

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes  no

Property Name: Bordlington Inventory Number: QA-95  
Address: 200 Bordlington Farm Lane Historic district:  yes  no  
City: Centreville Zip Code: 21617 County: Queen Annes  
USGS Quadrangle(s): Centreville  
Property Owner: Robert Willis Adams et al. Tax Account ID Number: 008924  
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 3 Tax Map Number: 53  
Project: Planning Studies for US 301 at MD 304 Agency: Maryland State Highway Administration  
Agency Prepared By: Maryland State Highway Administration  
Preparer's Name: Stephanie Foell Date Prepared: 08/10/2005  
Documentation is presented in: Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form QA-95  
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation:  Eligibility recommended  Eligibility not recommended  
Criteria:  A  B  C  D Considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  
*Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:*  
Name of the District/Property: \_\_\_\_\_  
Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Eligible:  yes  no Listed:  yes  no  
Site visit by MHT Staff  yes  no Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Architectural Description:

This form supplements the existing Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) form completed for Bordlington and provides a determination of eligibility for the property. The original form contains an excellent detailed description and physical and historical analyses of the property.

The appearance of Bordlington remains unchanged since the original MIHP form was completed in 1978, with the exception of the installation of storm windows in select locations. The property is well maintained and all of the character-defining features remain intact. The residence is the primary structure on the property; the only remaining agricultural outbuilding is a dilapidated wood-frame shed located to the rear of the house. The parcel of land containing the house is 235 acres, and contains mature evergreen and deciduous trees, some of which appear to date to the period of construction.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended  Eligibility not recommended   
Criteria:  A  B  C  D Considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

MHT Comments:

Ann Terluone ✓ 10/5/05  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date  
Patricia Kuntz 10/13/05  
Reviewer, National Register Program Date

QA-95

History, Significance, and Determination of Eligibility:

Deed research indicates that Bordlington was built by the Bordley family circa 1780. The house was built for Judge James Bordley (1736-1793), who left no heirs, so the property eventually passed to his nephew, Dr. James Bordley (1808-1872), according to a review of the family's wills. The 1798 Federal Direct Tax indicates that other agricultural outbuildings (no longer extant) were on the property at that time, and that the Bordleys maintained slaves on the property, which was originally at least 250 acres in size. Therefore, it appears as if Bordlington functioned as a plantation. The property remained in the Bordley family for several more generations before going to a distant cousin; it was later sold to owners outside of the family.

The house is an excellent and well-preserved example of a Georgian brick residence. In Maryland, Georgian houses were most commonly constructed of brick or stone versus the clapboard and wood-shingle examples found in New England. In examples built after 1750, a belt course separating floors is common, as is seen on Bordlington. The MIHP form describes unique aspects of Bordlington, including the glazed-header, Flemish-bond brickwork, and also discusses similar residences in the vicinity.

