

NOT RECORDED

Maryland Historical Trust/ National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

S-35
MHT Inventory No.

2000355203
MHT Computer No.

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. For instructions, see the Trust publication National Register Application Guidelines. Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name "DAVIS'S CHOICE" "TURNER'S PURCHASE"
other names GLEBE HOUSE

2. Location

street & number West side of US Route 13 not for publication
city, town Princess Anne vicinity
state Maryland code county Somerset code zip code 21853

3. Classification

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

Name of related multiple property listing:

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. OWNERSHIP

Kings Creek Canning Company
c/o Mr. Sidney Miller
609 North Somerset Avenue
Princess Anne, Maryland 21853

5. RESERVED (leave this space blank)

submit completed applications to:

National Register Administrator
Maryland Historical Trust
Arnold Village Professional Center
1517 Ritchie Highway
Arnold, Maryland 21012

6. Function or Use

MHT Inventory No. S-35

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Function (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC, single dwelling,
residence

RECREATION AND CULTURE,
museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

VERNACULAR,
Georgian interior finish

foundation Brick
walls Wood, weatherboard
Brick (Flemish bond)
roof Wood shingle
other --

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY: See enclosure

See continuation sheet

For GENERAL DESCRIPTION, see continuation sheets.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The Glebe house, erected in 1784, is a story-and-a-half brick-ended frame house that stands near Princess Anne, Somerset County, Maryland. The nearly square (28' by 30') dwelling consists of three frame walls and a Flemish bond south gable end wall. This combination of materials in wall construction is a vernacular building tradition that was commonly used on the Eastern Shore during the eighteenth century. The four-room plan interior is fitted with finely executed late eighteenth-century woodwork that is highlighted by a turned baluster stair, raised-panel hearth walls in two rooms, in addition to raised six-panel doors and original chair rail. Around 1930, the story-and-a-half frame dwelling was raised to a two-story height. Within the last twenty years efforts have targeted on a restoration of the original story-and-a-half dwelling by removing the later second story. The roof pitch as well as the roof construction were restored from evidence found in the house as well as visual information taken from a documentary photograph of the house that predated the alterations.

DESCRIPTION

The Glebe house is a one-and-one-half story, four-room plan brick-ended frame house that stands on the west side of US Route 13, immediately south of Princess Anne, Somerset County, Maryland. Facing east, the gable roof is oriented on a north/south axis.

Built in 1784 the nearly square (28'4" by 30'3") structure is supported by a minimal brick foundation on three sides, while the south end is a full Flemish bond brick wall with a projecting watertable. A layer of wood shingles covers the steeply pitched roof. The present configuration of the house is the result of an extensive restoration effort that included the removal of a c. 1925-1935 second story raising of the early house. The roof pitch as well as the roof construction were restored from evidence in the house and from evidence taken from a documentary photograph of the house before the major alterations.

The east (main) facade is a three-bay elevation with a side (north) bay entrance and two restored nine-over-nine sash windows to the south. The exterior is covered with narrow weatherboard siding. Lighting the second floor are two gabled dormers with six-over-six sash windows and diagonal board siding. A boxed cornice finishes the base of the roof.

The south end brick wall is the most original exterior surface, although the top portion of the wall above the second floor windows has been rebuilt. Two nine-over-six sash windows light the first floor, while two six-over-six sash light the second floor. All four windows have flat header arches. A small four-pane window lights the garret above the second floor. Information for the location and size of the garret window was taken from the documentary image. The newly built

chimney stack has a corbelled cap, and the gable ends are finished with beaded bargeboards.

The rear (west) facade is identical to the front elevation with a six-panel door in the north bay and two nine-over-nine sash windows to the south. Identical dormers light the second floor.

The north gable end is a weatherboarded wall with two nine-over-nine sash windows on the first floor and two six-over-six sash windows lighting the second floor.

