

K-209

Lusby Farm
Near Kennedyville
c. 1860

Robert J. Lusby's name appears on Martinet's Map of Kent County (1860) in this location and it is probable that the house was built for him close to that time. Actually built on the foundation of an earlier house, the construction of this house resulted in one of the most classical Greek Revival style dwellings in Kent County. A distinct separation in texture was employed between the attic story with its ship lap siding and the lower stories which were sheathed with lapped weatherboard. The use of heavy brackets around the cornice is a testament to the influence of the Italianate style. Its combination with Greek Revival details became a common practice in Kent County during this time.

The Lusby Farmhouse was composed of a principal three-story section, five bays long, with a wing built behind, so as to avoid asymmetry in the principal facade. There was a one-story porch along the front which covered the classical architrave (most likely purchased from a millwork shop in either Baltimore or Philadelphia).

K-209

Circa 1840-1860

C. Olin Powell Farm

Near Chesterville

Private

The Powell farmhouse is an rare survival of a house type that may once have been more common: a three-storey, five-bay-wide, hipped roof, frame building with Greek Revival-Italianate styling that dates from the middle nineteenth century. Some are known to have been lost to fire. During unprosperous periods for farmers and especially when a high percentage of Kent County farms were tenanted, many became badly deteriorated, and new owners concluded that it was not worth the expense to rehabilitate them and so demolished them. Some did repair and remodel but removed the third storey because the space was not needed and it was hard to maintain and heat. This particular house is unusual for its treatment of the third storey, a true "attic" level strongly resembling the c. 1830 Middle Hall at Washington College. The use of the flush weatherboard in this part of the building, to provide a flat-appearing band in accordance with Greek Revival principals, is rare in the county. The only other place it is seen in the upper county is on the gable-end facade of Rehobeth Methodist Protestant Church in Sassafras (K-128). This house is also the site of an earlier farmhouse, as indicated by the foundation of part of the rear wing. It appears to have had a hall-and-parlor plan.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Lusby Farm

and/or common C. Olin Powell Farm (preferred)

2. Location

street & number East side Browntown-Harmony Woods Rd., .7 mile north
of Old Morgnec-Chesterville Rd., west of Chesterville ___ not for publication

city, town Chesterville ___X vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Kent

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial
	___ not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	___ military
			___ museum
			___ park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			___ religious
			___ scientific
			___ transportation
			___ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mr. & Mrs. Charles Olin Powell

street & number telephone no.: 348-5027

city, town Kennedyville state and zip code Maryland 21645

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Court House liber RAS 29

street & number Cross Street folio 554

city, town Chestertown state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Historic Sites Inventory - HABS Inventory

date September 23, 1968 federal state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. K-209

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<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.

The Powell Farmhouse is located on the east side of Browntown Road about three-quarters of a mile north of the old Morgnec-Chesterville Road. The farm is a small one, about 139 acres. The house is two-part, with both sections frame. The main section is three storeys tall with a very shallow hipped roof having a flat center deck. The third storey is a true "attic" storey. The main section is five bays wide and two bays deep, with the main entry in the central bay of the west side. To the rear is a lower, two-storey wing with a shallow gable roof. Though it is still a long wing, four bays, the rearmost portion has been removed. The cornice is heavy and overhanging, with brackets. There is a Greek Revival style front porch and a kitchen wing porch, on the south side.

(Continued)

8. Significance

Survey No. K-209

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 checked="" 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 circa 1840-1860 **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.

The Powell farmhouse is a rare survival of a house type that may once have been more common: a three-storey, hipped roof, frame building with Greek Revival-Italianate styling that dates from the middle nineteenth century. Some are known to have been lost to fire. During unprosperous periods for farmers and especially when a high percentage of Kent County farms were tenanted, many became badly deteriorated, and new owners concluded that it was not worth the expense to rehabilitate them and so demolished them. Some did repair and remodel but removed the third storey because the space was not needed and it was hard to maintain and heat. This particular house is unusual for its treatment of the third storey, a true "attic" level strongly resembling the c. 1830 Middle Hall at Washington College. The use of the flush weatherboard in this part of the building, to provide a flat-appearing band in accordance with Greek Revival principals, is rare in the county. The only other place it is seen in the upper county is on the gable-end facade of Rehobeth Methodist Protestant Church in Sassafras (K-128). This house is also the site of an earlier farmhouse, as indicated by the foundation of part of the rear wing. It appears to have had a hall-and-parlor plan.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. K-209

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 Maragret Q. Fallaw, Survey Consultant

County Commissioners of Kent County

organization Historical Society of Kent County date May 19, 1985

Court House 778-4600

street & number Church Alley telephone 778-3499

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 main section is about 42 feet wide and 18 feet deep. The rear wing measures about 18-1/2 feet wide by 33 deep. About 12 feet at the rear gable end were removed by the present owners.

