

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CE- 1153

Magi No. 0811535404  
File 689

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Cather House and Tavern  
AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Cathers Corner Post Road southeast of West Nottingham

CITY, TOWN Port Deposit VICINITY OF 1 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE Maryland COUNTY Cecil

**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 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Donald B. Ayers

Telephone #: 658-6594

STREET & NUMBER

16 Post Road

CITY, TOWN Port Deposit VICINITY OF Maryland STATE, zip code 21904

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Liber #: WAS 357  
Folio #: 558

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

*burned 1992*

**7 DESCRIPTION**

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<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"/> MOVED	DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The Cather House <sup>AND TAVERN</sup> AC. 1830-1840 is a two story three bay center stair single pile frame house at the intersection of Hopewell Road and the Post Road which has been known as Cather's Corner since the mid 19th century. The structure faces the road and southeast while the main gable runs on a NE/SW axis.

The original two story three bay by one room frame was extended to the southeast and northwest when the house was enlarged for hotel purposes. The roof was raised to a higher peak and a 2½ story two bay by two room frame addition was added to the south gable end. The original frame block rests on a fully excavated fieldstone foundation and is completely sheathed with asbestos shingle. The medium pitched roof is covered with imitation tin shingle.

The main (SE) elevation is presently five bays across. The norther three of five bays comprises the earlier block. A central entrance is flanked by 6/6 sash windows with plain surrounds. A plain surround also frames the six panel front door. The second floor is lighted by three 6/6 sash windows that are aligned with the first floor openings. Brick interior end chimney once rose out of the peak of the roof but now rise out of the south roof slope since the roof was raised. The two bays to the south consist of a door opening in the southern bay and an adjacent 6/6 sash windows. Two second floor windows are aligned over the first floor openings. The first floor of the entire main facade is covered by a shed roof porch with tin roof which is supported by square posts with a rectangular stick balustrade and stick corner brackets.

The south gable end has two openings on each of the main floors. A double single pane sash window occupies the eastern bay and a single 6/6 sash is located to the west. The second floor is illuminated by two 6/6 sash windows and a 6/6 sash window lights the attic space. The eaves to the roof are extended with open eaves.

The interior has not been drastically altered in the last 20th century and remains with most of its third quarter of the 19th century woodwork. The front door of the earlier section opens immediately in front of the main enclosed stair. The stair is flanked by a room on either side whose mantels have survived. The southern room mantel has a thumb and astragal molded surround with plain frieze blocks and a molded shelf. The mantel in the north room is similarly arranged. The back (northwest) room which was part of the addition is one large room that stretches across the length of the original house with a large fireplace in the northeast wall. This room is separated from the southern addition by large flat recessed paneled doors with spoon-handled box locks. The southern room is basically plain. These large spacious rooms to the north and south were an obvious addition that allowed the owner to operate a tavern.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

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The Cather House  
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The second floor bedrooms were not seen. The attic stair was also enclosed with a beaded board door. The attic space was unfinished and revealed the earlier NW roof slope and the subsequent additions.

The only associated farm structure is a mid century timber frame barn across the road.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

*and Tavern*  
The Cather House is located at the junction of the Old Post Road from Calvert to Port Deposit and the road to West Nottingham on its south side. The corner has been traditionally known as Cather's Corner since the family owned this property for ~~100 years~~ *99 years*.

The Cather house also exhibits the usage of a traditional house form with an extension for an additional purpose, in this case a tavern.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Paul Touart

ORGANIZATION

Cecil County Commitee

DATE

10/6/81

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

TELEPHONE

398-0200

CITY OR TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland

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  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

Gathers Corner

WAS 293/277

8/2/1972

Joseph T. Ayers & Naomi Garvin Ayers  
To  
Donald B. & Ethel D. Ayers  
Being part of land...

WAS 163/18

Rush M. Nickell & Louise Horn  
Comm. of Marie Nickell  
To  
Grantors above  
119 acres

RRC 3/285

12/29/1943

Arthur E. Arnett & Cora  
To  
Rush M. Nickell  
119 Acres "The Meadows"

WEB 10/56

3/22/1938

Anna M. Kennard, Widow  
To  
Arthur E. & Cora Arnett

SRA 19/146

3/20/1933

James Cather & Wife, Catherine  
To  
Samuel T. Kennard  
Anna M. Kennard  
Samuel T. died Dec. 6, 1934

HWL 10/152

4/28/1923

Ella Orr Etc.  
Devisees & Heirs at Law of Martha Cather  
To  
James & Catherine Cather  
120 Acres

WGP 3/99

5/3/1919

James Cather and others  
To  
Martha Cather  
Henry Cather, Deceased intestate on 4/15/1919  
120 Acres

JGW 14/268

7/14/1903

William S. Evans, Trustee  
To  
Henry Cather  
Circuit Court - 1902  
Hannah Cather  
120 acres  
Where Walter Cather died seized and possessed

WILL  
BOOK

D 11/471

7/23/1869

E 12/81

Robert Cather  
To  
Walter Cather

And also by last will and testament of  
Jackson Cather Dec. 23, 1870

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Cathers Corner  
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JS 34/360

12/2/1834

Eleanor Patten, Wm. Patten, and Sarah-wife  
To  
Robert Cather  
\$850.00 "The Meadows"  
119 Acres

1867 Tax - Frame Dwelling 120 Acres \$7560

1853 TAX - FRAME DWELLING 119 A. \$ 3570

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8/12/1845 Comm. Minute Book

P. 30

... CONNECT THE WALLACE  
ROAD WITH THE ROAD  
TO CATHER'S TAVEN TO  
MAGRAN'S MEETING HOUSE

RISING SUN ROAD

CE-1153



(HAVRE DE GRACE)



CE-1153

CATHER HOUSE & TAVERN  
SOUTH ELEV.

NR WEST NOTTINGHAM

3/79 PDT

NEG. / MD. HIST TRUST

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