

S-11
 Brittingham Farm
 Princess Anne vicinity
 private

c. 1815

Located on the periphery of Princess Anne is the old Brittingham farm, owned since the mid 1960s by the Lee family. The c. 1815 side hall/double pile house has two, towering exterior brick chimneys on the west end, and original beaded weatherboards remain exposed on three sides. The boxed cornice is finished with Federal style bed and crown moldings, and the front entrance is distinguished by a transom with comma-shaped corner moldings. The interior of the main house has been well maintained with a large percentage of its original Federal style woodwork intact. The open string staircase rises in three flights to the third floor, and the stringer is fitted on the first floor with a scrolled decoration. Attached to the west gable end is an early nineteenth-century service wing which has been refitted as a modern kitchen and family room. The section nearest the house was formerly an open colonnade that joined the one room kitchen. Remaining in the old kitchen are wide vertical boards and exposed floor joists. A ladder, assembled with wrought nails, formerly provided access to the loft.

Similarities in the Federal style woodwork of the Brittingham house and the Colonel George Handy house in Princess Anne (S-7), built in 1806, suggest the same craftsman worked on both dwellings. Identical comma-shaped moldings survive in both front door transoms, and the Federal mantels, chair rail, ^{and} doors ~~also~~ follow along the same lines.

Construction of this fine Federal period house is estimated to date to c. 1815, after Jesse H. Wainwright purchased three-hundred acres from John Teackle of Accomac County, Virginia (JP 1/409). During the second half of the eighteenth century, the property was owned by Dr. Francis T. Cheney, whose father, Andrew Francis Cheney, had assembled several adjacent tracts into a large plantation during the 1760s and 1770s (See G/64, D/146, C/210). Parts of

"Hayward's Purchase," "Friendship," and "Newman's Last Conclusion," totaled three-hundred and sixteen acres. Jesse H. Wainwright occupied his plantation until his death around 1822, when the property entered the Circuit Court of Somerset County. Settlement and sale of the property was not accomplished until 1834 when the plantation was transferred to Rosanna A.W. Wainwright, who later married James Brittingham (GH 7/348). The farm remained in Brittingham family hands until the turn of the century when it was purchased by Marion S. Malone (OTB 28/356).

Survey No. S-11

Magi No. 2000115304

DOE ___yes ___no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Brittingham Farm

and/or common Lee House

2. Location

street & number West side US Route 13 _____ not for publication

city, town Princess Anne _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district First

state Maryland _____ county Somerset

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 Irving Lee

street & number US Route 13 _____ telephone no.:

city, town Princess Anne _____ state and zip code MD 21853

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset County Clerk of Court _____ liber

street & number Somerset County Courthouse _____ folio

city, town Princess Anne _____ state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Historic Sites Inventory

date 1967 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis _____ state MD 21401

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 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 Lee House (known historically at the Brittingham farm) is located on the west side of US Route 13 near Princess Anne, Somerset County, Maryland. The two-story side hall/double pile Federal period house faces south with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis. Entrance to the property is provided by an access road that intersects Mt. Vernon Road.

Built during the first quarter of the nineteenth century, the two-story, three-bay by two-room frame house is supported by a concrete-faced foundation, and it is sheathed with beaded weatherboards. The east side of the house is covered with aluminum. Attached to the west side is an early nineteenth-century kitchen wing. Accompanying the house is an early nineteenth-century frame granary that has been converted to a gift shop.

The south facade is a three-bay elevation with an entrance filling the east bay. The replacement six-panel door is topped by a four-light transom decorated with comma-shaped corner brackets. The doorway is framed by a Federal style surround with fluted pilasters and a molded entablature. The two adjacent bays are filled with nine over six sash windows that survive with early nineteenth century surrounds. Lighting the second floor are three evenly spaced nine over six sash windows. An enriched box cornice with a drillwork bed molding highlights the base of the roof.

The east gable end elevation is a symmetrical facade with two nine over six sash windows on the first floor and three evenly spaced nine over six sash windows lighting the second floor. The six over six sash windows pierce the gable end, and the gable is finished with a molded bargeboard.

The north (rear) elevation is a symmetrical facade with three nine over six sash on the first and second floors. The cornice is detailed with the same drillwork bed molding that is found on the front of the house.

The west gable end is distinguished by a pair of exterior, seven-course common bond brick chimneys that have corbelled shoulders at the second floor height and corbelled caps. Attached to the west gable is a c. 1810 single-story kitchen that has been remodeled on the exterior. A few sections of beaded weatherboards remain on the west gable end.

