

Capsule Summary
SM-467
G. Edward Thomas House
St. George Island
Private

Circa 1927

The G. Edward Thomas House is significant as an example of the work of local carpenters Captain Ben Brown and David McKenny. Built in the 1920s, the well-preserved structure is also the only Italian Renaissance style dwelling on St. George Island. The rectangular block building, capped by a distinctive hipped-roof, stands out among the island's more traditional house forms.

The chain of title for the property is difficult to follow. It appears that all of the parcels acquired in the area by G. Edward "Ed" Thomas were purchased during the first two decades of the twentieth century. From the early 1900s until around 1950, Ed Thomas operated a store on the lot next to the house. The store was one of three on the island that sold general merchandise. It also included a millinery shop and a post office.

The store building actually predated construction of the Thomas house. Prior to building the house, Ed Thomas, his wife and three children lived on the second floor of the store. Around 1927, Captain Ben Brown and David McKenny were hired to build a separate dwelling for the family. The store remained in operation until the 1950s and was later demolished.

SM-467, G. Edward Thomas House
St. Mary's County
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Plan Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period: Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870 -1930.

Historic Period Theme: Architecture

Resource Type

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use: Residence

Known Design Source: None

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. SM 467

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common G. Edward Thomas House

2. Location

street & number 277 Thomas Road not for publication

city, town St. George Island vicinity of congressional district 5

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 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 Julius and Agnes M. Orosz

street & number 277 Thomas Road telephone no.: (301) 994 1723

city, town Piney Point state and zip code Maryland 20674

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse liber BWA 743

street & number folio 237

city, town Leonardtown state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository 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 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.

Contributing Resource Count: 1

The G. Edward Thomas House is located on the east side of Thomas Road on St. George Island in St. Mary's County, Maryland. To the south of the house is an empty lot where the Thomas store once stood. To the east of the house, the property extends to the shore of Island Creek. A house lot borders the property on the north. The Thomas House faces west.

Built around 1927, the G. Edward Thomas House is a rectangular structure with a hipped roof. It is sheathed with german style vinyl siding. The roof has a medium overhang and is covered with asphalt shingles.

The west (main) elevation is pierced by a central entrance door flanked by six-light-over-one-panel sidelights. A portico with a cement pad floor shelters the door. A bank of three one-over-one sash windows with narrow surrounds are located on either side of the door. The second floor is pierced by a central bank of three one-over-one sash windows flanked by two one-over-one sash windows on either side. A flat roof addition extends to the south. The addition is lighted by four one-over-one sash windows.

The south elevation of the one-story addition is blind. The second floor of the house is pierced by two one-over-one sash windows. An interior brick chimney pierces the roof at this end of the house.

The east elevation of the one-story addition is pierced by a five-panel door. The door is sheltered by a shed roof porch supported by two wood posts. The main block of the house is pierced by a four-light-over-two panel door, a pair of casement windows, and one two-over-two sash window sheltered by a shed roof porch. Three one-over-one sash windows act as the northern most bay. The second floor is pierced by three one-over-one sash windows and one rectangular window.

The north elevation of the first and second floors is pierced by two pairs of one-over-one sash windows.

The interior consists of a center hall, single pile plan. The hall stair is an open string with a square newell post and square balusters. A bathroom has been inserted at the east end of the hall opposite the entrance door. French doors open off of the hall into both the parlor and the dining room. Only the north parlor retains the original mantel. The mantel consists of fluted pilasters mounted on square block plinths, a plain frieze and a mantel shelf. The interior window and door surrounds consist of an interior bead and a wide, plain molding crowned by a molded cornice. The second

8. Significance

Survey No. SM 467

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" 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 Unknown Builder/Architect David McKenny and Capt. Ben Brown

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 G. Edward Thomas House is significant as an example of the work of local carpenters Captain Ben Brown and David McKenny. Built in the 1920s, the well-preserved structure is also the only Italian Renaissance style dwelling on St. George Island. The rectangular block building, capped by a distinctive hipped-roof, stands out among the island's more traditional house forms.

The chain of title for the property is difficult to follow. It appears that all of the parcels acquired in the area by G. Edward "Ed" Thomas were purchased during the first two decades of the twentieth century. From the early 1900s until around 1950, Ed Thomas operated a store on the lot next to the house. The store was one of three on the island that sold general merchandise. It also included a millinery shop and a post office.

