

Old James Baker Farm

Chestertown

North of Pomona on Brices Mill-Pomona Road stands the Old James Baker Farm. The house on the Baker farm is a rectangular, gabled roofed structure with a rear ell. Three bays wide and two deep, the primary decoration is the emphasis of the central windows and the door with sidelights. In the 19th century, the village of Pomona was Bakerville for the several members of the Baker family who lived there or owned farms nearby.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Old James Baker Farm

and/or common Harris Farm, Perkins Farm

2. Location

street & number West side Brices Mill- Pomona Rd., 1/4 mile north
of Pomona, West of Chestertown not for publication

city, town Chestertown vicinity of congressional district FIRST

state Maryland county Kent

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 type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name John A. Harris IV

street & number 1143 Edgewood Avenue telephone no.:

city, town Berwyn state and zip code Pennsylvania 19312

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kent County Court House liber EHP75

street & number folio 243

city, town Chestertown state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. K-464

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 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.

This house is a rectangular, gable-roofed structure with a rear ell. Three bays wide and two deep, the primary decoration is the emphasis of the central windows and door with sidelights.

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/ 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

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 house on the old James Baker Farm represents one type of Victorian dwelling built throughout Kent County in the 1870's and 1880's. As in the central gable houses like the old Methodist Parsonage in Pomona, there is a design emphasis on the center of the front facade. In the Baker house, sidelights on the central dormer, center window on the second floor, and main entry are used for this purpose. In the nineteenth century, the village of Pomona was Bakerville for the several members of the Baker family who lived there or owned farms nearby.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Building Form and Material

1. Size - Main Section: 2½ stories, 3 bays wide, 2 bays deep
 Wing A: 2½ stories, 2 bays wide, 3 bays long
 Wing B: 1 story, 1 bay wide, 2 bays deep
 Wing C: 1 story, 2 bays wide, 1 bay deep
2. Plan type - Central hall with rear ell and other additions
3. Roof type - Gable
4. Chimneys - Located adjacent to central partitions of main section; made of brick. Decorated with corbelled caps - chimneys appear to be of recent date
5. Material/walls - All are frame covered with aluminum siding about 1978.
6. Roof/Materials - Main Section: ribbed sheetmetal
 Wing A: same
 Wing B: asbestos
 Wing C: asbestos
7. Material/Foundation - All are brick.
8. Age - Main Section: circa 1880
 Wings: 2½ story ell is contemporary with house. Garage (wing B) and laundry (wing C) are modern additions.
9. Style - Victorian vernacular

Building Elements and Details

1. Doors - Main entry: Located in the center of major facade. Entry has a pair of doors with round-headed panels edged with bol-
 ection moldings. There is a 5-light transom and 3-light side lights with lower panels. The entry is sheltered by a shallow entry porch with a bracketed hipped roof and 2 square columns. The porch has a brick floor and steps of recent date.

Secondary entries: Located insouthern side of the ell. The secondary entries lead to the kitchen and first room of the ell. There is a shed-roofed porch which has chamfered posts and large scroll-work brackets.

2. Windows - Main Section: type - double-hung with aluminum storm windows
 lights - 6/6

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION (continued)

details - The window above the main entry has 3/3 sidelights. The wooden trim and sills of all windows have been covered with olive-green aluminum siding.

shutters - formerly wooden louvered
Wings: Same but with some later modern changes.

3. Dormers - There are 3 decorative dormers on the front of the house. All have shallow gable roofs finished with a cornice and returns. The pilasters have sawn-work bracketing top and bottom. The side dormers and the central window of the central dormer have segmentally-arched upper sash with 6/6 lights. The central dormer also has 3/3 side lights. All three have applique work in the tympanum; the central dormer has a drop as well.

4. Roof details - Main and Wing sections: The main roof has a built-in gutter. All cornice details except bold, scroll-work brackets on the main facade have been covered with olive-green aluminum siding.

5. Porches - See "entry" notes

6. Color - Current: white/olive green trim
Historic: ?

7. Other - The siding has covered over wide pilasters at the corners of the house.

Interior Description

1. Plan type - Central Hall

2. Major stair - Dogleg with turned balusters and octagonal newel

3. Major mantles - Slate mantles with round arch openings

4. Major trim - Windows/doors: Flattish Greek ogee and bevel with wide fillet and inside bead.

Baseboards: 6" with ogee and bevel

Cornices: In major rooms there is a 7" cornice with composite moldings including a $4\frac{1}{2}$ " ogee and cove.

