QA-96
Temple Callahan Farm
Starr vicinity
Private

circa 1840-50,
circa 1870-90

The early brick house on the Temple Callahan Farm was probably constructed circa 1840-50 and originally had a 1 1/2 story frame wing. This early wing was demolished in the post-Civil War period and replaced with the existing two story frame wing. The interior of the main house is distinguished by fine Greek Revival woodwork that includes a handsome stair, four original mantels, and a variety of unusual architrave trim. One unusual feature is the blocked bulkhead cellar entrance, which was centered on the west gable wall and opened into the cellar through a large segmental arch in the base of the west chimney. The wing is relatively plain except for the pleasing two story porch set back under the main roof on the south facade. A Greek Revival mantel on the second floor was probably salvaged from the earlier wing.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

QA-96

MAGI # 1800965404

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Temple Callahan Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

North side Starr Road

CITY, TOWN

Starr

X VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	X AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Temple Callahan

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

RT#2, Box 390A

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

__ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21617

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #: TSP 45

Folio #: 141

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

QA-96

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Temple Callahan Farm is located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Starr Road and Rolling Branch Road, approximately 2 1/2 miles northwest of Starr and 3 1/2 miles south of Centreville.

The main house on the Callahan Farm is of brick construction, 2 1/2 stories high, three bays wide, and one room deep, with flush brick chimneys at each end of a pitched gable roof. A frame two story, three bay wing with a pitched gable roof projects from the east gable wall of the main house. A two story porch extends across the south wall of the wing, with the roof of the wing carried out to include the porch. A small frame addition with a pitched roof extends to the rear of the two story wing, and a two story concrete block addition with a shed roof now conceals the center bay of the rear facade of the main house.

The principal facade of the main house faces southwest toward the road. The entrance door is located in the center bay, flanked by single 6/6 windows on either side. These first floor windows

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION

are relatively large and may originally have had 9/6 sash. There are three 6/6 windows on the second floor and a large, 20th century pitched roof dormer with 6/6 sash in the center bay of the third story. Splayed jack arches for two cellar windows are evident protruding above the floor of the porch. These windows are located directly below the first floor windows and have been blocked by a one story shed roof porch that protects all three bays on the first story but does not extend the full length of the facade. The front door has a handsome decorative transom and is framed with paneled sidelights and jambs with flattened Greek ogee panel molds. The first floor window openings also have splayed jack arch lintels; the lintels of the second story openings are hidden by the cornice. The brickwork on this facade is Flemish bond above a seven-course bond foundation; there is no water table or belt course. The eaves are boxed in with a bold crown mold that dominates the fascia and a smaller bed mold applied to a wide frieze with banded molding below a deep soffit. In general appearance this cornice could be Greek Revival, but it is carried around each corner to return on the gable, a feature generally associated with the post-Civil War period. The roof

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION

is covered with asphault shingles.

A pair of six-light casement windows in the upper gable are the only openings in the west gable wall. These openings have segmentally arched lintels and have small wood keystone blocks applied to the outside frame. These blocks appear added but the cap molding may be a Greek ogee/astragal, from the ground it is not clear. The present sash probably replaces original double hung sash. An arched opening in the center of the foundation has been bricked up and is no longer functional. This opening extended approximately two feet above ground level and presumably marks the location of the original cellar entrance. The brickwork on this wall is laid in five-course bond above the middle of the first story and in random common bond below that point. The front and rear cornice returns at the corners and is carried up the gable eaves, with a handsomely scrolled verge board set in under the soffit.

The center bay of the rear facade is now concealed by a modern, two story shed roof addition. There are single, large 6/6 windows to east and west on the first story and smaller 6/6 windows on the second story. The west cellar window has been bricked up; the east cellar window has been adapted for a modern cellar entrance. The brickwork is laid in five- to six-course

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.3 DESCRIPTION

bond; the cornice and roof match the front facade.

The two story frame wing covers the majority of the east gable wall, leaving the two six-light casement windows exposed in the upper gable. The brickwork and cornice match the west gable wall.

