

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Adams Farm
other names/site number Old Adams Farm S-338

2. Location

street & number Princess Anne-Westover Road not for publication
city, town Princess Anne vicinity
state Maryland code MD county Somerset code 039 zip code 21853

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>10</u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u>1</u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>12</u>	<u>3</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official [Signature] STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER Date 9-28-88

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

S-388

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single dwellingDOMESTIC/Secondary structureAGRICULTURE/Agricultural outbuilding

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single dwellingDOMESTIC/Secondary structureAGRICULTURE/Agricultural outbuilding**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late VictorianGreek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICKwalls WEATHERBOARDSHINGLEroof ASPHALT

other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

The Adams Farm consists of a nineteenth century frame house with Greek Revival trim that was enlarged and reconfigured with Late Victorian alterations in the third quarter of the century and Colonial Revival changes about 1900. Presently two and a half stories high with a high pitched roof, the house is characterized on the exterior by asymmetrically placed windows and doors, a two story gallery porch across the front, weatherboard siding, a telescope configuration, and corbelled brick chimneys. On the interior, the floor plan is asymmetrical with Greek Revival, Late Victorian, and Colonial Revival decorative detailing. Although two of the principal rooms on the first floor were remodeled somewhat about 1950, the house, both inside and out, retains its historic character. Surrounding the house to the rear and side are numerous domestic and agricultural outbuildings most of which date from the late nineteenth century. The general setting of the property is relatively flat land with several mature trees and mid-twentieth century landscaping.

See continuation sheet for
GENERAL DESCRIPTION

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Continuation SheetAdams Farm S-338
Somerset County
MarylandSection number 7 Page 1GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The Adams Farm is located on the east side of the old Princess Anne-Westover Road immediately south of Princess Anne, Somerset County, Maryland. It consists of a house and a large group of late nineteenth century domestic and farm outbuildings. The farmhouse faces west with the principal roofline oriented on a north/south axis.

Built in three principal stages, the farmhouse dates from the second and third quarters of the nineteenth century with further alterations about 1900. The oldest portion of the house comprises the southernmost room of the front block and dates to the second quarter of the nineteenth century. At about the same time, the house was enlarged by a two-part service wing that extended the house to the east. During the last decade of the century the most radical alterations enlarged the front portion and raised the roof. At the same time the two-story gallery was attached to the front of the house. The rambling frame structure rests on a partially excavated brick cellar, under the oldest section, and is sheathed with weatherboard siding. The steeply pitched roofs are covered with either asbestos, wood, or asphalt shingles. Interior and exterior brick chimneys finished with corbelled and dentiled caps pierce the roofline.

The facade or west elevation is asymmetrical and covered by a two-story engaged porch. The first floor of the porch is supported by Tuscan columns, probably dating circa 1900, on brick plinths. The second floor has chamfered posts trimmed with decorative corner brackets. These posts and brackets probably date from the 1880's. Stretching between the posts on both floors are turned baluster railings. The facade has a large cross-gable roof with fishscale shingles, a round arched two-over-two sash window, and pierced barge boards.

The first floor wall is an uneven surface marking the shift between the antebellum house and the turn of the century addition. The northern three bays, circa 1900, are filled with a side entrance (north bay and principal door) and two adjacent nine-over-two sash windows flanked by louvered shutters. The entrance has a partially paneled door with glazing above the lock rail. The southern two bays of the facade are set back from the main wall surface with a pair of French doors topped by a three-light transom and a six-over-six sash window flanked with louvered shutters. The surface of the second floor is even and lit by four large scale nine-over-two sash windows framed by louvered shutters and a small six-over-one sash window located in the northernmost bay.

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The north gable end has a bay window on the first floor and a Tuscan columned porch which ties into the facade porch. The east portion of the first floor is enclosed under a shed roof with exposed and decorated rafter feet. The second floor is a blind wall. The gable has a three-part window. The point of the gable has decorative sawnwork. A narrow brick chimney finished with a corbelled cap rises on the exterior.

The south wall of the house is an asymmetrical arrangement of six-over-six sash windows. A bulkhead cellar entrance and a small cellar window pierce the foundation wall. Two six-over-six windows light the attic and flank the interior end brick chimney. The chimney has a corbelled top.

The east wall of the main house is partially covered by the two-story service wing which was built in several stages. From construction evidence it appears a single-story hyphen connected the main house with the rear two-story service wing. A seam in the weatherboards and a shift in window construction between the upper and lower windows suggests such an arrangement. The second floor to the current kitchen was apparently raised at the same time the main house was enlarged upward. The northern section of the east wall has a single-story Tuscan columned rear porch that provides access to a back door.

