United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only
received
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic

and or common Jena

2. Location

street & number Rt. 333, .2 miles east of Evergreen Rd. (North) ___ not for publication

city, town Oxford ___ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland code 24 county Talbot code 041

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	X occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	X private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	X private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
		X no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Webb C. Hays III

street & number 818 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.

city, town Washington ___ vicinity of state D. C., 20006

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Courthouse

street & number Washington Street

city, town Easton state Maryland 21601

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title has this property been determined elegible? ___ yes ___ no

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

Condition		Check one	Check one
__ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
X good	___ ruins	X altered	___ moved date _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Jena is situated on an inlet of Goldsborough Creek near Oxford on Route 333, the Oxford Road, about eight miles southwest of Easton. It is a 1½ story brick structure, painted white, with 19th and 20th century additions to its north gable end and to its west facade overlooking the water.

The principal entrance (east) facade of Jena executed in Flemish bond, is three bays wide with a doorway flanked to the south by two symmetrically placed windows with 9/6, double hung sash. The windows are further distinguished by retention of most of their original timber surrounds which consist of a thinnish outside fascia bounded by a quarter round bead, a fillet, a wider fascia and a small bead outlining the opening itself. Their sills consist of a projecting torus molding atop two small fillets and a fascia. Curiously, the lintel of the southeast corner window is a splayed jack arch lintel while the middle window lintel consists of a single course of all-headers no wider than the window itself. The original six panel door is surmounted by a four-light transom with a thick bead characterizing the entire wooden surround. A well worn wooden sill exists in situ. Two gable-roofed dormers protrude from the steep slope of the shingled gable roof of the house; these dormers contain ~~9/6~~ 6/3 double hung windows with simple beaded wooden surrounds. A boxed cornice with complex crown moldings extends across the length of the facade, as does a brick watertable. At foundation level, just below the level of the watertable is placed a small rectangular cellar window, now blocked up, with an all-header lintel.

This brick watertable continues around the south gable end of the building which is executed in common bond (three rows of stretchers between each all-header course). At first story level are two 9/6 double-hung windows once characterized by the same timber surrounds as on east facade windows but the southeast window has lost its moldings and the southwest window has had some of its surround replaced. In addition, the southwest window is shorter than its southeast neighbor and is placed slightly lower on the facade. Both are surmounted by splayed jack arch lintels as are the two 6/6 double hung windows above, symmetrically placed in the gable, but not aligned with the first story fenestration. A large flush chimney with corbeled cap projects above the shingled, gable roof at this south end.

The north gable end like the south gable end is characterized by a wide plain rakeboard which meets the flush boxed cornice of the longitudinal facade to conclude with a decorative reverse curve. The north end is also laid in common bond, but the watertable does not exist on this facade. A seam in the brickwork at the northeast corner indicates the possible existence of a window, now blocked. The 19th century addition, raised to a full two stories with the last ten years, attaches to the main block on the northwest side with a connecting door on the north side of the hallway.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

The east facade of the addition, the first story of which was probably added in the second half-~~quarter~~ of the 19th century is two bays wide with two 6/6, double-hung windows repeated at second floor level in the same positions. In turn, to this 19th century addition is appended a one-bay wide, two-story, gable-roofed addition slightly less wide than the middle section. It encloses the exterior brick chimney of the middle section so that the corbeled capped chimney protrudes from the gable roof of this modern, northernmost addition. The modern addition contains one window at first and second story level with 6/6, double hung sash and doors at its north and west sides. To the west of the chimney stack on the north wall of the middle section, the old clapboards which sheathed the addition remain visible.

The west facade of the original section of Jena is totally obscured by the gable roofed, one story kitchen addition which connects with the house via the rear parlor door and also via a door in its north wall leading to the one-story, enclosed porch running the length of the middle and newest sections. The most important remaining features of this rear facade are the two dormers, identical to their east facade counterparts, which rise from the gable roof to either side of the ridge of the kitchen roof.

