United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

S-82

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received
date entered

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Pomfret Plantation

and/or common Pomfret Plantation

2. Location

street & number Maryland Route 667 (Fairmount Road) n/a not for publication

city, town Marion X vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland code 24 county Somerset code 039

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	X occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	X private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	X private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	X yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	X not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. George Eder (Wanna Jeane)

street & number Route 1, Box 380

city, town Marion Station n/a vicinity of state Maryland 21838

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset Clerk of Court

street & number Somerset County Courthouse

city, town Princess Anne state Maryland 21853

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined elegible? ___ yes X no

date 1967 ___ federal X state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
X good	___ ruins	X altered	___ moved date n/a
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	1	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
3	1	Total

Number of previously listed National Register properties included in this nomination: 0

Original and historic functions and uses: residential

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

The property known as Pomfret Plantation comprises a two-story, four room plan gable roofed frame house constructed c. 1810-1830 on Colbourne's Creek near Marion Station in Somerset County, Maryland. The house, which faces southeast, is three bays wide, with a transomed central entrance flanked by 6/6 sash, and rests on a raised foundation of brick laid in common bond. Brick interior chimneys with corbeled caps rise from the gable ends. The walls are sheathed with wood shingles over flush weatherboards, and the steeply-pitched roof is covered with asphalt tile. A two-story porch spans the facade. A two-story hyphen extends to the southwest, joining an early 19th century kitchen wing oriented perpendicular to the main block, one room wide by three bays deep. Two sides of the kitchen have one-story shed additions, and a modern two-bay wing extends from the rear of the main block. The house retains most of its original interior finish and ornament, including chair rail, baseboard, and architrave moldings, stair and balustrade, paneled doors and wainscoting, and mantels. Also on the property is a post-Civil War frame tenant house, and a 19th century Coulbourne family cemetery. A rusticated concrete block garage does not contribute to the significance of the resource.

For General Description, see Continuation Sheet No. 1

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

"Pomfret Plantation" is located in southwestern Somerset County, Maryland on the south side of Coulbourne's Creek, a tributary of the Big Annesmessex River. The entrance lane to the property intersects MD Rt. 667 about one-half mile southwest of the intersection of MD. Rt. 667 and 413. The nearest town is Marion, Maryland.

The two-story, three bay, c. 1810-1830 house stands at the end of a long winding lane. Surrounding the house is a group of mature shade trees, evergreens and some very old boxwood. A Coulbourne family cemetery is located east of the house, while a few auxiliary buildings stand to the south.

Facing southeast, the two-story, four-room plan frame house rests on a raised common bond brick foundation and is covered by a steeply pitched asphalt tile roof. The walls have been sheathed with wood shingles over weatherboards. Rising from each gable end are interior brick chimney stacks which are finished with corbelled caps.

The southeast or primary facade is fully covered with a two-story shed porch. Turned porch posts presently support the roof, but it appears from the paneled posts against the wall surface that the turned supports are late 19th-century replacements. A square-baluster handrail stretches between the second floor posts. Two six-pane windows pierce the foundation wall below the porch to light the partially excavated cellar. A center six-panel front door is topped by a criss-crossed muntin transom. Six over six sash windows flank the front door. In addition, six over six sash windows flank the second floor door that opens onto the porch.

The northeast gable end has two openings on each floor level. Two six-pane windows with vertical bars pierce the foundation wall, while two six over six sash on each level light the first, second and attic stories. The roofline is finished with a molded bargeboard.

The northwest or rear facade is detailed in the same manner, except there are two window openings in the cellar wall and three window openings on each floor above. The boxed cornice is treated simply.

The south gable end is largely covered by a lower two-story frame hyphen which connects an early 19th-century two-story frame kitchen. The three-bay by one-room kitchen wing stands on a perpendicular axis to that of the main house. The hyphen as well as the old kitchen are covered with asphalt tile roofs. Wood shingles cover each wall surface, except for the wall surface within the east gable end pediment of the old kitchen. This area retains its flush weatherboards.

See Continuation sheet No. 2

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

A corbelled brick chimney stack with exposed fire wall rises out of the west gable end of the kitchen. Six over six sash windows light the first and second floors. Two four over two sash windows light the attic from the west. Single story shed additions extend from the kitchen on two sides, while a garage extends to the south.