The interior of the main house has survived with its woodwork largely undisturbed. The first floor is divided into four rooms with stair hall located in the southeast corner. Rising three flights to the attic the Federal period staircase has a slender round newel post and delicate rectangular balusters which support the ramped handrail. The stringer is embellished with a scrolled decoration, while the area below is finished with flush vertical panels. A four-panel door opens into the stair closet. In addition, the hall is trimmed with early nineteenth century molded chair rail and baseboard. Two doorways, one located on each interior partition, opens into a neighboring room. Although the period doors have been removed, the three-part door surrounds remain 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
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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.

The Lee house is one of a large collection of Federal period plantation houses in Somerset County. The c. 1810-1820 side hall/double pile frame house has two towering exterior brick chimneys on the west end, and original beaded weatherboards remain exposed on three sides. The box cornice is embellished with period bed and crown moldings. Attached to the west gable end is a single-story frame kitchen which appears to date from the same period as the house. Structural evidence suggests the one-room kitchen may have been attached to the main house by a colonnade which has been converted into a modern kitchen. The interior of the main house has been well preserved with 80% of its original woodwork intact. The open staircase rises in three flights to the third floor and is finished on the first floor with a scrolled stringer decoration. The mantel in the front room is a fine Federal period design, while the other mantels follow less elaborate formats.

Description continued

The front room or parlor has the fanciest mantel in the house. Reeded pilasters with molded bases and capitals flank the firebox and support a five-part frieze. The bottom strip molding of the frieze carries a decorative row of gougework with four vertical line gouges that are interspersed with a star motif. The five-part frieze has two reeded end blocks and one plain center tablet. The cornice is broken, and it carries an enriched bed molding. The chair rail molding formerly fixed in this room has been cut out for the most part, but the period window and door surrounds were left intact.

The dining room is located behind the parlor and is finished with similar period woodwork. The Federal period mantel has paneled pilasters below a five-part frieze. The molded mantel shelf is broken at each end. The chair rail has been partially replaced between the window and door openings, but the molded baseboard remains intact.

The fourth first floor room has been partially remodeled with the addition of modern paneling, but it still retains its chair rail and baseboard moldings.

The open stairwell is surrounded by a Federal period railing on the second floor, and the walls are trimmed with period chair rail and baseboard moldings. Six-panel doors open into the three bedrooms which are fitted with less elaborate Federal period mantels, chair rail, and baseboards.

The third floor has been partitioned into three rooms. Relocated six-panel doors or board and batten doors have been attached to the plain door surrounds. The collar beams have been raised to allow for more headroom.

The single-story kitchen interior has been reworked to accommodate a modern service, but the west room has survived with vertical beaded board paneling the beaded floor joists. A ladder built with wrought nails provided access to the second floor left of the kitchen. The current kitchen is said to have been a connecting colonnade which joined the main house with the single-story, one-room kitchen. A covered over half-column is fixed to the west wall of the main block. The column is perhaps the only clear reference to the former colonnade.

The only significant outbuilding is an early nineteenth-century mortise and tenon frame granary that has been converted into a gift shop. The center bi-level structure is flanked on each side by shed roofed wagon bays. Major alterations to the exterior and interior for conversion into a shop have compromised its original appearance.

