AA-732 **c. 1872**
Steuart Tenant House
Polling House Road, Harwood, Anne Arundel County
Bristol Quad
Building

The Steuart Tenant House is associated with the mid-19th century farm of George Steuart. In 1878 the occupant is believed to have been a tenant farmer named George Calhoun. Calhoun later purchased the property. Archaeology reveals that this tenant house stands on the site of an earlier manor house.

The Steuart Tenant House provides valuable information on the social distinctions between land owners and tenant workers.

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. AA-732

Magi No.

DOE ____ yes ____ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Steuart Tenant House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Polling House Road ____ not for publication

city, town Harwood ____ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Anne Arundel

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	____ private residence
____ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	____ entertainment	____ religious
____ object	____ in process	____ yes: restricted	____ government	____ scientific
	____ being considered	____ yes: unrestricted	____ industrial	____ transportation
	____ not applicable	____ no	____ military	____ other:

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

name H.C. Murray & W.T. Murray III (in 1972)

street & number P.O. Box 253 telephone no.:

city, town Galesville state and zip code: Maryland 20765

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anne Arundel County Courthouse liber 2526

street & number Franklin Street folio 192

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title 1988 Windsor Subdivision Archaeological Phase I Study by R. Goodwin & Associates

____ federal ____ state ____ county ____ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. AA-732

Condition		Check one	Check one
____ excellent	____ deteriorated	x unaltered	x original site
x good	____ ruins	____ altered	____ moved date of move ____
____ fair	____ unexposed		

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

Please see continuation sheets

No AA-732

0

8. Significa

Survey No. AA-732

Period

____ prehistoric	
____ 1400-1499	
____ 1500-1599	x
____ 1600-1699	x
____ 1700-1799	
____ 1800-1899	
____ 1900-	

Are

heck and justify below

____ community planning	____ landscape architecture	____ religion
____ conservation	____ law	____ science
____ economics	____ literature	____ sculpture
____ education	____ military	X social/ humanitari
____ engineering	____ music	____ theater
____ exploration/settlement	____ philosophy	____ transporta
____ industry	____ politics/government	____ other (spe (recreatior
____ invention		

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Check: Applicable ____ B x C X D
and/o
Applicable E ____ B ____ C ____ D ____ E ____ F ____ G

Level of Sign nal ____ state x local

Prepare both a summar ce and a general statement of history and support.

Please see continuation

PS-2746

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No AA-732

see attached

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name BRISTOL

Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000

UTM References Do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared by

name/title

organization date

street & number

city or town state

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
DHCP/DHCD
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Survey Number: AA-732
Steuart Tenant House
Harwood, Anne Arundel County, Maryland

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance (1870-1930)

Historic Period Theme(s): architecture, agriculture, social

Resource Type:

Category: building

Historic Environment: rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): tenant house

Known Design Source: none

AA-732

R. CHRISTOPHER GOODWIN & ASSOCIATES, INC.
5824 Plauche Street, New Orleans, LA 70123 • 504-736-9323
636A Solarex Court, Frederick MD 21701 • 301-694-0428

September 20, 1988

Mr. Harrison C. Murray
P.O. Box 253
Galesville, MD 20765

Dear Mr. Murray:

During September, 1988, R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc., completed Phase I archival and archeological field investigations of the proposed Windsor Farm subdivision in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. The farm is a parcel of approximately 190 acres (76.9 ha) located 2.9 km (1.8 miles) west of Maryland Route 2 on Polling House Road.

The objectives of this study were to identify and to document historic and prehistoric resources within the project area: to assess the potential significance of those resources, applying National Register criteria (37 CFR 60.4); and, to make management recommendations concerning discovered resources. Towards this end, both archival and field investigations were conducted.

Archival Investigation

Preliminary background investigation undertaken during this study included review of archeological site files, archeological reports, and historic maps available at the Maryland Geological Survey. Site files, National Register files, the Maryland Historic Sites Inventory, and archeological reports at the Maryland Historical Trust also were examined.