Finally, a single story two-bay by one-room frame addition with brick end and an exterior brick chimney extends from the northwest facade of the main house. This section was built in the late 1960s by the present owners.

The main house is divided into four rooms with a stair hall located in the northeast corner. A dog-leg stair rises three flights to the second floor and attic. The well-proportioned stair consists of square newel posts with molded caps which support a molded handrail. Four square balusters rise from each tread. The stair stringer is decorated with scrolled and pierced trim. A flat four-panel door allows access to the excavated cellar. The stair soffit is treated with a flat panel design. The hall wall surfaces are trimmed with 19th-century chair rail and baseboards as well as ogee and astragal backband door surrounds with flat six-panel doors.

The northwest room or parlor is the largest first floor room and is finished with similar chair rail and baseboard moldings. The Federal period mantel consists of reeded pilasters and a five-part frieze. The three projecting frieze blocks are reeded. The mantel shelf has two elaborate rows of detail with a lower dentiled and drilled fascia in addition to a gouged fascia of vertical lines and small six-point stars. The parlor window surrounds have been altered with mid 19th-century shallow pedimented lintels.

The southwest room or study is finished with flat-panel wainscoting and the same 19th-century wall moldings. A corner hearth is fitted with a smaller scale Federal mantel. A three-part molded surround frames this hearth and visually supports a five-part paneled frieze and corresponding molded mantel shelf.

The southeast room or dining room is finished in the same manner as the study with a corner hearth and flat-panel wainscoting. The Federal style mantel is similar to the parlor mantel disign with reeded pilasters and a five-part paneled frieze. A dentil row stretches under the molded shelf.

The second floor is divided in the same manner as the first floor and trimmed with the same 19th-century chair rail and baseboard. Each of the three chambers contains a hearth with period mantel. The largest room is the chamber over the parlor. The mantel consists of a three-part molded hearth surround, a plain frieze and a molded mantel shelf. The other two chambers have corner hearths and similar mantels.

See Continuation Sheet No. 3

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The attic is finished with modern materials.

The interior of the two-story hyphen has been generally remodeled with 20th-century materials. It appears from interior details that the hyphen may have been raised to its two-story height around the turn-of-the-20th century. The first floor contains the present kitchen.

The old kitchen is now used as a den. Evidently, a winder stair originally rose from the kitchen itself, but the stair was rebuilt to accommodate a convenient straight flight. Access to the second floor is provided through a door from the hyphen. The old kitchen hearth has been rebuilt, and the rough-hewn floor joists are exposed.

The second floor is divided into a hall and a small bedroom. The hearth is framed by a Federal period mantel with reeded pilasters and a five-part frieze. The center tablet has a recessed panel, and the flanking spaces have horizontal reeding. The mantel shelf is stepped and molded. A small winder stair rises to the attic in the northeast corner of the hall. A four-panel door is grained on the back side.

The common rafter roof system has lapped collar beams which are fastened with cut-nails. An unusual feature is the series of mortised and pinned "outlooker" supports which frame the gable end pediment.

The remaining sections of the house were added within the past two decades and are finished with modern materials.

Standing south of the house is a single-story rusticated garage now used as a workshop. Southwest of the garage is a post-Civil War one-room plan frame tenant house with gable end shed addition. The weatherboard frame structure is covered with a wood shingle roof. A single door opening pierces the main facade, while the remaining sides have single window openings. Inside, a ladder stair rises to the second floor loft.

Also on the property is the Coulbourne family cemetery which contains over a dozen 19th-century tombstones and is surrounded by a late 19th-century cast iron decorative fence.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	_X_ architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
_X_ 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates C. 1810–1830 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: C
Applicable Exceptions: none
Level of Significance for Evaluation: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

"Pomfret Plantation" derives its primary significance from its architecture. This early 19th-century two-story four-room plan house retains the overwhelming majority of its well-executed Federal period interior woodwork, the quality and condition of which distinguishes the house among a small collection of Federal period plantation houses in Somerset County. In addition to its well-preserved interior, the house is distinguished by its galleried porch and contemporaneous two-story frame kitchen. The property derives additional significance from its association with the locally-prominent Coulbourne family, early settlers of this section of Somerset County. The Coulbourne family and their descendants owned and primarily farmed "Pomfret" through nine continuous generations beginning with William Coulbourne in 1663, and ending with the sale of the farm in 1921.

