

S M -294
TAYLOR HOUSE
Leonardtwn
Private

circa 1923

The original, 1 1/2-story principal block of this house was built by a landowning Negro farmer, George Taylor. Its design shows the continuity of traditional forms into the 20th century. The farmstead ~~includes~~ ^{CONSISTS} of a number of 20th-century outbuildings, The largest of ~~these~~ ~~is~~ a complex of hog pens, as ~~Raymond~~ Taylor's son Raymond continues to raise and butcher hogs for family consumption.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Taylor House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER West side of Compton Road, 0.5 mile south of junction of
Route 5 and Compton Road. (MD 243)

CITY, TOWN Leonardtown VICINITY OF Compton CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 3

STATE Maryland COUNTY St. Mary's

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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME George Taylor (deceased)
Raymond Taylor (heir) Telephone #: N.A.

STREET & NUMBER Compton Road

CITY, TOWN Leonardtown VICINITY OF Maryland STATE, zip code 20650

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. St. Mary's County Courthouse

Liber #: Map 32, P. 190
Folio #: No Deed Registered

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Leonardtown STATE Maryland

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 house stands at the end of a dirt drive, facing east toward Compton Road. Like many other farm houses of blacks in this survey, it was once surrounded by farm land, which is no longer cultivated. Only a garden remains. Nevertheless, the environs of this house still contain some of the structures of the farmstead: the well (to the southeast of the house); pens and enclosed yards for hounds; an enclosed chicken yard and chicken coop; a privy to the north (rear); and an extensive complex of hog pens and butchering yard in the back of this house for the hogs which the occupant, Raymond Taylor, raises for his neighbors and family.

The house itself consists of a one and a half story principal block with shed additions sloping from the front, and from the two gable sides. A small gable roof addition is attached to the rear length. According to Raymond Taylor, the house originally consisted of only the principal block, which was built in circa 1923 by his father, George Taylor. Originally, the exterior was covered with unpainted weatherboards, which Raymond Taylor has now sheathed with a more brightly colorful and weather resistant synthetic siding. The facade of the principal block consisted of three bays: two windows flanking a central doorway. Above the two windows opened two more windows, giving symmetry to the exterior of the facade.

In its original plan, the interior consisted of one room downstairs and one upstairs. A brick stove flue ascended inside the eastern gable end. In the northwest corner, a boxed stairway led to the upstairs. Raymond Taylor has enlarged upon his father's basic plan by building a small kitchen on the eastern gable end and a small bedroom on the opposite side. To the rear, he added another bedroom, and he enclosed the front porch. The downstairs room of the original block had served as the combined sitting room, bedroom, and kitchen. Today it is used exclusively as the "sitting room" or "family room." Taylor has given his father's plainly finished house a more contemporary appearance by adding new, mass-produced furnishings to this room and by covering a wall with synthetic beaded pine panelling, which lends to the interior the warm tones of stained wood. On one wall is prominently displayed an artifact frequently found in the homes of blacks in southern Maryland and throughout the South: an inexpensive, richly colored and textured tapestry of Martin Luther King flanked by Robert and John Kennedy.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

SM-294

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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Black History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The construction of this house with only two rooms in circa 1923 reflects the continuity of traditional design of black farm houses into the 20th century. The changes to it over the years are in keeping with, as personal means enable and as the market provides, the trend of folk houses in the 19th and 20th centuries; that is, toward the specialization and division of household space and toward the increase in the variety and number of interior furnishings and of decorative colors.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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

George W. McDaniel

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Commission on Afro-American History and Culture

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

20 Dean Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis, Maryland

STATE

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





Taylor House
Stina 294
Leonardtown, Md.
East facade
GWM 3/77



Taylor House
Stma 294
Leonardtown, Md.
North View
GWM - 3/77