CH-70

Jameson House, (Dent's Levels)

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the "vertical files" at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

Last Updated: 11-21-2003

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No.	CH-70	
Magi No.		_
DOE	yes	no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. N	ame	(i	ndicate preferred name)				
historic	Dent	's Levels					
and/or co	ommon	Jameson House					
2. Lo	ocat	ion					
street &	number	5685 Bumpy Oak F	Road				not for publication
city, tow	n LaPI	ata	vi	cinity of		congressional c	listrict
state	MD		count	у (Charles		
3. C	lass	ification					
x but	trict ilding(s) ucture	public x private both Public Acquisitio in process being conside x not applicabl	x yes: restrictered yes:unrestrict	gress		ent Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park x private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. O	wne	r of Prope	rty (give	names and	d mailing a	ddresses of <u>all</u> ow	mers)
name		neth G Leib			······································		
		5685 Bumpy Oak I				hone no.:	301-283-6435
5. Lo			al Descript	state & z	zip code	MD 20646-581	7
	-	stry of deeds, etc.	Charles County C		se	liber	1086
street &	number	200 Charles Street				folio	480
city, tow	n LaPl	ata		state & z	zip code	MD 20646	
6. R	epre	sentation	in Existing	Hist	orica	l Survey	'S
title							
date				federal_	state	county	local
deposito	ry for su	rvey records					
city, tow	n			state & z	zip code		

7. Description			Survey No. CH-70			
Condition excellent good fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	Check one unaltered x altered	Check one x original site moved date of move			

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

Dent's Levels is located on the west side of Bumpy Oak Road near the junction of Bumpy Oak and Livingston Roads. Dent's Levels is a two-story with one-story side wings frame house with German siding (a 1902 replacement of the original weatherboard siding). The center five-bay, two-story section features six-over-six-sash windows with apparently original shutters on the upper story, a three light transom above a replacement glass front door, asphalt shingle roof, and modem porch. This section was built in two stages. The southern part of the two-story house, salt box in form, is reported to be the oldest part of the house. An exterior end double shoulder chimney is located between this section and the circa 1850 one-story addition. Although no age for this section has been determined it is possible that it was built by Walter Hannon circa 1824 or perhaps circa 1783 by John Dent (Rivoire 1980). According to a former resident, Mrs. Louise Highby, the northern section of the two-story house was built circa 1820. The southern one-story addition was built circa 1850 by Dr. Compton (Louise Highby's great-grandfather) as a doctors office. This section has German siding, six-over-six-sash windows, brick pier foundation, and an extremely narrow doorway. The northern one-story addition was built circa 1870 by Dr. Compton and has German siding, six-over-six-sash windows, and brick foundation. Although denied entry inside the house, a floor plan was drawn with the aid of Louise Highby.

There was originally a two-story kitchen to the rear of the original section of the house. Extant outbuildings include a frame vegtable/fruit house with a louvered cupola and recent rear addition, two small frame sheds, one with asbestos siding, and two modern garage/sheds.

According to a daughter of a former owner, Louise Highby, she is a descendant of George and John Dent, sons of William Dent who received the land as part of a land grant from the king of England. The land was in some branch of the Dent family from that period until it was sold by Louise Highby's father. Also according to Mrs. Highby, Union troops occupied the house during the Civil War and was used as a pay station by the Union. Additional family history is available in the original inventory form written by J. Richard Rivoire.