For History and Supporting Documentation, see Continuation Sheet No. 4

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

William Coulbourne, previously of Northampton County, Virginia, is thought to have settled on the lower Eastern Shore of Maryland between October of 1663 and 27 January 1664, when his son, Solomon, was born at Annemessex.[1] Colonel William Coulbourne, as he was later known, served in official positions in Maryland's late 17th-century militia, in addition to holding the political office of High Sheriff of Somerset County in 1673 and 1675. In 1670, William Coulbourne became a member of the Commission of the Peace, which drew up a treaty with the Nanticoke Indians in August of 1687.[2]

William Coulbourne's plantation of 1400 acres, which consisted of "a neck of land on the south side of the Annemessex River near the mouth of Coulbourne's Creek," was resurveyed in 1679.[3] After his death in 1689, his plantation, "Pomfret" passed to his eldest son, William (1658-1701). William Coulbourne II married Anne Revell of Randall in 1678.[4] Their two sons divided equally their father's Coulbourne Creek plantation with 750 acres to each heir. As expressed on a 1722 plat, William Coulbourne III (1682-1764) received the northern half along Coulbourne's Creek, while Solomon (1684-1749 received the southern half bordering Joneses Creek. In 1743 an indenture was drawn between the two brothers, "in consideration of the fullfillings of the last will and testament of his deceased father, William Coulbourne."[5] The north half of "Pomfret" is the property on which the nominated house stands.

William Coulborne II died in 1764 and devised his portion of "Pomfret" to his son, William IV (1700?-1775).[6] Eleven years later, William IV died leaving his wife, Sarah, dower rights, and to his sons Robert and William V, he left eventual claim to his property. Sarah Coulbourne was assessed in 1783 for two-hundred acres of the original survey of "Pomfret," "on the water," while her two sons, Robert and William, are listed with no land but with several slaves.[7] Evidently William V inherited the plantation house after his mother's death, since William V leaves it to his wife, Mary, in his will of 1789.[8] Mary Coulbourne is found on the 1798 tax assessment with

> one tract land called Pomfret containing 643 acres on which are erected one old dwelling house 24 by 18 feet; 1 kitchen, 18 by 14 feet; 1 corn house, 24 by 7 feet; 1 smoke house, 12 feet square, 1 barn 20 feet by 24 feet, 200 acres of the above land marsh.[9]

This land assessment mentions an old dwelling house, but Mary's own house is described as

See Continuation Sheet No. 5

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

> 1 dwelling house built of wood 20 feet long by 28 feet wide one story high, 3 windows 3 feet 9 inches long by 2 feet 9 inches wide, 2 dormant windows, 3 feet by 2 feet; 1 kitchen, 18 feet long by 14 feet wide, sawed logs; 1 meat house, 12 feet square, sawed logs; 1 stable 18 feet by 14 feet, round logs.[10]

All above-ground traces of these buildings have disappeared from the property; the present structures clearly date from the 19th century.

By 1821, Mary's only son, William VI, had the plantation resurveyed once more as "Addition to Pomfret" on 2 September 1819.[11] He died intestate in 1830, and his property fell to his heir, Isaac H. Coulbourne, who executed a mortgage to Joshua P. Horsey on 8 August 1836.[12] The deed of mortgage includes the statement, "all that tract of land lying and being in Somerset County, and on Coulbourne's Creek, in Annemessex, called and known by the name 'Pomfret' being the same lands that the said Isaac H. Coulbourne inherited by the death of his father, William Coulbourne, containing six-hundred and forty acres."[13]

It is thought from architectural evidence that the present two-story four-bedroom plan dwelling and the two-story kitchen were erected for William Coulbourne VI, and date to the period around 1820 when he had the plantation resurveyed. As stated in the 1836 indenture, Isaac H. Coulbourne (1801-1846) inherited the property from his father, William, but had to mortgate the farm twice, first to Joshua P. Horsey in 1836 and then to George Handy in 1839.[14] Finally in October of 1841, Isaac H. Coulbourne sold "Pomfret," then containing 631 acres, to his second cousin once removed. His cousin, also named Isaac (1777-1855), bought the property for $8550.00.[15] Isaac and his wife, Leah (1788-1855), are buried in the fenced cemetery, as are Isaac's eldest son, William (1811-1892), and his wife, Henrietta R. Coulbourne (1827-1906). Coulbourne is designated on the 1877 county atlas as shipbuilder and farmer of 250 acres. At the time of William's death in October, 1892, sons William R. and Isaac H. were appointed executors to sell their father's farm. On 30 March 1895 the executors transferred the farm containing 350 acres to their sister, Addie M. Gunby, wife of Fred A. Gunby.[16] Seven years later Addie M. Gunby purchased from Clarinda C. Richardson "a part of the farm heretofore known as 'The Thicket Field,' being a part of "Pomfret Farm,' including that part of the said land known as, "The William Martin Hammock,' bordering on Coulbourne's Creek, near opposite the steamboad landing on the said creek."[17]

