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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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### SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

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	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED		TRANSPORT
	BEING CONSIDERED	NO	MILITARY	OTHER:
	and Mrs. Raymond	F. Weisman	Telephone #: (3	01) 745-9
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## 7 DESCRIPTION

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#### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Sherwood is a post-revolutionary brick structure located on a small point of land in Hemmersley Creek, overlooking the Creek on three sides and the Miles River in the distance. It is on the east side of Maryland Route 451, four miles north of St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland.

In many respects, it is typical of five bay, two story brick structures constructed throughout the Eastern Shore in the latter half of the 18th century. Unlike most of that size, however, it has an unusual pair of inset panels, the size of windows, on both stories of the west gable end, forecasting an architectural element which would become frequent in the latter Federal period (e.g., Holly Hall, Cecil County). The walls of the south facade and west gable are laid in Flemish bond above a cove-molded water table and English bond below. There is a uniformity in brick color and jointing not found in the common bond of the north facade. Basement windows have segmental arches and vertical-bar grills. All of the windows throughout the house retain original walnut frames, 12/12 sash on the first story and 8/12 on the second story. Bold wrought iron shutter dogs are intact on the first story and cast iron above, indicating the existence of original shutters on the first story only. Walnut was also used for the construction of the original shutters. Unlike the cellar windows, those above the water table have a 12-inch deep jack arch. Between the first and second storys is a four-brick wide belt course. The original box cornice is still in place with both upper and lower moldings. Two chimneys rise within the gables above a moderately-pitched "A" roof. On each gable, two four-pane case-ments light the attic rooms. The north facade of the building has asymmetrical fenestration. West of the center door are two windows on each story, that closest the center on the second story being a later intrusion, and on the east side of the door is a single window on each story. The original arrangement is identical to Rich Hill, Kent County, with the exception that there is a small window at both landings, Rich Hill having only one at the first landing.

Both the front and back doors have crossetted trim on the exterior surface of the brick, with raised paneled jambs and six panel doors. This treatment is like Content, Queen Anne's County, built about the same period. Four of the upper panels of the south door were replaced with glass when it was considered that the transom gave too little light to the hall.

On the east and west gables are outlines where subsequent additions have been removed, but on the east gable is the evidence of a former passage to the kitchen. It appears to have been approximately twelve feet wide and was probably at ground level, although that is difficult to determine since there is a large cellar hole in that location. From this "brick covered way" access was had on the north to the first floor, and adjacent it on the south to the cellar. According to the 1798 Federal Direct Tax, this structure was 12 x 12 feet long and was connected to a framed kitchen 34 x 20 feet, neither of which is now standing.



PERIOD	AF	EAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
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A_1700-17 <b>9</b> 9	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	XOTHER (SPECIFY)
				Local History

#### SPECIFIC DATES

#### **BUILDER/ARCHITECT**

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Sherwood Manor House is located on Hemmersly's Creek on the Miles River, and lies between St. Michael's and Claiborne in Talbot County, Maryland. From 1713 to the present, it has had at least nineteen owners, the most illustrious being Matthew Tilghman, a patriarch of Maryland.

Sherwood, typical of the five-bay, two-story brick houses built during the second half of the 18th century on Maryland's Eastern Shore, also exhibits a few individual features. Its floor plan is slightly altered from the standard, and it has an unusual pair of inset panels on both stories of the west gable end. (See description, #7, for more detail).

The 26-acre property on which the house stands is part of a tract called "Sherwood's Neck," a land patent which Philip Sherwood received from Lord Baltimore on October 10, 1713.<sup>1</sup> He received 268 acres at the annual rent of L00.10.9.<sup>2</sup> The Rent Roll of 1650-1790 states that "Sherwood's Neck" was surveyed on October 10, 1713, for Philip Sherwood and that it lay between Harris Creek and St. Michael's River, "beginning abounded Walnut tree standing on the north side and near the head of St. Michael's Creek."