The south facade of the two story wing is set back approximately six feet from the front facade of the main house, allowing room for a two story porch that comes out flush with the main house and is included under the roof of the wing. A small lobby entrance extends out onto the porch in the west bay of the first floor, with two 6/6 windows to the east. A door in the center bay of the second story opens onto the upper porch, flanked by single 6/6 windows on each side. The wing rests on a continuous brick foundation and is covered with wood shingles. The eaves are treated the same as the main house but lack the bed mold and frieze. The porch is relatively plain, with square posts and a diamond lattice balustrade on the second story similar to the mid-19th century balustrade on the Robinett House in Centreville. The brick gable wall of the main house has been plastered on the west end of the porch.

On the east gable wall of the wing, there is one 6/6 window in the north bay on the first floor and a

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.4 DESCRIPTION

smaller 4/4 window with segmentally arched sash directly above on the second floor. A flush brick chimney is centered on this gable. The front and rear cornice returns at the corners and is carried up the gable eaves. This cornice is identical to the cornice on the main house except for the frieze board and a different pattern verge board.

A one story rear addition covers the majority of the rear facade of the two story wing. Two 6/6 windows in the second story are the only openings on this facade.

The rear wing is 18 feet wide but extends only 7'-8" to the rear. It has a pitched gable roof set at a right angle to the two story wing, with a door in the east wall, a single 6/6 window at the east end of the north gable wall, and one 6/6 window centered on the west wall.

The interior of the main house consists of a center passage plan with a relatively narrow stair passage. The stair rises against the west wall of the passage to an intermediate landing at the rear. It is an open-string stair with a heavy, turned newel, a plain rail, and handsome turned balusters. The stair ends are decorated with particularly fine scrolled stair brackets. Original trim in the passage includes the rabbetted Greek Revival baseboard, and the decorative

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.5 DESCRIPTION

transom and Greek Revival paneled soffits and jambs of the front door. The architrave trim on the interior doors is of uncertain age. It consists of a beaded fascia with a wide backband with an ogee profile that flares at the base in a modified variation of the typical Italianate molding first used in this region in the 1850's. This architrave is used throughout the passage and east room and appears to be original. One feature of particular interest is the large transom opening above each interior door on the first floor. These are fitted with vertical wood bars and trimmed with plain sawn boards, indicating that they are later insertions. These transoms are virtually identical to an inserted transom in the Brosius House (QA-158) on South Liberty Street in Centreville.

In the west room, the fireplace is centered on the west gable wall with an original, simple Greek Revival mantel. Plain pilasters with molded caps frame the opening and support a plain frieze and a heavy shelf with a single band of trim below. The rabbetted baseboard is capped by a flared ogee band of molding. The splayed window openings have paneled soffits and jambs with the same flattened Greek ogee panel molds found on the front door openings. Both windows and

the interior door are framed with Greek Revival architrave trim. This consists of a fascia piece routed out to form a center band beveled to a peak and flanked by narrow trenches; turned bullseye blocks terminate the corners. A band of flared ogee molding is carried across a rabbeted sill piece below each window. An interior crown mold cornice in this room is probably a 20th century addition.

In the east room, the fireplace is centered on the east gable wall with a door to the right opening into the wing. The mantel in this room is identical to the mantel in the west room. The windows in this room have splayed jambs but are not paneled. The architrave trim matches the trim in the passage; the baseboard is rabbetted. The door to the wing is trimmed with the same architrave trim and is presumed to be original.

The second floor plan is identical to the first floor. The stair continues up to the third floor, with a plain band of trim replacing the scrolled stair brackets. The doors and windows in the hall are framed with plain beaded boards with beveled surfaces.

There is a very small fireplace to left of center on the west wall of the west chamber, fitted with a diminutive Greek Revival mantel similar to the first

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.7 DESCRIPTION

floor mantels. The windows do not have splayed or paneled jambs. Both windows and the door are trimmed with an architrave similar to the trim in the first floor west room but with a concave center molding.

In the east room, a small fireplace with a Greek mantel is offset to left of center on the east gable wall. A door has been cut into the alcove to the left of the fireplace, allowing access to the second floor of the wing. The windows in this room have beaded architrave trim with a flattened Greek ogee backband.

The second floor plan is repeated on the third floor, with the center stair hall flanked by sleeping chambers on each side. All three rooms are plastered and trimmed with plain trim and beaded batten doors. There is no access point to the roof or to the eaves.

