

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Ben Perry house

## 2. Location

street & number Old Claiborne Road  not for publicationcity, town Claiborne  vicinity of congressional district 5

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 checked="" 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"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Eric and Loren Applegarth

street &amp; number P.O.Box 73 telephone no.: 745-5605

city, town Claiborne state and zip code MD 21624

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Courthouse liber 613

street &amp; number folio 1

city, town Easton state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. T-883

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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

The Ben Perry house is one of three houses located on the north side of Old Claiborne Road in Claiborne, Talbot County, Maryland. Locally, this area is known as Old Claiborne. The house faces south with the principle gable oriented on an east/west axis.

The Perry house is a three bay, two-story, frame structure clad in white weatherboard siding. This house, which dates from about 1905, is roofed with tin and is supported by a brick pier foundation.

The south (main) facade of the house is pierced by a central door at the first story flanked on both sides by one six-over-six sash window with wide, plain surrounds. The second floor is lit by three six-over-six sash windows like those on the first floor. Each corner of the house is finished with simple cornerboards.

The west elevation gable end is blind except for one small six light window at the attic level.

The north elevation has a one-story, modern shed roof addition of plywood and weatherboard across the central and eastern bays. The main body of the house is lit by one single pane window on the first floor to the west of the addition. Two six-over-six sash windows light the second floor.

The east elevation is lit by one single pane window on the first floor.

There is one plywood outbuilding to the rear of the house currently used for storage.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" 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 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
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check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or  
Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  
Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

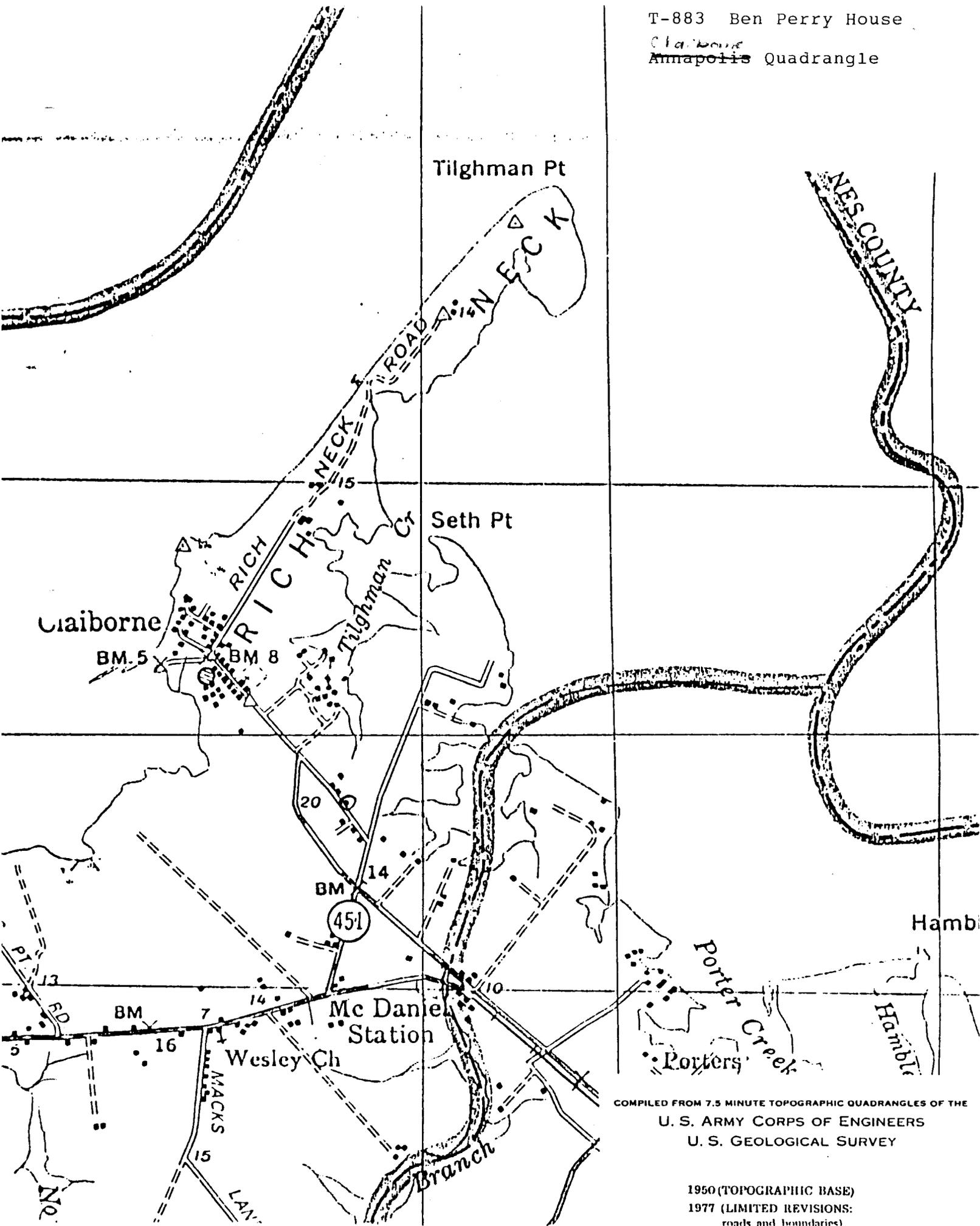
According to local history passed to the present owner, Ben Perry moved to Claiborne from North Carolina around the turn of the century. Perry supposedly knew the Tunis family from a mill they operated in North Carolina and moved to Old Claiborne because of the Tunis family connection there. He and his wife Lillie purchased this triangular lot from Bessie E. and Sarah H. Tunis, daughters of Joseph Tunis, on December 15, 1904. This deed is recorded in the Talbot County Land Records, Liber 143, Folio 451. Joseph T. Tunis had laid out this triangular plot of land as Lot 122 in his 1877 plat of Claiborne. The original triangular property lines remain unaltered today.

Before recent alterations by Applegarth, the house's original floor plan consisted of one large room on the western half of the house, into which the front door opened, and one small room on the eastern half of the house. A brick chimney was placed in the center of the house. Applegarth found during his remodeling work that Perry had used all new lumber except for one very large, old, oak beam which had been used previously in mortise and tenon construction. The Perry house is one of the few houses remaining in Claiborne with its original siding exposed.

Formerly, there was a brick-lined well to the rear of the house about 18 feet deep and 3 feet in diameter. According to older residents of the community, there was also a pear tree and blackberry bushes in the backyard from which Mr. Perry made wine.



T-883 Ben Perry House  
Claiborne  
Annapolis Quadrangle



COMPILED FROM 7.5 MINUTE TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLES OF THE  
U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1950 (TOPOGRAPHIC BASE)  
1977 (LIMITED REVISIONS:  
roads and boundaries)



T-883

BEN PERRY HOUSE

SW ELEVATION