***

Located adjacent to the dairy barn to the northeast is the milk house which is connected to the barn via a covered gable roof walkway with four steel columns and a poured concrete floor. The ca. 1935 milk house is a one-story light timber frame structure with an undivided interior space. The building rests on a poured concrete slab. Rusticated rock-faced concrete masonry units form the lower two-and-a-half feet of the walls. The upper portions of the walls are clad with beveled wood siding. The side gable roof is clad with asphalt shingles. The doors on the south gable end and west side wall are hinged wood plank doors with diagonal bracing and eight lights. The original windows have been replaced with one-over-one wood and six-over-six vinyl sashes which are smaller than the original windows. The interior of the building is unfinished with a poured concrete floor. The bottom three feet of the wall are clad with three inch horizontal tongue and groove beadboard.

### ***Silo, ca. 1935 and Fodder House, ca. 1935***

To the east of the milk house, within a fenced enclosure, is a poured concrete silo on a poured concrete pad. The silo has a conical roof clad with standing-seam metal. An enclosed metal ladder is located on the west façade. Just to the east, outside of the enclosure is a timber frame fodder shed with an open east façade. The shed rests on a combination pier and continuous poured concrete foundation. The walls are clad with board and batten siding. The side gable roof is clad with asphalt shingles. There are no doors or windows. The interior of the building is unfinished with an earthen floor.

### ***Hog House, ca. 1935***

The ca. 1935 hog house is located closest to the dairy barn and is a one-story light timber frame structure. The interior is divided into three rooms, one of which is an internal corn crib. A one room side addition has been constructed on the north façade. The building rests on a poured concrete slab with a one-foot curb around the perimeter. The walls are clad with beveled wood siding. The walls of the corn crib portion of the building are clad with three-foot wood planks, spaced approximately one-half-inch apart. The offset side gable roof is clad with standing-seam metal. Four exterior doors on the east and south façades are hinged plywood panels and one exterior door and the two interior doors are hinged five-panel wood. The majority of the window openings have been boarded up. Nine-pane wood awning sash windows are located on the west and south façades. The horizontal openings which flank the central entry doors on the east façade have been left open, with a single one-over-one horizontal vinyl sash used as infill. The building has an interior concrete masonry unit chimney, which is not visible on the interior. The interior of the building is unfinished with a poured concrete floor. The walls are clad with a combination of beadboard and wood planks. The ceiling is clad with the same beadboard.

### ***Chicken House, ca. 1935***

To the south of the hog house is the ca. 1935 chicken house. The building is a one-story light timber frame structure with an undivided interior space. The building rests on a poured concrete slab with a one-foot curb around the perimeter. The walls are clad with beveled wood siding. The offset side gable roof is clad with standing-seam metal over wood shingles. Four exterior door openings are located on the east façade. The window openings have been boarded up. The interior of the building is unfinished with a poured concrete floor. The bottom four feet of the wall are clad with beadboard.

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### ***Machinery Sheds (2), ca. 1940 and 1950***

Two machinery sheds are located on the property. Shed #1 (built ca. 1940) faces east, and is located between the hog house and the access road. It is seven bays wide with the three southern most bays enclosed. The shed is of timber frame construction with an open east façade. The shed rests on a combination pier and continuous poured concrete foundation. The walls are clad with board and batten siding. The offset side gable roof is clad with standing-seam metal. The enclosed portion of the building has sliding wood plank doors. There are no windows. The interior of the building is unfinished with an earthen floor.

Shed #2 (built ca. 1950) faces south, and is located between the chicken house and the tenant house. It is five bays wide and is of timber frame construction with an open south façade. The shed rests on a combination pier and continuous poured concrete foundation. The walls are clad with vertical wood planks with tongue and groove siding used on the north façade. The offset side gable roof is clad with standing-seam metal. There are no doors or windows. The interior of the building is unfinished with an earthen floor.

### ***Tenant House, ca. 1920***

The ca. 1920 tenant house is located to the southwest of the dairy complex. The residence is a one-and-a-half story wood frame structure with a hall-parlor plan and a ca. 1960 two-story rear shed roof addition. The building rests on a continuous brick masonry foundation, with a continuous concrete masonry unit foundation on the rear addition. The building is clad with wood shingles. The side gable roof is clad with asphalt shingles and has three gable roof dormers. The central entry door is flanked by six-over-six wood sashes. The same windows are used on the ca. 1920 portion of the building. The ca. 1960 addition has one-over-one wood sashes. The building has a central brick masonry chimney. The rear porch has been enclosed with tongue and groove siding. The interior was not accessible at the time of the survey. To the east of the milk house, within a fenced enclosure, is a poured concrete silo on a poured concrete pad. The silo has a conical roof clad with standing-seam metal. An enclosed metal ladder is located on the west façade. Just to the east, outside of the enclosure is a timber frame fodder shed with an open east façade. The shed rests on a combination pier and continuous poured concrete foundation. The walls are clad with board and batten siding. The side gable roof is clad with asphalt shingles. There are no doors or windows. The interior of the building is unfinished with an earthen floor.

### ***Smokehouse, date unknown***

A wood frame smokehouse has been moved onto a concrete pad at the rear of the tenant house. The smokehouse is clad with vertical wood siding and has a front-gable roof clad with standing-seam metal over wood shingles. The building is entered through a hinged wood plank door on the west façade. There are no windows.

### ***Overseer's House, ca. 1910***

The ca. 1910 overseers' house is located to the southwest of the dairy complex, across the access road. The residence is a two-story wood frame structure with a front facing "L"-shaped plan and a ca. 1940 front shed roof addition. The building rests on a continuous poured concrete foundation. The building is clad with horizontal wood siding and has a cross-gable roof is clad with asphalt shingles. The entry door has two wood panels with two panels of glass above. The windows are predominantly six-over-six wood sashes with a few six-pane and three-pane hopper sashes. The building has an exterior end wall brick masonry chimney. The wraparound front porch has a wood plank floor, six wood posts, and a hipped roof. A portion of the porch has been enclosed. The interior was not accessible at the time of the survey.

### ***Shed, date unknown***

A wood frame shed is located to the south of the overseers' house. The shed has a poured concrete foundation. Rusticated, rock-faced concrete masonry units forming the lower two-and-a-half feet of the wall. The upper portion of the

**Maryland Historical Trust  
Maryland Inventory of  
Historic Properties Form**

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Radcliffe Manor  
**Continuation Sheet**

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wall is clad with board and batten siding. The building has a front-gable roof clad with asphalt shingles. The building is entered through a hinged wood plank door on the north façade. One window opening is located on each remaining façade.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. T-42

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

**Specific dates** 1762; 1920-1939 **Architect/Builder** unknown

**Construction dates** ca. 1762; ca. 1910-1940

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

### Summary Statement of Significance

The ca. 1762 Radcliffe Manor main house built by Henry Holliday has been previously determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The property also represents the area of Agriculture between the years 1935 to 1950. The intact collection of twelve agricultural buildings at Radcliffe Manor is associated with the historically important dairy industry in Talbot County. This coincides with the rise and development of the dairy industry during the Post-War Recession, the Great Depression, and the New Deal (1920-1939) agricultural period in Talbot County's history. The property retains several buildings that display the characteristics and building types associated with a high-end dairy operation in Talbot County during this period. The gambrel-roofed dairy barn is an especially noteworthy example of this building type in Talbot County..

### Historical Background

Radcliffe Manor was purchased by Henry Hollyday in 1752. The Hollydays completed construction of the manor house by 1762 and the property remained in the family with minor alterations and additions until 1902, when it was purchased by Andrew A. Hathaway who converted the working farm into a part-time gentleman's farm. The Hathaway family resided on the property until 1936, when Andrew Hathaway's children sold the property to John W. McCoy. The dairy operation was begun during the Hathaway's residency and was continued by the McCoys. The property was sold again in 1945 to Ambassador Gerard C. Smith and his wife, Bernice, who restored the house and grounds. The property was sold by the Smiths to the present owners in 1995. Portions of the property are currently under development and Radcliffe Manor no longer an active dairy farm, though the dairy barn still houses a small herd.

