

QA-319  
J. W. Perry Building  
Centreville  
Private

1895

The Perry Building is primarily significant as an example of a small Victorian commercial building. The decorative store-front facade has survived completely intact, and is distinguished by a bracketed cornice and bands of glazed header brickwork. A datestone in the upper gable identifies both the date of erection, 1895, and the original owner, John W. Perry. It is interesting to compare the recessed brick panels and glazed header decoration of this building with similar features on Perry's residence, located at 201 South Commerce Street (QA-257).

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

J. W. Perry Building

AND/OR COMMON

112 Water Street

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

North side of Water Street

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

\_\_\_DISTRICT  
 BUILDING(S)  
 \_\_\_STRUCTURE  
 \_\_\_SITE  
 \_\_\_OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

\_\_\_PUBLIC  
 PRIVATE  
 \_\_\_BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
 \_\_\_IN PROCESS  
 \_\_\_BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

OCCUPIED  
 \_\_\_UNOCCUPIED  
 \_\_\_WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
 YES: RESTRICTED  
 \_\_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED  
 \_\_\_NO

## PRESENT USE

\_\_\_AGRICULTURE \_\_\_MUSEUM  
 \_\_\_COMMERCIAL \_\_\_PARK  
 \_\_\_EDUCATIONAL  PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
 \_\_\_ENTERTAINMENT \_\_\_RELIGIOUS  
 \_\_\_GOVERNMENT \_\_\_SCIENTIFIC  
 \_\_\_INDUSTRIAL \_\_\_TRANSPORTATION  
 \_\_\_MILITARY \_\_\_OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Mayer

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

122 Kidwell Avenue

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 #: CWC 34

Folio #: 665

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Courthouse Square

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-319

**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 type="checkbox"/> MOVED	DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED			
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

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

The Perry Building, located at 112 Water Street in Centreville, is a two story brick building with a distinctive Victorian commercial store-front on the street (south) facade. The first floor of the building has traditionally served as a shop or store, while the second floor and two additions to the rear provide private living quarters for the owner or for tenants. The street facade is the primary architectural feature of the building, while the side and rear walls are extremely plain.

The street facade is three bays wide and two stories high, constructed of red brick laid in seven-course bond. Bands of glazed header bricks on the second floor and recessed panels highlighted with glazed headers add an unusual touch of refinement. The shop entrance is located in the center bay, and is recessed back from the front wall. Tall narrow windows flank the door, and larger shop windows in the flanking bays dominate the first floor facade. A bracketed Victorian cornice crosses the gable directly above

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION

the first floor, and on the second floor there are a pair of two-over-two windows in the center of the facade. The gable is pedimented, with an ornate bracketed cornice crossing the gable and a box cornice carried up the gable eaves. The scrolled brackets and sawtooth fretwork serve to unify the pedimented gable with the first floor cornice. A louvered fan-light ventilator is located in the center of the upper gable, and a large rectangular datestone is incorporated into the second floor cornice. This stone is inscribed with the initials of the first owner, John W. Perry, and the date 1895.

The east wall of the building is completely covered by an adjoining commercial building, but the west wall remains exposed, with access to a narrow alley extending the full depth of the property. The later additions are clearly visible on this facade. The original building was built in seven-course bond, and now has a door near the rear on the first floor, and two two-over-two windows on the second floor. The door opening appears to have been cut in when the building was enlarged to the rear. This addition was also two stories high, and probably added one

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION

more room on each floor. It is laid in seven-course bond, with a single two-over-two window in the center on each floor.

The second addition extended the building three more bays to the rear, but was only one story high. It is also brick, laid in seven-course bond, and may have originally had a sloping shed roof pitched from east to west. There is a door in the center bay of the west wall flanked by two-over-two windows. On the rear wall, there is a door in the extreme west corner, and a brick stove chimney rises immediately to the left of the door. This chimney is somewhat unusual in that it corbels out 4 inches from the wall surface approximately four feet above ground level.

The final addition to the building involved raising the one story rear wing to a full two stories. This was executed in frame rather than brick, and is now covered with wood shingle siding. There are two two-over-two windows in the west wall of this addition, and one two-over-two window to the right of the chimney on the rear wall.

