

Start Here

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AA-2057,

AA-2057A, AND

AA-2057B

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. AA-2057
 Magi No. AA-2057A
AA-2057B
 DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic JACOB BIRD TENANT HOUSE(S) and J. IRVING BIRD, JR. HOUSE

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 205 Mill Swamp Road not for publication

city, town Birdsville vicinity of congressional district

state MD county AA

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input 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 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 George M. Dove / Benjamin M. et al map 64/parcel 5 (133.21 acres)
(occupant)

street & number 205 Mill Swamp Rd. telephone no.:

city, town Edgewater state and zip code MD 21037

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. liber 3854

street & number folio 15

city, town state

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

te federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. AA-2057

AA-2057A
AA-2057B

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 checked="" 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.

2057 The Jacob Bird Tenant House is a modest 3-bay 2-story frame house, with two rooms each floor, facing east. The enclosed stairway hugs the interior south wall of the north room. An original chimney and 1st-floor fireplace (crudely constructed) are centered inside the south end gable wall. Fireplace has been closed with plasterboard. Original north gable wall and north chimney were removed, apparently after fire damage, and the house was extended northward about 6 ft. The original siding still exists under later wood shingles. By description of current owner, this original siding consists of plain boards (3"x1") laid horizontally with no overlapping. Underneath is a hewn heavy timber frame consisting of 8"x12" vertical posts at corners of original block and on either side of center-bay doors; posts extend foundation-to-attic with no break at second-floor level. Later north extension of house has sawn structural members. The original wood shingle roof, covered with tin, was carried off during two storms, c.1970 and 1976. The current tin roof is new. Full-width screened porch, east facade. Full-width 1-story shed addition, west elevation. House rests on piers. Crawl space underneath.

2057-A The J. Irving Bird, Jr. House, built 1914, is a 3-bay 2-story frame "four-square" with hipped roof and cross-hipped rear el. Standing seam tin roof, deep eaves. 2/2 windows, original. Full-width screened front porch. Painted brown wood shingles over orig. horizontal weatherboard. Shutters, first floor. House in rough shape, but substantially unaltered. Nice proportions.

The east elevation of "Larkins Hills"(AA-151) can be seen about a mile away across fields to the west, a view very little changed in 100 years.

8. Significance

Survey No. AA-2057

AA-2057A
AA-2057B

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
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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.

(AA-2057)

The Jacob Bird Tenant House is identified on the 1878 Hopkins Map. (See accompanying zerox of map.) The map shows the house to be south of Mill Swamp Road, in the northern portion of Jacob W. Bird's 780-acre property, which his father acquired early in the 19th century from Richard Harwood. It is not clear how old the tenant house is, however a rosehead nail (pre-1815) was found during renovations of the house by the current owners, Mr./Mrs. Benjamin Dove. (They don't remember where in the house the nail was found.) Many more of these nails can be seen throughout the Mary's Mount house (AA-153) which is thought to be the original main house on this Harwood/Bird property.

According to Benj. Dove, Jacob Bird's son Joseph Irving Bird (1856-1931) divided the property between his sons J. Irving Bird, Jr. and Dr. Jacob Wheeler Bird. The former brother was given the northern portion including the Jacob Bird Tenant Hse. (and probably also including another "tenant house" 1/5 mile to the east, now owned by the Middletons who have substantially altered it. See contact photo in MHT negative-file under AA-2057-B). The division of property may have taken place in Oct. 1913 at the same time that a survey was prepared by E. Lacy Chinn (survey referred to in B. Dove's deed). The latter brother, Dr. Jacob W. Bird, was given the southern portion containing both the Mary's Mount house, where his father Jos. I. Bird had resided since at least 1878 (see 1878 map), and the house called Dryad Hill (burned c.1950 by Dr. Bird) (3/5 mile east of Mary's Mount.)

(AA-2057A)

According to Benj. Dove, in 1914 J. Irving Bird, Jr. built himself a new house on his northern portion, 1/4 mile west of the Jacob Bird Tenant Hse. He also built a small cow stable sheathed with horizontal weatherboards. He had a tenant farmer Mr. Harrison and his family living in the Jacob Bird T. Hse. The farmer's son Billy Harrison, born there in 1915, has visited Benj. Dove.

Joseph Irving Bird died in 1931. The same year, J. Irving Bird, Jr. sold his share of the property to Louis Hamilton Moreland (FSR 87/259). The Doves bought the property from the Morelands in 1943. Benjamin Dove and his wife live in the Jacob Bird Tenant Hse. His brother Melvin Dove and wife live in the J. Irving Bird, Jr. House.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. AA-2057

AA-2057A
AA-2057B

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name S. River

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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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 Susan R. Wetherill

organization AA.Co. Planning & Zoning

date July 1987

street & number

telephone

city or town

state

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

AA-2057
AA-2057A
AA-2058B

7/15/87 S. Wehrick

Genealogy provided by Mrs. Richard Smith Jr. re: Mary's Mount;

House built 1771 by Richard Harwood (d. 1826)

Acquired by Jacob Wheeler Bird c. 1800-1825 (?) (J.W. Bird died 1825
~~Pass~~ Is listed as owner of Mary's Mt. on 1860 map - perhaps his widow?)

Thos. Bird (c. 1750 - 1825) m. Jamima

Jacob W. Bird (1784-1825) m. (1808) Susannah Lee John (1782-1860) Thos. (1794-1844)

Jacob W. Bird Jr. (1820-1887) m. (1851) Sallie Annabelle Ditty [daughter of Geo. Ditty (1798-1846) and Harriet Winteron (1805-1877)]
(resident/owner of "Dryad Hill" on 1860 and 1878 maps) 780 acres/1878

Jos. Irving Bird (1856-1931) m. ?
(1878 resident of Mary's Mt. per 1878 map)

Dr. Jacob Wheeler Bird (-1959)

(His heirs sold Mary's Mt. to The Mullers, parents of present owner, Mrs. Smith.)

I. Irving Bird, Jr. m. Elise

(built The 1914 - Townsquare house to north of Mary's Mt., now on Dove property AA-2057A)

James (-c. 1984)

Mary



South River P.O.

South River P.O.

Birdsville

Owensville

West River P.O.

Mt. Zion Lottian P.O.

Galesville

S
O
U
T
H

1878
Hopkins
MAP

G.M. Hopkins Atlas 1878
First District, A.A. County
Scale $1/2'' = 1$ mile

AA. 2057
Jacob Byrd Farm
Birdsville vicinity



AA-2057

Jacob Bird Tenant House

AA Co. MD.

S. Wetherill 7/87

SE corner



AA-2057

Jacob Bird Tenant House

AA Co. MD

S. Wetherill, 7/87

NW corner



AA-2057

~~Int~~ Jacob Bird Tenant Hse.

AACo. MD

S. Wetherill, 7/87

NE Corner



AA-2057 A

J. Irving Bird, Jr. House

AA Co. MD.

S. Wetherill, 7/87

West corner



AA-2057 A

J. Irving Bird, Jr. House

AA Co. MD.

S. Wetherill 7/87

E. corner



AA. 2057 A

J. Irving Bird, Jr. Barn

AA Co. MD

S. Wetherill, 7/87

South corner

End Here

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AA-2057 A, AND-----

AA-2057 B-----