Radcliffe Manor was originally surveyed in August 1976 by Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant with the Maryland Historical Trust. Research on the property was conducted in June 1976 by Cynthia B. Ludlow, Research Historian with the Talbot County Committee of the Maryland Historical Trust.



## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. T-42

- Lanier, Gabrielle M. and Bernard L. Herman. *Everyday Architecture of the Mid-Atlantic: Looking at Buildings and Landscapes*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997.
- Nobel, Allen G. and Richard K. Cleek. *The Old Barn Book*. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1997.
- Rawson, Richard. *Old Barn Plans*. New York: Bonanza Books, 1979.
- Talbot County Land Records  
Talbot County Will Books
- Weeks, Christopher. *Where Land and Water Intertwine: An Architectural History of Talbot County, Maryland*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1984.
- Whitaker, James H. *Agricultural Buildings and Structures*. Reston, Va.: Reston Publishing Co., 1979.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 46.61  
Acreage of historical setting 46.61  
Quadrangle name Easton, MD Quadrangle scale: 1: 24,000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary of the surveyed property is marked as current boundary as described on Talbot County Tax Map 34, Grid 13, Parcel 23. The existing parcel portion is concurrent with the historic setting, and includes character-defining resources and setting which relate to the property's construction and evolution.

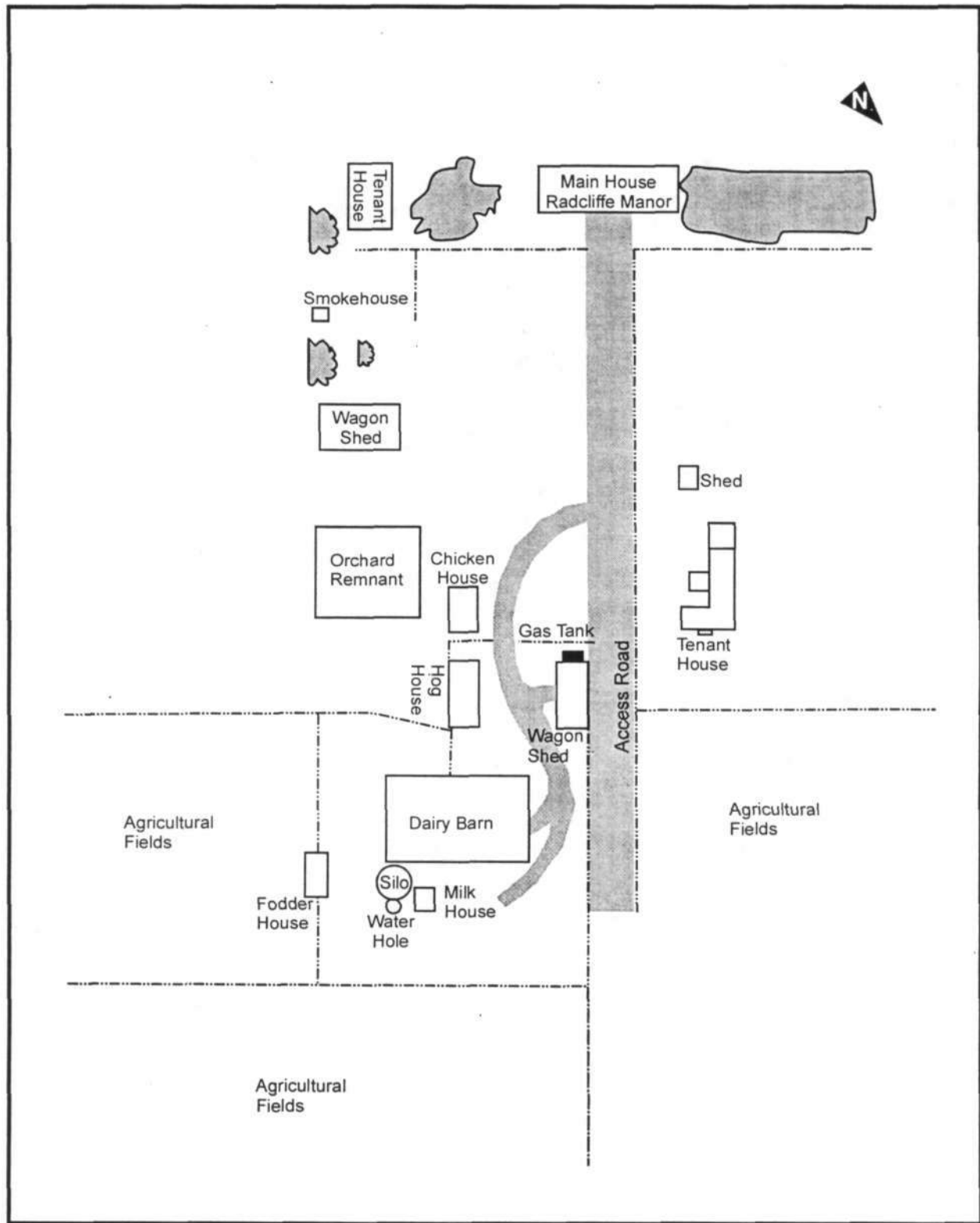
## 11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Amy Barnes, Architectural Historian		
organization	URS Corporation	date	12-08-03
street & number	7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700	telephone	301.652.2215
city or town	Bethesda	state	MD 20814

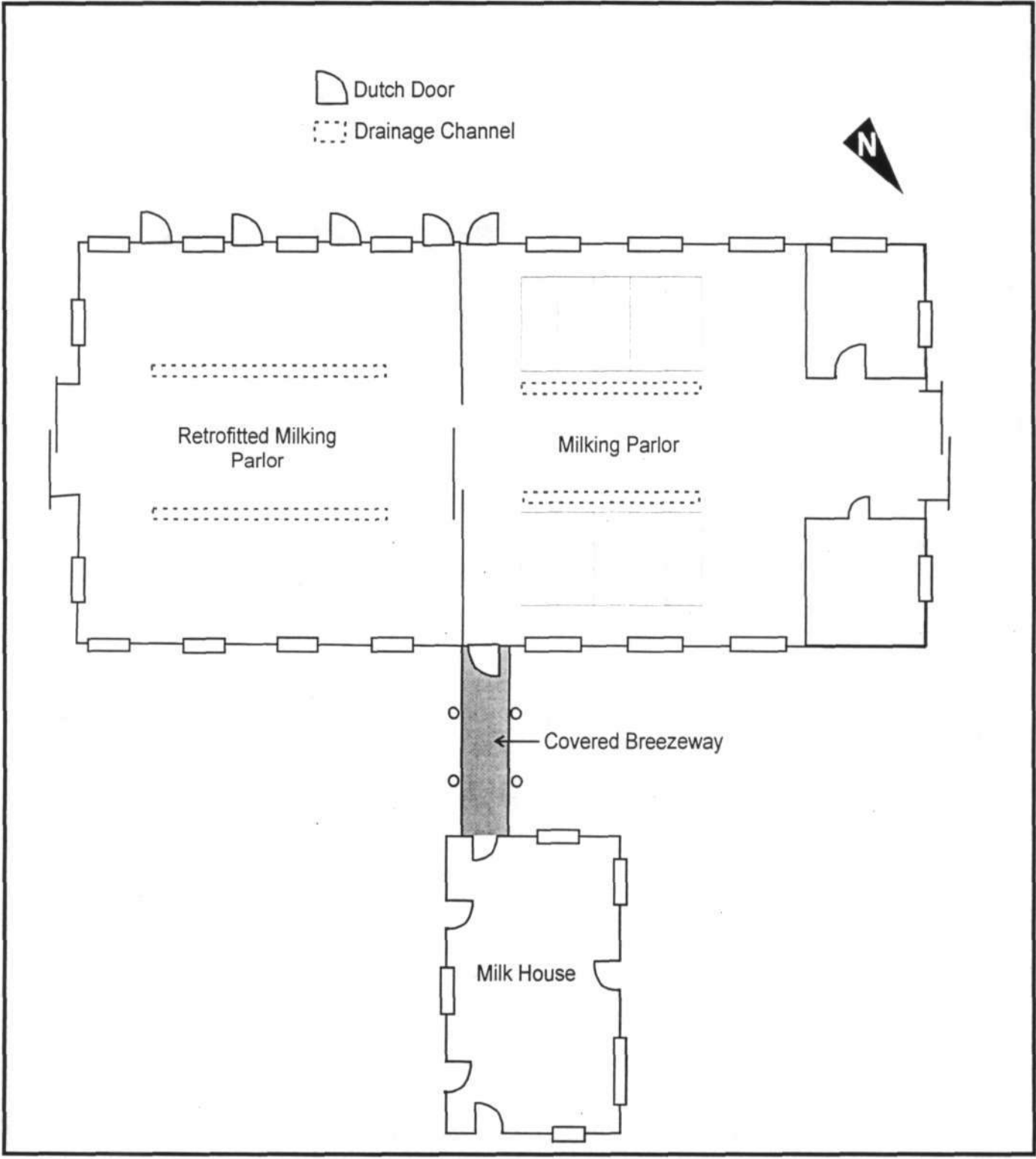
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

