CH-83

Mulberry Grove

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: 12-18-2012

Property Address Mulberry Grove Place, Port Tobacco Vicinity, Charles County
Owner Name/Address Edward J. and Lexy Edelen III / P.O. Box 381, Port Tobacco, Maryland 20677
Year Built 1934-circa 1950

Description:

Mulberry Grove was previously surveyed by J. Richard Rivoire in 1970. The N.R. Field Sheet completed in 1970 contains brief description and history sections. Located in the Documents Room of the Southern Maryland Studies Center, Charles County Community College, is an incomplete National Register Nomination Form for Mulberry Grove of unknown date or author. In this nomination, Mulberry Grove is described as follows:

> Mulberry Grove is situated on the east side of the Port Tobacco Creek, about 1½-miles south of the site of Port Tobacco, a once prosperous colonial town and the former county seat of Charles County. The promontory on which the existing house and ancillary structures and sites are located provides an impressive view of the Port Tobacco Creek and valley as it approaches its confluence with the Potomac River. The present house, built between 1938 and 1950 on the site of the eighteenth century [John] Hanson home destroyed by Fire in 1934, incorporates the foundation and cellar of the earlier structure as well as materials salvaged after the fire, notably the brick of its west end wall and chimney.
>
> Begun in 1938 and completed by 1950, the existing house is of two-part composition consisting of a brick, two-story main block that on the south façade is three bays wide at the first floor and four above. At the east end stand two exterior chimneys joined at the base by a one-story pent. The rear elevation extends to the north in a two-part profile that includes a one-story kitchen wing. The west end of the house has a gambrel roof and is of one-story height with two pedimented dormers on the lower slope of the south roof. Its two-bay, clapboard sheathed front elevation sits back from the main block by about eight inches. Centered between the two first floor front windows of the west wing and the two first floor windows of the main block is an arched entrance door with leaded fanlight and sidelights. The west end elevation of the wing is constructed of brick salvaged from the chimneys of the earlier house and features a centered exterior chimney with graduated, brick-tiled weatherings. Built on the same foundations, the existing structure follows the same basic configuration of the earlier house that is believed to have been built by John Hanson, Jr. shortly after his purchase of the property in 1744. Photographs of the earlier building taken before its total destruction by fire after being struck by lightening in 1934, show it to have been entirely of frame and of two-part plan like that of the present house. The original building, however had two exterior chimneys at each end, those of the west end joined at the base by a projecting brick pent that had a large arched window, and a shed roof porch extended the full width of the front elevation of the main block.
>
> About two hundred yards north of the house is a large private cemetery. Referred to in Hanson's 1770 deed of sale to his brother, William, as well as in several subsequent conveyances, the cemetery contains the grave markers of 35 individuals. Only three of these, however, date from John Hanson's ownership: that of Peter Contee, a brother-in-law who died in 1756, and two of Hanson's children, Elizabeth and John, who died in 1753 and 1760 respectively. These three stones, as well as a separate grouping of five upright markers a short distance to the west, are outside and to the south of the principal portion of the cemetery that is enclosed by a circa 1902 wrought iron fence. All of the graves within the fenced area are members of the Ferguson family, owners of Mulberry Grove from 1802 to 1919. The 27 known graves within the 40-foot by 50- foot enclosure include a number of obelisks capped by draped urns, and several crypt-type monuments.
>
> [Other] structures on the property include [three], two-story frame tenant houses, one of which is located about sixty feet from the east end of the main residence and positioned at a right angle to it. [All] tenant houses have three-bay facades and front porches. The one closest to the main house [tenant house #1] has a centered cross-gable on the front roof slope and flat-roofed flanking wings. Also near the main house is a two-story tenant house, but this building incorporated a garage at one end of the first floor. [Chicken

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Year Built 1934-circa 1950

Description (continued):

incubators are housed within this garage opening.] All three of these buildings are thought to have been constructed between 1919 and 1945. There are also three tobacco barns with vertical planked siding, three small frame sheds, [three chicken coops, a frame machine shed], a frame stable with open sheds covered by the same roof, and a one room cabin constructed of round logs with projecting lapped joints at the corners. All of these are believed to date after 1920 as well, although one or two of the barns could be as early as circa 1900-1920.