The store building actually predated construction of the Thomas house. Prior to building the house, Ed Thomas, his wife and three children lived on the second floor of the store. Around 1927, Captain Ben Brown and David McKenny were hired to build the house. The store remained in operation until the 1950s. It was then demolished in the late 1950s.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM 467

Charles Moore, Personal Interview, December 1994

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 2/20 Acres

Quadrangle name St. George Island

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

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
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth Hughes, Historic Sites Surveyor

organization St. Mary's County Planning & Zoning

date December 1994

street & number 328 Washington Street

telephone (301) 475 4662

city or town Leonardtown

state Maryland

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
 Shaw House
 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
 D-07/DHOD
 100 COMMUNITY PLACE
 CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
 514-7800

SM-467, G. Edward Thomas House
St. Mary's County
7.1 Description

floor consists of four bedrooms and a bath. Five-panel doors and the original wood flooring remain in place throughout the house.

One outbuilding, located north of the house, stands on the property. This cinderblock garage is roofed with asphalt shingles.

SM-467, G. Edward Thomas House
St. Mary's County
8.1 Significance

Chain of Title

TO: Julius Orosz and Agnes M. Orosz
FROM: Philip R. Kennedy and Carol Bloemker
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber EWA 743, folio 237.
DATE: January 5, 1993.
NOTES: Transfer of 2.20 acres (see plat MRB 18/82).

TO: Philip R. Kennedy and Carol Bloemker, tenants in common.
FROM: Philip R. Kennedy and Carol Bloemker, joint tenants.
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber EWA 497, folio 389.
DATE: September 29, 1989.
NOTES: Transfer of 2.20 acres.

TO: Philip P. Kennedy and Carol Bloemker
FROM: Alva V. Watson Jr. and Victoria E. Watson
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber MRB 336, folio 68.
DATE: February 17, 1987.
NOTES: Transfer of 2.20 acres.

TO: Alva V. Watson Jr. and Victoria E. Watson
FROM: G. Edward Thomas Jr., also known as Gabriel Edward Thomas, personal rep.
of the estate of Myrtle R. Thomas, deceased.
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber MRB 137, folio 496.
DATE: March 1, 1983.
NOTES: Transfer of 2.20 acres being composed of 1.) CBG 118/258, 2.) CBG
121/169, 3.) CBG 50/270, 4.) CBG 85/38, 5.) MRB 72/423.

Parcel 1

TO: G. Edward Thomas Jr. and Fannie Mae Thomas
FROM: Lawyers Title Company of St. Mary's County, Inc.
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber CBG 118, folio 258.
DATE: February 4, 1965.
NOTES:

TO: Lawyers Title Company of St. Mary's County, Inc.
FROM: G. Edward Thomas Jr. and Fannie Mae Thomas
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber CBG 118, folio 256.
DATE: February 4, 1965.
NOTES: Transfer of two parcels. 1.) being 2 34/100's of an acre, being the same as
CBG 47/409. 2.) being 73/100s of an acre, being CBG 74/341.

SM-467, G. Edward Thomas House
St. Mary's County
8.2 Significance

Parcel 2

TO: G. Edward Thomas Jr. and Fannie Mae Thomas
FROM: John Paul Stoddard and Mary Roberta Stoddard
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber CBG 121, folio 169.
DATE: June 1969.
NOTES: Transfer of 4/100s of an acre.

Parcel 3

TO: Gabriel Edward Thomas Jr.
FROM: Eugene Henderson and Queenie Henderson
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber CBG 50, folio 270.
DATE: May 17, 1954.
NOTES: Transfer of "Part of St. George's Island" being 1 and a half acres more or less.

Parcel 4

TO: Myrtle P. Thomas, G. Edward Thomas, Jr., and Charles T. Thomas
FROM: Lawyers Title Company, Inc.
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber CBG 85, folio 38.
DATE: November 21, 1959.
NOTES:

TO: Lawyers Title Company, Inc.
FROM: Myrtle P. Thomas, widow.
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber CBG 85, folio 36.
DATE: November 21, 1959.
NOTES: Transfer of four parcels. 1.) part of the Pearson homestead 2.) part of the original tract of the Pearson's land, being 1/5 of an acre. 3.) Part of the original tract of Charles E. and Emma Robrecht land, being 1/4 of an acre. 4.) 1 1/2 acres

TO: Gabriel Edward Thomas and Myrtle G. Thomas
FROM: Mary R. Fowler
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber CBG 14, folio 15.
DATE: August 25, 1943.
NOTES: Transfer of five parcels. 1.) part of the homestead of Laura E. and George T. Pearson, being the same as EBA 3/254. 2.) part of the original tract of the Pearson land being 1/5 of an acres and the same as EBA 6/320. 3.) part of the tract of Charles E. and Emma Robrecht being 1/4 of an acre the same as EBA 6/319. 4.) 1 1/2 acres being the same as EBA 15/231. 5.) three acres, formerly the Crowder land conveyed to Thomas by the county treasurer, being the same as JYG 2/303 and JMM 1/474.

