

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED DEC 16 1975
DATE ENTERED MAY 6 1976

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

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

* * * The Reward; Tilden's Farm

AND/OR COMMON

THE REWARD

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

S of W. Station off MD 270

Walnut Point Road, left fork

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

X VICINITY OF

First

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

COUNTY

Kent

CODE

029

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. & Mrs. Horace Havemeyer and children

STREET & NUMBER

The Reward

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

X VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland 21620

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Kent County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

High Street

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Reward is a three bay long, two bay deep, two story, brick dwelling which appears to have been constructed in the 1740's. Its facade is laid in Flemish bond with glazed headers above a basement of English bond. The other three walls are English bond. Wood grills following the contour of the segmental arches are replacements of original work. Above the two basement windows, the water table steps up to accomodate the segmental arches, like several houses in Chestertown. The water table is a single brick deep with both ovolo and cavetto moldings. Although the house is three bays long with a central entrance, the entrance is off-center. There are segmental arches of lightly rubbed brick above the first story openings of the south half of the building; the remaining have jack arches. A belt course between stories is interrupted by the back window of the second story and is terminated where it joins the rear slope of the catslide roof. The lower elevation of the rear rooms is suggested by the step in the water table. Original door and window frames in the front portion of the house are made of walnut. The sash are replacements of the original with the exception of the transom above the original four foot wide entrance door. The windows have 12/12 sash on the first story front portion and 6/6 sash elsewhere. In scale, they resemble the size of the windows in the "Customs House," Chestertown, a building constructed in the late 1740's.

The chimneys pierce the apex of the roof at the gables and have sloping shoulders and withes, indicating the interior flues. They are similar to the chimneys on Ringgold's Fortune (1762) and Springfield Farm (1770), also in Kent County. The rear of the house has only two windows on the first story and two domers in the long catslide roof. Formerly a door was located in the center of the facade where one of the windows is now located.

On the north gable of the house and connected to it for only half its depth is a one and one-half story brick kitchen wing, constructed for the Johnsons in the 1930's. North of it is a one story, porch-like structure built for the Whites in the late 1960's.

Much of the basic boxwood planting was done during the 1930's and 1940's. The terrace and garden and most of the other landscaping is the product of the Havemeyers and has been accomplished since their acquisition of the property in 1970.

The old portion of The Reward is composed of four rooms: the living room and den in the front and the library and dining room in the rear. The living room walls are fully paneled and painted off white. That wall adjoining the den is vertical board paneling with feather edge and quarter round molding. The other walls have raised panels separated by a bolection chair rail. All of the woodwork appears original, even though the quarter round molding surrounding the panels is bolder than that of the vertical boards. Architecturally the principal elements of the room are the diagonal fireplace and the stair. Around the segmental arched fireplace is a bold bolection molding and above are two glazed cabinets, each with double, four pane doors hung on butterfly hinges.

see continuation sheet 1

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Charles Tilden

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Chiefly, The Reward is important because of its unique architectural qualities. It is a vernacular structure, but it possesses a self-consciousness not usually associated with vernacular structures. These qualities are undoubtedly the result of the creativity of its owner/builder, Charles Tilden. Although little has been discovered about him, he appears to have been an unusually gifted person, as can be seen by two references pertaining to his capability for design. In his will of 1785, he bequeaths a case of drawers to his granddaughter "designed by me for her mother" (Kent County Wills 7/160). And, in Hanson's Old Kent (p. 374), there is mention of an agreement between the vestry of I. U. Church and "Charles Tilden, Architect, for the building of a church 60 feet long and 40 feet wide." The term "architect" is rarely used in this period and this is the only time it has been found in Kent County to date.

He obviously put a great deal of thought into the design of his house. Each room, with the exception of the "Hall," was private. The floor plan, as mentioned in the description, is unusual, although it shows a progression toward the Georgian plan (i.e., four rooms with central stair hall). Being a catslide roof structure all in a single building and not as the result of alterations and additions is unique.

In the early history of The Reward, Charles Tilden's grandfather, also named Charles Tilden, a builder who had acquired the property in 1681, was a member of the original vestry of St. Paul's Church and apparently helped in the construction of the first church (St. Paul's vestry minutes). He was also a justice for Kent County in 1694-1698. Charles had emigrated to Maryland in 1677 and does not appear in the vestry records after 1698.

Upon the death of Charles Tilden, the land came to the right of his son Marmaduke, who lived at Great Oak Manor. Marmaduke died in 1726 and devised "my plantation on Langfords Bay" to his son, Charles Tilden, stating that it shall be rented until Charles reaches the age of 21. In the Debt Books of 1736, Charles is listed as a minor living in Cecil County.

Around 1740, after Charles came of age, he took possession of his farm, "The Reward," and soon thereafter constructed the present house. Besides being

see continuation sheet 4

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Forman, H. Chandlee. Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland. Easton, Md.:
By the Author, 1934.

Hanson, George A. Old Kent, The Eastern Shore of Maryland. Reprint of 1876 ed.
Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1967.

see continuation sheet 3

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 145

UTM REFERENCES

DA	1,8	4,0,0,8,2,0	4,3,3,4,3,0,0	B	1,8	4,0,1,2,4,0	4,3,1,4,6,3,0	
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	
Bc	1,8	4,0,1,6,6,0	4,3,3,4,1,9,0	C	D	1,8	4,0,0,8,0,0	4,3,3,3,3,9,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

June 25, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

(301) 267-1438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

John N. Pearce

12/12/75

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Noted

W. M. ...

DATE

5/6/76

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

Charles ...

