

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. T-928

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Lafayette Fields house

## 2. Location

street & number Bellevue Road  not for publication

city, town Royal Oak  vicinity of congressional district 2

state Maryland 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	<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 Louis W. Thomas

street & number Box 231 telephone no.:

city, town Royal Oak state and zip code MD 21662

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Courthouse liber 456

street & number folio 114

city, 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-928

<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input 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.

The Lafayette Fields house is located on the east side of Bellevue (Ferryneck) Road in Royal Oak, Talbot County, Maryland. This house faces west, with the principle gable oriented on a north/south axis.

This "L" shaped, two bay, two story structure is sheathed wood shingles supported by a brick pier foundation. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The west (main) elevation has a central three-light over two-panel door flanked on either side by one six-over-six sash window with narrow surrounds. Two six-over-six sash windows light the second floor.

The north elevation is a blind gable end. An interior brick chimney pierces the roof. A two-story, gable roof wing extends to the east of the building pierced by an entrance door and a six-over-six sash window on the first floor. The second floor is lit by one six-over-six sash window.

The east elevation has one six-over-six sash window on both the first and second floors as the northern most bay. The southern bay is the two-story gable end wing lit by one six-over-six sash window on the second floor. An exterior brick chimney rests against this wing.

The south elevation gable end is pierced by an entrance door. An interior brick chimney pierces the roof. A two-story, gable roof wing extends to the east. This wing is lit on the first and second floor by one six-over-six sash window. A five panel entrance door also pierces the first floor.

Three outbuildings stand on the property. One has a gable roof and is sheathed with blue wood shingles. It has a five panel door and is lit by a six-light window. The second has a shed roof and is sheathed in blue, vertical wood siding. This structure is pierced by a four panel door. The third outbuilding is sheathed in vertical board siding and has a pyramidal roof and a boxed cornice. It is pierced by two swing garage doors.

# 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
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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.

This property was sold by Mary E. and Nicholas B. Leonard in 1864 to Stephen Leonard as a "house and piece of ground adjoining the Baptist Church lot" (T.C.Land Records 71/279). In the 1877 Griffith map an "Old Baptist Church" appears in this area. Two buildings stand behind, i.e. to the east of, the church and one, perhaps this property, stands to the south of it.

Bernice Leonard writes in Twig and Turf III that a deed for this church property was recorded in 1853 for "the body of Christians known as The Disciples of Talbot County," although the church may have already been standing on the lot prior to that date. The Baptist church property was located on part of the land known as "Plaindealing" in an area that was heavily wooded and undeveloped. In fact, the Baptist church is one of the few landmarks on this road shown in the 1858 Dillworth map.

In 1873 Stephen Leonard conveyed this property containing "a small dwelling house and outbuildings" to Lafayette Fields. Fields was listed in Leonard's household as a black twelve year old in the 1860 census. In the 1870 census he is listed as a farm laborer. By the 1880 census Fields is described as a laborer and the head of his own household which includes his wife Lucretia, four children, and a cousin.

This property does not appear again until 1958 when Mildred Smith conveyed it to Harriet Coxen. In 1971 Mildred Smith inherited this property from Harriet Coxen's estate. Smith then sold the property to its current owner.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. T-928

Leonard, Bernice. Twig and Turf III: The Royal Oak.  
Decorah, Iowa: Anundsen Pub. Co., 1985.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth Hughes, Architectural Historian

organization Talbot County Historic Preservation Commission date 12/31/91

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town Easton state MD

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.

