

QA-252  
Ryland Farm  
Ruthsburg vicinity  
Private

circa 1820-35  
late 19th century

The original house on the Ryland Farm is a 2 1/2 story brick dwelling with a side hall, double parlor plan. This house type was popular throughout the late 18th and the first half of the 19th century. This particular example appears to be late-Federal, probably dating to circa 1820-1835, based on the appearance of Greek molding profiles in predominantly Federal trim. Both the brickwork and framing evidence reinforce this conclusion. Of particular interest are the four original mantels, two cupboards, and the largely intact interior trim. The large addition dates to the last quarter of the 19th century.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Ryland Farm

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

South side Maryland Route 304

CITY, TOWN

Bridgetown

 VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

DISTRICT  
 BUILDING(S)  
 STRUCTURE  
 SITE  
 OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC  
 PRIVATE

 BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS  
 BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

OCCUPIED  
 UNOCCUPIED  
 WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED  
 YES: UNRESTRICTED  
 NO

## PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE     MUSEUM  
 COMMERCIAL     PARK  
 EDUCATIONAL     PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
 ENTERTAINMENT     RELIGIOUS  
 GOVERNMENT     SCIENTIFIC  
 INDUSTRIAL     TRANSPORTATION  
 MILITARY     OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Elizabeth W. Ryland

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

 VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21617

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #: W/R NSD 1

Folio #: 70

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

 FEDERAL     STATE     COUNTY     LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

QA-252

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 Ryland Farm is located on the south side of Maryland Route 304 approximately two miles east of Ruthsburg.

The early house is a 2 1/2 story brick dwelling with a side hall, double parlor plan. A 2 1/2 story frame Victorian addition covers the west gable and shields the earlier house from view.

The principal facade is oriented toward the north. The main entrance is located in the left bay, with two 9/6 windows to the right and three 6/6 windows on the second floor. Two six-light cellar windows were reduced in size to three-lights, then were blocked completely. The 6-panel front door has Federal panel molds and a transom with diamond lattice-work muttins. The original brickwork is covered with stucco, which is spalling off to reveal the nails that were driven into the mortar joints to hold the stucco. The eaves are finished with a box cornice, complex crown mold and Greek ogee bed mold.

The east gable is also stuccoed but sections have fallen off to reveal five-course bond brickwork. There is a door to left of center and a

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION

9/6 window to right of center on the first floor and a single 6/6 window above the door on the second floor. A pair of 2/2 windows are symmetrically placed in the upper gable. A blocked opening at the south end of the wall was a cut-in door that opened from the stair landing into a now-demolished wing. The original rakeboards have survived, consisting of a beveled crown mold set against a beaded board which is nailed to a plain fascia. The front and rear cornice return at the corners.

The rear facade is similar to the north facade, but the door lacks a transom. The stucco is rusticated on this facade, but has fallen in places to reveal five-course bond.

The west gable is completely covered by the later addition, except for the paired brick chimneys, which project up above the roofline.

The interior side hall, double parlor plan has been modified somewhat. The stair hall across the east gable has been divided into an entrance and stair hall to the south, and a bathroom and small chamber to the north. The stair rises against the east gable wall to a landing at the south end of the hall. It is an

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION

open-string stair with simple turned newels, square ballusters, and a plain ramped railing. The stair ends are decorated with solid wave-pattern brackets.

Paneled doors with Federal architraves open from the hall (now partitioned) into both parlors. These two rooms are also connected by a later doorway with plain trim in the center partition wall. Blocked fireplaces project into each parlor on the west gable wall. In the southwest parlor the fireplace is flanked on the left by a built-in cupboard with four plain paneled doors and on the right by a later door with Victorian architrave trim leading to the later addition. In the northwest parlor a similar doorway was cut in to the left of the fireplace. The mantel has survived in this room. It is a handsome Federal surround with paneled pilasters and sideblocks, a molded shelf that breaks forward above the sideblocks, and a pierced band of fretwork below the shelf. The windows have Federal architraves and sills but plain unsplayed jambs. Rabbeted baseboard encircles each room.

The second floor plan is essentially unchanged, with an original unheated chamber at the north end of the stair hall. The mantel remains in place in

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.3 DESCRIPTION

the northwest chamber. It is a relatively simple board surround with plain pilasters, sideblocks, and frieze and a complex shelf with Greek ogee moldings. A door to the left of this fireplace leads to the Victorian wing. In the southwest chamber there is an original two-door cupboard with three-panel doors and Federal panel molds built in to the left of the fireplace. The mantel has been removed and the fireplace blocked and fitted for a wood stove. The trim throughout the second floor is original and similar in profile to the first floor trim.

The attic has wide flooring but is otherwise unfinished. The roof is constructed of common rafters secured at the ridge with a pegged mortise-and-tenon joint and reinforced with one set of collar beams, half-dovetailed and nailed with machine nails. One large (probably 6/6) window opening is centered in the west gable, and now opens into the attic of the Victorian addition. Only the frame remains, the sash has been removed. Painted on two of the rafters are the following inscriptions:

"A. H. Marshall Painter 1874"

"C. W. R. Denton 1892"

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.4 DESCRIPTION

Two mantels from the main house are stored in the attic. The mantel from the southwest parlor on the first floor has reeded pilasters, reeded sideblocks, and a plain frieze. The complex shelf has a band of lozenge carving and breaks forward above the sideblocks. The mantel from the southwest chamber on the second floor has plain pilasters, an unusual "paneled" frieze and a molded shelf that combines Greek profiles with Federal.

