

SM-192
JUBILEE FARM
Valley Lee
Private

19th century

A two-story frame house, Jubilee Farm typifies the kind of dwelling erected by prosperous 19th century farmers in St. Mary's County. It was built on land that was once part of the estate of William Clark Somerville of Mulberry Fields, who inherited it from his father. Somerville sold the Mulberry Fields estate to two Philadelphians and later it was broken into smaller farms. In 1860 Margaret Hutchison and Martha Corbally bought Jubilee Farm. They gained notoriety in the county because of their Union sympathies, which involved activities related to the Underground Railroad.

1901925304

Form 10-300
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | |
|------------------|------|
| STATE: | |
| COUNTY: | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| | |

1. NAME

COMMON: *Jubilee Farm, originally Blake Creek and later Black Acre.*

AND/OR HISTORIC: *Black Creek, Black Acre*

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: *(Mulberry Field Road)
On Blake Creek in the Second Election District of Saint*

CITY OR TOWN: *Mary's County,
Valley Lee*

STATE: *Maryland* CODE: COUNTY: *Saint Mary's* CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|---|---|---|--|
| District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> | Public <input type="checkbox"/> | Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> | Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> | Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Object <input type="checkbox"/> | Both <input type="checkbox"/> | Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> | Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) | | | |
| Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Government <input type="checkbox"/> | Park <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> | Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> | Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Educational <input type="checkbox"/> | Military <input type="checkbox"/> | Religious <input type="checkbox"/> | Comments <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> | Museum <input type="checkbox"/> | Scientific <input type="checkbox"/> | |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: *Vice Admiral and Mrs. Felix Johnson*

STREET AND NUMBER: *Jubilee Farm, Leonardtown, Md 20650*

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: *St. Mary's County Courthouse*

STREET AND NUMBER: *Washington Street and Courthouse Drive*

CITY OR TOWN: *Leonardtown, Md* STATE: CODE:

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> | Good <input type="checkbox"/> | Fair <input type="checkbox"/> | Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> | Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> | Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| INTEGRITY | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | Altered <input type="checkbox"/> | Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> | Moved <input type="checkbox"/> | Original Site <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This property was originally granted to Richard Bennett and by him "assigned and made over" to Richard Watson who "died without heirs" whereby the land became escheat. Then in 1737 this land called "Blake Creek" and containing "two hundred and forty acres, more or less" was granted to John Junnehill of Saint Mary's County.

Later in 1767 the listed name of this property was changed to "Black Acre" and this was undoubtedly an error in transcribing "Blake Creek" from the tax roll of the previous year. About 1774 "Black Acre" passed into the hands of John Somerville and became a part of the plantation called "Montalbion". Later it was owned by William Somerville, and William Clarke Somerville, son and grandson of John.

Blake Creek Farm then passed through the hands of Benjamin Jones and of Griffith Evans--both of Philadelphia. In 1832 Griffith Evans sold the land to Mr. Bennett Fenwick of Saint Mary's County. A survey made at this time disclosed that the parcel contained 278 rather than 240 acres as previously believed.

Legend has it that at about this time the first part of the house was built and that it consisted of just one room which is the present library.

Bennett Fenwick sold the land to Leonard Neale in 1850 for \$3000. In 1860 Neale sold it to John M. Springer for \$5100 who on the same day conveyed it to Beale Keibard for \$6500. The next month it was sold to Margaret Hutchinson and Martha Corbally. These ladies are reputed to have been Northern sympathizers and to assisted slaves from Virginia to reach the North.

The ladies owned the place throughout the Civil War and then lost it through foreclosure of mortgage.

The land then passed through the hands of Groom, Knight and Constable; Noah Downs 1873, William Downs 1873; John and George Combs 1879; James W. Bean 1892. Lewis and Benjamin Springer seem to have been part owners with Bean for a time but Bean finally acquired full ownership. After his death in 1935 there were so many heirs that it was necessary to have a trustees sale to dispose of the property and on 14 March 1935 it was purchased by Colonel and Mrs. W.G. Fay of Mulberry Fields. The land had been divided in 1893 and in 1946 Mrs. Fay conveyed the property to the present owners.

4 of 138 acres
Additions had been made to the house in 1850 and 1910. It was further extended and rebuilt in 1951.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Pre-Columbian <input type="checkbox"/> | 16th Century <input type="checkbox"/> | 18th Century <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 20th Century <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15th Century <input type="checkbox"/> | 17th Century <input type="checkbox"/> | 19th Century <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/> | Education <input type="checkbox"/> | Political <input type="checkbox"/> | Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/> | Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> | Religion/Phi- losophy <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Historic <input type="checkbox"/> | Industry <input type="checkbox"/> | Science <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> | Invention <input type="checkbox"/> | Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Art <input type="checkbox"/> | Landscape <input type="checkbox"/> | Social/Human- itarian <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> | Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> | Theater <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Communications <input type="checkbox"/> | Literature <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Conservation <input type="checkbox"/> | Military <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| | Music <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

The only significance possessed by Jubilee is its long association with Colonial Maryland and with Mulberry Fields.

