QA-390
Finley Farm
Church Hill vicinity
Private

late 19th century

The large frame house on the Finley Farm is typical of a house type that was widely used throughout the Tidewater region from the mid-19th century until the early part of the 20th century. The most significant feature of this house is the painted and grained woodwork. Also of note is the handsome closed-string stair and the paneled and grained front door.

Probably of greater importance is the simple frame meat house next to the kitchen wing. This building is constructed of heavy vertically sawn planks half-lapped against hewn corner posts. This is a technique not previously recorded in the county and clearly is an outgrowth of the similar post-and-plank method of building found throughout this area.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

QA-390

MAGI # 1803905604

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON
Finley Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
North side Ben's Point Road

CITY, TOWN
Church Hill

X VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
1st

STATE
Maryland

COUNTY
Queen Anne's

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	__OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	X 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
James A. Brown et al

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER
c/o Madison Bordley, Jr.

CITY, TOWN
Church Hill

__ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 21623

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

Liber #: TSP 24, folio 284
Folio #: TSP 40, folio 128

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

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
X FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Finley Farm is located on the north side of Ben's Point Road approximately one mile north of Church Hill.

The house is sited on high ground between Brown's Branch and the main branch of Southeast Creek. Several late 19th and 20th century farm buildings are located to the north of the house.

The main house faces east, toward Maryland Route 213. It is of frame construction, 2 1/2 stories high, five bays wide and one room deep, with small flush chimneys centered at opposing ends of a pitched gable roof and an original 2 story frame wing projecting from the north end of the rear facade.

On the front facade, there is a central door with sidelights and transom flanked by two 2/2 windows on each side on the first floor and five 2/2 windows on the second floor. A cross-gable is centered on the roof flanked by a single 2/2 pitched roof dormer on either side. A peaked 2/2 lancet window is centered in the cross gable. The facade is covered with asbestos shingles nailed

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

A-390

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
X 1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The large frame house on the Finley Farm is typical of a house type that was widely used throughout the Tidewater region from the mid-19th century until the early part of the 20th century. The most significant feature of this house is the painted and grained woodwork. Also of note is the handsome closed-string stair and the paneled and grained front door.

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CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

QA-340

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
9/9/80

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN
Centreville

STATE
Maryland

Field Notebook QA-XV; Recorded February 21, 1980.

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

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION

over the original plain horizontal weatherboards. The foundation is brick, the eaves are boxed in with a crown mold, and the roof is covered with "beaver tail" tin. A one story porch with turned posts and scrolled brackets is carried across the first floor.

On the south gable, there is a single 2/2 window to the right of the chimney on the first and second floor and a pair of small windows flanking the chimney in the upper gable. There is a bulkhead cellar entrance in the west corner of the foundation.

The original rear L covers the two north bays of the rear facade, leaving a door in the center bay, two 2/2 windows to the right of the door, and three 2/2 windows on the second floor. The window on the second floor above the door is downset to throw light onto the stair landing. A small open porch protects the door.

There is a seam in the foundation of the north wall between the main house and the wing, but the roof framing clearly shows that the wing is original. There is a single 2/2 window to the left of the gable chimney and a pair of smaller windows in the upper gable. There are doors in the left and center bays on the

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION

first floor of the wing and a window to the right. Three windows are ranged across the second floor. A single 2/2 window to the left of the kitchen chimney in the upper gable is the only opening in the west gable of the wing. Three 2/2 windows are ranged across each floor of the wing on the south facade.

The interior of the main house is laid out in a center hall plan, with a handsome Victorian stair rising against the north wall of the hall. It is a closed-string stair with square newels with turned urns for caps, turned ballusters and a heavy molded rail. The front door is a particularly nice paneled door with many small panels. Virtually all of the interior trim and doors remain, and the majority of the woodwork is painted and grained. One unusual feature to survive is the turned spindle screen across the front of the second floor hall.

The rear wing is divided into a kitchen, pantry, and hall on the first floor, with an enclosed stair next to the pantry leading to the second floor. At one time a tight stair to the right of the kitchen chimney allowed separate access to segregated servants quarters over the kitchen.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.3 DESCRIPTION

Meat House

To the north of the wing is an unusual plank and frame meat house. It is 10 feet wide and 12 feet long, with a pitched gable roof and a single door in the center of the east gable. It is constructed in a manner that may be unique in the county. Square hewn corner posts are mortised into hewn sills, and gang-sawn planks averaging two inches thick and 8 to 11 inches wide are half-lapped against the exterior of the posts and are nailed with machine nails. The cracks between the planks are covered with horizontal battens with beveled edges. Hewn joists are notched over the wall plates and support flat false plates. The rafters are half-lapped and machine nailed at the ridge. Collar beams are scabbed on and nailed, also with machine nails.

QA-390 FINLEY FARM
CHESTERTOWN
High School
KENT AND QUEEN ANNES HOSPITAL
KENT COUNTY
GILL AIRPORT
WINDMILL
Foxley Manor
Morgan Creek
BUCKINGHAM WHARF
Possum Pt
ROUNDTOP WHARF
Chesmar Estates
Peachtree Pt
Chester Harbor
Long Pt
Barroll Pt
Kings Town
Catlin
ROUND TOP WHARF RD
CORNER RD
Ewingtown
Boyer Chapel
HOFFECKER ROAD
McGinnes
Double Creek Ch
BOWERS COR RD
BURCHARD RD
SAW MILL RD
DEEP LANDING ROAD
COHEY RD
Sutton Pt
S E V E N T
Union Ch
UNION CHURCH RD
SHERIFF MEREDITH RD
EWINGTOWN RD
TOWER
Primrose Pt
Piney Grove
Skillet Pt
Rolphs
ROLPHS WHARF ROAD NO 1
Fryingpan Pt
Hollow Marsh Pt
Newmans Corners
PINDER RD
RIVERSIDE WHARF
Deep Pt
Wilmer
Millers
Wilmers
CHESTER RIVER
SOUTHEAST CREEK
Browns Branch
BENS POINT RD
S E C O N D
PVT AIRSTRIP
SOUTHEAST CREEK RD
Riverview
WINDMILL
Northwest Pt
Island Creek
WILMER NECK RD
St. Lukes Ch
Church Hill
Amen Ch
ISLAND CREEK ROAD
BOOKERS WHARF
DRIVE IN THEATER
Starkey Corner
FLAT IRON SQUARE RD
CEDAR LANE
DELMARVA
BLUE STAR
RABBIT
Price
Bethany Ch
Branch
SCHOOLHOUSE
SHOP ROAD
Mt. Zion Ch
Ruthsburg
Island Creek
213
291
289
544
19
405
300

QA-390
Finley Farm

Mary McCarthy
Spring/Summer 2003
Digital color photo on file at MHT

QA-390 Finley Farm
Church Hill vicinity
Orlando Ridout V 1980
Front facade from Northeast

QA-390 Finley Farm
Church Hill vicinity
Orlando Ridout V 1980
View of rear from Southwest

QA-390 Finley Farm
Church Hill vicinity
Orlando Ridout V 1980
Outbuilding