The two-story kitchen wing is covered on the north wall by an enclosed three-bay by one room addition which is lighted by three unevenly spaced sash windows flanked by louvered shutters. In contrast, the second floor has a three-sided bay window surmounted by a pointed tower and surrounded by a turned post porch and balustrade. An interior end brick stack with a corbelled and dentiled cap protrudes through the gable. The south side of the kitchen is covered on the first floor by a Tuscan columned screened-in porch. A centrally located door is flanked by six-over-six sash windows. The second floor is lighted by nine-over-two sash windows. The rafter feet are exposed.

Attached to the east wall of the kitchen is a shorter two-story, three-bay wing that contains an old kitchen as well as pantry rooms. The old kitchen has been converted into a garage mid this century, but only minor changes were made to the exterior. The north and south walls are pierced by an asymmetrical arrangement of six-over-six sash windows with louvered shutters. Unlike the main house, the cornice is boxed and trimmed with a mid-nineteenth century bed molding. The garage door was added to the north side. Rising on the east wall of this addition is an exterior common bond brick chimney. A four-panel door covered with a shed roofed hood pierces the wall to the left of the stack and two small four-pane windows light the attic. The gable end is flush and trimmed with a plain barge board.

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The interior of the main block is divided unconventionally with a side hall to the north, a parlor and dining room to the south and a back hall connecting the rooms across the rear. The interior finishes largely date from the late Victorian period, but some woodwork in the dining room survives from the c. 1835-1840 period. In addition, some remodeling was accomplished during the 1950's in the parlor and dining room.

The side hall contains the principal stair which rises against the north wall. The newel post is paneled and trimmed with beaded corners. The newel post head is decorated with carved leaf motifs, and a hole in the top of the post for a now missing lighting fixture. Two turned balusters to each tread support a molded handrail. The door surrounds have architrave molding. Located in the northwest corner of the hall is a three-sided bay that contains a small semi-circular niche. The lower wall surface of the hall is covered with narrow vertical board wainscoting while the upper wall surface is plastered. Fixed above the bay window is an enriched dentiled cornice with consoles. A pair of folding French doors open into the adjacent parlor.

The parlor has been partially redecorated with a circa 1950 classical mantel, chair rail and cornice moldings. French doors that pierce the wall to the left of the mantel open into the southernmost room, formerly used as the dining room. This room also was partially redecorated about 1950 with a new mantel and narrow oak strip flooring. In addition to late Victorian and the circa 1950 woodwork, this room retains Greek Revival style window and door surrounds on the exterior openings. These surrounds are widely fluted with plain corner blocks and a stepped base molding.

The back hall has a rear stair with a simplified turn of the century design of pointed posts, turned balusters and a molded handrail. Four-panel doors framed by architrave molding open into neighboring rooms or closets.

The second floor of the main block is divided into three bedrooms with a rear hall. A four-panel door opening from the back hall provides access to a narrow passage and closed stringer attic stair. The staircase retains its Victorian layer of oak graining. A one-panel door opens into the closet space beneath the stair. Chamfered newel posts are topped by ball finials. A circular profile handrail and rectangular balusters are reused elements from an early to mid-nineteenth century stair.

The front bedrooms are largely fitted with Victorian style woodwork, however, a mid-nineteenth century Greek Revival mantel is located in the middle bedroom. The Greek Revival mantel has simplified pilasters, a plain frieze and a thick mantel shelf. The pilaster bases are stepped in the same manner as the door surround in the dining room. The southwest bedroom has a turn of the century mirrored mantel piece with slender colonettes flanking a

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bracketed mantel shelf supported by a molded cornice. The firebox is surrounded by brownish-yellow hearth tiles. Two Federal style flush six-panel doors open into the master bathroom and appear to have been reused, possibly from another house.

The attic is divided into two principal rooms with the north room plastered and the south room unfinished. A cedar closet which is located between the two rooms is a modern addition.

The rear service wing is divided into two principal sections: the room presently used as the kitchen and the areas behind the kitchen which are used as storage rooms. The kitchen has an exposed brick chimney with an open hearth. Piercing the wall to the right of the chimney is a four-panel door that opens into a pantry. Another four-panel door allows access to a stair leading to an excavated cellar space below the dining room. Two foundation openings, one located in the west wall and the other in the east wall, retain wooden window frames with seats for the missing diamond cross-sectioned bars. Empty joist mortises indicate that the dining room floor has been reworked.