8.	Signi	ficance		Survey No. CH-70	
Perio	prehistoric 1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 1800-1899 1900-2000	Areas of Significance archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art commerce communications	community planningconservationeconomicseducationengineering X exploration/settlementindustryinvention	landscape architecture law literature military music philosophy politics/government	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other(specify)
Spe	cific dates	.	Builder/Architect		
checl	App	licable Criteria:A and/or licable Exception:A el of Significance:nat	B <u>x C</u> B C tional state <u>x</u> lo	DEF ocal	G
	two-story early nine story circ accessible exterior of architecture inconclust and information property of the early	hall and parlor plan salt to eteenth century. Additions a 1850 section and one-size due to the objections of the house and its appearal significance as an earlive, research done by the mation from the daughter may also be eligible for the settlement of Charles Control of the century of the century and the control of the century also be control of the century and the century also be control of the century and the century also be control of the century and the century also be control of the century and the centur	oox house was probably consist to the house include a to tory circa 1870 section. As the owner, there have been seligible for the National rly vernacular house in Chapter preparer of the original in of a former owner, Louise to Rational Register under unty and/or B for its associated to determine eligibility under the control of the c	nventory form, J. Richard Rive Highby, indicates that the Criteria A for its association Ciation with the Dent Family. Inder Criteria A and B.	enth or a one- e or its voire,
		/	MARYLAND HISTOR D Considerations:	Eligibility Not Recomme ABCDE _	
	Reviewer,	OPS: M2 NR Program: 344	nty	Date: 8 14	00

9. Major Bibliographical References CH-70 Survey No. Louise Highby - J. Richard Rivoire, Maryland Historic Trust Inventory Form, September 1980 10. Geographical Data Acreage of nominated property Quadrangle name Quadrangle scale **UTM References** do NOT complete UTM references **Northing Easting Northing** Zone Easting Zone D Verbal boundary description and justification List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries state code county state code county code

Form Prepared By

Jody Jones

name/title

organization Coastal Carolina Research

date 3/02/00

street & number 407 Trade Street telephone 252-641-1444

Tarboro NC 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:

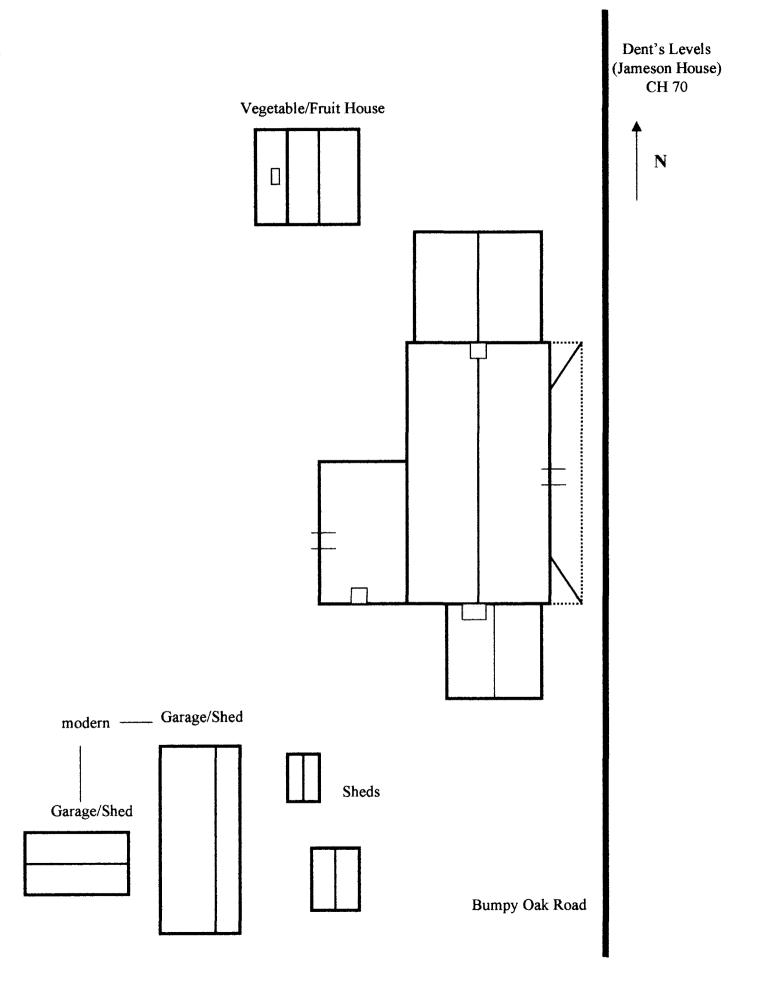
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

