

K-474

J. Wickes Farm  
Broad Neck  
c. 1850's

Overlooking Sinai Cove, off the west branch of Langford Bay, this five-bay, two-and-a-half story, mid-19th century, frame dwelling can best be described as a vernacular farmhouse with some Italianate details. Its facade has only sidelights and transom around the entry to suggest the mid-19th century date. All windows are uniform, including the three dormers in the steeply pitched 'A' roof. The other two Italianate elements are a bracketed cornice and a plain, three-bay porch. Otherwise, it resembles many other Kent County farmhouses of the late 19th century in its straight forward simplicity.

Its plan is a central stairhall with flanking rooms. There is a service wing of two rooms to the rear of the westernmost room. Details are quite plain, with Greek Revival style mantels. The stair has a 'catalogue' balustrade with huge newel and balusters.

In the 1877 Atlas, the name J. Wickes accompanies the dot on the map. It probably stands on part of the 17th century tract called Mannour of Stephen Heath which has been corrupted to Stepney (not to be confused with the Simon Wickes property on which Chestertown was laid out in 1706). It may have been constructed by Benjamin F. Beck who appears to have owned the farm in 1852.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic J. Wickes House

and/or common House on Eliason Farm, Broad Neck

## 2. Location

street & number Broad Neck overlooking Sinai Cove. West side Broad Neck Rd. 2-1/4 miles south of Langford not for publication

city, town Chestertown  vicinity of First congressional district

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 checked="" 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

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

name Thomas W. Eliason, Jr.

street & number David Drive, Byford Heights telephone no.: 301-778-0597

city, town Chestertown state and zip code Maryland 21620

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kent County Court House liber EHP53

street & number folio 7

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-474

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" 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.

Facing south with a view of the head of Sinai Cove, this house is 5 bays wide, 2½ stories tall, and one room deep. It is frame. The central hall building has its kitchen in a gable-roofed rear ell. A simple structure, its chief decoration is a bracketed cornice on the main roof and the wide front porch.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. K-474

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.

Houses dating from the middle of the 19th century like this one were once very common in Kent County. Simple but roomy structures, their design springs directly from the tradition of building boxy, gable-roofed houses that began in the 18th century here. Victorian modifications include the porch, machine-made brackets and stairs, and the rear position of the wing. Generally these houses had several outbuildings nearby for storage, smoking meats, and housing animals. Two of these buildings remain. Although now deteriorated, this house is an illustration of the housing of farm families in the 19th and early 20th century.



## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Building Form and Material

1. Size - Main Section: 2½ stories, 5 bays wide, 2 bays deep  
Wing A: 2 stories, 2 bays wide, 3 bays long
2. Plan type - Central hall, one room deep, rear ell
3. Roof type - Main Section: steep gable  
Wing A: shallow gable
4. Chimneys - Located in each gable end  
Material - brick  
Decorative elements are simple corbelled caps, exposed chimney backs in each gable.
5. Material/Walls - Frame with medium-width lapped weatherboarding
6. Material/Roofs - asphalt shingles
7. Material/Foundation - Main Section: Brick/fieldstone below grade  
Wing A: brick
8. Age - Main Section: mid-19th century  
Wing A: contemporary
9. Style - Vernacular Victorian

Building Elements and Details

1. Doors - Main entry: Located in the center of south facade. Three-light transom; 3-light, paneled side lights. 4-panel door with Greek-ogee and bevel panel moldings.  
Secondary entries: In east wall of wing
2. Windows - type: double hung (Main Section)  
lights: 6/6  
details: Narrow frames with inside bead  
shutters: none in place  
Wing A- type: smaller 6/6 double hung  
details: same as main section
3. Dormers - 3-gable dormers in main-house slopes. 2/2 sash, simple cornice and return.
4. Roof details - Main Section: Box cornice with brackets. Ogee crown mold.  
Wing A: simple box.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION (continued)

5. Porch - Entry porch - 3 by 1 bay with square columns, shallow hipped roof with bevel crown molding.

6. Color - Current: white

Interior Description

1. Plan type - Central hall

2. Major stair - Turned newel (walnut and round handrail) turned balusters

Other stairs - enclosed stair in wing.

3. Major mantles - simple Greek Revival mantles

4. Major trim - Baseboards: plain  
Cornices: modern cyma recta

5. Major doors - 4 panel - some with Greek ogee and bevel panel moldings

6. Floors - medium-width pine

7. Walls/ceiling finishes - plaster/plywood paneling

Outbuildings/Site Description

1. Major outbuildings - Meathouse: One room, gable-roofed of frame material and bay construction.

Storage shed: One room, gable-roofed of frame material and bay construction system.

