

PH0142808

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: Carroll
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE: JUN 20 1975

1. NAME

COMMON: Farm Content
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION 3 mi SW of Westminster off FM RD 31

STREET AND NUMBER: South side of Old New Winsor Road
CITY OR TOWN: 1/2 mile west of Md. Rt. 31
3 miles south of Westminster
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Sixth
STATE: Maryland CODE: 24 COUNTY: Carroll CODE: 013

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One): Building, Structure, Object
OWNERSHIP: Private
STATUS: Occupied
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC: No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate): Private Residence

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Mr. and Mrs. G. Donald Riley, Jr.
STREET AND NUMBER: Farm Content
CITY OR TOWN: Westminster STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

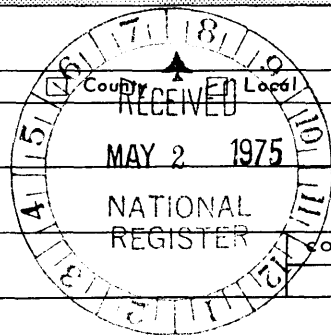
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Carroll County Courthouse
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: Westminster STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
DATE OF SURVEY:
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Carroll
ENTRY NUMBER:
DATE: JUN 20 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

Farm Content is situated on the south side of Old New Winsor Road, one half mile west of Maryland Route 31, three miles south of Westminster, Maryland.

The house is of brick construction, five bays wide at the principal facade and two stories high beneath a gable roof. On three sides of the house, east, west and north, the brick walls are laid in Flemish bond, while the south end is laid in common bond. On all elevations the mortar joints are penciled in white. The centered entrance on the principal facade was enlarged in about the mid nineteenth century and the opening now frames a panelled double door and transom. Each of the two windows flanking both sides of the door are of six over six pane sash. Across the second floor level and positioned directly over those openings below are five windows, also of six over six lights each. All of the windows have flat arches of splayed stretcher bricks and louvered blinds. In the late nineteenth or early twentieth century the existing one story farm porch with six square tapered columns was built against this elevation. On both the front and rear sides are stepped brick eave cornices with one course of brick laid on the diagonal in sawtooth fashion.

On both ends of the house the gable walls rise above the roof line to form low parapets. Single flush gable chimneys stand at each end of the roof ridge and on the outside wall of the north chimney there is a marble date plaque which reads "D R S 1795."

On the rear elevation of the house, toward the south end, stands a two story brick wing with a recessed porch on its north side. This addition, which has a later shed roofed addition on its south side, incorporates into its plan a formerly detached one story kitchen contemporary to the main block in its date of construction.

In the main block the first floor room configuration consists of a centered stair hall flanked by single parlors. This same room arrangement is repeated on the second floor except that there is a small room at the head of the stair where a modern bathroom is located. The stair, simple in design, rises in four flights to the attic and is characteristically Federal in both styling and detail. The south first floor room has an attractive fireplace mantle with a molded cornice shelf above a frieze decorated with applied moldings in a geometric pattern. On the right side of the mantle is a full height cupboard with doors of fielded panels. Also decorating the room is a molded chairrail and two-piece surrounds framing the doors and windows. This same treatment is repeated in the north room, except that the mantle is of a heavier styling and probably dates from about the mid nineteenth century. On the second floor level the treatment is somewhat more restrained, with simple

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian!	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<u>local history</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

In 1760 David Shriver, an ancestor of the prominent Shriver family of Carroll County, acquired the property now known as Farm Content. Shortly after the acquisition of the property David married Rebecca Ferree of a socially prominent Lancaster, Pennsylvania family. They lived in a small log house adjacent to the site where, in 1795, they were to build the existing brick house. David Shriver began the operation of a grist mill and tannery, among other occupations, and soon became a large landowner and socially prominent figure. In 1776 David Shriver was appointed to represent Frederick County at the Maryland Constitutional Convention. An active patriot, he was of sufficient consequence to be elected a member of the Convention that formally adopted and established the Maryland Constitution. In 1776 he was elected a member of the Maryland House of Delegates and twenty-eight years later was appointed to the Maryland Senate. David Shriver died in 1826 at the age of eighty and lies buried in the family cemetery at Farm Content.

Following the death of David Shriver, Jacob, his youngest son, assumed ownership of the property. Jacob served for three years (1825-28) as a member of the Maryland House of Delegates, like his father representing Frederick County. (Later boundary changes placed the Shriver property in Carroll County rather than Frederick.) It was Jacob who named the property Farm Content.

At Jacob Shriver's death in 1841, the property came into the possession of Jacob's son Augustus. Augustus Shriver, to whom the alterations of the house, including the addition of the rear wing, is attributed was an active and successful businessman. He was one of the first Presidents of the Western Maryland Railroad and was a President of the First National Bank of Westminster and the Carroll County Agriculture Society.