The four-room first floor interior is the most significant aspect of this house with a large part of its eighteenth-century woodwork intact. The first floor is divided into four unequal sized rooms. Two rooms to the south are heated by corner fireplaces, while the two to the north are unheated. The northeast corner room contains the quarter-turn closed stringer stair which rises in the northwest corner of the room. A heavily turned bulbous newel post and turned balusters support a molded handrail. The space below the stringer contains one large triangular raised panel. At the first landing the stair turns to the left (south) and continues in a straight flight to the second floor. The stair soffit is also paneled, and a small raised panel door opens into the space below the stair. The stair hall is fitted with a simple chair rail, some old and some restored. In general the short sections of chair rail that run across the outside walls has been restored by matching original profiles. Raised six-panel doors framed by ogee-molded surrounds open into the adjacent rooms.

The front room is the largest interior space and is dominated by a raised-panel hearth wall. The segmental arched firebox is framed by an ogee-molded surround. The overmantel is divided into three horizontal panels. One large center

panel is flanked top and bottom by narrower ones. An ogee molded cornice finishes the hearth wall surface. Two different chair rail profiles are found in this room. A six-panel door pierces the middle partition and opens into the southwest room. The southwest hearth wall is finished in exactly the same raised paneled format as previously described, and the room is fitted with a simple chair rail.

The fourth and final room (northwest) is simply finished with the same chair rail and beaded baseboard. The new back door has a chevron batten rear surface, and it is hung with HL hinges.

The second floor is also divided into four rooms, and each doorway is framed by an original ogee-molded backband surround. The doors have been removed, but one HL hinge remains on the rear bedroom door surround. Wallboard has replaced second floor plaster due to the extensive work that had been done to raise the house to a two-story height. The wide pine flooring remains in place in each room.

The old roof construction was rebuilt as nearly as possible to the original. Heavy common rafters were cut and joined at the peak with traditional pinned methods.

8. Statement of Significance

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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

RELIGION

Period of Significance

1784

Significant Dates

1784

Cultural Affiliation

Anglo-American

Significant Person

0

Architect/Builder

William Bowland, builder

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

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY: See enclosure

See continuation sheet

For HISTORIC CONTEXT and MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN data, see continuation sheets.

SIGNIFICANCE

The Glebe house is architecturally significant as reflective of late eighteenth-century vernacular building traditions on the lower Eastern Shore. Brick-ended frame houses, once a common building type for the region, have dwindled to only four examples. (See Burton Cannon house, S-78; Beauchamp house, S-62; and Whitehall, S-27) Both the Burton Cannon house and the Beauchamp house date to the early to mid eighteenth century, while Whitehall is a two-story example. As a result, the Glebe house is the only surviving late eighteenth-century example in Somerset County. At the same time, the house is finished with fine examples of raised-panel hearth walls, chair rail, and six-panel doors, which represent superior craftsmanship for the period. The turned baluster stair is especially notable for its fine execution and preservation.

Historically, the Glebe house figures prominently in the development of the Episcopal church of Somerset County as the only surviving eighteenth-century dwelling erected as an official glebe on the Eastern Shore. As a standard benefit for Episcopal ministers, the shelter and profits from the glebe were theirs during their individual terms of service. As a result, the four-room plan house is a significant indication of the type, style, and finish of a glebe house during the late eighteenth century.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Specific dimensions recorded in the vestry minutes of Somerset Parish document the construction of this story-and-a-half brick and frame house that

stands south of Princess Anne. On March 5, 1784, the vestry considered the state of the house on the glebe and unanimously agreed,

...it is necessary to build on the said Glebe a Dwelling House twenty feet long and thirty feet wide, a meat house ten feet square, a stable eighteen by ten both of sawed logs, a framed milk house eight feet square, ordered that the advertisement be immediately set up in the most public places.

Thirteen days later the contract was "struck" to William Bowland for the sum of L368..7..6 with completion slated for December.