No previously recorded prehistoric or historic sites were identified in the immediate project area. However, both Martenet's 1860 Map of Anne Arundel County, Maryland and Hopkins' 1878 Atlas of Anne Arundel County, Maryland show structures within the project area. Martenet's map shows a house near the center of the project area and lists the name George Stuart as the owner. Hopkins' 1878 map shows that house plus another in the southeast portion of the project area, and gives the name George Colhoun as the resident. George Colhoun is Harrison Murray's great-grandfather, who

purchased the project area in 1872 (Harrison Murray, personal communication).

Field Investigations

Methods

Phase I survey was conducted by a five-member field team. Field investigations included pedestrian survey, surface inspection, and systematic shovel testing of the project area. Slopes steeper than fifteen percent and areas with high surface visibility were examined by pedestrian survey and surface inspection only. Shovel tests were excavated at 20 meter (65.5 foot) intervals along parallel transects spaced 20 meters (65.5 feet) apart.

Shovel tests measured 30 cm in diameter and were excavated into sterile subsoil; depths ranged from 30 to 50 cm as needed in order to examine this subsoil. Soils were removed by natural strata and were sifted through 0.635 cm (0.25 inch) hardware cloth. A shovel test record card was filled out in the field for each shovel test, indicating its position within the sampling pattern, the depths of soil strata within the unit, and the presence or absence of cultural materials. The nature of each soil stratum within the project area also was recorded in the field. This included soil color, indicated by Munsell designations, soil texture, and soil composition. When artifacts were recovered from a shovel test, additional units were excavated in the area. Artifacts collected from each shovel test unit were placed in resealable plastic bags which were labeled with horizontal and vertical provenience data.

Results

Six standing structures are located within the project area: three are houses and three are barns or outbuildings. The manor house is located in the southeast portion of the parcel. It is a large two and one half story wood frame and brick structure with a basement. It was constructed circa 1935 on the site of a previous manor house which burned in 1935. Approximately 65 meters to the north of the manor house is a garage. This garage is wood frame and covered with asphalt shingles. Wire nails and milled lumber are used throughout. It was constructed during the first half of the twentieth century. Ninety meters to the east of this garage lies a tenant house. This wood frame house was constructed in three sections. The central section is the oldest. It is

one and one half story; the north and south additions are single story. Asbestos siding covers weatherboard siding throughout. This house has been remodeled extensively, but the rafters of the central section have machine cut nails. The construction date is unknown, but the house was there prior to 1920 (Mrs. Brown, personal communication). Mrs. Brown stated that she was told the house was moved from an unknown location to the north of the present site. Occupation of this house ended during 1987, when Mr. Pratt vacated the premises. For the sake of clarity, this house will be known as the Pratt house in this study.

A tobacco barn, constructed ca. 1921, is located approximately 275 meters north of the manor house. This barn has vertical hinged siding and it is made with wire nails and a metal roof. A small corn crib (5 x 15m) located 67 m northwest of the manor house is constructed with vertical slat walls. It also was constructed sometime during the first half of the twentieth century.

Another tenant house is located 550 meters north of Polling House Road in the approximate center of the project area. It is surrounded by a copse of deciduous trees which lies in a cornfield. This house, a one and one-half story wood frame house, was constructed in two sections. The eastern portion is the oldest, having been constructed during the nineteenth century. The studs are joined to the sill by dovetail mortise and tenon joints and machine cut nails. Three different floors are present in this section, one over another. The house is sided with shiplap and weatherboard siding attached with machine cut nails. The newer western section uses slightly different techniques and materials. The studs are of milled boards rather than rough cut lumber. Also, they are joined to the sill by machine cut nails alone. A central chimney of cinder block rises in between the portions, with flu pipes to both sides. There is no sign of a fireplace ever having been a part of the house, so the house was built with wood or coal-burning stoves for heat and cooking.

Two other outbuildings were discovered in ruins. One, historically known as "sixty foot barn," is located northeast of an abandoned drive leading to the above mentioned tenant house. The pilings and sills remain intact, allowing accurate information on orientation and dimensions. The barn measured 60 x 36 ft; it was built on brick and mortar pilings. Two pilings were replaced with concrete block. The sills were hewn logs with the sills joined together using lap

joints and machine cut or wire nails. A wind turbine affixed to the roof supplied electrical power. This barn was probably constructed in the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

The second ruin, located 122 m north northwest of the manor house, is that of a small shed. It measures approximately 10 x 12 ft and it was built using wire nails and a metal roof. It was constructed during the first half of the twentieth century, when that area was used to stable livestock (Mr. Harrison Murray, personal communication).

