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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

REC-09 1990

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Tawes, Captain Leonard, House
other names/site number S-327

2. Location

street & number Somerset Avenue N/A not for publication
city, town Crisfield N/A vicinity
state Maryland code MD county Somerset code 039 zip code 21817

3. Classification

| | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Ownership of Property | Category of Property | Number of Resources within Property | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | Contributing | Noncontributing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-local | <input type="checkbox"/> district | <u>3</u> | <u> </u> buildings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-State | <input type="checkbox"/> site | <u>2</u> | <u> </u> sites |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal | <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <u>5</u> | <u> </u> structures |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> object | | <u>0</u> Total |

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

[Signature] 2/28/90
Signature of certifying official Date

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Entered in the National Register

[Signature] 4/5/90

[Signature] Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
 DOMESTIC/secondary structures

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
 DOMESTIC/secondary structures

7. DescriptionArchitectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian
 Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick
 walls wood

roof asphalt
 other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

The Captain Leonard Tawes House is a frame two story house begun in the second quarter of the nineteenth century and extensively altered in the Late Victorian mode through the rest of the century. The property evidently originally contained a modest, two-story side hall/parlor frame house with a single-story one-room plan kitchen attached to the north gable end. After his purchase Captain Tawes initiated a building program which extensively altered the existing house. The old kitchen was given an added story, and a new roof was stretched across the entire house. In addition, Captain Tawes attached the two-story rear service wing, which included a summer kitchen. In later years another section was attached to the back of the service wing. Currently the tee-shaped frame house and its additions are supported by a brick pier foundation, and the house is sheathed with plain weather-boards. The steeply pitched roof has extended eaves and is covered with asphalt shingles. The east (main) elevation is a symmetrical three-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking two over two sash windows. The Victorian door is glazed above the lock rail. Framing the door is a molded door surround with a bold cyma curve crown molding across the top. Each of the windows is flanked by louvered shutters. Covering the first floor is a single-story turned-post front porch trimmed with decorative eave and corner brackets. The second floor is lighted by three evenly spaced two over two sash windows, and the cross gable has a single two over two sash window. The north and south gable ends of the main block are detailed in a similar manner with two over two sash windows on both the first and second floors, while four-pane attic lights pierce the gable and flank the interior end brick chimney stacks. The eaves are extended with short returns at the base of the roof. A two-story two-bay service wing extends from the main block and is lighted on both floors by two over two sash windows. The north side elevation has a single-story enclosed porch. Extending from the back of the tee plan is a slightly shorter two-story, one-bay by one-room frame winter kitchen with a gable end brick stove stack. This section is lighted by two over two sash as well. Attached to the gable end of the winter kitchen is a single-story bathroom finished in a consistent manner with the rest of the house. Finally, the summer kitchen extends from the south side of the winter kitchen and is attached by an enclosed breezeway. The salt-box shaped summer kitchen is lighted by six over six sash windows, and a tall, slender brick stove stack rises from the west gable. Standing near the house are several utilitarian outbuildings including a garage, a storage shed, a stilted frame dairy, and a gable roofed frame privy. Surrounding part of the house is a picket fence.

See continuation sheet for
 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

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Continuation SheetTawes, Captain Leonard, House
Somerset County, Maryland

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Captain Leonard Tawes house stands on the west side of Somerset Avenue at its south end and on the periphery of the town of Crisfield, Somerset County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay frame house faces east with the principal gable oriented on a north/south axis.

Family tradition as well as architectural evidence indicates the front part of the house was built in two periods, beginning around 1840-1850. During the third quarter of the nineteenth century, Captain Tawes bought this property which evidently contained a modest, two-story side hall/parlor frame-house with a single-story one-room plan kitchen attached to the north gable end. After his purchase Captain Tawes initiated a building program which extensively altered the existing house. The old kitchen was given an added story, and a new roof was stretched across the entire house. In addition, Captain Tawes attached the two-story rear service wing, which included a summer kitchen. In later years another section was attached to the back of the service wing. Currently the tee-shaped frame house and its additions are supported by a brick pier foundation, and the house is sheathed with plain weatherboards. The steeply pitched roof has extended eaves and is covered with asphalt shingles. Standing near the house are several utilitarian outbuildings including a garage and a storage shed. Domestic outbuildings include a stilted frame dairy and a gable roofed frame privy. Surrounding part of the house is a picket fence.