The vestry of Somerset Parish retained ownership of the glebe until December of 1799, when the property was transferred for L320 to John Byrd, who sold it the following year to John and George Parker. John Parker's estate was settled in 1831, and his heirs sold "Davis's Choice" as well as other tracts situated, "on the main road from Princess Anne to Washington Academy," to Littleton Redden. Littleton Redden's son, Littleton J. Redden, died intestate, and John W. B. Parsons was appointed a trustee to sell the plantation. On June 14, 1838, John W. B. Parsons sold the farm to Edward Long. The Long family retained possession until 1874 when the "Redden or Parker land," as it was known then, was conveyed to William J. Porter. The 140-acre farm was subsequently transferred to Milton F. Hickman, and then finally to Kings Creek Canning Company.

The old Glebe house stands on land initially known as "Davis's Choice," a 600-acre tract patented to James and Margaret Davis on May 10, 1666. Three years later the Davises sold the land, situated along the upper fork of the Manokin River, to Henry and John Smith. In 1682, Henry Smith of Sussex County, Pennsylvania (later Delaware) sold 130 acres of "Davis's Choice" to Jacob Waring, who had the property resurveyed as "Turner's Purchase." Jacob Waring did not own the property for long since he is recorded selling "Turner's Purchase" to Reverend Thomas Wilson, minister of the Manokin Presbyterian church from 1685/6-1698.

Reverend Wilson died c. 1702, and "Turner's Purchase" was eventually inherited by Margaret Lindow, his granddaughter. Margaret Lindow and her husband, James Lindow, occupied the property during the second quarter of the eighteenth century. Margaret Lindow continued to reside on the plantation until 1742, when she sold "Turner's Purchase" to the vestrymen of Somerset Parish for L280..0..0. A confirmatory deed executed in December of 1747 by David Wilson of Ephraim states, "the land called Turner's Purchase, containing 130 acres formerly occupied by Reverend Thomas Wilson, deceased, grandfather of said David Wilson, whereon a certain Margaret Lindow formerly lived."

It has been thought by previous researchers that this house dated to the early eighteenth century and may have been the home of Judge Samuel Chase since his father, Reverend Thomas Chase, was an Episcopal minister in Somerset County during the mid eighteenth century. As a result this dwelling has been referred to often as the Chase house, but the most recent findings have proven otherwise. Therefore, associations with Samuel Chase do not pertain to the significance of this house and nomination.

Somerset County Land Records, Office of the Clerk of Court, Somerset County Courthouse, Princess Anne, MD.

Somerset County Wills, Register of Wills, Somerset County Courthouse, Princess Anne, MD.

Torrence, Clayton. Old Somerset on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Baltimore, MD.: Regional Publishing Company, 1979.

Vestry Minutes of Somerset Parish, microfilm, Maryland Hall of Records, Annapolis, MD.

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:

Somerset County Historical Trust,
Princess Anne, MD 21853

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 1.16 acres

USGS quad Princess Anne, MD Quadrangle, 1972

UTM References

A
Zone Easting Northing

C

B
Zone Easting Northing

D

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See enclosure

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See enclosure

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart

organization Somerset County Historical Trust date March 10, 1988

street & number Rt. 3, Box 331 telephone (301) 651-0788

city or town Princess Anne state MD zip code 21853

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at point (A), as designated on the Somerset County tax map, a point coincidental with the south boundary line of the property of the State Roads Commission approximately 450 feet west of US 13, thence due south from point (A) for approximately 225 feet to point (B) located on the edge of the plowed field southeast of the nominated house, thence due west for approximately 225 feet to point (C) located southwest of the said house, thence due north for approximately 225 feet to point (D) northwest of said house and coincidental with the aforesaid State Roads property boundary line, thence due east for 225 feet by and with the aforesaid line to point (A), the place of beginning, containing 1.16 acres more or less.