In his will of January 14, 1717, Philip bequeathed his dwelling plantation and the tract of land adjoining, called Sherwood's Neck, to Frances, his wife, and after her decease to Daniel Sherwood, son of his brother, Daniel.<sup>4</sup> Daniel Sherwood, on August 5, 1771, sold 134 1/2 acres of Sherwood's Neck to Matthew Tilghman for 400 pounds current Maryland money.<sup>5</sup> The Land Record of August 5, 1771, reveals that as far back as October 21, 1765, Matthew Tilghman had received from Daniel's father a promise to sell the land to him subject to certain restrictions. When these restrictions were lifted in 1771, Matthew Tilghman took possession of the 134 1/2 acres of Sherwood's Neck, adding them to his already vast holdings in Bay Hundred.

As befitted one who was considered a patriarch of the Maryland colony, Matthew Tilghman (1718-1790) was the largest landholder in Talbot County. He was a member of the First Continental Congress, and of those of 1775, 1776, and 1777. However, he was not a signer of the Declaration of

(See continuation sheet #3)

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet #8

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

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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	Sherwood Manor		
	Talbot County,		DACC
CONTINUATION SHEET	Marvland	TEM NUMBER 7	PAGE

#### DESCRIPTION

Farther to the east is a stuccoed brick meat house with steeply pitched "A" roof and a door opening on the south gable. Inside, there are three slits on each wall which allowed the smoke to escape. There are three tie beams connecting the rafters from which to hang the meat. The roof has continuous sheathing to which the shingles were fastened.

The cellar is divided into three rooms, the two large end rooms having girders supporting the joists and the center room having joists running between the two interior walls. There are indications of previous partitions for storage areas.

Unlike most of the houses of this form, Sherwood has a corridor running from the central hall, north of the dining room, to the east gable and former kitchen. Otherwise, it has a standard plan with living room on the west and dining room on the east. The dining room retains all original woodwork, including an original paneled fireplace wall with cabinet on the north and closet on the south. There is a raised panel above the doors and crossetted trim surrounding the overmantel panel. Each window, throughout the first story, has paneled jambs and two raised panels in the recess beneath the sill. Only the fireplace wall possesses a four piece cornice. All of the trim of the windows and doors is typical three-piece composition, as is the chair rail. A door opens from the dining room to the corridor and to the stair hall. Flooring in the dining room and stair hall is narrow yellow pine, of recent date, laid over the original.

Across the hall, the living room retains its original flooring; however, around 1830, when people were looking for a lighter composition in their parlors, the paneling was removed and replaced with a plain mantel with fluted colonettes. The same thing appears to have been accomplished at the Rounds, Cecil County. Some of the chair rail has been removed, but otherwise, the trim has been unaltered. In the 20th century, a cornice was installed with stock crown molding and un-molded facia.

Around the hall and up the stair is a chair rail like half the profile of the hand railing. Beneath the open-string stair is a triangular raised panel and a four-panel closet door. The stair itself has turned walnut newels, boldly molded hand rail, and turned, painted yellow pine balusters. It ascends to the attic in three runs per floor.

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	Sherwood Manor	)	
	Talbot County,		
CONTINUATION SHEET	Maryland	ITEM NUMBER 7	PAGE 2

#### DESCRIPTION

At the head of the stair on the second floor is a small room, now used as the bath. A portion of this room has been taken for closets, one in the hall and one in the living room chamber. The doors and trim of the closets closely match the original woodwork. The living room chamber has a chimney breast with beaded wood stiles defining plaster panels above and beside the fireplace. Flanking the fireplace are two closets. From evidence around the windows, it was found that the sash have lead counter weights and that there were originally paneled shutters which recessed behind the trim. The latter have been removed.

Originally the dining room chamber extended from the north to the south wall, however, a corridor was subsequently installed above the north wall which led from the stair landing to a former two-story wing. The fireplace wall has a treatment similar to the living room chamber.

The attic is also divided into two rooms secured by batten doors hung on HL hinges. Cast butt hinges were used throughout the remainder of the house. Both rooms were originally plastered, although the plaster has been removed from one. A curious feature of these two rooms is that the tie beams are lacking on two rafters adjoining the chimney creating a small peaked area to the ceiling. Common rafters with mortise and tenon joints with tie beams nailed thereon are standard construction techniques of the area.

