

QA-432
Clark Nicholson Farm
Centreville vicinity
Private

circa 1800
mid-19th century

The early frame house on the Clark Nicholson farm developed in at least three distinct stages. The original house, probably dating to the late 18th or early 19th century, was 16 feet wide and 28 feet long, 1 1/2 stories high, with a hall/parlor plan. It was later enlarged one room to the north using a salvaged section of another early house and was raised to a full two stories. Some interior trim and a handsome front entrance porch have survived from this period.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Clark Nicholson Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

West side Tanyard Road

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

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

Clark O. Nicholson

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Tanyard Road

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 21

Folio #: 559

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-432

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

The Clark Nicholson Farm is located on the west side of Tanyard Road approximately one-half mile north of Maryland Route 305 and three miles northeast of Centreville. The farm is roughly triangular, lying between two branches of the Three Bridges Branch. The house and farm buildings stand near the center of the farm, surrounded by open agricultural land bordered by the woods along the two streams.

The house as it appears today is of frame construction, two stories high, three bays wide and one room deep, with flush brick chimneys at each end of a moderately pitched gable roof. A one story lean-to addition projects from the north gable.

A more detailed examination of the house was made possible by renovations undertaken in the summer of 1980. When the interior of the house was gutted, it was clear that the house has undergone a relatively complex development. It began as a small, story-and-a-half frame house 16 feet wide and 28 feet long, with a two room, hall/parlor plan. It was later enlarged to the north by the addition of part of

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION

another house frame, and then subsequently was raised to a full two stories. The following description will therefore treat the exterior as it appears today and the interior as it developed in each successive stage.

The front facade of the enlarged house faces east, toward Tanyard Road. The entrance is in the center bay, flanked by a 6/6 window on each side. There are three 6/6 windows on the second floor; a cross gable is centered on this facade. A small shamrock shaped ventilation window in the center of the cross gable has been blocked from outside but remains visible from the attic. The front door is set off by sidelights and a transom, and is protected by a small entrance porch with ornately scrolled support posts and arched Gothic spandrels. The building rests on a stuccoed foundation and is covered with vinyl siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The eaves oversail and are boxed in, with turned drops at each corner of the building and at the base of the cross gable.

There are no openings in the south gable wall. A one story frame lean-to covers the lower part of the north gable; the only opening is a first story door

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION

opening into the addition.

The rear facade is similar to the front facade, with a center door flanked by 6/6 windows on the first floor and three 6/6 windows on the second story. The door has a four-light transom but no sidelights. The small porch over the door on this facade is relatively plain, without decorative posts or spandrels.

As noted previously, the house began as a small, story-and-a-half, hall/parlor plan house. When the interior framing was exposed during the renovation, the basic form of this early house was visible. It was 16 feet wide and 28 feet long, with evidence of an interior partition forming a 16 by 20 foot hall to the south and a small, 16 by 8 foot parlor to the north. One chimney was clearly centered on the south gable wall of the hall and the stud spacing on the north gable wall suggests that there was a second chimney on that end of the house, heating the parlor. The south chimney was flanked by a winder stair in the southeast corner and a built-in cupboard in the southwest corner. Door posts survive from both original exterior doors. These were located on the east and west facades, offset to south of center.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.3 DESCRIPTION

Modern doors have obliterated possible evidence of windows in the north bay of each facade; traces of early window frames appear to be visible on two studs in the south bay. The ceiling joists were originally exposed and whitewashed.

Dating evidence for the original house is limited. One piece of paneling with wrought nails has survived in the southeast corner, where the first stair was located. Wrought nails also are evident in the exterior face of the original north gable wall. One piece of beaded weatherboard also survives on this wall, secured with machine nails. This appears to be replacement siding, probably dating to circa 1815-1840. Based on this limited evidence, a date of circa 1800 is proposed.

Sometime after this weatherboarding was put on, the house was then enlarged by a one room addition to the north gable wall. This addition consists of a portion of a larger house frame that was moved up against the earlier two room house. This addition was probably undertaken in the mid-19th century, when the story-and-a-half house was stripped down to the loft floor and was then enlarged to a full two stories.

In addition to raising the house to two stories,

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.4 DESCRIPTION

the interior was completely renovated. The chimneys were taken down and replaced with smaller stove chimneys and the winder stair, the cupboard and the original interior partition were removed. A new partition was installed to form a relatively symmetrical center passage plan, and a stair was constructed along the north wall of the passage. Door and window locations were changed and the sash and doors replaced. A small, decorative entrance porch was also added on the front facade.

This plan arrangement sufficed for the rest of the 19th century, but in the late 19th or early 20th century, the stair was torn out of the passage and relocated as an enclosed, steep, straight-run stair along the north end of the south parlor. This allowed the second floor partitions to be rearranged to form three sleeping chambers, a smaller hall, and (later) a modern bath.

Significant interior trim includes beaded architraves with flattened ogee/astragal backband trim, raised panels below the sidelights with the same panel mold, and rabbeted baseboard trim.

The roof is constructed of hewn and whip sawn

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.5 DESCRIPTION

rafters secured at the ridge with pegged mortise-and-tenon joints. The rafters do not rest on a false plate but are notched over the machine sawn ceiling joists and oversail the eaves.

