

HA-1268
CHAUNCEY-BOWMAN-MINNICK LOG HOUSE
Bel Air
Private

SUMMARY

Modern building technology, different economics, and a different concept about space has made the one room down/one up log house an antique. This house was built sometime in the 19th century probably by blacks, however, in this century it served a white family of eight during the Depression.

Being made of wood and stone gathered on the site it survives from a time when as a society white or black we were much closer to the land.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
 Chauncey-Bowman-Minnick Log House
 AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
 southeast corner of intersection of Rte. 543 (Fountain Green Rd.) and Prospect Mill Rd.
 CITY, TOWN
 Bel Air
 VICINITY OF
 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
 STATE
 Maryland
 COUNTY
 Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
 Gwynne L. and Jean T. Holden; Carl Todd
 Telephone #:
 STREET & NUMBER
 304 Fountain Green Rd.
 CITY, TOWN
 Bel Air
 VICINITY OF
 STATE, zip code
 Md. 21014

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
 Harford County Courthouse
 STREET & NUMBER
 40 South Main Street
 CITY, TOWN
 Bel Air,
 STATE
 Maryland 21014
 Liber #: 400
 Folio #: 129

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
 DATE
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
 CITY, TOWN
 STATE
 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

7 DESCRIPTION

14-268

Demolished - Fall 1980

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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house is located on the south side of Prospect Mill Road where it ends at Fountain Green. It is a 1-1/2 story log house that originally had a one room down one up plan. Mr. Mennick aged 72, grew up here as part of a family of eight and recalls that the upper room was partitioned to divide the boys and girls (he recalls three beds) and that his father built the single story lean-to kitchen.

Demolition was in progress at the time of recording enabling the following observations.

The original building was 18'6" wide and 16' deep. Its overall plan has changed twice. While in its final stage it faces the crossroads (north west) and had a 10' kitchen wing to the south and while the north facade was probably originally the main facade at one point there was a gable-end entrance on the west. It may have originally been a window that was opened up into a door and then reduced to a window again.

There were porches in both the east end and north side. The north side has a centrally located entrance with 6/6 windows with bubbled glass on either side. An entrance corresponds on the south side where there may also have been a window in the west bay. The east end is blind except for a window in the far north bay. A set of windows occupies the south east corner.

It would appear that the logs were never exposed to the weather. plain clapboards with cut nails survive in the north facade. The logs are v-notched, are 6" in thickness and 8-10" in height. They appear to be chestnut hewn on two sides only. 2-3" thick hewn boards 3-4' long are used for chinking along with mortar.

The roof and gables are framed up with vertically mechanically sawn rafters and studs. The rafters are mitered at the ridge and were originally left exposed and white-washed.

There is no cellar; the sill logs rest on a 10" high rubble foundation. The lean-to was already torn down Sept. 9, 1980 exposing the method of its support. The addition butted up against the south wall of the log house and rested on locust piers approximately 20" long and 8" in diameter. They were driven at least a foot into the ground with 6-8" exposed. Only two were extant at the time of recording but depressions suggested that there may have been as many as a dozen with 4' centers.

Mr. Minnick relates that his father John Minnick ("Pap") was a farmer who used to live in the log house further north on Fountain Green Road. He moved his family here c. 67 years ago. A colored man named Wes Bowen had lived here before them. Mr. Bowen had hung himself and Mr. Minnick recalls Pap pointing to the eaves of the south west corner (and where there used to be a window) and saying that thats where he had done it.

Mr. Minnick was 7 years old when they moved here. He is certain that his father added the kitchen recalling a large "hole with rocks in it being just behind the house" at first.

There was a stable about 25 yds. south of the house although "in them days it was rough" and Pap walked to Bel Air where he took work as a carpenter.

(See Description Sheet #1)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
REHISTORIC	<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

Modern building technology, different economics, and a different concept about space has made the one room down/one up log house an antique. This house was built sometime in the 19th century probably by blacks, however, in this century it served a white family of eight during the Depression.

Being made of wood and stone gathered on the site it survives from a time when as a society white or black we were much closer to the land.

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
Wayne L. Nield II, Historic Site Surveyor

ORGANIZATION Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning	DATE April, 1981
STREET & NUMBER 45 South Main Street	TELEPHONE 301-838-6000 ext. 207
CITY OR TOWN Bel Air, Maryland	STATE 21014

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

DESCRIPTION continuation sheet #1

There was a smokehouse east of the dwelling. The family kept hogs and chickens and grew a garden because "you had to". The privy occupied various places behind the house and to the east. A large hole was dug and the privy placed over it. This process took place from time to time as the hole was filled up covered and a new one dug. The same privy was moved over it. It was not necessary as often as once a year but was necessary "from time to time."