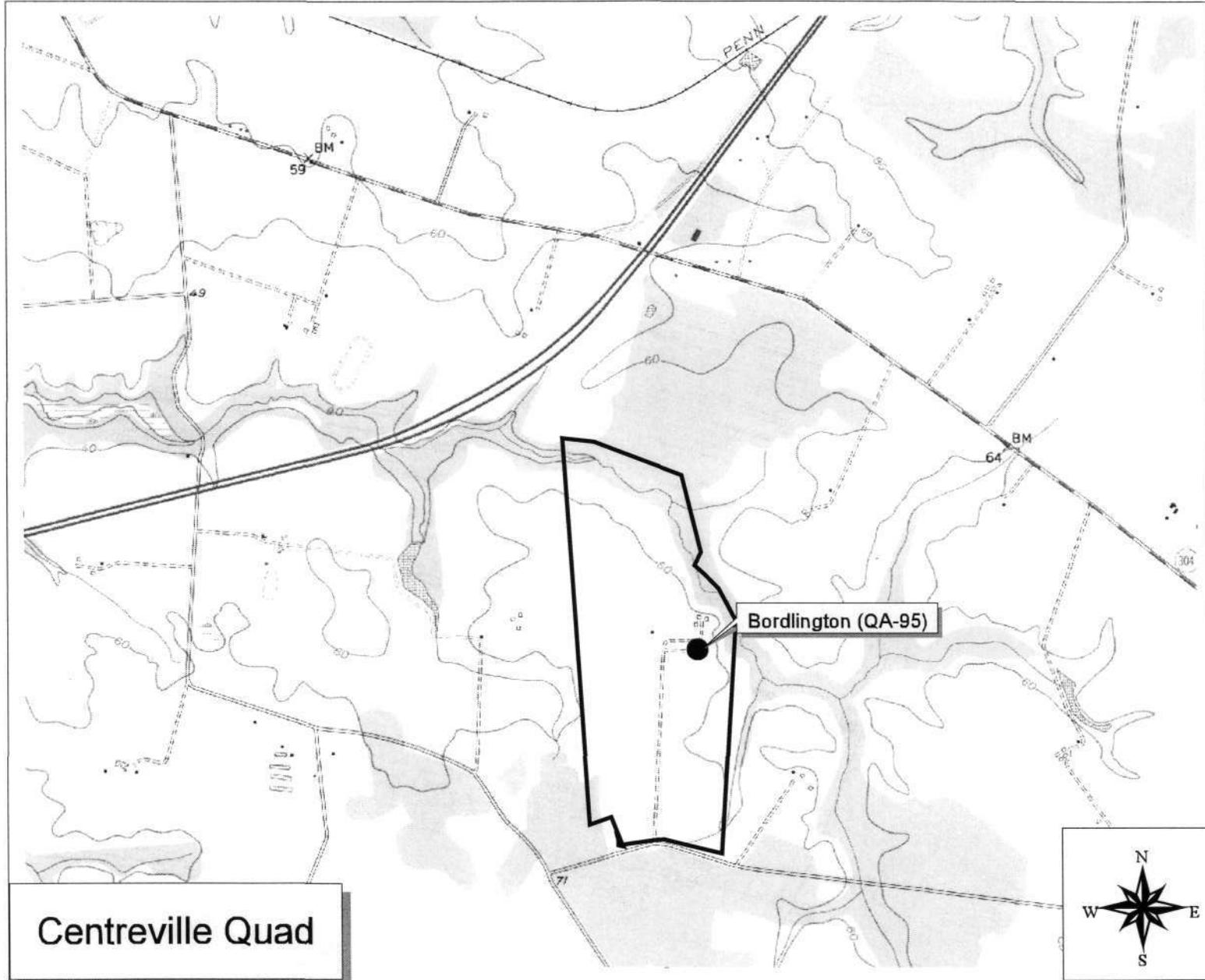
The proliferation of the Georgian style is due in large part to pattern books and other architectural building manuals, which appealed to increasingly sophisticated and prosperous citizens who desired to construct fashionable buildings. A review of some of the more prominent surviving pattern books in the Library of Congress collection did not reveal any designs that were identical to Bordlington; however, the influence of these published designs is undeniable. Bordley obviously employed skilled builders and craftsmen to construct his house, and they executed their own interpretation and ornamentation on the building. Shortly after the construction of Bordlington, other architectural styles such as Adamesque and Early Classical Revival became fashionable.

Bordlington is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Its period of significance is confined to its date of construction, circa 1780. It is eligible under Criterion A as an example of the type of house that prominent citizens of the late eighteenth century constructed. The property illustrates the large, high-style residences surrounded by extensive landholdings that were available at that time to people of means. Although the Bordleys appear to be a prominent family in the Centreville area, research did not indicate that the judge or doctors contributed significant accomplishments to their fields. Therefore, the property is not eligible under Criterion B. Bordlington is eligible under Criterion C. As stated in the MIHP form, it is an excellent example of the type of large and imposing brick homes that were built by prominent Eastern Shore families during the second half of the 1700s. The brickwork demonstrates a high level of craftsmanship and the integrity of the property, including its rural setting, is increasingly rare in Queen Anne's County. While the collection of agricultural buildings is no longer extant, the property is primarily significant as a well-preserved example of early domestic architecture on the Eastern Shore. It retains high levels of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, association, and feeling to its period of significance. The property has not yet been assessed for significance under Criterion D.

The proposed historic boundary of Bordlington should include the parcel to its current legal boundaries. Although the house occupies only a small portion of the land, one of the character-defining features of the property is the open space surrounding the house.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended _____	Eligibility not recommended _____
Criteria:    ___ A    ___ B    ___ C    ___ D	Considerations:    ___ A    ___ B    ___ C    ___ D    ___ E    ___ F    ___ G
MHT Comments:	
_____	_____
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	Date
_____	_____
Reviewer, National Register Program	Date

**US 301 at MD 304  
Bordlington (QA-95), Queen Anne's County**



**Centreville Quad**

0.5 0 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 Miles



QA-95

Bordlington

Queen Anne's County, MD

Becky Kerms

Feb. 2005

MD SHPO

ART-2611 <No. BA>010  
165 1717 -1 N N N-05 (044)0

Facade of residence (east elevation)