The east (main) elevation is a symmetrical three-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking two over two sash windows. The Victorian door is glazed above the lock rail. Framing the door is a molded door surround with a bold cyma curve crown molding across the top. Each of the windows is flanked by louvered shutters. Covering the first floor is a single-story turned-post front porch trimmed with decorative eave and corner brackets. Stretching between posts is a sawn baluster handrail. The second floor is lighted by three evenly spaced two over two sash windows, and the cross gable has a single two over two sash window.

The north and south gable ends of the main block are detailed in a similar manner with two over two sash windows on both the first and second floors, while four-pane attic lights pierce the gable and flank the interior end brick chimney stacks. The eaves are extended with short returns at the base of the roof.

The two-story, two-bay service wing extends from the main block and is lighted on both floors by two over two sash windows. The north side elevation has a single-story enclosed porch. An interior end brick chimney stack rises from the west gable end. Extending from the back of the tee plan is a slightly shorter two-story, one-bay by one-room frame winter kitchen with a gable end brick stove stack. This section is lighted by two over two sash as well. Attached to the gable end of the winter kitchen is a single-story bathroom finished in a consistent manner with the rest of the house. Finally, the summer kitchen extends from the south side of the winter kitchen and is attached by an enclosed breezeway. The salt-box shaped summer kitchen is lighted by six over six sash windows, and a tall, slender brick stove stack rises from the west gable.

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The interior of the house was partially remodeled during the Victorian alteration. The centrally located stair was reworked and a stylish, square Victorian newel post with decorated sides and a large ball finial anchored the molded handrail. Rising from each step are two turned balusters, and the step ends are trimmed with scrolled brackets. Baseboards carry an ogee top molding. In addition fancy plaster work was added to the parlor ceiling. This work is reported to have been executed by Charles Mallison. In contrast, the parlor mantel falls comfortably in the mid nineteenth-century Greek Revival style with plain pilasters, paneled frieze blocks and a wide paneled frieze. The mantel shelf is plain. Four-panel doors open into the adjacent north room which has a simple mid nineteenth-century post and lintel mantel.

A mid nineteenth-century four-panel door opens into the dining room which has a late Victorian bracketed mantel and an enclosed winder back stair. A cupboard has been built into the east wall of the dining room, and raised panel doors were reused in its construction.

Both the winter and summer kitchen interiors are finished in a straightforward manner for late nineteenth-century service space.

The second floor of the main house contains the same contrasts between Victorian and Greek Revival woodwork. The turned baluster stair railing continues to the second floor where it turns and continues along the second floor hall. The attic stair, however, is enclosed with beaded board walls. The adjacent two rooms are simply finished with four-panel doors and mid nineteenth-century mantels. The south bedroom has an especially bold mid nineteenth-century mantel with an exaggerated mantel shelf molding. The attic is partially unfinished and partially plastered, but the common rafter roof structure contains a reused piece of beaded baseboard for the ridge board.

The second floor bedroom of the dining room wing is finished in a straightforward manner. The most distinctive feature is the back stair railing which was evidently reused. The swollen newel post has a square head. Narrow rectangular balusters support a simple mid nineteenth-century handrail.

The westernmost room is finished in a plain manner without notable details.

