

**K-279**  
**Casa Blanca or Part of Kent Land**  
**Fairlee**  
**c.1815**

Built around 1810 - 1815, Casa Blanca is located on a tract of land referred to as "Part of Covent Garden & Kent Land" in the 1852 Tax Assessment. In that same assessment, the buildings on the farm are described as "a Brick House & other Buildings in Bad Repair". By the time of the 1877 Atlas, the property is listed under the name of the Rev. S.W. Thomas, a Methodist minister who was living in Philadelphia and who had purchased several buildings in and around Chestertown (the Methodist Meeting House in Chestertown and the Tilghman House, for example).

Five bays long and two stories high, the main block is augmented by a three-bay, two-story brick kitchen wing. Its south facade is laid in Flemish bond with neither belt course nor watertable.

The house was extensively remodeled in the late 19th Century with new windows and doors and the additions of a pent eave and a one-story porch across the facade. One original feature remaining is the main entry which has a five-light transom, gouge work carving and paneled jambs and head. Local tradition tells of carved rope moldings on the chair rail and mantels. These would have survived until the 1950's when the owners removed much of the period woodwork, leaving only the original stair. It was during this same period that the two-story portico was added to the facade.

The house was probably built close to the time of the construction of the brick wing at neighboring Fancy Farm. Casa Blanca has been in the Hatcherson family for four generations.

CASA BLANCA  
Fairlee, Maryland  
(ca 1890)

K-279

Casa Blanca is a recent name for one of Kent's old Federal period farmhouses. The building resembles Fancy Farm (K-236) nearby and was probably constructed in the 1790's. The main house is five bays wide and one room deep. It has a gable roof as well as a gable roofed side wing which is three bays long and a lower two stories in height. Both sections of the structure are brick now painted white. The front facade is Flemish bond with tooled mortar joints. There is no brick detailing except flat arches above the windows. Brick chimneys are enclosed within each gable.

A two-story front porch dates from the 1950's; at the same time much original interior woodwork was removed.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

CASA BLANCA

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

North side of Route 20, 1½ miles east of Fairlee

1st

CITY, TOWN

Fairlee

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Kent

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Fairlee Farms Partnership  
c/o David Muth

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1910

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Maryland 21401

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Kent County Court House

Liber #: EHP 85

Folio #: 725

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown, Maryland

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Maryland Historical Trust, Survey of Kent County

DATE

1968

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust, The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis, Maryland

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

K-279

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

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Casa Blanca is located on the north side of Route 20 about 1½ miles from Fairlee. It faces south with a view of tract houses across the street. Behind the house are modern barns and open fields.

The main house is five bays wide and one room deep. It has a gable roof as well as a gable roofed side wing which is three bays long and a lower two stories in height. Both sections of the structure are brick now painted white. The front facade is Flemish bond with tooled mortar joints. There is no brick detailing except flat arches above the windows. Brick chimneys are enclosed within each gable.

Windows in the main house have 6 over 6 sash which replace 2 over 2 Victorian sash. At some time in the past, the window openings were made narrower. Trim is plain; sills are wooden. Windows in the wing have also been altered, and have 4 over 4 sash windows.

The main entry has a five-light transom and beaded trim with a Federal Style ogee and bead molding. The transom bar has shallow gouge-work carving and paneled jambs.

The appearance of the house has been greatly changed by the addition in the 1950's of a two-story, four-columned porch. In the 19th century the roof had been changed to include an overhang on the eaves and Victorian cornice moldings and wooden gingerbread. In that remodeling, a one story porch was built across the front of both the main house and wing and a pair of double doors hung in the main entry. In spite of this extensive exterior remodeling, the Federal period woodwork inside remained until removed in the 1950's by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hatcherson. It was replaced with reproduction Federal period window and door trim and mantles, and pine paneling was installed on the walls.

The central stair is one interior feature which remains intact. A dog leg in shape, it has a molded walnut handrail newels and intermediates with block top and base, and step brackets with a console shaped cut-outs.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

K-279

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 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	ca 1890	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Casa Blanca is a recent name for one of Kent's old Federal period farmhouses. The building resembles Fancy Farm (K-236) nearby and was probably constructed in the 1790's. The removal of its interior woodwork is an unfortunate loss for the county, as few intact Federal period houses remain.

Recently sold, the farm had been in the same family for four generations.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

K-279

**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

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

Some old 4,5, & 6 panel doors remain. They have a flattened quarterround panel mold and bold raised and beveled panels. One mantle on the second floor remains. It has a surround with split fascia, inside bead and ogee and bead backband; at the split is an ogee molding. A few windows and doors with this same molding indicated that it was used throughout the house. According to the owner chairrails and window aprons had a rope molding carved into them. This design as well as gouge work carving is also found on a mantle which was removed.

The wing has a rebuilt pyramidal fireplace. This room had a dirt floor before the 1950's and many bits of leather and parts of bridles raise the question of its being used by a leather worker.

The old graveyard for this property is located about  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile from the house on Baker Lane.

Casa Blanca is a two story brick house (painted white), five bays long and one room deep with a three bay long, two story brick wing on the west side of the main section. The brick is laid in Flemish bond on the south facade and there is neither water table nor belt course. The antiquity of the house has been hidden by the recent addition of a two story portico over the facade of the main section. It has an A roof on both sections and a chimney at each gable. Those of the main section are double with a curtain wall between, an uncommon practice on a house that is only one room deep. One chimney has a chimney pot and the others appear to be incomplete.

