

Nelson K. Bolender, President
1st Commissioner District

Harry A. Hepbron
2nd Commissioner District

Phyllis Kilby
3rd Commissioner District

Board of County Commissioners
(410) 996-5201

Alfred C. Wein, Jr.
County Administrator
(410) 996-5203

CECIL COUNTY GOVERNMENT

129 East Main Street
Elkton, Maryland 21921

410-996-5200
410-658-4041

Department of Aging
(410) 996-5295
Economic Development
(410) 996-6292
Emergency Services
(410) 996-5350
Human Resources
(410) 996-5250
Permits and Inspections
(410) 996-5237
Planning, Zoning and Parks
(410) 996-5220
Public Works
(410) 996-5265

November 21, 2001

Ronald & Audrey Edwards
1792 Conowingo Road
Rising Sun, Maryland 21911

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Edwards:

I am pleased to inform you that the Board of County Commissioners of Cecil County, at our meeting of Tuesday, November 20, 2001, voted unanimously to designate the Thomas Richards House and the 200' by 150' area immediately surrounding the structure a historic site.

This designation is made in accordance with Article XI, Part VI, Section 245 of the Cecil County Zoning Ordinance. The Board has determined that the Thomas Richards House contains all the elements of a late 18th and early 19th century farmhouse, including the fact that the totality of the exterior features are pure and architecturally correct exhibiting fine examples of construction from that period, such as a house being telescoped into the hillside, wooden roof shingles, and a pint roof. The Board finds that the exterior features of the house must be preserved and any external alterations that would cover or compromise the architectural integrity of the house would be prohibited. We make this determination in accordance with Section 245.7.c of the Cecil County Zoning Ordinance.

Thank you for your efforts to preserve Cecil County's historical heritage. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Eric S. Sennstrom, Director of Planning, Zoning, Parks & Recreation at 410-996-5220.

Sincerely,



Nelson K. Bolender, President
Board of County Commissioners

NKB/bp

cc: Ed Cairns, Chairman HDC
Eric S. Sennstrom, OPZ

2001-01

**CECIL COUNTY REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NOMINATION FORM**

Please refer to separate detailed instructions for completing this form.

Definition

"Property" refers to the entire geographic area being nominated. It may be an individual building, site, structure or object; or it may be a district consisting of numerous buildings, sites, structures or objects. An area consisting of several types of structures with different owners is also a property that is a district.

Nomination Information: Please Print or Type

1. Name of property:

The Thomas Richards House
Richardsmere area - Spread Oak Village

2. Address of property: 1702 Conowingo Road Rising Sun MD 21911

3. Tax Map: 9 Parcel Number: 118

For districts on more than one property, list tax map and parcel number of all properties in proposed Historic District.

4. Name, address, and telephone number of all property owners of record within the District:

Ronald W Edwards Audrey S Edwards
1702 Conowingo Rd.
Rising Sun MD 21911

(Attach separate sheet, if necessary)

5. Description of property boundaries of the District:

Thomas Richards homestead is mid-way between Rising Sun and
Conowingo on south side of US #1. the boundaries of the district
are as follows: From the house WEST to existing line; From House SOUTH (Back,
200ft.; EAST to within 150' of existing property line (150' west of East property
line); and NORTH to US #1.

6. Attach a map showing the boundaries and location of the site or District.

7. Please provide photographs or slides showing the important structures or features of the property.

8. Please check all designations that apply to this nomination. Add descriptive information for those checked. Is or has this property in any part been listed or nominated to:

National Register of Historic Places? placed on National Register
December 19, 1979

Maryland Register of Historic Properties? _____

Cecil County Historic Designation? _____

Maryland or Cecil Inventory of Historic Properties? _____

NO A preservation easement by any historic organization? Identify _____

NO Are there any other easements or rights of way affecting the District? _____

Other, explain _____

9. Please check all of the following criteria that apply to the property.

A. Historical or Archeological

The property has character, interest, or value as part of the development or cultural characteristics of the county, state or nation.

