

AA-77

built 1863

Thomas Pumphrey House  
Glen Burnie  
Private

The Thomas Pumphrey House is an example of a mid-19th century, Greek Revival Style, center-hall plan dwelling. Both its stylistic embellishment and floor plan representative its period of construction. This type of dwelling is a common on both a local and national level.

The house was built by Thomas Pumphrey (1824-1894), a member of a large and prosperous family who settled in north Anne Arundel County in the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Pumphrey was a very successful truck farmer and this house represents the architectural predilection of a wealthy, mid-to-late 19<sup>th</sup> century Anne Arundel County farmer.

AA-77

Thomas Pumphrey House

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Development Period(s): Agricultural-Industrial Transition (1815-1870)

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture

Resource Type:

Category Type: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Dwelling

Known Design Source: None

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. AA-77

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic  Thomas Pumphrey Houseand/or common 

## 2. Location

street & number 619 Furnace Branch Road  not for publicationcity, town Glen Burnie  vicinity of  congressional districtstate Maryland  county Anne Arundel

## 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" 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	<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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: abandoned

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

name Burwood Road Associated Limited Partnership

street &amp; number 7954 Baltimore-Annapolis Blvd. telephone no.:

city, town Glen Burnie state and zip code: Maryland 21060

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anne Arundel County Court House liber 4914

street &amp; number Church Circle folio 351

city, town Annapolis state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. AA-77

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

The Thomas Pumphrey House, built in 1863, is in an advanced state of deterioration. It has been subject to fire and vandalism, and is presently unsecured.

The two-and-a-half story, five-bay, south-facing dwelling is constructed of brick laid in 5:1 American Bond. The center passage, single-pile plan front block is augmented by a three bay rear ell that projects from the north side. This arrangement gives the building an L-shaped plan. Originally, the slate-covered gable roof was pierced by two corbelled, interior end chimneys, and four (two in each side of the roof) gable-roofed dormers with partial returns. Portions of one chimney have fallen and a front dormer is now missing. A corbelled brick cornice embellishes the otherwise plain roofline.

The badly damaged windows are six-over-six, double-hung sash types with jack arches above and wood sills below each opening. The centrally placed front entrance had a multi-paned transom and sidelights. These are missing, but a paneled casing and molded crown, remain intact. Three other entrances are present. A rear entry, in direct line with the previously described opening, is removed of both its door and casing. The two remaining doorways are in the ell and are positioned in direct alignment with each other. That in the east wall has lost its door, but the casing, much simpler than that in front, remains. A badly deteriorated paneled doors survives in the ell's west wall. All doorways are topped by a jack arch, identical to those over the windows.

The building's interior is extensively damaged. Prominent architectural elements, including mantles, window surrounds, balustrade and newel post have been removed.\* Plaster has fallen exposing the brick. Surviving elements of the open string staircase include open stringer brackets with vertical panels below. A steep, narrow winder staircase is located in the rear of the house. This is badly charred balustrade and rail is missing.

Local historian Ora Pumphrey Smith provided Anne Arundel County's, Department of Planning and Code Enforcement with several historic photographs. These photographs depict the building's exterior condition in the early 20th century and will be useful references in any future restoration projects.

\* Concern over the building's decay prompted Dr. Stephen Hittle to remove and store these elements. Dr. Hittle lives at the Robinson House (AA-130), 343 Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard; Severna Park, Maryland 21146.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" 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	1863	Builder/Architect						
Check: Applicable Criteria:	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D				
and/or Applicable Exception:	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	<input type="checkbox"/> E	<input type="checkbox"/> F	<input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> national	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> state	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local					

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

The Thomas Pumphrey House was constructed in 1863 and represents the architectural predilection of a wealthy Anne Arundel County truck farmer. Its vernacular Greek Revival styling is typical of the period, and its large size and brick construction are evidence of Thomas Pumphrey's affluence.

Thomas Pumphrey (1824 - 1894) was a member of a large and prosperous family who settled in north Anne Arundel County in the second half of the eighteenth century. Thomas lived on a truck farm adjacent to those of his younger brothers Charles (AA-1073) and Nathan, of whom controlled hundreds of acres. According to the agricultural census, Thomas owned approximately 600 acres, 300 of which were improved. His farm was valued at \$29,000, which is the third highest assessment in the 5th election district of Anne Arundel County in that year (1).

By the middle of the nineteenth century agricultural production in north county had shifted from tobacco, grain, and cereals crops, to truck farming. This form of agriculture focused on growing fresh fruits and vegetables, e.g. strawberries, cantaloupes, stringbeans, etc. for shipment to regional market centers. North Anne Arundel County was favored with sandy soil and an established railroad system, a combination of conditions especially suited to truck farming.

Thomas Pumphrey's success is manifested in the elegant Greek Revival house that he built in 1863 (2). This building, which replaced a frame dwelling that burned, is reflective of the architectural taste of the period, and represents the living style of one of north Anne Arundel County's most successful farmers in the third quarter of the nineteenth century.





**EXPLANATIONS**  
 Dist. & Co. Lines .....  
 County Roads .....  
 Private " .....  
 Turnpike " .....  
 Rail Roads .....  
 Streams .....  
 The figures along the Roads  
 shows the distance in Rods  
 from junction to junction thereof

Atlas of Anne Arundel County  
 Maryland by  
 G.M. Hopkins 1878





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Thomas Pumphrey House  
Anne Arundel CO., Maryland,

Donna M. Ware, Photographer; October 1986

NEG. AT MD SHPD

South Elevation

Photo 1 of 5



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Thomas Pumphrey House

Anne Arundel Co., Maryland

Donna M. Ware, Photographer

October 1986

Negative at Maryland SHPO

EAST ELEVATION

Photo 2 of 5



AA-77

Thomas Pumphrey House

Anne Arundel CO., MARYLAND

Donna M. Ware, Photographer

October 1986

Negative at MARYLAND ST/PO

NE Perspective

Photo 3 of 5



AA-77

Thomas Pumphrey House

Anne Arundel CO., MARYLAND

Donna M. Ware, Photographer

October 1986

Negative at MARYLAND SHPO

NW Perspective

Photo 4 of 5



AA-77

Thomas Pumphrey House

ANNE ARUNDEL CO., MARYLAND

DONNA M WARE, Photographer

October 1986

Negative at MARYLAND SHPO

West ELEVATION

Photo 5 of 5