A single prehistoric artifact was recovered during the Phase I survey of the project area. A sherd of Potomac Creek ware, a type of pottery dating from the Late Woodland period, was recovered from the plowzone near a spring south of the manor house, in a disturbed context also containing nineteenth century historic artifacts. No further investigation of this isolated prehistoric artifact is recommended.

Historic artifacts were found at four locations within the project area. The first site that produced artifacts is located around the tenant house in the center of the project area near the structure shown on Martenet's 1860 Map of Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Around this house, which housed tenant farmers from the 1870s until the early 1970s, is a scatter of artifacts dating from the early eighteenth century to the middle of the twentieth century (Figure 1). The distribution of the artifacts corresponds to the Brunswick pattern, which previously has been documented as occurring in rural areas until the 1830s (Goodwin et al. 1984). All artifacts were found in the topsoil, or the A horizon. They consisted of bricks, glass, ceramic sherds, and metal. The ceramic sherds include the following types: white salt-glazed stoneware, Chinese export porcelain, pearlware, ironstone, domestic stoneware, annular yellow ware, and transfer printed whiteware. It should be noted that the earliest artifacts are all high status items, indicating that the site was occupied by a high status individual. Most probably it was not occupied by tenants or slaves, but by a gentleman farmer or wealthy tradesman. Both of these uses of the house make it valuable to our knowledge of the respective social distinctions between land owners and the tenant workers. The site may possess the quality of significance as defined by the National Register criteria (36 CFR 60.4). It possesses integrity; the house is intact and could be studied in its construction details and its

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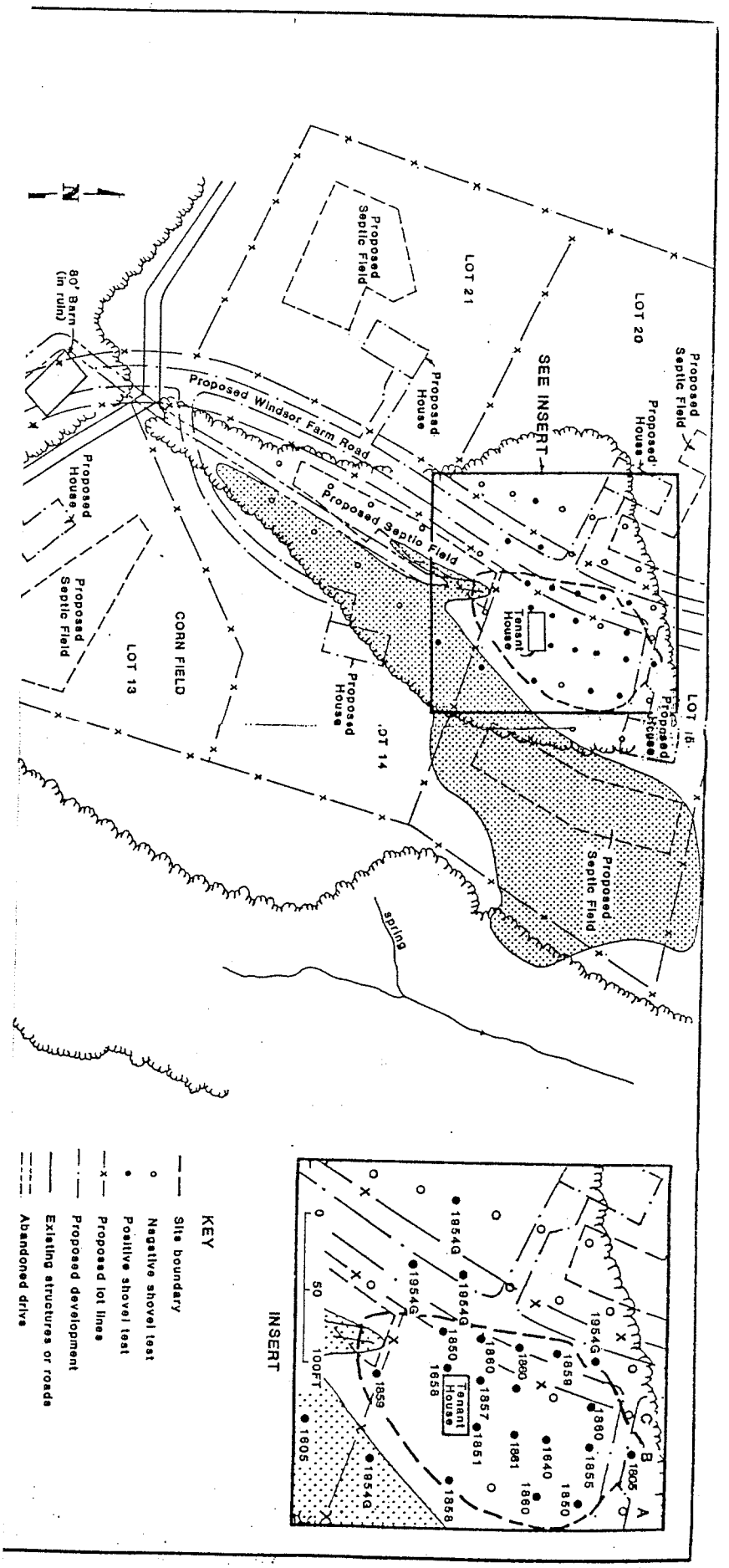

