

CHAS-~~3~~164  
RAVENS CREST  
Pope's Creek  
Private

Mid-nineteenth century

Ravens Crest is one of a group of recorded buildings thought to best represent the regionally typical farmhouses of the early and mid-nineteenth century. An unpretentious "T"-shaped building, it began circa 1840 as a two story three bay house with end chimneys. The original dwelling was enlarged several decades later by an equally plain but substantial two story addition at the east end. Of interest is the exposed west end chimney of the earlier part of the house. Rising in two tiers with stepped shoulders, it is a nineteenth century adaptation of an eighteenth century design.

Situated on a high bluff overlooking the Potomac River and the Virginia shoreline, Ravens Crest is surrounded by majestic trees that give the site a feeling of great age and permanence.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CHAS-~~168~~ 167

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY MAGI # 090164504

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

RAVENS CREST

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

South side of Pope's Creek Road

CITY, TOWN

Newburg

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Charles

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

DISTRICT  
 BUILDING(S)  
 STRUCTURE  
 SITE  
 OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

PUBLIC  
 PRIVATE  
 BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
 IN PROCESS  
 BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

OCCUPIED  
 UNOCCUPIED  
 WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
 YES: RESTRICTED  
 YES: UNRESTRICTED  
 NO

**PRESENT USE**

AGRICULTURE  MUSEUM  
 COMMERCIAL  PARK  
 EDUCATIONAL  PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
 ENTERTAINMENT  RELIGIOUS  
 GOVERNMENT  SCIENTIFIC  
 INDUSTRIAL  TRANSPORTATION  
 MILITARY  OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Miss Cynthia Wilmer

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Ravens Crest

CITY, TOWN

Newburg

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Charles County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Charles Street (P. O. Box B)

CITY, TOWN

La Plata

STATE

Maryland 20646

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Historic Sites Inventory, Vol. 1, Lower Southern Maryland

DATE

1974

(CHAS-168)  
 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
 SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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

Ravens Crest is a pleasant, two story, "T"-shaped farmhouse situated high on a bluff overlooking the Potomac River and surrounded by magnificent trees.

The earliest part of the house, which probably dates from the second quarter of the nineteenth century, forms the base of the "T" and is a two story, three bay structure. The front faces east and has a centered Victorian-style doorway with transome and sidelights. Typical of this period, the door has four molded panels, the top two panels being arched. Flanking the door are two windows of six-over-six sash. Above are three windows aligned with the three openings below and also framing six-over-six sash. Extending the full width of this elevation is a one story shed roofed porch with square chamfered posts. The west, river side of this section repeats the fenestration and door placement of the front, except that the door is unornamented. A porch, similar in styling to that of the front, extends across this elevation, but the area between the door and the south end was later enclosed and has three small windows in its wall. At the north end of the house stands an exterior chimney of interesting design, having short stepped shoulders at the first and second floor ceiling lines. A fairly narrow chimney that is also stepped on its back wall at the second floor and has a stack set flush to the gable, it is a mid-nineteenth century variation of an earlier eighteenth century type. A similar chimney stands at the opposite end of the house but has been covered over by the later east end addition. The exterior of this section is sheathed with "novelty" siding on the front and rear walls and lapped clapboards on the north end. The roof is covered with tin and has plain boxed eaves. The interior room configuration consists of a centered hall and two rooms on both floor levels. The woodwork is extremely plain, having flat board surrounds with unornamented corner blocks.

In the late nineteenth or very early twentieth century the original house was doubled in size by the addition of a substantial two story wing at the south end. Like the older section, it has "novelty" siding and a tin roof. On the east end it is one bay deep on both floor levels and on the west end two bays deep. The first floor level of the south side is four bays in width while the second floor is three bays. All of the windows are of six-over-six sash and all but those on the west end have louvered shutters. Transomed doors occupy the first two bays from the west end on the east side and are sheltered by a one story porch. Since the ground falls away from the house in this area, the foundations are just under one story height and enclose a cellar that is entered from a small covered porch at the west end.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

CN-164

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 checked="" 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		

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SPECIFIC DATES	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Ravens Crest is located on a tract of land bounded on the south side by Parcel 7, on the west side by the Potomac River and on the north by Pope's Creek Road, Map 79, Charles County Tax Maps (revised January 1976.)

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

STATE	COUNTY
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STATE	COUNTY
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**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

J. Richard Rivoire

ORGANIZATION

Charles County Planning Department

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Charles County Courthouse

TELEPHONE

645-6537

CITY OR TOWN

La Plata

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



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RAVEN'S CREST

W. End

J.R.Rivoire, 1978



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CHAS-164

RAVEN'S CREST

Smoke House

J.R.Rivoire, 1978