

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 1

QA-66

small family cemetery are located on a separate legal parcel, but both the historic house and the 172 acre parcel containing the cemetery and agricultural buildings are owned by Merrick Farm, LLC.

The elegant Federal style dwelling remains essentially in the same condition as set forth by Orlando Ridout, V in his very detailed 1981 description. A copy of the *Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form* he authored is appended to this document. The house is in very good conditions and retains most of its historic fabric. New windows represent the most significant post-1981 change to the building. The subdivision will, however, drastically and adversely impact the building's environmental setting. At present, only one new house has been constructed, so the landscape remains largely intact.

The main house on the C. P. Merrick Farm/ Thomas Farm is a large brick dwelling with an original brick wing, constructed in 1805. The 1805 construction date is derived from a date brick located adjacent the rear (south) entry and supported by other architectural evidence. The house is 2 ½ stories high, five bays wide and features a center-passage, single-pile plan. Bricks are laid in Flemish bond above a 1:3 common bond foundation. There is neither watertable nor beltcourse. The soft, hand-made bricks show evidence of a developing moisture problem. The steeply pitched roof terminates at either end with a rebuilt or heavily repaired flush chimney. The box cornice features a complex crown and bed mold, with a Wall-of-Troy style dentil course adding additional elegance.

Façade fenestration consists of two 6/6 windows on either side of a center entrance, while five, 6/6 windows illuminate the second story. The sash windows are modern replacements, but the original complex paneled architraves remain in place. Five cellar windows are obscured by the presence of a full-width, Victorian-era porch. Ghosting evidence of an earlier 1-story, 1-bay entry porch remains visible on either side of the doorway. The entrance retains its six-panel door, paneled pilaster surround, and a diamond-patterned transom with paneled soffit and jambs.

The rear façade also displays five bays and a center entrance. As with the primary façade, the 6/6 windows are modern replacements. The entrance displays paneled soffits and jambs, as well as a crosstetted surround. A modern storm door protects the six-panel door. The door's lower height and the placement of a second story window reflect the presence of the interior staircase. A brick to the right of the rear door is inscribed "1805". The small shed porch seen in Ridout's photographs was removed to accommodate a large wooden deck.

The 2-story, 3-bay wing projects from the east gable wall and features a flush chimney at the east gable end. The brickwork is entirely 3:1 common bond, but the absences of a seam between the dwelling's two sections indicates the lower 1 ½ story of the wing and the main house are contemporaneous. The wing's frame, shingle-covered upper section post-dates the lower story. The wing's former center door opening now accommodates a window. As with the main house, windows in the wing are modern replacements, but the pegged frames with applied ogee astragal backbands remain in situ. The wing's rear entrance is fitted with a c. 1970s wooden door and a modern metal storm door. A shed portico, crudely sheathed with metal panels, protects the rear entrance.

Interior conditions remain essentially the same as described by Orlando Ridout in 1981. The primary exception is the newly modernized kitchen. In 1981 that space was already described as "altered", with

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the large fireplace enclosed and the mantle removed. The fireplace now features a mantle featuring a boldly carved Greek Key design and paneled pilasters. It is unclear if this piece is historically associated with the house or relocated from another building. Its excellent condition and character different from the dwelling's other mantles, suggest it is not historic. The firebox has been converted to storage space and fitted with modern doors. Please refer to the attached keyed floor plan and photographs for an illustration of current interior conditions.

Outbuildings

Dairy

A small brick dairy is situated a few yards south of the kitchen wing. This building measures 9' x 9'. The soft, deteriorating bricks are laid up in 7:1 common bond. Walls terminate at the roofline with a corbelled cornice. The pyramidal roof is covered with metal. A plywood board serves as a door and windows are boarded over.

Shed

A mid-20th century, frame, gable-roofed storage shed stands immediately west of the dairy. Walls are sheathed with vertical planks and rest on a poured concrete foundation.

Cemetery

The Thomas Family Cemetery is located approximately 300 yards northeast of the farmhouse and is situated directly behind the newly constructed house on Lot 2 of the new subdivision. The cemetery is not on the same parcel as the brick house. Some of the grave stones have toppled and are partly buried. The cemetery is now protected by a new metal fence. Graves with legible inscriptions are:

Samuel Thomas (born June 24, 1742 died March 23 1821)

Tristram Thomas (born August __, 1768 died March 6, 1841)

Anne West, wife of Tristram Thomas (died 1817)

Joel Thomas, son of Thristam [spelling of name is as it appears on the grave stone] and Anne Thomas (born January 31, 1812 died ____, 1892)

Avorilla Baggs, wife of Joel Thomas [dates buried]

Tristram Thomas, son of Joel Thomas (born 1860 died 1860)

Metal Silos and Shed

Three modern metal grain silos and a small shed are located immediately east of the house. These structures are not historic and are not legally associated with the house lot.

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Significance

The brick house associated with the historic Thomas Farm is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. It achieves significance primarily under *Criterion C: Design and Construction*, but it possesses significance under *Criterion D: Information Potential*. With respect to *Criterion C*, The dwelling's artistic details and method of construction embodies the distinctive characteristics of Federal style as expressed in rural Queen Anne's County, Maryland. In his 1981 assessment, Orlando Ridout, V, now Chief of the Office of Research, Survey and Registration for the Maryland Historical Trust, described the dwelling as "one of the mostly perfectly preserved, unrestored Federal houses in Queen Anne's County." The dwelling has experience little alteration since the writing of that evaluation.

Built in 1805, the facade of the Thomas Farmhouse clearly shows the influence of the then fashionable Federal style. Defining features include the delicately dentilated cornice, large windows openings, and flat exterior wall surfaces absent beltcourse and watertable. With respect to the interior, the wide staircase, complete with its attenuated newel post and balusters, and a gracefully curving banister, is clearly in the Federal taste. The carved reeding and punch-and-gouge work seen on the parlor and dining room mantles imitates that found in other fashionable dwellings of the period. Yet, typical in a rural vernacular context, older building practices are not entirely abandoned. For example, the main block's walls are laid up primarily in Flemish bond. This expensive type of brick work, typically associated with elite houses of the 18th century, became increasingly less common after the American Revolution as common bond brickwork became more popular. The Thomas House displays an interesting mix of then-current fashion as well as lingering regional building traditions.