Significance:

Construction of the current house at Mulberry Grove began in 1938 by J. Bruce Kremer, a former Secretary of the Democratic National Committee. The previous house at that location was the eighteenth-century home of John Hanson, President of the United States under the Articles of Confederation. Since the original house was destroyed by fire in 1934, J. Bruce Kremer began an inaccurate reconstruction of the house on the original foundation, however he died before completion. The house remained unfinished until Edward J. Edelen purchased the property in 1949. The property remains in the Edelen family.

The original house on the property is believed to have been constructed by John Hanson, President of the United States under the Articles of Confederation, on land purchased by him in 1744. In 1770, John Hanson sold the house and land to his brother, William, who retained the property until it was purchased by William Pye in 1778. The Charles County Tax Assessments of 1783 describe the property as having, "...a commodious well repaired dwelling house and kitchen, 3 quarters one of which is new, the other very old, a very large barn, shedded, with convenient stables, a cow house, dairy and cellar house, and a yard and garden newly and neatly pailed in, also 2 old clapboard dwelling houses, one occupied by a tenant, the other by an overseer." The property changed ownership twice before purchased by Robert Ferguson in 1798. The property was owned by the Ferguson family until 1901, when purchased by J. Benjamin Mattingly. In 1902, John H. Mitchell bought the property but did not reside there. The house was restored by the next owner, Dana Stevens, who bought the property in 1919. Stevens lived at Mulberry Grove until it was destroyed by fire in 1934.

The present house on the property is an inaccurate reconstruction of the original residence at Mulberry Grove. The agricultural outbuildings and secondary structures on the property date to the first half of the twentieth century. As such, property and extant structures represent a Colonial Revival farmstead, rather than a significant eighteenth-century plantation. The property does not possess any structures dating to the period of ownership of John Hanson. The historic cemetery on the property, though dating to the period of ownership of John Hanson, does not contain his grave.

Preparer:
P.A.C. Spero & Company

Property Address Mulberry Grove Place, Port Tobacco Vicinity, Charles County
Owner Name/Address Edward J. and Lexy Edelen III / P.O. Box 381, Port Tobacco, Maryland 20677
Year Built 1934-circa 1950

National Register Evaluation:

Constructed between 1938 and 1950, Mulberry Grove is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as the property no longer possesses any structures dating to historic periods which would represent historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state or local history. Therefore, the property also does not meet Criterion B, as there are no structures extant from the period of ownership of persons who have made specific contributions to history. It is not eligible under Criterion C, as the main house on property is an undistinguished example of Colonial Revival architecture of which better examples exist within Charles County. As no archaeological investigation has been conducted, the eligibility of the property under Criterion D cannot be assessed at this time. Finally, the cemetery on the property does not meet Criteria Consideration D, as it does not derive its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events.

Bibliography:

N.a. N.d. Mulberry Grove National Register Nomination. Vertical file. Documents Room, Southern Maryland Studies Center, Charles County Community College, La Plata, MD.

MHT CONCURRENCE:
Eligibility ____ recommended X not recommended
Criteria ___A ___B X C ___D **Considerations** ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None
Comments:

[signature] 10/28/99

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date Reviewer, NR program Date