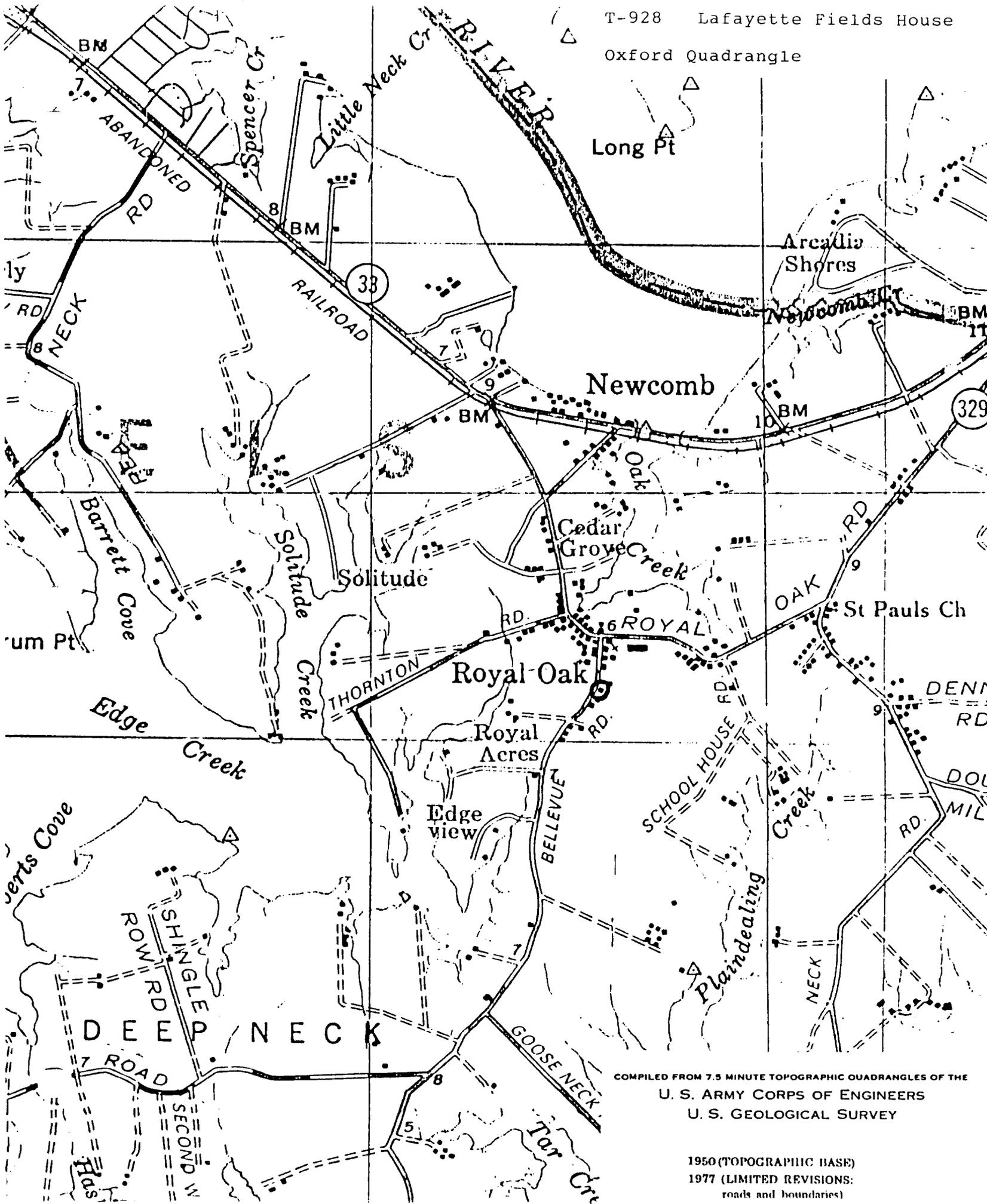
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
301-513-7600

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

T-928

Lafayette Fields house Description cont'd.

This house is one of six almost identical structures which line the east side of Bellevue Road facing the land of Darby Farm just outside of Royal Oak's village proper. This strip is visually separated from the Royal Oak village by a wooded lot. It seems likely that this strip developed as an African-American community based around the site of the old Baptist Church.



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:  
 roads and boundaries)



T-928

LAFAYETTE FIELDS HOUSE

SW ELEVATION