The property is the site of a significant county, state or national historic event.

The property is identified with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the county, state or nation. # 1

B. Architectural

The property embodies distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, type, method of construction or use of indigenous materials.

_____ The property represents the work of a master builder, designer, architect or landscape architect whose individual work has influenced the development of the county, state or nation.

_____ The property embodies elements of design, detailing, materials or craftsmanship that render it architecturally significant.

The property embodies design elements that make it structurally or architecturally innovative.

_____ The property has a unique location or singular physical characteristic that makes it an established or familiar usual feature.

The property has character as a particularly fine or unique example of a utilitarian structure, with a high level of integrity or architectural significance.

10. Attach a statement describing the property, its historical significance, and the reasons why it should be designated to the Cecil County Register of Historic Places. Describe in some detail the application of any criteria checked in #9 above. At the end of the statement, please list your sources of information, including bibliographic references.

11. Signatures of owner(s) of record consenting to this nomination. If there are more than two owners, please attach a separate sheet referencing item 11 and provide the information indicated.

A. Print name: RONALD W. EDWARDS Date: 9/19/01

Signature:  Date: 9/19/01

B. Print name: Audrey S. Edwards Date: 09-19-01

Signature: Audrey Edwards Date 09-19-01

12. Name, address and telephone number of person submitting application:

Name: Ronald W. Edwards

Address: 1702 Conowingo Rd. Rising Sun MD 21911

Telephone Numbers: (Home) 410 658 6782 Hours Available: _____
(Work) _____ Hours Available: _____

Date: _____

Official Use Only

Application Number: _____
Date received: _____
Date of Public Notice: _____
Election District: _____
Zoning District: _____
Land Use District: _____
Tax Map: _____
Parcel(s): _____

HDC Hearing Date: _____
PC Hearing Date: _____
CC Hearing Date: _____

Thomas Richards was 4th generation of the Richards family in America, and the first Richards to migrate to Cecil County in 1795 from Chester County, Pennsylvania. His great great grandfather had come on the Amity to Philadelphia and became friend and physician to William Pe

Thomas Richards was a farmer, a strong Quaker with leadership and burial at West Nottingham Friends Meeting, a county commissioner (appointed county commissioner in 1835 and defined election districts in Cecil County), and purchased stock for the Susquehanna Canal. Richards had seven children who settled near the homestead, thus the large area was called 'Richardsmere'. Three heirs had prominent positions: Dr Hampton Richards and Dr. Granville Richards (Port Deposit) and Joseph Thomas Richards, Engineer-Penna railroad and who compiled complete family genealogy.

