

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

Property Name: Alfred Tull House Inventory Number: S-271
Address: East Side of Tulls Corner Road. Vicinity of Tulls Corner. Historic district: ___ yes no
City: Marion Zip Code: 21838 County: Somerset
USGS Quadrangle(s): Marion
Property Owner: Private Tax Account ID Number: Unknown
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): Unknown Tax Map Number: Unknown
Project: Proposed Tower Site: Marion, Somerset County, Maryland Agency: Maryland Dept. of Budget and Management
Agency Prepared By: A.D. Marble & Company
Preparer's Name: Stephanie Foell and Stacey Streett Date Prepared: 3/21/2005
Documentation is presented in: Proposed Tower Site: Marion, Somerset County, Maryland
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ___ Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property: _____
Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: ___ yes Listed: ___ yes
Site visit by MHT Staff ___ yes no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Architectural Description

Please refer to MIHP Form S-271 for 1987 survey information.

The Alfred Tull House (S-271) is located on the east side of Tulls Corner Road, in the vicinity of Tulls Corner crossroads. The building faces west and it is oriented on a north-south axis. It was constructed circa 1880. It is a two-story, Victorian farmhouse with a center hall plan. The building is three bays wide by two rooms deep, and a two-story, two-bay-by-one-room-deep, side-gable service wing extends from the southeast elevation. A one-story, shed-roof porch is adjacent to the southeast elevation of the service wing. A cross gable dominates the symmetrical façade and remaining elevations. A brick pier foundation supports the building.

Full-width, screened, first-story porches are located on the façade and the southwest elevation. A flat roof supported by chamfered posts top the porches, and decorative brackets adorn the eaves.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ___ Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:

Andrew Lewis
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

1/7/05
Date

Peter Z. Kuntz
Reviewer, National Register Program

4/7/05
Date

200500858

The appearance of the porches has been altered since the Alfred Tull House was first surveyed in 1987 (MIHP Form S-271). At that time, the craftsmanship of the decorative sawnwork and brackets was a prominent feature of the porches. The main entrance is in the center of the façade on the first story, and side entrances are located on the south elevation.

Asbestos siding sheaths the residence. Fenestration consists of four-over-four sash windows.

A clipped-gable, hipped roof tops the building. The eaves are finished with a boxed cornice. Asphalt shingles cover the roof. Slightly arched attic windows light the gables. Twin, interior brick chimney stacks rise from the center of the ridge.

A side-gable, frame shed is located north of the residence. It is supported by masonry piers. A large, mature deciduous tree is located in front of the façade. Heavily wooded land is located northeast of the property, and agricultural fields extend beyond the residence to the east and south.

The interior of the residence was not seen.

Significance

Introduction

Marion, located in Somerset County, Maryland, is situated approximately six miles north of Crisfield. Marion is a small crossroads community that was established in the middle of the nineteenth century with the construction of the earliest residences. The town developed gradually throughout the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Buildings more than 50 years of age in the Marion vicinity are generally in fair to poor condition. Many of the buildings in the commercial corridor have been altered, most substantially. The busy, four-lane Crisfield Highway (Route 413) bisects Marion and intrudes substantially on the historic character of the town, most notably on the commercial area.

Residential areas radiate out from the commercial area. The residences located closest to the commercial area are generally located along side streets and are closely spaced. However, moving outward from the commercial area, the residences are located on large parcels of land, many of which are actively cultivated. Primary crops include soybeans and corn. Modern poultry farming enterprises are also present.

The earliest buildings in Marion date to the middle of the nineteenth century. The majority of the buildings more than 50 years of age date from the early years of the twentieth century. However, numerous mobile homes and residences constructed within the last 30 years are located in the area.

The topography of Marion is generally flat with substantial stands of trees and forests as well as fields.

History of Marion

Marion is located in what was once a thriving agricultural region. Consequently, it grew into one of the larger villages within Somerset County during the second half of the nineteenth century. John C. Horsey donated a portion of his land for the railroad right-of-way, and in exchange he was allowed to name the resulting town after his daughter Marion. The village served the needs of the surrounding agricultural community. The 1877 Hopkins Atlas shows two carpenter shops, two blacksmiths, and two wagon shops in the town. A general store was located in Marion, and several churches were also established there. Approximately ten residences were located in Marion at this time. Later development was focused on areas south and east of the village.

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Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

Strawberries were one of the most important crops grown in Marion as well as other parts of Somerset County. An auction to establish the best possible market prices for strawberries was initiated in Marion in 1911. The auction was soon moved to the neighboring town of Princess Anne. Marion's strawberry crop was sent by rail car to urban markets, including Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York. By the mid 1920s, many farmers had started to raise broiler chickens, and the long chicken houses became a common site in Marion and surrounding areas. Around the same time, soybeans became a popular crop among farmers. Depression-era government subsidies encouraged their cultivation, and the crop became even more widespread during World War II, when the need for soybean oil increased government incentives. Today, soybeans and corn are the most prominent crops on the landscape.

