

D-158
Isaac Nicolls House
Vienna
c. 1840
Private

The Isaac Nicolls house, also known more recently as the Hurley house, stands on Water Street facing a broad vista of the Nanticoke River. Renovated during the late twentieth century, the two-story, five-bay frame dwelling retains portions of its late second quarter of the nineteenth century woodwork, which reflects a blend of Federal and Greek Revival moldings and finishes. Particularly distinctive to the original staircase is the series of turned, tiger maple balusters. Original corbelled shoulder brick chimney stacks, laid in five-course common bond, enhance the gable ends of the center hall plan dwelling. Stretching to the back is a single story service wing that incorporates a former kitchen featuring exposed beaded beams and a wide board floor above.

The chain-of-title research for this Water Street lot is traced back to the mid nineteenth century ownership by Isaac Nicolls, who verbally transferred the house and lot to George D. Smith during the 1860s, but never recorded the transaction before his death. George D. Smith owned as well a granary and wharf on the Nanticoke, land which he purchased in partnership with Thomas J. Dail of Baltimore City in 1871. By the time the Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas was printed in 1877, George D. Smith had died, and the residential lot was identified under the ownership of the "Smith Heirs." The granary and wharf location is identified by Thomas J. Dail's ownership on the Vienna town map north of the ferry location that was located at the foot of Race Street. Following Smith family ownership of the Water Street house and lot, the next long-term owner was

William T. Post, who purchased the property in January 1903 for \$500. William T. Post died in 1931, and the property passed to his daughter Marion Post Hackett. The old Nicolls house remained in Post/Hackett family ownership until 1969.

7. Description

Inventory No. D-158

Condition

excellent ___ deteriorated
___ good ___ ruins
___ fair ___ altered

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

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The Hurley house, also known historically as the Isaac Nicolls house, stands at 113 Water Street facing the Nanticoke River in the town of Vienna, Dorchester County, Maryland. The two-story, five-bay frame house faces southeast with the principal gable roof oriented on northeast/southwest axis. Erected during the second quarter of the nineteenth century, the center hall/single pile plan frame structure is defined by an exterior layer of vinyl siding, vinyl shutters flanked replacement windows and a medium pitched gable roof of fiberglass shingles. Rising on each end of the main block are five-course common bond brick chimneys featuring corbelled shoulders at the second floor level. Attached to the back of the house is a single-story service wing that incorporates a one-room plan, gable roofed early nineteenth century kitchen that has been modified into a den. A modern single-story wing has been built to the northwest of the early nineteenth century kitchen.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Built around 1840, the two-story, five-bay, center hall plan frame house rests on a minimal brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with vinyl siding over the nineteenth century weatherboards. The southeast (main) elevation is a symmetrical five-bay façade with a center double door entrance and flanking nine-over-six sash replacement windows on the first floor. The entrance is defined by a set of double louvered doors sheltering front doors that were fitted to a widened opening when the house was reworked during the late twentieth century. The entrance has a late twentieth century Colonial style surround. Vinyl shutters hang on each side of the adjacent nine-over-six sash windows. Lighting the second floor are five six-over-six replacement sash accented with louvered shutters. The edge of the gable roof is finished with an extended eave and sloped soffits.

The southwest gable end is defined by an exterior common bond brick chimney stack laid in five-course common bond. It is centered on the gable end wall surface with small attic windows on each side piercing the upper gable end. One of the windows has been converted to a vent. The northeast gable end is defined by an identical five-course common bond brick stack.

The northwest (rear) elevation of the main house is partially covered by a rebuilt service wing that has been enlarged in two directions with modern, late twentieth century additions. The northwest wall of the main block is defined by two window openings on the second floor. A Greek inspired bed molding survives under the sloped soffit.

The interior of the main block was modified during the late twentieth century when the house was reworked. During the renovations much of the original second quarter of the nineteenth century woodwork was maintained. While the south wall to the center hall was removed to

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Continuation Sheet

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consolidate the hall with the adjacent parlor, the original Federal/Greek Revival influenced staircase remains in place. Tiger maple round balusters survive with a oval profile handrail and a scroll decorated stringer. The mantel in the parlor as well as the mantel in the dining room reflect a Greek Revival influence. The mantel in the parlor is a little more elaborate in that the frieze is finished with a wide fluting whereas the dining room mantel frieze is plain. The second floor of the main block retains Federal six-panel doors into the various chambers, and a boxed attic staircase is fronted by a single-panel door.