The building is an architectural expression of an important regional building trend. Starting in the first decades of the 18th century, the cost, design, size and stylistic detail of Chesapeake rural gentry housing started undergoing a drastic change. By the by the beginning of the 19th century a domestic rebuilding process had taken place, culminating in an "architectural gulf" clearly separating the most affluent members of the community from the yeoman farmer and tenant.¹ Whereas during the first half of the 18th century, relatively wealthy Chesapeake families were seemingly content to occupy one or two room houses, over time, larger conspicuous dwellings became the norm for families who increasingly desired to visibly express their wealth and refinement. The Thomas Farmhouse represents the type of dwelling favored by the region's wealthy farm families in the early 19th century.

With respect to *Criterion D*, Ridout states that "as a dated house in pristine and unrestored condition, this building serves as an excellent benchmark for indentifying and dating similar buildings and details elsewhere in the region." The building shares many similarities with Ripley (QA-55) a comparable house built in 1805 near Church Hill. Comparisons can also be made with the brick house in Ingleside near the intersection of Roberts Station and Roe Ingleside Roads. Further research may show the dwellings were constructed by the same builder and provide more information about regional building practices.

Remarkably, the house retains all seven aspects of integrity. Presently, the building's location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association are remarkably intact. Regrettably, construction associated with a new residential subdivision will seriously diminish the historic setting and, to a lesser

¹ Bushman, Richard L. *The Refinement of America: Persons, Houses, Cities*. New York: Vintage Books, 1993. p 37.

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extent, the building's feeling and association. Despite this unfortunate pending action, it is expected that the house will retain sufficient integrity to successfully communicate its architectural significance.

History

This elegant, Federal style brick dwelling was constructed in 1805 for Samuel Thomas. Samuel Thomas was a member of a long-established and comparatively affluent area family. Thomas family genealogy is complicated. The first Tristram Thomas arrived in Maryland from England in 1665. His descendents proliferated. Many family members prospered and served in command positions in the military, Colonial and State governments, or practiced medicine. Agriculture, however, remained the primary occupation of most members of this extended family. Over succeeding generations, the Thomas family acquired vast tracks of land, especially in rural Talbot, Queen Anne's and Kent Counties.²

The property now known as C. P. Merrick Farm historically contained 383 acres and is referred to in older deeds as the "Thomas Farm". It was formed from a collection of tracts or partial tracts whose names include "Tilghman's Chance" "Tristram's Adventure", "Tristram's Ridge Corrected", "Grubby Neck" and "Widow's Folly". Tax records indicate Samuel Thomas (1742-1821) owned parts of all of these tracts in 1783.³ Samuel Thomas inherited most of the land, including the "home plantation" of Grubby Neck from his father, Trustram Thomas (d. circa 1761). Under the terms an 1816 Will, Samuel (either the son or grandson of Trustram Thomas) left the properties to his son, Tristram Thomas (1768-1841).^{4,5,6}

The dwelling's size, brick construction and fashionable Federal style details reflect the Thomas Family's wealth and social position firmly within the region's elite planter class. The 2 ½ story main block measures an impressive 45' x 20' and is augmented with an original 1 ½ story service wing, measuring 31' x 20'. Studies of the Federal Direct Tax of 1798 clearly indicate that brick houses of this size were a minority of the housing stock, making up less than ten percent of all housing.⁷ As late as the waning years of the 18th century, one room dwellings represented the norm on the Delmarva Peninsula.⁸

In addition to size, the building's center passage and separate, nicely appointed rooms for dining and socializing, combined with a dedicated service wing for cooking and domestic work, signify a class conscious owner. Even considering that by 1805 both the size and quality of domestic construction had improved as the region prospered in response to agricultural reforms and the demand for the region's grain, at the time of its construction, the Thomas Farmhouse was an impressive dwelling.

² Spencer, Richard H. *Hon. Nicholas Thomas*. in *Maryland Historical Magazine*, Volume VI, Baltimore, MD 1911 p. 145.

³ Assessment of 1783, Index, Queen Anne's County, Maryland State Archives website
www.msa.md.gov/msa/stagser/s1437/html/1437aq.html

⁴ Carson, Betty. *Ancestors and Descendents of Tristram Thomas of Maryland*. 1993. Maryland State Archives.

⁵ Land Records of Queen Anne's County TM 4, folio 402 (1827)

⁶ Dates of birth and death are taken from grave stones in Thomas Family cemetery, which is located in a field east of the farmhouse.

⁷ Bourne, Michael, Orlando Ridout V, Paul Touart, and Donna Ware. *Architecture and Change in the Chesapeake: A Field Tour on the Eastern and Western Shores*. Annapolis: Maryland Historical Trust, 1998. p. 7.

⁸ Herman, Bernard L. *Architecture and Rural Life in Central Delaware, 1700-1900*. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1987. p. 15.

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Wealth and the impression of wealth are, however, different qualities. In addition to constructing a large house, Samuel Thomas also purchased slaves and additional tracts of farm land and, as a result of these expenditures, died indebted to his son, Samuel Wright Thomas of Cromwell Bridge Delaware.⁹ To satisfy his father's debts, Tristram, acting as estate executor, assigned his late father's land to his brother in exchange for a cash settlement.¹⁰ Samuel Wright Thomas continued to live in Delaware and is likely that Tristram resided as a tenant on the farm he was intended to inherit. In 1836, following Samuel's Wright Thomas' death, Tristram Thomas succeeded in purchasing his late father's farm from his deceased brother's heirs.¹¹

In 1851, following Tristram Thomas' death, the Queen Anne's County Equity Court order the sale of his real and personal estate. Unfortunately, the case records do not survive, but land records reveals James Merrick purchased the 383 acre "Thomas Farm" for the sum of \$3,430.