TITLE SEARCH

HA - 1268

Moore's Tenant house
Gwynne L. & Jean T. Holden;
Carl Todd

	400/129	8/18/53	Grantor: William D. & Ellen M. Amoss Grantee: Gwynne L. & Jean T. Holden; Carl Todd Acreage: 337 acres (4 tracts)
GCB	297/375	7/10/46	Grantor: Clara B. and R.E. Lee Marshall Grantee: William D. & Ellen M. Amoss Acreage: 354 (4 tracts)
GCB	271/203	3/2/42	Grantor: O. Mathiot Stirling Grantee: Clara B. Marshall of Baltimore City Acreage: 4 tracts: 178 acres; 68.5 acres, 4.86 acres; 102.74 acres
SWC	221/108	8/14/31	Grantor: Philip Close, Assignee (John & Clara Wilkinson defaulted on mortgage) Grantee: William E. Robinson Acreage: 3 tracts: 178 acres; 68.5 acres; 4.86 acres
JAR	169/25	3/11/20	Grantor: Walter Wood, Widower, of Kent County Grantee: John N. Wilkinson Acreage: "part of farm where John Moores resided at the time of his death"
JAR	150/283	12/9/15	Grantor: James W. and Elizabeth V. Neikirk Grantee: Walter Wood Sum: \$22,500. Acreage: 2 tracts, one: 178 acres, "part of farm of John Moores"

Will Records: HTB 14/274
probated 12/27/11

John Moores left part of home farm on southerly side of
Thomas Run Road to son, George G. Moores

ALJ	30/484	8/29/1874	Grantor: Philip and Sarah R. Grover, et al Grantee: Apphia and John Moores Division of James Moore, Sr.'s estate, "South Hampton" and other tracts
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HA-1268

Moore's Tenant House

Southeast corner of intersection of Prospect Mill Rd. and Fountain Green Rd.
Bel Air, MD 21014

This house was on the Moore's estate--and probably served as a tenant house--until 1915, when it was sold with 178 acres to James and Elizabeth Neikirk.

The farm, which included part of the tract "Southampton," was originally purchased by James Moore in 1773. He was a tanner and his 750-acre farm had on it a gristmill, sawmill and dam, as well as his dwelling house, stable and barn. Subsequently, the farm passed to his son John Moore and then James Moore, a member of the Maryland Legislature.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Moores Tenant House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

southeast corner of intersection of Rte. 543 (Fountain Green Rd.) and Prospect

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air,

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Mill Rd.

STATE

Maryland 21014

COUNTY

Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

 DISTRICT BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

 PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

 IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

 OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

 YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO

PRESENT USE

 AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Gwynne L and Jean T. Holden; Carl Todd

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

304 Fountain Green Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air,

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

MD 21014

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: 400

Folio #: 129

STREET & NUMBER

40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air,

STATE

Maryland 21014

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This cross-breed house is located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Fountain Green & Prospect Mill Roads. It represents a curious mixture of elements, retaining cryptic clues to an earlier visage. One story with a gable roof and a brick chimney in the east end, its front facade and part of the east end are board and batten, while the others have various other 20th century veneers. On the rear are two additions, a shed-roofed one apparently older than the flat-roofed adjacent one that extends beyond the east end of the house. Set on a low stone foundation, the fenestration is varied. The first story windows have 6/6 sash, while the window in the west gable has 9/6 sash, and the two gable windows in the east end have four lights. (One now has only a single light).

The north side has a central door flanked by a window on both sides. The west end has one window in each story, while the east end has a window in the first story north bay and two gable windows.

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		
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<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

This house was on the Moores estate-and probably served as a tenant house-until 1915, when it was sold on a parcel of 178 acres to James and Elizabeth Neikirk.¹

Purchased by James Moores in 1773, the land already had on it a gristmill, dam, dwelling house, stable, barn, and sawmill. James Moores was a tanner and used the sawmill for cutting and removing bark from oak trees to use in vats for tanning leather. By the time of his death in 1791, his farm comprised 750 acres, including part of the tract called "South Hampton" (patented to Henry Wriothsley in 1699). The farm passed to John Moores, who married Mary Scott and owned it until his death in 1823, and then to his son, James Moores, who was a member of the Maryland Legislature. The latter never married, so his nephew, James Moores, son of Aquilla and Aphia Moores, inherited the farm in 1853. He too never married, and when he died in 1873 his brother, John Moores took over the estate.

By 1911, when John Moores died, the "home farm" comprised 390 acres. The north half with the dwelling and farm buildings was willed to his daughter, Mary. The south half (approximately 186 acres) on which this particular house stands, went to his son George G. Moores. In 1914, he exchanged his share (except for an 8 acre lot; see Moores-Crouse House, HA-) with his brother, Edward P. Moores, who then sold it to James Neikirk.

The 1858 Herrick's Map shows that J. Markley occupied a house near this location. The 1878 Martenet's Map lists H. Haughty or S. Chauncey (colored) as the occupant.

Footnotes

¹ JAR 150/280

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land & Mill Records of Harford County
Harford Historical Society Archives: school report on Moores Hill

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

Natalie Shivers, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Historic District Commission

DATE

May, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

45 S. Main St.

TELEPHONE

301-879-2000 ext. 207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

MD 21014

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The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Bel Air
USGS Quadrangle Map
NA-1268





Moore's Tenant House
Bel Air, MD 21014
Natalie Shivers
February, 1979
Northwest

HA- 1268



HA-1268

Chauncey-Bowman-Minnick Log House (Demolished)
Fountain Green, Md.

Wayne L. Nield II 8/80
Southwest



HA-1268

Chauncey-Bowman-Minnick Log House (Demolished)
Fountain Green, Md.
Wayne L. Nield II 8/80
Northeast



HA-1268

Chauncey-Bowman-Minnick Log House (Demolished)
Fountain Green, Md.

Wayne L. Nield II 8/80

Detail of chinking

NOTE Shell- and course