The cellar is divided into two rooms by a brick partition under the east wall of the first floor passage. The original exterior bulkhead cellar entrance was centered on the west gable wall and passed through the center relieving arch of the west chimney base. The east chimney base has a much smaller relieving arch. The ceiling joists average 4 inches by 8 inches and are set parallel with the gable walls. They are somewhat unusual in that they are roughly hewn on all three exposed faces rather than being hewn and pit-sawn.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.8 DESCRIPTION

They are also reinforced with heavy pieces of bridging nailed with machine nails. These generally first appear circa 1850 and are presumed to be original. The floor in both rooms is paved with brick.

The first floor of the wing consists of a single large room to the east with an enclosed winder stair in the northwest corner and a short hall leading to the main house to the southwest. This hall projects out onto the front porch forming a small lobby entrance on the porch. This somewhat awkward relationship of the wing to the original gable door in the main house reinforces the stylistic evidence that the wing is later. By examining the attic of the wing it is possible to confirm that the present wing replaces an earlier wing. While the roof of the present wing is constructed with pegged mortise-and-tenon joints, the gable wall of the main house shows evidence of whitewash, and the mortar joints of the gable wall have been raked out where flashing was let in for an earlier wing. These raked out sections form a clear outline of a steeply pitched gable roof slightly lower and smaller than the existing roof. Based on this evidence, it would appear that the early wing was demolished and replaced circa 1870-90.

The first floor of the wing serves as the kitchen,

with a fireplace on the east gable wall. This fireplace has a simple shelf dating to the latter half of the 19th century. On the second floor, there is one large sleeping chamber with a fireplace on the east gable wall. The Greek Revival mantel on this fireplace was probably salvaged from the earlier wing.

The frame addition to the rear of the wing is divided into a lobby/store room and a pantry. The modern addition to the rear of the main house consists of one unused room on the first floor and a modern bath on the second floor.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

QA-96

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC 400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1500-1599	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1600-1699	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1700-1799	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
X 1800-1899	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1900-	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The early brick house on the Temple Callahan Farm was probably constructed circa 1840-50 and originally had a 1 1/2 story frame wing. This early wing was demolished in the post-Civil War period and replaced with the existing two story frame wing. The interior of the main house is distinguished by fine Greek Revival woodwork that includes a handsome stair, four original mantels, and a variety of unusual architrave trim. One unusual feature is the blocked bulkhead cellar entrance, which was centered on the west gable wall and opened into the cellar through a large segmental arch in the base of the west chimney. The wing is relatively plain except for the pleasing two story porch set back under the main roof on the south facade. A Greek Revival mantel on the second floor was probably salvaged from the earlier wing.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

QA-96

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
Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION
Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE
12/9/81

