

M-12-42-20
James Lee House
Big Woods Community
Private

c.1894

This two story frame house with a three-bay facade was built by the second generation of post-Civil War black land-owners in the Big Woods Community. The residents were related to descendants of other founders of the community, creating bonds of kinship as well as community.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC The James Lee Family House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER North side of Big Woods Rd.

CITY, TOWN Poolesville

VICINITY OF (Big Woods)

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 8

STATE Md.

COUNTY Montgomery

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 type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Daniel and Senora Jenkins

Telephone #: not listed

STREET & NUMBER 20925 Big Woods Rd.

CITY, TOWN Poolesville

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code Md.

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE REGISTER OF DEEDS, ETC Register of deeds

Liber #: 1076

Folio #: 203

STREET & NUMBER County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN Rockville

STATE Md.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE None

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

 DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two story frame dwelling resembles the other houses of black landowners built near the turn of the twentieth century. Though the house has been recently improved its basic form remains evident. Its facade was three bays in length and the house was one bay in depth. Inside each gable end were brick stove flues, the roof line was pierced by a cross-gable pediment. The windows contained double-hung sashes with 2 x 2 panes. In plan, the house probably consisted of two rooms down and two rooms up.

Recent changes include a one story room added to the front of the house and an enclosed shed to the southern gable end. The house has been painted yellow and new wooden shutters added.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

M:12-42-20

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Black History Local History	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1894

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house is of the type built by the second generation of landowners in black communities. According to the deed JA 46/181 this tract was purchased in 1894 by James H. Lee from Andrew C. Brown. They were white landowners who owned property in the Big Woods community but did not live there.

According to Florence Hallman, James Lee was the son of one of the founders of Big Woods after the Civil War, Richard Lee. One of James' brothers was Noah Lee, who also lived in the community.

Lee was also connected to the descendants of other founding families by way of two marriages. His first was to Martha Owens, who was the daughter of Louisa Owens and who was raised in the nearby log house, M: 12-42-31. Later, he married Sarah Onley Awkard, former wife of Jeremiah Awkard. Sarah was the sister of William T. Onley and daughter of Henry T. Onley. Thus, three of the founding families after the Civil War became connected through marriage -- the Lees, Onleys and Owens -- creating a large, extended family in the Big Woods community.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land records: 1076/203, JA 46/181, JA 21/439, STS 1/412.
 Montgomery County Courthouse, Rockville, Maryland.
 Oral interview with Florence Hallman (not taped), Big
 Woods Community by George McDaniel, August, 1978.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

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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 State House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438~~

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