Chair rails: none

5. Major doors - 4 panel

6. Floors - Random pine

7. Walls/ceiling finishes - plaster

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.3 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Outbuildings/Site Description

1. Major outbuildings - Stables: long gable-roofed of frame material with construction system of bay framing. There are a row of 6 segmental arch openings across the east facade.

Barns/sheds: Are gable-roofed of frame material and constructed of modern bay framing.

2. Site Description - The building sets in a grassy lawn with several trees. The site is not carefully tended. The house is set back from the road about 1/8 mile, closely surrounded by farm lands.

3. Views to/from site - The building is visible from Pomona

Use of Building

1. Current - rental property

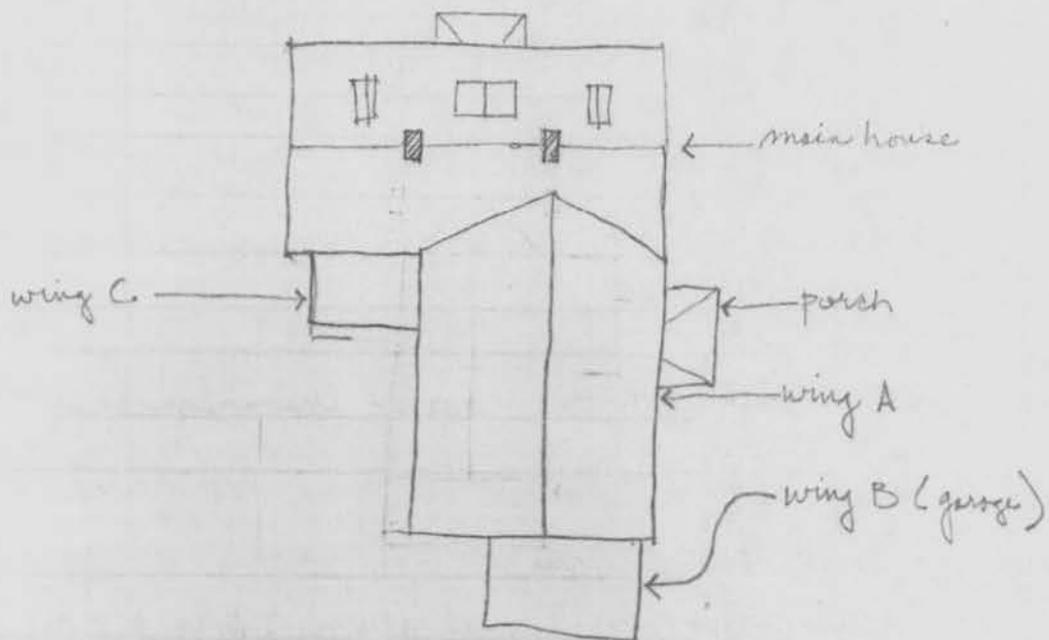
2. Historic - residence

History of Building/Past Ownership

This farm is commonly called the Perkins Farm for a previous owner.

R-464

Old James Baker Farmhouse



SKETCH PLAN.

M. FRITZ
5/81



K-464

CHESTERTOWN QUADRANGLE

Fork

Piney Grove

Pomona

Bond Chapel

Old Town

Johnsonstown

Quaker Neck Landing

Bookers Wharf

QUEEN ANNES CO
KENT CO

042

303
300

463

19

461

Shell Pt

Starkley

Burns

x.39

251

250

244

477

464

459

280

460

BM 11

476

480

87.0

BM 37

242

BM 21

451

Cem

Cem

283

Millers I

Northwest Pt

CHESTER

Down

Journey

Pratt Pt

x.39



View to West

JAMES BAKER FARM (K-464)

Chestertown, Kent County

Photograph: M. L. Fritz, June 1981



K-464

Old James Baker Farm

Pomona-Brice's Mill Rd., nr. Chestertown

M. Q. Fallaw - 8/31/86

View to north

10444-34



K-464

Old James Baker Farm

Pomona-Brice's Mill Rd., nr. Chestertown

M. Q. Fallaw - 8/31/86

View to northwest

K-464-33