

QA-373
Rolph-Bowen Farm
Church Hill
Private

3rd quarter 19th century

The Rolph - Bowen farmhouse is an interesting survival from the mid-19th century and represents a form of house that was to become quite popular in the Italianate style throughout the Eastern Shore. One unusual feature of the house is the presence of original large double doors between the dining room and kitchen. The latter room was originally intended as a dining room when there was a larger wing beyond the present confines of the house. In plan, therefore, it would have been similar to "Bourbon" near Price, except for the double doors.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

The Rolph - Bowen Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Old Rt. 213, south of Elementary School

CITY, TOWN

Church Hill

___ 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input 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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

William Cronshaw

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

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 19

Folio #: 403

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

67-973

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 Rolph - Bowen Farm house stands on a rise of ground back from the main street of Church Hill, just south of the elementary school. This late Federal three story frame dwelling pre-dates the dwellings nearby and was the farmhouse for the surrounding acreage. Its southeast facade is five bays long and three stories tall with 6/6 sash windows on the first and second stories, and 3/3 sash on the third story. All windows have louvered blinds. In the center of the house is a typical mid-19th century architrave, with door surrounded by sidelights and transom. Here, the door has six panels with the smaller panels in the center of the door. Over the door, the transom is divided into alternating square and rectangular panes; the sidelight panes are of equal size.

On the second story, over the entry, is another architrave almost identical to the first story. In place of the paneled door is a 9-pane panel of glass above a pair of raised panels. It has the same type transom and sidelights as the entry below. The cornice is distinguished by a row of vertical dentils fastened to the wall of the house, beneath

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 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 Rolph - Bowen farmhouse is an interesting survival from the mid-19th century and represents a form of house that was to become quite popular in the Italianate style throughout the Eastern Shore. One unusual feature of the house is the presence of original large double doors between the dining room and kitchen. The latter room was originally intended as a dining room when there was a larger wing beyond the present confines of the house. In plan, therefore, it would have been similar to "Bourbon" near Price, except for the double doors.

In a telephone conversation with Mrs. A. Parks Raisin, Sr., who was born in the house in 1915, the present kitchen was also a kitchen at that time. However, there was a two or three room wing beyond which had ceased to be used. Her parents tore it down within her memory.

Also, the second story architrave was identical

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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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

Michael O. Bourne, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

8/3/83

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

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION

the overhanging cornice of the 'A' roof.

Two brick chimneys rise within the gables of the house. The northeast gable has a window on the right side of the chimney on the first and second story, whereas, there are windows flanking the chimney on the southwest gable.

A unique feature of the house is the fact that the wing on the northwest side of the building has a single pitch roof. There are two windows on both stories of the northeast. A leanto screened porch across the southwest facade of the wing hides the door and window on the first story. The second story has only one window on its facade beside a protruding bathroom addition in the corner of the 'L', atop the screened porch. The northwest side of the house has one window on each story lighting the rooms on the right and one in the hall and room on the left on the third story. There is only one small window on the northwest wall of the wing.

From the vertical lines in the foundation, it appears that the house was constructed on brick piers, with an infill soon after construction. Another interesting 20th century feature is the placement of a block basement beneath the porch and a new brick chimney on the northwest side of the house.

Inside, the plan of the house is a typical central stair hall with flanking living room and dining room.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION

Behind the dining room is a kitchen. The unusual feature between the two latter rooms is the presence of large double doors, meaning that the present kitchen was a dining or living room and the original kitchen was beyond the present confines of the house.

Beneath the stair landing a bath has been installed and is accessible from both the kitchen and living room. This bath occupies two former spaces, i.e. the back of the hall, which originally opened onto the back porch and a pantry/closet beneath the stair, which opened into the kitchen. The rooms above are identical, with a few modifications.

The open string stair balustrade has large turned newel posts, round handrail and tapered dowel balusters. The entire balustrade is quite dark and appears to be mahogany.

CONTINUATION SHEET

8.1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

to the first, with a paneled door occupying the present central window. At that time there was no porch, so it had either fallen into disrepair and was removed, or it had never been constructed.



QA-~~012~~ Rolph-Bowen Farm
Northeast

373

MOB 7/1983