The Victorian addition is actually a complete house in itself. It is a typical two story frame "I" house, five bays long and one room deep with a center hall plan. Mr. Dean, who presently farms the property, recalled that Ed Thomas of Bridgetown told him that his father (Earl Thomas?) helped build this part of the house. Thomas told him this about 16 or 17 years ago (circa 1952-3) while building a browsing shed on the farm. At that time, he said the house was built about 75 years before (circa 1880). It is also possible that one of the two dates recorded in the attic of the earlier house coincides with the construction of the later section.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

QA-252

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
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input 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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The original house on the Ryland Farm is a 2 1/2 story brick dwelling with a side hall, double parlour plan. This house type was popular throughout the late 18th and the first half of the 19th century. This particular example appears to be late-Federal, probably dating to circa 1820-1835, based on the appearance of Greek molding profiles in predominantly Federal trim. Both the brickwork and framing evidence reinforce this conclusion. Of particular interest are the four original mantels, two cupboards, and the largely intact interior trim. The large addition dates to the last quarter of the 19th century.

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

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

**Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor**

ORGANIZATION

**Queen Anne's County Historical Society**

DATE

**4/23/80**

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

**Centreville**

STATE

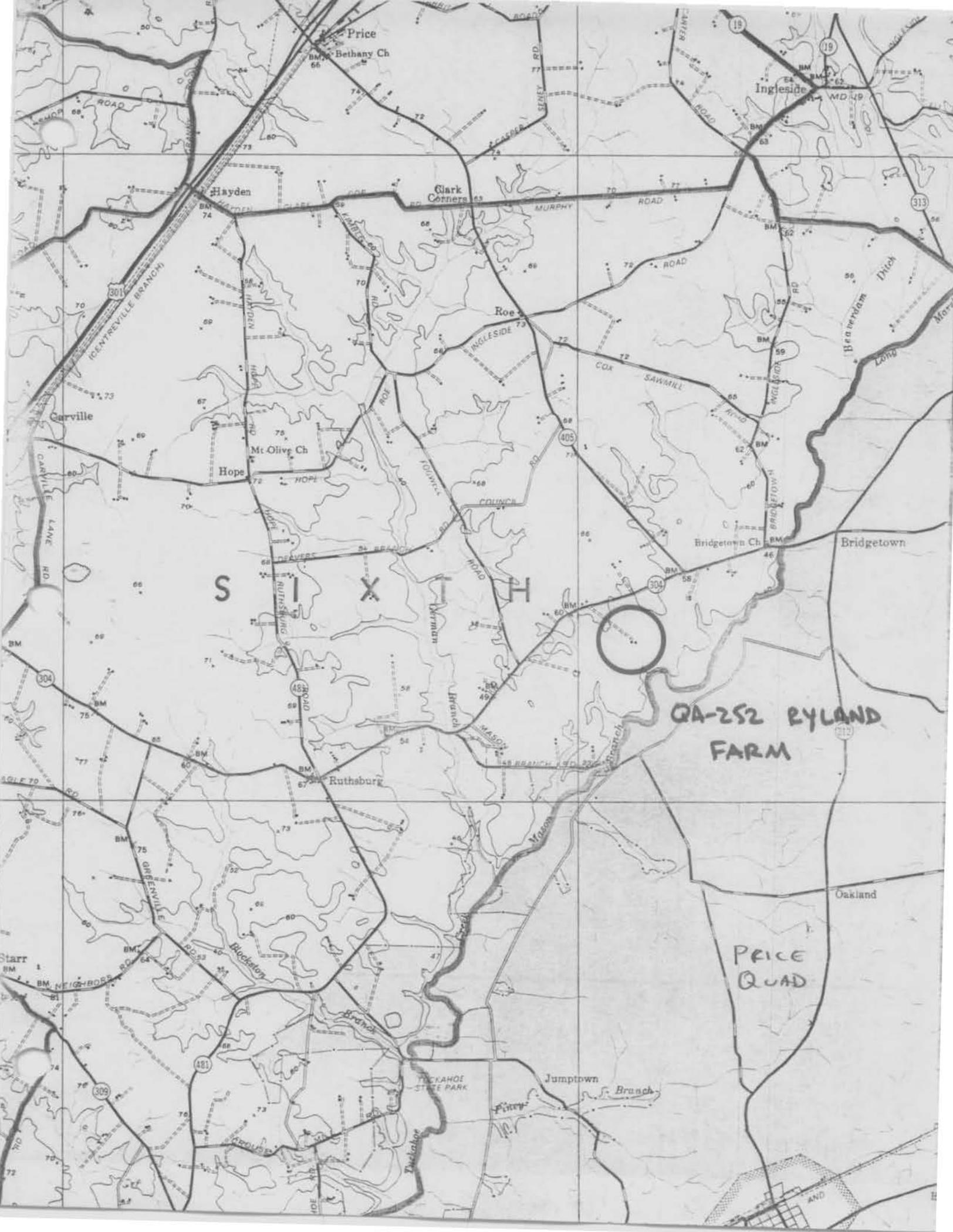
**Maryland 21617**

**Field Note Book Md-I, Recorded August 2, 1979.**

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



S I X T H

QA-252 RYLAND FARM

PRICE QUAD





QA-252 Ryland Farm  
Ruthsburg vicinity  
Orlando Ridout V Dec. 1980  
View from Northwest



QA-252 Ryland Farm  
Ruthsburg vicinity  
Orlando Ridout V Dec. 1980  
View from South