The main block of Jena is characterized by a side hall-double parlor plan. The stairhall is entered through the east, main doorway which is a six-panel door with brass box lock. (The door surround is characterized by the following moldings: fascia, cyma, recessed fascia, raised fascia, recessed fascia, cyma, fascia, and finally an inner bead abutting the door jamb.) A modern closet has been installed to the right of the entrance door. The baseboard has been replaced around the closet and is also superceded where baseboard heat is installed. The surround of the door which leads to the front parlor on the south side of the hallway is the same as that of the front door; this six-panel door characterized by raised panels also appears to be original. The cornerblocks on the interior doors are plain with small recessed circles in the center. The door to the rear parlor is also six-panel with the same surround as the other doors in the hall. On the north side of the hallway, immediately preceding the stair is the doorway to the 19th century section; here the surround is the same as described in the hall and the reveal is about 18" deep. The baseboard on the north wall of the hallway which continues up the stairway is beaded. The floor has been replaced throughout the first floor.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

The handsome stair appears to be entirely original with a shaped newel and graceful handrail of a light wood with characteristic square balusters. An ivory pin is fitted into the top of the newel which has a molded neck and tapered body with slight shallow necking around its base. The open string stair features treds resting on a small cavetto but no other decoration save a beaded understair panel.

In plan, the front parlor features a corner fireplace in the southwest corner of the room with a 9/6 window on the south gable wall and two 9/6 windows on the front facade. Each window possesses finely detailed surrounds and acutely canted reveals which create an illusionary effect of greater depth. (Each surround is characterized by the following series of moldings: fascia, scotia, bead, fascia, two smaller beads, fascia, bead, cant of reveal.) Both sides of reveal and soffits contain three recessed panels of which the longest is the middle panel. The jamb of the window butting against the opening itself is also beaded.

The angled fireplace wall of the front parlor has undergone some modern restoration resulting in replacement of the surround but the two large raised panels (large square atop long rectangle) of the overmantel appear to be original. The baseboard and both door surrounds throughout this room have been replaced; a modern dentilled cornice has been installed, but the plain fascia of the chairrail backing appears to be original though the top moldings applied to it appear to be modern.

The smaller rear parlor plan mirrors the front parlor with its corner fireplace in the southeast corner of the room and its 9/6 window in the gable end wall, with a door on the south wall leading to the stairhall and a door on the west exterior wall (now leading to a modern kitchen). The original six-panel door and architrave surround (with same molding profile as front parlor windows) exist in the doorway to the parlor. (The surround on the west doorway and the window surround are slightly simplified versions of this with fascia, scotia, two beads, fascia, bead abutting either jamb or cant of reveal.) The window reveals are treated exactly as they were in the front parlor, with the three recessed panels. The gable end wall retains its original chairrail with the following moldings reading from top to bottom: projecting bead, scotia, bead, fillet, fascia, bead. A plain baseboard, some of it replaced, also exists in situ. The angled fireplace wall underwent some restoration when

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #3.

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

the surround and mantel shelf were replaced, but the three raised panels of the overmantel (two narrow panels flanking a large square) appear to be original with the same profile as the front parlor overmantel.

The one room first floor interior of the 19th century addition appears to have been heavily restored; cornice and window sash and the surround on the doorway to the stairhall are all replaced. Two 6/6, double hung windows flank a doorway on the west wall, now entering the rear porch addition. The chairrail is a raised beaded fascia atop another fascia. The mantel is characterized by projecting corner blocks supporting a complex molding and shelf but the fireplace surround appears to be a modern replacement.

The upstairs plan replicates that of the first floor; side hallway giving access to double chambers (and more recently a modern bedroom to the north). Twelve stairs lead to an intermediate landing which features two newels fashioned in a simplified version of their first floor counterpart as is the newel at the stairway's conclusion. The hallway is lit by an east dormer with original 6/9 sash and a west dormer with 6/6 sash. A closet and modern bathroom have been installed in the east end of the hall. The doorway to the front bedroom retains its original surround, which is exactly the same as that described above for the window and west door of the rear parlor, and its original six-panel door. The doorway to the back bedroom has a replacement plain board surround but also retains its original door. The door used to the north bedroom is reused four-panel Victorian door.