DHCP/DHCD

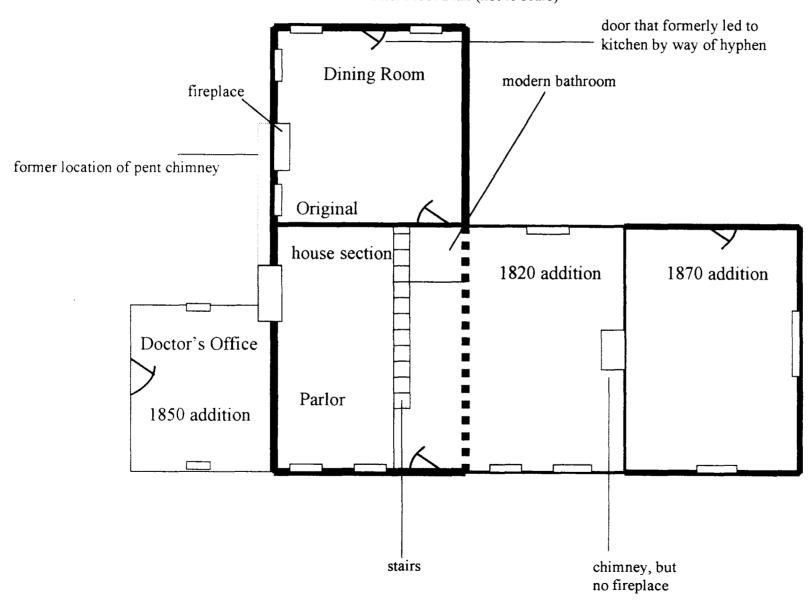
100 COMMUNITY PLACE

CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023

(301) 514-7600



Dent's Levels
(Jameson House)
CH70
First Floor Plan (not to scale)



INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

			-		
NAME					
HISTORIC J	AMESON HOUSE (Dent	's Levels)			
AND/OR COMMON					
AND/OR COMMON					
LOCATION	V				
STREET & NUMBER	West side of Bump	y Oak Road			
CITY, TOWN		_	col	NGRESSIONAL DISTRI	CT
Pome	onkey	VICINITY OF Bryan's	s Road		lst
state Mar	yland		CO	Charles	
CLASSIFIC	ATION				
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS			ENT USE
DISTRICT DISTRICT 	PUBLIC X_PRIVATE	¥OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED		AGRICULTURECOMMERCIAL	MUSEUM PARK
STRUCTURE	_BOTH	WORK IN PROGRESS		EDUCATIONAL	ZPRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE		ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED		GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED		INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION
		X _{NO}		MILITARY	_OTHER
OWNER O	FPROPERTY				·
	e J. Highby				
STREET & NUMBER			Telep	hone #:	
STACET & NOMBER					
city, town Bryan	's Road	VICINITY OF	Ma	state, z ryland	ip code
FILOCATION	OF LEGAL DESCR				
	d Of Wight Direct	11 11014		: # : 85	
COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS,	etc. Charles County	y Courthouse	Folic	#: 453	
STREET & NUMBER	Charles Stree	t			
CITY, TOWN	La Plata, Mar	yland		STATE	
93 n renrers	יייי א יעיר אדר אאר די <i>ער ארי</i> יייי	INTO CLIDATENO			
SE KEPKESEN	ITATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEIS			
TITLE					
DATE					
Denographics		FEDERAL .	STATE	COUNTY LOCAL	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS					•
CITY, TOWN				STATE	

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

HECK ONE

__EXCELLENT

__DETERIORATED

X_UNALTERED

∡G00D

__RUINS

.....

X.ORIGINAL SITE

__FAIR

__UNEXPOSED

__ALTERED

ALUNIGINAL SITE

__MOVED DATE____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

See Attached

#7: Description:

The Jameson House (Dent's Levels) is situated on the west side of Bumpy Oak Road, less than one-quarter mile south of the junction of Bumpy Oak Road and Livingston Road.

Surrounded by a number of large shade trees, the Jameson House is an attractive, two-story, frame farmhouse of a three-part composition consisting of a two-story, five-bay center section with one story, one bay flanking wings. The principal facade faces east and has a centered door flanked by four windows of six-over-six pane sash with louvered shutters, all of which is sheltered by a one story, shed roofed porch. At the second floor level are five windows, also of six-over-six sash and with louvered shutters, each window aligned with the opening below. From the south the main block is of a "salt box" profile, with the elongated rear slope of the roof extending about two-thirds of the length of the house from the south end. A two-story, brick, exterior chimney, now painted white, stands at the south end of the main block while at the opposite end there is a smaller "stove flue" chimney projecting from the roof ridge.

According to a previous owner of the house whose family owned the property since about 1860 (Mrs. Louise Highby, Bryan's Road, Md.), the south end section of the house, including the present center hall and two south-end rooms, is the oldest part of the house, and that the existing south chimney is one of two exterior chimneys that once stood here. According to this same source the main block was extended at the north end and the one story wings added in the 1860's and 1870's. A two-story, semi-detached kitchen with a large exterior chimney was torn down about 30 years ago. The remaining outbuildings, including a small barn and two gable-roofed sheds with louvered cupolas, appear to be of late-nineteenth century date.



		INVENTION		
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	_INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
1800-1899 <u>-</u>	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
X 1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	_LAW	SCIENCE
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

See Attached

#8: Statement of Significance:

An attractive frame farmhouse consisting of a two-story, five-bay center block with one story, one bay flanking wings, situated amidst grounds shaded by gnarled oaks, the exterior appearance of the Jameson House is that of a comfortable rural farmhouse of the midnineteenth century. However, although substantially enlarged and renovated in the 1860-1880 period by Dr. Ruel Keith Compton, the house is actually older than its overall exterior plan and detail suggest. At least two-thirds of the house, including the present center hall and two south end rooms, predate the mid-nineteenth century renovations and in whole or part may have origins dating as early as the late-eighteenth century.

The Jameson House is located on part of a tract of land identified as Dent's Levels, 480 acres patented by Captain George Dent (1690-1754) in 1725. Dent, who was High Sheriff of Charles County and a member of the Maryland General Assembly (1720, 1724-1726), and Chief Justice of the Provincial Court (1754), willed a major portion of Dent's Levels to his son, John Dent. Born in 1733, John Dent, who in 1753 married Sarah Marshall, daughter of Thomas Hanson Marshall of nearby Marshall Hall, was elected Brigadier General by the Maryland Convention in 1775. In 1783 he was assessed for 280 acres of Dent's Levels, improved by "one dwelling house and kitchen, unfinished." The same tax assessment lists the remaining 200 acres of the Dent's Levels patent, improved by a log dwelling house, as owned by William Mason.

In 1816, John Dent, son of General John Dent, sold a 225 acre tract of land that included a portion of Dent's Levels to Sarah M. Briscoe, administrix of the estate of Dr. Edward Briscoe. In 1824 George Mason sold to Walter W. Hannon 30 acres identified as part of Dent's Levels. Hannon sold the same 30 acres to his son, Henry Hannon, in 1832. In 1846 the 30 acres passed in ownership to Walter Hannon, Jr. 6

In 1847 Dr. Edward Miles, a prosperous physician and land speculator, sold to George Downs 42 acres, including a part of Dent's Levels Miles had purchased from the Hannons and Briscoes. A deed recorded in 1875 between John Mitchell, administrator of the estate of Charles F. Dement, and Mrs. Pachael J. Compton, wife of Dr. Ruel Keith Compton, states that Charles Dement sold Mrs. Compton 40 acres of Dent's Levels but had died before the conveyance had been recorded. This was the same land Dement had purchased in 1854 at a trustee's sale of the real estate of George W. Downs and which had been sold to Downs in 1847 by Dr. Miles. Excluded from the 1854 transfer, however, was about 2 acres on which stood a house and store known as "Bumpy Oak". (According to an 1866 deed associated with an adjacent property, the Bumpy Oak store house burned to the ground in 1865.9)

JAMESON HOUSE
(Dent's Levels)
#8: Statement of Significance
Page Two

In 1903 Dr. Ruel Keith Compton, a prominent physician living in Baltimore at the time, and executor of the estate of his wife, Rachael Compton (d. 1900), sold to Jennie H. Warren the 40 acres of Dent's Levels John Mitchell had sold to Rachael Compton in 1875. In 1929 Sarah Jameson and Edward, John and Elinor Warren, children and heirs of Jennie and John Warren, sold the 40 acres of Dent's Levels "upon which...Rachael J. Compton resided at the time of her death...and on which Jennie Warren and John Warren more recently resided" to Rachael Hurlburt. Ten years later Hurlburt sold the same land to Charles Smith. 12 In 1947 the 40 acres were conveyed by Smith to Louise Jameson Highby and Elinor and William Penn Jameson. 13

Although no conclusions have been arrived at concerning the age of the oldest part of the existing house, it is possible that it was built by Walter Hannon soon after his purchase of the 30 acres of Dent's Levels from Ceorge Mason in 1824. However, a small Dent family cemetery located directly across the road suggests that it may have been the "unfinished" dwelling house and kitchen belonging to John Dent in 1783 and thus part of the lands sold by Dent to Sarah M. Briscoe in 1816.

Footnotes:

- 1. Newman, Harry Wright. <u>Charles County Gentry</u>. (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company; 1971.) P. 17.
- 2. Ibid.
- 3. Ibid. p.23,24
- 4. Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland. 1783 Tax Assessments, Charles County, District 6, General.
- 5. Land Records, Charles County Courthouse, La Plata, Maryland. Liber 19M#2, folio 230.
- 6. Tbid. Liber IB#15, folio 456; Liber IB#22, folio 493; Liber WH#2, folio 153.
- 7. Ibid. Liber WM#2, folio 270
- 8. Ibid. Liber BCS#1, folio 68
- 9. Ibid. Liber CNH#1, folio 83
- 10. Ibid. Liber BCS#14, folio 469
- 11. Ibid. Liber WMA#50, folio 174
- 12. Ibid. Liber WMA#71, folio 195
- 13. Ibid. Liber PCM#85, folio 453



CH-70

CONTINUE ON	SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY			
IUGEOGRAPH ACREAGE OF NOMINA				
VERBAL BOUNDA	RY DESCRIPTION			
LIST ALL STA	ATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE	OR COU	NTY BOUNDARIES	***************************************
STATE	COUNTY			
STATE	COUNTY	· 		
FORM PREP	ARED BY J. Richard Rivoire, Consultant			
ORGANIZATION	Charles County Planning Department	DATE	September,	1980
STREET & NUMBER	Charles County Courthouse	TELEP	HONE	
CITY OR TOWN	La plata	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

Form	10-445
(5:62)

1. STATE Med. COUNTY Chas.	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY
TOWN Pernonder, VICINITY Bryans Rd., STREET NO. On Brungry Cake Rd., ORIGINAL OWNER Jameson Jam., ORIGINAL USE dwelling PRESENT OWNER Jameson PRESENT USE divelling WALL CONSTRUCTION Frame	DATE OR PERIOD ÉA. 19 Th. (?) STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER
NO. OF STORIES 2	3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC

M. intersection of said Rd. + Luineston Rd.

av Pomonkey. Nr. St. Johns Chapsel Cemetery

+ "Spoon factory."

"A" vooj vidge vuns N-S. - Shallow vooj

5 bays 1st floor 7

1 ma. I Center boor 5 transome

1 storey farm porch at (E) front.

1 chimney interior za. gable and.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered

Interior

Exterior

0	
(U)	

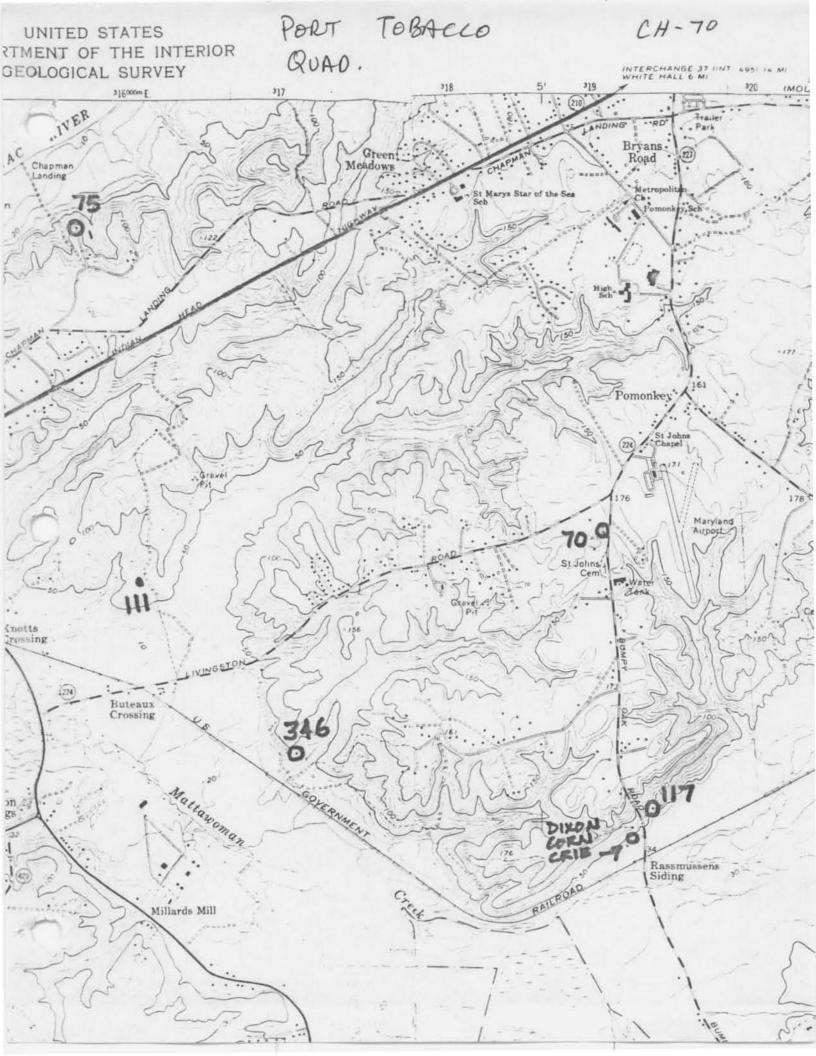
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

