

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CE- 1199

Magi No. 0811995404

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY *file 6-135*

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Wilson-Maxwell House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Principio Road just north of intersection with Theodore Road

CITY, TOWN

Port Deposit

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

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

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Bessie Maxwell

Telephone #: 658-5272

STREET & NUMBER

Principio Road

CITY, TOWN

Port Deposit

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Maryland 21904

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register of Wills

Liber #: Will 2/138

Folio #:

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

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CE-1199

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

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

The Wilson-Maxwell House c. 1820-1860 is a combination of two often separate structures brought together in a sequence of construction to form an ell plan house. The original or first building was a two story three bay by one room hall/parlor seven course common bond brick house c. 1820-1830. This structure faced south with an east/west gable orientation. During the third quarter of the 19th century a two story three bay center hall single pile weatherboard frame addition was attached to the east gable end wall which constitutes an ell plan house after two generations.

The house rests on a full or partially excavated fieldstone foundation and is covered with a medium sloped composition shingle roof. The brick section faces south while the mid 19th century frame faces east with a north/south gable orientation.

The south facade of the house has a central entrance on both floors with 6/6 sash on either side. The second floor door allows axis to the second floor of the two story shed porch which was added later since the second floor opening was first a window. A single string belt course and molded brick cornice (cavetto, square, and ovolo molding) decorate the main facade but are significantly hidden by the porch. The porch roof is supported by square posts and part of a diagonal lattice railing remains on the second floor. Wooden nailer blocks remain fastened into the brick wall below the belt course for the earlier single story porch. A beaded board front door is framed by a plain surround.

The west gable end of the main <sup>brick</sup> block is a seven course brick wall with a single four pane attic light on the north side of the interior end brick stack. Plain bargeboards protect the end rafters.

The east end is totally covered with the later frame addition and the north side is almost covered fully by two and one story frame shed additions. The northwest second floor 6/6 sash is exposed as is the molded brick cornice. The frame shed additions are frame sections covered with horizontal weatherboards. Two 6/6 sash are found on each floor of the north side and one on the west side. A brick stove stack rises out of the center of the section.

The eastern two story frame addition is basically the same in form as well as fenestration.

The east side has a central four panel door entrance with a three light transom and four light sidelights with a panel below. The 6/6 sash windows have a beaded corner surround and louvered shutters. A hipped roof porch with square piers and a rectangular stick balustrade covers the front three bays and extends around to the south gable end. The second floor is illuminated by three 6/6 sash that have louvered shutters. A boxed cornice stretches across above with a slight crown molding.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

Wilson-Maxwell House  
Page Two

The south end has a side entrance and adjacent 6/6 sash window. The second floor has two 6/6 sash and the attic space is lighted by two single pane sash lights that flank the interior end brick stacks. The barge board is molded.

The north end is primarily the same with only one 6/6 sash on each floor and two 1/1 attic windows.

Neither interiors were completely seen. The brick section was trimmed on the first floor with beaded board partitions.

A ruinous fieldstone spring house is located directly south of the house and a two story frame granary with central passage is situated to the west.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

CE-1199

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
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

The building sequence for the Wilson-Maxwell House illustrates two mid 19th century influences on house construction. The brick house, probably built in the 1820-1840 period was oriented to the south and the surrounding fields rather than the road that passed to the east. With the mid 19th century addition the orientation of the entire house was changed to face east and the much more active road to Principio. The form of the addition which produced an ell plan house illustrates the broad acceptance and appeal that this house type had acquired by the mid 19th century. Alternative plans could have been used but would not have provided such a convenient and up-to-date result.

The present farm was assembled around 1812-1814 by William Wilson, carpenter by two deeds (JS 8/130, JS 10/423) from John Megredy. The two parcels were both part of a larger tract called "Independence."

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

WOJSE  
 NUMBER... DATE...  
 NUMBER...  
 NUMBER...  
 NUMBER...  
 NUMBER...

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 B. Touart Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Cecil County Committee

DATE

5/12/80

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

TELEPHONE

398-0200 ext. 150

CITY OR TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland 21921

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

Wilson-Maxwell House

Chain of Title

MD 2/138

Margaret J. Maxwell  
to  
L. Maxwell and sister  
197 acres

"Whereas a certain Benjamin Wilson did my last will and testament... devise unto his daughter Lydia Ann Maxwell... being the same land which was conveyed unto the said Benjamin Wilson by Henry C. Mackall, trustee (HHM 2/403 1/4/1854)

HHM 1/115 8/19/1853; Circuit Court

Benjamin Wilson, complainant  
Lydia Wilson, defendant

...all that tract or parcel of land situate... whereof William Wilson late of Cecil County died seized containing 210 acres... being the same land which was conveyed to Thomas Wilson the father of said William Wilson, carpenter by John Megredy, farmer by his two deeds.