DATE

5-4-76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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The Reward
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

Description, continued

An unusual arrangement to find in a house of the second quarter of the eighteenth century is the stair ascending from the principal room without means of closing it from drafts. It is located opposite the main door and has bold turned newel and balusters and a handrail profile similar to Cloverfield, Queen Anne's County (circa 1730). An interesting and attractive feature of the room is the cornice which continues even around the stair well opening.

Alterations which have occurred in the living room consist of a new masonry fireplace (between 1966 and 1970) and the cutting and moving of a portion of paneling adjacent the stair to accommodate air conditioning (during the Hurd ownership). to/

Like the living room, the den is fully paneled, but the room is finished in natural pine. Only the diagonal fireplace wall has raised panels while the other walls have vertical board walls. The former wall is composed of two central panels and two paneled cupboards with a narrow horizontal panel between them and the arched fireplace with two vertical flanking panels. The fireplace surround consists of a plain beaded board with early nineteenth century backband. It appears to have originally had a bolection molding like the living room and library. The fireplace was made smaller when the damper was installed in the 1930's. Near the fireplace, on the wall adjoining the dining room, is a drawer let into the brick wall above the chair rail.

In the corner opposite the fireplace is a glazed corner cabinet built over the paneling. It bears the same molding profiles as the doors above the living room fireplace. Walnut and pine were used for its construction.

A paneled corner cabinet in the southwest corner is said to have originally stood in the same corner of the dining room prior to the removal of a partition. It now conceals a former door which opened into the area beneath the stair.

In the dining room, located one step lower than the previous rooms, the corner fireplace has a mantel of early nineteenth century date. On looking up the flue, a wood lintel is visible, suggesting a taller opening. The cheeks of the fireplace have also been filled. The walls in the room are plastered except for the vertical paneled wall separating it from the library. A two-piece chair rail is situated on the plaster walls. In the northwest corner of the room is a small enclosed stair to the chamber above.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

Description, continued

Plaster lines in the paneling surrounding the stair indicate that the ceiling was originally plastered. It was removed in the 1930's and plaster was installed between the beams.

Originally, there was an additional partition creating a corridor between the two back rooms. One partition now exists and on it is a pegboard. At one end of the original corridor is a batten door leading to the cellar and at the other is a window which was originally a door, nearly as wide as the front door. More alterations seem to have occurred in the present dining room than in any of the other rooms, though they appear to have occurred at an early date.

Adjacent to the dining room and the living room is a small room now used as a library. In feeling, it is like the den, but it has a lower ceiling and, like the dining room, has had its plaster ceiling removed. It has vertical board walls except on the diagonal fireplace wall, which has two paneled cabinets flanking a large central raised panel above the fireplace. The latter retains its original bolection molding. Like the den fireplace, this has been filled to accommodate a smaller fireplace with damper. There is only one window on the south wall to light this small room.

On the second floor, feather edge partitions separate the rooms. The living room chamber has a small diagonal fireplace and adjacent to it is a closet along the west wall. Paneling above the fireplace is of twentieth century date. The two exterior walls are plastered and the windows have plastered reveals without trim.

Between the living room chamber and the den chamber is a bath separated from the stair hall by an original board partition. Above the door is a six pane transom which was probably an original exterior sash. Opposite the bath is the enclosed stair to the attic. It is directly above the main stair. Beneath the edge of the diagonal carriage is a series of beaded slats, similar to a portion of balustrade at Godlington Manor, Kent County.

Little of the den chamber is original. Two closets were installed on the south wall, a fireplace was built in the northwest corner, and vertical paneling was installed on the north wall. Its floors, as are those of the rest of the house, are original.

Behind the den chamber, and above the dining room, is a bath and dressing room, which has been installed since 1970. It was built about one foot higher

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CONTINUATION SHEET The Reward
 Kent County
 Maryland ITEM NUMBER 7, 9 PAGE 3

Description, continued

than the original floor. In its northwest corner is the stair to the dining room. It is said that this room originally had no access to the principal part of the house.

Above the library is another chamber accessible from the stair hall. It is located down four steps from the hall floor and is a very spacious room with ceiling sloping toward the west. It has a board wall enclosing a closet adjacent to the dining room chamber. At the eaves are a series of twentieth century cabinets.

Bibliographical References, continued

Kent County Land and Probate Records, County Courthouse, Chestertown, Maryland,
and Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

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 Kent County
 Maryland ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 4

Statement of Significance, continued

a "designer" and architect, he was a planter. The value of the inventory taken in 1787 after his death exceeded one thousand pounds, indicating that he was a man of considerable means.

The lands of Charles Tilden were resurveyed in 1774 under the name "Tilden's Farm," but the certificate was not patented until 1796, and then to his son, Marmaduke. In his will Charles mentioned having deeded his property to his sons and heirs, but the deed was not recorded in the courthouse. Perhaps the division of property explains the smaller acreage indicated in the patent of 1794, 288 acres as opposed to the 400 acres which his grandfather had owned a hundred years before.

Marmaduke Tilden sold "Tilden's Farm" in 1796 to Jeremiah Nichols, who sold it to William Trew in 1805. Both of the latter apparently were married to Tilden women. It appears to have been sold within the family until 1932, when it was purchased by Agnes Langhorne Johnson (Nicklin). It was under her ownership that the house was restored and the kitchen wing constructed.

Colonel and Mrs. Edward A Hurd owned the property between 1940 and 1966, and they built the cottage near the edge of Langford Creek.

A small mudroom, adjacent ^{to} the kitchen, was built during the brief ownership of Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. White (1966-1970).

Since 1970, the house, barns, and grounds have had an overall face-lift. The house has had the whitewash removed from its brick walls, necessary re-pointing, and a new roof.