The interior is extremely plain, and continues to serve as both a shop and residence. The present

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.3 DESCRIPTION

owner maintains the first floor as a shoe-repair shop, while the second floor and the rear additions are rented as apartments.

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# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 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		

SPECIFIC DATES 1895

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Perry Building is primarily significant as an example of a small Victorian commercial building. The decorative store-front facade has survived completely intact, and is distinguished by bracketed cornices and bands of glazed header brickwork. A datestone in the upper gable identifies both the date of erection, 1895, and the original owner, John W. Perry.

The lot on which the building stands is part of a larger lot purchased by John W. Perry in 1883.<sup>(1)</sup> The building was erected in 1895, only three years before Perry's death.<sup>(2)</sup> In 1899, John M. Perry, acting as executor for the estate, sold the lot and "a two story brick store house" to Dora E. P. Chambers. No mention is made of what the store had been used for, but the deed noted that it has been recently occupied by Otto H. Werner, and was, at the time of the sale, in

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 8.1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

the occupancy of Dora Chambers, the purchaser.<sup>(3)</sup>  
When Dora Chambers sold the lot and building to  
William L. Clough in 1911, the deed noted that it was  
"formerly in the occupancy of Dora Chambers but now  
in the occupancy of Arthur Morris."<sup>(4)</sup> In 1945,  
William L. Clough sold the property to William R.  
Turner and Mary Frances Turner.<sup>(5)</sup> The Turners sold  
it to Paul and Dorothy Amberger in 1967,<sup>(6)</sup> and in  
May 1968, the Ambergers sold the property to William  
F. Mayer and Dorothy A. Mayer, the present owners.<sup>(7)</sup>

Footnotes

- (1) Deeds SCD#3, folio 46. April 1, 1883.
- (2) Wills FR#2, folio 76. Executed Dec. 22, 1894, with 2 codicals added in 1897. Probated July 12, 1898.
- (3) Deeds WHC#10, folio 24. September 26, 1899.
- (4) Deeds SS#9, folio 396. February 4, 1911.
- (5) Deeds ASG Jr.#12, folio 154. October 15, 1945.
- (6) Deeds CWC#31, folio 15. October 12, 1967.
- (7) Deeds CWC#34, folio 665. May 23, 1968.

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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