OCIATES, INC.

relationship to other natural and cultural features. It also possesses potentially important information about social interaction between landowners and tenants in the nineteenth century. For these reasons, further evaluative study is recommended if construction cannot avoid the site.

Along the western-most property boundary, where a bend in the property line is located, a surface scatter of nineteenth century artifacts was discovered. These consisted of machine cut nails, dark green glass, and domestic stoneware. No features were found and all artifacts were located in plowed fields or on the field edge. This site has been mapped and documented, and no additional investigation is recommended of this location.

In the southeastern section of the project area, between the manor house and Polling House Road, another small scatter of machine cut nails was located in association with a spring. According to Mr. Murray, this spring was the sole source of drinking water for the manor house, and it was roofed over. Thus, the nails are the probable remains of this springhouse structure. Also found adjacent to the spring was a single sherd of Potomac Creek Ware, a Late Woodland ceramic type associated with the Pistacataway Indians. This sherd was located in the plowzone in association with the aforementioned nails; no other prehistoric materials were located during further testing. As a result, no further investigations are warranted at this location.

A wooded area immediately north of the manor house yard yielded diffuse artifacts that probably are associated with the manor house to the south. Dates ranged from the mid nineteenth century to the present. These artifacts are interpreted as the edge of a scatter better represented in the backyard of the manor house. Since the six acre lot containing the manor house, the Pratt House, and the garage is not to be disturbed by the planned development, this lot was not tested. However, if future development is planned for this lot, further archival and archeological investigations should be conducted.

Recent dump sites also were discovered in the project area. These are located in drainages or ravines along a farm road that cuts across the property southeast to northwest. The dumps contain post 1930s household refuse, and some of the dumps currently are in use. This trash disposal pattern, i.e., dumping refuse over a slope near the house or outbuildings, was a common pattern during the first half of

the twentieth century (Fehr et al. 1988). Such dumps do not represent refuse from any single, definable activity, as would a kitchen midden. The artifacts include domestic refuse, architectural refuse, clothing, and automobile parts. Beyond comprising a catalog of twentieth century artifacts, such a dump contains no significant data. Once the trash disposal pattern is recognized and recorded, little more can be learned about twentieth century lifeways from excavation of such a dump area. Data concerning household economic status, for example, are more readily obtained from archival investigation for this period than from consideration of any dump contents. For these reasons, further work at this site would not contribute to our understanding of local or regional history. No additional investigation is recommended.

