

K-644

1900-1905

Mallalieu-Simon House

Millington

Private

One of the most attractive Victorian houses in Millington, the Mallalieu-Simon House broke away from the Kent County tradition for building large frame Victorian houses: the symmetrical, five-bay-wide, central-gable house with rear wing. One of the few dwellings in Millington that could be called Queen Anne in style, it was by local standards quite radical, though in broader regional or national terms it was quite conservative. Though there are a few Queen Anne details visible on the exterior (such as the spindle-work in the front gable, shingling in one gable, the Queen Anne window with colored glass at the stair landing), it is the irregular massing that distinguishes this building. This is the type of Queen Anne house with basic hipped roof (in this case with flat deck) and multiple cross-gables, resulting in the asymmetry that was valued. There is a total of four large gables although two of them are treated symmetrically within their immediate environment (the south and north sides' gables). Further heightening the irregularity desired is the one-storey bay window on the south side and the large, asymmetrical front porch, not only set in on the north but sweeping around the southwest corner of the house. This house undoubtedly was built from a builder's plan. It is not a local vernacular plan though in the construction of some of its details some local carpenter methods may have prevailed (in the construction of the south bay, for example). The owner for whom the house was built (Joshua C. Mallalieu) not only was part of the family that owned the Unicorn Mill and thus in a position to be able to afford a rather extravagant house, but being from New York City (this may have been his second house), he would have been well acquainted with building styles outside the local vernacular tradition.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Mallalieu-Simon House

2. Location

street & number N. Sassafras Street, Millington ^(M0313) JUL 21/7/94
not for publicationcity, town Millington vicinity of congressional districtstate Maryland county Kent

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 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 Mr. and Mrs. George R. Simon, Jr.street & number P.O. Box 47 telephone no.: 928-5155city, town Millington state and zip code Maryland 21651

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kent County Courthouse liber EHP 74street & number Cross Street folio 863city, town Chestertown state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys NONE

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. K-644

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input 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 frame, 2-1/2 storey Mallalieu-Simon House, located on the east side of Sassafras Street on the second lot north of Back Street in Millington, was built between 1900 and 1905 for Joshua Clifton Mallalieu and his wife. Its style is Queen Anne, with the style's asymmetries and irregularities created largely by the composite roofs, with the walls following below. The basic roof (though there is not much of it) is a hipped roof with flat deck, with four cross gables. Two of these (front and rear) intersect the hipped roof asymmetrically, while the side gables form a symmetrical composition with the hipped roof. A pair of dormers flanks the south side's central gable. The original exterior wall surface was horizontal weatherboard, now covered with vinyl siding; some of the house's details are also covered, but many remain. The interior plan has some kinship with the four-square plan. Entry is into a large, side reception hall with stair, with living room to the side, and there are rooms to the rear of both of these front rooms. However, the house continued further, with the kitchen in the rear gable projection. The front interior of the house has been changed little. However, at the rear of the first storey there have been additions and rearrangement of space.

(Continued)

8. Significance

Survey No. K-644

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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 1900 - 1905 **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.

One of the most attractive Victorian houses in Millington, the Mallalieu-Simon House broke away from the Kent County tradition for building large frame Victorian house: the symmetrical, five-bay-wide, central gable house with rear wing. One of the few dwellings in Millington that could be called Queen Anne in style, it was by local standards quite radical, though in broader regional or national terms it was quite conservative. Though there are a few Queen Anne details visible on the exterior (such as the spindle-work in the front gable and the Queen Anne window with colored glass at the stair landing), it is the massing (or really almost non-massing) that distinguishes this building. This is the type of Queen Anne house with basic hipped roof (in this case with flat deck) and multiple cross gables, resulting in the asymmetry that was valued. There is a total of four large gables although two of them are treated symmetrically within their immediate environment (the south and north sides gables). Further heightening the irregularity desired is the one-storey bay window on the south side and the large, asymmetrical front porch, not only set in on the north but sweeping around the southwest corner of the house.. This house undoubtedly was built from a builder's plan. It is not a local vernacular plan though in the construction of some of its details some local carpenter methods may have prevailed (in the construction of the south bay, for example). The owner for whom the house was built not only was part of the family that owned the Unicorn Mill and thus in a position to be able to afford a rather extravagant house, but being from New York City (this may have been his second house), he would have been well acquainted with building styles outside the local vernacular tradition.

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The quarter-turn stair from first storey to second leads to an essentially central hall space, with short distances to each of the four bedrooms. There is a secondary hall leading to a large bathroom in the rear gable projection. Most likely this bathroom was part of the original plan, though it is possible that this area was intended for a maid's room.

There are three chimneys, with details the same. All chimneys are built of dark-red brick. Some show minor patching. There is a corbelled cap with "dentils" in the second course below the two-course band section. One chimney is rather curiously located. Serving the living room fireplace, which is in its southeast corner, it rises up through the south side's central gable, in front of the window to exit through the roof through that gable's ridge. A second chimney is in the approximate center of the rear gable extension, for a dining room fireplace. It is not now known exactly how the kitchen was arranged, but presumably it was only in the rear section of this rear gable section. It either had its own chimney, now gone, or shared flues with the dining room fireplace's chimney. The third chimney is for what was originally an apparently rather small room, perhaps designated a library, that is to the rear of the entry hall, on the north side of the house. This room was in a section of the house that was one-storey in height, with north side wall parapeted. The room has since been extended to the rear (perhaps in an old porch location) and wrapped around the rear of the earlier kitchen. Part of what probably was the old kitchen is now a central, enclosed area, part of which contains a bathroom.