James Merrick was also a successful Queen Anne's County farmer with substantial land holdings bordering the Thomas Farm. Federal Agricultural Production Schedules for 1850 and 1860 show Merrick's farm associated with one of the highest property values in his post office district.¹² At the time of the purchase, all of Merrick's children were residing in his home and only one son was of age so he likely rented the newly acquired Thomas Farm. Joel Thomas (1812-1892), the son of the late Tristram Thomas (d. circa 1849) appears as a likely tenant.

Joel Thomas, a former Queen Anne's County Sheriff, appears in the 1850 population census as an immediate neighbor of Merrick. His occupation is listed as "farmer", but notably is not assigned a value for "land owned". This suggests his farmland is leased. In 1858 Joel Thomas buys his late father's farm from Merrick for \$7666.¹³ This sale amount closely approximated fair market value, as the 1860 agricultural production schedule values the Thomas Farm at \$8,000. This is also the same value assigned to James Merrick's home farm. This same document assesses Thomas' personal estate at a very substantial \$30,000.¹⁴ The value of Joel Thomas' 34 slaves no doubt accounts for a significant part of this amount.

Period agricultural production schedules show both Thomas and Merrick Farms producing typical crops for this part of Maryland. In 1860 corn was by far both farmers' chief cash crop. Secondary crops included wheat and rye with potatoes, wool and butter also produced. The value of Joel Thomas and James Merrick's livestock was reported to be \$1550 and \$1600 respectively. As with other categories, these values are among the highest in the region.

Production schedules indicate that by the mid-19th century neither Thomas, Merrick, nor any of their neighbors were growing tobacco. The absence of tobacco is notable in this context as a century earlier

⁹ Land Records of Queen Anne's County, Grantee Index 1709-1852.

¹⁰ Ibid

¹¹ Land Records of Queen Anne's County JT 2 folio 29 (1836)

¹² United States Census. Schedule of Agriculture, State of Maryland, Queen Anne's County, District 1, Long Marsh Post Office. 1850, 1860. Maryland State Archives.

¹³ Land Records of Queen Anne's County Liber JP3, Folio 505 (1858)

¹⁴ Federal Productions of Agriculture, Queen Anne's County, Maryland; First Election District, Long Marsh Post Office (1860)

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tobacco was an important crop. The transition away from soil-exhausting, tobacco-based farming to rotated grain production and the gradual acceptance of "modern" agricultural practices is credited with revitalizing the region's farm economy. Prosperous farmers such as Samuel Thomas used the profits to built fashionable new homes. As the work of Sally McMurry and others show, starting in the early 19th century, progressive farm families reconfigured both the agricultural and domestic landscapes. The brick house built by Samuel Thomas can be viewed as a manifestation of this trend.¹⁵

It appears Thomas suffered a series of major personal misfortunes between 1860 and 1870, including the death of his only son in 1860. By the time of the 1870 census Joel Thomas is living in Crumpton in the household of John Sinclair (relationship unknown). The 58-year old Thomas is described as "without occupation". In 1880 Thomas is reported as living in the household of William Starkey (relationship unknown). This same document indicates he is a widower and lists his profession as "gentleman". In 1882 Joel Thomas sells his 383-acre farm to Charles H. R. Merrick, son of the late James Merrick, for \$10,000.

Merrick likely rented the newly acquired farm or turned it over to one of his children. Merrick had no personal need for the house as he had recently inherited his father's home farm and had since constructed a large Second Empire Style dwelling on the property (see Inventory form QA-445). That house is located on Goldboro Road and is clearly visible from the Thomas Farm.

In 1902, following his death, Charles H. R. Merrick's extensive holdings were divided among his children. William Royal Merrick (commonly referred to as Royal), took possession of the 383-acre property "commonly known as the Thomas Farm".¹⁶ In 2004 C. Percival Merrick and his wife, Elizabeth, sold the farm to Merrick Farm, LLC. Soon thereafter much of the property was subdivided. The approximately 170 acres located west of the house and new subdivision remains in agricultural use.

Prepared by: Sherri Marsh Johns

Date Prepared: April 2, 2008

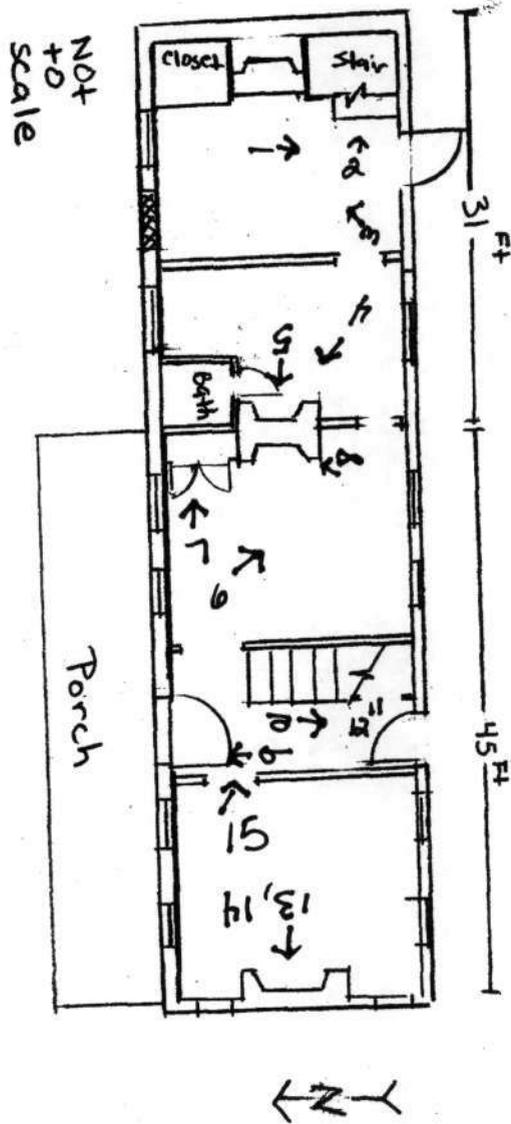
¹⁵ McMurry, Sally. *Families and Farmhouses in Nineteenth-Century America*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1988 p.4

¹⁶ Land Records of Queen Anne's County, Liber JEG Folio 15 (1902).

