

**INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Property/District Name: John Benton Farm Survey Number: OA-298
 Project: Dredge Placement Site Agency: COE
 Site visit by MHT Staff: no yes Name _____ Date _____
 Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility **not** recommended
 Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None
 Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

Based on the available information, including a recent report prepared for the Corps of Engineers, the John Benton Farm does not appear to meet the National Register Criteria. When surveyed in 1978, the property included a 19th century house on an 18th century foundation and three historic outbuildings and probably would have been eligible as a farm complex. The granary, smokehouse and post-and-plank farm building were all of interest individually and, together with the house, comprised an outstanding collection of buildings, providing both representative and rare examples of building types for the Upper Eastern Shore in the 18th and 19th centuries. However, today only the house remains and it is not sufficiently distinguished to warrant listing for its architectural significance. Moreover, recent alterations have diminished its integrity. Therefore, the Benton Farm does not appear to retain sufficient significance under Criterion C to warrant inclusion in the Register and has no known association with significant events or persons (Criteria A and B). It is possible that the 18th century foundation could be significant for its information value under Criterion D. However there is insufficient information to make a determination at this time. (Neither the 18th century foundation or 19th century dwelling will be directly impacted by the proposed undertaking.)

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project File, Maryland Inventory Form OA-298, Cultural Resource Investigation, Chester River Dredge Placement Area, Kent Island, Queen Anne's County, Maryland (Corps of Engineers, September 1996)

Prepared by: Orlando Ridout V (1978 inventory), Corps of Engineers (1996 report)

Elizabeth Hannold September 30, 1996
 Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: yes no not applicable
Peter M. Kutz 9/30/96
 Reviewer, NR program Date

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

- Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
- Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
- Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
- Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
- Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
- Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
- Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
- Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
- Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
- Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
- Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
- Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
- Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
- Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
- Unknown Period (prehistoric historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

- Subsistence
- Settlement
- Political
- Demographic
- Religion
- Technology
- Environmental Adaption

IV. Historic Period Themes:

- Agriculture
- Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
- Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
- Government/Law
- Military
- Religion
- Social/Educational/Cultural
- Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic-Single family dwelling

Known Design Source: na

QA-298
Benton Farm
Stevensville
Private

18th and 19th century

There are four buildings and the ruins of a fifth on the Benton Farm that are of historical and architectural significance. These include the brick foundation of an 18th century house, a large late 19th century Victorian farmhouse, a post-and-plank meat house, a large frame granary, and a post-and-plank farm building. The meat house and granary are 19th century in date, but the post-and-plank farm building is constructed with wrought nails and dates to the 18th or very early 19th century, one of the earliest recorded examples of this building form.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

part of Cloverfields

AND/OR COMMON

John Benton farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

approx. 1 3/4 miles northeast of Stevensville on Benton Rb

CITY, TOWN

Stevensville

XX VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4th

315
07/15/47

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" 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 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 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

John C. Benton

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Stevensville

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21666

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #: WHC 6

Folio #: 17

Wills#: WTB 3

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

Folio#: 468

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland 21617

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

QA-298

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 _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

There are four individual buildings and the remains of a fifth on the Benton farm which are of historical and architectural significance. Because of the particular importance of several of these buildings, and the detail in which they are described, they have each been entered on separate forms, all designated with the number QA-298 and followed by a large-case letter. These are listed below:

- QA-298 A Eighteenth Century house foundation
- QA-298 B Nineteenth Century dwelling house
- QA-298 C Smokehouse
- QA-298 D Post and Plank farm building
- QA-298 E Nineteenth Century granary

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

QA-298

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

6/26/78

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438