After more than 250 years of Coulbourne family ownership, this portion of "Pomfret Plantation" was sold out of the family. William Leuttinger and wife bought the farm from the Gunbys on 10 December 1921 for $5,000.[18] Forty-six years and six transfers later, the present owners acquired "Pomfret" containing 421 and 3/8 acres in 1967.[19]

See Continuation Sheet No. 6

9. Major Bibliographical References

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See Footnotes on Continuation Sheet No. 6

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 72.3 acres

Quadrangle name Marion, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	18	430000	4210560
B	18	429600	4210220
C	18	429340	4210600
D	18	429580	4210860
E			
F			
G			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 7

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	n/a	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Paul Touart - Architectural Historian		
organization	Somerset County Historical Trust	date	3/14/84
street & number	424 North Somerset Avenue	telephone	(301) 651-1094 (home)
city or town	Princess Anne	state	Maryland 21853

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state X local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 7-26-84

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

GPO 938 835

Footnotes

[1]Torrence, Clayton. Old Somerset on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, Regional Publishing Co., Baltimore, 1966, p. 323.

[2]Torrence, Clayton, p. 324.

[3]Somerset County Rent Rolls, Calvert Papers, 6/13/1679.

[4]Torrence, Clayton. p. 438. There is no indication that each William Coulbourne used a Roman numeral after his name, but for clarity, the six generations of William Coulbournes were referred to in this manner.

[5]Somerset County Land Records, X/81, 11/9/1743, Somerset County Courthouse.

[6]Somerset County Will Book, EB 4/106, proved 10/23/1764, Somerset County Register of Wills.

[7]1783 Somerset County Tax Assessment, Little Annemessex Hundred, Sarah Coulbourne.

[8]Somerset County Will Book, EB 17/55, 1789, Somerset County Register of Wills.

[9]1798 Federal Direct Tax Assessment, Particular List of Lands, Mary Coulbourne, Little Annemessex Hundred.

[10]1798 Federal Direct Tax Assessment, Particular Listing of Dwelling Houses, Little Annemessex Hundred, Mary Coulbourne.

[11]Somerset County Land Records, WJS 70/575, recorded as the Fred A. Gunby Farm, May 1916.

[12]Somerset County Land Records, GH 8/387, 8/8/1836. Somerset County Courthouse.

[13]Somerset County Land Records, 8/8/1836, GH 8/307. Somerset County Courthouse.

[14]Somerset County Land Records, LH/134, 7/9/1839, Somerset County Courthouse.

[15]Somerset County Land Records, LH/681, October 12, 1841, Somerset County Courthouse.

[16]Somerset County Land Records, HFL 16/364, 3/30/1895, Somerset County Courthouse.

[17]Somerset County Land Records, OTB 34/60-61, 9/23/1902, Somerset County Courthouse.

[18]Somerset County Land Records, Deed Book 85/394, 12/10/1921. Somerset County Courthouse.

[19]Somerset County Land Records, ITP 241/323, 10/28/1967. Somerset County Courthouse.

