

PH0229261

DATA SHEET

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Maryland
COUNTY:	Somerset
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	SEP 11 1975

1. NAME

COMMON:
The Wagner Farm

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Harrington

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
(See continuation sheet No. 1)

CITY OR TOWN:
Princess Anne

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
First

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24 COUNTY: Somerset CODE: 039

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress		Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No	

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Dr. & Mrs. Robert L. McFarlin

STREET AND NUMBER:
Harrington

CITY OR TOWN:
Princess Anne

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Somerset County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
Somerset Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Princess Anne

STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

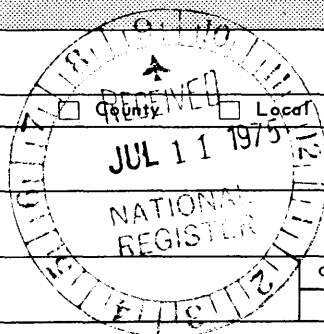
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Princess Anne

STATE: Maryland CODE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Somerset

ENTRY NUMBER: SEP 11 1975

DATE: SEP 11 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

		(Check One)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed	
(Check One)			(Check One)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site			

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Harrington stands at the end of a .25 mile lane extending north from Polk's road at a point .45 miles east of the intersection of the Whitehaven Ferry Road, Polk's Road, and a connecting road to Maryland Highway 362.

It is a two story, mid eighteenth century, frame farm house accurately described in the 1798 tax records as "finished in plain order." Positioned roughly north-south on the property, the house measures approximately 30 feet by 30 feet and with the gable height it approaches the proportions of a cube. The original part of the foundation apparently illustrates an early form of common or American bond with two to three rows of stretchers between rows of headers. It is punctuated on the south facade by an original opening 1 foot square, serving a basement under the eastern one half of the house.

A view of the main (south) facade reveals a lateral entry on the west and hints at a floor plan which is, in the words of Marcus Whiffen of Colonial Williamsburg, "essentially that of the London terrace house."¹ A lower shore parallel is illustrated by Dr. Henry C. Forman in his book, Tidewater Maryland Architecture and Gardens, in the floor plan of the Samuel Adams house.² Equally surprising are the two much larger windows serving the Great Room to the right (east) of the door. Although "remodeling" efforts of the late eighteen hundreds and early nineteen hundreds resulted in the removal of almost all of the original siding and replacement of the original window frames and sash with Victorian windows, the current restoration (now 90 percent complete) has reproduced the original beaded siding and interpreted the window frames according to evidence found in the framing. The upstairs windows on all facades are interpreted as six over six sash with the exception of the two attic windows on the west gable. These are roughly symmetrical with the two windows of each floor below them. The lower windows have been interpreted as nine over six sash. The north facade has two windows on the second story and a window (east) and door (west) on the first, with a cellar entrance on the east. The eastern gable originally consisted of two small attic windows, two upstairs chamber windows, a lower window, and a door leading from the Warming Room. With the exception of the door, these openings have been altered to accomodate the circa 1890 wing which has been removed and replaced with a wing of compatible architectural design.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

¹Marcus Whiffen, The Eighteenth Century Houses of Williamsburg, Colonial Williamsburg, Inc., 1960, pp. 50, 51. See also figure 90, the Palmer House plan, p. 142.

²Henry Chandlee Forman. Tidewater Maryland Architecture and Gardens, p. 73, bottom left illustration.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet) #1

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Somerset	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	SEP 11 1975

(Number all entries)

The Wagner Farm

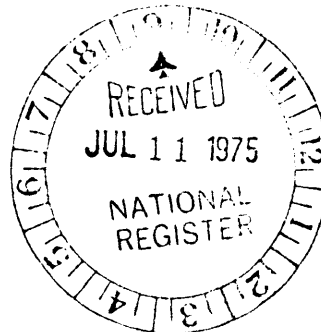
2. LOCATION, continued

In the vicinity of Mount Vernon, .45 miles east of the intersection of Whitehaven Ferry Road with Polk's Road and a connecting road to Maryland 362, near a settlement called Widgeon. (See U.S. Geological Survey map, 1950 revised 1962.)

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

Unlike the exterior the interior has remained remarkably intact. Approximately 90 to 95 percent of the original paneling and other woodwork remains. Entry through the broad front door reveals the passageway paneled with fielded paneling to dado level, a characteristic of the Great Room to the right and a small northwest room interpreted as a study. A closed-string staircase rises to a small landing before ascending further to the upstairs passage. The slender balusters have a characteristic square separating the upper two thirds from the lower third and this form is echoed in the newel post.