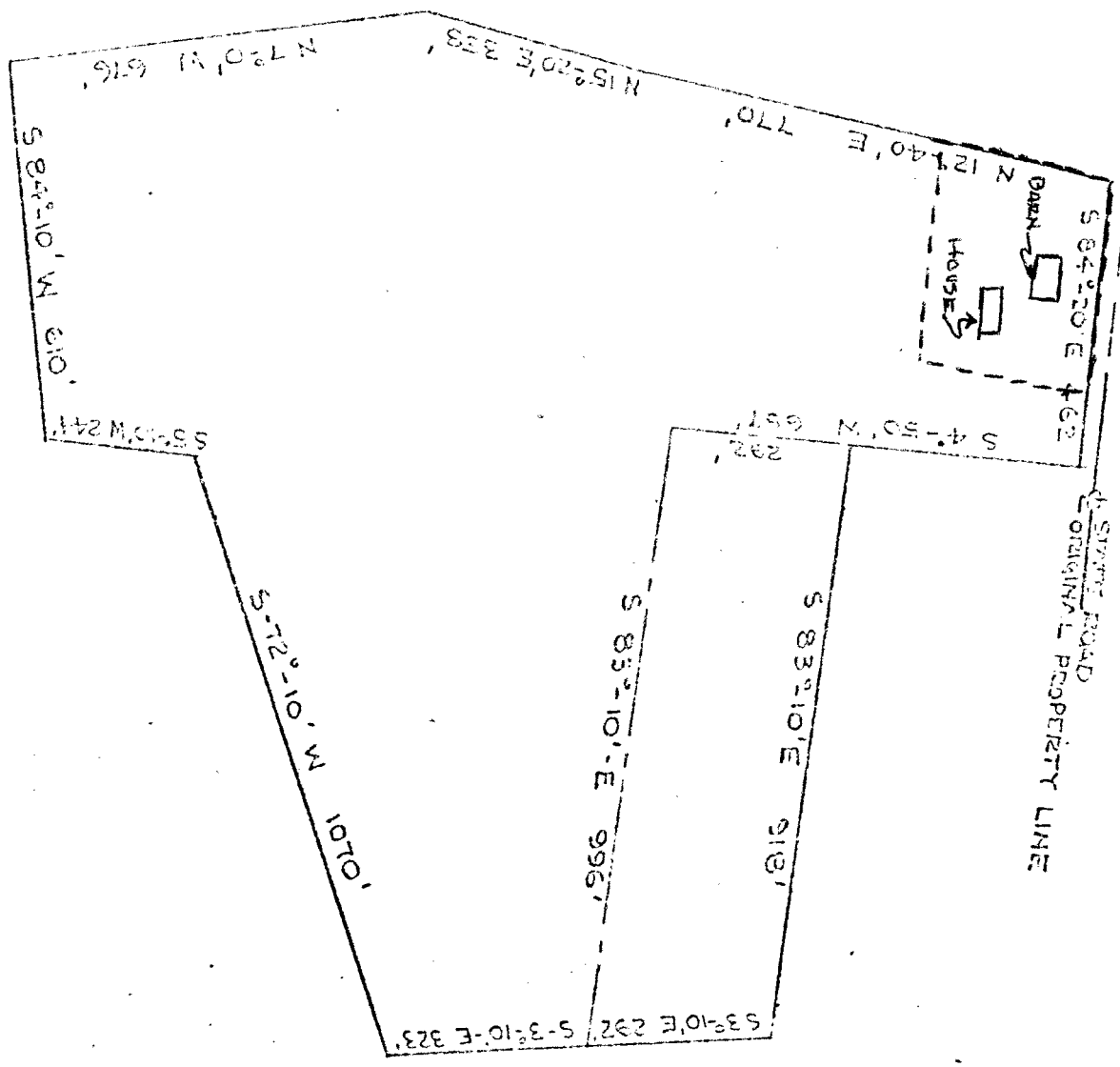
Thomas Richards purchased a tract of land once owned by Tory William Edmonson who returned to England, and is part of Nottingham Lot #2. The stone part of the house follows size requirements set out by William Penn. Richards added large brick section by the turn of the century. It is formal Federal period. Having been lived in by the Richards family for 129 years, the house has few changes. The architecture continues to depict pure and simple features. The bank barn was enlarged to present day size in 1882.

References -

1. p.402 Johnson, George, History of Cecil County, MD. 1881
2. Richards, Joseph Thomas. Genealogy of Richards family
3. p.402. At the Head of the Bay Cecil Historical Trust Inc

US PAINT 1911

SWING ROAD
ORIGINAL PROPERTY LINE



DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

PROPERTY OF
 RONALD W. & MURPHY S. EDWARDS
 5TH DISTRICT
 CECIL CO. MARYLAND
 SCALF 1" = 200'