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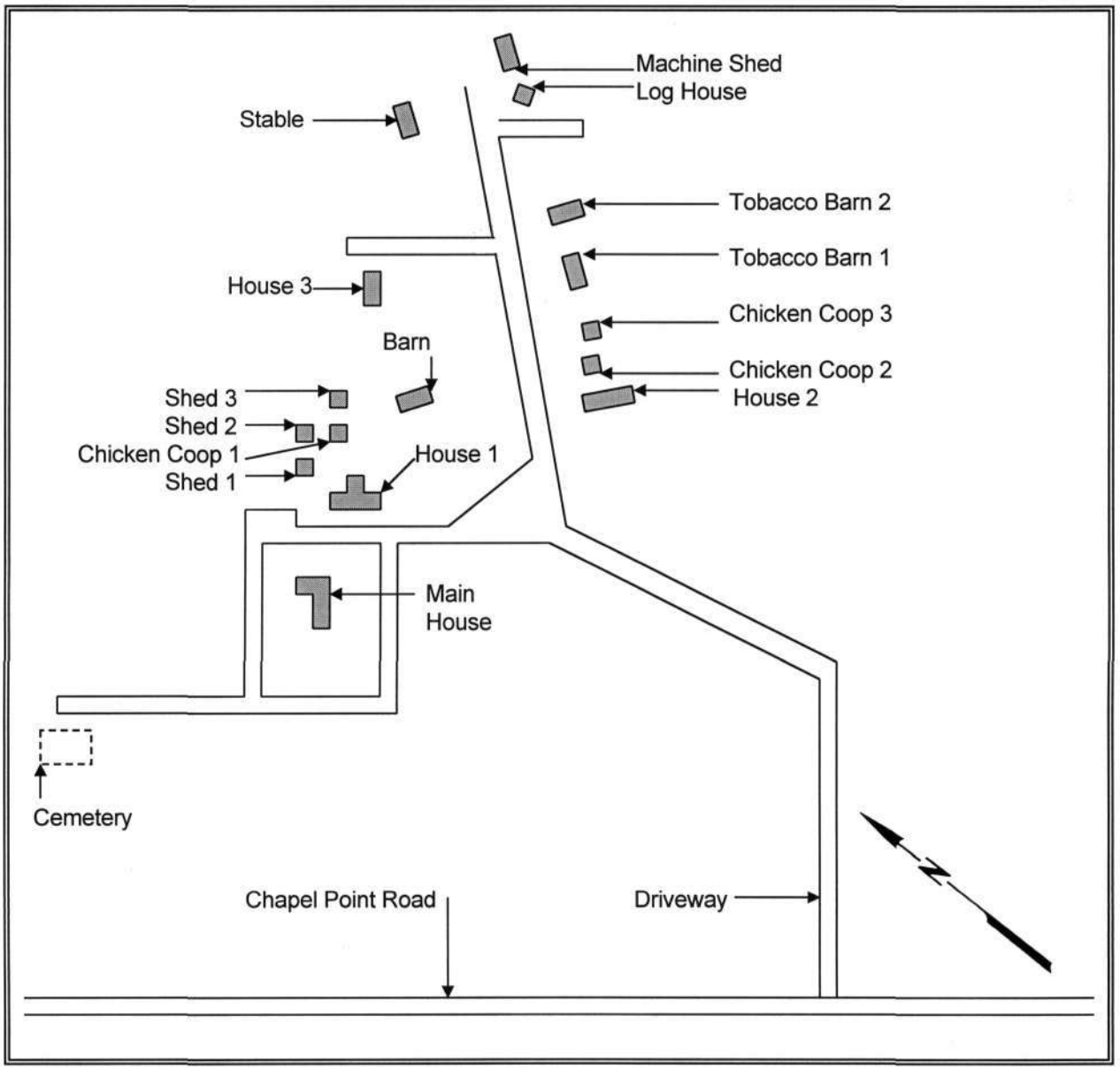
