

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Black Walnut Point Farm

and/or common Black Walnut Point Inn

## 2. Location

street & number Black Walnut Point Road  not for publicationcity, town Tilghman  vicinity of  congressional district Fifthstate MD  county Talbot

## 3. Classification

| Category  | Ownership  | Status  | Present Use                                    |   |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied        | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture           | <input type="checkbox"/> museum                       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> private                   | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied                 | <input checked="" 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 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 State of Maryland

street & number  telephone no.:city, town  state and zip code

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court  liber<sup>626</sup>street & number Talbot County Courthouse  folio<sup>698</sup>city, town Easton  state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title date  federal  state  county  local repository for survey recordscity, town  state

# 7. Description

Survey No. T-815

|  |                                       |   |   |                    |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------|
| <b>Condition</b>                         |                                       | <b>Check one</b>                            | <b>Check one</b>                          |                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent       | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered          | <input type="checkbox"/> original site    |                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input checked="" 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.

Black Walnut Point Inn is located at the end of Black Walnut Point Road on the very southern tip of Tighman Island, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story frame structure faces northeast with the principal gable oriented on a northwest/southeast axis.

The northwestern three-bay structure is the earliest portion of the building which dates to around 1846. The building was located closer to the Point's bay shoreline at one time, but each time erosion threatened the site, the building was moved further to the northeast. The house is covered in various types of weatherboard siding, and it is roofed with asphalt shingles. The brick pier foundation has been filled in with concrete block.

The northwestern three-bay structure of the northeastern 'main' facade is covered in white weatherboard. The symmetrical facade has an eight-paneled door as the eastern bay which is sheltered by a small gable roofed portico and flanked by a bay window. The door has a three-light transom, and the portico, a later addition, has turned supports and a square post balustrade which wraps around to the south side of the building. Three six-over-six sash windows with green, louvered shutters light the second floor. Two dormers with six-over-six sash windows pierce the roof of the upper half story.

A single bay, two-story structure covered in German siding is the first addition on the southeastern end of the earlier three bay section. The first floor of this addition is lit by a six-over-six sash window. The second floor has one twelve-light window. A two-story, three-bay structure covered with wide weatherboard planks telescopes southeast from this first addition. This section has a side door flanked by two six-over-six sash windows. The second floor is lit by three six-over-six sash windows. There is an interior chimney stack both on the northeast roof slope of this addition and between this addition and the one to the northwest. A one-story, gable roof structure covered in plain weatherboard is attached to this second addition and is lit by one six-over-six sash window.

The southeast elevation of the second addition has two six-over-six sash windows on the second story. The first story of the third addition is blind on the east side.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. T-815

| 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/<br>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:  A  B  C  D  
and/or

Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

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

Under the ownership of Matthew Tilghman in the 1700s, Black Walnut Point was part of Lower Plantation. The Point supposedly gets its name from the many black walnut trees which once grew at this end of the Island. Today, the Point is owned by the Department of Natural Resources who preserves it as part of the monarch butterfly flyway and as a wildlife refuge. The manor house is leased out to caretakers who run a bed and breakfast operation. There are plans to turn the protected wood and marsh land into a nature trail when money becomes available.

One hundred and fifty acres of this Point were purchased by John Valliant in 1843, and in the 1846 USGS map of Talbot County there is a building situated on this southern point. The site of the building shifts under the ownership of A Willis in the 1877 Dillworth map, and again in the 1908 USGS map.

Black Walnut Point Inn appears to be the earliest building on Tilghman Island. The primary wing, a three bay, two-and-a-half story structure, dates to about 1843. Although it has been enlarged and greatly altered over the years, the Black Walnut Point Inn remains a significant island landmark.



Black Walnut Point Inn description continued.

The southwest (rear) elevation of the primary wing's first floor has a screened porch supported by turned posts which wraps around the building to the west gable end where it is enclosed. There are two six-over-six sash windows and an eight panel door on the first floor, and two casement windows and one six-over-six sash window on the second floor. The windows have green, louvered shutters. The roof of this primary wing extends out over the second floor creating a two-story porch. This porch was probably originally supported by large posts set into the ground. Today it is supported by braces connected to the main wall. The underside of the overhang is gracefully finished with curving wood work. Two gable roof dormers with six-over-six sash windows pierce the roof of the upper half story.

The screened porch extends across the first floor of the first addition which is lit by one six-over-six sash window with green, louvered shutters. The second floor of this addition is lit by two six-light casement windows. The wide plank second addition has an entrance door and one six-over-six sash window with green, louvered shutters. The second story extends out over this first floor, sheltering the first floor entrance. The one-story, gable roof third addition is lit by one six-over-six sash window.

