

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Broadlands / Bowen Farm / Gates Farm

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 912 Appleton Road/Route 316 not for publication

city, town North of Elkton vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Cecil

3. Classification

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

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

name Himont Corporation

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Cecil County Courthouse liber

street & number folio

city, town Elkton state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. CE-1451

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input 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.

Broadlands Farm is a 197-acre tract located in the southeast corner of the intersection of Appleton Road (Rt.316) and Flechwood Road (Rt. 277), north of Elkton. The farm site consists of a mid 19th-century barn, granary, machine shed, and several tenant houses that postdate 1928. A 19th-century stone house was razed in 1928 when the property was purchased by Hoagland Gates. Northern Cecil County is traditionally a dairy area, and the Gates' use of the farm for raising dairy cattle is probably consistent with its 19th-century use. The farm was sold in 1988 to developers who intend to build a research center.

The oldest building on the property is the heavy timbered bank barn with stabling underneath. The Gates family believes the barn dates to 1815-1850. In the hay mow the numbering system of the mortise and tenon framing is clearly visible. After 1928, Mr. Gates installed steel beams and posts in the lower section and added reinforcements in the mow for hay and straw storage.

The granary is also a 19th-century structure. Tradition says that the planks were made from logs floated down the Susquehanna River and Canal. The Gates family also claims that the machine shed is "original," meaning predating their purchase in 1928.

The tenant houses were built shortly after 1928 and were intended to house farm workers. Much of the woodwork from the demolished 19th-century stone house was reinstalled in the tenant houses, including panelling, mantels, shutters, stairrails, and doors. The houses were built in a courtyard plan around the existing buildings. The houses were subsequently remodeled for the Gates family use.

A stone house, dating to the same period as the barn (c.1815-1850), was torn down in 1928 due to severe deterioration. Historic photographs show that the house was built of uncoursed field stone, five-bays wide, one-room deep, and two-stories high. A brick chimney stands recessed in each gable end. The attic is lit by a pair of four-light windows in the gables, and the gable ends are finished with tapered rake boards. The cornices are boxed. The visible first- and second-story windows are nine-over-six with shutters. A frame shed porch with square posts resting on stone piers runs the length of the first-floor facade. There appears to be a one story rear ell with a side shed porch and end chimney. Overall, the house is a common form in northern Cecil County. The house is separated from the farm yard by a whitewashed plank fence that also defines the house garden. Although the house has been torn down, the site can still be identified by the garden's tulips that bloom in what is now a pasture.

8. Significance

Survey No. CE-1451

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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 c.1850, 1928

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.

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Agriculture, Architecture
2. Geographic Orientation: Piedmont
3. Chronological/Developmental Period(s): 1815–1870 Agricultural-Industrial Transition
1870–1930 Industrial/Urban Dominance
4. Resource Type(s): Unspecified number of tenant houses;
Barn, Granary, and Machine Shed

Significance and History

Although the record for Broadlands Farm dates back to the land's inclusion in a 30,000 acre grant made by William Penn in 1701, the functional significance of this 197-acre farm lies in its representation of mid 20th-century dairying activities. The name "Broadlands" was selected by Hoagland Gates in 1928 after the place on the Island of Jersey from which his imported cattle breeding stock originated. The site is also significant for its 19th-century bank barn and granary, which were probably also linked to dairy activities. Dairying was already established on the farm prior to Gates' purchase; a tenant named Lindell ran a dairy and milk route, and lived in the 19th-century stone house. When Gates purchased the property, he razed the deteriorated stone house and erected tenant houses in a courtyard pattern around the existing buildings. During Gates' ownership, the granary and machine shed were repaired and the barn was reinforced with steel posts and beams in the stable and above for hay storage. Nationally-known prize winning dairy cattle were bred on the farm, including Imp. War Bread, Imp. Emblem of Oaklands, Imp. Last Chance, and Imp. Augres Lilly. Mr. Gates was also a pioneer in bloodtesting cattle for TB and Bangs disease. The farm was also used for 4-H dairy education programs. Cattle operations ceased in 1958 when the farm land was rented out for cultivation.

