

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Wheatlands

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER (Miles River Road)

Shannahan Rd., 1.3 miles west of Rt. 370 (south)

CITY, TOWN

Easton

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Talbot

**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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input 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"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Franklin Loving

Telephone #: 822-4653

STREET & NUMBER

R.D. 1, Box 159

CITY, TOWN

Easton

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21601

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Courthouse

Liber #: 390

Folio #: 423

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7100

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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

Wheatlands is located on Miles River Neck overlooking the Miles River. It is a five bay long brick dwelling, two and one-half storys tall with a 1960's one and one-half story brick wing on its east side. Most of the north entrance facade is covered with ivy as is the west gable, however, beneath the ivy on the first story are traces of old whitewashed brick. Apparently Wheatlands incorporated sections of an 18th century dwelling when it was rebuilt around the mid-19th century. Without removing the ivy it would be impossible to determine the original configuration.

When the building was remodeled in the mid 19th century, the old as well as the new brick was covered with stucco and scored to simulate ashlar masonry. This was removed in the 1960's along with the brackets which hung from the eaves and pedimented gables. There are three dormer windows on each side of the 'A' roof which were also added in the 1960's. There are assymetrical chimneys, similar to Doncaster which was built nearly the same time Wheatlands was first remodeled. The river side of the house has a porch across the first story and the same fenestration as the entrance. All of the windows have 6/6 sash and louvered shutters though the first story window are longer than those above. Two small windows with semicircular heads light the attic rooms from the gables.

The interior of the building is divided into a central stair hall with large living room on the west and a dining room and corridor on the east, the dining room facing the river. Some original trim and doors, along with the stair remain from the time the house was remodeled in the mid 19th century. The dining room possesses a fine Victorian marble mantel appropriate to the period of the remodeling, however, it is not original to the house, according to tradition. In the living room is a Federal mantel, also brought in from another house. The interior was greatly remodeled in the 1960's in an attempt to make the house appear earlier than it is.

Adjoining the house is a fine shingle style stable, five bays long with tall hip roof having a projecting second story tower-like extension.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

T 100

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" 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 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

Wheatlands is significant architecturally for being built on part of the earlier house of the Benson family. When it was built to its general form, c. 1860, it was as significant a structure as Doncaster and was a good example of Italianate farmhouse. The 1960 remodeling, however, obliterated most of the Italianate features in an effort to make the building appear earlier than it is.

Important architecturally is the stable which is a fine example of the shingle style. Fortunately it did not suffer the same whole-sale remodeling as the house.

Historically, Wheatlands is an important site because it was the home of the Benson family of Talbot County. Perry Benson 1757-1827 was a captain in the Continental Army and Major-General in the Maryland Militia.

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

Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

April, 1977

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

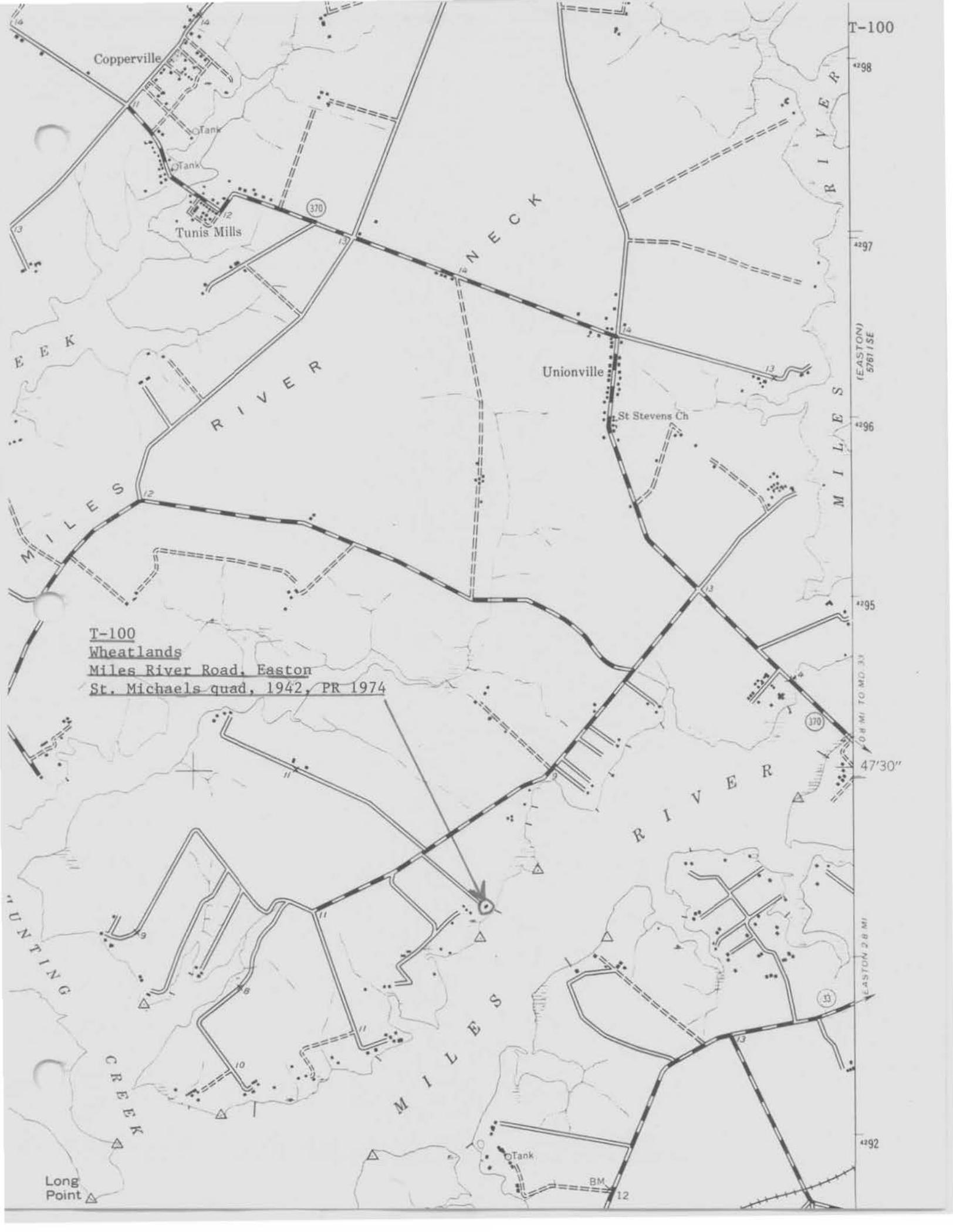
STATE

Maryland 21401

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



Copperville

Tunis Mills

Unionville

St Stevens Ch

4298

4297

4296

4295

47'30"

EASTON 28 MI

4292

(EASTON)  
57615E

0.8 MI TO MD. 31

EASTON 28 MI

T-100  
Wheatlands  
Miles River Road, Easton  
St. Michaels quad, 1942, PR 1974

E E K

M I L E S

R I V E R

N E C K

R I V E R

M I L E S

R I V E R

M I L E S

H U N T I N G

C R E E K

Long Point

370

370

15

BM

12

Tank

Tank

Tank



16 x 1.88

50%

100

Wheatlands T-100

J. Tyler Campbell  
FREE LANCE PHOTOGRAPHY  
CHESTEROWN, MARYLAND

N. M. Bourse 3/77



Wheatlands T-100

FREE LANCE PHOTOGRAPHY  
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND

J. Tyler Campbell

Stable - E. M. Bourne 3/17