The most significant outbuilding is the nineteenth century stilted frame dairy which stands adjacent to the summer kitchen. The weatherboarded frame is covered with a shed roof and pierced on the north wall by a small board door. Louvered openings pierce the side walls. The nineteenth-century, gable roofed privy is located southwest of the house. Covered with German siding, the gable front is pierced by an off-center five-panel door, and the east side has a small window. The south side is a plain weatherboard wall with a clean-out at the bottom. The other outbuildings include an open shed roofed garage, circa 1900, and a storage building.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
architecture

Period of Significance
1840s-1900

Significant Dates

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The Captain Leonard S. Tawes house is a significant nineteenth-century survival in the Crisfield area of Somerset County. Comprised of two nineteenth-century sections, the original house, dating from the 1840s, is one of the oldest frame houses located near the bay-side town. After Captain Tawes' purchase of the property he reworked the extant frame house and substantially enlarged it. While reusing some of the old woodwork such as the Greek Revival mantels and four-panel doors, the carpenters rebuilt the center stair in popular late nineteenth-century appearance. This architectural contrast is not unusual in conservative Somerset County where materials were often reused. Also significant is the regional use of both a winter and summer kitchen. The semi-detached summer kitchen, originally connected to the main house by an open breezeway, was used during the hot months of the year in an effort to reduce the accumulated heat. In addition the summer kitchen was usually better ventilated. By contrast the winter kitchen, used during the colder months helped to increase the warmth of the main block. The stilted dairy is one of two in Somerset County located during the survey, and the property is one of only a few to retain to retain a picket fence that surrounds the immediate yard.

See continuation sheet for
HISTORIC CONTEXT and MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION PLAN data.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Somerset County Land Records, Courthouse, Princess Anne, MD

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, Somerset County
Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 2 acres
USGS quad Crisfield, MD

UTM References

| | | | |
|---|-----------|---------------|----------------|
| A | <u>18</u> | <u>425770</u> | <u>4203230</u> |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| C | | | |

| | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|
| B | | | |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| D | | | |

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet No. 10.1

Boundary Justification

The property consists only of the town lot upon which the resource stands.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| name/title | <u>Paul Touart, Architectural Historian</u> |
| organization | <u>Somerset County Historical Trust</u> |
| street & number | <u>424 North Somerset Avenue</u> |
| city or town | <u>Princess Anne</u> |
| date | <u>December 1987</u> |
| telephone | <u>(301) 651-0077</u> |
| state | <u>Maryland</u> |
| zip code | <u>21853</u> |

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s)

Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870

Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s)

Architecture

Resource Type:

Category: building

Historic Environment: rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
/secondary structures

Known Design Source: none

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.2

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Section number 8 Page 8.2HISTORIC CONTEXT:

The Captain Leonard S. Tawes house is a significant nineteenth-century survival in the Crisfield area. Comprised of two nineteenth-century sections, the original house, dating from the 1840s, is one of the oldest frame houses located near the bay-side town. After Captain Tawes' purchase of the property he reworked the extant frame house and substantially enlarged it. While reusing some of the old woodwork such as the Greek Revival mantels and four-panel doors, the carpenters rebuilt the center stair in popular Victorian taste. The exterior, on the other hand, was reworked to achieve a uniform late nineteenth-century appearance. This architectural contrast is not unusual in Conservative Somerset County where materials were often reused. The house and its history of rebuilding is an important reflection of its owner, Captain Leonard S. Tawes, who, for the most part grew up in Crisfield, and eventually commanded trade ships that sailed between Baltimore, Boston and as far south as Rio de Janeiro. Captain Tawes owned part interest in the schooner, City of Baltimore, the largest ship to stop in Crisfield.

Also significant is the regional use of both a winter and summer kitchen. The semi-detached summer kitchen, originally connected to the main house by an open breezeway, was used during the hot months of the year in an effort to reduce the accumulated heat. In addition the summer kitchen was usually better ventilated. By contrast the winter kitchen, used during the colder months helped to increase the warmth of the main block. The stilted dairy is one of two in Somerset County located during the survey, and the property is one of only a few to retain a picket fence that surrounds the immediate yard.