Meat House

A frame meat house 8 1/2 feet wide and 10 1/2 feet long is located to the north of the house. It is of frame construction and oriented on a north-south axis, with a batten door in the center of the south gable. The exterior is covered with vertical board-and-batten siding, a box cornice, and an asphalt shingle roof. The interior framing is hewn and whip sawn, secured with mortise-and-tenon joints and machine nails. Early horizontal weatherboard siding is visible under the present board-and-batten siding. Other farm buildings include a late 19th century barn and a granary dating to the same period.

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"/> 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		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The plain exterior appearance of the house on the Clark Nicholson farm belies a complex development probably dating to the late 18th or early 19th century. Begun as a 16 by 28 foot story-and-a-half house with a hall/parlor plan, it was later enlarged one room to the north. This addition consisted of part of another house frame moved into position against the north gable of the original house. Probably at the same time, the enlarged house was raised to two full stories and the exterior fenestration and interior plan were completely reworked. Some interior trim and a handsome front entrance porch have survived from this period.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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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

8/25/81

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

Field Notebook QA-XVI; Recorded May 21, 1980.

QA-XVII; Recorded June 17, 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



QA-432 Clark Nicholson Farm

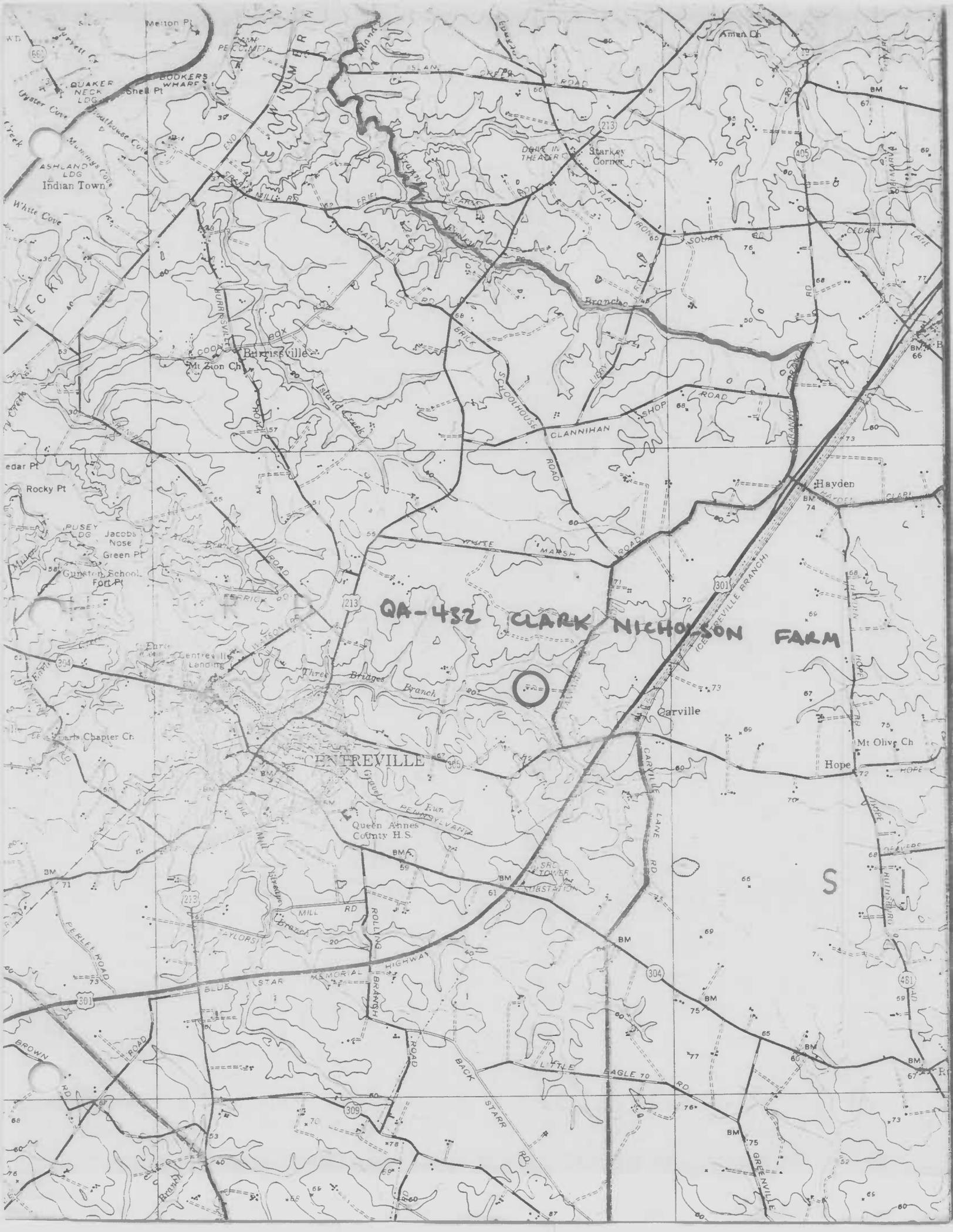


CENTREVILLE

Carville

Hope

S





QA-432 Clark Nicholson Farm
Centreville vicinity
Orlando Ridout V 1980
Front facade



QA-432

Clark Nicholson Farm
Centreville vicinity
Orlando Ridout V 1980
Rear facade



QA-432

Clark Nicholson Farm
Centreville vicinity
Orlando Ridout V 1980
Detail of Porch