The interior of the early nineteenth century kitchen retains exposed beaded beams and a wide board floor above is evident. The owner described the evidence of a former cooking fireplace of large dimension that dominated the northeast gable end. The historic kitchen, now a living room/den, is joined to the main block by a rebuilt hyphen section that houses a modern kitchen with a small dining room extended to the southwest.

8. Significance

Inventory No. D-158

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates _____ **Architect/Builder** _____

Construction dates _____

Evaluation for:

National Register Maryland Register not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

SUMMARY SIGNIFICANCE

The Isaac Nicolls house, also known more recently as the Hurley House, stands on Water Street facing a broad vista of the Nanticoke River. Renovated during the late twentieth century, the two-story-five-bay frame dwelling retains portions of its late second quarter of the nineteenth century interior woodwork reflecting a blend of Federal and Greek Revival woodwork common to the 1840s. Particularly distinctive is the staircase with its turned round balusters of tiger maple. Original corbelled shoulder brick chimney stacks, laid in five-course common bond, enhance the gable ends. Incorporated into the rear wing is a second quarter of the nineteenth century kitchen renovated as a living room. Distinctive to its interior is a series of exposed beaded beams with a wide board floor above.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The chain-of-title for this Water Street lot is traced back to the mid nineteenth ownership of Isaac Nicolls, who verbally transferred the house and lot to George D. Smith but never recorded the transaction legally before his death.¹ George D. Smith owned as well a granary and wharf on the Nanticoke, land which he had purchased in partnership with Thomas J. Dail of Baltimore City in 1871.² By the time the Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas was published in 1877, George D. Smith had died, and the lot was identified under the ownership of the "Smith Heirs."³ The granary and wharf location is identified under Thomas J. Dail's ownership on the Vienna town map north of the ferry location at the foot of Race Street. Following Smith family ownership of the Water Street house and lot, the next long-term owner was William T. Post, who purchased the property in January 1903 for \$500.⁴ William

¹ Dorchester County Land Record, CL 2/289-90, 11 August 1880, Dorchester County Courthouse.
² Dorchester County Land Record, FJH 8/246, 31 July 1871, Dorchester County Courthouse.
³ John L. Graham, ed. *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of Eastern Shore of Maryland*, Wicomico Bicentennial Committee, 1976, p.
⁴ Dorchester County Land Record, CL 27/468, 22 January 1903, Dorchester County Courthouse.

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Name Isaac Nicolls House (Hurley House)
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

T. Post died in 1931, and the property passed to his daughter Marion, who married Thomas Grover Hackett. The old Nicolls house remained in Post/Hackett family ownership until 1969.⁵

⁵ Dorchester County Land Record, PLC 162/316, 31 October 1969, Dorchester County Courthouse.

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Name Isaac Nicolls House (Hurley House)

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Isaac Nicolls House (Hurley House)
113 Water Street
Vienna, Dorchester County, Maryland

CHAIN-OF-TITLE
Map 500, Parcel 168

PLC 167/413 Ann Reid Malkus Hurley, formerly Anne Reid Malkus

to

7.30.1970 Ann Reid Malkus Hurley and Allen T. Hurley

PLC 162/316 Ada H. Rose and others (Louis Rose, Herman Boog, Nellie Boog,
Sylvia L. Hackett, Benjamin Darby Hackett)

to

10.31.1969 Ann Reid Malkus

Whereas Thomas Grover Hackett, late of Dorchester County, died
intestate on or about October 16, 1968

RSM 56/161 Edna M. Wheatley, trustee

to

9.21.1945 Thomas Grove Hackett and Marion Post Hackett

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Name Isaac Nicolls House (Hurley House)
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3

William T. Post (died intestate on or about 6.13.1931)

to

Marion Post Hackett

CL 27/468

Harriet L. Millard of Washington, D.C.