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Sherwood Manor	ŗ			
Talbot County,	)		2	
CONTINUATION SHEET Mary land	ITEM NUMBER	8	PAGE 3	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Independence.<sup>6</sup> Besides being Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates in 1773, 1774, and 1775, he was President of the Convention that from 1774 until 1777 directed the Province.<sup>7</sup>

When Matthew died on May 4, 1790, he was one of the richest men in Maryland, owning all of Tilghman's Island and vast estates in Talbot and Queen Anne's counties. Some idea of his wealth can be garnered from the 1783 Assessment, which listed him as possessing 3,986 acres of land and 102 slaves, for a total value of ±10,050.5.<sup>6</sup> He bequeathed Rich Neck, Rich Neck Addition, Sherwood Neck and other properties in Talbot County to his wife, Ann, and after her death to his youngest son, Lloyd.<sup>9</sup> To his daughter, Anna Maria, wife of Tench Tilghman, and Richard, his oldest son, he left the Queen Anne properties.

Lloyd Tilghman, who, upon the death of his mother on March 15, 1794, took possession of the Rich Neck homestead, as well as the vast estates in Talbot County, is the one for whom the Sherwood home was built. He was born July 27, 1749, and was married to Henrietta Maria Tilghman, daughter of James and Anna Tilghman, on January 22, 1785. His wife died March 2, 1796. The children born to them were: Anna Maria, born December 31, 1785, who married John Tilghman, son of James and Elizabeth Tilghman; Henrietta Maria, born March 30, 1787, who married Alexander Hemsley; Mary, Matthew Ward, and James, born February 5, 1793; and Elizabeth and Lloyd, born March 30, 1787., Elizabeth died in infancy.10

While not as much is known about Lloyd as there is about his illustrious father, there is evidence that at his death in 1811 he left an estate valued at \$160,828.37. The Land Commission valued his estate at \$99,350.25,11 while the Orphan's Court put his inventory at \$42,134.99 1/4,<sup>12</sup> and a list of debts due him amounting to \$19,343.12.<sup>13</sup> A library with current English and French authors reveal him as a man of some education.

Sometime between 1776 and 1783, Lloyd took up residence at Sherwood. According to the 1776 Census, he was evidently still living at Bayside, his father's home, since his name does not appear as a household owner. Seven white males and females are listed as residents in the Matthew Tilghman home.l4 Lloyd was 27 years old at the time and still unmarried. However, in the 1783 assessment, two years before his marriage, he is listed as residing at Sherwood.

(See continuation sheet #4)

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Sherwood Manor Talbot County, CONTINUATION SHEET Mary land ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 4

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The 1783 Assessment notes him as the owner of a 258-acre tract of land called Sherwood's Neck, "with one old framed dwelling house and old kitchen, small granary, old smoke house, and small old outhouse and cornhouse and stiff clay land on the water."<sup>15</sup> It is perhaps these buildings which are referred to both in Philip Sherwood's will of January 14, 1717, bequeathing "my dwelling plantation" to his wife, Frances,<sup>16</sup> and in the Land Record of the sale of the property to Matthew Tilghman in 1771, which refers to "all and singular houses."<sup>17</sup> At this time, Lloyd owned eight slaves, no plate, five horses, and ten black cattle, quite modest possessions in comparison with those of his father. The property was valued at £258.00.

By 1798, the old framed dwelling house was replaced by the present building, for the 1798 Assessment lists Lloyd as the owner and occupant of a two story brick dwelling house and five outhouses, which are described as follows:

Dwelling House Brick 2 Stories 50 by 22 7 Windows 60 by 22. 7D 50 by 32. 1D 40 by 26. 1D 30 by 28. 4D 20 by 16. \$800. Brick Covered Way 12 (?) by 12. Framed Kitchen 34 by 20. (?) 7 Windows 40 by 26. \$180. Brick Meat House 16 by 12. \$40. Framed Carriage House 46 by 26. \$120. Log Tool House 14 by 5. \$10.18