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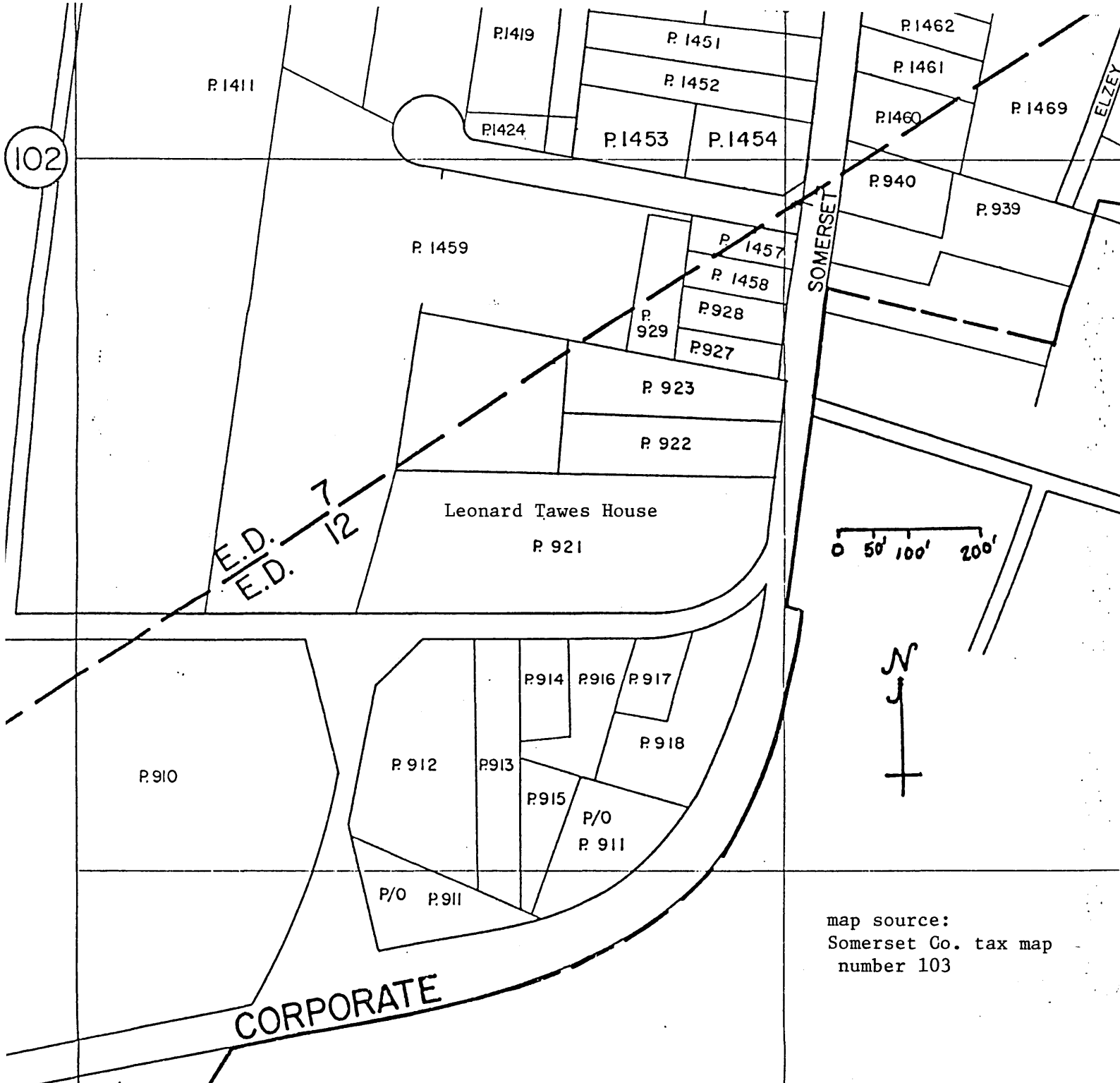
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The nominated property is parcel number 921 on this map.



map source:
Somerset Co. tax map
number 103