

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. QA-137

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Steven's Adventure
 other Steven Ringgold Farm, Elmer White Farm

2. Location

street and number North side of Route 18 ___ not for publication
 city, town Stevensville x vicinity
 county Queen Anne's

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

name
 street and number telephone
 city, town state zip code

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. liber folio
 city, town tax map tax parcel tax ID number

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

**Number of Contributing Resources
previously listed in the Inventory**

7. Description

Inventory No. QA-137

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The early dwelling house on Steven's Adventure was located on the north side of Maryland Route 18 just east of Stevensville on Kent Island. The house was evidently occupied until the 1960's, but was then abandoned and eventually was burned to the ground by the Kent Island Fire Department. The following description is based on two color slides taken in the 1960's and one black-and-white photograph probably taken in the early 1970's, all by James Valliant.

The house was brick, 1 ½ stories high, three bays wide, and two rooms deep, with paired flush chimneys on each end of a pitched gable roof. A two story frame addition at one time projected from one gable end, but was demolished before the main house was destroyed. The orientation of the building cannot be precisely determined from the photographs but it would appear that the front façade faced approximately west, with the frame wing to the north. The description is organized on this assumption.

The main house was constructed in two stages. Brickwork in the south gable wall leaves little doubt that the original house was three bays long but only one room deep, and probably dated to the 18th century. In the first half of the 19th century the house was enlarged to the east to form a larger, nearly square house two rooms deep. The original section was laid in Flemish bond above a water table and whitewashed foundation. The later section to the east was laid in common bond, also above a water table and a whitewashed foundation. The original fenestration pattern evidently had been changed at some point but few clues are visible in the photographs to suggest the original arrangement.

The principal façade faced west. There was a door in the center bay with a three-light transom, flanked by one large 6/6 window on each side. Three pitched roof 6/6 dormer windows were ranged across the roof on the second floor. All of the windows clearly dated to the second period of construction. The large first floor windows were similar to the windows of the Robert White House (QA-272) and the Tolson House (QA-167), two mid-19th century houses nearby.

On the south gable, the change in brickwork between the two sections is readily apparent. There is little evidence of early window openings. When the house was enlarged, two 6/6 windows were centered between the paired chimneys on the first and second floor and a semi-circular fanlight window was centered in the upper gable. A bulkhead entrance at the west end of the wall provided access to the cellar. The eaves were finished with beaded and tapered rakeboards.

The rear façade, facing east, was similar in appearance to the west façade, but dated entirely to the second period of construction. A door in the center bay of the first floor was flanked by 6/6 windows; three 6/6 dormers were symmetrically ranged across the second story. A one story porch with steps at the south end and bracketed Victorian posts stretched across the entire façade.

The frame wing was two stories high and two bays long, with a moderately pitched gable roof and a single flush brick chimney centered on the north gable. The wing was only one room deep and was relatively small in scale in comparison to the main house.

A small frame meat house with a pitched gable roof was located to the east of the house.

8. Significance

Inventory No. QA-137

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

_____ National Register

_____ Maryland Register

_____ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The early brick house on Steven's Adventure was constructed in two stages, with a later frame wing dating to the post-Civil War period. The original house was 1 ½ stories high, three bays wide, and one room deep. It probably had a hall-parlor plan and dated to the latter half of the 18th century, making it the earliest recorded structure in the immediate vicinity of Stevensville. In the first half of the 19th century the original house was enlarged to the east, doubling the depth to form a double pile house with paired chimneys on each gable, but retaining the 1 ½ story height. The resulting structure was one of the most visually pleasing houses in the county, as well as one of the more unusual. The plan of the expanded house is not known, and only the exterior can be analyzed in any detail.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. QA-137

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property _____

Acreage of historical setting _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale: _____

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	Queen Anne's County Historical Society	date	February 10, 1981
street & number		telephone	
city or town	Centreville	state	Maryland 21617

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

QA-137
Steven's Adventure
Stevensville vicinity
Private

18th century
demolished 1970's

Steven's Adventure was a handsome brick house constructed in two stages, with a post-Civil War frame addition. The original dwelling house was 1 1/2 stories high, three bays wide and one room deep. It probably had a hall-parlor plan and dated to the latter half of the 18th century, making it the earliest surviving structure in the immediate vicinity of Stevensville. In the first half of the 19th century the house was enlarged to the east, doubling the depth to form a double pile house with paired chimneys on each gable wall, but retaining the story-and-a-half height. The resulting structure was one of the most visually pleasing houses in the county, as well as one of the more unusual. Abandoned in the 1960's, the house was destroyed by fire in the early 1970's.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Steven's Adventure

AND/OR COMMON

Samuel Ringgold farm, Elmer White farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

North side of Route 18

CITY, TOWN

Stevensville

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: vacant

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Whitehaven Enterprises, Inc.