Most of the house is built over a crawl space. The small section of cellar is located under the one-storey section in the northeastern corner of the house. The foundation material is uncoursed "Port Deposit" granite.

The main entry is in the west, main facade, in the north bay. It is to the north of a very wide three-part bay that extends the width of the living room. Tall louvered shutters have been added to each side recently, and storm door with one large light has been installed. The trim is now covered with aluminum but evidently is only about 2-1/4" wide. The trim may have been plain. There is a three-light transom, with the center light larger than the other two; the transom has etched, patterned glass. The transom bar is heavy, with its center element a bold cyma reversa. At each side of the door there are three-light sidelights with the same glass as the transom, except for the lowest light on each side, where there is another type of obscure glass. Below the sidelights there is a pair of panels on each side, a tall lower one and a short upper one. The door is oak, painted on the interior and with natural finish on the exterior. It has a large, spherical brass knob with a large vertical backplate. There is a horizontal row of square panels above two horizontal panels. The panels are recessed and slightly raised; the panel molding is a small ovolo with cove.

The main house windows are double-hung, some paired. They have large 1-over-1 lights. Their trim is now covered with aluminum, again apparently about 2-1/4" wide. White aluminum storm windows-screens are in place. Fixed louvered shutters of modern material have been hung at each window.

(continued)

There is no indication that there were any shutters originally. In the south gable's window, behind which the chimney for the living room fireplace rises, there is a fixed window with colored glass and with upper section triangular.

The stair is quarter-turn with landing. It begins along the reception hall's north wall, rising to the east and then turning south. The stair parts are oak, all naturally finished as evidently they were from the beginning. The central portion of the balusters on the closed-string is in a twisted-rope style. The starting newel is very large and square, with a large "pineapple" cap and "rope" inserts in the corners of the shaft. The intermediates are square, simpler and smaller.

In 1899, Hope H. Barroll, trustee for the sale of real estate in the Chancery Court case of Johnson vs. Johnson and others, sold part of the Johnson property, north and west of Back Street and the railroad track from Massey to Joshua Clifton Mallalieu and Mary Edna, his wife (Chancery book JTD 2/202; Kent County Land Records JTD 2/509). The Mallalieux were noted as residents of New York City (and in later, 1905 deed as residents of Brooklyn). They very likely were part of the family that operated the Unicorn textile mill on the other side of the Chester River, in Queen Anne's County.

This lot was part of a sizable tract that was platted into numerous building lots, evidently considered the best way to raise cash. The case came about because of the death of a Johnson and involved selling most of the real estate to satisfy the claims of the heirs. The Johnson family house was located on a small lot at the southeast corner of the plot, at junction of Back Street and the railroad right-of-way and was retained for the Johnson widow. The remaining Johnson property was divided into fourteen lots, apparently intending that they be sold individually. However, the Mallalieux bought a number of lots: 1, 2, 3, 11, 12, 13 and 14, stretching from Sassafras Street back to the railroad (Lot No. 3 later was sold off for the small house that stands north of the house that the Mallalieux built). The Mallalieux paid \$410 for these lots. The property as a whole was called the Green Tree property, or Green Tree subdivision. Several streets were to be opened within the subdivision, but it was soon evident that there was no need since no one was buying internal lots only, but lots fronting on Sassafras Street and the lots behind them. In 1902 the road that was to be opened and called Ahern Avenue was closed and the right-of-way divided between Frank L. Smith, the Mallalieux, and others.

On September 27, 1905 (JTD 12/189) the Mallalieux sold lots 1, 2, 3, 11, 12, 13 and 14 to Maria Osborne Feddeman. The price was \$3,250, indicating that a house had been built between 1899 and the sale date. It is not known if the Mallalieux had built a house there previously, between 1899 and 1904 and if it was consumed by the great Millington fire of July 1904. The house next door to the south, at the northeast corner of Back Street and Sassafras, was burned; the present house there was built not long after the fire. On the southeast corner of this intersection the Episcopal chapel was also burned. In this deed the Mallalieux are still listed as out-of-state residents, of Brooklyn. Either this was a second home for them, connected with the necessity of supervising mill operations, or they had already moved back to New York, where evidently the business was headquartered.

Maria D. Feddeman owned the property until 1942 or 1945. There is some confusion involving double transactions. Therefore, it generally became known in Millington as the Feddeman house. Presumably the Richard Feddeman who operated a hardware store in Millington was her husband, though the house was in her name only. By 1945 she was a widow.

