

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. T-915

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common William H. Seymour house

2. Location

street & number ²⁵⁸⁸⁶ Royal Oak Road not for publication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 Angus F. and Irina M. Smith

street & number 321 South 6th St. telephone no.:

city, town Philadelphia state and zip code PA 19106

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Courthouse liber 546

street & number folio 475

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-915

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 William H. Seymour house is located on the north side of Royal Oak Road where it intersects with Thorneton Road in Royal Oak, Talbot County, Maryland. The house faces south with the principle gable oriented on an east/west axis. The William H. Seymour house is flanked on the west by the Pasadena Inn.

Built around 1882, this two-story, frame structure is sheathed in asbestos shingles. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and the foundation consists of brick piers. The roofline is finished with a boxed cornice.

The south (main) elevation has an open porch across the entire first floor with turned supports and decorative brackets. This first floor is lit by three six-over-six sash windows with narrow surrounds. Two of these windows have black, louvered shutters. Two single light over two panel doors pierce this first floor. The main entrance door has a three light transom. The second floor is lit by four six-over-six sash windows with black, louvered shutters.

The west elevation is lit by one three-over-six sash window with narrow surrounds and black, louvered shutters on the first floor and by one six-over-six sash window with narrow surrounds and black, louvered shutters on the second floor. This gable end is pierced by a louvered vent at the attic level. A one-story, tin shed roof addition projects to the north. The west side of this addition is lit by one one-over-one sash window with narrow surrounds.

The north elevation is pierced by a six light over four panel door as the eastern most bay. This doorway has a gable roof portico supported by square posts with chamfered edges. The rest of the first floor is sheltered by an open porch supported by the same type of post. The western section of this open porch is enclosed. This first floor is lit by two six-over-six sash windows with narrow surrounds and one picture window flanked on either side by a small four-over-four sash window. The second floor is lit by three six-over-six sash windows with black, louvered shutters. An interior brick chimney pierces the roof of this elevation.

The east elevation is lit by one six-over-six sash windows with narrow surrounds and black, louvered shutters on both the first and second floors.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

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. This lot was the northernmost part of "Plaindealing Enlarged" or "Oak Field" inherited by Emma Banning and Edward Thomas Benson in 1863 and sold to Levi Scott Kilmon in 1864. Kilmon sold three-eighths of an acre to his brother-in-law, William Harrison Seymour, in 1872. Although a receipt exists for money paid by Seymour to L. S. Kilmon to satisfy a debt of "money and material for building a house," it would appear that this house was built by 1877 when it appears on the Atlas.

Following the occupation of William Harrison Seymour and his wife Mariah Catherine, this house was inhabited by their son George A. Seymour and his wife Lucy. George Seymour began a butchering business next door to the P. M. Pastorfield store on a lot owned by his parents. He traded with Ernest P. Hall as his partner until 1887, and then conveyed the lot back to the Pastorfields in 1895. Seymour then built a store on the site of the Royal Oak Store which subsequently burned.

Paul Harper, who operated the nearby Pasadena Inn, later owned this house as a rental property. The house stood vacant for a while until the current owners purchased it as a vacation home. Postcards of this house which exist from the early 20th century present an image little different from that of the current facade.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Leonard, Bernice. Twig and Turf III: The Royal Oak.
Decorah, Iowa: Anundsen Pub.Co., 1985.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A
 Zone Easting Northing

B
 Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

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 Elizabeth Hughes, Architectural Historian

organization Talbot County Historic Preservation date 12/31/91

Commission

street & number telephone

city or town Easton state MD

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
 Shaw House
 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
 DHCP/DHCE
 100 COMMUNITY PLACE
 CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
 301-514-7600

