QA-450 1910
Joseph M. George House
Sudlersville
private

Joseph M. George constructed his Queen Anne style dwelling in 1910 for his new bride, Lilian May Nelson. The house was typical in plan for the period, with large openings between rooms and an open stair hall. The exterior, however, with its decorative shingle work, gables and towers was unique in Sudlersville. The house was enlarged in the 1920's and has come to the present with few changes to the exterior.

West of this house is another early building, the one in which Joseph M. George was born in 1888. Behind both of these houses, barns and silos for a milking herd stood in the early 20th century. The barn has been moved to the Walter Schmidt farm northeast of town.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST QA-450

MAGI # 1804505704

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON
Joseph M. George House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Maple Avenue

CITY, TOWN
Sudlersville ___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
1st

STATE
Maryland

COUNTY
Queen Anne's

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
	x not applicable	X NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mr. & Mrs. John E. George

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Sudlersville ___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 21668

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

Liber #: TSP 46
Folio #: 491

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-450

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	✓ORIGINAL SITE
✓GOOD	__RUINS	✓ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Joseph M. George House, on the south side of Maple Avenue in Sudlersville, is a large Queen Anne style dwelling constructed for Mr. and Mrs. George in 1910 by Frank Hardesty, Contractor. The house faces north and is essentially a two-story hip roof structure with gables, dormers, a tower and extensive porches.

The north facade has a glazed door on the west side and a projecting 5-window bay on the east. Two windows on the western side of the porch light a small office which was an enclosed area of the porch. On the second story are a pair of 1/1 sash windows above the entrance, and a second 5-window bay. Above the latter is a large overhanging gable sheathed with decorative shingle work. From the overhang are pierced brackets at the corners. The window in the gable has a semi-circular head. On the hip roof of this facade is a small dormer with two small 1/1 sash windows and a decorative shingle work gable above. The latter is a smaller version of the large gable.

On the south the tower has 5 windows on each story, the first and second being like the front bay

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION

window. On the third story are five windows with semi-circular heads. Beneath these windows is a small pent eave. Above the 2nd floor window and the face of the 3rd floor tower are decorative shingles. The tower terminates in a very tall 12-sided roof. North of the tower is a pair of windows on the first and second stories. In the third is a plainer shingle gable with one window having semi-circular beaded sash.

The west side has a gable identical to the east. The windows on this side are irregular. A porch extended around most of the original part of the house. Part has been screened, part enclosed for an office and part left open. The porch extends in a straight run across the facade, then makes two 45° angles to the side. It extends around the tower in a circle and terminates on the east side of the pantry. The posts of the porch are Doric columns and the roof is nearly flat.

The floor plan consists of a stair hall in the north-west corner, a living room across the east side of the house and a dining room behind the hall. Beyond the dining room is a pantry and kitchen. Originally, the living room was only the north half of the present room and the dining room was in the southern half. The present dining room was the kitchen and the house stopped, including the pantry. In the 1920's the present kitchen wing was constructed and in the 1950's it was remodeled. The

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION

present room arrangement dates primarily from the 1920's remodeling.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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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	✓ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
__1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
✓1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	✓POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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Condensed Sketch of Joseph M. George Biography

Joseph Mathias George, son of John Elliott George & Elvira Anderson George, was born Sudlersville, Queen Anne's County, Maryland, on October 12, 1888. He attended school in his home town and then to Jacob Tome Institute in Port Deposit, Maryland. In 1910, he married Lilian May Nelson of Baltimore - at the Belvedere Hotel, Baltimore, on June 29th. His first business interests were in his father's mercantile store in 1906, and later in his canning factory. Also, he began selling automobiles in 1908 and until 1912.

John E. George had long been active in county and state politics, and in 1908 he obtained an appointment for Joseph as Assistant Journal Clerk in the Maryland State Senate. In 1910 he was chosen to be Chief Journal Clerk and continued in this position until 1920.

In 1934, Joseph M. George was elected as County Commissioner of his native county, and he was the fourth generation of the George family to serve as president of that board. He made a study of the financial systems of several of the other counties and established a new bookkeeping system in his office and in that of the county treasurer - a system which is still in use in 1962, practically unchanged. He liked this work, because he was very interested in good roads and all other progressive things for the public benefit.

In the 1942 election, he was elected to the Maryland State Senate, and was re-elected by a large majority in 1946. Governor Lane asked him to resign from the Senate in 1948, and accept an appointment to the Maryland State Roads Commission. This was to expedite the building of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge and to start the new state roads plan proposed at that time by Governor Lane. He later became chairman of the commission and served until a Republican governor took office, after the election of 1950, but he remained as the active Democratic leader in Queen Anne's County for several years.

