

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. T-912

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Mary Thomas house

2. Location

street & number ²⁵⁹¹⁰ Royal Oak Road not for publication

city, town Royal Oak vicinity of congressional district 2

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 Paul R. and Donna M. Stone

street & number telephone no.: 745-9485

city, town Royal Oak state and zip code MD 21662

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Courthouse liber 688

street & number folio 411

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

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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 Mary Thomas house is located on the north side of Royal Oak Road in Royal Oak, Talbot County, Maryland. This house is the third structure to the west of the General Store. The Mary Thomas house faces south with the principle gable oriented on an east/west axis.

This one-and-a-half story, frame structure is sheathed in red, wood shingles and supported by a brick pier and cedar post foundation. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and the roofline is finished with a boxed cornice.

The south (main) elevation has a central one-light over three-panel entrance door flanked by one six-over-six sash window with wide surrounds on either side. The entrance door is sheltered by a small gable roof portico with slender doric column supports. The second floor has a two bay, shed roof projection lit by two six-over-six sash windows.

The east elevation gable end is blind. The roof ends flush with the wall of the house here. A one-story, gable roof addition extends to the north lit by one six-over-six sash window with wide surrounds. According to the owner, this addition was moved from its original site in a grove of trees a few yards from the house and attached to the house by a previous owner. An exterior brick chimney stands on the northern end of the addition. A five year old shed roof addition, which rests on a cement pad, extends to the north of the gable roof structure.

The north elevation is lit by one six-over-six sash window on the first floor. The second floor has a two-bay projection like that on the south elevation lit by two six-over-six sash windows. The north side of the first floor addition is lit by two one-over-one sash windows and a four-light over two-panel door.

The west elevation gable end is blind. The roof ends flush with the wall of the house here. The one-story, shed roof addition which extends to the north is lit by six one-over-one sash windows and has an exterior brick chimney.

There are no outbuildings.

8. Significance

Survey No. T-912

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 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		

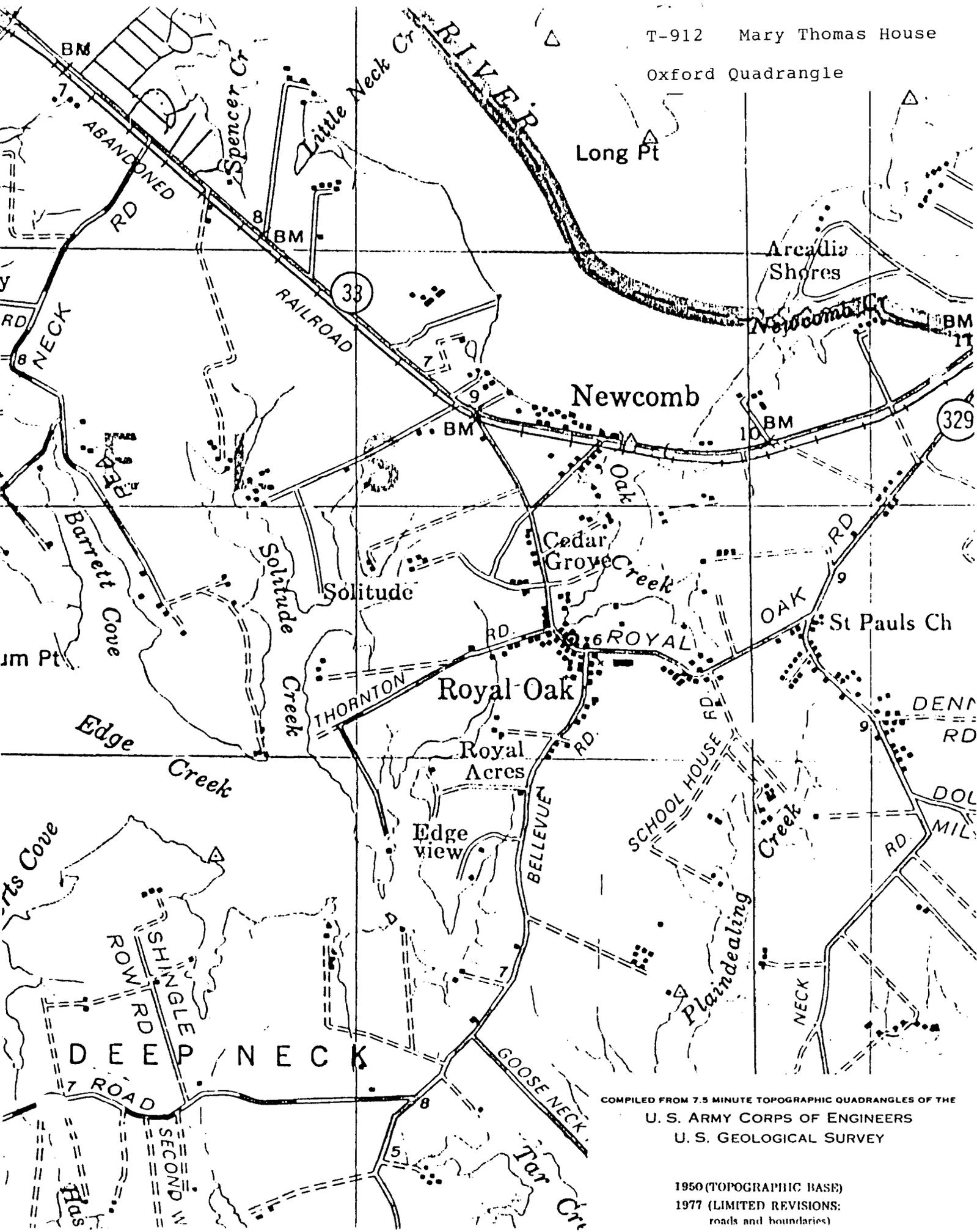
Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

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

Bernice Leonard writes about this property in Twig and Turf III. The Mary Thomas house is located on the "Barbershop Lot," part of the farm "Retreat" purchased by E. T. Benson from the heirs of Antony Banning in 1863. One local man remembers his great-grandmother living there who told him that livestock were once kept on the first floor, while slaves lived in the loft above. Many of the beams beneath the structure are held together by wooden pegs.

Mary Thomas was a black resident in this house around 1910 who took in washing. She was one of a series of people who rented the cottage between 1880 and 1910 when its upper floor was expanded. At some point early in this century a summer kitchen located nearby on the property was moved to the rear of the cottage as an addition.

Jerry Harris, Jr. owned this property for many years which he either kept vacant or used for storage. Following his death in 1961, this structure became a residence again. More recent owners have continued to expand the first floor of this cottage which was originally a single cell dwelling.



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-912

MARY THOMAS HOUSE

SW ELEVATION