The front bedroom contains its original charirail in the gable wall (like that in the rear parlor) and a plain baseboard. It is lit by a 6/9 dormer window on the east facade and a 6/6 window on the south wall. Of considerable interest is the mantel of the corner fireplace with a cyma reversa profiled, plain frieze supporting a complex bed mold and shallow cornice. This corner fireplace and mantel are duplicated in the back bedroom where only the top bead of the chairrail is visible. Windows are 6/6 double hung and occur in the south gable wall and west dormer.

C. Significance

T-163

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
X 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates circa 1800 **Builder Architect**

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SIGNIFICANCE

Jena is a notable architectural survival in rural Talbot County of a 1½ story brick structure faced in Flemish bond and distinguished by its first story 9/6 windows with unusual canted and paneled reveals. The popular side hall-double parlor plan characterizes the interior with the parlors' diagonal corner fireplaces sharing a common chimney. Much of the interior woodwork remains in good condition including the fine window sash and surrounds, 6-panel doors and pristine stairway with its graceful, curving newels. Though the modern kitchen addition to the rear obscures the waterfront facade, the precipitous slope of the roof and the presence of the original dormers front and back ensure the building's early 19th century integrity. The one room addition to the north gable end, constructed in the mid-19th century represents the typical evolutionary process of the modest-scaled farmhouse.

The brick dwelling called "Jena" was built on the site of an 18th century frame structure cited in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax. The tract of land on which these houses were built was known originally as "Long Point" (its sequence of development is described in the following "history" section). Henry Chandlee Forman speculates that Perry Spencer, who acquired the property in 1821 renamed it "Jena" at the suggestion of his friend Jacob Gibson. Gibson was a great admirer of Napoleon, who owned properties named "Marlengo" and " Austerlitz", like Jena, the names of battles in which Napoleon was victorious.[1]

HISTORY

By a grant of Lord Calvert, 600 acres was assigned to John Anderton in 1659. He in turn conveyed this tract to John Eason and Edward Row. The division between these two was legalized in 1669.[2] Eason later sold 200 more acres to Roe for 11,000 lbs. of tobacco. This is the land on which the brick house, "Jena", now stands. This property, originally called "Longe Point", was bordered on the east by the plantation of Nicholas Lowe, "Anderton", and on the west by the lands of Anthony Griffen and Henry Morgan, later called "Plinhimmon", the home of Tench Tilghman's widow.

At the time of Edward Roe's death in 1676 he had not only acquired "Longe Point", "My Now Dwelling Plantation", which he devised to his only heir Elizabeth, but his fortunes were such that he was able to acquire another plantation on Island Creek which he left to his step-son, Thomas Duncan.[3] Also, Roe's will stipulated that his daughter Elizabeth would be entitled to her estate as soon as she return(ed) from England. Upon her return, Elizabeth married Major William Combes, who was serving as Clerk of the Court of Talbot County in 1685[4]

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #4

(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

The Major died young and his widow re-married her neighbor, Nicholas Lowe of "Anderton".[5] Their eldest son, Edward Combes, inherited his father's dwelling plantation and in 1697 married Judith Gurling (But Edward Combes also died young. His inventory dated 1708, lists his worth at $143.09.05.)[6] Edward Combes' widow, Judith, was married again in 1711 to David Robinson.[7] They raised a large family which included at least four sons and a daughter. In 1729, a deed was recorded detailing (their son) William Combes' and his wife, Margaret's, conveyance to David Robinson of that tract lying between the lands laid out for John Anderton and Henry Morgan: 250 acres, with edefices, buildings, and so forth.[8] The frame dwelling at the site of Jena stood at the north end of this tract, close to the lands which were granted to Henry Morgan. Another 1729 deed is from Judith (the widow of Edward Combes, deceased) and her second husband David Robinson, to William Combes and his wife Margaret, for acreage near Island Creek. It is also noted in this deed that Judith gives up her dower right from her deceased husband's estate.[9]

