

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Reed Lea

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

West side Wright's Neck Road

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" 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	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Paul R. Lawrence

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

RT#1, Box 66-D-3

CITY, TOWN

Cordova

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21625

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #: TSP 71

Folio #: 460

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

QA-112

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<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

Reed Lea is located on the west side of Wright's Neck Road approximately 1/2 mile north of Maryland Route 18 approximately three miles west of Centreville. The farm is sited on the northeast bank of Reed's Creek.

The early house known as Reed Lea is of frame construction, two stories high, three bays long and one room deep with a pitched gable roof. Originally there were flush brick chimneys centered on each gable end but the west chimney has been demolished. The building rests on a continuous brick foundation and is covered with wood shingle siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The shingle siding conceals original random-width beaded siding, now visible where it is protected inside the attic of a later wing. The shingle siding has been in use since at least the late 19th century, as hand-split shingles with machine nails also survive in the same gable end. A two story frame wing projects from the west gable wall and extends under a sloping shed roof to the south.

The front facade of the main house faces

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION

south toward the branch that feeds into Reed's Creek. The front door with four-light transom is located in the center bay, flanked by a single 9/9 window on each side. Three 6/6 windows are ranged across the second story. These windows are set in heavy beaded frames with ogee backband trim; the door trim has been replaced. Two small cellar windows to the left of the door provide light to a cellar under the west portion of the house. The eaves are boxed in and trimmed with a replaced crown mold and an original complex bed mold.

The flush brick chimney on the east gable wall is exposed up to the top of the first story and has been rendered with stucco. The chimney is flanked by two 9/9 windows on the first floor, two 6/6 windows on the second floor and two small four-light windows in the upper gable. The original frames and trim have survived on the first and second story windows; the third story trim and the rakeboards have been replaced.

The rear facade is virtually identical to the front facade except the center door is lower in height and lacks a transom. A bulkhead cellar entrance is located at the west end of this facade.

The west gable wall is almost entirely concealed by the later two-story wing. From the attic of the wing

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION

the upper gable remains visible. Two small four-light window openings are evident, though somewhat altered, and the early beaded siding is visible, secured with wrought nails. Hand-split shingles nailed with machine nails cover much of the original siding.

The interior consists of a center passage plan with a single room flanking the stair hall on each side. The stair rises against the west wall of the passage to a landing at the rear, turns 180 degrees and continues to the second story. It is a closed-string stair with fluted walnut rail. The area below the carriage is paneled with fully fielded panels. A four-panel door under the landing opens onto an interior cellar stair. This stair dates to the original Federal period of construction, circa 1790's to 1815, while the remainder of the first floor trim dates to alterations in the mid-19th century and later. In the passage, this later woodwork includes rabbeted baseboard, simple beaded architrave trim with plain corner blocks and four-panel interior doors with flattened ogee panel molds typical of the Greek Revival period.

In the east room, the fireplace has been blocked and the original mantel replaced with a simple

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.3 DESCRIPTION

surround dating to the mid-19th century. The rabbeted baseboard and beaded window trim date to the same period, while the flooring has been covered with modern narrow flooring in the 20th century.

The chimney has been removed from the west gable wall of the west room, leaving a seam in the floor. All of the trim in this room dates to the mid-19th century; the flooring is 20th century. A door to the left of the original chimney location opens into the wing.

The center passage plan is repeated on the second floor, with an original partition forming a small unheated chamber at the south end of the stair passage. This partition is made of vertical feather edge panels set into alternating molded stiles, with a single horizontal fielded panel above the door lintel. The door is a fielded four-panel door with wrought H-L hinges remounted with modern bolts. The architrave trim on the passage doors is original, consisting of a broken-field banded fascia and an ogee backband. The fielded six-panel passage doors are hung on H-L hinges. The stair continues up to the attic as an open-string stair with chamfered newel posts, square balusters and a simple, chamfered rail. A plain band of flat trim outlines the risers and treads on the

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.4 DESCRIPTION

carriage piece. The flooring in the passage is original; the passage partitions are sheathed with beaded horizontal boards.

The only original trim to survive in the east chamber is the passage door architrave, which consists of a plain fascia board with an ogee backband. It is interesting to note that all of the early architrave trim is mitred at the corners, in contrast to the more typical staggered and tenoned joint. The small gable fireplace is fitted with a single mid-19th century mantel; all other trim is late 19th or 20th century. One corner post is partially exposed in the southeast corner of this room.

The chimney has been removed from the gable wall of the west chamber. The only early trim in this room is the passage door architrave, which matches the east chamber. All other trim is late 19th or 20th century. The corner posts are exposed in both gable corners of this room. They are not visible on the first floor.

The third story is an unfinished attic. The stair and ballustrade are carried up to the attic but the flooring is the only finish work. The roof is constructed of hewn and pit-sawn common rafters joined at the ridge and secured with pegged mortise-and-tenon joints. In the mid-19th century, riven collar pieces

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.5 DESCRIPTION

were scabbed on with machine nails to reinforce the roof. As noted previously, the west gable wall remains visible from the attic of the wing. The original beaded exterior siding and later shingle siding are clearly visible.

The cellar extends under the passage and the west room. The arched brick base of the demolished west chimney remains intact. The brick walls are whitewashed; the ceiling joists are exposed and have never been whitewashed. The original cellar stairs have been rebuilt, but from the stairs it is possible to see the underside of the first floor stair. This has never been whitewashed or in any way altered. The exterior wall is also exposed in the stair well, showing that the heavy timber framing is in-filled with brick nogging at least up as high as the first floor stair landing and presumably higher.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

QA-112

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
400-1499	<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 checked="" 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		

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SPECIFIC DATES	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Constructed circa 1800, Reed Lea is notable as an example of a modest, two story frame dwelling with center passage plan. The early paneled stair and some original trim survives, other trim dates to a renovation in the Greek Revival period. Significant features include the brick nogging in-fill visible from the cellar stair landing, the exposed corner posts on the second floor, and the original beaded exterior siding secured with wrought nails, visible from the attic of the later wing. The common rafter roof is also unusual in that the rafter pairs were not originally joined with collar beams.

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

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

2/25/82

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

Field Notebook QA-29; Recorded December 4, 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



QUAKE  
Cliffs Bight  
Deep Pt  
SPANIARD NECK

CORSICA RIVER  
Ship Pt  
Wash Pt  
Rocky Pt

CORSICA NECK  
HIRAM RIVER

04-112 Road Lea

CENTREVILLE

QUEENSTOWN

St Peter's Ch and Cem

Bloomingsdale

213

309

456

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381

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305

213

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QA-112 Reed Lea  
Centreville vicinity  
Orlando Ridout V 1981  
South facade



QA-112 Reed Lea  
Centreville vicinity  
Orlando Ridout V 1981  
South facade



QA-112 Reed Lea  
Centreville vicinity  
Orlando Ridout V 1981  
View from Northwest



QA-112 Reed Lea  
Centreville vicinity  
Orlando Ridout V 1981  
North facade



QA# 112

Reed Lea

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