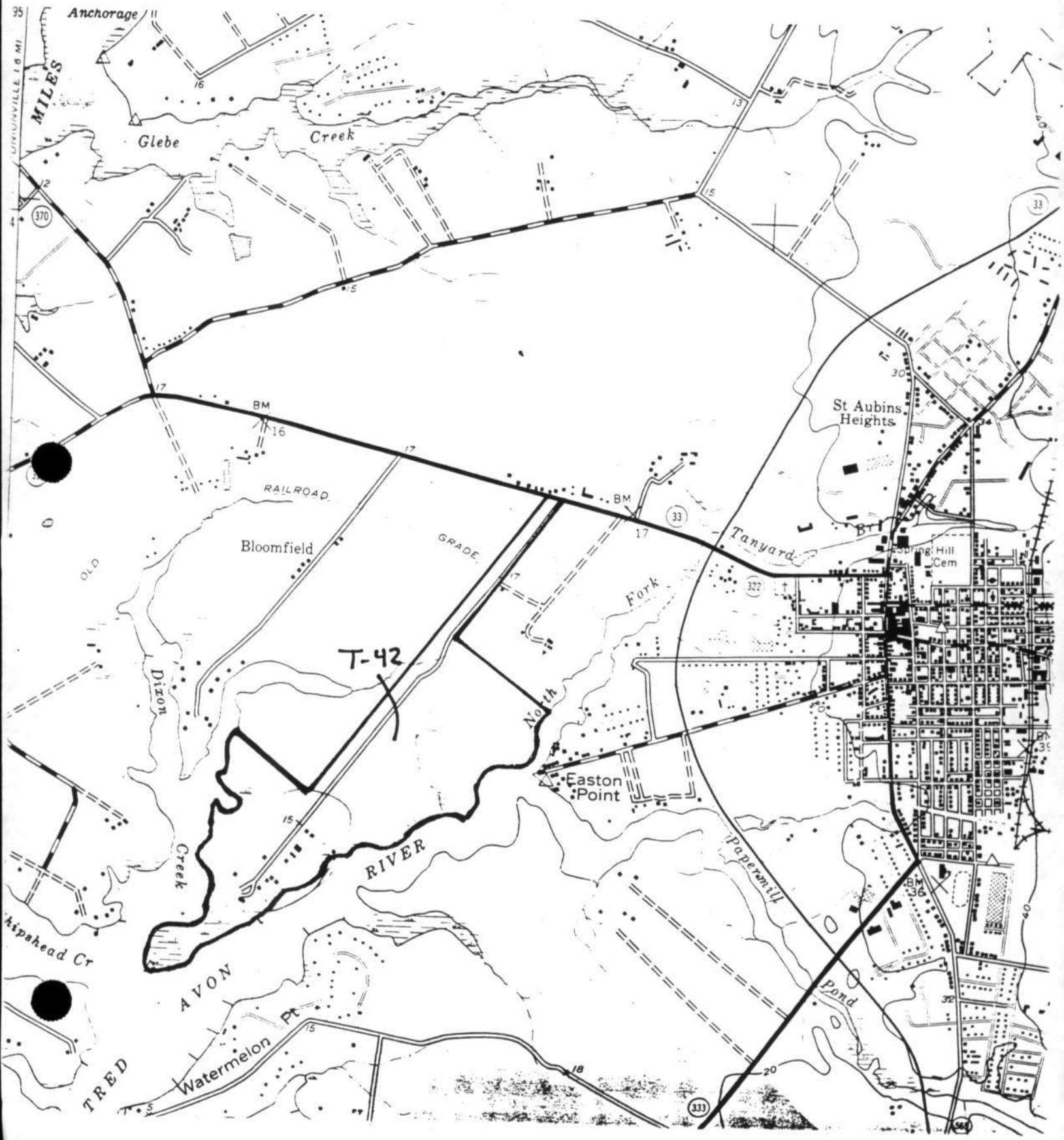
return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600



T-42  
Radcliffe Manor Dairy Complex  
7768 Radcliffe Manor Road  
Talbot County  
Dairy Barn Plan - 2003



T-42  
Radcliffe Manor Dairy Complex  
Easton, MD USGS Quad (1: 24,000)





T-42

Radcliffe Manor

Talbot Co. MD

M. Edwards

7/17/03

MD SHPO

Tenant house looking SW

1/25



T-42

Raddiffe Manor

Talbot Co. MD

M. Edwards

7/17/03

MD 5420

Tenant House, Front facade Looking S.

2/25





T-42

Radcliffe Manor

Talbot Co., MD

M. Edwards

7/17/03

MD SHPO

SMOKEHOUSE looking III

3/25



T-42

Radcliffe Manor

Talbot Co., MD

M. Edwards

7/17/03

MD SHPO

Wagon house looking N

4/25



T-42

Raddcliffe Manor

Talbot Co., MD

M. Edwards

7/7/03

MD SHRO

Wagon house cooking N (#2)