David Robinson died in 1740 and, by the terms of his will, his son Richard was given the 100 acres adjoining Anderton, and his son John was given the other 100 acres of Longe Point.[10] This division was legalized in 1759. John, in turn, devised 'all that part of Longe Point where I now dwell' to his son David.[11]

In 1819 David's son, Richard, described as merchant and the probable builder of the present brick house, tried to help his friend and neighbor, Greenbury Martin, who owed a debt to Nicholas Hammond, president of the Farmer Bank at Easton.[12] He put up his 18 acres of Long Point as collateral, but two years later a Court order decreed that the property be sold at public auction by Allen Bowie, Sheriff. Perry Spencer was the highest bidder at $3,712.00.[13]

Spencer owned a great deal of real estate throughout the county. He never lived at "Jena"; his interest in this plantation was for farming and investment purposes only. He had a close friend, Jacob Gibson, who also owned other properties named "Marengo", and "Austerlitz"; and it was through this connection (according to Forman) that Spencer's property came to be called Jena. Jena was conveyed in two parcels, in 1837 and 1841 to William B. Willis.[14] There is a burial ground still in existence that contains the bodies of many of the Willis family.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #5.

(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

In 1866, after William B. Willis's death, his heirs divided the acreage; 74 acres of arable land and 26 acres of woodland were conveyed to Alexander E. Beale and his wife, Margaret Willia Beale, and another part was conveyed to James H. Lightbourne.[16] These two tracts were eventually joined again by virtue of two deeds. The first was to Millard F. Bingham of Chicago, from Anna M. Carpenter and her husband John W. in 1913.[17] The second deed was to Mr. Bingham from Jeremiah Valliant in 1919.[18] Newnam, one of the Willis heirs, sold 101 acres to Valliant in 1914, of which 79 square perches had been withheld for a "burying ground for colored people."[19] Supposedly, the Binghams revived the name of "Jena". In 1924 Mrs. Bingham, now a widow, sold the farm for $40,000.00 to Charles Lenhart.[20] George Reynolds was appointed executor of Charles Lenhart's estate and he sold the farm to Herbert and Nancy Austin for $21,000.00.[21] The Austins soon sold a 109.5 acre portion of this, renamed Chesapeake Farm, to Paul V. Torek in 1941.[22]

A re-survey in 1961 reduced the acreage around the house to 2.806 acres and this land and the dwelling was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. James Flewharty from Paul V. Torek.[23] The Flewhartys sold it in 1971 to a Mrs. Jeanne Callahan[24] and she, in turn, sold it to Mr. Webb C. Hayes, III and his wife Betty, who are the present owners.[25]

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[1]Henry Chandler Forman, Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland, p. 177.

[2]Land Records, Talbot County Courthouse: 1-A,L1/F58, 1669; 1-A, L1/F271, 1673.

[3]1-B, L1/F20, 1676

[4]2-A, Vol. 1, p. 378

[5]1-B, EM1/68, 1685

[6]1-D, Barnes, p.37

[7]1-D, Barnes, p. 54

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #6.

(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

[8] 1-A, L13/F488, 1729

[9] 1-D, Barnes, p. 39

[10] 1-B, 2/286, 1740

[11] 1-A, L18/F500, 1759, 1-B, 3/175

[12] 1-A, L41/F251, 1819

[13] 1-A, L43/F150, 1821

[14] 1-A, L53/F109, 1837; L56/F96, 1841

[15] 1-A, L74/F87 , 1867

[16] 1-A, L73/F233, 1866

[17] 1-A, L165/F89, 1913

[18] 1-A, L182/F401, 1919

[19] 1-A, L167/F70, 1914

[20] 1-A, L197/F467, 1924

[21] 1-A, L232/F3, 1934

[22] 1-A, L249/F283

[23] 1-A, L390/F596, 1963

[24] 1-A, L452/F536, 1971

[25] 1-A, L491/F487, 1975

Henry Chandlee Forman, Early Manor & Plantation Houses of Maryland, p. 177.

Land and Will Records of Talbot County, Talbot County Courthouse.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 2.806 acres

Quadrangle name Oxford Quadrangle

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

As recorded in Talbot County Land Records Liber 491/Folio 487.