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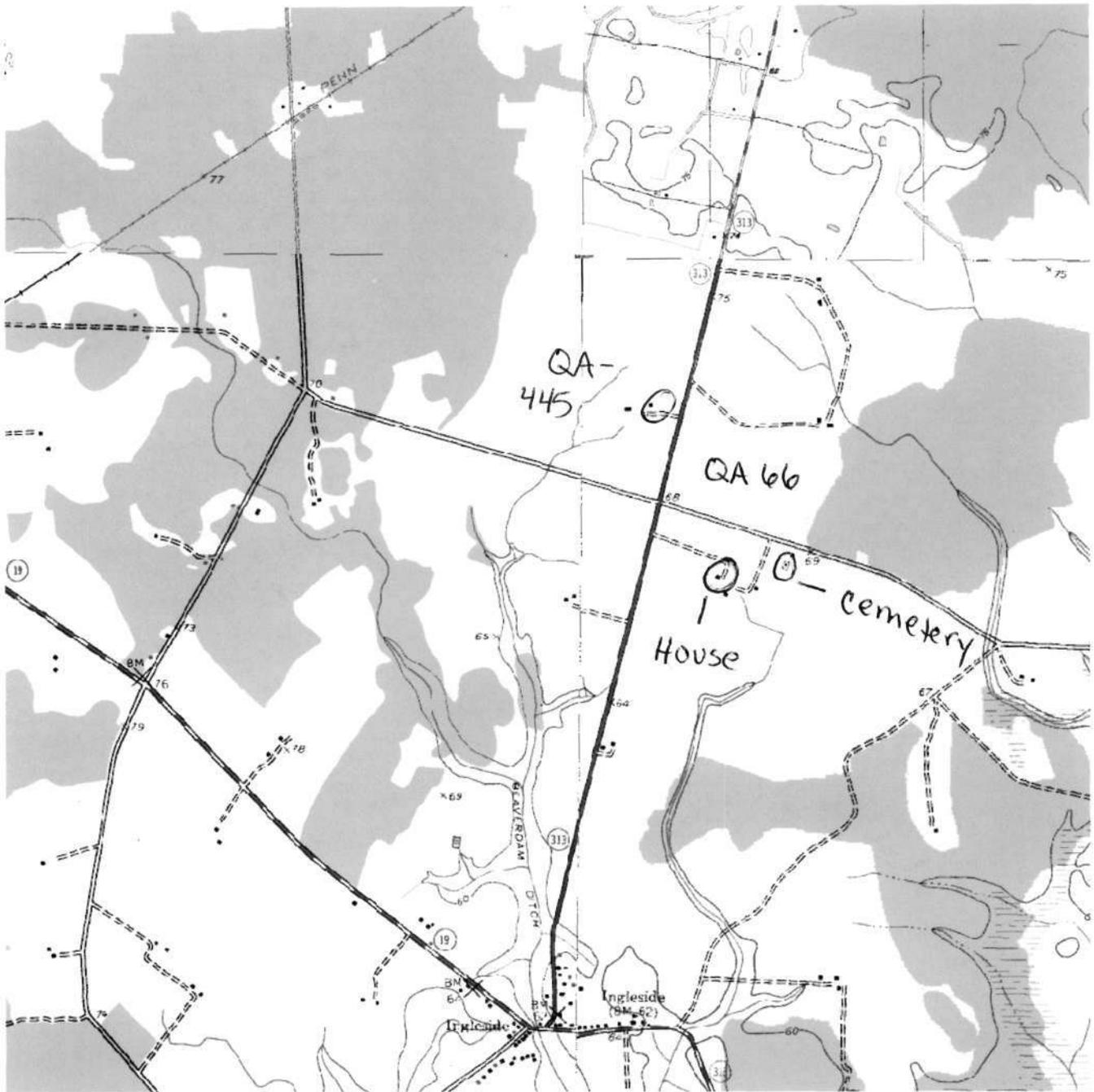


Sketch floor plan of C. P. Merrick Farmhouse/ Thomas Farmhouse. Numbers correspond with photograph locations.

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Location of C. P. Merrick Farm/ Thomas Farm (QA-66)
129 Greystone Way, Barclay, MD 21601 (current)
2251 Goldsboro Road, Barclay, MD 21601 (previous address)
USGS Quad: Price



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QA 66 C. P. Merrick FARM

Barclay Queen Anne's Co. MARYLAND

Sherri MARSH Johns

April 2008

neg. at MD SHPO

environmental setting Camera facing
SE from Merrick Corner Rd

Photo 1 of 13



QA 66 · C.P Merrick FARM
Barclay, Queen Anne's Co., MARYLAND
by Sherri Marsh Johns

April 2008

Neg. at MD SHPO

Front (north) facade

Photo 2 of 13



QA-6's C.P. Merrick FARM

Barclay Queen Anne's Co., Maryland

by Sherr. MARSH Johns

April 2008

neg. at MSHPD

Rear (south) elevation

photo 3 of 13



GA 66 C.P. Merrick FARM
Barclay, Quern Annie's Co., Maryland
by Sherr, MARSH Johns

April 2008

neg at MD SHPO

"1805" Date Brick on rear wall

photo 4 of 13



C. P. Merrick FARM QA 666
Barclay, Queen Anne's Co., Maryland
by Sherr, MARSH Johns

Neg. at MD SHPO

19th Century Dairy + 20th
Century Shed

Photo 5 of 13



QA 66 C.P. Merrick Farm

Barclay Queen Anne's Co. Maryland

by Sherri MARSH Johns

April 2008

neg. at my SHPO

Silos + Shed, Camera facing east

photo 6 of 13



QA 66 C.P Merrick FARM
Barclay, Queen Anne's Co., Maryland
by Sherr. Marsh Johns

April 2008

neg. at MD STHP

Kitchen (wing)

photo 7 of 13



QA 66 C.P. Merrick FARM
Barclay, Queen Anne's CO., MARYLAND
by Sherri MARSH Johns