5/25



T-42

Raddcliffe Manor

Talbot Co. MD

M. Edwards

- 7/17/03

MD SHPO

hog house looking W

16/25





T-42

Radcliffe MANOR

Talbot Co. MD

M. EDWARDS

7/17/03

MD SHPO

INTERIOR Hog house looking SW

7/25



T-42

Radeliffe Manor  
Talbot Co. MD

M Edwards

7/19/03

MD SHPO

Hoghouse + Dairy Barn Licking OH

8/25



T-42

Raddiffe Manor

Talbot Co. MD

M Edwards

7/17/03

MD SHPO

WORKSHOP - INSIDE Looking E

9/25



T-42

Radcliffe Manor

Talbot Co. MD

M. Edwards

7/17/03

MD SHPO

Shop exterior looking SW

10/25





T-42

Radcliffe Manor

Talbot Co. MD

M. Edwards

2/17/07

MD SHPO

Dairy barn looking E

11/25



T-42

Radcliffe Manor

Talbot Co. MD

M. Edwards

7/17/03

MD SHPO

Dairy barn, Milk house, site looking E

12/25



T-42

Radeliffe Manor  
Talbot Co., MD  
M. Edward's  
2/17/03  
MD 54PO

Milkhouse + breezeway looking S

13/25



T-42

Radcliffe Manor

Talbot Co. MD

M. Edwards

7/19/03

MDSHPO

Milkhouse + breezeway looking S

14/25





T-42

Radcliffe MANOR

Talbot Co. MD

M Edwards

7/17/03

MD S-PO

Foster House (edge of lawn yard) looking S

15/25



T-42

RADCLIFFE MANOR

Talbot Co. MD

M. EDWARDS

7/17/03

MD SHPO

DAIRY BARN + Milkhouse Looking S

16/25



T-42

Rodcliffe Manick

Ta'bot or MD

M EDWARDS

4/17/03

MD SHPO

DAIRY BARN looking S

17/25



T-42

Radcliffe MINOR

Talbot Co. MD

M. EDWARDS

7/17/03

MD SHPO

DAIRY BARN - INSIDE showing stalls  
look

18/25





T-42

Raddcliffe Manor

Talbot Co. MD

1155 roads

7/17/53

1155HPO

Dairy barn with little space showing rafters  
looking E

19/25



T-42

Radcliffe Manor

Talbot Co. MD

M Edwards

7/17/03

MD S4PO

Dairy barn with space showing table ends

Looking E

20/25



T-42

RADCLIFFE MANOR

Talouso MD

M. E. WARD

7/19/03

MD SHRS

TENANT HOUSE 2-1/2 S. ag. street looking W

21/25



T-42

Radcliffe Manor

Talbot Road MD

M Edwards

7/11/53

MD SAPO

Tenant house looking at

22/25





T-42

Radcliffe Manor

Talbot Co. MD

M. Edwards, Jr.

7/17/03

MD SHPO

Tenant house (rear view) looking

23/25



T-42

Radcliffe Mansie

Talbot Co. MD

M Edwards

7/17/03

MD SHPO

STORAGE SHED looking W

24/25



T-42

Kadcliffe Manor

Talbot Co. MD

M Edwards

7/17/03

MD SHPO

Overall view of complex looking S

25/25

T-42  
Ratcliffe Manor  
Easton vicinity  
Private

1757-1760

Ratcliffe Manor is easily one of the most elaborate and distinctive mid-eighteenth century plantation dwellings erected on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Built on a point of land jutting out into the Tred Avon River, the two-and-a-half story Flemish bond brick house has survived largely intact with approximately 75% of its original mid-eighteenth century woodwork. Documented to have been erected in 1757-1760, the impressive dwelling displays a fine variety of period brickwork and carpentry finishes. The jerkinhead roof is an especially rare survival for houses of this period. Inside, the stair hall, study, parlor, and second floor bedrooms are fitted with fine examples of Georgian woodwork. The parlor, in particular, is a fully paneled room with arched closets to each side of the fireplace. The level of sophisticated craftsmanship represented by this room alone outdistances most contemporary dwellings on the Eastern Shore. Unusual as well is the terraced lawn that descends in three planes from the house to the Tred Avon River.

Hollyday family papers document the construction of Ratcliffe Manor. Corresponding with his brother James, who was residing in London, Henry Hollyday wrote during the fall of 1755 that he had started to gather materials for his building program. In early November of the following year, Henry related:

Your boy, Hector...down here since spring bearing off brick. Will have him make one more kiln early in the spring. Mr. Goldsborough loaned me a boy for that purpose last year. I expect to start building in the spring.

The construction of Ratcliffe Manor spanned several years, evidently finished and occupied by 1762.

Henry Hollyday lived to enjoy his impressive house for the next twenty-seven years, and after his death the property passed to his son Henry with lifetime rights to his wife Anna Maria Robins. She survived her husband by many years and is listed in the 1798 Federal tax assessment as the owner and occupant of Ratcliffe Manor. The improvements at the time were described as being:

Sit on Third Heaven Creek 1 Brick 2 Story Dwelling House 44 by 34, 8 windows 60 by 32, 9 do 50 by 32, 5 do 40 by 24, 800\$; 1 Brick Kitchen, 1 Story 27 by 20, 3 windows 32 by 28, 100\$; 1 Milk House 20 by 12, 24\$, 1 Brick Chimney, 1 Carriage House 22 by 16, 25\$; 1 old Turkey house 24 by 12 .\$. , 1 Meat house 32 by 15, 20\$; 1 Stable 28 by 22, 35\$; 1 overseers house 1 Brick Chimney 20 by 16, 30\$; 1 Quarter 20 by 20, 1 Brick Chimney, 20\$; 1 do 36 by 22, 2 brick chimneys, 20\$; 1 Pigeon house, a hexagon 4 feet a side, 6\$; on a 2 acre lot at 40\$.

Comprising over 1000 acres at the time the Hollyday plantation was improved by a mixture of agricultural buildings including four tobacco houses, a granary, two corn houses, an overseer's house, and a "wood house" probably used to store firewood.

Ratcliffe Manor passed to Henry and Anna Maria's son, Henry Hollyday who his resided on the plantation with his wife Ann Carmichael and family. When he died in 1850 he passed the large plantation to his three sons with stipulation that it be divided between them. The manor house farm went to Richard Carmichael Hollyday, a local attorney, who resided in the family house until his death in 1885. His widow, Marietta Powell Hollyday, married United States senator Charles Gibson, and the couple occupied Ratcliffe Manor through the balance of the nineteenth century. The farm passed from Hollyday family hands after Charles Gibson's death in 1902.



HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: T-42

MHT Inventory Number: RATCLIFFE MANOR

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

- 1) Historic Period Theme(s): ARCHITECTURE  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- 2) Geographic Orientation: EASTERN SHORE
- 3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):  
RURAL AGRARIAN INTENSIFICATION  
1680-1815
- 4) Resource Type(s): Single-family plantation dwelling  
Terraced lawn

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. T-42

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic RATCLIFFE MANOR

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number End of farm lane off MD Route 33  not for publication

city, town Easton  vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Talbot

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court liber

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio

city, town Easton state MD 21601

**6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys**

title Maryland Historic Sites Survey

date 1967  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state MD 21032

## 7. Description

Survey No. T-42

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The historic property known as Ratcliffe Manor is a large estate located on a small peninsula formed by the Tred Avon River and Dixon Creek in the vicinity of Easton, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story double-pile brick dwelling faces northeast with the front door on axis with the long entrance lane.

The documented construction of Ratcliffe Manor began in 1757 according to surviving Hollyday family papers. Supported on a raised brick foundation defined by a beveled watertable, the five-bay Flemish and English bond brick house is covered by a broad jerkinhead slate roof. Attached to the northwest end is a story-and-a-half brick wing that is extended further westward with an early twentieth century pyramidal roofed kitchen addition intended to appear as a subsidiary outbuilding. The yard between the house and the Tred Avon is terraced in three planes with an old boxwood alley planted on axis with the rear door. Located in the yard west of the house is a board-and-batten frame smokehouse and two other outbuildings joined together in a small guest house complex next to the in-ground pool.

The northeast elevation of the main house is a rigidly symmetrical five-bay elevation with a center entrance and flanking twelve-over-twelve sash windows. The large raised-panel front door is framed by a heavy mortise-and-tenon surround with a cyma curve backband molding. A segmental arch of molded and rubbed brick tops the entrance opening. Sheltering the front door is an early twentieth century single-bay gable roofed porch marked by Tuscan columns and built-in side seats. To each side of the entrance are the sash windows topped by carefully rubbed and gauged jack arches. Stretching across the front of the house between the first and second floor is a three-course Flemish bond beltcourse accented with molded brick on the top and bottom edges. The second floor is marked by five evenly spaced twelve-over-eight sash windows framed by cyma curve backband surrounds. Directly above the row of second floor windows is a heavy modillion block cornice trimming the base of the roof. The modillioned cornice follows a pattern of widely spaced paired blocks. Fixed atop the roof is a series of three gable roof dormers filled with round arch sash windows.