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

1/2/79

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

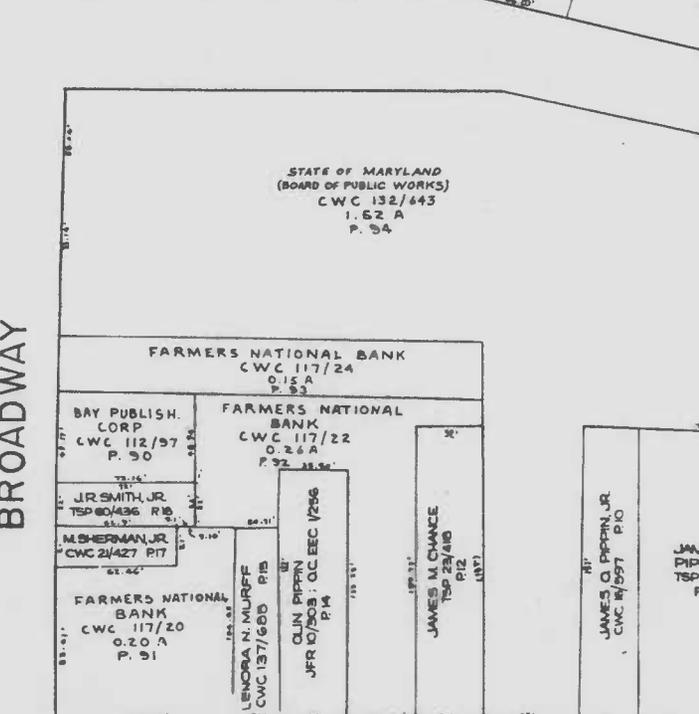
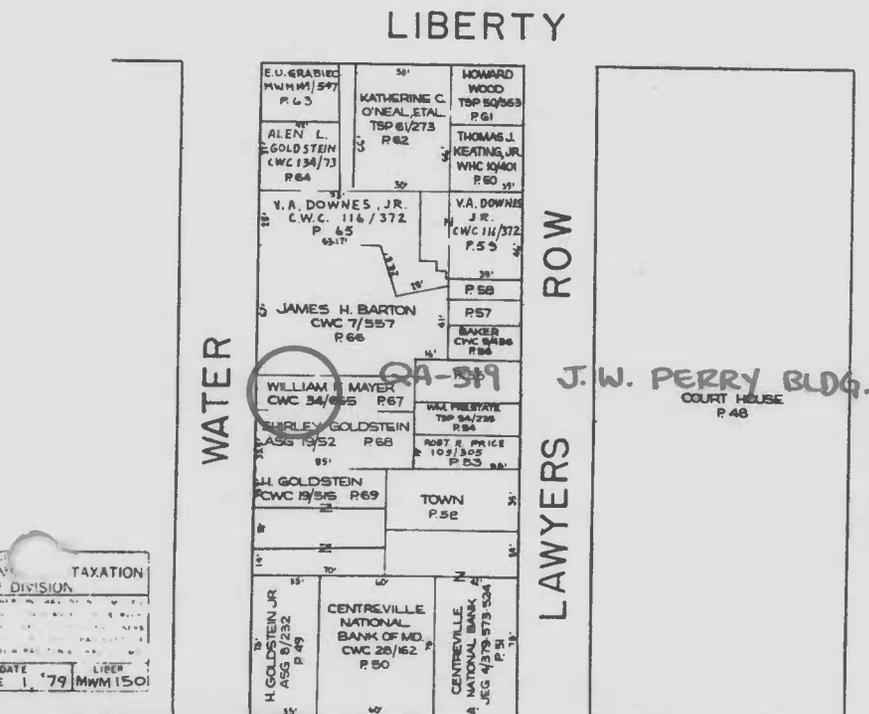
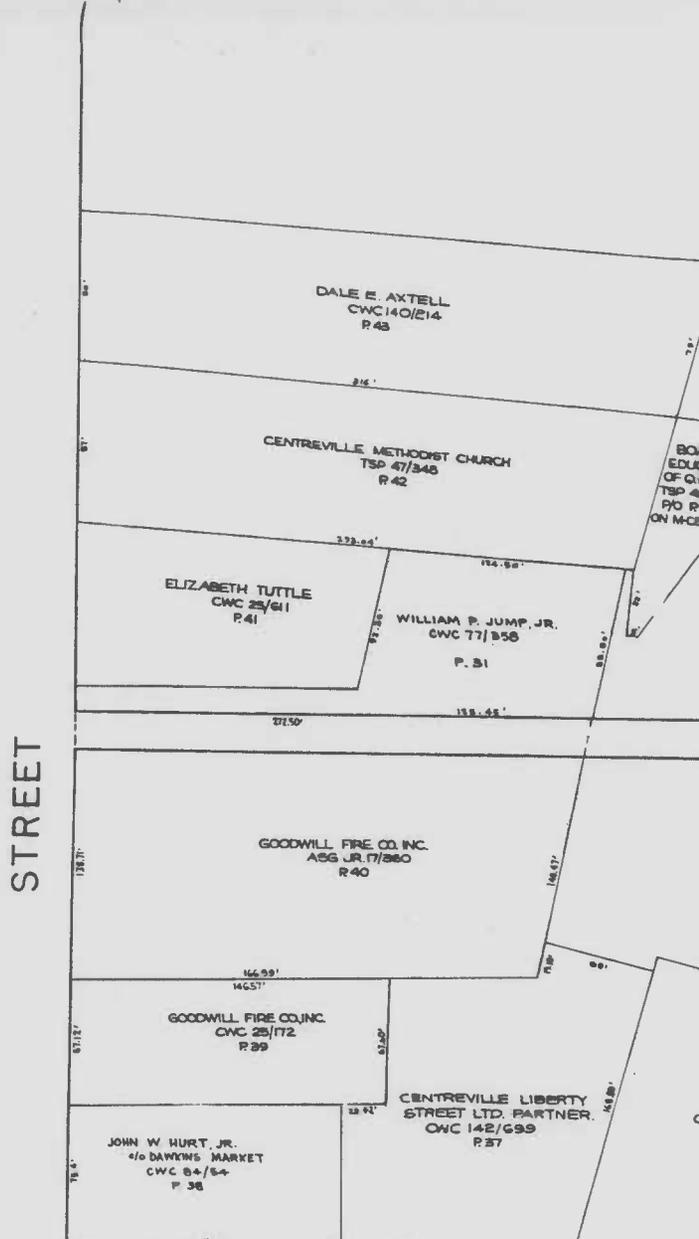
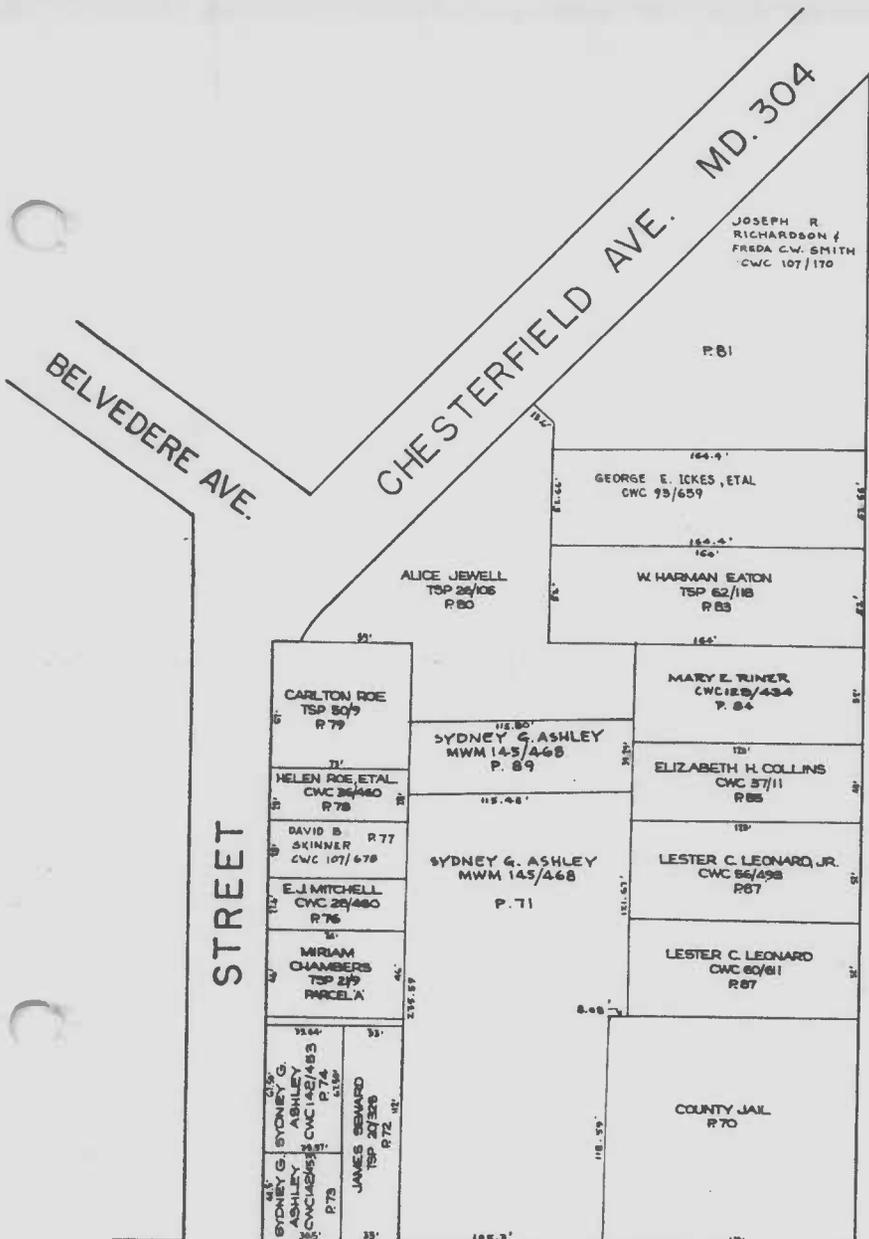
STATE

Maryland 21617

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



COMP. TAXATION MAP DIVISION  
 DATE JUNE 1, '79  
 LIBER MWM 150

DA-519 J.W. PERRY BLDG. COURT HOUSE P. 48

COMMERCE



QA-319

J. W. Perry Building

112 Walter Street

ORU 11/1978

Neg. on file @ MHT

South facade