

QA-40  
Catherine Rash Farm  
Sudlersville vicinity  
Private

circa 1825-50

The brick house on the Catherine Rash Farm is an excellent example of a 2 1/2 story, side passage, single parlor plan dwelling constructed in the second quarter of the 19th century. The most significant feature of the house is the interior woodwork, which includes several relatively unusual features. The first floor mantel, the stair, and the architrave trim, while familiar in general form and style, employ unusual detail and molding profiles. In particular, the stair balusters are a unique pattern with concave surfaces and beaded edges; the architrave trim is rabbeted and molded to form an unusual paneled effect; and the mantel has fluted convex pilasters and a horizontal fluted frieze below a bracketed shelf.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Catherine Rash Farm

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

North side Maryland Route 300

CITY, TOWN

Sudlersville

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

Walter E. Schmidt

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Cemetery Road

CITY, TOWN

Sudlersville

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21668

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

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

Liber #: CWC 70

Folio #: 710

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

QA-40

**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 Catherine Rash Farm, now owned by Walter Schmidt, is located on the north side of Maryland Route 300 just east of the intersection with Cemetery Road, approximately one mile east of the center of Sudlersville.

The house is sited on a slight rise surrounded by open farm land. Farm buildings to the northeast of the house include a one-story granary and two implement sheds.

The house is of brick construction, two stories high, three bays wide, and one room deep with a single flush chimney centered on the west end of the steeply pitched gable roof. A one story addition was made to the east gable wall within the past decade.

The front facade faces south toward Route 300. It is three bays wide with a door in the east bay of the first floor, two 6/6 windows to the west of the door, and three 6/6 windows on the second floor. Small cellar windows are centered directly below the two first floor windows; there are no dormers. The window sash is original but the frames have been covered with aluminum flashing.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION

The six-panel door is a modern replacement, with an original three-light transom above. The brickwork is laid in Flemish bond above a common bond foundation with no water table or belt course. The cornice is corbeled out four courses with a fifth course set flush with the fourth or top course. The cellar window openings have splayed brick jack arches, all other openings are left plain. A ghost in the whitewashed brickwork indicates a one-story porch sheltered the two east bays on this facade at one time.

The only openings in the west gable wall are a pair of 2/2 windows flanking the chimney in the upper gable and a bulkhead cellar entrance in the north bay of the foundation. The entire gable wall is laid in seven-course common bond, coated with whitewash. The chimney has been crudely rendered with a coat of mortar; the rakeboards have been replaced.

The fenestration pattern is somewhat unusual on the north or rear facade. There are 6/6 windows in the center and west bays on both the first and second floors. To the east, there is a door on the first floor with a small four-light window to the left, and a larger 6/6 window downset on the second floor, directly above the four-light window. Both of these openings appear to be original. A single cellar window is centered in

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION

the foundation; there are no dormer windows on the roof. The brickwork is laid in seven-course bond with a corbeled brick cornice identical to the front facade. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The east gable wall is covered with a thin coat of stucco. There are no original openings visible on this wall. The first story is covered by the modern wing.

The interior consists of a side passage, single parlor plan with an unusually wide passage, which stretches across the east gable wall. The stair rises against the east wall to a landing in the northeast corner of the hall, turns 90 degrees and rises four steps to a second landing, turns 90 degrees again and continues to the second floor. It is an open-string stair with turned newel posts, molded square balusters and a plain, ramped walnut rail. The balusters are quite unusual in that all four faces are lightly molded, with a shallow cove molding on each face and fine bead moldings on all four corners. The carriage piece has an applied band of two square-profile moldings, and the risers and treads are outlined with a plain band of flat trim. The area below the carriage is paneled with raised paneling. All of the original trim survives on the first floor. Molded architrave trim typical of the

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.3 DESCRIPTION

Greek Revival period survives on all of the first floor openings. This consists of a molded fascia with Greek ogee-astragal profiles flanking a recessed rabbetted field; bullseye corner blocks terminate the upper corners. The door in the east gable wall, at the foot of the stairs, is also trimmed with original architrave trim, suggesting that the present addition replaces an original wing. Also of interest is the unusual reeded treatment of the jambs and soffit on the door opening from the hall into the parlor.