In 1903 Farm Content left the hands of the Shriver family, but in 1969 it returned to family ownership when it was acquired by the present owners.

Farm Content is one of the finest examples of rural Federal architecture in Carroll County, and as the home of

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Carroll County Land Records. Carroll County Court House.  
Westminster, Maryland.  
Carroll County Tax Assessment Records. Carroll County  
Office Building, Westminster, Maryland.  
Frederick County Land Records. Frederick County Court House.  
Frederick, Maryland.  
Frederick County Register of Wills. Frederick County Court  
House. Frederick, Maryland.

HM  
18  
324600  
438055!

(See continuation sheet No. 1)

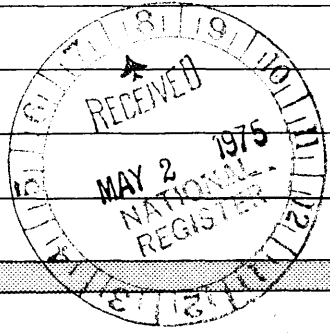
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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	0 ' "	0 ' "		39° 33' 41"	77° 03' 07"	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **4 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: J. Richard Rivoire

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: January 1975

STREET AND NUMBER: 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**      **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

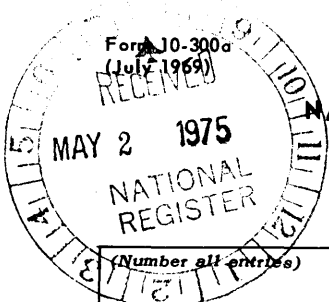
Name: John N. Pearce  
John N. Pearce  
Acting  
Title: State Historic Preservation Officer  
Date: April 30, 1975

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

A. B. Ruess  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/30/75

ATTEST:  
W. M. ...  
Keeper of The National Register  
Date: MAY 20 1975



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

(Continuation Sheet) #1

STATE	Maryland	
COUNTY	Carroll	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		JUN 20 1975

(Number all entries)

Farm Content

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

mantels framing the fireplaces and surrounds similar but narrow than those of the first floor, framing the doors and windows.

The front first floor room of the wing was modernized in recent years to house a modern kitchen. The remainder of the wing, including the original kitchen, was renovated for use as a private apartment and was not accessible at the time that the house was recorded.

Farm Content has several domestic dependencies arranged close to the rear of the house (see site plan). One of these is a stone chimneyed log structure sheathed with vertical boards. Another building is a frame, pyramid roofed privy (see attached drawing). This small structure is of an undetermined but early date of construction. It is entirely possible that it is contemporary to the house and if so is one of the few eighteenth century privys extant in Maryland. Near the north end of the house is the site of a log dwelling house that preceded the present brick house. It was torn down some years ago but the site continued to yield related artifacts.

In a field northeast of the house is the Shriver family cemetery containing, among others, the grave of David Shriver, builder of Farm Content.

8. SIGNIFICANCE, continued

David Shriver, progenitor of the Shirver family in Maryland, it is recognized as a local historic landmark. Despite minor alterations and the addition of a large rear wing the house retains a sufficient enough amount of original detail to establish it as a regionally significant example of its particular form. Of the dependencies the privy is the most noteworthy. Since privys were usually the least adaptable they have nearly completely disappeared and their presence among surviving collections of domestic dependencies is becoming increasingly rare.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES, continued

Hyde, Bryden Bordley, AIA, Architect, observations of Farm Content, October 1, 1972 contained in letter dated October 2, 1972.

Inscriptions, names and dates on glass windows of Farm Content. Lynch, Branford Gist. A Hundred Years of Carroll County Maryland, Inc. Westminster, Maryland: Decocratic Advocate Co., 1939.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Western Maryland. Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1882, Vol. II

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

(Continuation Sheet) #2

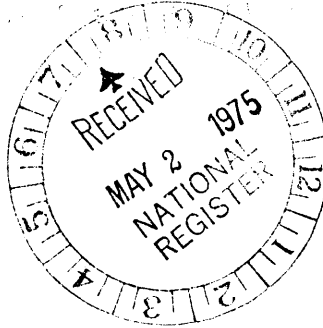
STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Carroll	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 20 1975

