

K-197

Travilla Farm
Morgnec
c.1800

Travilla stands on what was one of the main landings of the Chester River. The derivation of its name points to Phillip Travilla who occupied the house/farm in the early 19th Century. Travilla was a man of local prominence, who at one point in his life was the County Tax Collector.

The house at Travilla Farm was similar to Marrowbone further up the Chester River, being a three bay, 1 1/2 story brick structure with a 1 1/2 story service wing on the east gable. Unlike Marrowbone, its principal facade, laid in Flemish bond, was the north wall, facing the lane rather than the River, reflecting a change in the importance of the road system over the old water way. Its watertable rose above the basement windows like Deptford, located upon higher ground about a mile and a half away. Travilla Farm, however, used no glazed headers in any uniform patterns. From photographic and millwork evidence in the house, it was either built or remodeled in the early 19th Century.

From Phillip Travilla, it passed into the hands of John W. Walker, a local merchant who had acquired many properties in Kent County before his death in the mid-Century. Walker's widow and daughter sold the farm to Jonathan Slaughter of Delaware, in whose ownership it remained until 1875.¹ In that year it was purchased at public sale by David Clements who had built the Italianate house east of Prickle Pear Mill.² Mr. Clements transferred the farm to his daughter Margaret, the wife of William E. Jarrell in 1899.³

Until the house was acquired in 1938 and subsequently remodeled by Clarence Jenkins,⁴ it had been either a tenant house or vacant since Phillip Travilla's ownership. With the help of an architect, Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins took the little derelict house and turned it into a comfortable modern dwelling using the old house as the center of a five part composition. Since 1937, it has remained in the same family.

1. Land Records, Lib. JFG 3, fol. 233.
2. Land Records, Lib. DCB 2, fol. 130.
3. Land Records, Lib. JTD 2, fol. 376.
4. Land Records, Lib. RAS 19, fol. 469.

K-197
Travilla
Chestertown
Private

18th Century

Travilla was the shell of a simple one and one-half story farm house of the 18th century before its restoration in 1947. It was enlarged by the addition of symmetrical side wings connected by hyphens to the old house. A Flemish bond brick facade with stepped water table and some old pine flooring are the most significant survivals from the earliest period of the house.

(H-12-11-78) 78/11

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Travilla
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Morgnac Road, east of Chestertown (K-12-11-78) 78/11

CITY, TOWN
Chestertown

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
First

STATE
Maryland

COUNTY
Kent

VICINITY OF

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mr. & Mrs. T. Allan Stradley

Telephone #: (301) 778-2680

STREET & NUMBER
Travilla

CITY, TOWN
Chestertown

STATE, zip code
Maryland 21620

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Kent County Courthouse

Liber #: W46 39

Folio #: 255

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Chestertown

STATE
Maryland 21620

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

K-197

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Travilla is an early vernacular farmhouse with modern gable roofed wings connected to the main house with hyphens. The original house is three bays wide with a central entrance. There are three gable dormers in each slope of the gable roof. Square enclosed chimneys with simple caps were enclosed within each gable end. The roof was finished with verge boards. There was a box cornice which remains, partially rebuilt.

Windows were 6/6. Besides those in the long sides of the building there were three windows on the west gable, two of them on the second floor. The earliest wing built on the gable was a one story gable roofed structure connected to the main house on the first floor. There may have been a window in the gable in the second floor behind the small wing. Later this was replaced by an ungainly story frame wing and connected by a door on the second floor.

Brick is Flemish bond on the main facade and there is a stepped water table on the main facade, two gable facades but probably not on the rear.

In 1947 the hyphens and wings were added by Clarence Jenkins, the father of the present owner. The floor plan was also altered at this time. Originally the structure was probably of the hall and parlor type with corner stairs. There were three rooms on the second floor.

A mantle which was in place before the restoration has been used in one downstairs room; it has a corner block and flat moldings on the surround. Although old, it is not of the type that would have been original to the house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-197

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 checked="" 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 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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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Travilla exemplifies the early, simple dwelling of a small farm. Although pleasantly proportioned and beautifully sited, it has no pretences to sophistication. Little is known of its history. Stylistically the building would most likely date from the 18th century. About 1850, the farm was known as "Hopewell."

Unfortunately, virtually all interior details have been lost. Nevertheless, the old house has been converted into an attractive dwelling.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

K-197

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

Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Kent County Historical Society

DATE

August, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Church Alley

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Maryland 21620

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

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

<p>1. STATE <u>Maryland</u> COUNTY <u>Kent</u> TOWN <u>Chestertown</u> VICINITY <u>Morgues</u> STREET NO. <u>Rt 291, 0.6 mile east of</u> <u>Intersection with Rt 447 (South)</u> ORIGINAL OWNER _____ ORIGINAL USE <u>dwelling</u> PRESENT OWNER <u>T. Allen Stradley</u> PRESENT USE <u>dwelling</u> WALL CONSTRUCTION <u>brick</u> NO. OF STORIES <u>1 1/2</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY <u>K-197</u></p> <p>2. NAME <u>Travilla</u> DATE OR PERIOD <u>18th Cent.</u> STYLE _____ ARCHITECT _____ BUILDER _____</p> <p>3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE</p>
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4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC No

Only the central portion of Travilla is old, being a typical one and one-half story, three bay long brick dwelling of the 18th century. During the second quarter of this century, the little house was snatched from complete ruin and made the center section of a five-part symmetrical house, built in the simple style of its predecessor.

Only the north facade retains its original fenestration, the south having had large bay windows introduced so that the occupants could take full advantage of its view over the Chester River.

There is no original woodwork in the old portion of the house with the exception of the exposed beams in the dining room (originally plastered) and the floors etc. of the second story.

In its hay-day, Travilla was a public wharf for shipping produce to market. It's proximity to the river and especially ^{because the channel was very narrow} ~~because the channel was very narrow~~ (over)

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE ^{PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE} ~~PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE~~ ENTRANCED No

Interior good Exterior good

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional) 7. PHOTOGRAPH

<p>8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.</p>	<p>9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <u>Michael Bourne</u></p> <p>DATE OF RECORD <u>May, 1970</u></p>
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because the channel was very close made it an ideal location for miles either side of the site.



TRAVILLA

MHT-K-197

MORGNEC RD.

CHESTERTOWN, MD.

BEFORE RESTORATION

COPY OF PHOTO



TRAVILLA

MHT - K-197

MORGNEC RD

CHESTERTOWN, MD.

BEFORE RESTORATION

COPY OF PHOTO



TRAVILLA

MHT-K-197

MORGNEC RD.

CHESTERTOWN, MD.

RIVER FACADE FROM SOUTH AFTER RESTORATION

C. ENGSTROM AUG 1977