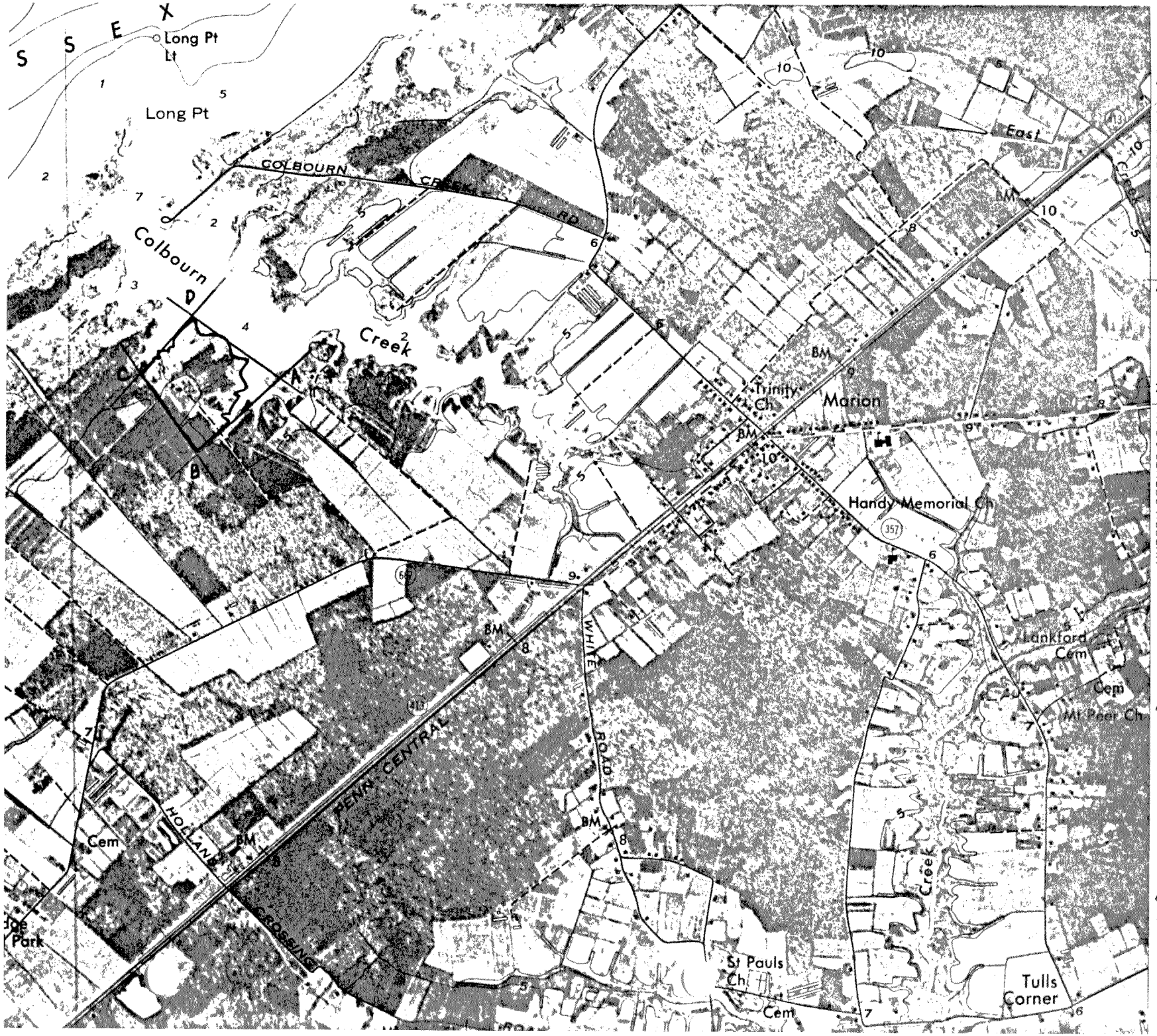
GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Boundary Description

Beginning at a point along the gut of Coulbourne Creek southeast of the house, thence following the course of the south bank of the said creek for approximately 4000 feet to a point along said creek and thence in a southwesterly direction across dry land for 750 to a point behind the frame tenant house, thence in a southeasterly direction for 1800 feet to a point south of the dwelling, thence in a northeasterly direction for 1350 feet to the place of beginning, containing 72.3 acres more or less. See accompanying plat.

Boundary Justification

The 72.3 acres which accompany this nomination surround the dwelling, outbuildings and cemetery. In addition this acreage maintains the historic orientation toward Coulbourn's Creek. Water access has been an integral part of Pomfret's history since its occupation in the third quarter of the 17th century. Aside from the boundary line that follows the creek bank, the other lines have been drawn across open fields in a rectangular figure which includes those buildings surrounding the house. The southwest boundary line follows a present tree line. The southeast and northwest boundaries were drawn to exclude broad expanses of open agricultural fields which are not integral to the immediate setting of the nominated resource and which offer no additional contribution to its significance.