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

c/o Augusta M. White

CITY, TOWN

Stevensville

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21666

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #: CWC 128

Folio #: 276

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

QA-137

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input 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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

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The house was brick, 1 1/2 stories high, three bays wide, and two rooms deep, with paired flush chimneys on each end of a pitched gable roof. A two story frame addition at one time projected from one gable end, but was demolished before the main house was destroyed. The orientation of the building cannot be precisely determined from the photographs but it would appear that the front facade faced approximately west, with the frame wing to the north. The description is organized on this assumption.

The main house was constructed in two stages.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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"/> 00-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input checked="" 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 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	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The early brick house on Steven's Adventure was constructed in two stages, with a later frame wing dating to the post-Civil War period. The original house was 1 1/2 stories high, three bays wide, and one room deep. It probably had a hall-parlor plan and dated to the latter half of the 18th century, making it the earliest recorded structure in the immediate vicinity of Stevensville. In the first half of the 19th century the original house was enlarged to the east, doubling the depth to form a double pile house with paired chimneys on each gable, but retaining the 1 1/2 story height. The resulting structure was one of the most visually pleasing houses in the county, as well as one of the more unusual. The plan of the expanded house is not known, and only the exterior can be analysed in any detail.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

QA-137

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

2/10/81

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION

Brickwork in the south gable wall leaves little doubt that the original house was three bays long but only one room deep, and probably dated to the 18th century. In the first half of the 19th century the house was enlarged to the east to form a larger, nearly square house two rooms deep. The original section was laid in Flemish bond above a water table and whitewashed foundation. The later section to the east was laid in common bond, also above a water table and a whitewashed foundation. The original fenestration pattern evidently had been changed at some point, but few clues are visible in the photographs to suggest the original arrangement.

The principal facade faced west. There was a door in the center bay with a three-light transom, flanked by one large 6/6 window on each side. Three pitched roof 6/6 dormer windows were ranged across the roof on the second floor. All of the windows clearly dated to the second period of construction. The large first floor windows were similar to the windows of the Robert White House (QA-272) and the Tolson House (QA-167), two mid-19th century houses nearby.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION

On the south gable, the change in brickwork between the two sections is readily apparent. There is little evidence of early window openings. When the house was enlarged, two 6/6 windows were centered between the paired chimneys on the first and second floor and a semi-circular fanlight window was centered in the upper gable. A bulkhead entrance at the west end of the wall provided access to the cellar. The eaves were finished with beaded and tapered rakeboards.

The rear facade, facing east, was similar in appearance to the west facade, but dated entirely to the second period of construction. A door in the center bay of the first floor was flanked by 6/6 windows; three 6/6 dormers were symmetrically ranged across the second story. A one story porch with steps at the south end and bracketed Victorian posts stretched across the entire facade.

The frame wing was two stories high and two bays long, with a moderately pitched gable roof and a single flush brick chimney centered on the north gable. The wing was only one room deep and was relatively small in scale in comparison to the main house.

A small frame meat house with a pitched gable roof was located to the east of the house.



Log Inn

SANDY POINT STATE PARK

*SANDY POINT LIGHTHOUSE

Sandy Pt

Ponds

Moss Eynd

GA-131
STEVEN'S ADVENTURE

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

CHESAPEAKE BAY BRIDGE

Cloverfields

STEVENSVILLE

Castle Marina

Chesterhaven Beach

LANDING FIELD

Bay City

DEPT CHESAPEAKE BAY AFFAIRS
MARINE POLICE ACADEMY

CAMP WRIGHT

Matapake

Matapake Estates

KENT ISLAND

Harbor View

Chester

Kingsley Ch

Normans

Sunny Isle of Kent

Chesapeake Estates

LANDING FIELD

Queen Anne Colony

Mattapex

Kent Island Estates

Philpots Is.

Kent Island Estates

Tower Gardens on the Bay

Romankoke on the Bay

CRAB ALLEY

BAY

EASTERN

Turkey Pt

Long Marsh I

Bodkin Island

Dominion

Marling Farms

Johnson Island

Little Island

Marling Farms

CARROLL'S AIRPORT

ORAB

Kirwan Creek

Chester

Old Railroad

MOORE CREEK

SILO

CHE

Good

ORAB

ALLEY

NECK

ALLEY

NECK

ALLEY

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QA# 137

QA-137

Steven's Adventure
Stevensville, Maryland



QA-137

Steven's Adventure
Stevensville vicinity
During demolition

STEVEN'S DELIGHT

QA-137