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN
Centreville

STATE
Maryland

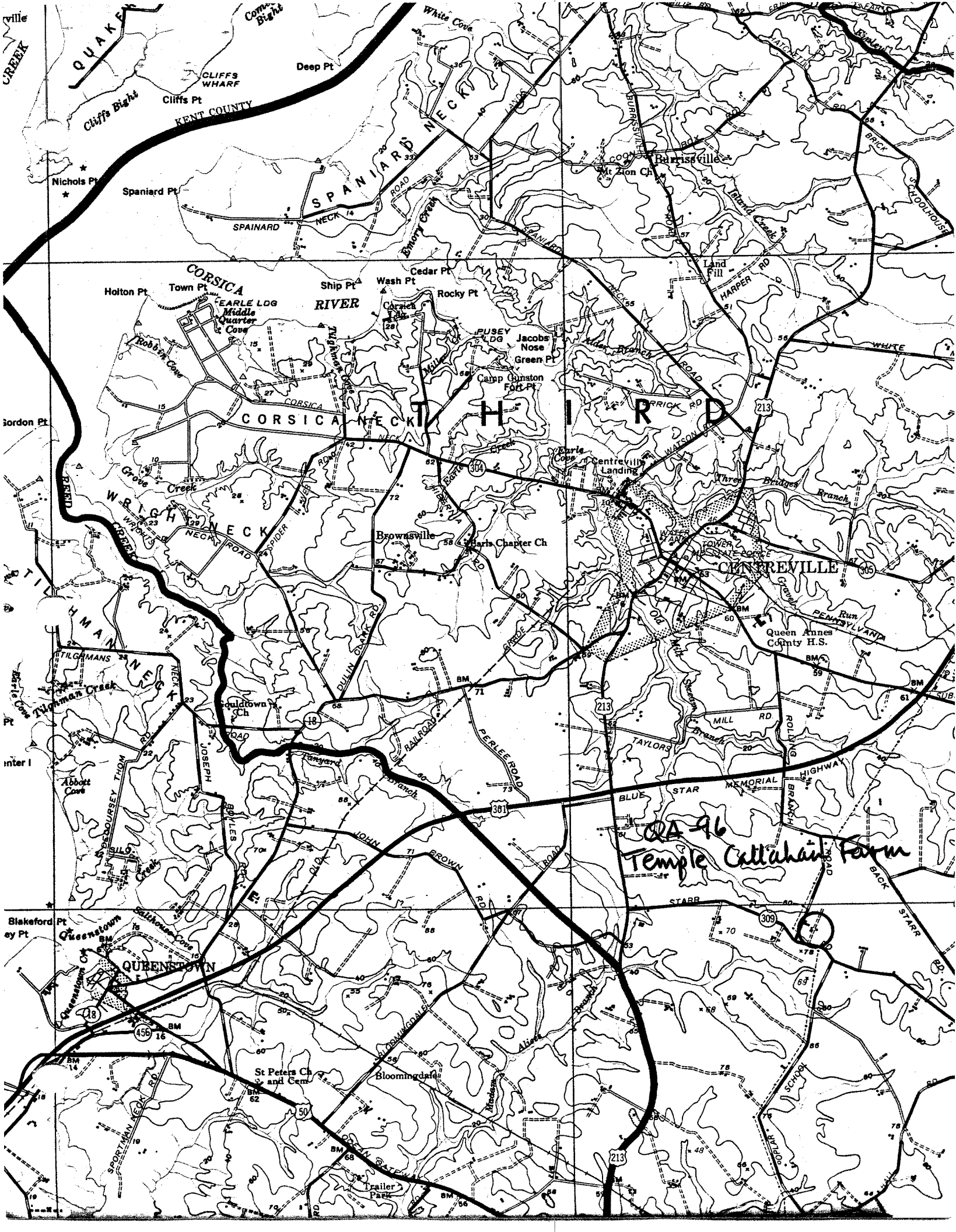
Field Notebook QA-25; Recorded June 24, 1981.

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

PS-1108


QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY
KENT COUNTY
Cliffs Bight
Cliffs Pt
CLIFFS WHARF
Deep Pt
White Cove
Nichols Pt
Spaniard Pt
SPANIARD NECK
SPAINARD NECK ROAD
Emory Creek
Burrisville
Mt Zion Ch
Island Creek
Land Fill
HARPER RD
CORSICA RIVER
Holton Pt
Town Pt
PEARLE LOG
Middle Quarter Cove
Ship Pt
Wash Pt
Cedar Pt
Rocky Pt
Corsica Ldg
PUSEY LDG
Jacobs Nose
Green Pt
Camp Ginston
Fort Pt
Robins Cove
Gordon Pt
CORSICA NECK
THIRD
Earle Cove
Centreville Landing
Three Bridges Branch
WRIGHT NECK
Grove Creek
Brownsville
Paris Chapter Ch
CENTREVILLE
Queen Annes County H.S.
TILGHMAN NECK
Tilghman Creek
Goulds Ch
DULLIN CHURCH RD
PERLEE ROAD
Old Mill Branch
MILL RD
TAYLORS Branch
BLUE STAR MEMORIAL HIGHWAY
Abbott Cove
DEBOURSEY THOM RD
JOSEPH BOYLES RD
OLD JOHN BROWN RD
QA-96
Temple Cattahain Farm
STARR
BACK STARR
Blakeford Pt
Queenstown
Salthouse Cove
QUEENSTOWN
BLOOMINGDALE
St Peters Ch and Cem
Bloomingdale
Aliens Branch
Madison
SPORTSMAN NECK RD
OCEAN GATEWAY
Trailer Park
SCHOOL
POPLAR

QA-96 Temple Callahan Farm
Starr Road
Centreville vicinity
Orlando Ridout V 1981
Front facade from south

QA-96 Temple Callahan Farm
Starr Road
Centreville vicinity
Orlando Ridout V 1981
Rear facade from north

QA. #96

Temple Callahan Farm