2. Site description - The farmstead is located at the end of a very long lane. It is located on a rise of ground facing south-southwest. There is no landscaping although there are a few large trees on the property. The outbuildings are immediately behind the house.

3. Views to/from site - Sinai Cove and a small recent house to the west. House is visible from the water.

Use of Building

1. Current - Vacant

2. Historic - Residence

History of Building/Past Ownership

The 1877 Atlas shows a house on this site. It is owned by a J. Wickes.



K 474

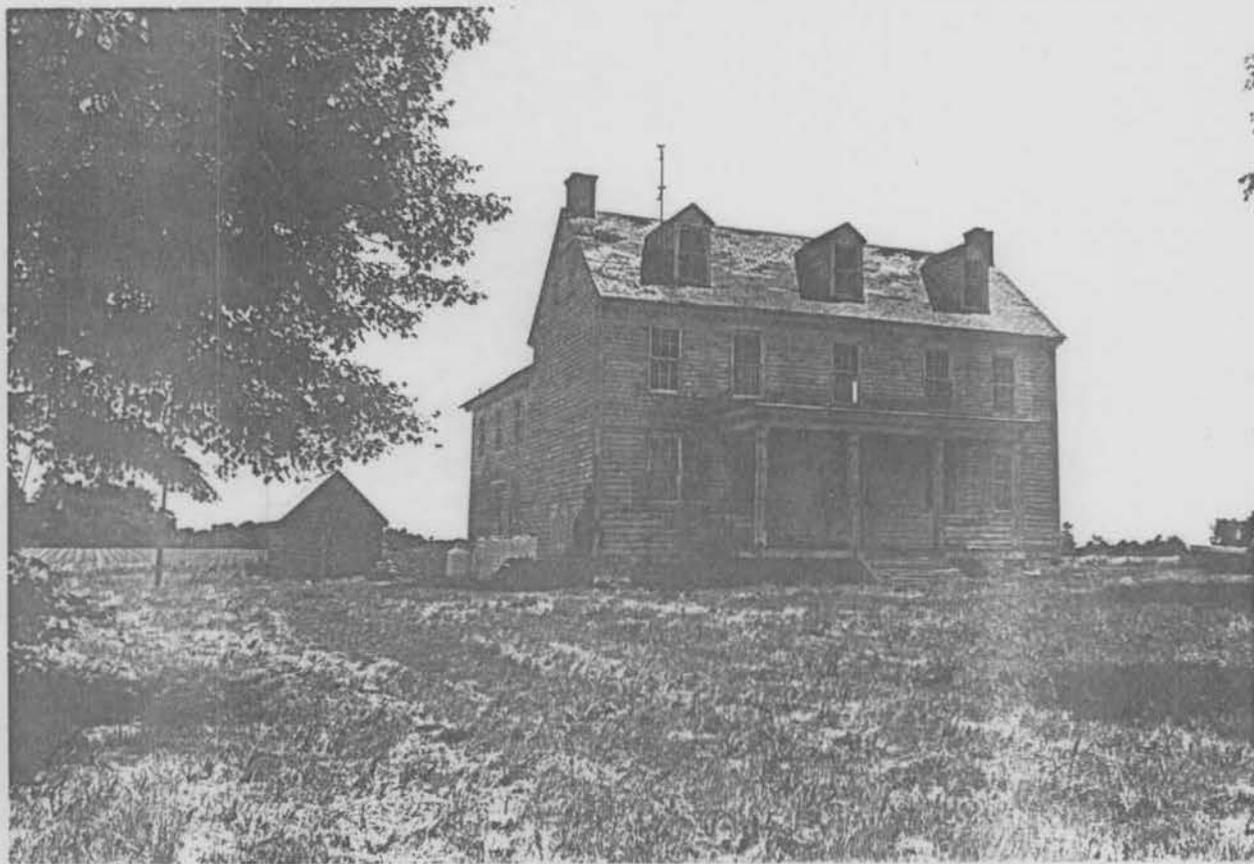
BROADWAY

LANGFORD

PHILIP

ROCK HALL QUADRANGLE

462



View to North

ELIASON FARMHOUSE (K-474)

Broad Neck, Chestertown, Kent County

Photograph: M. L. Fritz, June 1981