In 1811, Lloyd Tilghman died intestate, leaving as his only heirs, Anna Tilghman; Henrietta Maria Hemsley, wife of Alexander Hemsley, and James Tilghman. It was not until May 3, 1818, that James Tilghman, Alexander Hemsley, and John Tilghman and his wife, Anna, petitioned the Justices of Talbot County to evaluate and divide the lands of the deceased Lloyd Tilghman and to appoint a guardian to the children of Henrietta Maria Hemsley and Alexander Hemsley, viz., Henrietta Maria and Lloyd. The final report of the Commission was made to the Court on November 29, 1819, and was signed by Robert Tilghman, Tench Tilghman, and Nicholas Goldsborough. Samuel Jackson was appointed by the Commission as the surveyor.<sup>19</sup>

To Alexander Hemsley was assigned the southern half of Tilghman's Island (941 acres), part of "Sherwood" and "Hemmersly" (264 acres), and Rich Neck Addition (57 acres). The Sherwood property was valued at \$8,796.00. The dwelling plantation at Sherwood was thus transferred to Alexander Hemsley. According to the terms of the Land Commission's report, however, upon the death of Alexander, the lands allotted to him were to

(See continuation sheet #5)

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Sherwood Manor Talbot County, ITEM NUMBER 8 CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland PAGE 5

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

devolve and descend to Henrietta Maria Hemsley and Lloyd Tilghman Hemsley, the surviving children. Henrietta Maria Hemsley eventually married Dr. Frisbee Tilghman, Washington County.

On February 2, 1836, Lloyd Tilghman Hemsley, residing at that time in Philadelphia, sold his half part of the three tracts, "Sherwood", "Rich Neck Addition", and "Hemmersly" to John Tilghman of Queen Anne's County, with the buildings and appurtenances for the sum of \$3,000.20

John Tilghman then sold these three tracts of land on May 21, 1851 to John Covey for the sum of \$17,600 current money of Maryland.<sup>21</sup> Thus after 80 years, the property passed out of the hands of the Tilghman family.

John Covey sold the property to William Wrightson on December 28, 1872, for the sum of \$16,000. The location of the property is shown in An Illistrated Atlas of Talbot and Dorchester Counties, Philadelphia: Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson, 1877.22 The property remained in the Wrightson family for eighty years until 1934, when Rebecca Allen Wrightson sold it to Harry M. Hebden.<sup>23</sup> Subsequent owners were: Wi William H. Vogel,<sup>24</sup> Betram E. Spriggs and William R. Woodfield,<sup>25</sup> Malcolm M. Hirsh and Margaretta T. Hirsh,<sup>26</sup> and Raymond F. and Helen M. Weisman, the present owners who purchased it on April 7, 1972.<sup>27</sup>

Land Patent, Talbot County, 1713, E.E. No. 6, folios 45, 46, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

<sup>2</sup>Rent Roll, Talbot County and Queen Anne's County, 1650-1790, folio 201, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland. See also: Debt Book on Quit Rents, 1733, Talbot County, folio 72. Hall of Records.

<sup>3</sup>Tbid, folio 45. The name St. Michael's Creek, or St. Michael's River, was later changed to Miles, an English variant of Michael.

<sup>4</sup>Wills: Liber 14, folio 552, 1714-18, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

<sup>5</sup>Land Record JL No. 20, folio 161, August 5, 1771. Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland. Also: Rent Roll Talbot County and Queen Anne Counties, 1650-1790, folio 201. Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland

(See continuation sheet #6)

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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Sherwood Manor Talbot County, CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE6

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

<sup>6</sup>The reason usually given is that he was summoned to Annapolis to serve as the Convention President. For another theory, see: Dickson J. Preston, "Why Didn't Matthew Sign the Declaration?" <u>The Star</u> <u>Democrat</u>, Easton, Maryland. July 28, 1975, p. 6A.

<sup>7</sup>Oswald Tilghman. <u>History of Talbot County</u>. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1967 Edition, Vol. 1, p. 427.

<sup>8</sup>Assessment of 1783, Talbot County Tax List, Bay and Mill Hundreds (Scharf Collection) - District #1 - General, page 13. Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

<sup>9</sup>Wills: JB, No. 4, folio 125, Talbot County Courthouse, Easton, Maryland.

<sup>10</sup>Colonel Stephen F. Tillman. <u>Tilghman-Tillman Family</u>, 1225-1945.