to

1.22.1903

William T. Post

\$500

CL 2/289-90

Thomas W. Smith, Trustee and others, William W. Hearn, executor of Isaac Nicolls, late of Dorchester County, and Sophia G. Smith, widow of George D. Smith, late of the County aforesaid, deceased

to

8.11.1880

John W. T. Webb

“Whereas Isaac Nicolls did, heretofore, in his lifetime, sell the house and lot hereinafter, more particularly described unto the said George D. Smith, whereas the said Isaac Nicolls departed this life without conveying the said lands unto the said George D. Smith, and the George D. Smith afterwards died without receiving a deed therefrom, Whereas under a decree passed by the Orphans Court for Dorchester County, sitting in a Court of Equity in a cause No. 90 wherein Thomas J. Webb, John W. T. Webb, partners under the name of Webb and Brother, are complainant, and Sophia G. Smith and Otho W. Smith, Administrators of George D. Smith, deceased, and others are defendants, Thomas W. Smith was appointed trustee to sell the lands of which the said George D. Smith did possess and did sell the house and lot unto the said John W. T. Webb at and for the sum of

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Name Isaac Nicolls House (Hurley House)
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 4

\$405, Whereas upon petitioning of the said John W. T. Webb, the Orphans Court for Dorchester County, on the fifteenth day of June, 1880, ...where the said George D. Smith resided at the time of his death..."

1877

Smith Heirs designated on lot on the Vienna map in the Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas

FJH 8/246

Caleb Shepherd & wife, Priscilla E. Shepherd

to

7.31.1871

Thomas J. Dail, City of Baltimore
George D. Smith

\$650 .all that granary and wharf....

FJH 8/316

George J. Meekins and Laura A. Meekins

to

10.24.1871

George D. Smith and Thomas J. Dail

\$25 dower interest of Laura A. Meekins

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. D-158

Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse.

Ghaham, John L. *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*. Wicomico Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 17,728 square feet

Acreage of historical setting _____

Quadrangle name Mardela Springs, MD

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Chesapeake Country Heritage & Preservation	date	12.3.2009
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name Hurley House
Continuation Sheet