In the parlor, the fireplace is centered on the west gable wall, framed with an original Greek Revival mantel. This mantel has fluted convex pilasters flanking the opening and similar horizontal fluting across the frieze. A simple molded shelf with a Greek-ogee nosing is supported by paired brackets flanking the frieze. The space between each bracket pair is finished with concave fluting.

The parlor windows are set in splayed reveals with reeded jambs and soffits. The architrave trim consists of a Greek ogee-astragal backband applied to a rabbetted and beaded fascia. This same architrave is repeated on the parlor face of the door to the passage. Other original details include an eight-panel door with ogee-astragal panel molds opening into the hall and

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.4 DESCRIPTION

much of the beaded baseboard trim. The floors have been covered with modern oak flooring throughout the house.

The second floor plan is similar to the first floor but with the south end of the passage partitioned to form a small, unheated chamber. The stair continues up to the third story without any change in decorative detail. The architrave trim has survived on all of the second floor doors but has been altered on the window openings. The surviving trim is similar to the architrave in the first floor parlor. The fireplace in the west chamber has been blocked and closets inserted on both sides of the chimney breast. The second floor window openings are not splayed and have plain jambs and soffits. Both of the six-panel interior doors are original.

The third story is divided into a large chamber to the west, a small storeroom to the southeast and a stair hall to the northeast. The only early trim on this floor is the architrave trim on the two interior doors. A trap door in the ceiling of the west chamber allows access to the crawl space above the collars. The roof is constructed of machine-sawn common rafters joined at the ridge with pegged mortise-and-tenon joints. Light collars have been scabbed on and nailed

CONTINUATI

## 7.5 DESCRIPTION

with machine nails. The plaster lathing for the ceiling is machine sawn. Although the scabbed-on collars could be evidence of a later inserted ceiling, the refined stair to the third story implies that it was always finished for living space.

An original two-panel door under the first floor landing opens onto an original interior cellar stair. An original door opening in the east gable wall of the house also provided access to the cellar stair from the original wing, now demolished. The beaded door frame for this opening survives intact. The cellar stair is actually a steep ladder stair which has been made more commodious by enlarging the opening about 18 inches to the south.

The cellar is divided into two rooms by a brick partition wall below the first floor interior wall. The machine sawn ceiling joists are exposed and whitewashed below the passage, but are now concealed by modern paneling in the west room. The brick walls are whitewashed but not plastered. An arched recess in the chimney base of the west room has been partially concealed by the paneling. The cellar windows are fitted with original iron bars set in the masonry walls. It is interesting to note that these alternate round and diamond shaped in section.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

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"/> 400-1499	<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 brick house on the Catherine Rash Farm is an excellent example of a 2 1/2 story, side passage, single parlor plan dwelling constructed in the second quarter of the 19th century. The most significant feature of the house is the interior woodwork, which includes several relatively unusual features. The first floor mantel, the stair, and the architrave trim, while familiar in general form and style, employ unusual details and molding profiles. In particular, the stair balusters are a unique pattern with concave surfaces and beaded edges; the architrave trim is rabbeted and molded to form an unusual paneled effect; and the mantel has fluted convex pilasters and a horizontal fluted frieze below a bracketed shelf.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