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 Cynthia B. Ludlow, Research Historian/Ellen Coxe, Architectural Historian

organization Talbot County Committee of the Maryland Historical Trust c/o Mrs. R. Flanigan Shannahan

date March 11, 1980

street & number 15 N. Harrison Street

telephone (301) 822-3061

city or town Easton

state Maryland 21601

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state ___ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCRS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

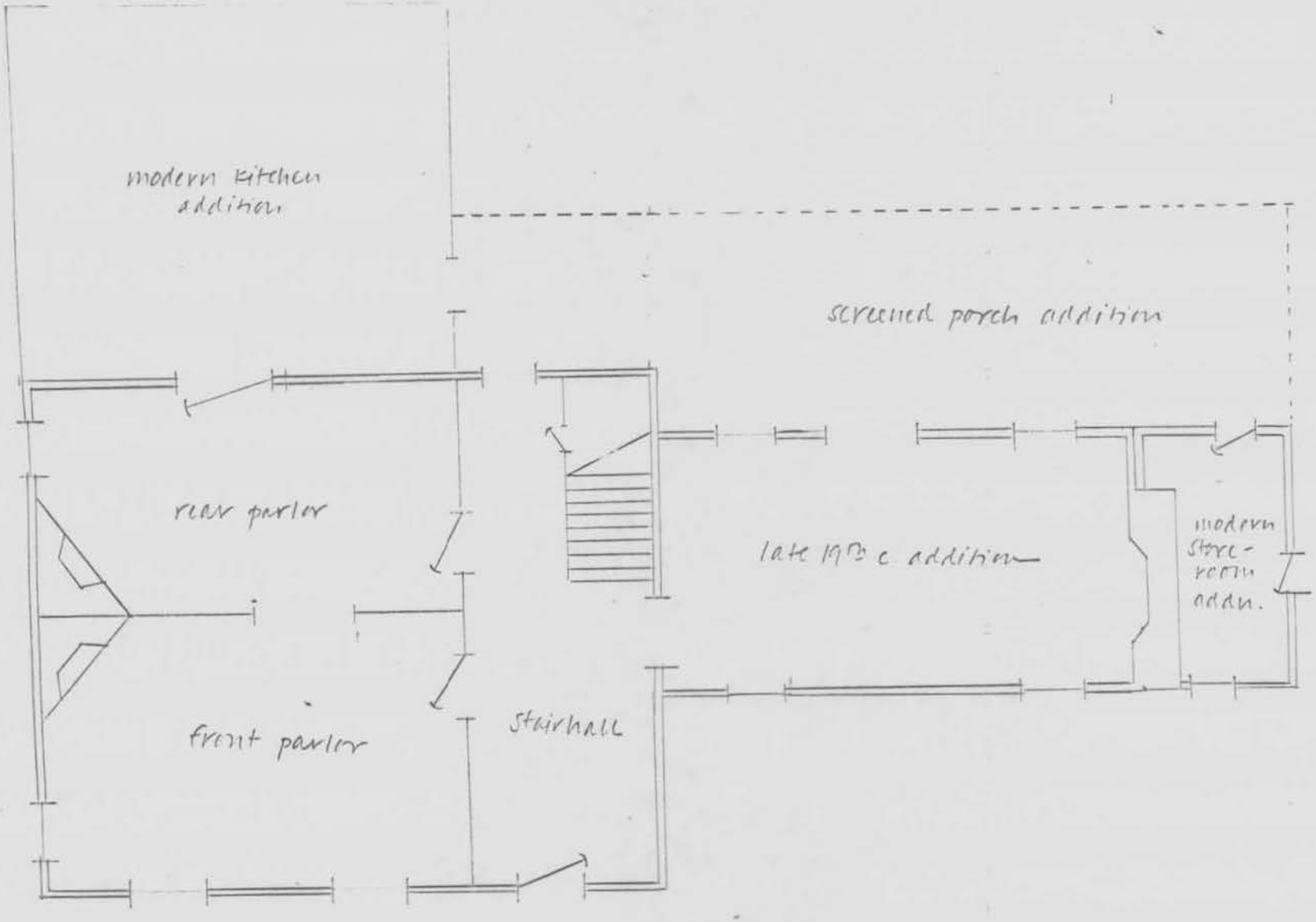
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