April 2008

neg. at MD SHPO

Dining room with view towards
Wing

photo 8 of 13



QA 66 C.P. Merrick FARM
Barclay, Queen Anne's CO., MARYland
by Sherri MARSH Johns
April 2008

Stair
neg. at MD SHPO
photo 9 of 13



QA job P.F. Merrick FARM

Barclay, Queen Anne's Co., MARYLAND
by Sherr. MARSH Johns

April 2008

Front Door

neg. #1 1115 SHPO

photo 10 of 13



QA 66 C.P. Merrick EARL

Earl v. Queen Annes Co., Maryland

by Sherrill A. Johns

April 2008

Parlor looking toward Stair Hall

neg at 13 SHPO

photo 11 of 13



QA 66 C.P. Merrick FARM
Barclay, Queen Anne's Co., Maryland
by Sherri MARSH Johns

April 2008

Parlor facing Stair

neg at MD SHPO

photo 12 of 13



QA-66 C.F. Merrick FARM

Barclay, Queen Anne's Co., Maryland

by Sherri Marsh Johns

Apr. 2008

neg at MD SHPO

Parlor mantle

photo 13 of 13

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. QA-66

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic "Tilghman's Chance," "Tristam's Adventure," "Tristam's Ridge Corrected" etc.

other Thomas Farm, C. P. Merrick Farm (modern)

2. Location

street and number Merrick's Corners __ not for publication

city, town Ingleside x vicinity

county Queen Anne's

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

name C. Percival Merrick, Jr.

street and number telephone

city, town Denton state MD zip code 21629

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Queen Anne's County Courthouse liber TSP 19 folio 51

city, town Centreville MD 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	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	_____	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	_____	_____ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	_____	_____ objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	_____	_____ Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
				Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	

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 C. P. Merrick Farm is located on the east side of Maryland Route 313 just south of Merrick Corner Road, approximately 1 ½ miles north of Ingleside. The house sits on high ground surrounded by open cornfields. There are two small outbuildings to the south of the house and a number of farm buildings to the east.

The main house on the Merrick Farm is a large brick dwelling with an original brick wing, constructed in 1805. The house is 2 ½ stories high, five bays wide, and one room deep, with flush brick chimneys at either end of the steeply pitched gable roof. The wing projects from the east gable wall of the house. It was 1 ½ stories high, three bays wide, and extends the full depth of the main house, with a single flush chimney centered in the east gable wall. This wing was later raised to two full stories by the addition of a frame second story.

The front façade of the main house faces north, toward Merrick Corner Road. The door is located in the center bay, flanked by two 9/9 windows on each side. There are five 9/6 windows on the second floor and five cellar windows set with horizontal iron bars. The handsome six-panel door is framed with a diamond-lattice transom paneled soffit and jambs, and a paneled, pilastered door surround supporting a fine, ogee hood mold. The first and second floor window frames are set back in the masonry walls and are framed with paneled architraves employing two variations of an ogee/astragal set in opposition to one another.

The brickwork is laid in Flemish Bond above a three-course bond foundation, with no water table or belt course. At one time the façade was painted red, and may have had stenciled joints, as at Ripley (QA-55, also built in 1805). The majority of the window openings are finished with king closers, although two jambs feature queen closers on the edge of the opening rather than being set back one-half brick. The flat lintels consist of a single rowlock course; the sills are wood. The eaves are trimmed with a box cornice with a large complex crown mold and handsome complex bed mold with a Wall-of-Troy dentil course. The roof is now covered with asphalt shingles.

A one-story Victorian porch with turned posts, scalloped brackets, a turned spindle frieze, and turned balusters stretches across the entire front façade of the main house. Scars in the brickwork on either side of the door remain from an original, one story, one bay entrance porch with slanted rails, also similar to the porch evidence at Ripley.

The west gable wall of the main house is also laid in Flemish Bond above a three-course bond foundation. There are two 9/9 windows flanking the chimney on the first floor, two 9/6 windows on the second floor, and a pair of four-light windows in the upper gables. The first and second floor windows are trimmed the same as on the front facade; the third story windows have beaded and pegged frames. The eaves are finished with beaded and tapered rakeboards with an applied band of ogee/astragal molding.

The rear façade is similar to the front façade, with a central door flanked by two 9/9 windows on each side of the first floor. On the second floor, a 6/6 window is down-set in the center bay, flanked by two 9/6 windows on each side. There are five cellar windows with horizontal iron bars. The brickwork is Flemish Bond above a three-course bond foundation. Filled put-log holes are clearly visible on this façade, as well as the west and north walls. The eaves are boxed in with a large complex crown mold and bed mold. The center door is relatively low in height due to the interior stair landing. The six-panel door is set off by paneled soffit and jambs and a cross-topped architrave. Filled holes in the brick walls to left and right of the door are evidence of an original entrance porch, now replaced by a simple one-story lean-to that protects the center bay. A brick to the right of the door is inscribed "1805."

The majority of the east gable of the main house is covered by the wing. A pair of small windows in the upper gable was partially blocked when the wing was raised to two stories.

The north or front façade of the wing is flush with the façade of the main house, with no seam in the brickwork between the two buildings. An original door offset to left of center has been blocked and converted to a 6/6 window. There is one 9/6 window to the left of the door and one 6/6 to the right, at a slightly higher level, reflecting the different floor levels inside. The windows have heavy pegged wood frames with applied ogee/astragal backbands. The brickwork is entirely three-course bond. The later second story is constructed of frame with asbestos shingle siding. There are 6/6 windows in the east and west bays.

There are no openings in the east gable wall of the original wing. A pair of 6/6 windows flank the flush center chimney on the later, second story of the wing. The brickwork is laid entirely in three-course bond.

The rear façade of the wing is flush with the south wall of the main house. There is a door in the east bay and a 6/6 window in the west bay. Two 6/6 windows are similarly positioned in the later second story. The brickwork is three-course bond.