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POMFRET PLANTATION
SOMERSET COUNTY, MARYLAND

A: 18-430000 -- 2'30" 4210560

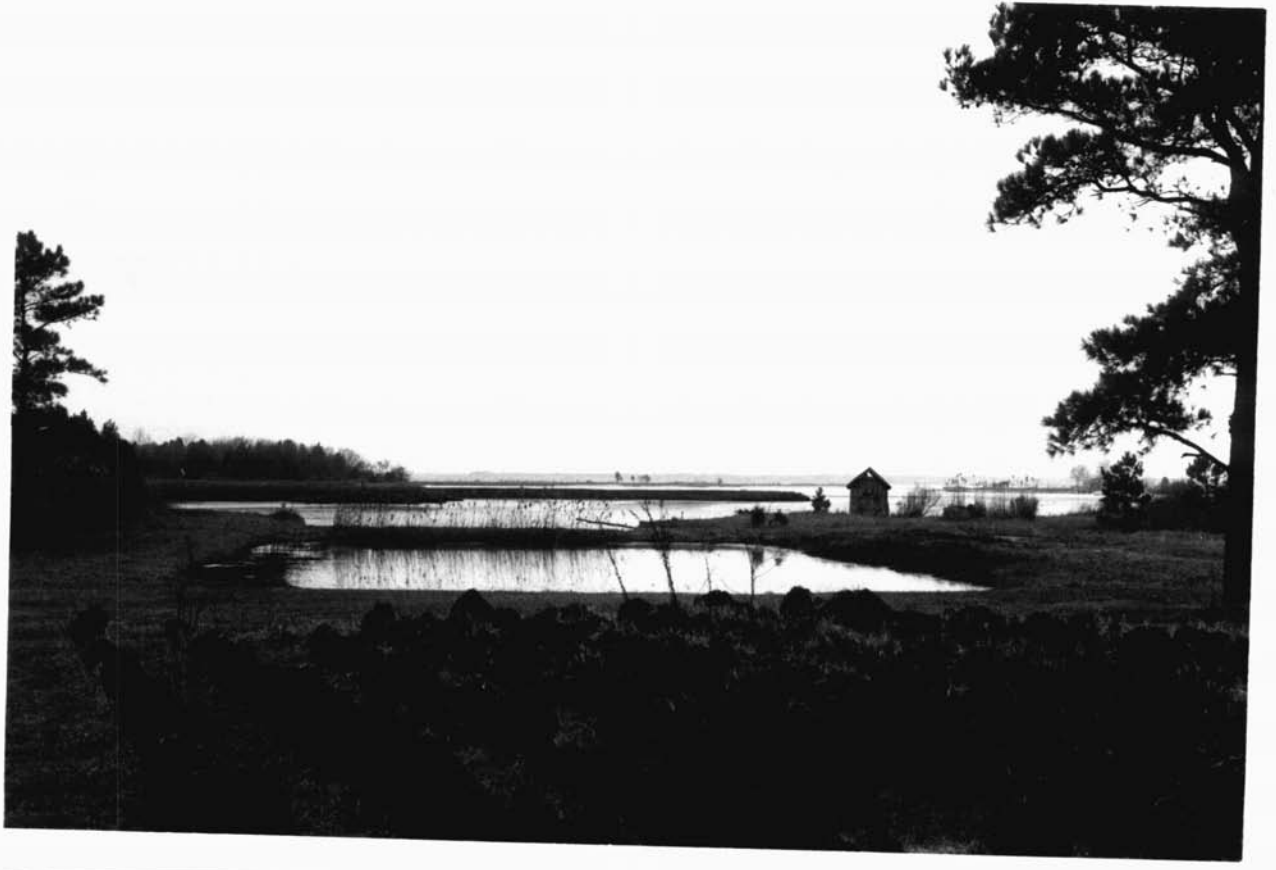
B: 18-429600 -- 4210220

C: 18-429340 -- 4210600

D: 18-429580 -- 4210860

Pomfret Plantation
Near Marion, Somerset County
West Elevation
1/84 Paul Touart
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

S-82



Pomfret Plantation
Near Marion, Somerset County
Coulbourn's Creek
1/84 Paul Touart
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

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Pomfret Plantation
Near Marion, Somerset County
Southeast Elevation
1/84 Paul Touart
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

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Pomfret Plantation
Near Marion, Somerset County
East Elevation
1/84 Paul Touart
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

S-82

Pomfret Plantaiton
Near Marion, Somerset County
Stair Case
1/84 Paul Touart
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