. . . all that tract of land situate in Oxford Neck, Trappe district, Talbot County, Maryland on the northerly side of the Easton-Oxford Public Road (Maryland Route 333), comprising a part of the property known as "Jena" and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at an iron pipe drives on the Northwesterly sideline of the State Road leading from Easton to Oxford (Md. Route 333) said point being at the intersection of the said side-line with the southwesterly line of the Avenue leading from the said State Road to the residence on the herein described tract; thence (1) with the southwesterly line of the above mentioned Avenue, N 36°20'W 856.08 feet to a concrete monument or marker; thence, (2) N 50°27'W 44.04 feet to a stone; thence, (3) along the outer edge of a hedge N74°57'W 33.85 feet to a stone; thence, (4) still wish the outer edge of the said hedge N39°54'W 237.95 feet to a stone set at or near the top of the river bank; thence, (5) continuing N39°54'W 28 feet, more or less, to t the mean-low-water line of Goldsborough Creek; thence (6) up and with the several meandering courses of the mean-low-water line of Goldsborough Creek in a general Northwesterly direction, 255 feet, more or less, to a point which bears N 51°44' W 37 feet from a stone set at or near the edge of the fast land; thence (7) S 51°44' E 37 feet, more or less, to the last mentioned stone; thence (8) continuing S 51°44' E 122.15 feet to a stone; thence (9) S 34°25' E 84.8 feet to a concrete monument or marker; thence (10) S 1°7' E 142 feet to a concrete monument or marker; thence (11) S 33°36'W 48 feet to a concrete monument or marker, thence (12) S 14°o' W 64 feet to a concrete monument or marker; thence (13) S 36°20'E 919.19 feet to an iron pipe on the northwesterly sideline of the State Road herein before first mentioned, thence (14) with the northwesterly side-line of the State Road S 86°13' W 59.26 feet to the place of beginning, containing 2.806 acres, and being shown upon a certain map entitled Map of 'Jena' Mansion TRact Surveyed for Paul V. Torek, Talbot County, MD", made by Kastenhuber and Anderson in September, 1961, and recorded in Liber No. 15, folio 58, Plat Record Book for Talbot Co."

ACREAGE JUSTIFICATION

Jena located on the tract of land described in the "verbal boundary description" was excerped from a large tract in the surrounding 2.8 waterfront acreage in the 1971 sale of the property. A perpetual easement exists pertaining to the driveway 1