The southeast gable end of the house is three bays across with a side entrance and a window on the first floor. Fixed near the northeast corner is an original door opening that provides access to the study. The door is framed by a heavy mortise-and-tenon surround trimmed with a cyma curve backband. At the opposite end of the wall, near the southeast corner, there is a six-over-six sash window topped by a segmental arch. Positioned under the window is a bulkhead entrance to the cellar. The second floor is marked by six-over-six sash windows topped by segmental arches. Rising through the end wall are a pair of interior end chimneys.

(continued)

T-42

RATCLIFFE MANOR, Description continued  
Easton vicinity, Talbot County, Maryland

The southwest (rear) facade is a balanced five-bay elevation with a center entrance flanked by twelve-over-twelve sash windows. Like the front of the house, the rear door is topped by a finely gauged and molded brick arch, and the windows are topped by rubbed and gauged brick jack arches. A row of five twelve-over-eight sash windows illuminate the second floor, and three gabled dormers are filled with arched sash windows.

The northwest side of the main house is partially covered by the story-and-a-half, three-bay by one-room brick wing that formerly served as the kitchen. Rising through the gable end of the main block is a pair of interior end brick chimneys. The Flemish bond brick wing is three bays across with a side entrance that is flanked by two six-over-six sash windows. Marking the roof is a pair of gable roofed six-over-six sash dormers. Rising through the gable end is an interior end brick chimney. During the second quarter of the twentieth century the kitchen exterior and interior were reworked with a shift in exterior door and window openings and a relocation of interior partitions. Around the same time a large glassed-in porch was attached to the south side of the wing, and a new kitchen was incorporated into a pyramidal roofed addition intended to appear as an outbuilding.

The interior of the main house follows a five-room plan with three rooms across the front of the house and two in back overlooking the garden and the river. In front, a squarish stair hall is flanked by a study or library on the south and a service stair hall to the north. The parlor and dining room are two unequal sized rooms that overlook the garden.

The hall retains its original mid-eighteenth century turned baluster, dog-leg walnut stair. Stout newel posts with carved inset panels and a series of turned balusters support a heavy handrail. The stringer is embellished with a semi-circular relief decoration, and the area below the stair is fitted with raised paneling. An arched doorway opening trimmed with fluted pilasters pierces the wall below the second landing to provide access to the cellar stairway and the service passage to the right. The balance of the hall walls are fitted with chair rail and baseboard moldings, and a section of raised-panel wainscoting remains in one corner of the stairhall.

Opening off the hall are three other doorways that are trimmed with cyma curve backband surrounds framing raised eight-panel doors. On the left side of the hall is the study or library, served by a corner fireplace. Tall fluted pilasters flank the fireplace and plastered overmantel. The perimeter of the room features raised-panel wainscoting.

The largest and most elaborately finished room in the house is the parlor, located directly behind the library with windows facing the Tred Avon river. The parlor is fitted with four walls of raised panel woodwork, representing the best in Georgian style craftsmanship to survive in Talbot County. The fireplace wall at the east end of the room is a remarkable display of eighteenth century finishes. Tall fluted pilasters supported on raised-panel plinths flank the fireplace and raised-panel overmantel. A boldly crossetted surround frames the firebox, and two large rectangular panels comprise the overmantel. To the left of the fireplace is a built-in barrel-back cupboard distinguished by shell-carved interior ceiling and a molded semi-circular surround interrupted by a molded keystone. Raised panels fill the wall space above the cupboard. Evidence of the hinge placement of the former doors is visible. To the right of the fireplace is another round arched opening fitted with double-leaf raised panel doors that open into a small closet fitted with shelving. The balance of the room is fully paneled including window reveals and window seats. The large eight-panel back door survives with wrought-iron hinges and a large box lock.

Occupying the southwest corner of the floor plan is the living room, probably the dining room originally. This interior was reworked during the early nineteenth century with Federal style woodwork. Framing the fireplace is a neo-classical mantel with herringbone reeding along the shaft of each pilaster. The five-part frieze has raised blocks marked by oval inset panels trimmed with a beaded inside edge molding. The mantel is composed of a thin layer of moldings. Fixed in the plaster walls is a Federal style chair rail. The only raised panel woodwork of the former eighteenth century interior remains within the window seats.

The small service stair hall, located in the northwest corner of the first floor plan, contains a back stair featuring a Federal style chamfered newel post and narrow stick balusters that support a slight handrail. This room was rearranged somewhat during the early twentieth century with a relocation of the entrance into the kitchen wing.

The second floor is divided in the same manner with four rooms opening off an upstairs hall. The southeast bedroom is fitted with a raised panel fireplace wall with flanked built-in closets. The raised two-panel closet doors are hung on HL hinges. A crossetted surround frames the firebox. The balance of the room is finished with period chair rail and baseboard moldings.

The northeast room, like the study below it, contains a corner fireplace fitted with raised-panel finishes. This room has been converted to a bathroom.

The bedroom over the living room retains a raised-panel fireplace wall as well and a raised-panel finishes within the window seats. Raised six-panel doors permit access between rooms. Another bathroom has been added between the two south bedrooms.

The attic stair is located in the northwest corner of the second

floor plan. A mid eighteenth century turned baluster walnut stair with heavy square newel posts and a heavy handrail rises in two flights to the finished attic.

Finished around 1800, the attic space is divided into three bedrooms that open off a center hall. Six-panel doors remain in place, but otherwise the rooms are plainly finished.

The interior of the story-and-a-half wing was extensively reworked during the early twentieth century with Colonial Revival mantels, doors, and chair rail. A large opening was introduced through the south wall of the kitchen wing for entrance into a glassed-in porch.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. T-42

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 checked="" 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		

**Specific dates** \_\_\_\_\_ **Builder/Architect** \_\_\_\_\_

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or

Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Ratcliffe Manor is one of the most elaborate and distinctive mid-eighteenth century plantation dwellings erected on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Built on a point of land jutting out into the Tred Avon River, the two-and-a-half story Flemish bond brick house has survived largely undisturbed with approximately 75% of its original mid-eighteenth century woodwork. Documented to have been erected in 1757-1760, the impressive dwelling displays a fine variety of period brickwork and carpentry finishes. The jerkinhead roof is an especially rare survival for a house of this period. Inside, the stair hall, study, parlor, and second floor bedrooms are fitted with fine examples of Georgian woodwork. The parlor, in particular, represents the highest level of interior decoration known for a mid-eighteenth century Eastern Shore house. The fully paneled room has had few changes since the its construction. Expertly crafted pilasters flank the paneled overmantel and arched door closets—one boasting a shell-carved back, flanks the fireplace. The level of sophisticated craftsmanship represented by this room alone outdistances most contemporary dwellings on the Eastern Shore. Some modest modifications were made to the house during the early nineteenth century with the remodeling of the dining room in the Federal style. Well proportioned dormers were added to the roof around the same time. Unusual as well is the terraced lawn that descends in three planes from the house to the Tred Avon River.

## HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Hollyday family papers document the construction of Ratcliffe Manor. Corresponding with his brother James, who was residing in London, Henry Hollyday wrote during the fall of 1755 that he had started to gather materials for his new house. In early November of the following year, Henry related:

Your boy, Hector...down here since spring bearing off brick. Will have him make one more kiln early in the spring. Mr. Goldsborough loaned me a boy for that purpose last year. I expect to start building in the spring.

(continued)

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant

date 4/2/1992

street & number P. O. Box 5

telephone 410-651-1094

city or town Westover

state MD 21871

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
514-7600



T-42

RATCLIFFE MANOR, History and Support continued  
Easton vicinity, Talbot County, Maryland

The construction of Ratcliffe Manor spanned several years, evidently finished and occupied by 1762.

