

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Swan Song

2. Location

street & number Fairbank Road not for publicationcity, town Fairbank vicinity of congressional district Fifthstate MD 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 Joseph A. and Patricia B. Russo

street & number 7200 Atlantic Ave. telephone no.:city, town Wildwood Crest state and zip code NJ 08260

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court liber 617street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio 875city, 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-823

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Swan Song is located on the west side of Fairbank Road in the village of Fairbank on Tilghman Island, Talbot County, Maryland. This two-and-a-half-story frame house faces east with the principal gable oriented on an east/west axis.

Built late in the nineteenth century, Swan Song is clad in weatherboard siding and covered with an asphalt shingle roof. This side hall, double pile house is mounted on a foundation of brick piers and has a central brick chimney.

The east (main) facade has three bays with two six-over-six sash windows and a sidelighted door with a four light transom as the northern bay. The windows have wide surrounds and peaked crown mouldings. The current owners have added paneled shutters. A porch extends the full width of the first floor which has turned supports, decorative brackets, and a scroll work balustrade. The second floor has three six-over-six sash windows, and the gable end eave is supported by decorative brackets. A small two-over-two sash window is set into the attic story.

The two bay north and south elevations are lit by two-over-two sash windows. The slightly extended eaves have exposed rafter feet.

The second floor of the west elevation has two six-over-six sash windows and one small window in the attic story. A one-story, gable roof summer kitchen is connected to the rear of the house. It has two six-over-six sash windows on the north side, a bay window on the west side, and a door and six-over-six sash window on the south side. A deck extends from the south side of the summer kitchen.

Although it has been remodeled, the summer kitchen's interior wainscoating remains intact.

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/ 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: <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 type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

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

Although the precise date of construction is unclear, Swan Song was built before the neighboring Tom Faulkner house. According to James Chaires, the lumber for Swan Song was brought to Tilghman Island by his grandfather, William James Dobson, at the same time that he transported lumber for his own house and for St. John's Methodist Church. If this is correct, Swan Song would date to about 1891 when St. John's was completed. George Rowe was living in the house in the 1930s.

Swan Song is one of three neatly preserved examples of this late 19th century design located in the village of Fairbank. Swan Song is the name given to the house by the current owners.

H
C



T-823
Swan Song
Tilghman Island Quadrangle





SWAN SONG

T-823

TILGHMAN ISLAND, TALBOT COUNTY, MD

NORTHEAST CLEVATION

E. HUGHES, PHOTO

E 195