

CAR-80  
Williston Mill House  
Williston  
Private

Circa 1840 & 1895

This mill house is a good example of late 19th century architecture combined with a small portion of an earlier building. The porch in this case, and in many instances in this period, appears more decorative than any of the interior. It appears to have been the product of two or three major building periods and was influenced by the chimney design of Memory Lane across the road.

(See CAR-47 for history of mill and house)

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CAR-80

0600805304

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Millers House

AND/OR COMMON

Williston Mill House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Williston Rd, .1 mile west of Md. Rt. 16

CITY, TOWN

Denton

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Caroline

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

| CATEGORY  | OWNERSHIP                                   | STATUS                                       | PRESENT USE                            |   |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| <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 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"/> NO       | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY      | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER                        |

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Edwin & Beatrice Richards

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Williston

CITY, TOWN

Denton

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21629

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Caroline County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Market Street

CITY, TOWN

Denton

STATE

Maryland 21629

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

| CONDITION                                |                                       | CHECK ONE                                   | CHECK ONE   |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT       | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" 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    |   |   |

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 DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE
 

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The Williston Mill House is a substantial frame dwelling which appears to date from the late 19th century. On closer examination, however, the three westernmost bays appear to date from around the 1840-60 period while the porch appears to be 1870's and the back extension and eastern bay appear to date from the 1890's. The two story frame building has a 'T' plan with porch on the front and both sides. It now consists of a central stair hall with room on each side and two rooms in the leg of the 'T' (originally three).

German siding covers the building while there is imbricated shingle in the gables. The windows have 2/2 sash and louvered shutters with wide trim having a molding only over the lintel. On the apex of the 'A' roof at the west gable, rises a brick chimney with paneled insets like Memory Lane, across the road. Another chimney rises from the center of the wing and a third chimney formerly rose from the juncture of the two front sections. Directly behind the top of the 'T' are two small light rooms which have nearly flat roofs behind a shingle parapet.

The two porches have different scrolls and pendants than the front porch which is the product of two stages of building.

Between the house and road is a white board fence. Down the hill in back of the house stands the old grist mill which formerly was operated by the owner of this house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**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/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 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

Between 1894-1931 the mill was owned and operated by Willard C. Todd. He overtook the renovation of the old mill and house after his acquisition of the property in 1894 and what we see in the house and mill is largely due to his work.

Potters Mill was owned by S. Fountain Liden after 1867. Beside the mill and house there were also mentioned in the deed a saw mill and millpond. He owned the property until his death around 1880, after which time it was purchased by Frederick Lyden, undoubtedly a relative.

Prior to 1867 the property was owned by Thomas Garey who also owned and operated a mill at Garland Lake which was originally owned by Matthew Driver, owner of Willow Grove.

Evidently this mill was owned and operated in the early 19th century by the man who built Potter Hall.

This mill house is a good example of late 19th century architecture, when the porch was frequently the most elaborate feature of the house. It is of interest that the building was a product of at least two major stages of building and it is also of interest that it was influenced by the more elegant country house, Memory Lane.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

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

June, 1977

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

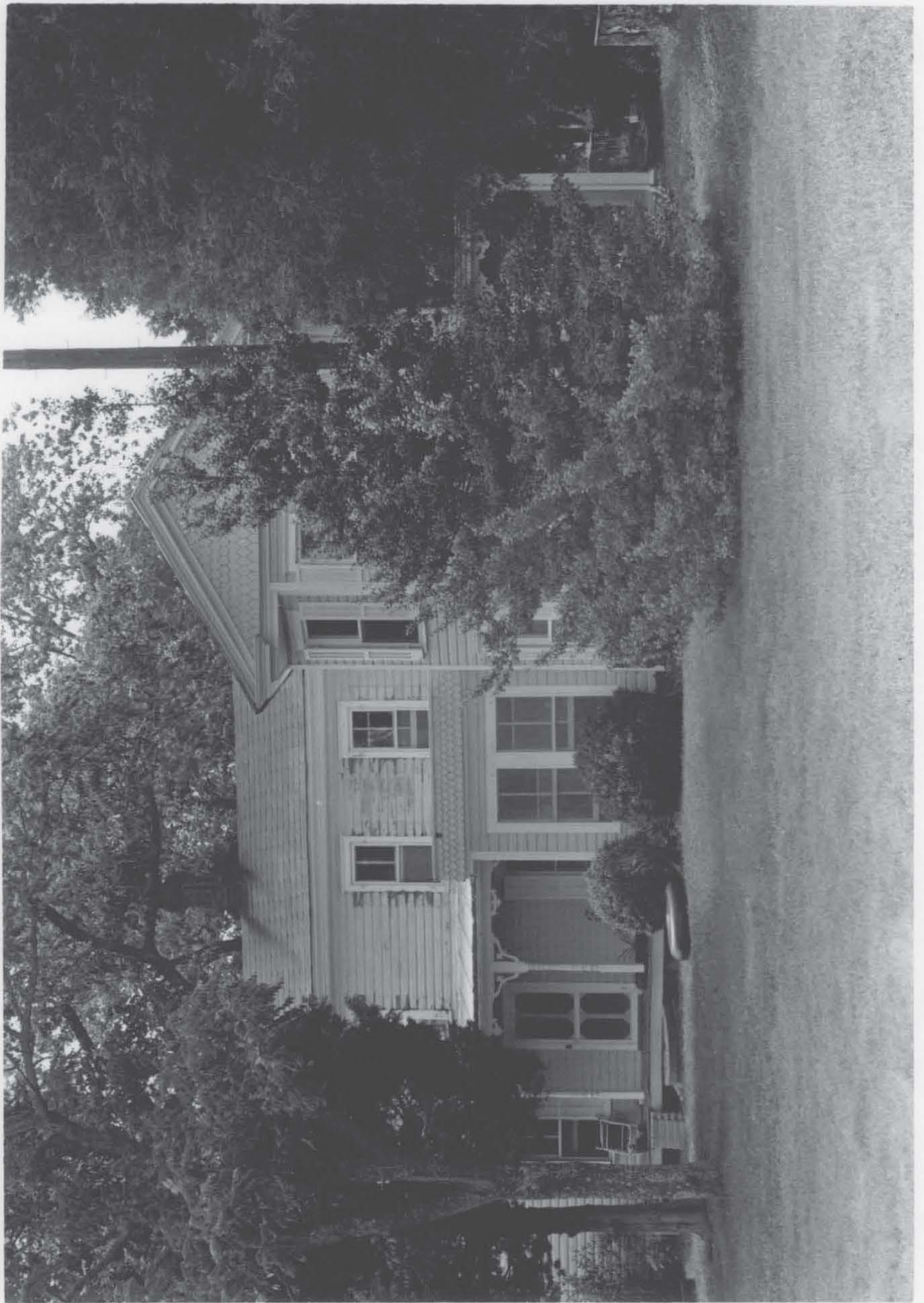
STATE

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



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J. Tyler Campbell



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