

K-163

White House Farm  
Massey  
4th quarter 18th Century

In 1822, Ebenezer Thomas Massey and his wife Emily Ann both acquired parts of Angel's Lott, Partnership and Spring Garden from their parents. White House farm was most likely included in the acquisition as well.

White House Farm was originally built as a one room frame 1 1/2 story structure. It had exposed corner posts on the interior like Sterling Castle, located in Chestertown, (3rd quarter of the 18th Century). During the Massey ownership, the small dwelling was enlarged and made into a central hall plan with gambrel roof. In its finished state, it was four bays long with four dormer windows in the roof on each side. Its form was similar to the Hendrickson House near Millington.

When E. T. Massey died in 1853, he bequeathed the use of all of his land to his widow, E. A. Massey.<sup>1</sup> Apparently, Mrs. Massey took the White House farm as her residence, since her name appears on the 1860 map. The farm was to go to their daughter Ellen Crane, wife of Dr. Thomas Crane, a Millington physician. However, her brother, R. B. M. Massey appears in the 1877 Atlas at this site.

The White House farm, although considerably remodeled in the 19th and 20th Centuries, retains its form and plan, both of which were very common in their day in Kent County.

1. Wills, Lib. JFB 1, fol. 372.

K-163

Circa 1750 or earlier

White House Farm, Massey

1810-1840

Near Massey

Private

White House Farm is the first farm northwest of the small crossroads village of Massey, on the Massey-Galena road. The 2-story, gambrel-roofed main section of the frame dwelling was built in two stages and now has a central-passage-and-stair plan. The walls and roof slopes are continuous from east section to west. Although the east end, with one large room on each story, has been radically altered, both recently and in the nineteenth century when the west addition was built (ca. 1810-1840), the scant evidence that remains indicates an early construction date, perhaps even well before 1750. The early building probably was 1-1/2 storeys with one room on each level. This section is now two bays wide; the early addition added another two bays to the west. The stair hall was part of the early nineteenth-century addition. There is a relatively recent lower two-storey, two-bay west-end addition, with a gable roof. It is now a kitchen with bedroom above and probably was added for that purpose; there is a first-storey bathroom wing behind the hall and wider than it. Old mantels are gone, and the surviving trim in the east, old section appears to date from the early nineteenth-century remodeling. The east portion of the White House Farm dwelling appears to be one of the oldest surviving buildings in the area. Somehow, during the building boom that swept through circa 1820-1860, because of renewed agricultural prosperity, it was not replaced. It was, however, added to and reworked. It appears to be an example of an early simple, small frame building that was expanded partly by changing its 1-1/2 storey gable roof to a gambrel roof to gain more second-level space.



# 7. Description

Survey No. K-163

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<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 of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

White House Farm is the first farm northwest of the small crossroads village of Massey, on the Massey-Galena road. The 2-story, gambrel-roofed main section of the frame dwelling was built in two stages and now has a central-passage-and-stair plan. The walls and roof slopes are continuous from east section to west. Although the east end, with one large room on each story, has been radically altered, both recently and in the nineteenth century when the west addition was built (ca. 1820-1830), the scant evidence that remains indicates an early construction date, perhaps even well before 1750. The early building probably was 1-1/2 stories with one room on each level. This section is now two bays wide; the early addition added another two bays to the west. The stair hall was part of the early nineteenth-century addition. There is a relatively recent lower two-story, two-bay west-end addition, with a gable roof. It is now a kitchen with bedroom above and probably was added for that purpose; there is a first-story bathroom wing behind the hall and wider than it. Old mantels are gone, and the surviving trim in the east, old section appears to date from the early-nineteenth-century remodeling.

(Continued)

# 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/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** Circa 179-1810 **Builder/Architect**

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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.

The old east portion of the White House Farm dwelling appears to be one of the oldest surviving buildings in the area. Somehow, during the building boom that swept through in the second quarter of the nineteenth century, coming because of renewed agricultural prosperity, it was not replaced. It was, however, added to and reworked. It appears to be an example of an early simple, small frame building that was expanded partly by changing its 1-1/2 story gable roof to a gambrel roof to gain more second-level space.