The interior of the main house consists of a center stair hall with a single room on each side. The hall is wider than usual, very much like the Paul Ward Farm (QA-94), an early 19th century house near Ruthsburg. The stair rises against the east wall of the hall to a landing at the south end, turns 90 degrees and rises two steps to a second landing, then turns 90 degrees again and continues to the

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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C.P. Merrick Farm
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second floor. It is an open-string stair on the first floor, with turned newels, square balusters and a simple molded and ramped rail. The molded carriage piece is embellished with scrolled stair brackets. A four-panel door under the landing opened onto an interior cellar stair that only partially remains. The original broken-field Federal architrave trim survives intact, but the trim and the stair are painted and grained, presumably a Victorian alteration.

The west room is dominated by a fireplace centered on the west gable wall. The mantel is a large Federal surround with chip carved, paneled pilasters and sideblocks; a reeded center block and a molded shelf with bands of vertical reeding and drillwork. The window jambs are splayed but not paneled. Other original trim includes the molded baseboard, a two-piece chairrail, and a broken field architrave trim with ogee/astragal backband moldings. A six-panel door with an early box lock opens in to the hall.

In the east room, the fireplace is centered on the east gable wall, with a four-door cupboard built in to the left and a door to the right leading to the wing. The mantel is a board surround with paneled pilasters, diamond-carved sideblocks and a plain frieze below a complex Federal shelf. The cupboard has two-panel doors above the chairrail and single-panel doors below. It is framed with a pilastered architrave, paneled below the rail. The baseboard, chairrail, architrave trim and splayed window jambs in this room are similar to the west room.

The door to the right of the fireplace in the east room opens onto two steps leading down into the west room of the wing. This room is heated by a fireplace on the west wall, sharing the east chimney of the main house. There is an enclosed winder stair to the right of the fireplace and a shallow closet to the left, between the fireplace and the door to the main house. The mantel on this fireplace is a board surround with a crosssetted backband framing the opening and a cushion frieze with a plain center block below a molded Federal shelf. To the left, a four-panel door opens onto a shallow closet with shelves. To the right, the stair rises four steps against the north wall to a four-panel door then winds up to the second floor. A second four-panel door opens into a small closet under the stair. The windows have shallow splayed jambs and broken-field architraves with an ogee backband. The original two-piece chairrail survives intact, the baseboard is modern.

A door at the south end of the east wall of this room opens into the kitchen, which is two steps lower. This room has been altered somewhat, and is relatively plain. A large chimney is centered on the east gable wall, with an enclosed stair to the right. The fireplace opening has been blocked, and any mantel has been removed.

The center passage plan is repeated on the second floor of the main house, with the usual small unheated chamber at the front of the hall. The stair continues up to the third floor, but with a closed-string carriage. The turned newel, square balusters, and simple rail are consistent with the first floor stair. The stairs, trim, and beaded board partition of the small hall chamber are all painted and grained to match the woodwork in the first floor hall.

The fireplace in the west room is offset to right of center on the west gable wall. The mantel is a board surround with paneled pilasters and sideblocks, a plain frieze and a complex shelf. The windows have plain, splayed jambs and are trimmed with broken-field architraves with ovolo-astragal backbands. A two-piece chairrail with a broken-field fascia encircles the room; the baseboard is molded. A closet has been added in the northeast corner of this room.

The fireplace in the east room is centered on the east gable wall, with a closet to the left and a door to the right opening into the wing. The mantel is similar to the west mantel but with a crosssetted backband rather than pilasters framing the opening. Both the closet door and the door to the wing are fully fielded six-panel doors. The windows have splayed jambs and broken-field architraves; a two-piece chairrail and molded baseboard encircle the room.

The second floor of the wing is divided into two small rooms above the kitchen and a larger room to the west. It seems probable that there were only two rooms before the roof was raised, duplicating the first floor plan. Enclosed winder stairs rise to the southeast corner of the southeast room and to the northwest corner of the west room.

The third story of the main house is unfinished except for the floor. The roof is constructed of hewn and pit sawn common rafters joined at the ridge with a pegged half-lap joint. Collars are half-dovetailed to each rafter pair and secured with double-struck machine nails. The stair opening is enclosed with an original partition of vertical beaded boards nailed with double-struck nails. The beaded batten attic door is constructed in a similar fashion and is hung on wrought H-L hinges secured with wrought nails, with the door hinge leaves covered by the horizontal battens. The east wall of the stair partition has been extended in the 20th century to form a separate attic room to the east.

**Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No. QA-66

C.P. Merrick Farm
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 2

Dairy

To the south of the brick wing is a small brick dairy. This building is nine feet square with a pyramidal roof. The brickwork is laid in seven-course bond with a three-course corbeled cornice. There is a beaded batten door in the center of the north wall and louvered window openings in the remaining three walls. The interior is plastered.

8. Significance

Inventory No. QA-66

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 type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input 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 1805

Architect/Builder

Construction dates 1805

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 the Merrick Farm is one of the most perfectly preserved, unrestored Federal houses in Queen Anne's County. Constructed in 1805, the house bears striking similarities to Ripley (QA-55), a comparable house built in 1805 near Church Hill. Exterior similarities include the overall plan and form, the brickwork, the surviving evidence of the early entrance porches, and the dated bricks. Interior similarities include the chip carved mantels, pilastered architrave detail, and the use of double-struck nails. A more careful comparison might identify sufficient specific matching details and craftsmanship to determine that the two houses were constructed by the same builder(s).

Individual details of interest include the handsome door surround and cornice of the front façade, the unusual exterior window architraves, and the put-log holes on the south façade. Also of interest are the mantels and stair and the broad range of interior details typical of the Federal period. As a dated house in pristine and unrestored condition, this building serves as an excellent benchmark for identifying and dating similar buildings and details elsewhere in this region.

