

K-120

Myers House
Hanesville Post Office
c. 1840

Built c. 1840, the Myers House was located on a triangular parcel bounded on two sides by the Hanesville Road and Route 298. Originally part of a larger triangular tract known in the 18th Century as Hill Top Farm, the first mention of this section is in a deed in 1845 when it was sold from Thomas Blackiston to John N. Mensch.

"Except 2 acres which was sold . . . to Turbutt Betton, lying near Worton Heights and on which said excepted piece a small house has been erected . . .
.71

Apparently the deed to Betton was not recorded, as the next record of transfer is from Mensch to William Lowe in 1845², who later sold it to John A. Miller in 1848.³ In 1850 Miller purchased fourteen additional acres and built a house which still stands on the hill.⁴ In 1858, Miller sold a parcel measuring "3 roods, 13 perches" to Daniel Hanes⁵ who had established a store and post office on the west side of the road by the time the Martinet Map was published in 1860. (Hanes' farm was on the east side of the road.) After Daniel Hanes died, his properties were left to his nephew E. A. Vannort, whose heirs later sold 3/4 acre to Christian Myers in 1889.⁶ Twenty years earlier Mrs. Myers had purchased the adjoining 1-1/2 acres.⁷

The little plank building was constructed on a gradual slope of ground and was composed of a rectangular plank hall-parlor plan house with a leanto kitchen on the west gable. Its south facade had a central door, two windows and a dormer on the A roof. The exterior was covered with wide weatherboard. One window had a single board and batten shutter with

strap hinges. Its east gable had two small casements looking as though they should have flanked a chimney, but none remained. The only chimney was located off the west gable, within the leanto.

Inside, the building was plank and had exposed beams. There was a back-to-back fireplace serving both the dirt-floor leanto kitchen and the hall, which was about two steps higher. Headroom was very low throughout. A small enclosed stair in the northwest corner of the hall ascended to the attic. The house stood until the late 1960's.

1. Land Records, Lib. JNG 9, fol. 546-550.
2. Land Records, Lib. JNG 10, fol. 155.
3. Land Records, Lib. JNG 12, fol. 1.
4. Land Records, Lib. JR 1, fol. 348.
5. Land Records, Lib. JKH 1, fol. 222.
6. Land Records, Lib. SB 12, fol. 466.
7. Land Records, Lib. JKH 9, fol. 55.

*PLANK HOUSE AT HANESVILLE
Chestertown, Maryland
(date unknown)*

Now demolished, this was a small story and a half, two room dwelling with a lean-to kitchen. Typical of a once-common form of vernacular housing, the building had back-to-back fireplaces between the kitchen and main house, a dirt floor, and no finish on the interior walls and ceilings. The structure was made of "planks", logs sawn to a thickness of about 4 inches and notched together at the corners. The Lathim House (K-115) is a surviving example of this construction system.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC *PLANK HOUSE AT HANESVILLE*

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER *Near Junction of Maryland Route #298 & Flatland Road*

First

CITY, TOWN

Hanesville

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Kent

STATE

Maryland

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 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 type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| <input checked="" 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"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER |

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME *James A. Simpson*

Telephone #: *301-778-0351*

STREET & NUMBER

Flatland Road

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown,

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21620

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. *Kent County Court House*

Liber #: *E H P 42*

Folio #: *850*

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown, Maryland 21620

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE *Maryland Historical Trust, Survey of Kent County*

DATE

1970

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust, The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

K-120

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The following description is based upon a preliminary survey by Michael O. Bourne, May 19, 1970.

" The building was completely constructed of 'planks' or logs which have been sawn to a thickness of about 4 inches and laid in the traditional manner with notched corners. There were two rooms on the ground floor and an attic which was lit by a small window in the gable and by a shed dormer. A lean-to kitchen was constructed against one gable of the building.

There was no finish on the interior walls and ceilings and a dirt floor. Heat and cooking facilities were provided by back-to-back fireplaces in the west gable.

Inside the building was cramped and dark with a low ceiling in all rooms."

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-120

| 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 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 *unknown*

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The building was significant because of its plank construction and because it represented a once-common type of vernacular housing.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

K-120

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 *Marsha L. Fritz, Survey Consultant*

ORGANIZATION *Kent County Planning Commission*

DATE *778-4600 ext.67*

STREET & NUMBER *Court House*

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN *Chestertown, Maryland 21620*

STATE

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

owner - C. Leonard Myers

Log House at Hanesville - K-120

Like many of the small old wrecked houses, this one has been completely demolished since the photographs were taken.

It was a 1 1/2 story logs (plank) structure consisting of 2 rooms with attic (lighted by one window on gable and one flat headed dormer) interior construction was exposed and there was a single fireplace on the west side of the building, heating that section. Another fireplace (back to back) heated a lean-to kitchen also on the west side. It ~~was~~ ^{had an} extremely low ceiling and a dirt floor.
~~It was used in this century as a white family home~~

MBB 5/19/90

K-120