Joseph M. George was elected as Commissioner of Sudlersville in 1918 and has continued in that position, (with the exception of the year, 1930), until the present time, (1962). At of this time he was president of the board of commissioners, and his terms as councilman of an incorporated town is the longest on record for the United States. He is a member of Calvary-Asbury Church, (Methodist), of Sudlersville and has served for many years as Trustee and a member of the Official Board.

Fraternally, Joseph George is a member of the inactive Camp #29, P.O.S.of A,; a member of the Blue Lodge of Masonry at Centreville; also, a member of the Royal Arch, Knights Templar and the Scottish Rite Masonic Orders. He was a member of the Shrine at Boumi Temple at Baltimore, Maryland, but transferred his membership in the Shrine to Al Malaika Temple in Los Angeles in January of 1962.

Joseph George started an insurance agency in Sudlersville in 1914, and has continued in this business - since 1956, however, the agency has mostly been managed by his son, John E. George. He built a large grain elevator, with feed and seed departments, in 1934 and remained in active charge of that business until 1956, when his son, John, took over that business.

He and his wife, Lilian, have been interested in travel all during their married life. While they have visited twelve foreign countries, (including Palestine), the United States has always been their favorite country, and they have been in most of the well known places of every state, except Hawaii.

In sports, Joseph George has been one of the nation's best skeet shooters since 1934, and has won a record number of trophies - said by Sports Afield magazine to be the largest collection of trophies ever won by any athlete in the world. He was Maryland State Champion several times and has been chosen on four All America Skeet Teams. He considers his best award was being chosen for the Maryland Sports Hall of Fame in 1959.

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

Michael O. Bourne, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION DATE

Queen Anne's County Historical Society 8/30/83

STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE

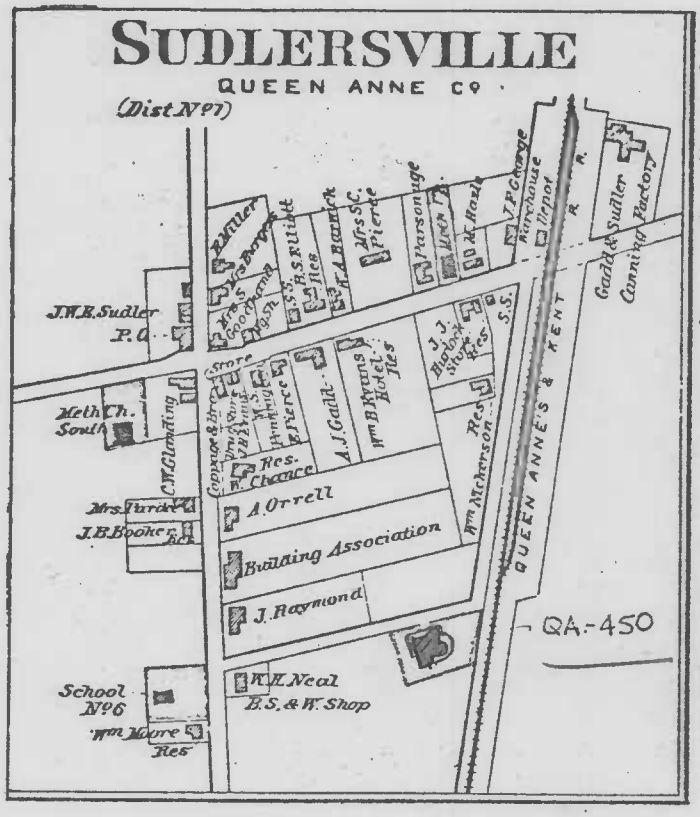
CITY OR TOWN STATE

Centreville 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



SUDLERSVILLE BUSINESS REFERENCES.

WM. B. EVANS, Proprietor of "Sudlersville Hotel." The traveling public will do well to give me a call. A first-class Stable attached. Board by the meal, day or week. House located on Main street, near Depot.

B. K. COPPAGE, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Notions, &c., &c. All persons will do well to give me a call before going elsewhere.

B. S. ELLIOTT, County Surveyor. Will attend to all surveying that is entrusted to my care promptly. All persons having any surveying to do will do well to give me a call. Also Manufacturer of Boots and Shoes of all kinds, and has a full assortment on hand for sale.

JAS. B. BOOKER, Blacksmith. All kinds of Blacksmithing done with neatness and despatch. Give me a call.

WM. D. MOORE, Carpenter and Builder. All kinds of Carpenter work done with neatness and despatch.

ELIJAH PIERCE, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, and Notions of all kinds.

A. H. SUDLER, Physician and Surgeon. All calls promptly attended to. Residence and Office in Sudlersville.

J. W. PAINTER, Harness and Carriage Maker and Dealer. All persons wanting anything in my line will do well to give me a call.

WM. CHANCE, Blacksmith. All kinds of Blacksmithing done with neatness and despatch. Buggies, wagons, carriages and carts ironed with neatness.