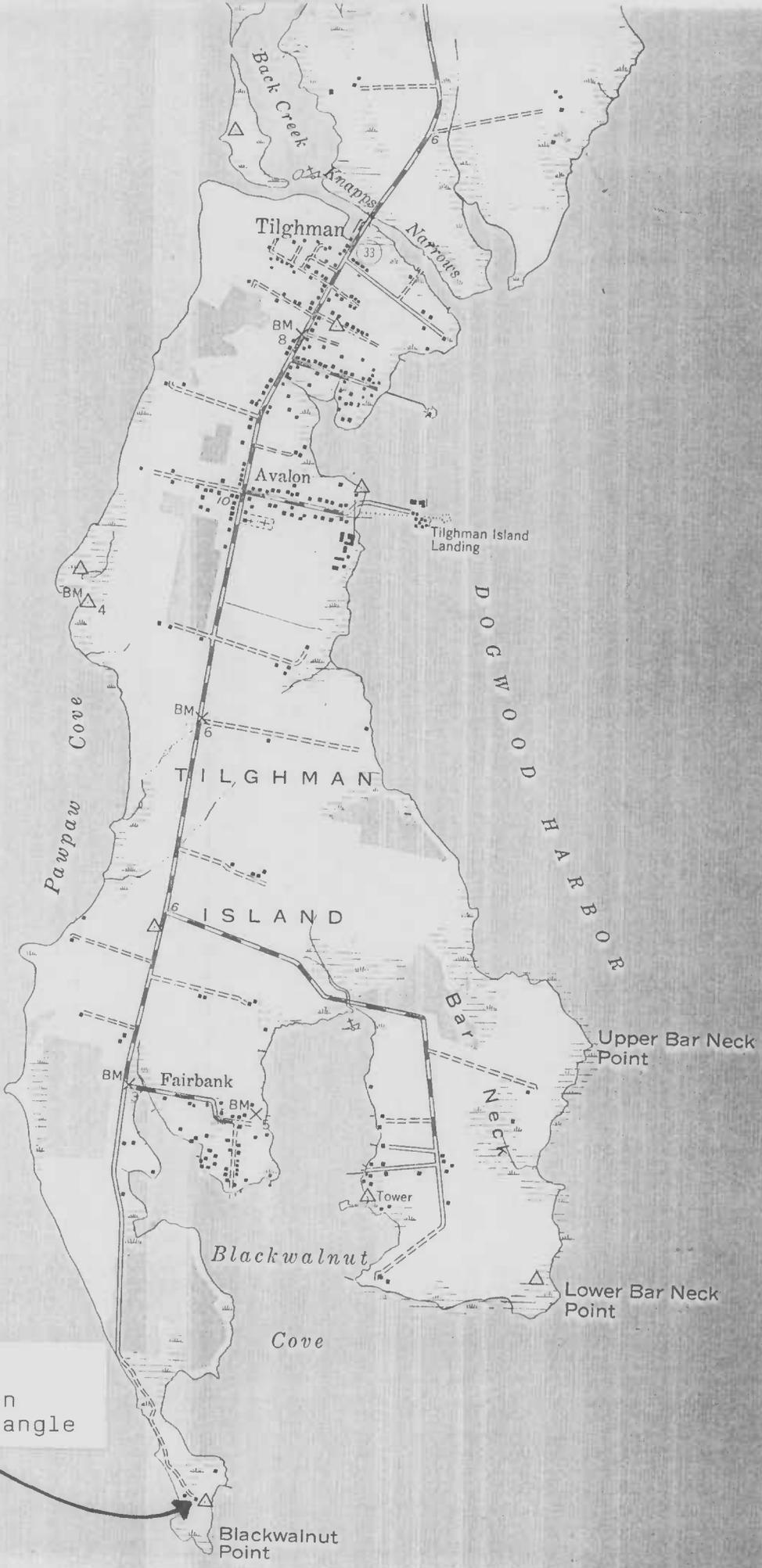
The southwest gable end first floor porch was completely enclosed around the 1950s. Two six-over-six sash windows light the second floor. An enclosed chimney pierces the center of the southwestern gable roof.

Many of the house's original interior doors and mouldings are in place which are helpful in dating the house to about 1846. The three-floor banister appears to be of the late Federal period and the interior two-panel doors are characteristic of the Greek Revival style. Bull's eye corner blocks and beaded moulding in the primary wing of the house also suggest that this section could have been built as early as the 1840s.

The Black Walnut Point Inn property has numerous outbuildings including two modern garages, a tennis court, swimming pool, two cottages, and a summer kitchen. One garage has been converted into an office for the caretakers, and the two cottages are used as guesthouses. Choptank Cottage was formerly the caretakers home, and Cove Cottage resulted from the union

- Black Walnut Point Inn description continued.

of a chicken coop and dog kennel . Both are clad in the very wide weatherboard siding which covers the second addition of the main house. The summer kitchen is currently used for storage.



T-815  
Black Walnut Point Inn  
Tilghman Island Quadrangle





2.2.2. SUBMIT POINT ILMU 1-215

TIL GILIANI ISLAND. MALBEY HOVINGLAND.

NORTHEAST ELEVATION

ELIZABETH I. ISLES. MALBEY HOVINGLAND.



BLACK WALNUT POINT INN

T-815

TILGHMAN ISLAND, TALENT COUNTY, MD.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

ELIZABETH MUGGER, PHOTOGRAPHER

Q 2-