CE-1451

Broadlands / Bowen Farm / Gates Farm

8.1 Continuation Sheet

The origin of the farm dates back to 1701 when William Penn made a 30,000 acre land grant to a group of Welsh settlers. Approximately 10,000 acres of this "Welsh Tract" lie in present-day Cecil County, Maryland and the rest is in Delaware. In 1704, 1,000 acres, including 411 acres in Maryland, were surveyed for Samuel James. In 1735, financial problems caused the land to revert back to one of the original land agents, David Evans. "James Reversion of Welsh Tract" was passed down the Evans family through Thomas Evans to his son Samuel Evans, who was a commander of the first Cecil County independent company during the Revolutionary War and a ratifier of the U.S. Constitution. In 1789, Samuel Evans received a patent on the land, but he did not live there, residing nearby at the now-demolished "Prospect Hill." Samuel's son, John R. Evans, sold the property to Benjamin Bowen, ending the line of Welsh occupation on the site. It is believed that the barn and stone house were built during the period of Bowen ownership. The farm was subsequently owned by William and Sarah Ann Bowen before a bank foreclosure forced the sale of the property to Charles Ellis. The property passed through the Ellis family, including Elizabeth E.T. Reese, Roberta F. Tiell and Richard Reese, and was then sold to Hoagland Gates in 1928. Dairy operations were the primary activity on the farm, although Cheviot sheep were also raised. The farm was converted to agricultural, non-dairy use in 1958. "Broadlands" remained in the Gates family including Anne Gates Copley and Elizabeth Gates Gibson, until 1988 when it was sold to Emory Hill-Cecil Associates and then to Himont, Inc. for development as a research center.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CE-1451

August 1989 Report on "Broadlands" by Anne Gates Copley, photographs.
(No site visit.)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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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
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Diane Wasch, Adminsitrator of Architectural Research

organization Maryland Historical Trust date February 21, 1990

street & number 21 State Circle telephone 974-5000

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

Aug. 1989

Broadlands

"Broadlands" is the name given the farm, now owned by Himont Corp., lately owned by Anne Gates Copley and Elizabeth Gates Gibson, by Hoagland Gates, when he bought it in 1928. The name came from the farm on the Island of Jersey which had been the home of some of his imported Jersey cattle breeding stock.

From 1682 until the Mason -Dixon line was finally permanently established, both Lord Baltimore and William Penn, who had conflicting grants, tried to support their claims to disputed territory by making land grants in this area. One of these was the "Welsh Tract", a grant of 30,000 acres made by William Penn to a group of Welsh people in 1701. David Evans and William Davis were two of the agents who worked with Penn in securing the grant. This "Welsh Tract" is not to be confused with the other of the same name on the "Main Line" in Pennsylvania. About one third of the 30,000 acres is now in Cecil Co., Md.. The rest is in Delaware. The northwestern boundary is roughly along the eastern side of Appleton Rd. The first individual grantee of the part which takes in "Broadlands" was Samuel James for whom 1,000 acres was surveyed in 1704. It appears that James didn't pay his quit rents or taxes on the tract so it reverted in 1735 to the agent Evans of the "Welsh Tract". The Maryland part consisted of 411 acres. From then on it was called "James Reversion of Welsh Tract". After the Revolution, in 1789, Samuel Evans, who had inherited it from his father, Thomas Evans, a descendant of the original agent, received a patent for it. It passed from Samuel Evans to his son, John R. Evans who sold part of it to Benjamin Bowen. Benjamin Bowen willed it to his niece Sarah Ann Bowen, wife of William Bowen. William Bowen later acquired more of the tract. Benjamin Bowen probably built the stone house and the old barn. William Bowen failed to pay his mortgage and lost the property. The court ordered the property sold. It was sold to Charles Ellis who willed it to his nieces Elizabeth E. T. Reese, her sister, Roberta F. Tull and her husband Richard Reese. It was from these people that Hoagland Gates, my father, purchased the farm in 1928. The Bowens were the last Welsh owners. The Bowens, Charles Ellis, and his brother-in-law Dr. Tull were important people in the Elkton area in their time.

Samuel Evans, owner in 1789, recruited and commanded the first independent company of the Revolution in Cecil Co. He was a Col. and lived just above Fletch Wood Rd. on the corner on property he called "Prospect Hill". His house is no longer standing. The present stone house on the corner was his tenant house. The land above Rte. 277 was never part of "Broadlands" but was part of Samuel Evans' property. Samuel

Evans was one of the men from Cecil Co. who ratified the Constitution.