In 1914, the Bank of Marion was established. The same year, the organization constructed a new bank building in Marion. The simple building was typical of bank buildings constructed in small towns during this era. The establishment served the other merchants and farmers in the town. It is a good example of classically inspired bank architecture, and is part of the Marion Historic District.

By the end of the first quarter of the twentieth century, Marion suffered a period of decline. References generally point to the growth and prominence of Crisfield and Princess Anne as reasons for Marion's cessation of growth. Today, Marion has a high level of unemployment. Many residents commute to jobs in Salisbury.

Architectural Resources in Marion

The earliest residences in Marion date from the middle of the nineteenth century. The houses are primarily modest, typical vernacular farmhouses, often two stories in height with narrow facades. All of the earliest houses have been abandoned and many are in danger of collapse.

Vernacular farmhouses continued to be built in Marion into the first quarter of the twentieth century. I-houses were commonly constructed in the early years of the twentieth century. Many have steeply pitched cross gables superimposed onto the traditional I-house form. Farmhouses of this form are common throughout Maryland. Another prevalent form is a two-story folk Victorian form with a projecting, two-story, three-bay form extending from the façade. This form is commonly seen throughout the Chesapeake Bay area, most notably in Talbot and Somerset Counties. In some cases, the families have moved from the original farmhouses into trailer homes located directly next to the older home. Those that continue to function as residences have been substantially altered.

The majority of buildings more than 50 year of age in Marion date to the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Houses on smaller lots were the residences of those involved with the commercial activities of the town, such as banking. The houses located further from the center of town are generally larger farmhouses. The larger agricultural plots of land that contain these farmhouses generally lack agricultural buildings or outbuildings associated with agricultural practices. In a few cases, farmsteads contain poultry houses of recent construction dates.

Residences on a small segment of Charles Cannon Road are vernacular interpretations of styles and forms more commonly associated with streetcar suburbs of the early twentieth centuries. Some of these include Folk Victorian residences and American Foursquares. These are all on small parcels of land.

The residences which date from the 1930s and 40s are primarily modest cottages, most with enclosed porches. Trailers were placed throughout residential parcels in Marion during the 1960s and 70s. Today, small ranch houses constructed from the 1980s through

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Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

the present day are prevalent and comprise much of the residential building stock in the vicinity. Other new residences are larger vacation homes along the Big Annemessex River.

Six churches are in the vicinity of Marion. Four are modest frame chapels in the more agrarian portions of the APE. One is a larger brick Gothic Revival church. The Marion Baptist Church is the largest, and at one time perhaps the most impressive building in the town. It is a large brick building with characteristics of the Colonial Revival style, including an impressive portico. All are typical examples of sacred architecture found in the Mid-Atlantic.

The commercial architecture of Marion is typical of what is found in small communities throughout Maryland. There are two, small bank buildings and several small shops. The majority of the buildings have been altered, and approximately 35 percent are vacant and abandoned. Two rail-related buildings are in Marion, a freight station and a passenger station. Both buildings have been altered for use as retail space.

Determination of Eligibility

The property was evaluated for eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. According to the National Register:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. that are associated with the lives of significant persons in our past; or
- C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. that have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.

The Alfred Tull House is a typical example of a vernacular farmhouse in Marion. The front-facing cross gable is commonly seen on rural examples of Victorian-era architecture throughout Maryland. The building's integrity has been severely compromised by alterations and the removal of character-defining features. The house is clad in asbestos siding. Since the 1987 survey, the side porch has been enclosed. Most notably, decorative brackets and sawnwork on both the front and side porches have been removed.

The Alfred Tull House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. It is not associated with significant events that contributed to the history of Marion and is not eligible under Criterion A. Alfred Tull, the original owner of the property, does not appear to be a significant person in the history of Marion; therefore the property is not eligible under Criterion B. The house is a typical example of a vernacular residence constructed in the late nineteenth century. The property has suffered a loss of integrity of materials, design, and workmanship. Consequently, it is not eligible under Criterion C. The property was not evaluated under Criterion D.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:

 Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

 Reviewer, National Register Program Date

Bibliography

Maryland's Historic Somerset. Princess Anne, Maryland: Board of Education, 1969.

Maryland Historical Trust. Maryland Inventory of Historic Property Forms and National Register of Historic Places Forms for Marion and surrounding areas of southern Maryland.

Touart, Paul Baker. Somerset; An Architectural History. Annapolis: Maryland Historical Trust and Somerset County Historical Trust, Inc., 1990.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

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MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

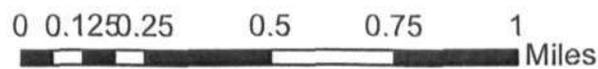


34



Alfred Tull House (S-271)
Vicinity of Tull's Corner

USGS Quadrangle, Marion
Marion, Somerset County, Maryland





MIHP# S-271

Alfred Tull House

Somerset County, MD

Stacey Streett

March 2005

MD SHPO

Overview of property, taken from east side of
Tulls Corner Rd.