This house is said to be the oldest remaining of the Massey family properties, and it certainly appears to be so. The Massey family, early and numerous in the vicinity, still owns property in the area. A Mrs. E. A. Massey is shown at this house on Martenet's 1860 map of Kent County. By 1877, the time of the Lake, Griffing and Stevenson atlas maps of the county, an R. B. M. Massey is designated for this house. Dr. C. H. B. Massey owned the next two farms to the north, on the Massey-Sassafras Road, and other properties as well.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. K-163

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A            
 Zone Easting Northing

B            
 Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Margaret Q. Fallaw, Surveyor Consultant			
organization	County Commissioners of Kent County		date	June 25, 1986
street & number	Court House	778-4600	telephone	778-3499
	Church Alley			
city or town	Chestertown	state	Maryland	

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  
 Shaw House  
 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 269-2438

The exterior of the north (rear) and east walls of the east end was stripped to the frame in 1985 preparatory to insulating and re-siding with vinyl horizontal lapped siding. A snapshot of the north wall shows heavily braced corner posts, a deep plate, and wide (said to be 6-8"), irregularly shaped studs that appear to have been riven. There appeared to be only five studs (or posts) between the north wall's corner posts--one at each side of the two windows (the outer one of each pair fastened to the corner bracing) and one between the windows, at the approximate center of the wall. On the interior the corner posts of both north and south walls are wallpapered and protrude about 1-1/2" - 1-3/4"; they appear to have been smoothly cut and the inside corner chamfered.

Many layers of exterior wall cladding were removed from the north wall to expose the frame. On the outside was white-painted stucco on wire lath, then numerous layers of wood shingles, and finally horizontal, lapped weatherboarding. A family member who participated in the work estimated that total thickness was 4-5". He could not recall the exposure of the weatherboarding or whether the lower edge was beaded; he thought it may have been ship-lapped, as is the south wall weatherboarding now slightly exposed at the east corner where the re-siding work was temporarily halted. He stated that, overall, the south wall's cladding was much thinner than what had been on the north wall. The horizontal shiplap weatherboarding on the south wall has an exposure ca. 6-1/2" and probably is not original. Overlaying the south wall weatherboarding is one application of wood shingles and stucco on wire lath.

The house's only cellar is beneath the early, east section. It was entered from the exterior via an entry in the west bay of the north (rear) side. The entry's side walls are of brick to just above ground level; the north end is concrete block. The side walls appear to be original, though they are not tied to the main foundation. They appear to have been taller formerly, perhaps with a roof and a door at the head of the stair. There is now no stair, and the entryway is covered with a pair of modern metal "bulkhead" doors. The door in the house foundation wall is fairly new.

From the interior of the house the cellar is now reached via a new straight stair from what was originally an under-stair closet in the central passage, which is within the addition to the old east section. Originally a shallow crawl space was beneath the entire addition, but recently part of the east end was dug out to accommodate the stair, and an opening was made near the north end of the old cellar west wall for access to the early cellar. At the same time the remaining crawl space was deepened, revealing that the brick foundation of the addition is about 28-30" high.

When the early, east end stood alone, there may have been a corner stair down from the first story in the southeast or northeast corner. Flooring evidence on the second story indicates that there was a stair from the first to second story in the southeast corner. However, it was removed when the nineteenth-century addition with its stair hall was built and closets installed on each side of the chimney on the second story. The closet door

(continued)

trim indicates a date contemporary with the addition. However, the first story floor joists and flooring as seen from the cellar offer no clues--both have been replaced in the two east corners. The brick flooring that still remains in much of the cellar suggests that the cellar may have been used as a kitchen and therefore would have been accessible via an interior stair. However, the original east chimney base is gone, replaced by one of concrete block, and it is not known whether it had a flue and was intended for a fire.

Very likely the oldest section was raised from 1-1/2 storey in height with a gable roof to having a gambrel roof, but this could not be confirmed absolutely. The entire shallow attic area is visible through a hatch in the early nineteenth-century section, and there is no old west end wall, though the difference in the sections can be discerned.

Surviving old interior trim appears to date from 1810-1840. Window aprons are a split face (corbelled) with a bead below. Trim has recessed bulls-eye corner blocks, and jamb and head trim is symmetrical. Most of the old windows appear to have been replaced. The rear windows in the first-storey of the east room are recent replacements. The stair is open string and dogleg. The balustrade is high (40") on the second storey. There are two rectangular balusters per tread (7/8" x 1"), painted white. The rail is nearly round. The starting newel and intermediates are identical; the rail simply runs continuously over the intermediates, with goose necks below them. There are short, flat turned drops. They have a 3-1/4" square base with main shaft of plain turned material with entasis. There are simple turnings above, after which the rail rises.

