

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Coomsbury

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Evergreen Rd., .2 miles S.W. of Rt. 333 (south to house)

CITY, TOWN

Oxford

— VICINITY OF

First

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Talbot

**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
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

David G. Lockhart

Telephone #: (301) 226-5284

STREET & NUMBER

Coomsbury

CITY, TOWN

Oxford

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Maryland 21654

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Courthouse

Liber #: 491

Folio #: 537

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

# 7 DESCRIPTION

T-156

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

Coomsbury is situated on a small branch of Island Creek on Oxford Neck. In its present form it is a three part brick dwelling, but only the central portion dates from the second quarter of the 18th century. Its east wing was added in the 1870's and the west wing around 1930.

The central section is five bays long and two and one-half storys tall with a two story tower in the center of the north facade. Its south facade is laid in all header bond above the stepped water table and English bond below. English bond is used elsewhere on the building as well. Above the first story windows are deep segmental arches with a simicircular arch above the door, the latter being a replacement of some other arch. Beneath the replaced 12/12 sash and frames on both storys is a recessed panel filled with glazed headers. Above the door the panel is one brick wider than the window on each side and continues to the cornice. Three dormers light the third story rooms. Within each gable rises a large chimney.

On the north, the tower is occupied by the stair and entrance thereto is on its west side adjacent the two windows in the "Hall" and "HallChamber". East of the tower is only one window on each story. No dormers are on this side of the roof. The tower itself has a semicircular headed window between floors which seems to be a modern introduction. Its roof appears to have been clipped off at the tie beam for it has a very strange mansard-like roof at present.

Inside the plan consists of two rooms seperated by a passage which leads from the south entrance to the stair tower. With the exception of the fireplaces the first story is devoid of any period work. The stair, however, does have raised panel spandrel and closet and a good late 18th century close string balustrade.

The stair ascends only to the second story. An additional stair is located in the center of the second story and it retains original turned newel and balusters which one would expect in the first flight. There are two room on second and third storys with bath between.

Paneling now in the west wing probably came from the living room. Originally there was no corridor in the dwelling, only the Hall-Parlor and stair.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

T-156

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/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input 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

Architecturally, Coombsbury is one of the most significant vernacular dwellings on the Eastern Shore. Few building remain which possess a stair tower, which is a 17th century phenomenon on English vernacular houses. Only Cloverfield, Queen Anne's County and Troth's Fortune possess stair towers. It is also one of the few buildings in Talbot with all header bond, others being at Cedar Point and Hassett Farm. The use of glazed headers in recessed panels is unique in the State. If the interior was intact it would be considerably more important and impressive as a significant historic dwelling.

In the 1798 Federal Direct Tax list, the building is listed with a brick kitchen 16 x 20 and a log meat house 16 x 12.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Forman, H.C., Early Manor and Plantation Houses....., 1934, p.194.

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 & 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



Combsbury, Talbot County  
Exterior Facade

T-156

NOV 6 1978

#1





Combsberry, Talbot County T-156  
Exterior Facade

NOV 6 1978

#3

Handwritten scribbles or signatures, possibly initials, consisting of several overlapping, fluid lines.



Combsberry, Talbot County T-156  
Exterior Facade

NOV 6 1978

✓ #2

*[Handwritten signature]*



12 x 1.54

75%

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Combs being

T-15-6

35

6

2.6

75%

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of the Library of Congress



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Gumbabury

T-156

F 35

2.7

2.7

39%

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of the Library of Congress