

WI-199  
McLain-Evans House  
Whitehaven  
Private

c. 1890

Historically labeled the McLain-Evans house, this two-and-a-half story frame dwelling repeats a common architectural form found in Whitehaven as well as throughout the lower Eastern Shore. The three-bay center hall frame dwelling with its centered cross gable on the steeply pitched gable roof was very popular during the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century. Estimated to date to around 1890, the house is located on a lot of land acquired by Rebecca A. McLain in May 1889, sold by Elizabeth A. G. Catlin who owned the adjacent Bolton farm at the time. The architectural features of the house agree with this estimation of age.

Rebecca A. McLain and her husband Larner sold the house and lot in 1908 to Carter Denson, who turned around five years later and transferred title to Francis J. Evans in September 1913. Evans family interest in the property was maintained until May 1935, when it passed into another owner, Harry P. and Mary P. Covington. The Church Street house and lot passed into the hands of Elizabeth Covington Hopkins, who retained title until 1964.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: MCLAIN-EVANS HOUSE

MHT Inventory Number: WI-199

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

- 1) Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
- 2) Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
- 3) Chronological/Development Period(s):  
Industrial/Urban Dominance  
1870-1930
- 4) Resource Type(s): Single-family dwelling

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-199

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic MCLAIN-EVANS HOUSE

and/or common SENSENBRENNER HOUSE

**2. Location**

street & number 2734 Church Street  not for publication

city, town Whitehaven  vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Judith A. Sensenbrenner

street & number 1613 Camden Avenue telephone no.:

city, town Salisbury state and zip code MD 21801

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court liber 1288 M. 65

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 782 P. 50

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. WI-199

<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Commonly known as the Sensenbrenner house, and historically identified as the McLain-Evans house, this two-and-a-half story, three-bay by two-bay frame dwelling stands at 2734 Church Street in Whitehaven, Wicomico County, Maryland. The house faces east with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built around 1890, the two-and-a-half story center hall frame dwelling is supported on a low brick pier foundation, and the exterior is clad with aluminum siding. The steeply pitched cross-gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles, and the eaves are extended.

The east (main) facade is a symmetrical three-bay elevation with a center entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows. The Victorian four-panel front door and adjacent first floor windows are sheltered by a hip roofed porch supported on turned posts with added corner brackets. Aluminum shutters are fixed to the house on each side of the windows. The second floor is defined by a paired set of single-pane sash windows in the center bay and two-over-two sash windows to each side. Each window opening is flanked by aluminum shutters. Fishscale shingles cover the cross gable which is pierced by a small round window.

The north side of the house is defined by two two-over-two sash windows on each floor, and the gable end is pierced by a paired set of single-pane sash windows. The south end, on the other hand, has a side entrance covered by a single-bay stoop. Two-over-two sash windows light the first and second floors, and a paired set of single-pane sash windows light the attic.

The interior was not seen.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. WI-199

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 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

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or

Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Historically labeled the McLain-Evans house, this two-and-a-half story frame dwelling repeats a common architectural form found in Whitehaven as well as throughout the lower Eastern Shore. The three-bay center hall frame dwelling with its centered cross gable on the steeply pitched gable roof was very popular during the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century. Estimated to date to around 1890, the house is located on a lot of land acquired by Rebecca A. McLain in May 1889, sold by Elizabeth A. G. Catlin who owned the adjacent Bolton farm at the time.(FMS 54/506) The architectural features of the house agree with this estimation of age.

Rebecca A. McLain and her husband Larner sold the house and lot in 1908 to Carter Denson, who turned around five years later and transferred title to Francis J. Evans in September 1913.(EAT 88/485) Evans family interest in the property was maintained until May 1935, when it passed into another owner, Harry P. and Mary P. Covington.(IDT 191/501) The Church Street house and lot passed into the hands of Elizabeth Covington Hopkins, who retained title until 1964.(JWTS 579/424)

This house qualifies for listing in Category C, which signifies that it is a structure where alterations should be considered carefully since it adjoins a property in the A or B category and whose impact and potential modified impact as a contributing resource must be thoughtfully weighed.



WI-199  
MCLAIN-EVANS HOUSE  
2734 Church Street  
Whitehaven, Maryland  
Chain of title

1288/782 Gary R. Blackwell  
Donna C. Blackwell

to

4/15/1992 Judith ANn Sensenbrenner

MSB 1188/763 Chris A. French

to

8/3/1989 Gary R. Blackwell  
Donna C. Blackwell  
\$85,000.

889/214 Richard Blackwell

to

12/19/1977 Chris A. French

AJS 852/109 William P. Carey  
Kathleen M. Carey

to

3/2/1976 Richard Blackwell

JWTS 579/424 Elizabeth C. Hopkins

to

2/20/1964 William P. Carey  
Kathleen M. Carey

WI-199  
MCLAIN-EVANS HOUSE  
2734 Church Street  
Whitehaven, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

Page 2

IDT 191/501

Marion F. Evans, et al.

to

5/17/1935

Harry P. Covington

Mary P. Covington

(the said Harry P. Covington having been heretofore deceased vesting all the right and title unto Mary P. Covington and upon her decease the said property having descended to said Elizabeth C. Hopkins, who is now a widow.