The bank barn is the oldest building and was probably built ca 1815-1850. After buying the farm, my father put in the steel beams and posts in the lower section when he fixed up the stable area. The mow was reinforced so it could be used for hay and straw storage. In the mow, the original beams are numbered and pegged. Since we stopped farming many children's parties and square dances have taken place in the mow of the bank barn.

The granary and machinery shed are also original buildings which have been fixed up. Some of the planks in the granary are believed to have been made from logs which were floated down the Susquehanna River and canal.

The original house was a stone farm house and was located across the drive from the southwest house. It was occupied by a tenant farmer named Lindell who ran a dairy and milk route in 1928. Unfortunately the house could not be moved and was in very bad shape. My father removed all the panelling, mantels, shutters, stair rail, doors, etc., before tearing the house down. Some of these were installed in the present houses. Many of the stones are now part of the walls of the barnyard. Tulips still come up in the pasture where the old garden was.

The rest of the buildings were designed and built by my father using the courtyard plan around the existing buildings. The houses were built for the farm workers but have since been remodeled for our use. When he stopped being so active in the cattle business, we used them only in the summer as we went to Arizona for the winter. My father had intended to build a large stone house in the grove of oaks which is now next to W. L. Gore. After the stock market crash of 1929, he put the project on hold. It was never revived when we started going to Arizona.

From 1928 to 1934 Mr. Gates ran an active and important breeding establishment for Jersey cattle. Some of his nationally known animals of that time were: Herd sires, both imported, Imp. War Bread and Imp. Emblem of Oaklands, who was Grand Champion aged bull at the Maryland State Fair; Imp. Last Chance, a National Dairy Show winner and Imp. Augres Lilly, a fine brood cow. During this period Mr. Gates was a pioneer in the blood testing of dairy cattle for TB and Bangs disease (undulant fever). He had one of the earliest certified TB and Bangs free herds in both Maryland and the U.S. He also participated in all the dairy programs such as milk testing for quantity, butter fat content, and bacteria, as well as selective breeding to improve production and the breed in general. In addition he sent about 21 animals on the show circuit all over the eastern seaboard and the middlewest each summer and fall, exhibiting in major state fairs and expositions. These animals travelled in a boxcar with built-in stalls and two men to care for them.

As a noted 4-H club leader, he trained and assisted many juniors with their farm and dairy education here on the

farm. One year he sponsored the Maryland State 4-H show herd by taking it to the National Dairy Show in Columbus, Ohio. We sometimes held local and regional shows under the oak trees in the front yard. In addition to cattle we had riding horses and Cheviot sheep here on the farm. In 1934 when Mr. Gates health indicated living in a warmer climate in winter, we started to go south but finally settled on Arizona. During this time he still maintained a Jersey herd but it did not include the expensive imported stock. James Guibeson acted as our farmer during those years.