SM-467, G. Edward Thomas House
St. Mary's County
8.3 Significance

Parcel 5

TO: G. Edward Thomas Jr. and Charles T. Thomas

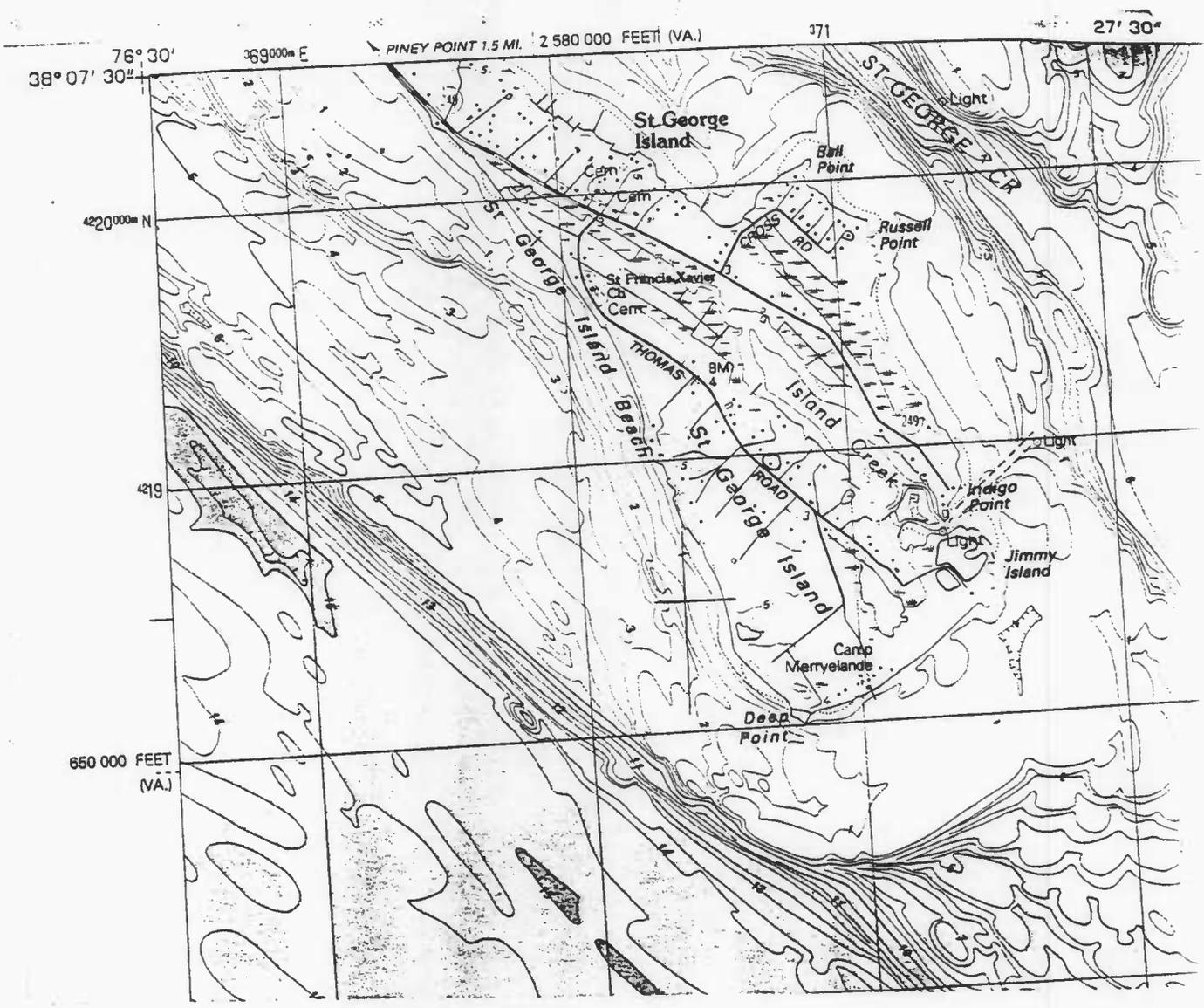
FROM: G. Edward Thomas Jr., pers. rep. of the estate of Myrtle Thomas, deceased.

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber MRB 72, folio 423.

DATE: May 23, 1980.

NOTES: Transfer of 1 51/100s of an acre.

SM-467
G. Edward Thomas House
St. George Island
St. George Island Quad



ST. GEORGE ISLAND, MD.-VA.

38076-A4-TB-024

1987

DMA 5760 III SW-SERIES V833



SM- 467

G. Edward Brown. H. 2

F. Mary's County

L. Hughes

12/24

HD SHPO

SW Elevation

1/2



SM-467

G. Edward Thomas House

St. Mary's Academy

L. Hughes

10/11/44

10/11/45

NE. 1/2 Section

2/1