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Columbia Farm  
Near Melitota  
c. 1850's and later

John Wilson Corey came from Dublin, New Hampshire in 1850 and purchased this farm which is part of Coney Warren. In the 1852 Tax Assessment, two houses are listed on his farm—one brick, the other frame. There is also reference to the former owner John G. Black.

Soon after getting reestablished in Maryland, Mr. Corey set about building a good house for his family. The old frame one-and-a-half story house that was here when he came was sawn in two and one part was used for the kitchen. The other part was pulled out into the field where it was used by the help for many years.

Onto this kitchen wing a new two-story, back wing was added which housed the dining room, pantry, enclosed back stair and a more formal stairhall. In front of that was the typical center hall section with two flanking parlors set at right angles to the back wing. Like many other houses built during this period, the symmetry of the facade is heightened by the three-part entry door and window above. Undercut brackets were used in the cornice and overhanging eaves. Unlike many of the same period, Columbia Farm has an 'A' roof with two chimneys flanking the center hall and three equal size dormers.

It is said by the present owner (fourth generation) that the porches were installed after the Civil War, including not only the one-story verandah on the south and west sides, but the two-story porch on the back

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wing and the leanto off the kitchen as well. The latter is separated from the main porches by a screen of lattice – a device that was used frequently to separate the work area from the rest of the living area.

The interior is well appointed with marbleized slate mantels, bold walnut balustrade and fine ceiling medallions.

In recent years, the pantry has been converted into a kitchen and the whole house has had a facelift as well as some structural replacement. It is one of the finest mid 19th century houses of its form in Kent County.

Behind the early 19th century kitchen is an early plank smokehouse, doubled in size by the addition of a frame wing.

COREY FARM  
Melitota, Maryland  
(mid-19th century)

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Corey Farmhouse, one of Kent's finest mid-19th century farm houses, has survived into this century with remarkably few alterations. The main house is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  stories tall with three gable dormers in the front facade. It has a one-story porch which runs across the front and the south side of the house and connects to a two story porch on the south side of the wing. The kitchen porch, a work area adjoining the kitchen is separated from the side porch by a lattice wall. The most unusual feature of the Victorian part of this building is its careful exterior detailing, including large but delicate brackets on the roof cornice and return and graduated weatherboarding (from  $6\frac{1}{2}$ " at the bottom to only 3" on the top) on the front and sides of the main house.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC COREY FARM

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER West side of Fish Hatchery Road, 1/4 mile south of Handy Point Road

CITY, TOWN Melitota 1st CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
 STATE Maryland Kent COUNTY

**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                   | <b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>                   | <b>ACCESSIBLE</b>                            | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT                 | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS         | <input 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"/> NO       | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER                           |

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Mrs. Roland Corey Telephone #: 301-778-3531

STREET & NUMBER Melitota

CITY, TOWN Chestertown \_\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF STATE, zip code Maryland

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Kent County Court House Liber #: WHG 17 EHP 85  
 Folio #: 557 223

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Chestertown, Maryland STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

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# 7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION                                |                                       | CHECK ONE                                     | CHECK ONE  |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT       | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS        | <input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE <u>mid-19th</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR            | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED    |   | (kitchen)  |

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Corey Farmhouse, one of Kent's finest mid-19th century farm houses, has survived into this century with remarkably few alterations.

The building faces west overlooking open fields. The yard is shaded by mature trees and the walkways are bordered with boxwood. The front and rear yards of the house are separated by wooden fences. House-related outbuildings are directly behind the dwelling with barns situated around a courtyard at the rear.

The house is five bays wide and two bays deep with a four bay, two story rear ell. Behind the ell is a 1½ story kitchen, an 18th or early 19th century building moved into place when this house was built.

The main house is 2½ stories tall with three gable dormers in the front facade. It has a one-story porch which runs across the front and the south side of the house and connects to a two story porch on the south side of the wing. The kitchen porch, a work area adjoining the kitchen is separated from the side porch by a lattice wall.

There is a central entry in the main house. It has a five-pane transom and three-pane side lights and the door has six panels (the smallest are in the center) edged with bolection moldings. Another doorway also with transom and side lights leads to the wing stair from the porch.

Windows in the main house including the dormers have 6 over 6 sash; those in the first floor have the largest panes, but all have very slender muntins. First and second floor windows have louvered shutters and narrow fillet and bead frames illustrated below. There are plain wooden sills. Above the doorway is a three-part window with a central 4 over 4 sash flanked by 2 over 2 sash. The dormers have a triangulated pediment. Brick chimneys rise against the interior stair-hall walls, in the middle of the wing and the kitchen gable. The house has a brick foundation.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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| 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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Corey Farmhouse is significant because of its Victorian design. On both the exterior and interior detailing is handsome and well executed. Most detail remains in the house and many outbuildings, barns, and fences are still standing. In addition, much of the interior trim has original or early finishes.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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**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, Survey Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Kent County Planning Commission

DATE

778-4600, ext.67

STREET & NUMBER

Court House

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Chestertown, 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

The most unusual feature of the Victorian part of this building is its careful exterior detailing, including large but delicate brackets on the roof cornice and return and graduated weatherboarding (from 6½" at the bottom to only 3" on the top) on the front and sides of the main house. There is also a turned drop with bases decorated with a carved leaf design at each corner of the main house cornice. The cornice itself has a cyma recta and fillet crownmold and horizontal boarded soffet and fascia. The corners of the main house facade defined by paneled pilasters with molded bases. Running along the wall of the main house adjacent the porch is an exterior baseboard which resembles the interior baseboard but is larger.

The posts of the main porch are square with their chamfered corners finished with lambs tongue chamfer stops. There is a pair of curved brackets at the top of each post and a scroll bracket above each post. The roof is a slight hip. The two-story porch on the wing is similiar but simpler on the second floor and it has a railing with plain balustrade. The kitchen porch is enclosed with lattice walls and has a brick floor.

Now a kitchen, the end of the ell was once a freestanding building. Its interior, foundation, and chimney have been rebuilt but it retains some beaded weatherboarding on the exterior and two shed dormers in the roof. Window trim has an inner bead, and the 6 over 6 sash window has a pair of flush beaded shutters hung on penny-end strap hinges. The door is board and batten with a later window.

The house has most of its interior details and some finishes. The molding profiles used in various parts of the house are shown below. The major stair is a dog leg with a bold turned walnut newel set on a lower step that curves outward. The balusters are turned and made of oak and there are step brackets in a figure 8 design. The secondary stair is set perpendicular to the main stair and leads to the side porch entry. It has detailing very similiar to the main stair and very unusual brass details on the stair resers. There is a plain enclosed back stair near the kitchen and a winder stair which leads to the kitchen chamber.

Mantles on the first floor of the main house are marbelized slate with round openings. That in the south parlour has built-in cupboards. The hearths are also slate. On the second floor and the dining room wooden mantles are used.

In the front stair hall and two parlours there are beautiful plaster ceiling modillions with a fine leaf design. There is an early etched glass light fixture in one hall and in the south parlour a portion of old wallpaper remains. It has design of gold sheafs of wheat on a pinkish beige background and probably dates from the Classical Revival of the turn of this century.





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Corey Farm

View to northeast

Melittota

Kent County

M.L. Fritz

7/1980

*J. Tyler Campbell*  
FREE-LANCE PHOTOGRAPHY  
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND  
JAN 15 1980



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Corey Farm Plank Outbuilding  
view to northeast

M. L. Fritz

7/1980

*J. Tyler Campbell*  
FREE-LANCE PHOTOGRAPHY  
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND

JAN 15 1980