R. M. BUSTEED, Dealer in Drugs, Medicines, Chemicals, Perfomery, Toilet and Fancy Articles; Paints, Oils, Glass, Brushes, Putty and Dye-stuffs. Physicians' Prescriptions carefully compounded.

J. B. BISCOE, Proprietor of the Unicorn Mills, near Sudlersville. All kinds of the best Family Flour kept on hand for sale at all times. Best brand "Unicorn Family," second best "Extra Family." All orders promptly filled.

M. C. CASEY, (my care will tions made, &c

JAMES CURL All kinds of c despatch. La

WM. PALMA smith. All k with neatness Corners.

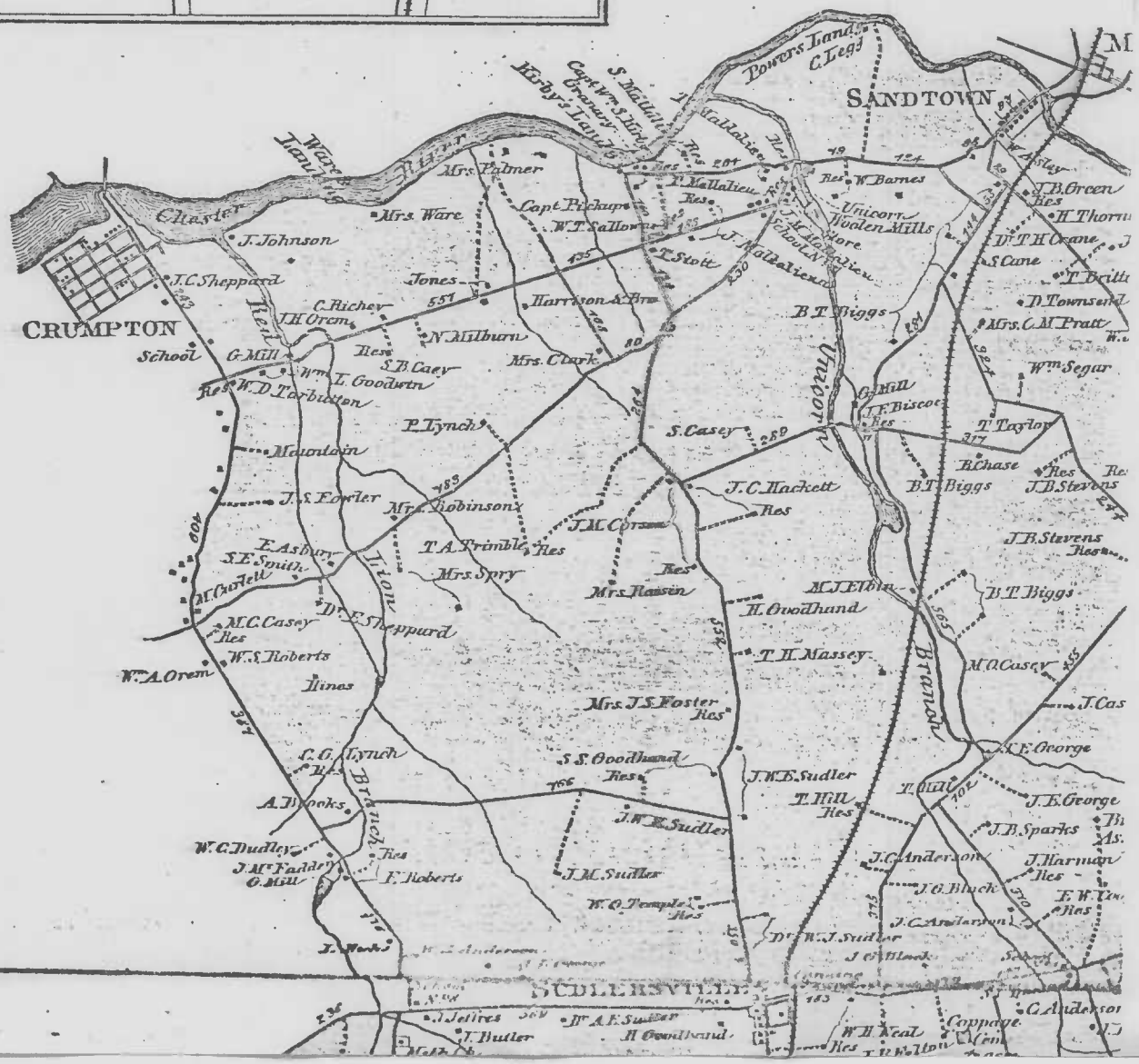
GADD & SUDD lishment. All hand for sale a for Fruit.

EDWARD L. M throughout Ke

GEO. F. HOLM smithing and having work in call before goin

THOS. A. BOO Wheelwrighting lightest buggi done in my line

J. J. HURLOC Goods, Groceri Queensware, H



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Joseph M. George House

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