

CARR - 151

WHITE'S LEVEL

Late eighteenth century

Bishop Street Extended
Westminster

Private

White's Level is the name of the third oldest land patent in the Westminster District. It was patented to John White on September 27, 1738, and White sold the parcel in 1754 to William Winchester, who in 1764 laid out the Town of Westminster on a portion of the tract. There is a late eighteenth century structure remaining on the original White's Level tract that might be the earliest extant building in the county.

While a more intensive architectural analysis is needed for the structure, several characteristics indicate that the building is an early and unique architectural specimen. Foremost is the style of the building, which consists of a one and one-half story timber-framed with a central chimney and two-room plan. This style and type of construction (heavy timber frame with brick nogging) comes from an English folk tradition via tidewater Maryland, and is one of the few distinctive English house types in this area where the Pennsylvania German farmhouse is predominant. The central chimney plan of this type is extant on only one other house in Maryland (Knock's Folly, Kent County). During the late nineteenth century, a two-story frame addition was added to

the south gable end of the structure.

Documentary evidence supports the theory that this could be an early Winchester house. The house is within the boundaries of the original White's Level, a tract of land that remained within the Winchester family's ownership until 1836. Further, William Winchester's will of 1790 bequeaths his "plantation" to his wife Lydia. The English style of the house is of the type frequently referred to in the Maryland tidewater as a "plantation," and there is no other known structure that would have been this property.

Further architectural analysis is needed on the building to determine a more accurate date for the structure.



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

225. N. Center Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157

WESTMINSTER PLANNING DISTRICT

FIELD SHEET--HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEY

SURVEY NUMBER: CARR-151
NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:
UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Easting/Northing
U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP: Westminster
PRESENT FORMAL NAME: Thomas Property
ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME: White's Level
PRESENT USE: farmhouse
ORIGINAL USE: farmhouse
ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:
BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:
PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE: Excellent () Good () Fair () Poor (X)
THEME:
STYLE:
DATE BUILT: mid to late eighteenth century

COUNTY: CARROLL
TOWN: Westminster
LOCATION: Bishop Street Extended
TAX MAP 46 Block 13 P-1367
COMMON NAME: White's Level
FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Farmhouse
OWNER: Commission of Carroll Co.
ADDRESS: 225 N. Center St Westminster, MD 21157
ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Yes () No (X) Restricted ()
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local () State () National ()

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:
Structural System
1. Foundation: Stone (X) Brick () Concrete () Concrete Block ()
2. Wall Structure
A. Wood: Log () Post and Beam (X) Balloon ()
B. Wood Bearing Masonry: Brick () Stone () Concrete () Concrete Block ()
C. Iron () D. Steel () E. Other
3. Wall Covering: Weatherboard (X) German Siding () Board and Batten ()
Wood Shingle () Shiplap () Novelty () Stucco () Sheet Metal ()
Aluminum () Asphalt Shingle () Brick Veneer () Stone Veneer ()
Bonding Pattern: Other:
4. Roof Structure
A. Truss: Wood (X) Iron () Steel () Concrete ()
B. Other:
5. Roof Covering: Slate () Wood Shingle () Asphalt Shingle () Sheet Metal (X)
Built Up () Rolled () Tile () Other:
6. Engineering Structure:
7. Other:
Appendages: Porches (X) Towers () Cupolas () Dormers () Chimneys () Sheds ()
Ells (X) Wings () Other:
Roof Style: Gable (X) Hip () Shed () Flat () Mansard () Gambrel () Jerkinhead ()
Saw Tooth () With Monitor () With Bellcast () With Parapet ()
With False Front () Other:
Number of Stories: 1 1/2 + 2 st add
Number of Bays: 3 x 1 + 2 x 2
Approximate Dimensions:
Entrance Location: center

THREAT TO STRUCTURE: No Threat () Zoning () Roads () Development () Deterioration () Alteration () Other:
LOCAL ATTITUDES: Positive () Negative () Mixed () Other:

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Tidewater Maryland style structure - 2 room plan with central chimney
 timber framed with brick nogging - covered in stucco
 1 1/2 story with small brick ell under projection of roof
 2 story mid-eighteenth century addition on south gable end

RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

late 19th century home barn

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Documentary evidence - land records suggests that this might be an early Winchester house owned by the founder of Westminster. If so, it could have been built as early as 1754, and its style of construction suggests a mid-eighteenth century date. If so, this would be the earliest extant structure in the county. In any case, the house depicts an early structure unique in its Tidewater Maryland influence in Carroll County.

REFERENCES:

1862 Martenet's Map: Jno. Smith
 1877 LG & S Atlas: Jno. Smith

"Architctural and Historical Analysis of the Thomas Property Farmhouse" 1975 by Joe Betty

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

Open Lane Woodland Scattered Buildings
 Moderately Built Up Densely-Built Up
 Residential Commercial
 Agricultural Industrial
 Roadside Strip Development
 Other:

RECORDED BY:

Joe Betty

ORGANIZATION:

Carr Co. Planning Dept

DATE RECORDED:

August 1983

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. _____

Magi No. _____

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic _____

and/or common _____

2. Location

street & number _____ not for publication

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district _____

state _____ county _____

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 _____

street & number _____ telephone no.: _____

city, town _____ state and zip code _____

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. _____ liber _____

street & number _____ folio _____

city, town _____ state _____

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title _____

site _____ federal state county local

depository for survey records _____

city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

Survey No. CARR-151

Condition

excellent

good

fair

deteriorated

ruins

unexposed

Check one

unaltered

altered

Check one

original site

moved

date of move

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-151

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

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.

S.S.



1
18-11

FIG CAMERA

* O LINE
O HALFTONE
O DUOTONE

55
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

CARR 161

11

S.S.

P. 16
18

XIX

later section

16690



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(9)

XVII

fuel house

~~16670~~
16670

P. 16
18

577.



18 10

CAMERA 1

O LINE
O HALFTONE
O DUOTONE

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

10

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57
~~57~~ 70

p. 16 18

XVIII

~~XVIII~~

- Tideswater section



WHITE'S LEVEL

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1. CARR-151 WHITE'S LEVEL
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. November 1983
5. Md. Historical Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. North and west elevations (camera facing southeast)
7. 1/1