

Capsule Summary  
SM-792  
Oaklea Farmhouse  
Leonardtown  
Private

circa 1890

Lying at the end of a long dirt farm lane, the Oaklea Farmhouse represents one of the better appointed dwellings erected in the county during the late-nineteenth century. Constructed circa 1890, the two story, five bay, single-pile, center passage plan dwelling features a gable roof and a one-and-a-half story rear kitchen ell. While sharing many of the characteristics of construction with its contemporaries in the county, the house is set apart by its elaborately bracketed eave. Placed only on the southwest façade, the brackets reveal how the original builders wished to express the prosperity of the occupants or owners. Aside from this detail, the dwelling's architectural details reveal how many of the county's farmers began using pre-manufactured building components in the late-nineteenth century.



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## 7. Description

Inventory No. SM-792

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### Condition

excellent       deteriorated  
 good             ruins  
 fair               altered

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

The Oaklea Farmhouse is approached via a long dirt drive that extends to the northeast of Fairgrounds Road. The dirt drive lies approximately 100 yards southeast of the intersection of Fairgrounds and Point Lookout Roads. The 47.64 acre parcel is characterized by flat cultivated fields separated by a number of tree and brush lines. Aside from the main house, which lies on a southwest/northeast axis, the property also contains an early twentieth century tobacco barn. The property is bounded by a large ravine to the north, by Point Lookout Road to the west, by Fairgrounds Road to the southwest, and by a wooded lot to the west and north.

The Oaklea Farmhouse, constructed circa 1890 is a two-story, five bay, center-passage, single-pile, frame house with a gable roof and a rear kitchen ell. Resting on a continuous brick foundation, the exterior walls are covered with German siding fastened to the frame with cut nails. Raised seam metal clads the roof which is pierced by two interior end, corbelled brick chimney flues.

The primary or southwest façade, which directly faces the main farm drive, features five symmetrically placed bays on the first and second floors. Shaded by a porch, the first floor is pierced by a central four-pane-over-three-panel door flanked on either side by two six-over-six windows. The second floor features a central bay with a four-over-four window flanked on either side by two six-over-six windows. Lines visible in the clapboard below the central bay suggest that a door or larger window was once present in this position. The building's broad eaves are elaborated by a series of scroll sawn brackets.

The rear or northeast side of the house is distinguished by the presence of a one-and-a-half story kitchen ell erected simultaneously with the house. The northeast side of the ell is pierced on its attic story by two six-over-six windows. The roof of the kitchen is pierced by a corbelled, brick chimney flue. The northeast side of the main house is pierced on the first floor by a centrally positioned door flanked to the west by two six-over-six windows. The second floor fenestration consists of a modern window immediately above the first floor door accompanied by two six-over-six windows. The eaves on the rear side of the house do not exhibit scroll sawn brackets.

The northwest side of the rear kitchen ell is pierced by a door and six-over-six window, while the northwest side of the main house has been left unfenestrated.

No other elevations were observed.

# 8. Significance

Inventory No. SM-792

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" 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 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	Architect/Builder
<b>Construction dates</b>	

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.)

Lying at the end of a long dirt farm lane, the Oaklea Farmhouse represents one of the better appointed dwellings erected in the county during the late-nineteenth century. Constructed circa 1890, the two story, five bay, single-pile, center passage plan dwelling features a gable roof and a one-and-a-half story rear kitchen ell. While sharing many of the characteristics of construction with its contemporaries in the county, the house is set apart by its elaborately bracketed eave. Placed only on the southwest façade, the brackets reveal how the original builders wished to express the prosperity of the occupants or owners. Aside from this detail, the dwelling’s architectural details reveal how many of the county’s farmers began using pre-manufactured building components in the late-nineteenth century.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. SM-792

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Hammett, Regina Combs. History of St. Mary's County, Maryland: 1634-1990. Ridge, Md: Self-published, 1994.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property	<u>47.64 acres</u>	
Acreage of historical setting	<u>47.64 acres</u>	
Quadrangle name	<u>Hollywood</u>	Quadrangle scale: <u>1:24 000</u>

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The property is bounded by a large ravine to the north, by Point Lookout Road to the west, by Fairgrounds Road to the southwest, and by a wooded lot to the west and north. A more specific description of the properties boundaries can be found in St. Mary's County Land Records Liber MRB 515, Folio 336.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

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name/title	Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	St. Mary's County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	August, 2000
street & number	22740 Washington Street	telephone	301-475-4662
city or town	Leonardtown	state	Maryland

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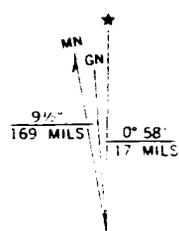
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

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

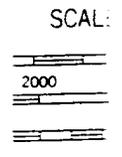


Prepared and published by the Geological Survey  
 U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
 Photogrammetric methods from aerial  
 photography in 1961. Field checked 1963  
 Graphic data compiled from NOS chart 553 (1962)  
 This map is not intended for navigational purposes  
 Contour interval 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Maryland  
 Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
 shown in blue  
 North American Datum  
 North American Datum 1983



UTM GRID AND 1984 MAGNETIC NORTH

SM-792  
 Oaklea Farmhouse  
 Leonardtown  
 St. Mary's County  
 Hollywood Quad



CONTOUR IN  
 FEET  
 NATIONAL GEODETIC  
 DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS  
 THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN  
 SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE  
 MEAN RANGE OF THE TIDE



Sm-792

St. Mary's County  
Kirk Rainotta

10-199  
and SH-PO

1 of 2



SM-792

Oaklea Farmhouse

St Mary's Court

Kirk Carrutha

Nov/99

mid / SHPO

Looking SE

2 of 2