Henry Hollyday lived to enjoy his impressive house for the next twenty-seven years, and after his death in 1789 the property passed to his son Henry with lifetime rights to his wife Anna Maria Robins. She survived her husband by many years and is listed in the 1798 Federal tax assessment as the owner and occupant of Ratcliffe Manor. The improvements at the time were described as being:

Sit on Third Heaven Creek 1 Brick 2 Story Dwelling House 44 by 34, 8 windows 60 by 32, 9 do 50 by 32, 5 do 40 by 24, 800\$; 1 Brick Kitchen, 1 Story 27 by 20, 3 windows 32 by 28, 100\$; 1 Milk House 20 by 12, 24\$, 1 Brick Chimney, 1 Carriage House 22 by 16, 25\$; 1 old Turkey house 24 by 12 .\$. , 1 Meat house 32 by 15, 20\$; 1 Stable 28 by 22, 35\$; 1 overseers house 1 Brick Chimney 20 by 16, 30\$; 1 Quarter 20 by 20, 1 Brick Chimney, 20\$; 1 do 36 by 22, 2 brick chimneys, 20\$; 1 Pigeon house, a hexagon 4 feet a side, 6\$; on a 2 acre lot at 40\$.

Comprising over 1000 acres at the time the Hollyday plantation was improved by a mixture of agricultural buildings including four tobacco houses, a granary, two corn houses, an overseer's house, and a "wood house" probably used to store firewood.

Ratcliffe Manor passed to Henry and Anna Maria's son, Henry Hollyday who his resided on the plantation with his wife Ann Carmichael and family. When he died in 1850 he passed the large plantation to his three sons with stipulation that it be divided between them. The manor house farm went to Richard Carmichael Hollyday, a local attorney, who resided in the family house until his death in 1885. His widow, Marietta Powell Hollyday, married United States senator Charles Gibson, and the couple occupied Ratcliffe Manor through the balance of the nineteenth century. The farm passed from Hollyday family hands after Charles Gibson's death in 1902.

T-42  
Ratcliffe Manor  
Easton vicinity, Talbot County, Maryland

1798 Federal Tax Assessment Citation

Mill Hundred

Anna Maria Hollyday

"Sit on Third Heaven Creek 1 Brick 2 Story Dwelling House 44 by 34 8 windows 60 by 32, 9 Do 50 by 32, 5 Do 40 by 24, 800 Dollars, 1 Brick Kitchen 1 Story 27 by 20 3 windows 32 by 28, 100\$, 1 Milk House 20 by 12 24\$, 1 brick chimney, 1 Carriage House 22 by 16 25\$, 1 old Turkey house 24 by 12 .?.\$, 1 meat house 32 by 15 20\$, 1 stable 28 by 22 35\$, 1 overseers house 1 brick chimney 20 by 16 30\$, 1 Quarter 20 by 20 1 Brick Chimney 20\$, 1 Do 36 by 22, 2 brick chimneys 20\$, 1 Pigeon house, a hexagon 4 feet a side 6\$, on a 2 acre lot at 40\$."

Lands Assessment-1798 for Anna Maria Hollyday

"Sit on Third Heaven Creek part of Ratcliffs Manor 248 acres, part of Tilghmans Fortune 445 acres, part of Discovery 60 acres, Turkey Park 329 acres on which stands 1 old tobacco house 40 by 22 25\$, 1 Granary 36 by 20 80\$, 1 old Tobacco House Do 36 by 20 30\$, 1 Overseers House wood 16 by 12, 1 Brick chimney 30\$, 1 Tobacco house 30 by 20 20\$, 1 old wood house 16 by 14 10\$, 1 Corn house 22 by 12 10\$, 1 Corn house 20 by 8 6\$."

Note: "Do" stands for 'ditto' and commas have been added to the quote for clarity.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Radcliffe Manor

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Route 33

CITY, TOWN

Easton

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Talbot

**3 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 COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. &amp; Mrs. Gerard Smith

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Radcliffe Manor

CITY, TOWN

Easton

 VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21601

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Talbot County Courthouse

Liber #: 263, 491

Folio #: 148, 293

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Historic American Building Survey

DATE

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C.

**7 DESCRIPTION**

T-42

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Radcliffe Manor is located two miles west of Easton on a point of land between the Tred Avon River and Dixon Creek in Talbot County. The house commands a view southwest down the River from a high point overlooking the four levels of box garden. West of the 'falles' is a vegetable garden area adjoining the Creek. Surrounding the house and to the east, adjacent the river, the grounds are laid out like a park.

A unique building in Talbot County, Radcliffe is a substantial two and one-half story early Georgian style brick dwelling with jerkin head roof. On its northwest side is a one and one-half story wing with hyphen and pyramidal-roof kitchen.

The approach facade (N.E.) is five bays long with central entrance. The walls are laid in Flemish bond brickwork above a champhered, all header water table and English bond below. Two windows light the basement and have segmental arches. The principal windows have gauged and rubbed jack arches and 12/12 sash on the first story and 12/8 sash on the second. Between storys is a five brick belt course with upper and lower courses of molded brick. The same type cyma molded brick is seen as the upper course in the projecting segmental arch above the door. An 'A' roof portico supported on round columns, which stand upon a recent sandstone floor, protects the entrance from the elements. On each side are wood benches. Both the portico and benches appear to be at least early 19th century.

Although there are no shutters at present, the first story frames are made to receive shutters and the second story windows were equiped with shutters or blinds at a later date. Adjacent one of the first story windows, etched into a brick, are the initials WN, which may have been one of the craftsmen who constructed the building. Pairs of modillions are unique features of the bold cornice.

With few exceptions, the southwest facade is identical to the entrance facade. Only the outline of the portico can be seen at the entrance. Semicircular sandstone steps give access thereto adjoining the house. The belt course is three bricks and unmolded.

On the southeast side of the dwelling, which is laid in the same bond as the facades, is a door and window with segmental arches on the first story. Three windows of the second story have three-centered arches. All windows on this side have 6/6 sash. Only one window is located on the second story of the northwest side. The remainder is obscured by the one and one-half story wing.

Four tall brick chimneys rise from the ends of the building. Piercing front and back slopes of the slate roof are three Federal style dormer windows which resemble those on the early 19th century dwellings in Easton. In general appearance it is similar to Kenmore, Fredericksburg, Virginia, although the scale and detailing is different. Its floor plan is also similar to Kenmore, but lacks the latter's back passage.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

#7 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Adjoining the main block on its northwest side is a three bay one and one-half story brick structure which was probably built at the same time as the main block. Its original central door was moved to the bay adjoining the main block when the building was remodeled in 1953. Only one of the gauged jack arches remains in place over the west windows. Like the main part of the house, the brickwork in Flemish bond. Two dormers pierce the 'A' roof and a chimney rises from the northwest gable. On the garden side of the wing a sun room was added in 1953 and most of the brickwork altered to accomodate the new functions of the wing. The two dormers on the roof are joined by a shed roof slate covered pod which creates more headroom on the second story.

A one story hyphen and pyramidal roof kitchen were built of brick in 1953 onto the northwest gable of the old kitchen.

The interior, as stated above, has a floor plan similar to Kenmore, with two large rooms overlooking the terraces and two rooms and central stair hall on the approach side.

Raised paneled dado is in place around the hall except adjacent the door. The stair ascends in three flights to the second story, the first landing located at the level of the window sill. Paneled window jambs are original and are used on all major windows of the first floor. Walnut was used on the balustrade. Square newels have carved recessed panels on each exposed surface. There are two bold turned balusters per step. Beneath the second story landing is an elliptical arch with reeded pilasters.

The east room or office has a diagonal fireplace flanked by fluted pilasters upon paneled bases. Above the fireplace is a large plaster panel. A raised panel dado is original to the room as are the paneled window jambs and seats. There is a simple two piece cornice like the hall. All paint has been removed from the woodwork to reveal the color and grain of the native yellow pine.