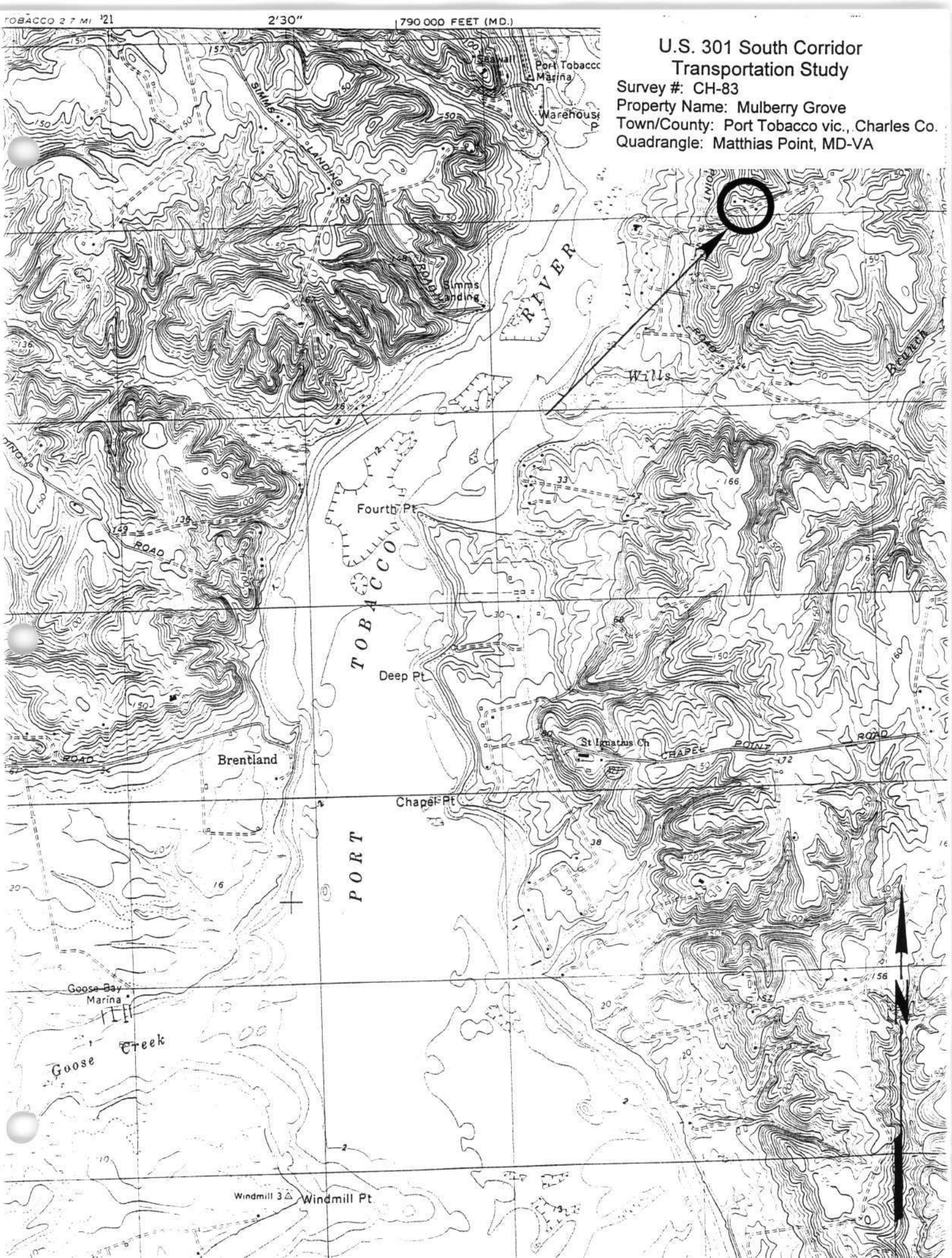
Year Built 1934-circa 1950