Summary Of Title

1954 Gertrude E. Morgan to C.P. Merrick, Jr. (TSP 19, folio 51)

1954 C.P. Merrick to G.E. Morgan. 383 acres, known as "Tilghman's Chance," "Resurveyed," "Corrected," "Tristam's Adventure," "Grubby Neck," "Tristam's Ridge Corrected," "Watkin's Chance," "Widow's Folly," now commonly known as "The Thomas Farm." (TSP 19, folio 49)

1940 W. Royal Merrick to C.P. Merrick, Jr. et. al. for \$12000, 383 acres known as the "Thomas Farm." (ASG JR.3, folio 34)

1902 Anne K. Merrick to W. Royal Merrick. Deed of Partition, 383 acres. (JEG 4, folio 115)

1882 Joel Thomas to Charles H. R. Merrick, for \$10000, 383 acres. (SCD1, folio 194)

1858 James Merrick to Joel Thomas, for \$7666, 383 acres. (JP3, folio 505)

1851 Richard B. Carmichael, Trustee, to James Merrick, for \$3430, the real estate of the late Tristram Thomas, deceased, called "Tilghman's Chance Resurveyed."

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. QA-66

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 20, 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

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

"Tilghman's Chance", "Tristain's Adventure", "Tristain's Ridge

AND/OR COMMON

Corrected", etc.

Thomas Farm, C.P. Merrick Farm (modern)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Merrick's Corners

CITY, TOWN

Ingleside

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

C. Percival Merrick, Jr.

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Denton

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21629

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

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

Liber #: TSP 19

Folio #: 51

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-66

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" 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		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The C. P. Merrick Farm is located on the east side of Maryland Route 313 just south of Merrick Corner Road, approximately 1 1/2 miles north of Ingleside. The house sits on high ground surrounded by open cornfields. There are two small outbuildings to the south of the house and a number of farm buildings to the east.

The main house on the Merrick Farm is a large brick dwelling with an original brick wing, constructed in 1805. The house is 2 1/2 stories high, five bays wide, and one room deep, with flush brick chimneys at either end of the steeply pitched gable roof. The wing projects from the east gable wall of the house. It was 1 1/2 stories high, three bays wide, and extends the full depth of the main house, with a single flush chimney centered on the east gable wall. This wing was later raised to two full stories by the addition of a frame second story.

The front facade of the main house faces north, toward Merrick Corner Road. The door is located in the center bay, flanked by two 9/9

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

QA-66

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
400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
500-1599	<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
<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 1805

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The early brick house on the Merrick Farm is one of the most perfectly preserved, unrestored Federal houses in Queen Anne's County. Constructed in 1805, the house bears striking similarities to Ripley (QA-55), a comparable house built in 1805 near Church Hill. Exterior similarities include the overall plan and form, the brickwork, the surviving evidence of the early entrance porches, and the dated bricks. Interior similarities include the chip carved mantels, pilastered architrave detail, and the use of double-struck nails. A more careful comparison might identify sufficient specific matching details and craftsmanship to determine that the two houses were constructed by the same builder(s).

Individual details of interest include the handsome door surround and cornice of the front facade, the unusual exterior window architraves,

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

2/20/81

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

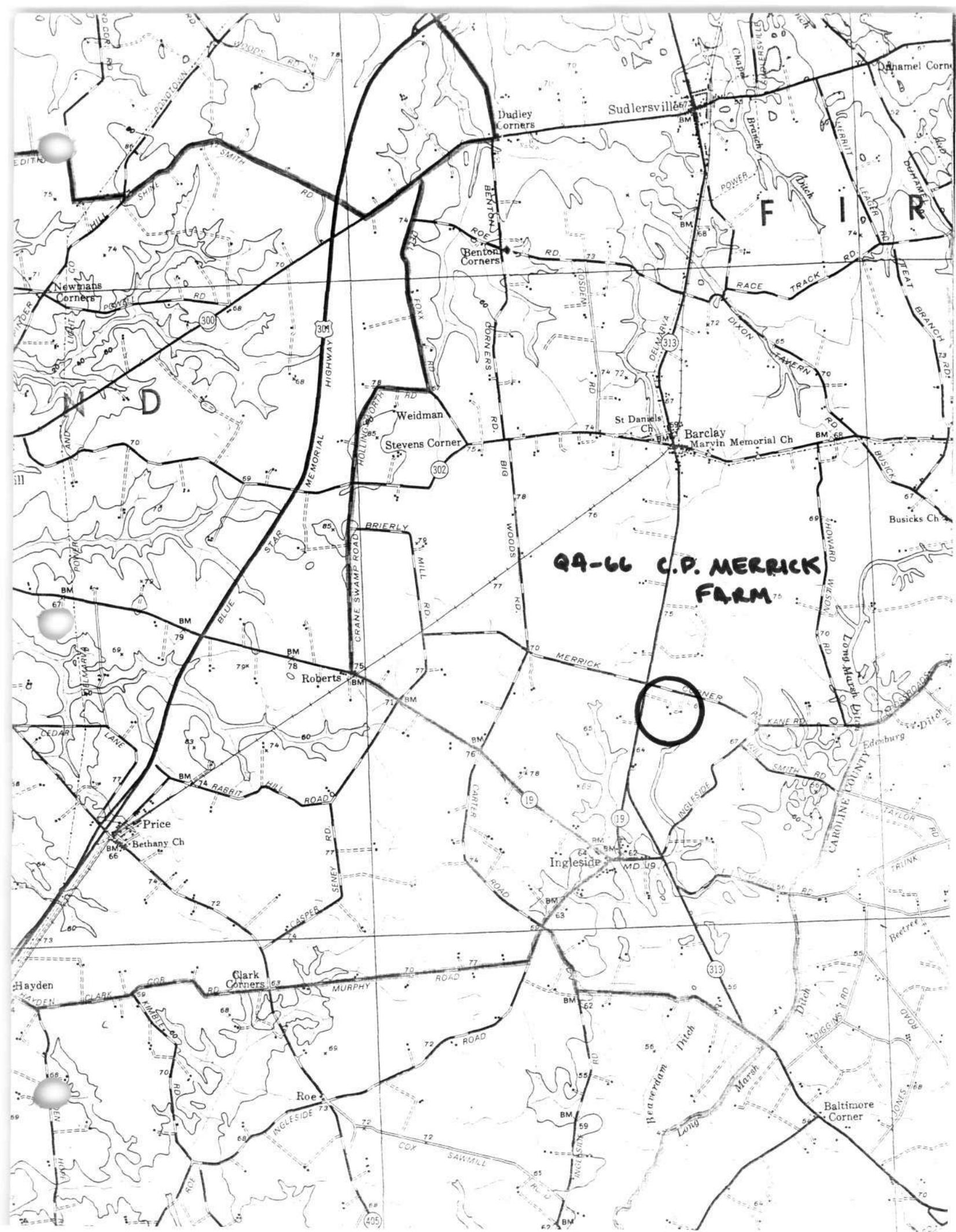
Field Notebook QA-XII; Recorded September 28, 1979.