1/4



QH-75

Bordlington

Queen Anne's County, MD

Becky Kermer

Feb. 2005

MD SHPO

ART-2611 <No. 4A>BB6

155 1717 -1 N N-1-17 <044>B

Facade; east elevation porch

2/4



QA-95

Bordlington

Queen Anne's County, MD

Becky Kermes

Feb. 2005

MD SHPO

ART-2611 <No. 7A>009  
165 1717 -1 N H-1-35 <044>0

North elevation

3/4



QA-95

Bordlington

Queen Anne's County, MD

Becky Kermes

Feb. 2005

MD SHPO

South elevation

4/4

ART-2611 <No. 5A>007  
165 1217 -1 N N-3-17 (044)0

QA-95  
Bordlington  
Centreville vicinity  
Private

late 18th century

Bordlington is an excellent example of the large brick houses that were built by the more prominent local families in the latter half of the 18th century. The east facade is a magnificent example of glazed header Flemish bond brickwork. The striated banding on the gable ends, executed in three-course bond with all of the headers glazed, is a relatively unusual feature that may be found on half-a-dozen houses in the central Eastern Shore. Also of interest are the partially expressed chimneys, which corbel back into the wall in the upper gables.

Interior details of interest include much of the original woodwork, all of the first floor mantels, and most of the original doors. The floor plan is an unusual variation of the center hall floor plan with an open stair hall at the rear of the house.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

**Bordlington**

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

**North side of Little Eagle Road about 3 miles southeast of Centreville**

CITY, TOWN

**Centreville**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

**Maryland**

COUNTY

**Queen Anne's**

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" 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

**William F. Adams**

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

**RD#3, Box 31**

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 90**

Folio #: **290**

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-95

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

Bordlington is located on Little Eagle Road, about three miles southeast of Centreville. The house is sited on high ground overlooking a small stream which meanders to the northwest and eventually empties into Old Mill Stream Branch. A cluster of farm buildings lies to the north of the house on lower ground.

This is a very large, imposing brick house. It is two stories high, five bays wide and two rooms deep, with a low-pitched gable roof. Of particular note is the brickwork on the east facade and the north and south gables. On the east facade, this consists of Flemish bond with all glazed headers above a plain Flemish bond foundation. A square-section watertable and a two-course Flemish bond belt course are carried across the facade. The gable ends are laid in three-course bond, with all of the headers glazed. This creates a series of dark bands, similar to the nearby C. C. Harper farm (QA-11). The foundation is laid in random common bond, and the watertable is carried completely across both gables. Also of note are the paired chimneys on each gable.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

QA-95

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" 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

Bordlington is an excellent example of the large brick houses that were built by the more prominent local families in the latter half of the eighteenth century. The east facade is a magnificent example of glazed header Flemish bond brickwork. The striated banding on the gable ends, executed in three-course bond with all of the headers glazed, is a relatively unusual feature that may be found on half a dozen houses in the central shore. Also of interest are the partially expressed chimneys, which corbel back into the wall in the upper gables.

Interior details of interest include much of the original woodwork, all of the first floor mantels, and most of the original doors. The floor plan is an unusual variation of the center hall floor plan with an open stair hall at the rear of the house. Other features worthy of attention are the beaded cellar door frames with the original

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Forman, Henry Chandlee. Old Buildings, Gardens, and Furniture of Maryland. Cambridge, Md.: Tidewater Publishers, 1967.

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

**11/21/78**

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

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION

These project about 8 inches from the gable wall up to the level of the second floor eave, and then corbel in flush to the wall. They are then carried up flush with the upper gable, and corbel together in the attic to form one chimney, which emerges from the center of the gable peak at each end of the house. This same feature was apparently relatively common in the central Eastern Shore during the second half of the 18th century. Other local examples include 120 South Commerce Street in Centreville (QA-151) and Bachelor's Hope (QA-224). It is interesting to note two unusual construction details that are employed here. The belt course is carried around the corner from the front and rear facade and is stopped against the projecting chimneys, but is not carried on across the gable as the watertable is. Also, the windows directly to the east of the rear (west) chimneys are butted up against the chimney, with the chimney forming one jamb of the window. This is clearly made necessary by the interior plan, and may also be found on the north gable of 120 South Commerce Street.