There is a corner fireplace in each of the three lower rooms. The Great Room chimney breast is characterized by fielded panels flanked by simple fluted pilasters with an asymmetrical group of panels to the right. The original study mantel is paneled on either side. Evidence in the laths and framing indicated only a chair rail and baseboard for the northeast room which was presumably a Warming Room. Exposed, beaded beams characterize both the upstairs and down, although evidence suggests that a downstairs plaster ceiling was applied within the eighteenth century. The present restoration reproduces the first colors, although evidence suggests that the woodwork was originally unpainted. Upstairs, four chambers open on to a small passageway. Although the Great Room Chamber is by far the largest, a small corner fireplace is found in the northwest or study chamber. Upstairs woodwork consists of chair rail and baseboard.



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)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input 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 | osophy | _____ |
| <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 checked="" 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

Harrington's two-fold significance is found both in its inherent architectural merit and in the role played by the builder, Thomas Holbrook, in the history of Somerset County. One of the very few existing two story frame eighteenth century farm houses of the area, Harrington visibly illustrates several unusual architectural features, possibly representing connecting links between urban and rural Georgian building styles.

Available records indicate that the land on which the house was built was patented to a Thomas Holbrook, relative of the builder, in 1682 and remained in the Holbrook family for over 120 years.^{3,4,5} Thomas Holbrook, described in contemporary records as a "planter" and "gentlemen," was apparently active in the civic affairs of Somerset County. He was Deputy Commissioner of Somerset County,⁶ a Vestryman of Stepney Parish,⁷ and in July of 1775 was one of those from Somerset County who signed the Declaration of the Association of Freeman of Maryland.⁸ A minor Revolutionary incident occurring on the property and recorded in the Archives of Maryland (1781) serves to illustrate a part of the day to day life of the Colonial militiaman.

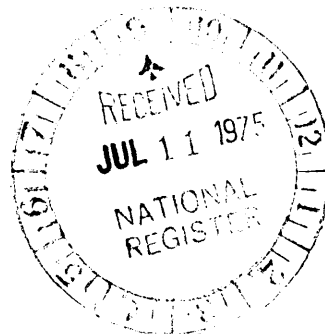
³Liber BC and GS No. 21, folio 99-101.

⁴Plats, box 25, folder 13, Hall of Records.

⁵Deeds, 0-39, folio 472, Somerset County Courthouse.

⁶Chancery Records, Liber 13, folio 371.

⁷Stepney Parish Vestry Ledger, 1768-1775. Microfilm, Wicomico County Library.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Whiffen, Marcus, The Eighteenth Century Houses of Williamsburg. Colonial Williamsburg, Inc., 1960. pp. 50-51: see also figure 90, the Palmer House plan, p. 142.
 Forman, Henry Chandlee, Tidewater Maryland Architecture and Gardens, p. 73, bottom left illustration.
 Liber BC and GS No. 21, folio 99-101.
 Plats, box 25, folder 13, Hall of Records.
 Deeds 0-39, folio 472, Somerset County Court House.
 Chancery Records, Liber 13, folio 371.

(See continuation sheet No. 1)

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 TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	38° 15' 52"	75° 45' 38"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	38° 15' 50"	75° 45' 27"		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	38° 15' 30"	75° 45' 25"		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	38° 15' 27"	75° 45' 35"		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 47.25 acres

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: Dr. Robert L. McFarlin, Chairman, Wicomico County Committee

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: 8/19/74

STREET AND NUMBER: Harrington, Polk's Road

CITY OR TOWN: Princess Anne STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

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: John Pearce
 Title: State Historic Preservation Officer (Acting)

Date: 7/9/75

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

[Signature]
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 9/11/75

ATTEST: *[Signature]*
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: SEP 8 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE	IA	MARYLAND	
COUNTY/INDEP. CITY	I06	somerset county	
CITY/VICINITY	I07	Princess Anne vicinity	
PRIMARY TITLE(S)	I08	HARRINGTON	
ADDRESS/LOCATION	I09	NW of Princess Anne off MD 362	
DATE/ARCHITECT	I10	Mid-18th C.	
DESCRIPTION AND SIGNIFICANCE (with nontypeset indexing between CE and CF)	I11	Frame, clapboarding; 1 1/2- and 2 1/2-story sections, rectangular, gabled and gambrel roof sections with dormers, interior and interior end chimneys with corbeled caps, off-center paneled entrances each with railed stoop, rear corner porch in antis; alterations and additions, c. 1890; restored. Vernacular Georgian. Home of Thomas Holbrook, planter, Deputy Commissioner of Somerset County and signer of the July 1775 Declaration of the Association of Freeman of Maryland.	
OWNERSHIP/AGENCY; ACCESSIBILITY	#I	Private.	
SURVEYS (NHL; HABS; HAER: G)	#C		
DATE OF ENTRY (nontypeset code)	I12	(9-11-75)	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (nontypeset)	I16	4/21	
SECONDARY TITLE(S) (nontypeset)	I08A	Wagner Farm, The, MD	
INDEXING ITEMS	CE	Harrington, MD:	CF
	CE	Holbrook, Thomas:	CF
	CE		CF
	CE		CF
	CE		CF
	CE		CF