JENA, first floor plan
<not to scale>

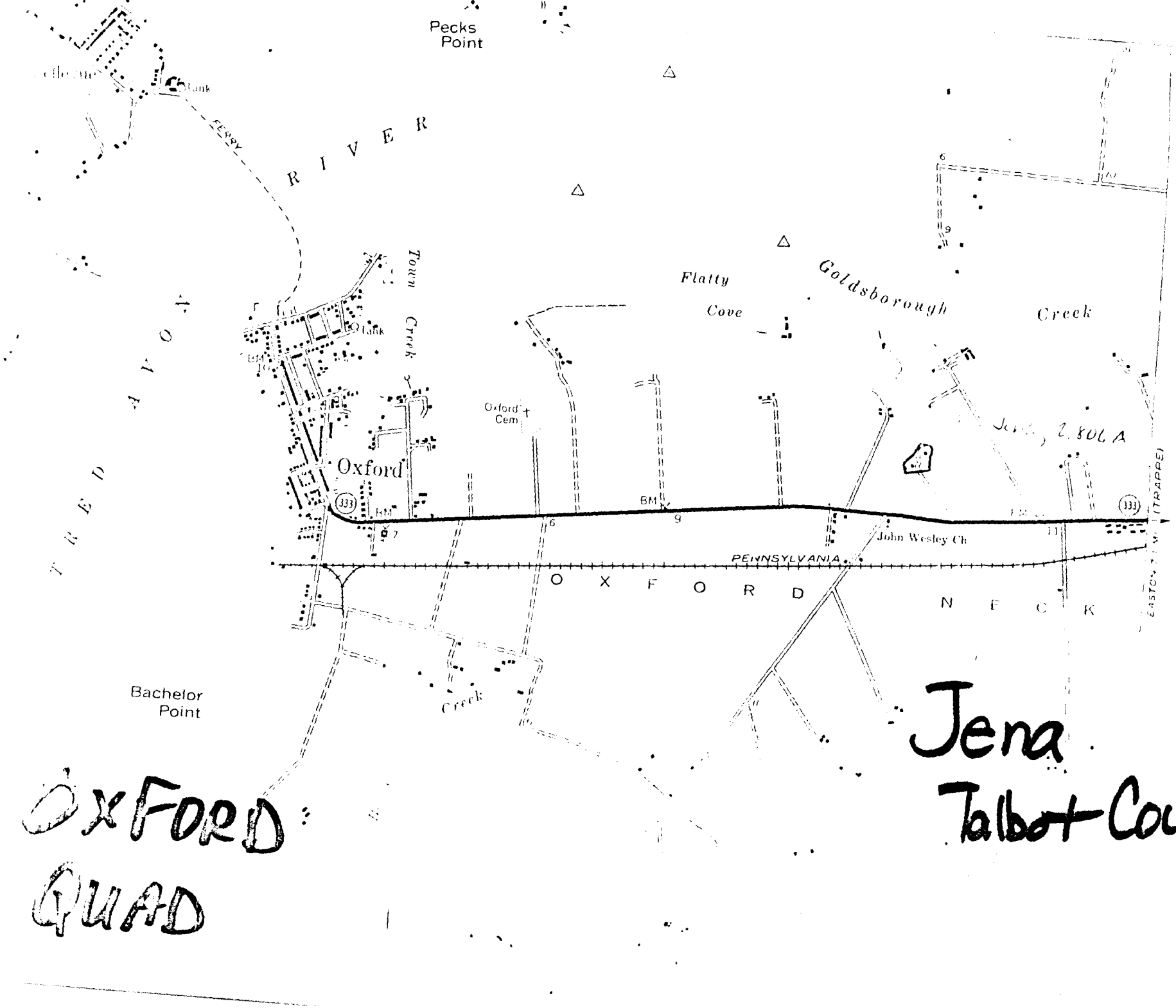
Talbot County

Maryland

Ellen Coxe
iii.80

N

T-163



Jena
Talbot County

OXFORD
QUAD

T. 163

22 x 1.51 75% 163

Jena

T-163

5

MICHAEL BOURNE

July 1976

Jena T-163
Talbot County
March 1980
Photo: Ellen Coxe
East elevation (entrance facade)

Jena
Talbot County
March 1980
Photo: Ellen Coxe
SE elevation

T-163

Jena T-163
Talbot County
March 1980
Photo: Ellen Coxe
West Elevation

T-163
JENA

2nd floor bedroom (SE), mantel
and chairrail
3/80 Ellen Coxe

Jena T-163
Talbot County
March 1980
Photo: Ellen Coxe
19th century wing fireplace (N) wall

Jena
Talbot County
March 1980
Photo: Ellen Coxe
Detail: fireplace wall, rear parlor

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Jena T-163
Talbot County
March 1980
Photo: Ellen Coxe
Detail: Canted window reveals, front parlor, (E) facade

Jena T-163
Talbot County
March 1980
Photo: Ellen Coxe
2nd floor hall-door to SE bedroom

Jena T-163
Talbot County
March 1980
Photo: Ellen Coxe
Doorway from hall to front (E) parlor
(detail)

T-163

Jena
Talbot County
March 1980
Photo: Ellen Coxe
2nd floor landing showing balusters and
Newel original stair

Jena T-163
Talbot County
March 1980
Photo: Ellen Coxe
Stairhall, detail of stair of original newel