1/3



MIHP # S-271

Alfred Tull House

Somerset County, MD

Stacey Street

March 2005

MD SHPO

Southwest corner, view of porch from
east side of Tull's Corner Rd.

2/3



MEHP # S-271
Alfred Tull House
Somerset County, MD

Stacey Streett

March 2005

MD SHPO

South elevation, taken from
the north side of Whittington Rd.

3/3

S-271
Alfred Tull House
Tulls Corner
private

c. 1880

The Alfred Tull house, built c. 1880, is an interesting variation of the typical center hall county farmhouse with its ^{clipped gable}~~gabled~~ roof and decorative porches. Double leaf doors open into a center stairhall that is flanked by a room to each side. A plain two-story service wing extends to the rear. Standing within a short distance of the Tulls Corner crossroads, this Victorian farmhouse is one of four nineteenth-century dwellings that distinguish the immediate vicinity.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. S-271

Magi No. 2002715604

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

ALFRED
historic Tull House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number East Side MD 357, Tulls Corner Road not for publicationcity, town Tulls Corner vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Allan and Louise Blake

street & number Rt. 1, Box 278 telephone no.:

city, town Marion state and zip code Md. 21838

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset Clerk of Court liber

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio

city, town Princess Anne state Md. 21853

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. S-271

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

^{ALTERED}
The ~~AT~~ Tull house stands on the east side of MD 357 due south of Marion near Tulls Corner, Somerset County, Maryland. Facing west the squarish two-story house is covered by a hip roof with the ridge oriented on a north/south axis.

The c.1880 center hall house is supported by a brick pier foundation and is sheathed with asbestos over weatherboards. The medium sloped asphalt roof is marked by three gables; on the north, south and east sides. Extending eastward is a shorter two-story service wing.

The west (main) elevation is a symmetrical three-bay facade with a center heavily molded double door topped by a two-light transom. The first and second floors are lighted by two over two sash windows, and the front gable is pierced by a two over two sash with a slightly arched header. The first floor is covered by a flat-roofed porch supported by chamfered posts and decorated with sawnwork and brackets. A pair of brick chimneys rises from the central portion of the house while flanking the stair hall.

The south elevation is a two-bay facade with a side entrance squeezed between the two first floor windows. The second floor and attic are lighted by identical windows, and the same Victorian porch stretches across the first floor.

The east elevation of the main house is largely covered by a shorter two-story two-bay by one-room service wing that is finished in a plain manner with a medium pitched roof, boxed cornice and two over two sash windows. A partially glazed side door is located between the two windows on the south side. Covering the east end of the kitchen wing is a single-story shed addition.

The north end of the main house has two 2/2 sash windows on each floor and a single 2/2 attic light with an arched header.

The interior has been remodeled somewhat with board paneling, but the essential interior elements of mantels, doors, ^{and} baseboard remain largely intact.

8. Significance

Survey No. S-271

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"/> 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or
Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

ALFRED

The ~~X~~ Tull house, built c. 1880, is an interesting variation of the typical center hall county farmhouse with its gabled hip roof and decorative porches. Standing within a short distance of the Tull Corner Crossroads, this house is one of four 19th-century dwellings that distinguish the immediate vicinity.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. S-271

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Marion

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

Zone	Easting			Northing					

B

Zone	Easting			Northing					

C

Zone	Easting			Northing					

D

Zone	Easting			Northing					

E

Zone	Easting			Northing					

F

Zone	Easting			Northing					

G

Zone	Easting			Northing					

H

Zone	Easting			Northing					

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Touart - Architectural Historian

organization Somerset County Historical Trust date 4/22/85

street & number 424 N. Somerset Avenue telephone 651-0077

city or town Princess Anne state Md. 21853

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438



S-271
~~Handwritten Tull House~~
 Tull House
 Marion, MD Quadrangle, 1972

HUDSON CORNER 2.7 MI.

4209

4207

4206000m N.

38°00'

430 47'30" 431 432 433 434000m E 75°45'

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1975



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Primary highway, hard surface _____
- Secondary highway, hard surface _____
- Trails _____
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface _____
- Unimproved road _____

- Interstate Route
- U. S. Route
- State Route

(SAXIS)
5859 1 NW

MARION, MD.
 N3800—W7545/7.5

1972

AMS 5860 III SE—SERIES V8330



Al Tull House

S-271

Tulls Corner vicinity, Somerset Co., Md.

Southwest Elevation

3/85, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg./Md. Historical Trust



ALRED

At Tull House

Tulls Corner, Somerset County

South Porch

4/85, Photographer, Paul Touart

Neg./Md. Historical Trust

S-271



ALFRED

At Tull House

S-271

Tulls Corner, Somerset County

Northwest Elevation

4/85, Photographer, Paul Touart

Neg/Md. Historical Trust