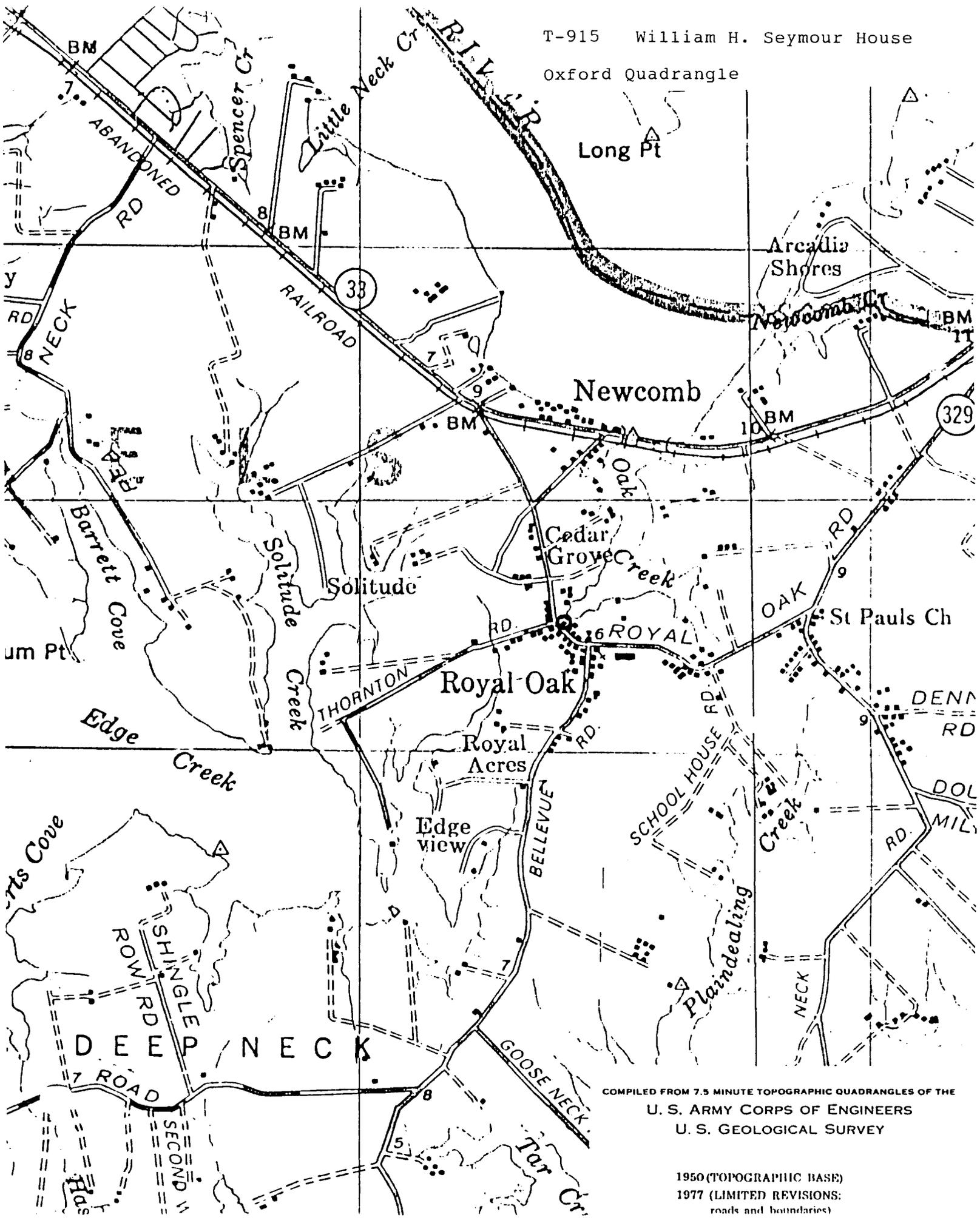
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William H. Seymour Description cont'd.

There is one gable roof outbuilding on the property clad in plywood and supported by a cinderblock foundation. The rear yard of this property extends to a finger of Oak Creek. A small iron gate is all that remains of the cast iron fence which once separated the property from the road.

T-915 William H. Seymour House

Oxford 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-915

WILLIAM H. SEYMOUR HOUSE

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION.

ROYAL OAK, MD

MIKE LUBY COLLECTION.



T-915

WILLIAM H. SEYMOUR HOUSE

SW ELEVATION