MILLINGTON

KENT CO

(Dist. No. 1)

K-644



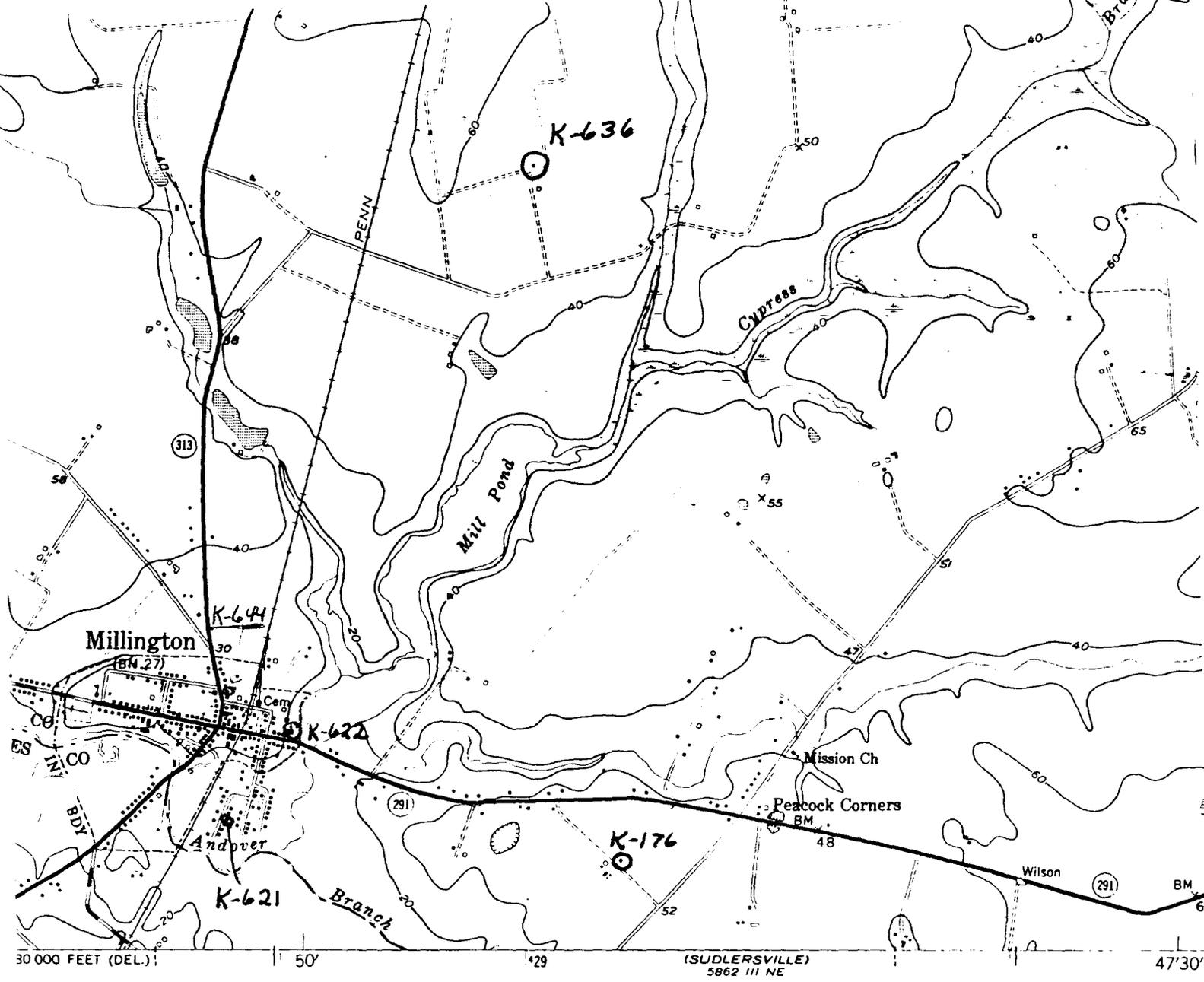
NOTE: 1877 MAP IS EARLIER THAN HOUSE

QUEEN ANNE COUNTY

CHESTER RIVER

J. H. THOMAS

J. H. THOMAS



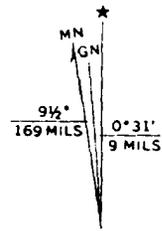
30 000 FEET (DEL.)

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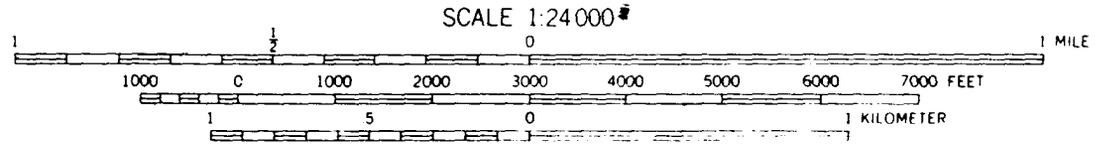
429

(SUDLERSVILLE)
5862 III NE

47'30"



TM GRID AND 1973 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

MILLINGTON QUADRANGLE



K-644

Mallalieu-Simon House

Sassafras St., Millington

M. Q. Fallaw - 7/17/86

View to east/northeast



K-644

Mallalieu-Simon House
Sassafras St., Millington
M. Q. Fallaw - 7/17/86
View to east/southeast