

QA-16

James Marshall Farm
Church Hill
Private

early 19th century

The original brick house on the James Marshall farm is a good example of a relatively formal house type typical of the late 18th and early 19th century. Although the original interior was destroyed by fire in the late 19th century, the present interior includes some good Victorian woodwork, highlighted by a pair of Eastlake doors with the original paint scheme intact. Also worthy of note are a timber frame meat house and dairy.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

James Marshall farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Southeast corner of Flat Iron Square Road and Granny Branch Road

CITY, TOWN

Price

 VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: vacant

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

King Land Inc.

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Box 56

CITY, TOWN

Church Hill

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21623

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #: CWC 131

Folio #: 127

STREET & NUMBER

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

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The James Marshall farm is located on the southeast corner of Flat Iron Square Road and Granny Branch Road, approximately one mile northwest of Price, Maryland.

The house was constructed in two stages, and has been through at least one major renovation. The main house is brick, three bays wide and two-and-one-half stories high, with a flush brick chimney centered on each gable, and a one story porch across the south facade. A two-story frame wing extends from the west gable of the main house.

Although the shell of the brick house clearly dates to the late 18th or early 19th century, it must either have burned or been completely gutted and renovated circa 1880. All windows and doors, roof framing, cornice, and interior woodwork date to the Victorian period, indicating a complete reconstruction was necessary. The frame wing, although rather plain, appears to date to the latter period.

The main house is brick, laid in Flemish bond on a three-course common bond foundation. A two-course belt course laid in Flemish bond extends across

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION

both facades; a plain, square-section watertable encircles all four sides of the house. The east gable has been stuccoed up to the second floor eaves, and the upper gables at both ends are covered with horizontal weatherboard siding. The west gable is not stuccoed, but is almost entirely covered by the frame wing. The exposed brickwork is laid in three-course common bond both above and below the watertable.

The principal entrance is located in the center bay of the south facade. A wide door with elaborate Eastlake decoration set off in light and dark shades of brown is surmounted by a single-light transom, and flanked by large, two-over-two windows with modest peaked surrounds. On the second floor, three two-over-two windows are symmetrically ranged across the facade. There are two gable roof dormers on this facade, placed in the east and west bays, with the center bay omitted.

On the east gable, there is one two-over-two window to the left of the chimney on the first floor, and a pair of two-over-two windows flanking the chimney on the second floor. A pair of small windows flank the chimney in the upper gable.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION

The rear facade faces north, and is identical to the south facade, except that the door lacks a transom, and is covered by an overhanging, shed roof door hood decorated with a serrated fascia board. There are three dormer windows on this facade.

The west gable is almost entirely covered by the frame wing. The only openings are a pair of small windows flanking the chimney in the upper gable.

A deep box cornice with crown mold and bed mold extends across both facades, returns at the gables, and is carried up the gable eaves. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The interior of the main house is laid out in a center hall plan, with a single room on either side of the hall. An open string stair rises along the west wall of the hall to a landing at the north end, then turns and rises to the second floor hall. Large turned newels and turned ballusters support a heavy railing. The stair ends are not decorated.

Each parlour is heated by a fireplace centered on the exterior gable wall. A door to the left of the fireplace in the west parlour allows access to the wing. Interior decoration consists of rather

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.3 DESCRIPTION

simple Eastlake mantels, reeded window and door surrounds with bullseye corner blocks, and a wide baseboard with a Victorian ogee molding. The interior four-panel doors are late 19th century.

The center hall floor plan is repeated on the second floor, but the west room has been partitioned longitudinally to allow a bathroom to be added. The trim is similar to the first floor, and the mantels, though still Eastlake, are much simpler, consisting of unsupported shelves. An enclosed stair in the hall rises to the third floor.

The center hall plan has remained unaltered on the third floor. The rooms are finished with plaster, but were apparently never heated, as there is no evidence of stove flues in the chimneys. Batten doors are used on this floor, secured with Eastlake latches.

The frame wing was probably built at the same time the major renovation of the earlier house was undertaken. It is very plain in appearance, with an asymmetrical fenestration pattern. It rests on a three-course common bond foundation which is not keyed into the main house. The exterior is covered with

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.4 DESCRIPTION

wood shingles, the roof is tin. A brick interior stove chimney is centered on the west gable.

The interior consists of two rooms on each floor, with an enclosed stair sandwiched between the two first floor rooms. A trap door in the floor of the east room leads down a steep ladder-stair to a small cellar, presently used as a utility room.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.5 DESCRIPTION

Smokehouse

Located to the rear of the house, this building is twelve feet square, with a steeply pitched gable roof covered with weathered wood shingles. The door is centered in the south gable. Set on concrete blocks, it has a standard heavy timber frame, with machine sawn corner posts mortised into heavy hewn sills and reinforced with two downbraces at each corner. The walls are framed with machine sawn studs mortised top and bottom on two foot centers. The top plates are machine sawn, and support machine sawn joists and gable plates. These are notched over the facade plates, and support a flat false plate. The common rafter roof consists of four pairs of rafters resting on the false plates and secured at the ridge with a pegged mortise and tenon joint. There are two sets of collars, these are half-lapped into the rafters. The lower set of collars are secured with pegs and machine nails, the upper set are secured only with nails. Wide plank flooring is set on joists laid parallel to the gable. The door is constructed of random width unbeaded boards secured to three beveled battens.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.6 DESCRIPTION

The door is hung on large wrought strap hinges set on iron pintels. The consistent use of machine sawn timber and machine nails suggests a mid-nineteenth century date for this building.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.7 DESCRIPTION

Dairy

To the west of the house there is a small frame dairy building with an overhanging pyramidal roof. The building is eight feet square, with the roof projecting about two feet on each side. The door is located in the center of the east wall, there are louvered window openings on each of the other three walls. The exterior is covered with wide, horizontal beaded flush siding, secured with machine nails. The cornerboards are plain. The rafters are left exposed under the eave, with a fascia board nailed across the rafter ends. The roof is covered with wood shingles. The stub of a decorative finial remains at the peak of the roof. The interior of the dairy is sheathed with narrow vertical beaded boards. The floor consists of a concrete slab.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

QA-16

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
X 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The original brick house at the Marshall farm is a good example of a relatively formal house-type typical of the late 18th and early 19th century. Although the original interior is gone, apparently destroyed by fire, the present interior includes some good Victorian woodwork, highlighted by a pair of Eastlake doors with the original two-tone paint scheme intact.

There are two outbuildings of particular interest. The smokehouse is typical of a form common throughout the 18th and the first half of the 19th century. The dairy, with its deeply overhung pyramidal roof, is also a common form found in this region, and retains its original and somewhat unusual beaded flush siding. A number of other farm buildings remain, including a well-preserved late 19th century granary.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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

8/1/78

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory 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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Mary McCarthy
Spring/Summer 2003
Digital color photo on file at MHT



QA-16
James Marshall Farm

Mary McCarthy
Spring/Summer 2003
Digital color photo on file at MHT





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ORV 1978

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