Inspection of the cellar that is under the front portion of the wing reveals that the present wing is built on an old foundation. There are large, arched chimney bases where now there are no fireplaces or chimneys above, at the ends of what very likely would have been a dwelling with a hall-and-parlor plan. A new base that is typical of mid-nineteenth-century chimney base construction has been built to support the present wing chimney, which is located at the rear wall of the first wing room, presently a kitchen. The old cellar is built of fieldstone. A crawl space is under the later main section. It is parged on the exterior but is built of brick.

The exterior wall coverings of the main section are among the most interesting details of the house. The west side and south end of the first two storeys are covered with horizontal, lapped weatherboard, with 4-3/4" to 6-1/2" exposure. It at first appears that the decrease in exposure going upwards may be intentional, but it probably is due to replacement of some of the lower boards. There are molded corner pilasters without bases that are about 5-1/2" wide. In the center there is a cove or flattened double ogee about 1-7/8" wide. Flanking it are 5/8" recessed fillets, then 1-1/4" wide fillets. Essentially these are panelled pilasters with a central molding. The pilasters end at the bold trim between the second and third storeys. The pilasters are not on both corner faces but only on the front, long side. The north end and rear of the main section have asbestos-cement shingles applied over the original weatherboard, without interruption to the roof. The bold molded band between second and third storeys appears to have been removed here. This band is just below the third-storey window sills, about 8" high. There is a plain cap with a large cyma reversa below and what appears to be a bevel. Between this band and the bracketed frieze of the cornice, above the windows, there are only three very wide pieces of horizontal weatherboard. The lower two are flush, and the top piece may once have been though there is now a shadow line. A very flat look was what was desired.

From the exterior it looks impossible for there to be adequate standing room for a usable third storey. However, the floor-ceiling relationships inside are not what they appear to be outside. The second storey is unusually low ceiled, with the ceiling just above the windows, thus leaving adequate height for third-storey space.

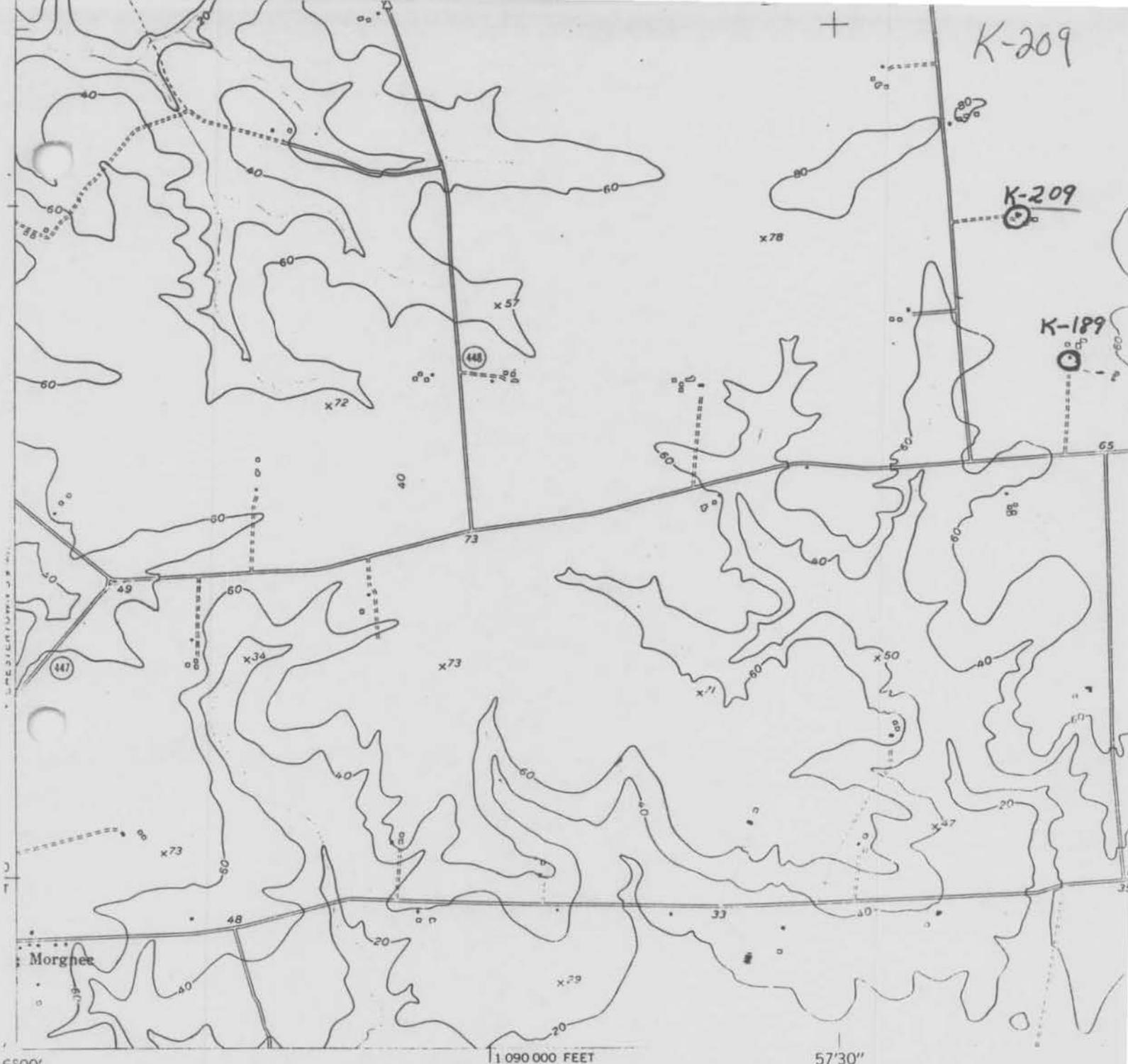
The main entry is in the central bay of the west side. There is a nine-light transom included in the large architrave. It measures about 6'-5" wide by 9'-4" high. There are three-light sidelights over a single recess panel with a bold ogee-and-bevel panel molding, which is also used with an outside fillet as the architrave trim backband. The doors are double, with three panels each. The upper and lower panels are large and vertical; the central one is small and horizontal. There is a bold, four-part transom bar 7" high. It consists of a cap, a cyma reversa with bevel below, and two corbelled