Inside the center hall retains its late eighteenth century stair of good proportions. All other walls have been covered with pine sheathing and all doors and trim have been replaced or removed.

Maryland  
Kent  
Chestertown

1502795204

K-279

Rd - Rt 20, 1/2 mile West of Rt 446 -  
north side of road

Casa Blanca  
late 18th Century  
Colonial

was in Strong family -

use - dwelling

Present Owners - Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hutchinson

use - dwelling

Construction - Brick

Stories - 2

(Not open)

(painted white)

Casa Blanca is a 2 story brick house, 5 bays long and one room deep with a 3 bay long, 2 story brick wing on the west side of the main section. The brick is laid in Flemish bond on the same facade and there is neither water table nor belt course. The antiquity of the house has been hidden by the <sup>recent</sup> addition of a 2 story portico over the facade of the main section. It has an "A" roof on 5th section and a chimney at each gable. Two of the main sections are double with a curtain wall between, an uncommon practice on a house that is only one room deep. One chimney has a chimney pit and the others appear to be incomplete.

Inside the center ~~the~~ hall retains its late 18th Century stair of good proportions. All other walls have been covered with pine sheathing and doors <sup>and</sup> have been replaced ~~or~~ removed.

no

good

fair

MTB

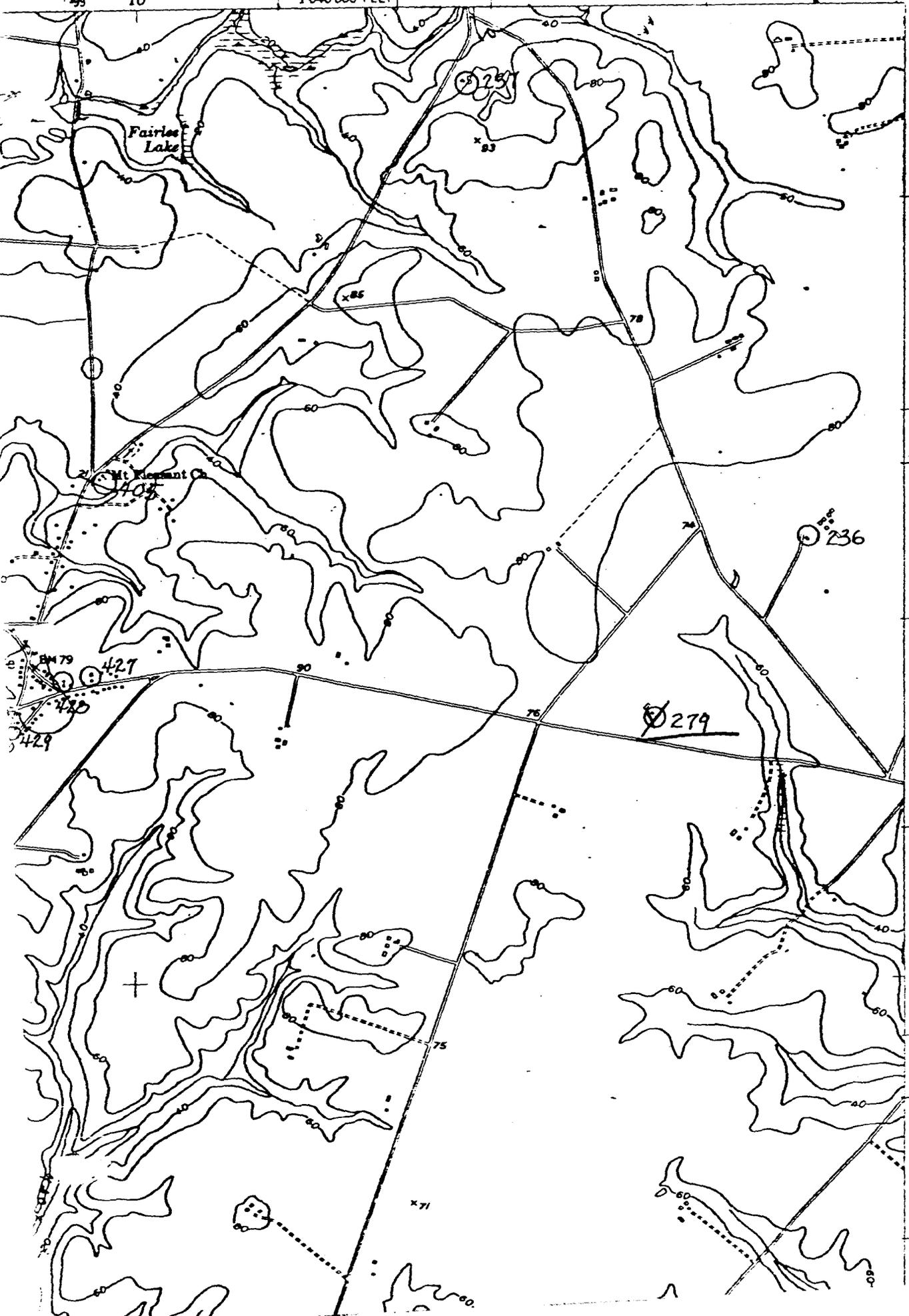
Oct 27, 1965

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
NW/4 CHESTERTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE

57  
18277

95 10' 1040 000 FEET 02 76°07'30" 39°15'

K-279



434

433

510 000  
FEET

236

279

431

12'30"

x71

430