The rear facade is laid in Flemish bond without glazed headers above a Flemish bond foundation.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION

The watertable and belt course are both carried across this facade.

The principal facade faces east, overlooking the wooded streambed below. The entrance is located in the center bay with two nine-over-nine windows on either side. Three-light cellar windows are located below each first floor window. The second floor windows are nine-over-nine. All first and second floor openings have flat brick jack arches, while the cellar windows have segmental arches. The two north bays of this facade have been covered by a one-story kitchen addition, and the front door is protected by a screen porch. The original modillion block cornice remains intact.

The north gable is dominated by the paired chimneys. The fenestration is not symmetrical, with a single nine-over-nine window to the left of the east chimney and two nine-over-nine windows between the chimneys on each floor. There are no openings to the right of the west chimney. There are three three-light windows, directly below the first floor windows, and a single four-over-four window is located in the center of the upper gable. The rakeboards are tapered and have a molded lower edge and a crown mold along

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.3 DESCRIPTION

the upper edge.

The west or rear facade is similar to the front facade, with a central door flanked by four nine-over-nine windows on the first floor, five nine-over-nine windows in the second floor, and four three-light cellar windows. Two of the first floor windows and all of the second floor windows retain the original rusticated wooden lintels with a raised keystone in the center. The door surround consists of a molded backband with crossettes and a molded entablature hood. Traces remain of a one-story porch that once covered the center three bays of this facade. It had Doric columns, and probably dated to the late 19th or early 20th century.

The south gable is similar to the north gable, with several minor differences. There is a bulkhead entrance to the cellar at the west end of the south gable, and the four-over-four sash in the gable window has been replaced with a new six-light casement. The rakeboards have also been replaced.

The interior is arranged in a modified version of the center hall plan. Basically it is a relatively standard variation, with the front (east) rooms larger than the rear rooms. In this case, however, the plan

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.4 DESCRIPTION

has been further modified, with the rear room on the north side reduced in size to allow an L-shaped hall with the stairway located in an open stairhall on the west facade.

The front room on the south side of the hall was probably the most formal room, with the southwest and northeast rooms serving as parlour and dining room, and the small room in the northwest corner probably serving as a library or a sleeping chamber.

The southeast room retains much of the original interior woodwork. The mantel consists of a crossetted surround supporting a heavily molded shelf with a modillion block architrave. Both the chairrail and the baseboard are molded, and the splayed window openings are embellished with raised paneling below the sill and a molded architrave. The present cornice in this room is modern.

A large opening with double paneled doors allows free access between the southeast room and the southwest room. These doors are not original, however, and appear to date to the early 19th century. The mantel in the southwest room is relatively simple, consisting of a molded board surround. The baseboard is also molded, and one section of original chairrail remains. The

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.5. DESCRIPTION

windows on the west wall of this room have interior raised panel shutters which fit into recesses in the jambs on each side.

The stair rises along the north wall of the stair hall to a landing, then rises along the exterior wall to a second landing before turning and rising to the second floor. It is an open string stair, with square newels with molded caps and square ballusters. Scrolled brackets decorate the carriage piece, and raised paneling and a molded chairrail fill the space below the carriage.

The northeast room is now used as a kitchen, but molded baseboard and an ornate mantel similar to the southeast parlour mantel indicate this was originally a relatively formal room. The small northwest room also retains its original mantel, a simple board surround similar to that found in the southwest room.

The second floor plan appears to be similar to the first floor, but was not examined.

A small enclosed stair off the second floor hall allows access to the attic. Although quite large, the attic was never used as living space.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.6 DESCRIPTION

The roof framing consists of a principal rafter roof with purlins mortised into the principals and common rafters notched over the purlins and running continuously from false plate to ridge. Each principal is supported by a pair of queen posts joined by a heavy collar beam and reinforced with angled braces between the queen post and the principal rafter. The principals are mortised-and-tenoned at the ridge, and a 1 x 5 ridge board runs between each pair of principal rafters. This board is held in place at each end by a pocket formed with three pieces of one-inch board nailed to the principals with wrought nails. The common rafters are mitred and butted against the ridge board. The purlins are not continuous, but are mortised into the principals, and are offset to reduce strain. The roof pitch is 26.5 degrees.

Also of interest in the attic is the original ladder used to climb up through a hatch to the roof. The hatch framing is still in place, but the ladder has been taken down, and remains stored in the attic. The carriage pieces of the ladder have rebates to hold the treads and are beaded.