<sup>11</sup>Land Commission, 1819-1830, f. 91, Talbot County Courthouse, Easton, Maryland.

<sup>12</sup>Register of Wills, Talbot County, Inventories, JP No. 9, folios 1-517, ff. 316, (Box 11 Microfilm), January 22, 1812, Talbot County Courthouse, Easton, Maryland.

<sup>13</sup>Register of Wills, Talbot County, Administration Accounts, JP No. 12, 1822-1824, folios 1-445 (microfilm), Talbot County Courthouse, Easton, Maryland. The date of Lloyd's marriage to Henrietta Maria Tilghman, January 22, 1785, is not recorded in the records of the parish church of St. Michaels, though this was the parish church of his father, Matthew, whose marriage is recorded as taking place on April 3, 1741. Talbot County, Maryland Licenses, St. Michael's Parish Record, 1738-1810, Microfilm, #563, Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland. Also: Index to Births, Marriages, and Deaths, St. Peter's Parish Register, 1681-1806, Microfilm #564.

<sup>14</sup>Census 1776, September 30, Talbot County, Box 2, Folder 22, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland. See also: 1776 Census of Maryland, compiled by Bettie Stirling Caruthers: Chesterfield, Missouri. Matthew Tilghman is listed on page 1555 as a householder.

(See continuation sheet #7)

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Sherwood Manor Talbot County, CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 7

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

<sup>15</sup>Tax List of 1783, Microfilm #601, Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland.

<sup>16</sup>Wills: Liber 14, folio 552, 1714-1718, <u>op</u>. <u>cit</u>. Also: Land Patent Talbot County, 1713, op. <u>cit</u>.

17 Land Record JL No. 20, folio 161, 162, August 5, 1711, op. cit.

<sup>18</sup>Federal Assessment of 1798, Talbot County, folio 25, Microfilm #869, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland. The question marks are the author's and indicate uncertainty, since some of the numbers are difficult to decipher.

<sup>19</sup>Land Commission, 1819-1830, folios 69-91, Talbot County Courthouse, Easton, Maryland.

<sup>20</sup>Land Record, JL 52, folios 266, 267, Talbot County Courthouse, Easton, Maryland.

<sup>21</sup>Land Record, JP 63, folios 478-480, Talbot County Courthouse, Easton, Maryland.

<sup>22</sup>Talbot County Library, Maryland Historical Room, Easton, Maryland.

<sup>23</sup>Land Record, Liber 232, folio 249, Talbot County Courthouse, Easton, Maryland.

<sup>24</sup>Land Record, Liber 258, folio 351, Talbot County Courthouse, Easton, Maryland.

<sup>25</sup>Land Record, Liber 414, folio 142, Talbot County Courthouse, Easton, Maryland.

<sup>26</sup>Land Record, Liber 432, folio 674, Talbot County Courthouse, Easton, Maryland.

<sup>27</sup>Land Record, Liber 461, folio 327, Talbot County Courthouse, Easton, Maryland.

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

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Sherwood Manor Talbot County, CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 8

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Census of 1776, Talbot County Debt Book on Quit Rents, 1733, Talbot County Federal Assessment of 1798 Land Patents, Talbot County Rent Roll Talbot County and Queen Anne County, 1650-1790 Road Record, 1745-87, 1798-1953 Talbot County Land Records Talbot County Probate Records Tax Assessment 1783, Talbot County

2. Maryland Historical Society

Index to Births, Marriages, and Deaths, St. Peter's Parish Register, 1681-1806 Parish Record, 1738-1810 Maryland Index to Inventories, 1762-1777 Talbot County, Maryland Licenses, St. Michael's Tax List of 1783

3. Talbot County Court House

Land Commission, 1819-1830 Land Records Wills, Inventories, Administration Accounts

(See continuation sheet #9)

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DATE ENTERED APR 5 1977

	Sherwood Manor	,		
	Talbot County,			
CONTINUATION SHEET	Maryland	ITEM NUMBER 9	PAGE	9

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FORM PREPARED BY	njm
Michael Bourne, Restoration Consultant,	Thomas More Page
ORGANIZATION	DATE December, 1975
STREET & NUMBER	тецерноме
	(301)438-3627 / (201)832-8869
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