QA-40

**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

1/11/82

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

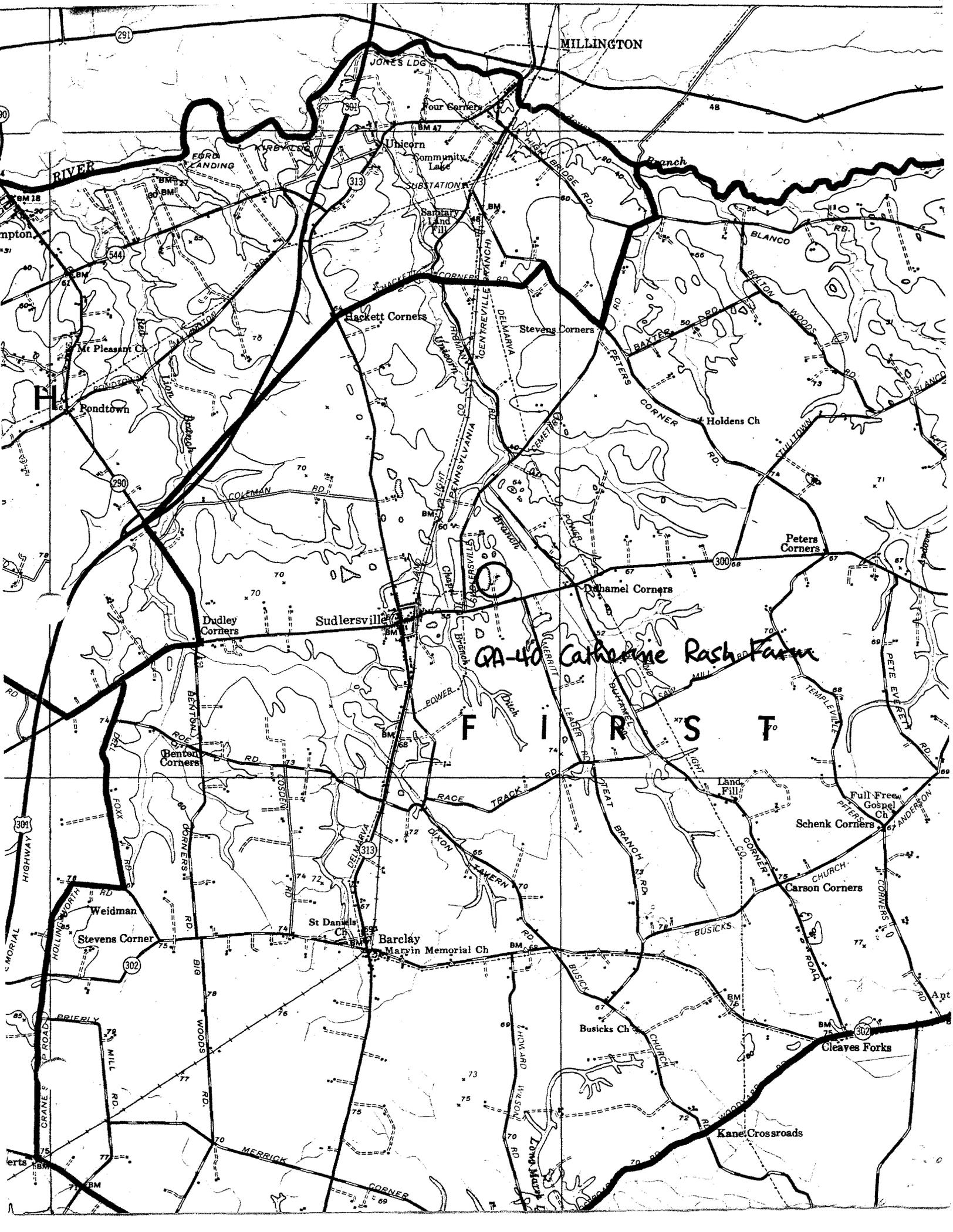
Maryland

Field Notebook QA-24; Recorded May 20, 1981.

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



MILLINGTON

RIVER

JONES LDG

Four Corners

Unicorn Community Lake

STATION

Barclay And Fill

Hackett Corners

Stevens Corners

Holdens Ch

Peters Corners

Dahamel Corners

Sudlersville

GA-40 Catherine Rash Farm

F I F R I S T

Dudley Corners

Bentley Corners

Schenk Corners

Carson Corners

Stevens Corner

St Daniels Ch

Barclay

Marvin Memorial Ch

Busicks Ch

Cleaves Forks

Kane Crossroads

QA-40

Catherine Rash Farm

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





QA-40

Catherine Rash Farm  
Sudlersville vicinity  
Orlando Ridout V 1981  
Rear facade from Northwest



QA-40

Catherine Rash Farm  
Sudlersville vicinity  
Orlando Ridout V 1981  
Front facade from Southeast