

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. T-895

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Claiborne School

2. Location

street & number Miracle House Road not for publication

city, town Claiborne vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Talbot

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" 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 Roy E. Moon

street & number 913 Ellendale Drive telephone no.:

city, town Baltimore state and zip code MD 21204

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Courthouse liber 432

street & number folio 430

city, town Easton state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

repository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. T-895

Condition		Check one	Check one		
<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	about 1940
<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.

The Claiborne School is set back on the north side of Miracle House Road in Claiborne, Talbot County, Maryland. The school faces south and its principle gable is oriented on a north/south axis.

The Claiborne School was built by 1912 as a one-and-a-half story frame structure. It is covered with red weatherboard and roofed with asphalt shingles. The foundation consists of a cinderblock pier foundation.

The south (main) elevation is lit by one six-over-six sash window as the central bay flanked on either side by one four panel door. One door was for the boys and one was for the girls. A shed roof portico extends along the length of this elevation to shelter the schoolhouse entrance. A bell hangs next to the eastern most door and a "George Schluderberg Memorial Plaque, Dedicated to Happy, Healthy Childhood", though not original to this building, is attached to its lower western corner. The upper half story is lit by a six pane window with a shaped surround.

The east elevation is lit by four fifteen-pane windows set under the eave and one six-over-six sash window with wide surrounds at the northern most end. It is possible to see the outline of where two additional windows once pierced this side. The foundation on this side of the school consists of cinderblock piers.

The north elevation has a modern one story, flat roof addition projecting from this gable end. The addition is blind on its north side, lit by one four-pane window on the west side, and pierced by an entrance door on the east side which opens onto a wooden deck. The main body of the school is lit by one four-pane window to the east of the addition.

The west elevation is lit by a closely placed set of six six-over-six sash windows. One smaller six-over-six window is the southern most bay. The foundation on this side of the school is a wall of cinderblock.

There are no outbuildings connected with the school on the property. Although the school is now used as a part-time summer residence, the owner claims to have kept interior changes to a minimum.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" 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 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		

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.

Initially, Claiborne children attended school in McDaniel. As the population of the community grew, however, there was an increasing need for a school within Claiborne. The town's first school consisted of the kitchen of the railroad pavilion used as a classroom where Miss Dolly Thomas taught. By 1912 a plat of Claiborne shows that a school had been built on Rich Neck Manor Road. This school was formally dedicated as "Standard School of Claiborne, Talbot County." The local women who taught in this school included Miss Grace Oldham, Miss Alice Dawson, Miss Edna Harrison, Mrs. Lida Cockey. Lida Smith began teaching in World War I when there were thirty-five students in seven grades.

Lida Smith, former school teacher in Claiborne and long time resident, wrote about the school both in her memoirs and in the Star-Democrat article "Lida Smith Recalls School Days in Claiborne" of December 10, 1969. She wrote, "Claiborne School was built in the old fashioned way, with windows on opposite sides, thus making cross lighting. Out of concern for the children's eyesight, east windows were removed and placed on the west side, so all light would come from one direction." This philosophy accounts for the closely set bay of six-over-six sash windows on the west side of the building and the ghosts of window frames on the east side.

Once bus service began in 1940 children were taken to St. Michael's to attend school. The Claiborne School was then purchased by Mr. Matthews who managed the Miracle House preventorium nearby. Matthews rolled the school to the Miracle House grounds on logs and there it was used as a sunday school room. It still stands on this property today.

The George Schluderberg plaque on the front of the school was originally attached to one of the Miracle House buildings built in 1933

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Claiborne School

overhanging the bay. This building burned with the rest of the complex in the late 1940s. The only surviving buildings of the large Miracle House complex are the school and a small red bungalow built as a residence for Mr. Matthews. A former counselor and avid historian of the preventorium, Mindelle S. Moon, is the current owner of the property.



COMPILED FROM 7.5 MINUTE TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLES OF THE
U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1950 (TOPOGRAPHIC BASE)
1977 (LIMITED REVISIONS)



I-895 CLAYBORNE SCHOOL

ORIGINAL SITE ON RICH NECK ROAD

CLAYBORNE, MD

BILL HADDAWAY COLLECTION



T-895

CLAIBORNE SCHOOL

SW ELEVATION