Impacts

A single site has been recommended for further study or for avoidance and preservation. This site is located in the location of two proposed house lots and of the proposed Windsor Farm Road (Figure 1). The lots are lot numbers fourteen and fifteen. Lot number fourteen contains only a small portion of the site. It is within the area of a proposed septic field. Lot number fifteen contains the major portion of the site. The deposits occupy the western portion of this lot, crossing the proposed drive. Along the western edge of the site, the proposed Windsor Farms Road would cut through the site.

Summary

In summary, investigation of the project area yielded a single prehistoric artifact. The artifact, a ceramic sherd dating from the Late Woodland period, is an isolated find recovered from a disturbed context. No further investigation of this find is recommended.

Four locations within the project area yielded historic artifacts. Two are small scatters of nineteenth century machine cut nails. The first is located on the western border of the project area at the end of plowed fields. All artifacts were found in the plowzone. After they have been mapped and documented, little can be learned from such scatters. No additional investigation is recommended of this location. The second machine cut nail scatter is located approximately 300 ft south of the manor house in association with a spring. This spring was the sole source of drinking

water for the manor house. Mr. Harrison Murray remembers that it was roofed over in the 1930s. Thus, the nails are probably the remains of a nineteenth century springhouse. Located with this scatter was a single Late Woodland ceramic sherd. Additional shovel testing failed to yield any other prehistoric artifacts, and this one sherd was focused in association with historic nails. Further testing is not likely to provide more information, since such structures do not have foundations or significant associated artifactual inventories. Therefore no further testing is recommended at this time.

The third location that produced artifacts lies adjacent to the manor house lot to the north. It is a very sparse scatter that can best be interpreted as the edge of a scatter associated with the manor house. This lot and the three buildings contained within it are not to be disturbed under the current plan. If future plans call for development of this lot, further archival and archeological research of this site should be conducted.

The fourth site that produced artifacts is located around the tenant house in the center of the project area. A house appears on Martenet's 1860 Map of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, in approximately the same location. Around this house is a scatter of artifacts dating from the eighteenth century to the present. This scatter contains ceramic sherds, glass, metal, and bricks. The oldest artifacts are the ceramic sherds, including white salt-glazed stoneware, Chinese export porcelain, and pearlware. These artifacts all date from the eighteenth century and are high status items. Nineteenth century artifacts consist of transfer printed whiteware, yellow ware, ironstone, domestic stoneware, non machine-made bottles, dark green glass, amethyst glass, and machine cut nails. The decorated ceramic sherds are high status materials that were popular during the 1850s. The more recent ceramic wares (those manufactured in the twentieth century) present at the site are of low status type. A mid twentieth century refuse scatter is located to the west of the house; it contains automobiles, appliances, and a full range of household debris.

This house was used as tenant farm house for share-cropping farmers after 1872, when the land was purchased by George Colhoun. At some time prior to this, the site was occupied by higher status individuals, as is indicated by the high status ceramic wares. It is probable that it was the site of an earlier manor house which was replaced prior to 1872 by a

house on the site of the present manor house.

Both of these uses of the house make it valuable to our knowledge of the respective social distinctions between land owners and the tenant workers. The site may possess the quality of significance as defined by the National Register criteria (36 CFR 60.4). It possesses integrity; the house is intact and could be studied in its construction details and in its relationship to other natural and cultural features. It also possesses potentially important information about social interaction between landowners and tenants in the nineteenth century. For this reason, either this site should be preserved or Phase II assessment of its importance should be undertaken. We will provide you with a time and cost estimate for Phase II evaluation and testing at your request.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at any time. We are at your service.

With best regards, I remain

Yours faithfully,

April M. Fehr /mrh

April M. Fehr, M.A.
Projects Manager

/mrh

Attachment

REFERENCES CITED

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1988 Personal Communication.

Fehr, April, Richard A. Geidel, and Leslie D. McFaden
1988 Phase I Archeological Survey of 262 Acres at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Prepared for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Baltimore, Maryland, by R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc., Frederick, Maryland.

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AA-732 Steuart's Tenant House

USGS Bristol Quad, 1:24,000 scale

BRISTOL QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

AA-732

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