Immediately north of the kitchen is a passage which connects the rear hall of the front block with the kitchen and rear storage rooms. The back rooms are simply finished with plaster walls and utilitarian closets. The easternmost room has been converted to a garage with the removal of the floor joists and the addition of a garage door on the north wall. A rebuilt enclosed stair provides access to a divided second floor. Vertical board partitions divide the upstairs passage from two other rooms. Two four-panel doors and a board-and-batten door permit movement between spaces. Riven lath fastened with cut-nails is exposed in a few sections.

The bedroom above the kitchen is finished in a more formal manner with a mid-nineteenth century Greek Revival mantel, molded baseboards, four-panel doors, and a bay window on the north wall. The mantel is identical to the Greek Revival mantel in the front middle room. The wall surface above the bay is fitted with an enriched cornice that stretches the distance of the bay.

OUTBUILDINGS

Surrounding the farmhouse are over a dozen outbuildings, a boxwood garden and a lawn containing mature shade trees. Connected to the house by an open colonnade is a frame nineteenth century wash house supported by a brick foundation and covered with a wood shingle gable roof. Piercing the front wall is a board-and-batten door topped by a louvered vent. Six-over-six sash windows light the east and west walls, and a shed addition is attached to the south side. The interior has been reworked and is now covered with wall board.

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A brick dairy with a pyramidal roof stands directly east of the wash house. Four seven-course common bond brick walls are covered by a pyramidal tin roof with exposed rafter feet. The interior has a sunken floor, and the walls are whitewashed. This building also dates from the nineteenth century.

The fourth building, which completes this row of structures, is a combination workshop and storage building, dating probably from about 1900. The eastern half of the weatherboard frame outbuilding is lighted by two six-over-six sash windows on the north side. Attached to the west end of the workshop is a two-cell storage building without windows. Two doors, each opening into a separate cell, pierce the north wall.

The barn, the largest farm building, stands a short distance southeast of the workshop. Built in the nineteenth century, the large gable front mortise-and-tenon frame barn is supported by a minimal brick foundation and is covered with a steeply pitched asphalt shingle roof. Vertical board siding has been replaced on the north, east, and west walls, but the original board-and-batten siding survives partially intact on the south wall under the rear shed addition. A sliding door is located on the north wall, which double swinging doors pierce the west wall. A delapidated ell addition extends to the east of the main barn.

Standing due north of the workshop is a nineteenth century double-pen corn crib covered by a continuous gable roof. Brick piers support the rectangular cribs which are covered with vertical slats.

A converted nineteenth century potato house stands immediately north of the paired corn crib. Now used as a pigeon house, the single-story frame structure has a minimal brick foundation and an asphalt shingle roof. Shed roofed extensions are attached to the north and east sides, and a narrow brick stove stack rises on the west gable end. The interior has been fitted with board sheathing.

East of the corn crib and pigeon house are three more outbuildings: a nineteenth century single-pen corn crib, a nineteenth century wagon house, and an early twentieth-century granary. The bi-level frame granary is supported by brick piers and sheathed with weatherboard siding. The steeply pitched roof and the adjacent shed roofs are covered with asphalt shingles. Two doors, one located on each floor, pierce the west gable end, and a two-over-two sash lights the upper gable.

The other outbuildings include a one story frame shed-roofed privy, probably nineteenth century, a modern stable, and another wagon shed, possibly turn of the century. Located southwest of the house is a four-square boxwood garden which is estimated to date to the 1930's or 1940's.

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The Adams Farm retains a high level of integrity of its historic character despite the couple of new buildings on the site and the redecorating of two principal rooms on the first floor.

See Continuation Sheet 7/7

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
1830-circa 1910

Significant Dates
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
UNKNOWN

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The Adams Farm is significant in comprising one of the two most complete collections of nineteenth century domestic and agricultural outbuildings and structures surviving in Somerset County. These types of buildings, in general, have an extremely high attrition rate due to modernization of life styles and changing agricultural practices. As a result, only fragments of complexes with one or two isolated structures characterize Somerset County farms today. Significance is also acquired from the architectural character of the house which at first glance reads as a late nineteenth century building, but actually is an enlarged and reshaped second quarter nineteenth century house with Greek Revival trim. Of particular significance here are the Late Victorian and Colonial Revival alterations that created a house with characteristics found primarily in the urban areas of the county and rarely in the country sections of this rural county on the lower Eastern Shore. The outbuildings and the alterations to the house reflect the changing patterns of lifestyle and agricultural life brought on by the technological developments of the nineteenth century.