In the south corner of the plan is the largest and most well appointed room, the drawing room. It is fully paneled to the ceiling on all sides and the fireplace is flanked by fluted pilasters and arched closets. Surrounding the fireplace is marble and double crossette trim. Above the fireplace are two large horizontal panels, the lower being smaller than the upper panel. Like the office pilasters, there are paneled bases, but unlike the latter there is stop fluting at the base of the pilaster which stops abruptly at a base molding. One closet was originally a cabinet, but the doors have been removed and the shell dome and scalloped shelves are completely visible. On the opposite side double doors open into a closet which has a window therein. With the exception of the pilasters, the overall feeling of the room resembles the woodwork originally installed at Readbourne, Queen Anne's County, which was the boyhood home of the builder of Radcliffe.

#7 DESCRIPTION (continuation page 2)

In the west room, now called the Green Room, only the paneled window jambs and seats are original. Apparently this room was remodeled around 1800 with woodwork typical of that period. A mantel is the only feature of the chimney breast. Its pilasters have herringbone reeding and there are recessed oval panels with bead trim in the frieze below a course of reeding and the shelf. The window and door trim resembles original woodwork at Webley which was built around 1805. A chair rail and small cove cornice also date from that period.

A small back hall is located in the north corner of the house. Only the paneled window jamb and seat appear to date from the original period. From the evidence in the basement, it is apparent that this small room originally had a corner fireplace similar to the office. It apparently was removed in the early nineteenth century when a small stair was built to the second story. Apparently, the original door to the kitchen was located adjacent the approach front wall and was not relocated until 1945-53. Now there is a door between the Green Room and the back hall and the original kitchen wing.

In the original kitchen there is now a hall, lavatory, dining room, and sun porch. The original plan of the kitchen can be seen in H.C. Forman's Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland.

On the second story, the floor plan is similar to the first, with the main difference of there being an inner hall and bath above the drawing room. This plan is similar to the second story at Readbourne.

The stair to the attic does not ascend from the main stair hall, but is located in the north corner of the house. For a secondary stair it is large and well detailed, although the detailing appears to be earlier in appearance than the main stair. It is nevertheless made of walnut.

On the river side of the dwelling the two chambers have raised panel walls across the fireplace with two enclosed closets each. A raised panel dado is also seen in the drawing room chamber. Above the office is a generous bath with corner fireplace having raised paneling. Like the two chambers the panels above the fireplace are composed of three tiers with two panels below and a single horizontal panel in each of the other two areas.

Between the stair hall and inner hall is a semicircular arch with reeded pilasters and double doors. This treatment, although similar to the drawing room closets, appears to have been installed around 1800 when the green room was remodeled.

The attic is divided into three rooms and bath. Above the original kitchen wing is a bedroom and bath. Most of the latter work, as well as the back stair between the first and second floors dates from 1953.

#7 DESCRIPTION (continuation page 3)

Radcliffe Manor apparently had only one major remodeling prior to the 1945-53 changes made by the present owners. This occurred around 1800 and included the installation of six dormer windows in the Federal style (they do not appear on the 1798 Federal Direct Tax). Inside, the green room was remodeled and arches added beneath the stair, to the little north room, and at the head of the stair on the second story. About the same time the corner fireplace in the north room was removed and a small stair installed between the first and second stories. The door between the latter room and green room was probably installed at this time.

In 1925, the kitchen wing burned and was subsequently reconstructed. This work, however, was altered when the wing was remodeled in 1953.

In the mid-twentieth century alterations, the c.1800 back stair was remodeled and access to the kitchen wing was altered as mentioned above. The basement entrance was changed from beneath the green room fireplace to the opposite wall beneath the drawing room. Pantries were removed and made into a corridor and lavatory and the kitchen was changed into the dining room.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

T-42

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input checked="" 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		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architecturally, Radcliffe Manor is one of the best examples of early Georgian style plantation houses on the Eastern Shore. It is extraordinary in the amount of remaining woodwork of the period (1757) as well as the quality of design and workmanship. The jerkin-head roof is a good survival of an uncommon form on the Eastern Shore and the segmental arches over the front and back doors are unique survivals (those at Warwick Fort Manor are lost, see HABS photos).

The terraces and box garden and the flanking "park" and vegetable garden are significant in landscape design.



**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Forman, H.C., Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland, privately printed, 1934.

Coffin, L.A., Holden, A.C., Brick Architecture of the Colonial Period in Maryland and Virginia, New York, Dover Publications, Inc, 1970. (original 1919).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

August, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

#9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (continued)

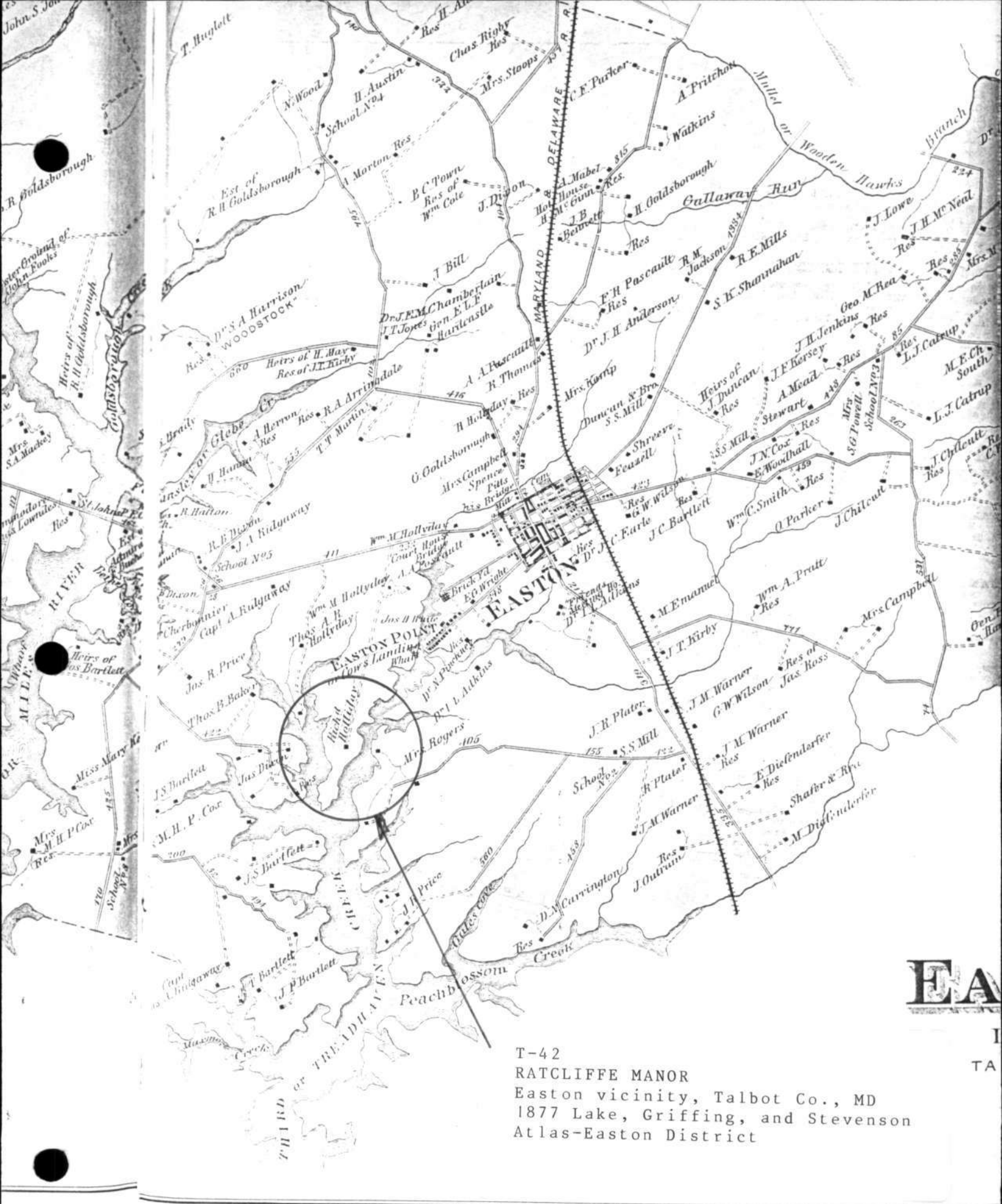
T-42

Federal Direct Tax, 1798, microfilm, Talbot County Free  
Library, Easton, Maryland.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

