

QA-94  
Paul Ward Farm  
Ruthsburg vicinity  
Private

circa 1815-1830

The main house on the Paul Ward farm is a very fine example of early 19th century architecture. Bearing much in common with similar two story, five bay brick houses built throughout Maryland in the late 18th and early 19th century, this particular house is notable for its very fine interior woodwork. Although mantels and trim are typical of work produced as early as the 1790's, framing evidence suggests a date for this house of circa 1815-1830.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Paul Ward farm

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

South side of Maryland Route 304 2 miles west of Ruthsburg

CITY, TOWN

Ruthsburg

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

 VICINITY OF

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 COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Paul R. Ward

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 #: CWC 13

Folio #: 594

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland 21617

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

QA-94

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED	DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED			
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Paul Ward farm is located on the south side of Maryland Route 304 about two miles east of U. S. Route 301 and two miles west of Ruthsburg. The house is brick, two stories high, five bays wide, and one room deep. Flush brick chimneys are centered at each end of the gable roof, and a smaller, two story brick wing projects from the east end of the house. The wing is three bays wide, and is set back approximately 18 inches from the front and rear walls of the main house.

The front (north) facade of the main house is laid in Flemish bond above a five-course bond foundation, while the rear facade and both gable ends are five-course bond. The wing is laid in seven-course bond, and may have been a later addition. One interesting feature found on the north facade of the main house is the omission of a series of header bricks between the first and second story windows and near the east and west end of the building. These are apparently scaffolding or "put-log" holes, left from when the building was constructed. Similar holes may be found at Great Hopes (QA-1), near Sudlersville,

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION

and at the Blue Lantern Inn (QA-148) and 120 South Commerce Street (QA-151), both in Centreville.

The principal entrance is located in the center bay of the north facade, and consists of double paneled doors with paneled soffit and jambs and a four-light transom, flanked by a pair of windows on each side. There are five windows on the second floor, and four cellar windows, one below each first floor window. Only the cellar windows retain early eight-light sash, the remaining windows have been replaced with late 19th century two-over-two sash. A small Victorian entrance porch with chamfered posts, scrolled brackets, and a shallow hip roof covers the front door.

On the west gable, a blocked-up bulkhead cellar entrance with a segmental arched lintel is located in the southeast corner, and a pair of four-light windows flank the chimney in the upper gable.

The rear facade originally had a carefully ordered five bay fenestration with a center door, but the door has been bricked up and changed to a small window. The east gable is almost completely covered by the wing, leaving two small four-light

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION

windows in the upper gable.

A box cornice with a bold ogee bed mold is carried across both facades. The gable eaves are finished with heavily weathered rakeboards that are tapered and appear to be beaded.

The upper part of the wing appears to have been either raised or rebuilt. The color of the brick changes about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet below the cornice. The seam between the two types of brick cuts through the second floor window openings, and it would appear that the wing was originally one-and-one-half stories high, with three-over-three sash on the second floor. When it was raised, the openings were enlarged, and six-over-six sash was introduced.

On the north facade, there is a central door flanked by small six-over-six windows on the first floor and similar windows located in the east and west bays on the second floor.

A six-over-six window to the left of the chimney and two four-light windows in the upper gable are the only openings on the east gable wall.

The rear facade consists of a door in the center bay and a six-over-six window in the west bay on the

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.3 DESCRIPTION

first floor and six-over-six windows in the east and west bays on the second floor.

The interior of the main house has been altered somewhat, but the original plan is still clearly discernable and most of the original woodwork remains intact. The original plan consisted of a center hall flanked by a single parlour on each side. The stair rises along the east wall to a landing at the rear. It is an open string stair with narrow turned newels and square ballusters. The railing is plain, but the stair-ends are decorated with wave-pattern brackets. The area below the stair landing at the south end of the hall has been partitioned off and turned into a modern bathroom. The original exterior door was blocked up and replaced with a small window, and a new door was cut through the original partition between the east parlour and the new bathroom.

Otherwise, the first floor is virtually intact. The woodwork is all original and of very high quality. The mantel in the west parlour is a large, highly decorated Federal surround. Delicate engaged, reeded columns support molded sideblocks and a large center block with reeded panels. These in turn support a

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.4 DESCRIPTION

molded shelf dominated by a band of vertical losenge reeding. The shelf breaks forward above the side blocks, but not in the center. The chairrail and baseboard are molded, while the window and door surrounds consist of a fascia board with the inner edge beaded, broken into two fields by a fine cyma molding, and finished with a bold ogee and astragal molding at the outer edge. This molding is standard throughout the first floor, as are paneled soffit and jambs on all window and door openings. The mantel in the east parlour consists of a large board surround, against which are applied a pair of pilasters with recessed and finely reeded panels. Both of the side blocks and a broad center block are also embellished with reeded panels. The molded shelf breaks forward above the pilasters, and is dominated by a losenge band similar to that found on the west mantel. There is a cupboard to the right of the fireplace with four paneled doors and a bold architrave. To the left of the fireplace, a door leads to the wing.

The center hall plan has remained intact on the second floor. The rooms are not as grand, but the mantels are still quite handsome. Plain pilasters

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.5 DESCRIPTION

are applied against a board surround, and support plain side blocks. A heavily molded shelf breaks forward above both the side blocks and a larger, plain center block. Chairrail, baseboard, and architraves are all molded, but the door and window openings lack the paneled soffits and jambs found on the first floor.

On the third floor, the center stair hall is flanked by an unfinished room on the east and a plastered room on the west. Machine lathing and nails were used when the west room was plastered. The roof framing is visible in the east room, and consists of hewn and sawn common rafters with collars that are half-dovetailed and nailed with machine nails.

The original cellar entrance has been blocked, and access is now gained through one of the rear cellar windows. The cellar is divided into a center hall plan, with brick walls below the first floor hall partitions. Chimney bases with arched recesses are located on each gable wall. The center room has been screened off with a ventilated slat partition to form a root and vegetable store room. Of particular interest are the floor joists which are hewn and pit sawn, and far more massive than necessary.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

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 main house on the Paul Ward farm is a very fine example of early 19th century architecture. Bearing much in common with similar two story, five bay brick houses built throughout Maryland in the late 18th and early 19th century, this particular house is notable for its very fine interior woodwork. Although mantels and trim are typical of work produced as early as the 1790's, framing evidence suggests a date for this house of circa 1815-1830.

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QA-94

**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

1/29/79

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



PAUL WARD FARM  
QA-94

SIXTH

EVILLE

Curville

Hope

Mt Olive Ch

Ruthsburg

Starr

Asbury Ch

Wiloughby

QUEEN ANNE

TALBOT COUNTY

KENTVILLE HIGHWAY  
301

304

481

309

481

404

Branch

Run  
CLANBY LANA  
neen Anne  
puty H.S.

ROLLING  
HIGHWAY  
BIRNTH

BACK

STARR

ROAD

SUNNING

HALL

CHARLES

BOYLES

EASTERN

WILLOUGHBY

TALBOT COUNTY

QUEEN ANNE

WILLOUGHBY

TALBOT COUNTY

QUEEN ANNE

QUEEN ANNE

QA-94  
Passward Farm

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





QA-94 Paul Ward Farm  
Ruthsbury vicinity Md.  
Orlando Ridout V, 1978 (MHT)  
Front facade, camera facing SW

SP



QA-94 Paul Ward Farm  
Ruthsburg vicinity, Md.  
Orlando Ridout V, 1978 (MHT)  
West Gable, camera facing East