EAT 88/485

Carter Denson

Dula Denson

to

9/13/1913

Francis J. Evans

\$900 the said Marion F. Evans, Esther Covington, Blanche H. Larmore, Florence Haughey and Lucille Talbot being the only heirs-at-law of said Francis J. Evans and Lucy Evans, now deceased "School Street"

EAT 61/455

Larner T. McLain

Rebecca A. McLain

to

7/12/1908

Carter Denson

\$1000.00

FMS 54/506

Elizabeth A. G. Catlin

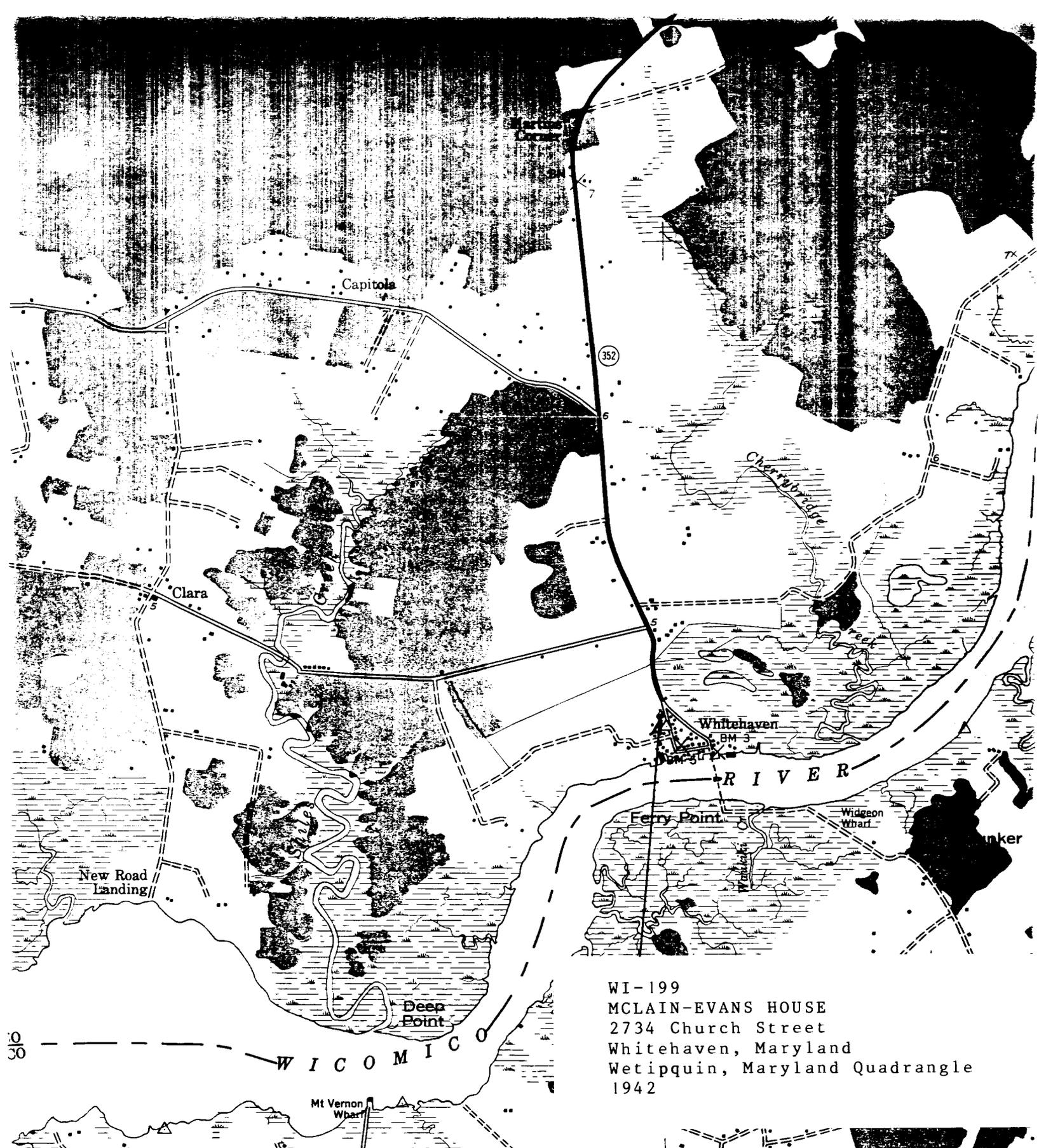
to

5/11/1889

Rebecca A. McLain

\$25.00 adjoining the school house lot 1/8 acre





WI-199  
 MCLAIN-EVANS HOUSE  
 2734 Church Street  
 Whitehaven, Maryland  
 Wetipquin, Maryland Quadrangle  
 1942

10  
30

W I C O M I C O

(MONIE)

47'30"

PRINCESS ANNE 6.3 M

SCALE 1:24 000

1 MILE

WI-199

1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET

1 5 0 1 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
 DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL





