

T-146

Compton

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: 04-05-2004

Easement

2101462104
T-146

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE:	Maryland
COUNTY:	Talbot
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE:	

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:	Compton
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:				Northside of Howell Point Road			
CITY OR TOWN:			CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:				
Trappe			First				
STATE:		CODE:		COUNTY:		CODE:	
Maryland		24		Talbot		041	

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:			STATE: Maryland
Charles F.C. Arensberg			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
Compton			COUNTY: Talbot
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:	
Trappe		Maryland	
		CODE:	
		24	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:			STATE: Maryland
Talbot County Courthouse			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
Washington Street			COUNTY: Talbot
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:	
Easton		Maryland	
		CODE:	
		24	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:			
DATE OF SURVEY:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:	CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Talbot
ENTRY NUMBER:
DATE:
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7 DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>Compton is located on Grubbin Neck, 2 miles southwest of the town of Trappe, overlooking LaTrappe Creek. Approach to the house is gained on a narrow lane which, after it leads through the woods, makes an abrupt left into an allee of maples and cedars.</p> <p>It is a relatively simple, two part brick dwelling, laid in Flemish bond, which is the result of two major building periods and subsequent minor alterations. The main part sits above a basement which has segmental arches, above the windows and a quarter-round molded water table. Its southwest facade is five bays long with a three brick belt course between floors. The gables have the remains of a two-brick beltcourse slightly lower than that on the facade. Three dormers light the third floor rooms on both sides of the A roof. Within both gables is a single chimney servicing two fireplaces each.* The one and one-half story kitchen-dining room wing is built close to the ground and is set back from the main facade by about twelve feet. Its northeast wall is even with the back wall of the catslide extension of the main house. The fenestration is irregular, and there are two chimneys assymetrically placed. The brick color and joints are reminescent of the 1790 wing of Myrtle Grove, Talbot County, with considerably more refinement than the main block.</p> <p>The interior is divided into four rooms, two halls and a bath. The woodwork throughout is the same, with country Federal mantels, chair rail, cabinets adjoining the fireplace in the Dining room and Library, and a stair which extends to the attic. The doors into the two small rooms, now used as baths are two-panel doors hung on wrought H hinges, whereas the other doors are six-panel and are hung on cast butt hinges.</p> <p>These two doors, along with a single original window in the second floor bath, the huge arches in the celler, the lower belt course on the gable walls and the segmental arches in the basement are traces of the original house. Judging from the similarity between these features and those of Hampden, across the creek, as well as the 1798 tax assessment, it can be fairly well conjectured that the original house was a one and one-half story 'L' plan building, built around the second quarter of the eighteenth century.</p> <p>After 1798, Samuel Stevens, the Governor, added the second story and garrett and the kitchen-dining wing. At this period, he changed the floor plan and renewed all of the woodwork with the exception of the two aforementioned</p>	
<p>* On the northeast side, overlooking the allee, is a two-story porch across four of the five bay facade, the other bay being a small catslide extension.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Talbot	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Compton

#7. DESCRIPTION continued

doors.

In the third quarter of the nineteenth century, the livingroom windows and the southwest windows of the library were lengthened and probably re-trimmed inside. Later, however, the trim was replaced by copies of the trim on the two un-lengthened windows. Other alterations include moving the kitchen door to the gable and changing the southwest window to the place of the original door. The southwest hall door may have been a lengthening of a former window.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architecturally, Compton is important because it has elements of early eighteenth century vernacular architecture which have been largely incorporated in the early nineteenth century additions. As such it contributes greatly to the knowledge of early Maryland domestic buildings. The type house it became during Samuel Stevens ownership indicates something of the man who was to be one of Maryland's Governors. Also of importance is the assistance of a two-story brick milkhouse, with the first story standing below a moat-like retaining wall, and the allee of large old maple trees on the northside of the dwelling.

Compton was the home of Samuel Stevens (1778-1860) eighteenth Governor of Maryland. He intermittantly represented Talbot County in the House of Delegates from 1807 to 1820. On December 9, 1822, he was elected to the first of three terms as Governor. Stevens' tenure is remembered for the enfranchisement of the Jews, the abolition of a religious test for Maryland office holders, the extension of the civil liberties guaranteed in the Bill of Rights to State law, and the creation of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. During Lafayette's visit to the United States (1824) Governor Stevens rode from Compton to meet him wearing 'swallow-tailed blue jeans (sic), home-spun coat, with brass buttons.'¹

After Stevens last term in Annapolis he returned to Compton which he had inherited from his father in 1794. He gave the building its present configuration adding the one and one-half story east wing and raising the initial stage of the house to two stories.

¹ Frank White, The Governors of Maryland 1777-1970, Annapolis, 1970, 84.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Arensberg, Charles F.C. and James M. Arensberg. "Compton, Talbot County." Maryland Historical Magazine. Vol. 48. (September 1953), 215-226.

Federal Direct Tax Assessment, Talbot County, Bullenbrook Hundred. Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

White, Frank. The Governors of Maryland 1777-1970. Annapolis: Hall of Records, 1970.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "	° ' "	°	' "
NE	° ' "	° ' "	° ' "	°	' "
SE	° ' "	° ' "	° ' "	°	' "
SW	° ' "	° ' "	° ' "	°	' "

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Michael Bourne and Nancy Miller

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: May 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:
2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

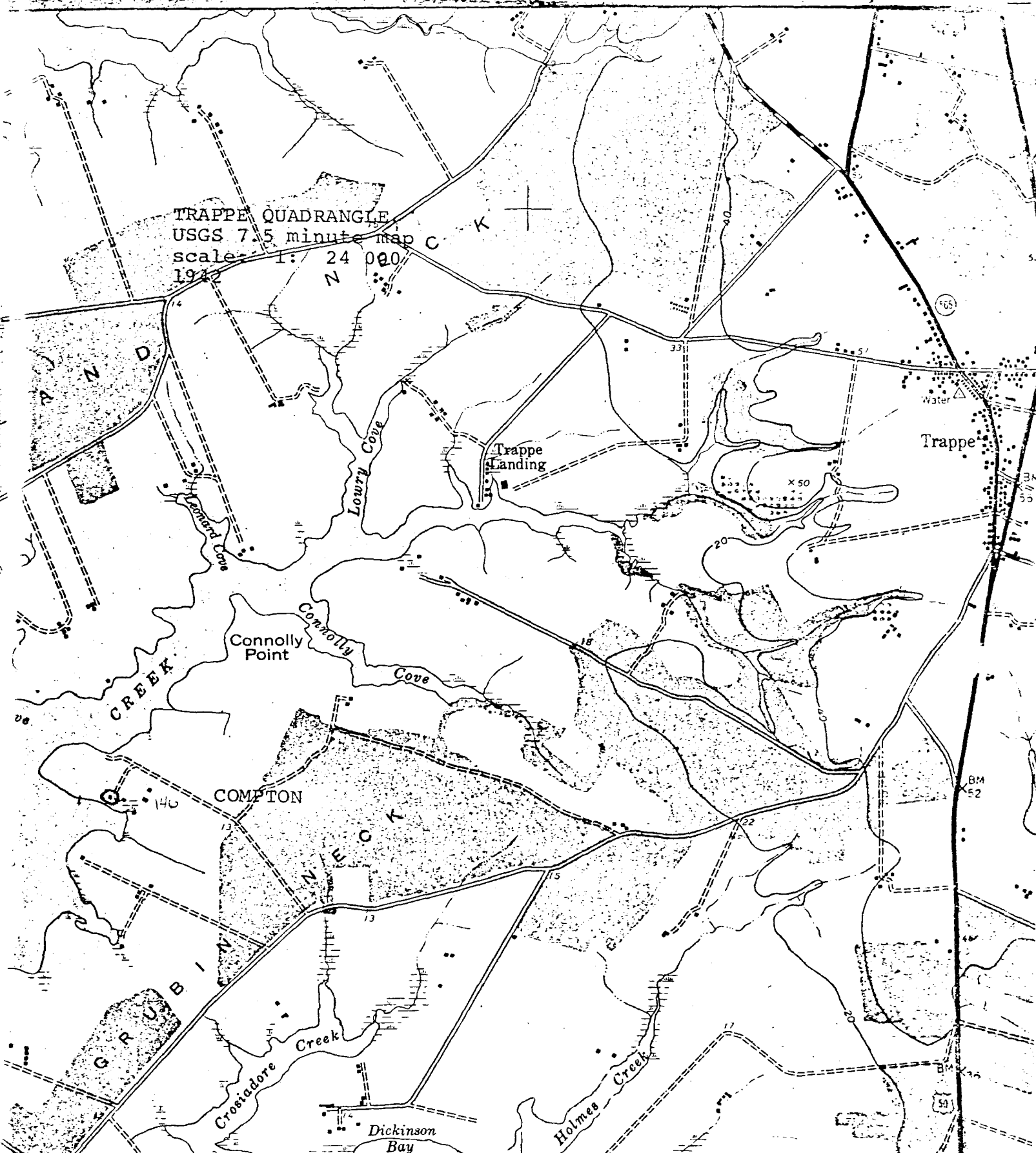
ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

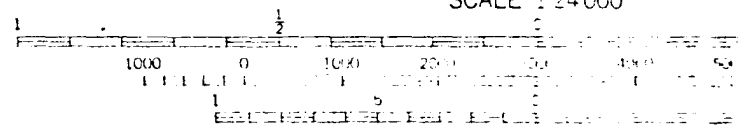
TRAPPE QUADRANGLE
 USGS 7.5 minute map C
 scale 1: 24 000
 1942



1:60 000 FEET 5'

(CAMBRIDGE)

SCALE 1:24 000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
 DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

Biological Survey

by photogrammetric methods
 from aerial photographs taken 1942
 on the American datum





.12 x 1.82

75% 146

Compton

T-146



S.W. Jacobs

M. Bowne 4/73



Dairy, Compton

T-146



West Elev.

M. Bowne

4/63



T-146
Compton

Southwest Facade

Michael O. Bourne

4/1973

Neg-MHT