(continued)

courses. The interior architrave between door and sidelights is also bold and wide (6-1/2"), with an overall flat effect. There is a slightly raised convex center about 3" wide, flanked by recessed coves about 3/4", and then an outside fillet. The wood sill is bold. A mill-finish storm-screen door has been installed.

The windows are double-hung. First-storey windows are fairly large with 6-over-6 sash. On the third storey windows are 3-over-3. Sills are bold and double, the lower 3-1/2" thick. The trim is the same as on the main entry, 4" wide overall, including the backband of ogee-and-bevel with a 3/4" outside fillet.

1. STATE <u>Maryland</u> COUNTY <u>Kent</u> TOWN <u>Kennedyville</u> VICINITY STREET NO. <u>Harmony Woods Rd. - 1/2 mile north</u> <u>Rt 447 - east side</u> ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE <u>dwelling</u> PRESENT OWNER <u>C.O. Powell</u> PRESENT USE <u>dwelling</u> WALL CONSTRUCTION <u>frame</u> NO. OF STORIES <u>3</u>	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY <u>K-209</u> 2. NAME " Leahy Farm " - <u>C.O. Powell Farm</u> DATE OR PERIOD <u>1850-</u> <u>1860</u> STYLE <u>Greek Revival</u> ARCHITECT BUILDER 3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC <u>NO</u> <p><u>C.O. Powell</u> The Leahy Farm house is 5 bays long + 2 bays deep with a 2 story wing to the east. It is a full 3 stories high and has a low pitched hipped roof with platform in center. There are pilasters at the corners of the building and a heavy bracket cornice. All of this trim is painted dark green against the white of the clapboards. The windows have 1/2 inch on the 1st two floors and 3/8 inch on the 3rd. All windows are trimmed with green shutters. The center door ^{entrance} has dark door with sidelights and transom. There is a porch across the ^{west} the ^{west} facade.</p> <p>On the west side of the house is a circle of huge boxwood.</p> <p>The house is interesting because it represents a type of house found in the county that was popular in mid 19th century.</p>	
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered <u>NO</u> Interior Exterior <u>good</u>	
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)	7. PHOTOGRAPH
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.	9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <u>Michael Bourne</u> DATE OF RECORD <u>Sept 23 1968</u>

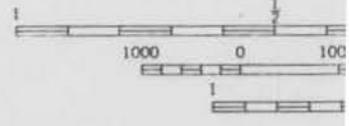


Mapped by the Army Map Service
 Edited and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS and USC&GS

Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs
 taken 1937 and 1942. Topography by plane-table surveys
 Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1953
 Hydrography from USC&GS chart 572 dated 1941

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 100-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system

Map photoinspected 1974
 No major culture or drainage changes observed



TRUE NORTH
 MAGNETIC NORTH

DEPTH CURVES
 SHORELINE SHOWN

GALENA QUADRANGLE

THIS MAP CO
 FOR SALE BY U
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING



K-209

Olin Powell Farm

Browntown-Harmony Woods Rd., near Chesterville

M. Q. Fallaw - 5/20/85

View to northeast

K209 - 29A

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
LIBRARY

Lusby Farm

K-209

C. 1860



K-209

Olin Powell Farm

Browntown-Harmony Woods Rd., near Chesterville

M. Q. Fallaw - 5/20/85

View to southwest

K209-30A