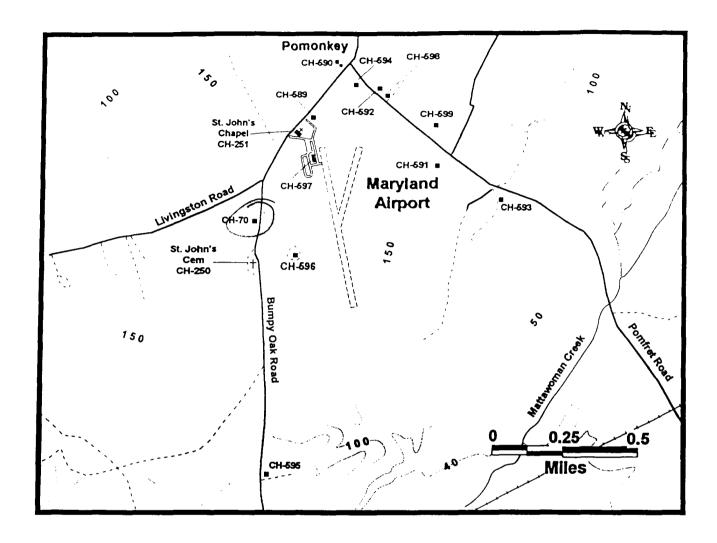
7. PHOTOGRAPH

3. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

DATE OF RECORD







CH-70

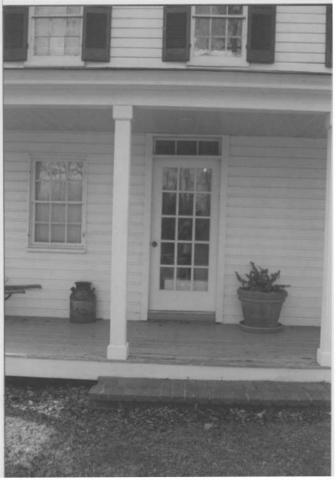
DOLMATIAN BI BES BS: 1+1 H H+1 2



CH-70

DOLINATION 82 861 8611+1 N H+1 2

01



14 70 Dentie Lovels Charles Man The Local - the Side 1/10



(920) 3 30-3-N N N **60 305 See CHTO jent's evels Charles, Md. Phot. Joanna Jones Noryland StiPO Northside 2116



3

CHTO
Derty Leads
Charles, Md.
Phot Jeanna Jones
2-17-00
Maryland SHFO
South Side
13 11 11 3 2212 16126



4

CH 70 Itit's Levels Charles Marylana Flot , Januar Joses 2-17-00 Maryland SHPO

Southside

4/16



~ک

(920) 2 LB - I N N N ***60 ZBS (H 70 Dent's Levels Charles Md Phot. Jeanna Jones 2-17-00 Maryland - HPO Garage Shell



(929) Z FB T-N N N * * K69 Z GS Pentie Levels Charles Md. Phot. Janna Jones 2-17-00 Maryland Stipo Shed + Garage / Shed 6/16



7

(929) SBB-N N N N kkeBSB5

Dent's Levels Charles, Md. Phot. Joann Jones 2-17-00 Maryland SHPO Shed 7/16

CH70



CH 30 14 it's Levels Charles Md. phot, Joanna Jones 2-17-00 Maryland SHPO South Side 8/11/2



CH 70 Dent's Levels Charles Mil. Phit. Joanna Jones 2-17-00 Maryland SHPO 9/16



CBSB)SNN I N N XX6BSBS Dent's Levels Charles Md. Phot. Joanno Jones 2-17-00 Maryland SHID Vegetable/Fruit Flouse 10/16



COSO S SON N N N ** FOR SON Dent's Levels Charles, Ald. Photo Jeanna James 2-17-00 Maryland StiPo 2 Garages Sheds



(920) Z 92-1 N N N kk60 Z02

CH 70
Dentis Lovels
Charles, Md.
Phot. Joanna Jones
2-17-80
Mary land StIPO
Shatters - West side
12/16



(ASB) SMN IN M N **PESSES Dent's Levels charles, Ma. 2-17-20 Journs Jones Maryland SHPO Back-we-+ side

14/1



CHYP Dert Levels Charles M.

> Marylan SHPO Back We to side

Phot. Janna Tires



Devite levels
Charles, Pd.
Phot: Jeanna Jones
2-17-00
Maryland SHPO
Window - East Side
15/16

SOZOSKKUNUNUŽÕZA

CH70



CH 70
Dent's Levels
Charles Md.
phot. Joanna Jones
2-17-00
Moryland SH10
Window-East Side
16/16

28588** N N N 1-155(859)