See continuation sheet for
HISTORIC CONTEXT and
MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Agriculture-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870

Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Uses(s):

DOMESTIC/Single dwelling

DOMESTIC/Secondary structure

AGRICULTURE/Agricultural outbuilding

Known Design Source: Unknown

SIGNIFICANCE

For a large part of the past century, this property has been known as the "Adams Farm." Morris H. Adams inherited the farm from his father in 1919 (LR 32/111), and occupied the property through the 1970's. Morris's father, Robert W. Adams purchased the 100-acre farm from James Teackle Dennis in December of 1897 (OTB 22/328). It was during Robert Adams' twenty-year occupation that the major alterations to the house were accomplished. Older land records refer to the property by four separate tracts including "Waggaman's Purchase," "Rowley's Ridge," "Addition," and "Waggaman's Lot," which were consolidated under one name, "Bellair" (WP 5/432). Construction of the oldest section of the house is attributed to John Woolford, who acquired the property in 1825 (GH 3/28), and subsequently willed the farm to Elizabeth G. Woolford Polk (JP 4/264).

See Continuation Sheet 8/2

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The Adams Farm retains a high potential for containing important archeological resources associated with its historic domestic and agrarian use. Occupation-related features (such as trash pits, post holes, privies, and earlier outbuilding remains) may yield information on the social, cultural, and economic patterns of the farm's inhabitants and its varied activity areas. Archeological investigations may also assist in documenting construction and alteration dates of the main house and extent outbuildings. Since so many of the property's late 19th-20th century outbuildings survive intact, archeological testing provides a unique opportunity to enhance our knowledge and understanding of the farm's spatial organization and relationships from the second quarter of the 19th century onward.

The property has a low potential for the presence of prehistoric archeological resources, due to its environmental location and distance from fresh water sources.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Land Records of Somerset County, Maryland, various volumes, Somerset County Courthouse, Princess Anne, Maryland.

Register of Wills, various volumes, Somerset County Courthouse, Princess Anne, Maryland.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Maryland.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

acreage of property 12.74 acres
USGS Quad: Princess Anne, MD

UTM References

A	<u>1, 8</u>	<u>4, 3, 9</u>	<u>8, 4, 0</u>	<u>4, 2</u>	<u>2, 7</u>	<u>6, 8, 0</u>	B	<u>1, 8</u>	<u>4, 3, 9</u>	<u>8, 6, 0</u>	<u>4, 2</u>	<u>2, 7</u>	<u>4, 2, 0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing					Zone	Easting	Northing			
C	<u>1, 8</u>	<u>4, 3, 9</u>	<u>5, 4, 0</u>	<u>4, 2</u>	<u>2, 7</u>	<u>4, 6, 0</u>	D	<u>1, 8</u>	<u>4, 3, 9</u>	<u>5, 4, 0</u>	<u>4, 2</u>	<u>2, 7</u>	<u>6, 0, 0</u>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet No. 10/1

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet No. 10/1

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian
organization Somerset County Historical Trust date 10/9/87
street & number P.O. Box 5 telephone (301)651-1094
city or town Westover state Maryland zip code 21871

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

All that lot or parcel of land situated, lying, and being in east Princess Anne Election District, Somerset County, Maryland, beginning for the same at a point on the east side of the county road known as the old Princess Anne-Westover Road, beginning at an iron pipe placed at the east side of the road as aforesaid at the northwest corner of the premises herein conveyed; running north by and with the center line of a ditch, North 69° 50' 36", East 909.24 feet to an iron pipe; running thence South 19° 51' 48", East 572.59 feet to a concrete post; running South 73° 00' 47", West 1,084.33 feet to a concrete post at the east side of the road as aforesaid; running thence by and with the road as aforesaid North 1° 10' 16", East 542.12 feet to the place of beginning, and containing 12.47 acres.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The acreage included in this nomination was selected to provide an appropriate setting for the historic rural agricultural character of this resource. Although no longer part of a working farm, this complex was once the center of a large agricultural unit. The buildings sit back some distance from the road, but with the flat terrain that characterizes the property, they are clearly visible from the roadway. The surrounding land is cultivated fields making sharp visual marks on the boundaries of the property.

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 88002140

Date Listed: 11/10/88

Adams Farm
Property Name

Somerset
County

MD
State

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patrick Andrews
Signature of the Keeper

11/10/88
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

The nomination form has an inconsistent resource count. Ron Andrews with the MD SHPO clarified the count. The official count is now six contributing buildings (house, washhouse, dairy, workshop, barn, and privy), seven contributing structures (two corn cribs, potato house, wagon house, granary, and two wagon sheds), one non-contributing building (stable), and one non-contributing site (garden).

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)