Resource Sketch Map:




TOBACCO 2.7 MI 321
2'30"
790 000 FEET (M.)
U.S. 301 South Corridor
Transportation Study
Survey #: CH-83
Property Name: Mulberry Grove
Town/County: Port Tobacco vic., Charles Co.
Quadrangle: Matthias Point, MD-VA
Seawall
Port Tobacco
Marina
Warehouse
SIMMS
LANDING
ROAD
Simms
Landing
RIVER
POINT
ROAD
Wills
Beech
Fourth Pt
ROAD
TOBACCO
Deep Pt
Brentland
ROAD
St Ignatius Ch
CHAPEL
POINT
ROAD
Chapel Pt
PORT
Goose Bay
Marina
Goose
Creek
Windmill 3
Windmill Pt

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

4) Tim Tamburrino

5) 1-99

6) MD SHPO

7) Front elevation of main house. View N

8) 1 of 26

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

4) Tim Tamburrino

5) 1-99

6) MD SHPO

7) main house - West elevation - View E

8) 2 of 26

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

4) Tim Tamburrino

5) L99

6) MD SHPO

7) Mainhouse- NW Corner- View SE

8) 3 of 26

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

4) Tim Tamburrino

5) I-99

6) MD SHPO

7) Main house. NE Corner - View SW

8) 4 of 26

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

4) Tim Tamburrino

5) 1-99

6) MD SHPO

7) House #1 - front elevation - View E

8) 5 of 26

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

4) Tim Tamburrino

5) L-99

6) MD SHPO

7) House #1 - South elevation. View N

8) 6 of 26

1) CH-83
2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place
3) Charles Co, MD
4) Tim Tamburrino
5) I-99
6) MD SHPO
7) House #1 - Rear Elevation - View W
8) 7 of 26

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

4) Tim Tamburrino

5) 1-99

6) MD SHPO

7) Shed #1 and #2- View N

8) 8 of 26

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

4) Tim Tamburrino

5) 1-99

6) MD SHPO

7) House #2 - West elevation - View SE

8) 9 of 26

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

4) Tim Tamburrino

5) I-99

6) MD SHPO

7) House #2. East elevation - View SW

8) 10 of 26

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

4) Tim Tamburrino

5) 1-99

6) MD SHPO

7) Barn #1 - View E

8) 11 of 26

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

4) Tim Tamburrino

5) 1-99

6) MD SHPO

7) Barn #1 - View W

8) 12 of 26

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

4) Tim Tamburrino

5) 1-99

6) MD SHPO

7) chicken coop #1, View NE

8) 13 of 26

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

4) Tim Tamburrino

5) 1-99

6) MD SHPO

7) Shed #3 - View NE

8) 14 of 26

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

4) Tim Tamburrino

5) 1-99

6) MD SHPO

7) Chicken coop #2 and #3 - View E

8) 15 of 26

1) CH-83
2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place
3) Charles Co, MD
4) Tim Tamburrino
5) 1-99
6) MD SHPO
7) House #3- View NE
8) 16 of 26

1) CH-83
2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place
3) Charles Co, MD
4) Tim Tamburrino
5) 1-99
6) MD SHPO
7) House #3- View NW
8) 17 of 26