The cellar originally had an interior entrance below the stairs in the first floor hall, as well as

## CONTINUATION SHEET

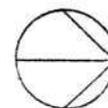
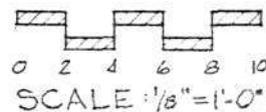
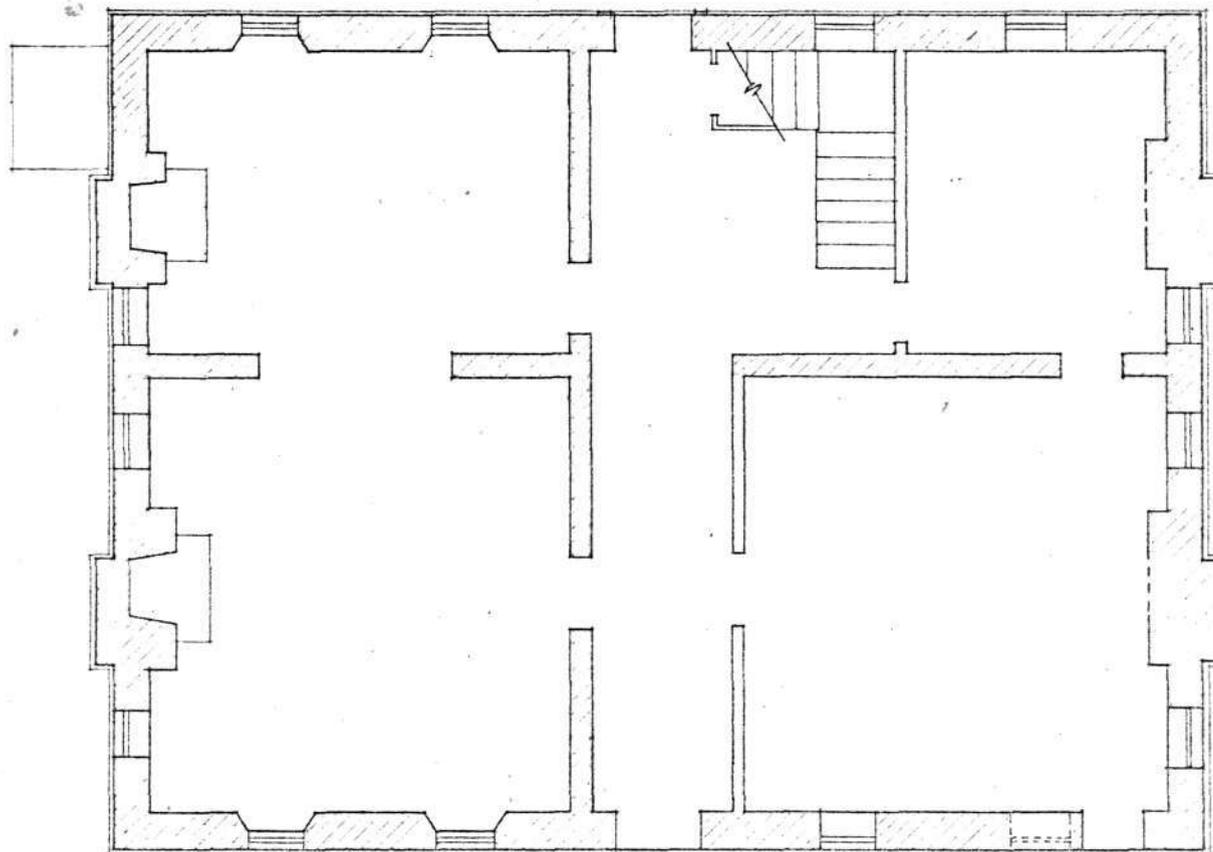
## 7.7 DESCRIPTION

the exterior bulkhead entrance on the south gable. The interior stair has been removed, however. The cellar is divided by brick partition walls into four rooms. The two south rooms correspond to the south rooms on the first floor, but the two north rooms are larger, and also include the area below the first floor hall. The foundation is laid in rough fieldstone below ground level, and the chimney bases have relieving arches with recesses. The interior doorways have beaded frames with the original red paint still exposed. All had doors, but these are now gone. The ceiling joists are pit-sawn from hewn logs. They average 3 x 10, and are laid parallel to the gable on 18-inch centers. The butt ends are set in pockets in the masonry walls and rest on one-inch wood plates embedded in the masonry.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 8.1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

paint still exposed and the original ladder to the roof, which remains in the attic. The roof itself is an exceptionally well preserved example of a queen post truss roof with a ridge board, a feature not generally found in the 18th century.