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Pomfret Plantation
Near Marion, Somerset County
Study Mantel
1/84 Paul Touart
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

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S-82

Pomfret Plantation
Near Marion, Somerset County
Cemetery
1/84 Paul Touart
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

Pomfret Plantation
Near Marion, Somerset County
Study Mantel
1/84 Paul Touart
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

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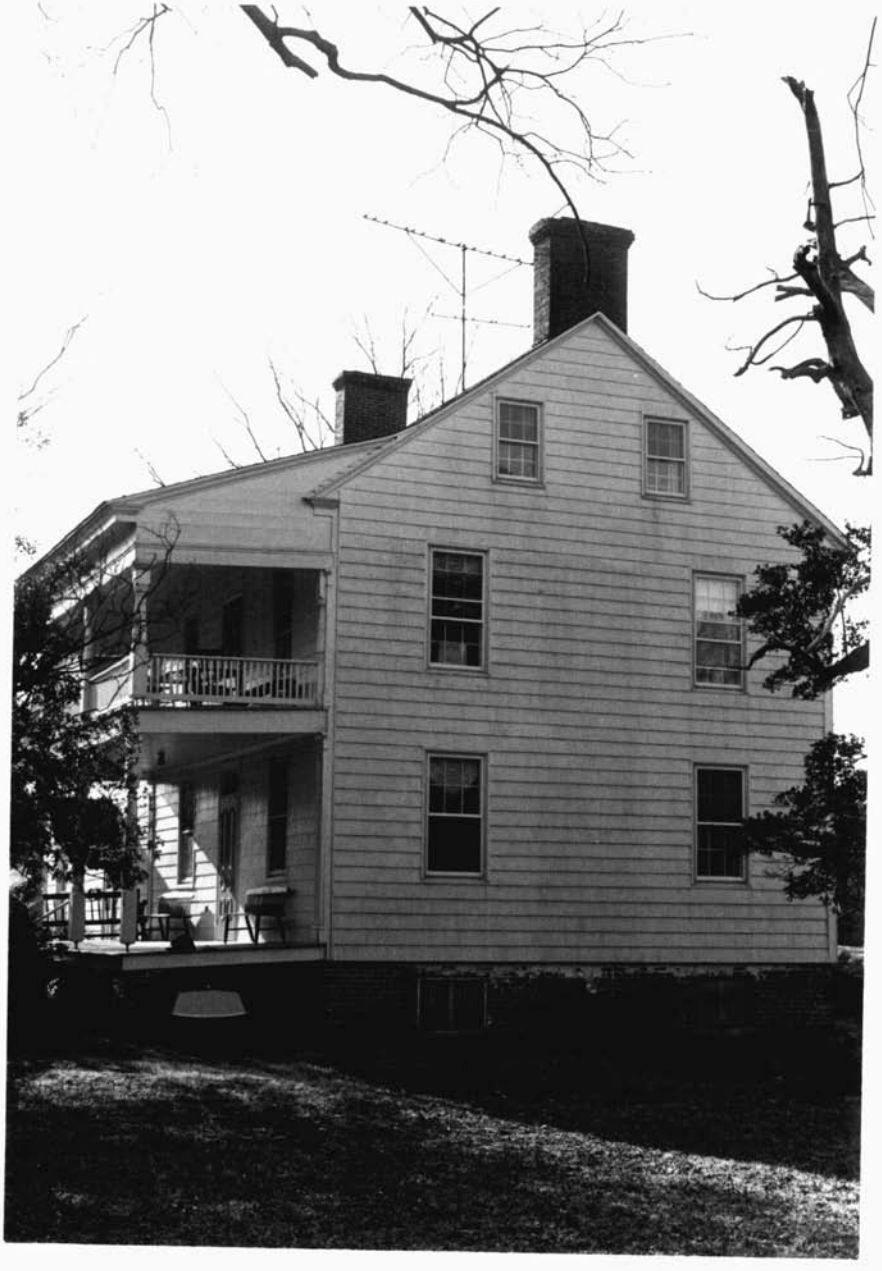

Pomfret Plantation
Near Marion, Somerset County
North Gable End
1/84 Paul Touart
Neg./Md.Historical Trust

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Pomfret Plantation
Near Marion, Somerset County
Northwest Elevation
1/84 Paul Touart
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

Pomfret Plantation
Near Marion, Somerset County
Tenant House
1/84 Paul Touart
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

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