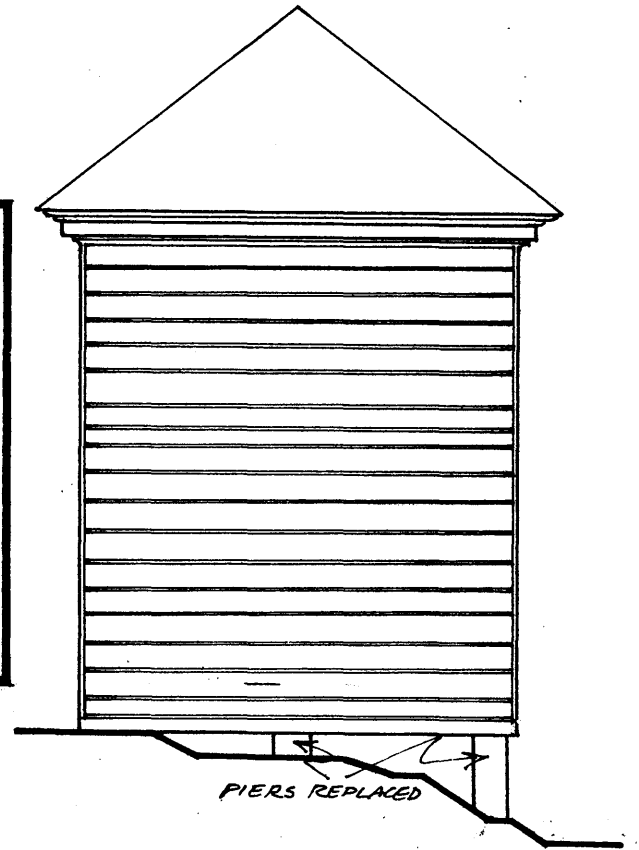
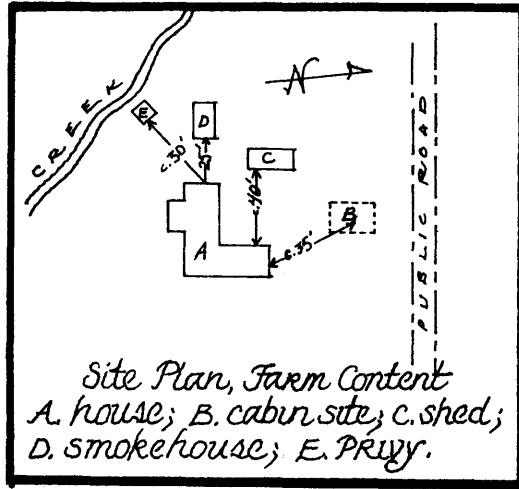
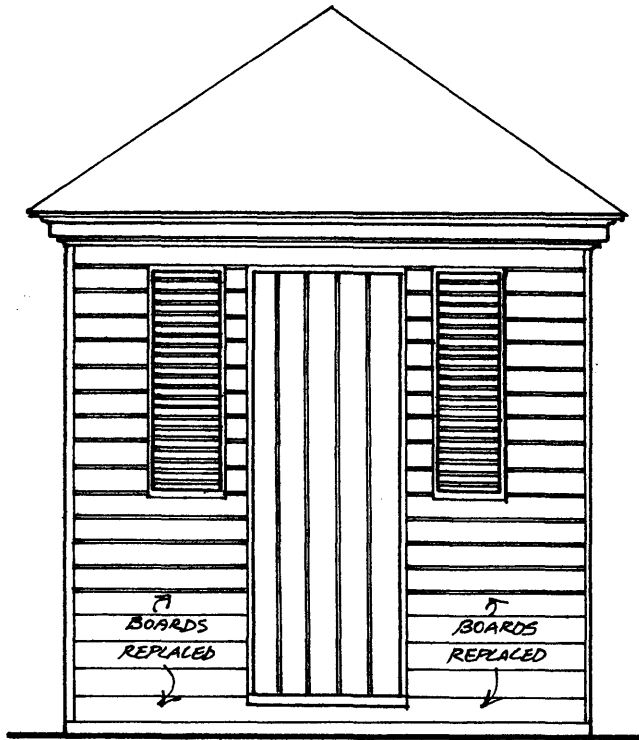
(Number all entries)

Farm Content

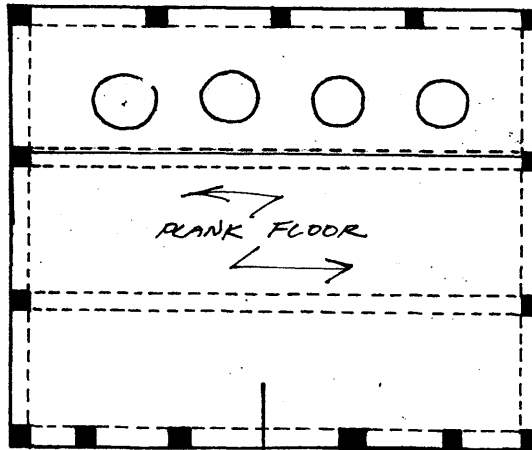
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES, continued

Shriver, Samuel S. History of the Shriver Family 1684-1888.  
Guggenheimer, Weil & Co. 1888.





c. 1800 PRIVY-  
 FARM CONTENT  
 CARROLL COUNTY, MD.



SCALE 3/8" = 1'  
 J. R. RIVOIRE  
 JAN. 1975