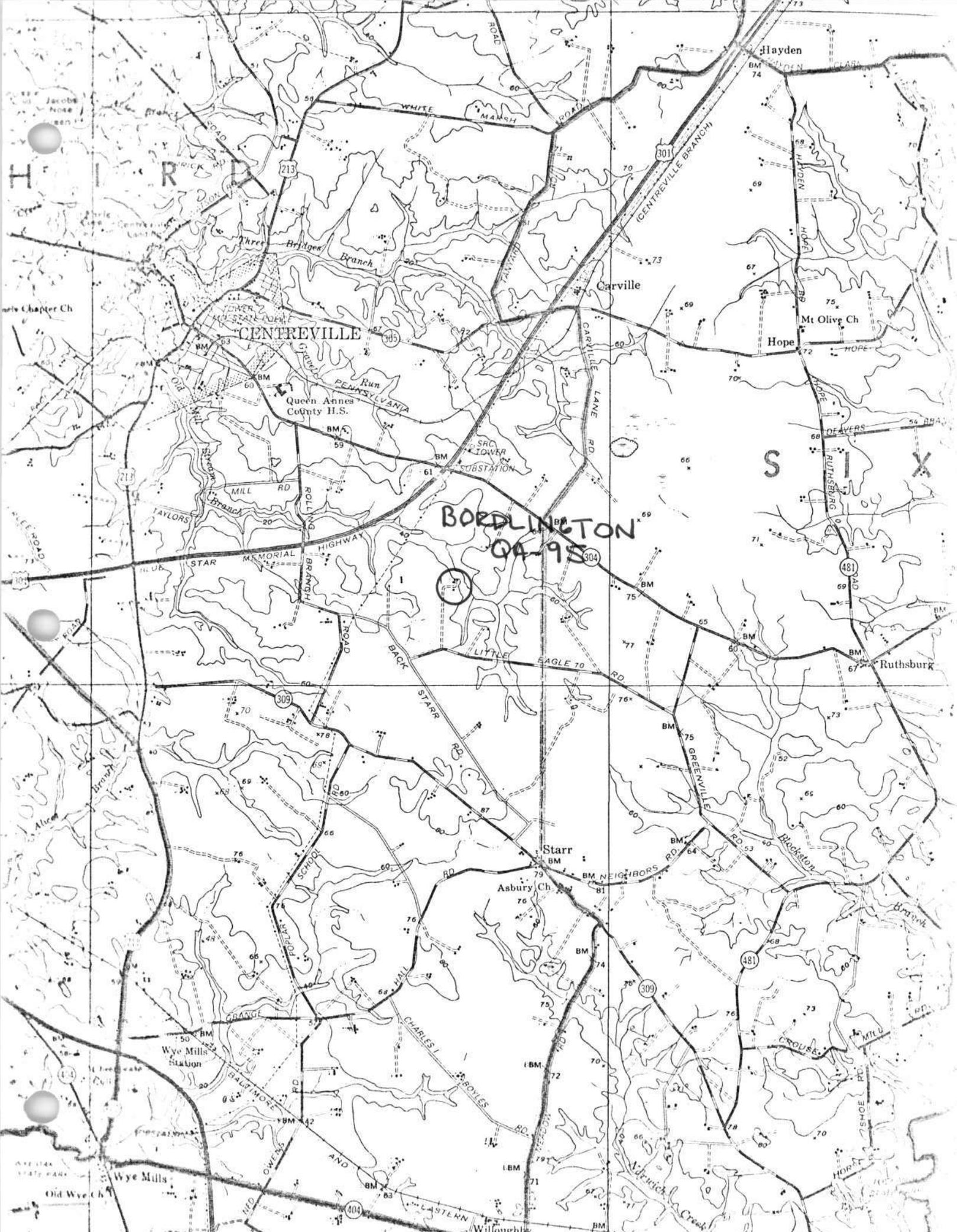


ORLANDO RIDOUT V.

QA-95

BORDLINGTON  
CENTREVILLE, MARYLAND

MARCH 21, 1978.



CENTREVILLE

BORDLINGTON  
QA 95

Hayden

Carville

Mt Olive Ch

Hope

Ruthsburg

Starr

Asbury Ch

Wye Mills

Willoughby



QA-95

GA-95  
Bordlington

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



QA-95  
Bordlington

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





QA-95 Bordlington  
OKV 1978



QA-95 Bardington  
ORV 1978



QA#95

Bordlington

EBD, Jr