1. STATE <b>Maryland</b> COUNTY <b>East Talbot</b> TOWN <b>Roston</b> VICINITY <b>T-42</b> STREET NO. <b>Route 33</b>  ORIGINAL OWNER <b>----</b> ORIGINAL USE <b>Dwelling</b> PRESENT OWNER <b>Gerard Smith</b> PRESENT USE <b>Dwelling</b> WALL CONSTRUCTION <b>Flemish Bond Brick</b> NO. OF STORIES <b>2 1/2</b>		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY  2. NAME <b>Ratcliffe Manor</b>  DATE OR PERIOD <b>c. 1760</b> STYLE <b>Georgian</b> ARCHITECT BUILDER  3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION		OPEN TO PUBLIC <b>NO</b>	
<p>This is a large, impressive, and well-maintained plantation house of Georgian design. It has an A-roof with pronounced jerkin ends. The house is very large - five bays wide and four deep. There is a central door on the front with a segmental arch. All of the windows have flat brick arches. Those on the first storey front and rear are 12/12, those on the second storey are 12/8/. All the windows on the ends of the house are 6/6. There are three pedimented dormers on the roof with 9/6 round-arched windows with radiating muntins. There is a small a-roofed porch of recent vintage over the front door. The house sits on a high basement which has segmentally arched windows. There is a water-table of simple sloping brick. There is a cornice along the front and back roof lines with a crown molding and a row of carved modillions. The garden facade is similar to the front of the house except that the door has no porch. There are huge twin chimneys at each end of the house. To the right of the main house is a one and a half storey three bay wide brick wing with 6/6 windows and an end chimney. It has two 6/6 peaked dormers.</p> <p>The details of mortaring and carving on this house make it an excellent Georgian mansion. It is well-maintained with vast gardens and huge alleys of boxwood over two hundred years old.</p> <p>There is an interesting vertical board and batten ice house on the property.</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE		Endangered	Interior
		Exterior	<b>Excellent</b>
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <b>Paul Alan Brinkman</b>  DATE OF RECORD <b>30 August 1967</b>	

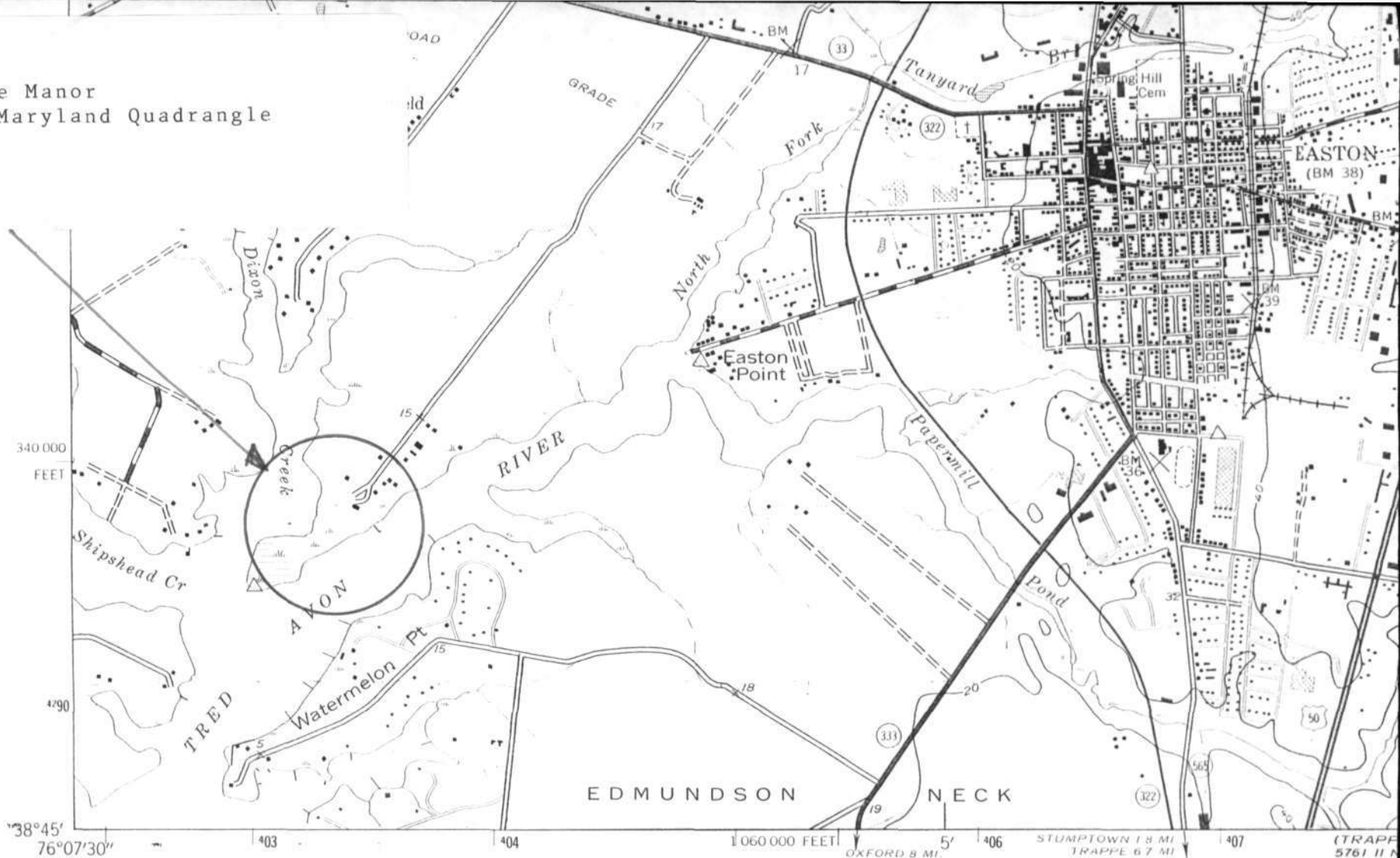




T-42  
RATCLIFFE MANOR  
Easton vicinity, Talbot Co., MD  
1877 Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson  
Atlas-Easton District



T-42  
 Ratcliffe Manor  
 Easton, Maryland Quadrangle  
 1942



38°45'  
 76°07'30"

OXFORD  
 5761 II NW

Mapped by the Army Map Service  
 Published for civil use by the Geological Survey  
 Control by USC&GS

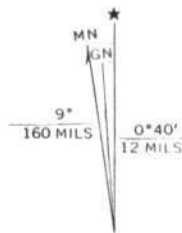
Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods  
 and by planetable surveys 1942. Aerial photographs taken 1942

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
 10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system  
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
 zone 18, shown in blue

Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey from  
 aerial photographs taken 1974. This information not field checked

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

UTM GRID AND 1974 MAGNETIC NORTH  
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



SCALE 1:25,000  
 CONTOUR INTERVAL  
 NATIONAL GEODETIC VERT

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL  
 FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND



Ratcliffe Manor T-42

529





T-42

72%

PH



T- 42



Radcliffe Manor - 2nd Floor stair hall - T-42



M. Bourne

MICHAEL BOURNE

Aug. 1976



Radcliffe Memo

T-42



MICHAEL BOURNE

Aug 1976





Radcliffe Memor, back stair

T-42



MICHAEL BOURNE

Aug 1976



Radcliffe Manor, Drawing Room

T-42



M. Bourne

MICHAEL BOURNE

Aug 1926



Radcliffe Manor - Drawing Room Chamber

T-42



M. Bourne

MICHAEL BOURNE

Aug. 1976



Radcliffe Manor, stair hall

T-42



M. Bourne MICHAEL BOURNE

Aug 1926