The chimney originally at the west end center of the main section, within the wall, has been removed. There is a metal stove flue there now, actually vented through the gable-roofed section's roof. The east end chimney has been partially rebuilt and an exterior flue added. The fireplace inside the house is modern.

The main-section cornice is plain and boxed, about 10" deep. All parts seem to be replacements. There is a crown molding in the front, but it is hidden by shingles. In the rear the cornice is covered by aluminum. The east end has replacement flush verge boards.

At the main entry, third bay from the east in the main section, only the old four-light transom remains of original material. The door at the rear of the stair hall to the exterior is now closed; a bathroom wing has been added behind the hall area, though access is now through the dining room to the west.

One exterior window appears to have partial old trim, though no shutter pintels remain. The window has 6-over-6 sash, and the backband is an ovolo with fillets, about 1-1/4".

There are four shed-roofed dormers. They have double-hung windows  
(continued)

with 6-over-6 lights. Everything appears to be replaced. The roofs are covered with asphalt shingles over wood, and plain trim extends to the edge of the dormer face. The cheeks are stuccoed.

1. STATE Maryland  
 COUNTY Kent  
 TOWN Massey VICINITY  
 STREET NO. Rt. 313, .2 mile west of Massey  
 (north)  
 ORIGINAL OWNER  
 ORIGINAL USE dwelling  
 PRESENT OWNER Randall Stafford  
 PRESENT USE dwelling  
 WALL CONSTRUCTION frame  
 NO. OF STORIES 1 1/2

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
 INVENTORY K-163

2. NAME "White House Farm - Massey"  
 DATE OR PERIOD c. 1800  
 STYLE colonial  
 ARCHITECT  
 BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

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

"White House Farm - Massey", to distinguish it from the other "White House Farm" in Kent County, is a gambrel roof frame house, three bays long with a two bay, two story wing, slightly lower than the gambrel roof section. The entrance is located in the center of the whole facade and has a six panel door with transom. All windows have 6/6 sash and green trim. The dormers are flat headed. Almost everything is covered with white stucco, even the lower pitch of the gambrel roof. Consequently the exterior is unimpressive and difficult to date.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered. NO Interior Exterior fair

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

DATE OF RECORD Sept. 11, 1968

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

Name "Whitehouse Farm" — Massey MHT# K-163

Location Kent COUNTY Massey town  
BT 3/3  
~~Galena Massey Rd~~ 1/2 mile ~~west of Massey, N.~~ town  
address or road#

First owner of record \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Present owner Randall Stogard DATE 1963

Address Massey —

Parcel or Deed # \_\_\_\_\_

Original use Dwelling

Present use Dwelling

Md. Map Coordinates \_\_\_\_\_

Long. & Lat. reading \_\_\_\_\_

Style Colonial

Date(s) of construction ? ~~1800~~ c.1800

Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Builder \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION:

1 1/2 NUMBER of stories frame with stucco type wall construction

Foundation-basement brick with stucco

Wall construction- frame covered with stucco

Water table, string course, other decorative work essential to walls

Chimneys in east gable

Name "Whitehouse Farm" - Massey

MHT# K-163

Entrance type & placement 3<sup>rd</sup> bay from east gable -  
paneled door with transom

Windows 6/6 - 4 bays long & 1 bay deep

Shutters ---

Roof type gambrel into low <sup>pitch</sup> ~~section~~ stucco covering cobble + stucco  
 Cornice, eaves wood box -

Dormers, cupolas flat headed with 6/6

Porches over door

Wings, hyphens 2 bay - 2 story wing - stucco  
than gambrel portion.

Interior:  
 Stairway ---

Doors ---

Trim ---

Other notable work ---

Name "Whitehouse Farm" - Massey MHT# K-163Physical condition fairEnvironment farm -