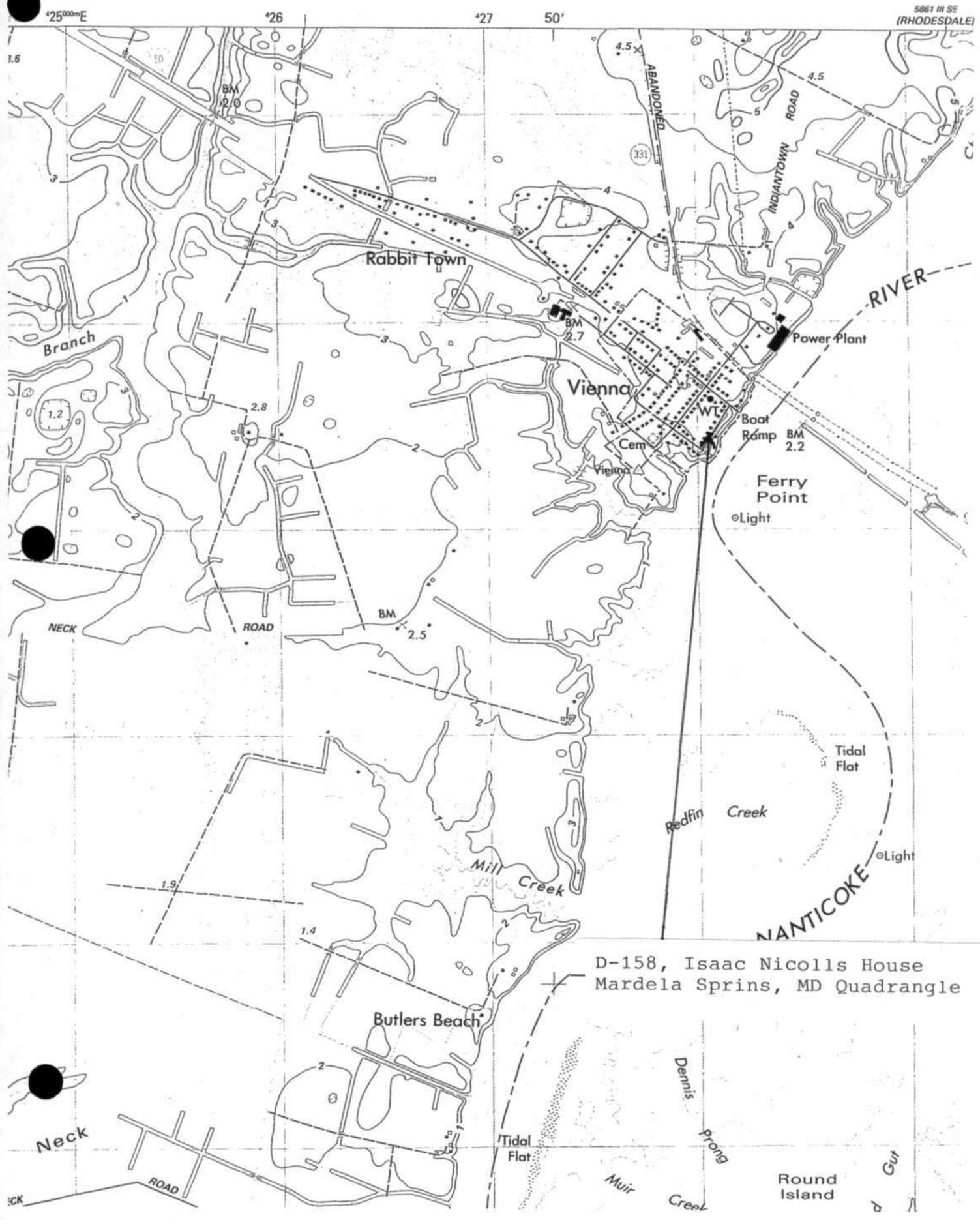
Number 9 Page 1

D-158
Isaac Nicolls House
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DATES
THE INTERIOR
SURVEY



5861 III SE
(RHODESDALE)

D-158, Isaac Nicolls House
Mardela Sprins, MD Quadrangle



D-158

ISAAC NICOLLS HOUSE

VIENNA, DORCHESTER CO., MD.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

12. 2009, PAUL B. TOWART, PHOTO.

WET. / WIND. HIST. TRUST

1 of 2



D-150

Isaac Nicolls House

Vienna, Dorchester Co., MD.

NORTHWEST ELEVATION

12.2009, Paul B. Touart

W. Va. / Md. Historical Trust

2 of 2

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:
The Hurley House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Water Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Vienna

STATE: Maryland COUNTY: Dorchester

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Ann Reid Malkus Hurley

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Vienna STATE: Maryland 21869

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Dorchester County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
High Street

CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge STATE: Maryland 21613

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 167/413

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Uncltered <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>The Hurley House on Water Street in Vienna is a plain early 19th century frame dwelling constructed upon a brick foundation and having brick chimneys on each gable. Its five-bay facade is two storys tall with an "A" roof. The entire building has been remodeled, including a large center double door and all of the sash with 9/6 on the first story and 6/6 on the second story. Green aluminum siding covers the building and louvered aluminum shutters give a finishing touch to the windows. To the rear of the building are two smaller sections, probably the original kitchen and hyphen, plus a new porch. The house is in good condition.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust

DATE: Summer, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis

STATE: Maryland

21401

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National State Local

Signature _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE **Maryland**
 COUNTY **Dorchester**
 TOWN **Vienna** VICINITY
 STREET NO. **Water St.**

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
 INVENTORY **D-158**

ORIGINAL OWNER
 ORIGINAL USE **dwelling**
 PRESENT OWNER **Hurley**
 PRESENT USE **dwelling**
 WALL CONSTRUCTION **frame**
 NO. OF STORIES **two**

2. NAME **The Hurley House**
 DATE OR PERIOD **2nd Quarter 19th cent.**
 STYLE **Federal**
 ARCHITECT
 BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC **NO**

The Hurley House on Water Street in Vienna is a plain early 19th century frame dwelling constructed upon a brick foundation and having brick chimneys on each gable. Its five-bay facade is two stories tall with an 'A' roof. The entire building has been remodeled, including a large center double door and all of the sash with 9/6 on the first story and 6/6 on the second story. Green aluminum clapboard covers the building and louvered aluminum shutters give a finishing touch to the windows. To the rear of the building are two smaller sections, probably the original kitchen and hyphen, plus a new porch. The house is in good condition.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered **NO** Interior Exterior **good**



6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
 INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER
Michael Bourne
Maryland Historical Trust

DATE OF RECORD **Summer, 1972**

13x1-53

50%

D-158



Hurley
~~John Hurley~~ House

D-158

M. Bourne Summer 1992