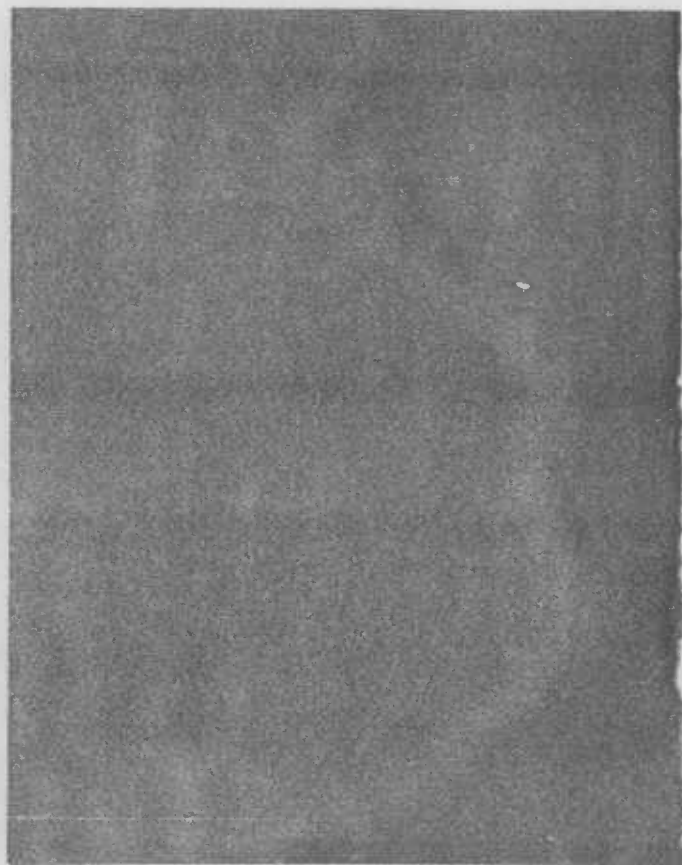
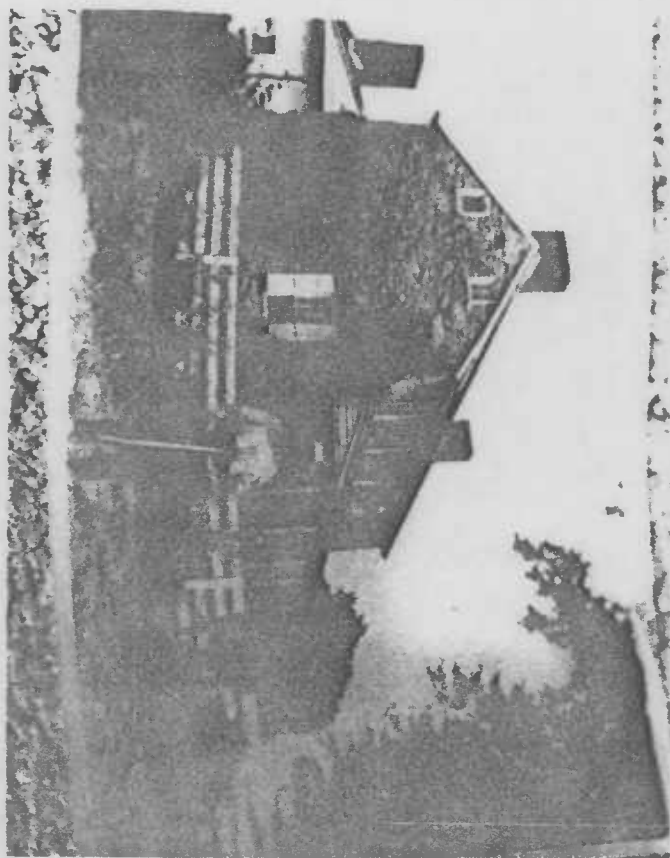
When Mr. Gates died in 1944 he was serving as a Director of the American Jersey Cattle Club and as a recognized Judge. His name was placed in the Maryland Dairy Shrine in recognition of his efforts on behalf of the dairy industry. After the war we stayed here year-round. Mrs. Gates took over the farm and remaining herd of Jersey cattle. She ran it until 1958 when she sold out as she was unable to get good, reliable help. Since that time the land has been rented to the Spry Brothers who tilled it. The farm house has also been rented.

It is said that there was a race track on our part of the farm at one time. During mother's years as owner, the farm pond was put in on the spot where there had been a pond at an earlier time. My sister Libby and my husband spent much time planning the various plantings around the pond and grove of trees. The rest of the landscaping was begun by my father and kept up and improved by the family, especially Libby.

SOURCES: History of Cecil County, Maryland, by George Johnston - Deeds & Wills, Cecil County Court House, Elkton, *Surreys*
~~and~~ Rent Rolls, Maryland Archives, Hall of Records, Annapolis
 Various files at the Historical Society of Cecil County,
 Elkton - Family papers *Surreys - Hall of Records, Dover DE*

The farm consisted of 197 acres more or less on the ~~east~~ side of Appleton Rd. and south of Rt. 244. It was sold in Nov. 1988 to Emory Hill-Cecil Associates who sold to Himont, Inc.





No longer standing
 from early photos - before 1928 -
 courtesy of Anna L. Pyle

CE-1451



old house on "Gates Farm". torn down
1928.

CE-1451



The old barn at "Broadlands"

1980 photo by Harold E. Copley

CE-1451