Piney Point quad of 7.5 min. map.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

~~Register of Deeds Office, Saint Mary's County.
Sand Records in Hall of Records, Annapolis, Md.~~

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | | O R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE | | | | |
|--|----------|---------|---------|---------|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | | | | LONGITUDE | | | | |
| | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds |
| NW | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " |
| NE | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " |
| SE | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " |
| SW | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " |

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Vice Admiral Felix Johnson, Vice Adm., USNavy (Ret)

ORGANIZATION: _____ DATE: _____

STREET AND NUMBER:
Jubilee Farm,

CITY OR TOWN: *Annapolis, Md.* STATE: _____ CODE: _____

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SM-192, Jubilee Farm
St. Mary's County
Addendum

Contributing Resource Count: 1

Situated on a knoll overlooking Blake Creek and the Potomac River, Jubilee Farm is c. 1850s farmhouse located near Valley Lee, Maryland. The house is approached on a 1.2 mile long dirt drive (entered via Beauvue Road) lined with a tobacco barn, granary, corn crib, tenant house, and a board and batten workshed. Most of these buildings were erected in the mid-twentieth century. Oriented on a northeast/southwest axis, the dwelling is surrounded by 126 acres of agricultural fields largely used for hay.

The Jubilee Farm House was originally a two story, two bay, frame dwelling with a gable roof and a one-and-a-half story, two bay gable end ell. Since its initial construction, several additions, including the construction of a sun room, and two, gable end ells, have been attached to the house. The house rests on a brick pier foundation with brick infill. The walls are covered with thick and wide board clapboard fastened to a hewn, braced frame with cut and wire nails. Notably, the clapboard is also mitred together at all corners. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The primary or northeast elevation consists of four distinct sections erected during three different building periods. These sections include the c. 1850 two story, two bay main block with the one-and-a-half story ell attached to its southeast gable end. In 1910, a one-and-a-half story ell was added to the northwest gable end. A northeast angled, one story, two bay wing was later attached in c. 1941 to the ell on the southeast side. The two story main block features a modest pedimented portico, supported by square posts that shades a four panel wood door. The main block also features a six-over-six, double hung sash window on the first floor. Immediately above these bays are two, six-over-six windows. The southeast ell displays two, six-over-six windows. Above these bays are two flush face, gable dormers--each dormer with six-over-six windows. The c. 1910 northwest gable end addition features a pair of small windows--a two-over-one window and a four pane casement window. The half story above features a single, six pane casement window. The c. 1941 southeast ell features two, six-over-six double hung sash windows.

The southeast elevation is largely dominated by the gable end of the 1941 wing. A centrally located six-over-window is the only opening on this section. A modern, exterior end, brick chimney rises at the juncture of the 1941 wing and the original ell. The gable end of the c. 1850 ell features a three part sash window consisting of a central eight-over-eight section flanked on either side by a four-over-four sash.

The southwest or creekside elevation is the most altered side of the house. The original fenestration of the two story main block is obscured by a one story sun room with a shed roof. The sun room's walls consist of a series of horizontally attenuated casement windows. A door located on the southeast side of the sunroom permits entry into the addition. Evidence of the original window and door opening survive and can be seen in the sun room. The fenestration of the ell has also been altered. A large, three part picture window has replaced the original two bays. Above this picture window are a pair of flush face gable dormers--each with a six-over-six window. The 1941 wing features a six-over-six window and a three part window consisting of a central eight-over-eight sash flanked on either side by a two-over-two sash. The c. 1910 addition features a six-over-six window on the first floor and a six pane fixed sash on the half story above.

SM-192, Jubilee Farm
St. Mary's County
Page 2, Addendum

The northwest elevation is largely dominated by the gable end of the c. 1910 addition. The fenestration consists of a six-over-six window and a covered doorway. The half story above features a six-over-six window. A brick chimney flue, located at the juncture of the addition and the original main block, is also visible on this elevation.

The interior plan has been extensively altered obscuring its original organization and layout. No original mantles, window or door surrounds, and finishes appear to survive. Evidence found in the main section and ell suggest that the two sections were once separated by a load bearing wall which has since been removed. Hewn beams were used for most major framing members, the rafters were skinned logs butted at the roof peak, and the first floor joists were skinned logs that lapped over a large hewn sill.

Blueprints for the 1941 changes to Jubilee Farm survive. The project was undertaken by noted architect Gertrude Sawyer. Sawyer was hired by the Johnson family to make several alterations to the original dwelling. Sawyer, working out of Washington, D.C., had also worked on a number of other area dwellings including Sotterley (SM-7), Mulberry Fields (SM-1), as well as the mansion and grounds at Jefferson Patterson Park in Calvert County. Further research on this noted architect and her work in St. Mary's County is necessary to place the renovation of Jubilee Farm into a larger context.



SM-192

Jubilee Farm



SH-192

Jubilee Farm

St. Mary's County, MD

Kirk Rancetta

chd SHPO

Nov/99

N elevation

1 of 3



SM-192

Jubilee Farm

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzetta

Md SHPO

Nov/99

Tenant House - looking N

2 of 2



SM-192

Jubilee Farm

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzetta

Md SHPO

Nov/99

Selevation

3 of 3



S.M. - 192 Jubilee Farm