S-35
Glebe House
Princess Anne, MD Quadrangle, 1972



Glebe House S-35
Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset County
Northwest Elevation
10/84, Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg./Md. Historical Trust



Glebe House
Princess Anne vicinity
Somerset Co., Md.
3/85, Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

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Glebe House

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Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset County

Stair

10/84, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg./Md. Historical Trust



Glebe House

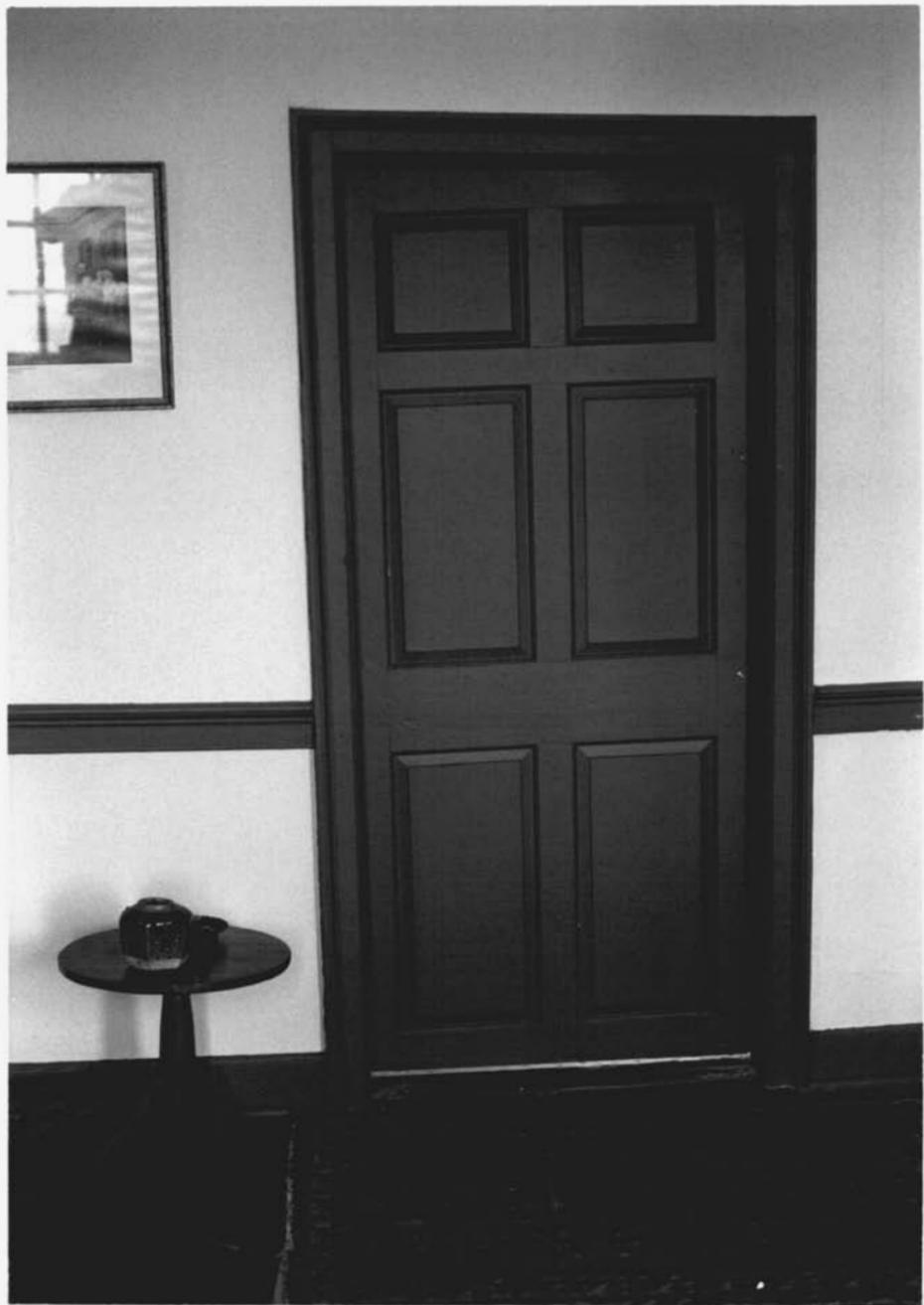
S-35

Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset County

East Room Hearth Wall

10/84, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg./Md. Historical Trust







Glebe House

S-35

Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset Co.,Md.
Stair

4/85, Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg./Md. Historical Trust



S.-35 Chase Hsc.

J.M.K. 9/75

N.E.

6



Leave 1 space before

S-35

Chase House

Somerset