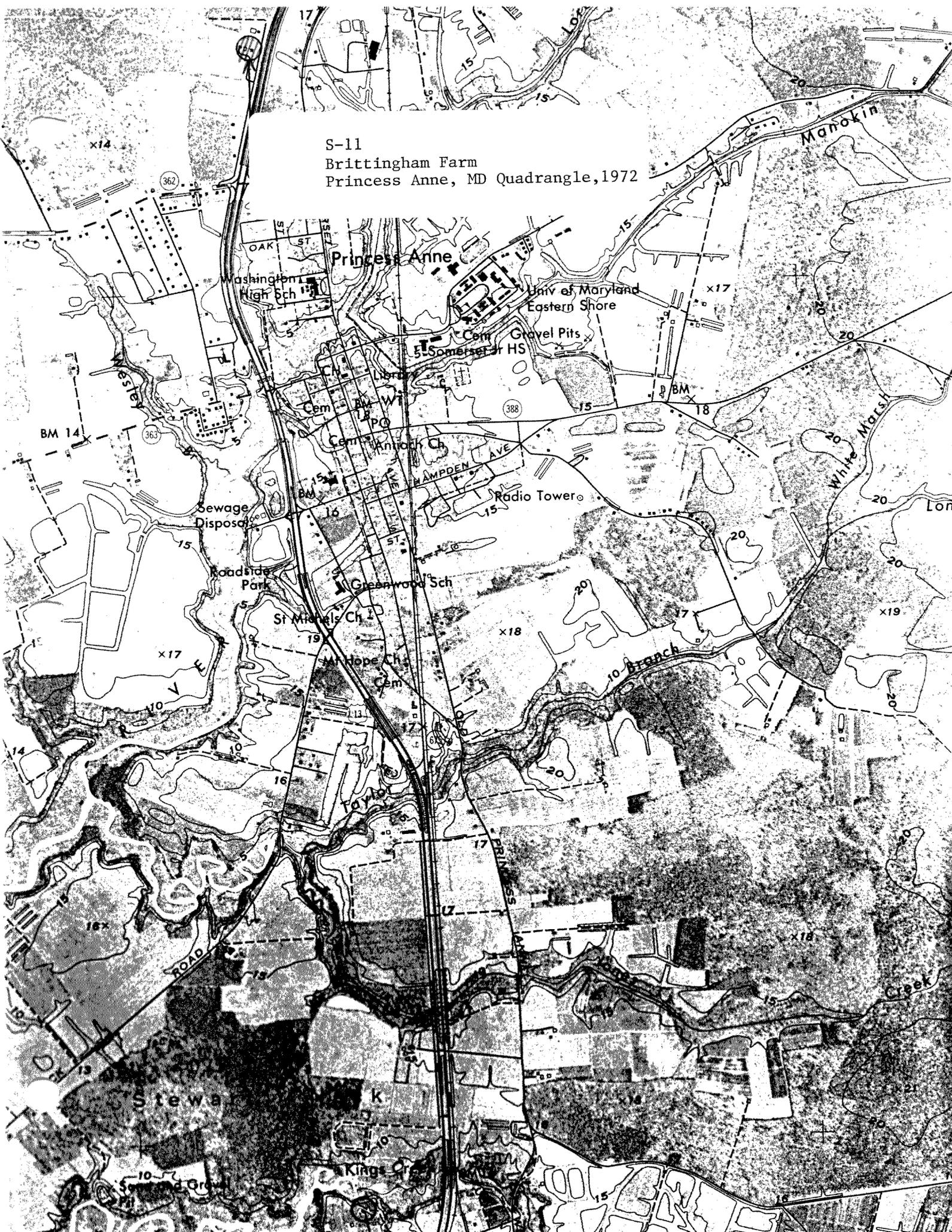
2000115204

Form 10-445
(5/62)

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Somerset TOWN Princess Anne CITY STREET NO.		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY	
ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE Dwelling PRESENT OWNER Mrs. Irving Lee PRESENT USE Dwelling WALL CONSTRUCTION Beaded Clapboard NO. OF STORIES 2 1/2		2. NAME Lee House S-11 DATE OR PERIOD c. 1775 STYLE Colonial ARCHITECT BUILDER	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
<p>This is a rather large frame house with a steeply pitched roof. It is three bays wide and three bays deep. All of the windows are 9/6. The door occupies the right bay on the front of the house. It has an overlight with carved wooden muntins. There are twin exposed chimneys on the left end of the house. There is a molded cornice along the roof line with a frieze of cut-out and applied squares below. A 1 1/2 storey kitchen wing is also on the left end. The house and the chimneys have a very massive, solid quality to them. This is an attractive property, well maintained, with much old boxwood growing around the house.</p>		OPEN TO PUBLIC no	
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE		Interior Exterior very good	
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER Paul A. Brinkman DATE OF RECORD August 8, 1967	

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

S-11
Brittingham Farm
Princess Anne, MD Quadrangle, 1972





Brittingham Farm

S-11

Princess Anne Vicinity, Somerset Co, Md.

North Elevation

3/86, Paul Touart, Photographer

3/86, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg/Md. Historical Trust



Brittingham Farm

S-11

Princess Anne Vicinity, Somerset Co. Md.

Granary

3/86, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg/Md. Historical Trust



Brittingham Farm

S-11

Princess Anne Vicinity, Somerset Co. Md.

Front Door

3/86, Paul Touart H Photographer

Neg/Md. Historical Trust



Brittingham Farm S-11
Princess Anne Vicinity, Somerset Co. Md.
Cornice
3/86 Paul Touart Photographer
Neg/Md. Historical Trust



Brittingham Farm

S-11

Princess anne Vicinity, Somerset Co, Md.

Front Door

3/86, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg/Md. Historical Trust



Brittingham Farm S-11
Princess Anne Vicinity, Somerset Co. Md.
Parlor Mantel
4/86, Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg/Md. Historical Trust



Brittingham Farm

S-11

Princess Anne Vicinity, Somerset Co. Md.

West Elevation

4/86, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg/Md. Historical Trust



S-11

S-11

Lee House
Somerset

Photographed by
R. H. CHURCH