## References:

MHT Color slide # \_\_\_\_\_

MHT B &amp; W # \_\_\_\_\_

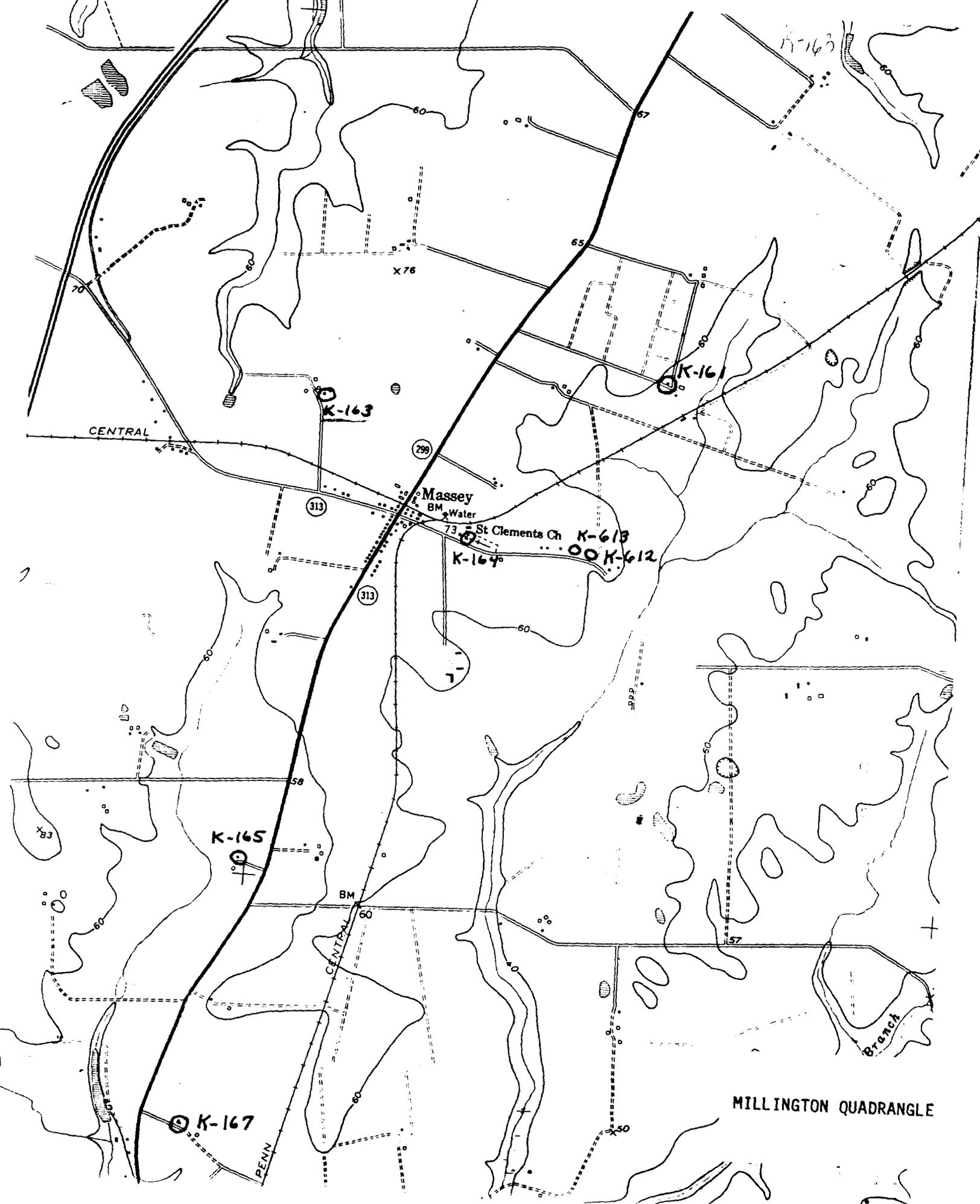
Owner contacted Mr. Stafford

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

Recorder Michael BourneDate Sept 11, 1968

Summary: "Whitehouse Farm - Massey", to distinguish it from the other Whitehouse Farm in Kent County, is a gambrel roof frame house, 3 bays long with a 2 bay, 2 story wing, slightly lower than the gambrel roof section. The entrance is located in the center of the wide mass and has a 6 panel door with transom. All windows are  $\frac{6}{6}$  and have green trim. The dormers are flat headed — ~~the~~ Almost every thing is covered with white stucco, even the lower pitch of the gambrel roof. Consequently the exterior is very unimpressive.

Enclosures: e.g. Map, Historical significance, sketch of floor plan, and angle of photos, etc.



MILLINGTON QUADRANGLE



K-163

White House Farm, Massey

Rt. 313, near Massey

M. Q. Fallaw - 6/25/86

View to northwest

K163

# 20

9 sec w/beam

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
SERIES

K-163 White House Farm, Massey

C.1770

K-163-A



K-163

White House Farm, Massey

Rt. 313, near Massey

M. Q. Fallaw - 6/25/86

View to southwest

K163  
#28  
9acc

**WESTLAND HISTORICAL TRUST**

K-163 White House Farm ~~1770~~ Massey, c.1770