

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. T-887

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Mrs. L. Erhardt house

2. Location

street & number off of Talbot Street not for publication

city, 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 William I. Haddaway

street & number P.O.Box 35 telephone no.: 745-2115

city, town Claiborne state and zip code MD 21624

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Courthouse liber 290

street & number folio 455

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-887

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 of move _____
<input 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 Mrs. L. Erhardt house is located at the end of a dirt road which extends from Talbot Street past Maple Hall down to the water of Tilghman Creek in Claiborne, Talbot County, Maryland. This two-story, frame structure faces east, with the principle gable oriented on a north/south axis.

The Erhardt house dates to around 1895 and is sheathed in cream colored asbestos shingle siding. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and the foundation consists of older brick piers infilled with new brick masonry. On some sides of the house the mortar of the brick foundation has been colored pink with brick dust.

The east (main) elevation has a screened porch added by the current owners in 1956 which wraps across the first floor of the house. The central bay of this elevation consists of a two-story, projecting gable end lit by a set of two one-over-one sash windows with black, louvered shutters and wide, white surrounds at both the first and second storys. The attic of this projecting bay is lit by one small one-over-one sash window. The southern most bay of this elevation is the entrance door which consists of two wood panels above and below a central glass pane. The door has a single pane transom light. The northern bay consists of two small one-over-one sash windows.

The south elevation consists of three bays. The first floor of the western most bay consists of a three-sided projection lit on each side by one one-over-one sash window. The second floor of this bay is lit by a set of two one-over-one sash windows with black, louvered shutters. The attic level is a gable end lit by one small one-over-one sash window. The central bay of the south elevation consists of a set of two one-over-one sash windows with black, louvered shutters and a metal roll-out awning. The second floor is lit by one one-over-one sash window with black, louvered shutters. The eastern most bay consists of one one one-over-one sash window with black, louvered shutters concealed behind the screen porch which extends from the east elevation. The second floor is lit by one two-over-two sash window with black, louvered shutters.

The west elevation consists of two bays. The first floor southern bay is lit by one one-over-one sash window while the northern bay is lit by a set of two one-over-one sash windows. Both bays of the second floor are lit by

8. Significance

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 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 checked="" 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**

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.

In a Claiborne Plat of March 1912 two structures, one an oyster house, are identified as the property of Mrs. L. Erhardt in the same location where the Haddaway residence and an old tin shed stand today. The Erhardts purchased this property from the Cockey family in 1895. According to the present owners, Mrs. Erhardt didn't think that the local carpenters could build the type of house she wanted, so she hired a contractor from Salisbury to build the residence.

Joseph Tunis had begun an oyster business on Tilghman Creek known as the Claiborne Oyster Company on the neighboring Locust Hill lot many years before Erhardt bought property on the Creek. This company was thriving in 1877, but does not appear to have been operating when Mr. Erhardt, described as an "efficient businessman" in the memoirs of Lida Smith, began his oyster business there. Alex Haddaway, Erhardt's nephew, continued the business as the "Alex Haddaway Packing Company" when he purchased the property in 1912. Haddaway later passed the business on to his son William.

Bill Haddaway remembers when 55 tonging boats would bring up to 1000 bushels of oysters per day to the Haddaway packing house. Haddaway employed 45 shuckers who lived locally or stayed in shanties on the property to process the daily catch during the oyster season. Mrs. Haddaway bought oysters too, and was the first licensed woman oyster buyer in the state of Maryland. In an average business day about 75 people visited the property, and boats were so thick in Tilghman Creek that it was possible to walk from boat to boat across the water to John Tolson Cockey's property, Locust Hill.

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Mrs. L. Erhardt house Description cont'd.

one-over-one sash windows. All windows on this elevation have black, louvered shutters. An interior brick chimney rises from the center of this elevation. A one story addition projects from the northern edge of the house.

The north elevation has a one story addition as the western most bay of the first floor. This bay is lit by a set of two six-over-six sash windows with narrow surrounds and black, louvered shutters, and is sheltered by a metal roll-out awning. The east side of the addition is pierced by a single-light over two-panel door with a metal awning. The central bay of this elevation is one one-over-one sash window with wide surrounds and black, louvered shutters. The eastern most bay is one one-over-one sash window with black, louvered shutters visible behind the screened porch which wraps around from the east elevation. The western most bay of the second floor is lit by two one-over-one sash windows with black, louvered shutters. This bay ends in a gable which is lit by one small one-over-one sash window. The center bay consists of a small one-over-one sash window with black, louvered shutters. The eastern most bay is one one-over-one window with black, louvered shutters.

There are three outbuildings on the property. One is a cinderblock, two-car garage built by the present owners. The second is a ceramic tile silo. This silo, no longer in use, once stood next to a now non-existent barn. The third is a rectangular, gable-roofed, tin shed which once extended from its current site out into the water of Tilghman Creek for use in the oyster business.

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Mr. L. Erhardt house Significance cont'd.

Later, Haddaway began a crab picking business and employed 50 to 60 pickers per day in the summer months. This business ended in 1942 with the beginning of World War II. Bill Haddaway quit the oyster business ten years ago and notes that today it is difficult to buy three bushels of oysters per day, much less 1000. Haddaway fears the oyster crop in the Bay is "played out." Of the 11 oyster houses which once existed between Claiborne and St. Michaels only one still stands today, and it isn't operating.

The tin shed which stands by the water on the Haddaway property is all that remains of the once thriving oyster business on Tilghman Creek. At one time it extended from its current site out over the water of the Creek. Today it is used for storage.



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)



T-887

MRS. L. ERHARDT HOUSE

SE ELEVATION

CLABORNE, MD

BILL HADDAWAY COLLECTION



T-887

MRS. L. ERHARDT HOUSE

SE ELEVATION



T-887 MRS L ERHARDT HOUSE

OYSTER HOUSE ON TILGHMAN CREEK

LOOKING NORTH.

CLABORNE, MD

BILL HADDAWAY COLLECTION.



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MRS. L. ERHARDT HOUSE

OYSTER HOUSE ON TILGHMAN CREEK

LOOKING SOUTH

CLAIBORNE, MD

BILL HADDAWAY COLLECTION