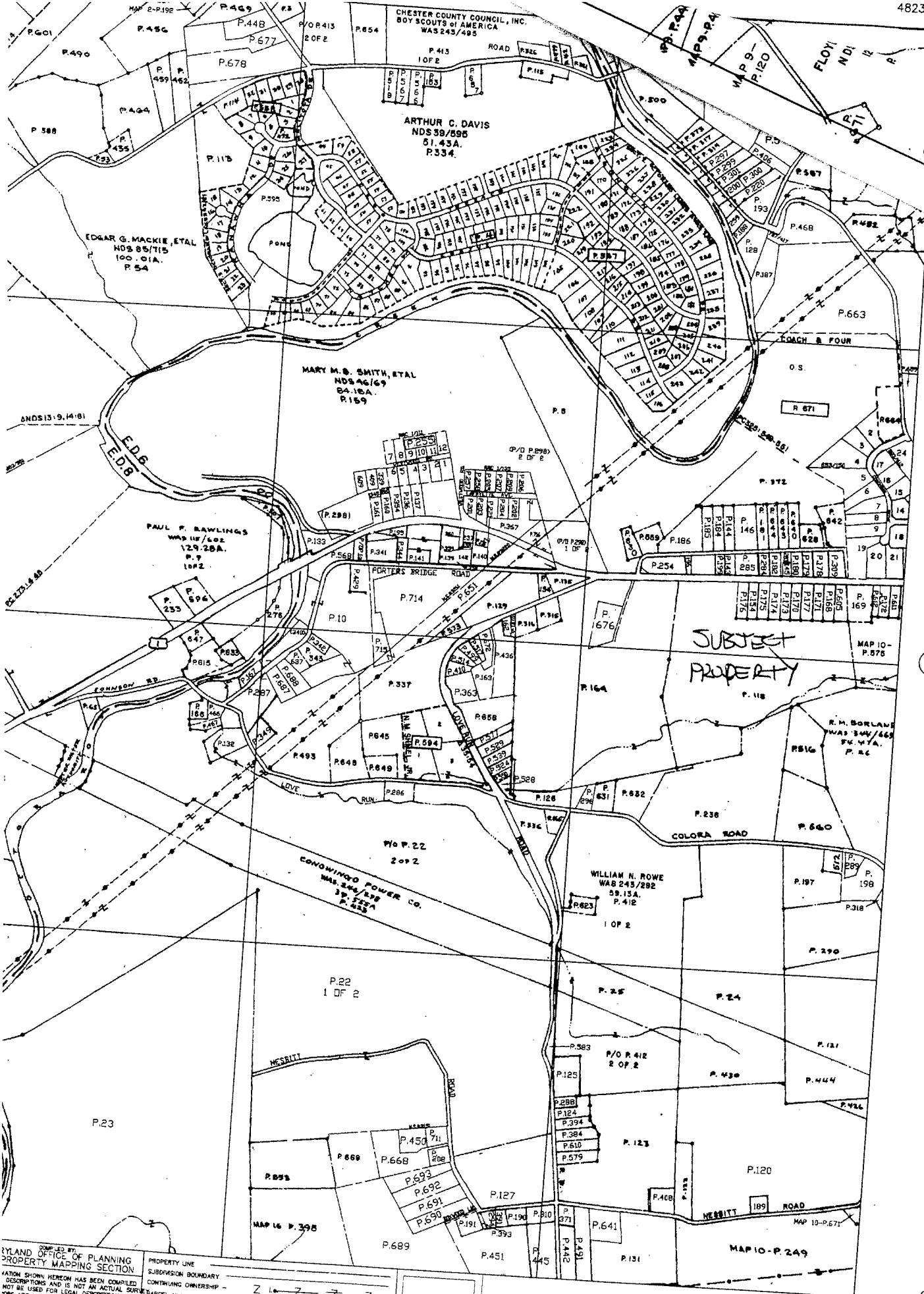
223343.4mN

681

10 678

675

672



COMPILED BY: RYLAND OFFICE OF PLANNING PROPERTY MAPPING SECTION

PROPERTY LINE
SUBDIVISION BOUNDARY
CONTINUING OWNERSHIP - Z - Z - Z - Z

PARCEL NUMBERING - P-### (ASSIGNED TO IDENTIFY AND INDEX OWNERSHIP MUST BE PRECEDED BY A MAP NUMBER.)

SCALE 1"=800' (RF 1:7200)

DATE: 11-31-67

LIBR: CAT 48969-716

BY: [Signature]

LAST P. NO. PHOTO QUADRANGLE

223343.4mN 476835.9mE

CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND

1034-672 [MAP NO]