QA-XX; Recorded October 15, 1980.

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



QA-66 C.P. MERRICK FARM

D





QA-66

C.P. Merrick Farm
Merrick Corner
Ingleside vicinity
Orlando Ridout V 1980
Front facade



QA-66

C.P. Merrick Farm
Merrick Corner
Ingleside vicinity
Orlando Ridout V 1980
View from northwest



QA-66

C.P.Merrick Farm
Merrick Corner
Ingleside vicinity
Orlando Ridout V 1980
Rear facade



QA-66

C.P. Mellick Farm #66

April 1974
JWV



Q.A.-66

C.P. Merrick farm

#66

April 1974
JWV



QA-66

C. P. Merrick Farm

#66

April 1974
JWW



QA-66

C. P. Merrick Farm

#66

April 1974
gwt



QA-66

C. P. Mellick Farm

66

J. L. Valliant

April 1974



Q.A.-666

C.P. Merrick Farm

#66

April 1974
JWV



Q.A.-66

C. P. Merrick Farm

#66

April 1974
JWU

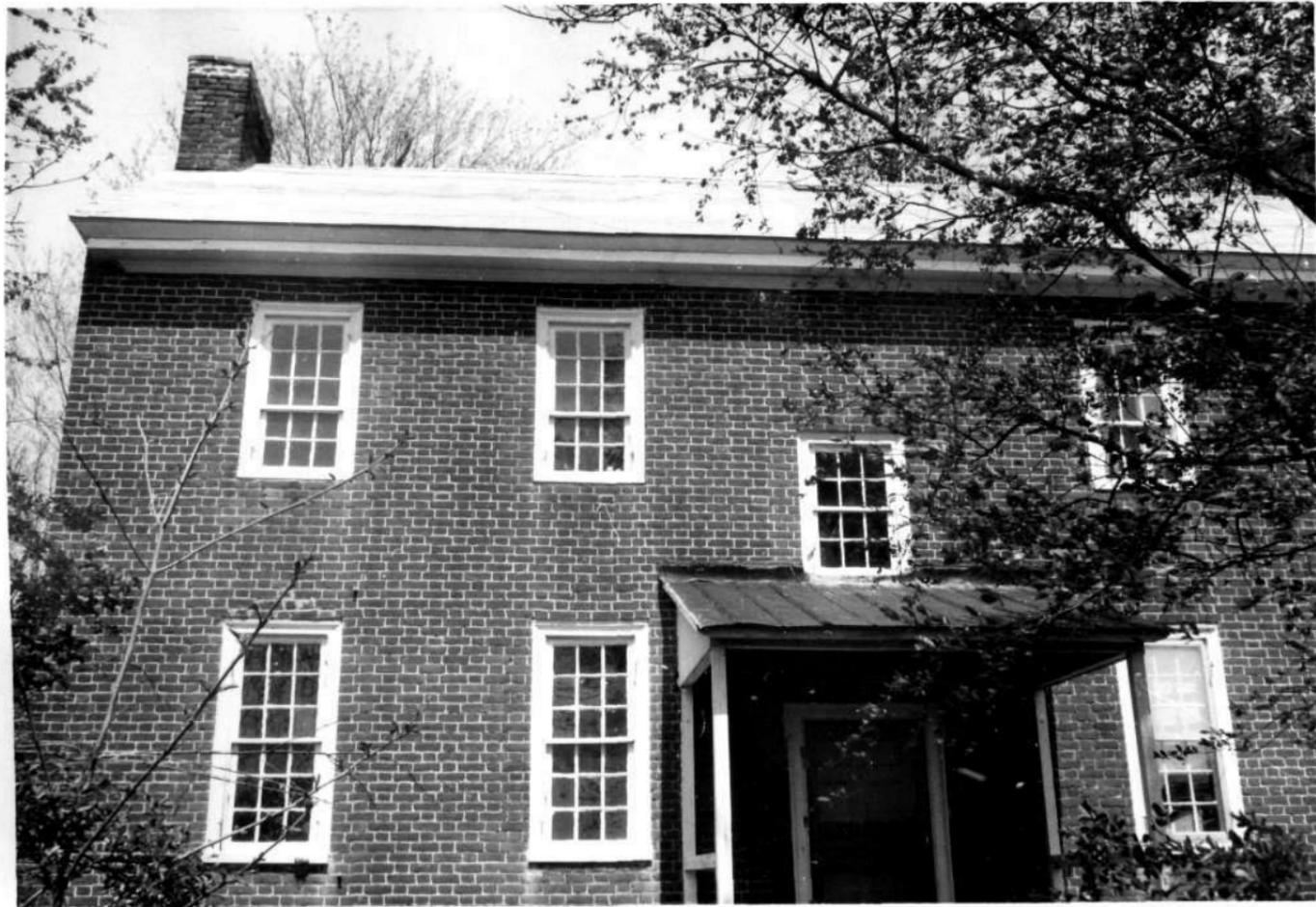


Q.A.-66

C.P. Merrick Farm

#66

April 1974
JWU



QA-66

C.P. Merrick Farm

#66

April 1974
JWV



QA-66

C.P. Merrick Farm

66

April 1974
JWW