1. JS 8/130 part of "Independence" 6/20/1812
2. JS 10/423 part of "Independence" 12/31/1814

HHM 1/115

BENJAMIN WILSON  
vs.  
LYDIA WILSON

CE-1199

Benjamin Wilson, in the Circuit Court  
for Cecil county, in  
Lydia Wilson and Equity, March 10th,  
others. 1853.

I hereby certify that the  
annexed order in Chancery in  
the case of Wilson vs. Wilson was pub-  
lished in the Cecil Democrat,  
a newspaper published at Elkton  
Cecil county Md, once a week  
for one month before the 12th  
day of May 1853, the date  
therein named

J. H. Vanderford Jr  
Publisher

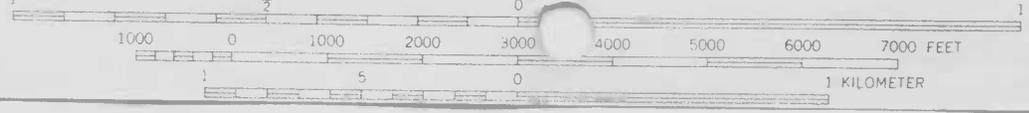
THE object of this suit is to procure a decree for the sale of certain real estate in Cecil county, whereof William Wilson, late of said county, died seized, for the purpose of division amongst his heirs at law. The bill states that William Wilson, late of Cecil county, was in his lifetime seized and possessed of a tract or parcel of land, lying and being in Cecil county, containing two hundred acres of land, more or less. That being so seized and possessed, the said William Wilson departed this life in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-three, unmarried, intestate and without issue, leaving the complainant, Benjamin Wilson, (his brother,) Lydia Wilson, Hannah Wilson, and Rebecca Buckland, wife of William Buckland, of Cecil county, his sisters; Ann Pierson and Thomas Pierson, children of a deceased sister, Deborah Pierson, all of Cecil county; William Tyson, Laney Tyson, Isaac Tyson, and Maria Tyson, of the State of Virginia, and Thomas W. Tyson of Cecil county, children of a deceased sister, Catharine Tyson, Samuel Brown and Ruth Ann England, wife of Joseph England of Cecil county, and Thomas Wilson Brown, Rachel Brown, Lydia Ann Brown and William Brown of the State of Delaware, children of a deceased sister, Rachel Brown, his nephews and nieces, his only heirs at law, of whom the said Rachel Brown and William Brown are infants, under the age of twenty-one years. The bill also states that the said William Wilson had formerly a brother, Thomas, who, many years ago, left the State of Maryland, and has since departed this life, intestate, leaving a widow but no children, living at the time of his death, and that the complainant is ignorant whether or not the said widow of the said Thomas Wilson had any child or children born to the said Thomas Wilson after his death; that Hannah Wilson, sister of the said William Wilson, has been by the judgment of the circuit court for Cecil county declared a lunatic, and that the said William Wilson in his lifetime was, by the said court, appointed the committee of the person and estate of the said Hannah, and that since the death of the said William Wilson no committee has been appointed in his place; that the said tract of land whereof the said William Wilson died seized, is wholly unsusceptible of division amongst the persons entitled thereto, and that it is for the interest and advantage of all persons having an interest therein that the same should be sold and the proceeds divided amongst them according to their just proportions thereof, but that owing to the infancy of the said Rachel Brown and William Brown, a sale thereof cannot be had without the interposition of this court; and that the said William Tyson, Laney Tyson, Isaac Tyson, Maria Tyson, Thomas W. Brown, Rachel Brown, Lydia Ann Brown, and William Brown, and any child or children of the said Thomas Wilson that may be living, residents not of the State of Maryland as aforesaid. It is therefore adjudged and ordered that the complainants, by causing a copy of this order to be inserted in some newspaper published in Cecil county once a week for one month, before the twelfth day of May next, give notice to the said absent defendants of the object and substance of this bill, and warn them to appear in this court in person, or by solicitor, on or before the twelfth day of July next, to answer the premises, and show if any they have, why a decree ought not to pass as prayed.

March 12. H. H. MITCHELL, C'K.



PORT LIND... 5' 408 (HAVRE DE GRACE) 5763 II SE 410 230" INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VA

SCALE 1:24 000



Rising SO Quad  
 Heavy  
 Medium



CE-1199

WILSON - Maxwell HSE  
SOUTHEAST ELEV.

NK PRINCIPIO

3/79 PAT

NEG. / MD. HIST TRUST

6



CE-1199

12/80

PBT

Wilson-Maxwell lte.



CF-1199

Wilson - Maxwell Hoe  
NE Woodlawn

WEST ELEVATION

1/20 PBT

WETA / MR PBT TRUST



CE-1199

Wilson - Maxwell House

NR Woodlawn

NORTH ELEV.

1/90 PBT

NOL MD. HIST TRUST



CE-1199 Wilson-Maxwell Use.

PBT 12/80