

S-174

Nineteenth and twentieth centuries

Westover

public and private

Westover, Maryland, is a small nineteenth and twentieth-century village located in central Somerset County between Princess Anne and Crisfield. After the Eastern Shore Railroad was stretched to Somers Cove in 1866, several railroad-oriented towns developed along its path and the Westover station was the first stop south of Princess Anne. By 1877, the county atlas recorded the location of the depot as well as three stores, a post office, and a steam saw mill. One store, operated by William T. Tull, was located in part of his well-built frame house that he erected around the time of the Civil War. Owned since the late nineteenth century by the Long family, the two-story, bracketed dwelling is perhaps the oldest structure to remain standing in Westover. The Long Brothers Cannery, located at the north end of the string of village houses, has processed locally grown tomatoes since the early twentieth century, and, unlike most of the other fruit packing concerns, continues to operate. Another village landmark is the old Ruark-Ritzel flour mill, which stands at the south end of Westover.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Westover

and/or common Westover Survey District

2. Location

street & number MD Route 413 ___ not for publication

city, town Westover ___ 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 type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" 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 Various owners

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

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 Maryland 21853

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. S-174

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input checked="" 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 small village of Westover is located along MD Route 413 which parallels the old Crisfield branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad, known previously as the Eastern Shore Railroad. Most houses face the road and stand on medium sized lots. The town limits stretch for about a mile and are visually anchored at the north end by the Long Brothers' Cannery and at the south end by William M. Ruark's old flour mill. A few roads that branch from Route 413 have provided additional street frontage for house lots. The village consists of approximately twenty-five houses; three churches, two of which are active; two industrial sites, one of which is still in operation; one store and one post office.

The most significant dwelling is the William T. Tull House (S-183) which has been owned by the Long Family since the 1890s. Centered in Westover, this c. 1860 two-story frame house is distinguished from the others in size as well as decorative detail. Twin corbelled chimneys pierce the roofline.

The other houses in Westover are more modest two-story cross-gabled houses or dwellings of irregular plans. Decorative trim is largely confined to a turned post front porch or simple sawn-work in the eaves. Aside from houses, the most significant industrial site is William M. Ruark's flour mill (S-176). This rambling three-story frame mill is the last rural steam-operated mill in Somerset County. Like nearby Upper Fairmount, Westover's development and growth waned in the Post World War I era and has decreased in activity and population since then. The railroad tracks were taken up several years ago, and the railroad freight station and ticket office were moved to new sites. The village store and the post office remain as the centers of activity.

8. Significance

Survey No. S-174

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

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.

Westover, Maryland, is a rural 19th and early 20th-century village in central Somerset County, consisting of approximately twenty-five frame houses, three churches, a mill, a store and a post office. All buildings are of frame construction and were oriented to the Eastern Shore Railroad. These structures are entirely post-Civil War buildings dating from 1865 to the early 20th century. This sixty-year span comprises the period of major activity in the village with business tapering after the first World War. The Long Brothers' Canning factory still operates, but other small businesses, such as the old flour mill, have closed. The one country store and the Westover post office remain the center of activity. Similar to Upper Fairmount, Westover's housing stock consists of two-story three-bay houses with a minimum of decorative trim. A few irregular plan houses offer a touch of variety. Westover derives its name from the nearby plantation of "Westover," ^{ONCE} owned by the prominent Wilson family.

5860 III NE
(MONIE)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

S-174 Westover
Survey DISTRICT
KINGSTON, MD 1972
(SEE OTHER MAPS)

75° 45'
'8° 07' 30"

435000m E

436

437

42' 30"

4219000m N

FAIRMOUNT 4.4 MI

4218

4217

4216

5'

4215

4214



S-174 WESTOVER SURVEY DISTRICT 1972
 PRINCESS ANNE, MD. QUAD
 (SEE OTHER MAP)



(MARION)
 5860 III SE

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

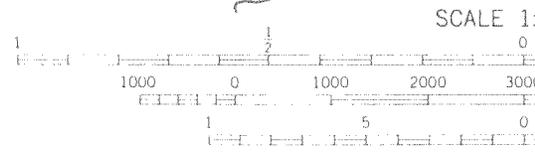
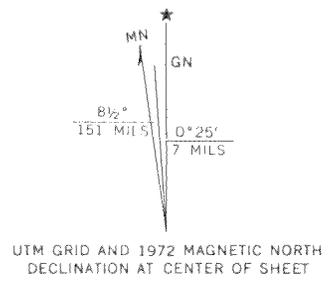
Orthophotomap prepared from aerial photograph taken April 5, 1972. Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1972. Field checked 1972. Supersedes Army Map Service map dated 1942.

Selected hydrographic data from USC&GS Chart 555 (1973). This information is not intended for navigational purposes.

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Maryland coordinate system (Lambert conformal conic)

1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18, shown in blue. 1927 North American datum

Only landmark buildings in urban areas



CONTOUR INTERVAL IS MEAN DATUM IS MEAN SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATA THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACT FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS



Westover Survey District
Westover, Somerset County
East Elevation
8/84 Paul Touart
Neg./ MD Hist. Trust

S-174



LONG BROS.

Westover Survey District
Westover, Somerset County
East Elevation
8/84 Paul Touart
Neg./ MD Hist. Trust

S-174



LONG BROS.

Westover Survey District
Long Brothers' Cannery
Westover, Somerset County
East Elevation
8/84 Paul Touart
Neg./ MD Hist. Trust

S-174



Westover Survey District
Westover, Somerset
East Elevation
8/84 Paul Touart
Neg./ MD Hist. Trust

S-174



Westover Survey District
Westover, Somerset County
West Elevation
8/84 Paul Touart
Neg./ MD Hist. Trust

S-174



Westover Survey District
Westover, Somerset County
Long Brothers' Cannery
8/84 Paul Touart
Neg./ MD Hist. Trust

S-174



Westover Survey District
Westover, Somerset County
East Elevation
8/84 Paul Touart
Neg./ MD Hist. Trust

S-174