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

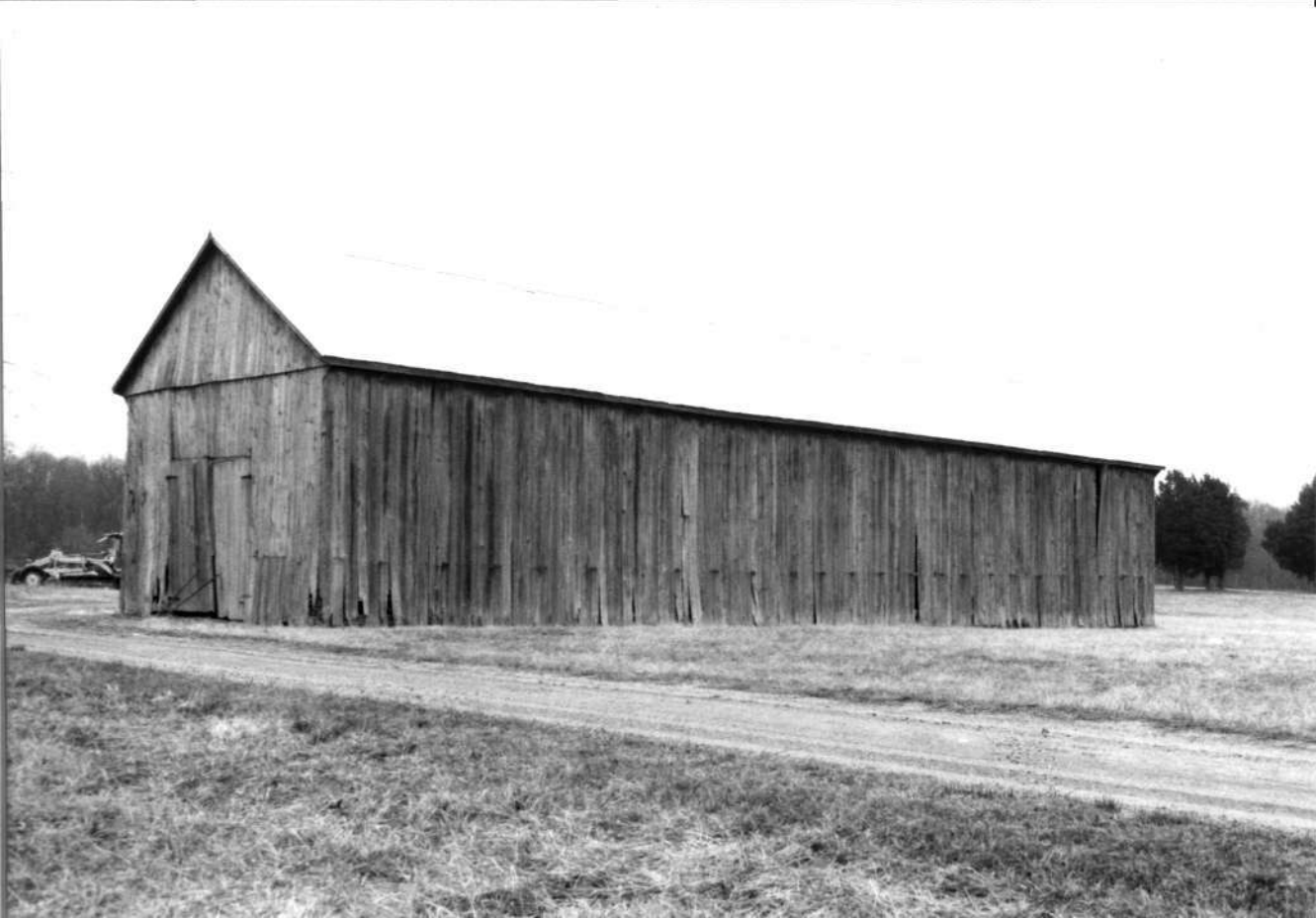
4) Tim Tamburrino

5) 1-99

6) MD SHPO

7) tobacco barn #1 - View SW

8) 18 of 26



1) CH-83
2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place
3) Charles Co, MD
4) Tim Tamburrino
5) 1-99
6) MD SHPO
7) tobacco barn #2 - View SE
8) 19 of 26

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

4) Tim Tamburrino

5) 1-99

6) MD SHPO

7) log cabin - View N

8) 20 of 26

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

4) Tim Tamburrino

5) I-99

6) MD SHPO

7) stable - view NE

8) 21 of 26

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

4) Tim Tamburrino

5) 1-99

6) MD SHPO

7) machine shed. View E

8) 22 of 26

1) CH-83

2) MULBERRY GROVE, MULBERRY GROVE PLACE

3) CHARLES CO, MD

4) TIM TAMBURRINO

5) 1/99

6) MD SHPO

7) CEMETERY, VIEW W

8) 23 OF 26

1) CH-83

2) MULBERRY GROVE, MULBERRY GROVE PLACE

3) CHARLES CO, MD

4) TIM TAMBURRINO

5) 1/99

6) MD SHPO

7) CEMETERY, VIEW W

8) 24 OF 26

1) CH - 83

2) MULBERRY GROVE, MULBERRY GROVE PLACE

3) CHARLES CO. MD

4) TIM TAMBURRINO

5) 1/99

6) MD SHPO

7) CEMETERY, VIEW SW

8) 25 OF 26

MULBERRY GROVE
BIRTHPLACE OF
JOHN HANSON
APRIL 14, 1715
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED 1781-1782
DIED, OXON HILL, MARYLAND
NOVEMBER 22, 1783
ERECTED 1963
MARYLAND SOCIETY - SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

1) CH-83

2) Mulberry Grove, Mulberry Grove Place

3) Charles Co, MD

4) Tim Tamburrino

5) I-99

6) MD SHPO

7) Historical Marker

8) 26 of 26

CH 8

CH-83

Form 10-300
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

N. R. FIELD SHEET

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries – complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: MULBERRY GROVE

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: STAGE COACH RD. (E SIDE)

CITY OR TOWN: PORT TOBACCO

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
MD.		CHAS.	

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District ☐ Building ☒	Public ☐	Public Acquisition:	Occupied ☒	Yes:
Site ☐ Structure ☐	Private ☒	In Process ☐	Unoccupied ☐	Restricted ☐
Object ☐	Both ☒	Being Considered ☐	Preservation work in progress ☐	Unrestricted ☐
				No: ☒

PRESENT USE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

Agricultural	☐	Government	☐	Park	☐	Transportation	☐
Commercial	☐	Industrial	☐	Private Residence	☒	Other *(Specify)*	☐
Educational	☐	Military	☐	Religious	☐		
Entertainment	☐	Museum	☐	Scientific	☐		

Comments ☐

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: DR. ED. J. EDELEN

STREET AND NUMBER: MULBERRY GROVE

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE
PORT TOBACCO	MD	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: CHAS. CO.

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
LA PLATA	MD.	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local ☐

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE

STATE: | COUNTY: | FOR NPS USE ONLY: ENTRY NUMBER | DATE

CH-83

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One) Excellent ☐ Good ☑ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☐ Unexposed ☐	
INTEGRITY	(Check One) Altered ☑ Unaltered ☐	(Check One) Moved ☐ Original Site ☑

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL *(If known)* PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A frame and brick dwelling of 2 storeys in a two part composition.

East portion of main block brick 3 bays in length 1st. level front (S) ℄ door at W end ℄ fan light + flanking side lites. "A" roof ℄ ridge running E to W with 2 exterior chimneys flush with E gable end of main block. Chimneys have 2 hgts on their outside side (N + S resp.) with a 1 storey pent between. The eave cornice mldg. is wood dentil.

The addition to the W gable end is of frame construction 1½ storeys 2 bays in length at 1st + Roof level. Dormers ℄ "A" roof. Roof gambrel with ridge running E to W with large 2 flue exterior chimney at the W. gabled end.

All windows are 6/6.

House sits on E side of Chapel Pt. Rd. from Port Tobacco to Chapel Pt.

Faces S.

Driveway marked by Hist. Marker to John Hanson.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

CH-83

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

Pre-Columbian ☐	16th Century ☐	18th Century ☑	20th Century ☑
15th Century ☐	17th Century ☐	19th Century ☐	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)*

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

Aboriginal		Education	☐	Political	☑	Urban Planning	☐
Prehistoric	☐	Engineering	☐	Religion/Philosophy	☐	Other *(Specify)*	☐
Historic	☐	Industry	☐	Science	☐		
Agriculture	☐	Invention	☐	Sculpture	☐		
Art	☐	Landscape Architecture	☐	Social/Humanitarian	☐		
Commerce	☐	Literature	☐	Theater	☐		
Communications	☐	Military	☐	Transportation	☐		
Conservation	☐	Music	☐				

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)*

Reconstructed (not authentic) home of Samuel Hanson father of John Hanson, Rev lawyer, patriot, + 1st. Pres. of the U.S. under the articles of confederation. Reputed to be the birthplace + boyhood home of John Hanson tho, some say no.

Orig. use burned 1930's. Rec. not authentic to early pics of Mulberry Grove. Some materials of 1st. use incorporated into pres. structure including a magnificent dining room mantle.

Hanson, Mitchell, + Fergusson family graveyard near house + monument to John Hanson to W of main house erected by a Swedish patriotic Organization.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

CH-83

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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

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: Richard Rivers

ORGANIZATION

DATE 4/1990

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

_____

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

_____

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS