Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

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** NAME HISTORIC \* \* House on part of Camelsworthmore AND/OR COMMON Spir Shepherd's Delight (preferred) 5 mr. Dus 2 LOCATION West side of Maryland Route 292, one mile south of Maryland Route 298 STREET & NUMBER NOT FOR PUBLICATION CITY, TOWN mais CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Still Pond Station X VICINITY OF 1 STATE CODE COUNTY CODE 029 Marvland 24 Kent **3** CLASSIFICATION CATEGORY **OWNERSHIP** STATUS **PRESENT USE** \_\_\_DISTRICT ----PUBLIC \_\_\_OCCUPIED \_\_\_AGRICULTURE \_\_\_MUSEUM XBUILDING(S) X PRIVATE \_\_UNOCCUPIED COMMERCIAL PARK \_\_\_STRUCTURE \_\_\_ВОТН \_\_\_EDUCATIONAL ----PRIVATE RESIDENCE \_\_\_SITE PUBLIC ACQUISITION ACCESSIBLE \_\_\_ENTERTAINMENT \_\_\_RELIGIOUS \_\_OBJECT IN PROCESS -YES: RESTRICTED GOVERNMENT \_\_SCIENTIFIC \_\_\_BEING CONSIDERED \_\_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED \_\_INDUSTRIAL \_\_\_TRANSPORTATION XNO .\_\_MILITARY OTHER: **OWNER OF PROPERTY** NAME Mrs. Burleigh C. Fooks STREET & NUMBER 54 State Circle CITY, TOWN STATE Annapolis Marvland 21401 VICINITY OF LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Kent County Courthouse STREET & NUMBER CITY, TOWN STATE Chestertown Maryland **REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS** TITLE DATE \_\_FEDERAL \_\_STATE \_\_COUNTY \_\_LOCAL DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CON	DITION	CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE	
EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	UNALTERED	_XORIGINAL SITE	
GOOD	RUINS	ALTERED	MOVED DATE	
FAIR	UNEXPOSED			

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

On the west side of Maryland Route 292, one mile south of its intersection with Maryland Route 298, is a farm called Shephard's Delight. The lane extends west from the highway until it enters a large rectangular grassy area surrounded by a board fence. The barns are located directly ahead, on the west side of the grass plot, and the house is located at the southerly end of the rectangular plot. The lane approaches the house on its easterly end.

The barns consist of a framed granary covered partly with wide shiplap and partly with newer weatherboard, and a brick stable with modern sheds attached. There is also a machine shed. The interior of the granary is divided into two rooms on the first level and three on the second level with the central room extending to the rafters. Above the two flanking bins are attic bins. Much of the original interior is intact though the roof is in very poor condition.

The stable retains only a few of the original grill windows with exterior shutters. Floor joists and several of the attic joists have been removed. It is one of four brick barns remaining in Kent County.

At the southern end of the lawn stands the house with its outbuildings, behind which is a fenced area that formerly was a boxwood garden. Only the outline of two paths is extant, as the rest of the box has died and the area has been overgrown for some years. A plan of the garden exists in H. C. Forman's <u>Early Manor and Plantation</u> Houses of Maryland.

Northeast of the house stands a small brick smokehouse. Another brick building which appears to have been used for the same purpose stands south and slightly east of the structure. Next to this stands a frame dairy building. All three of these structures appear to date from the late 18th or early 19th century.

The house itself, although it is all the same height, is composed of a four bay long, one and one-half story main section with porches both front and back, and a four bay long, two and one-half story kitchen wing, which originally was one and one-half storys. The north facade of the latter also possesses a porch in line with the main portion, but it lacks the floor, balustrade, and detail of the former.

On the north facade of the principal portion the windows have 12/8 sash and louvered shutters. Only the principal portion has beaded weatherboard siding. The doorway is located at the second bay from the east and the two center panels of the original six panel door have been replaced with glass to provide light to the stairhall. The porches have wooden floors, champhered posts, round handrail, rectangular balusters and a wood ceiling. On the roof are three dormers.

A cellar entrance is located on the west gable adjacent to the exposed brick chimney behind the first floor. Flanking the chimney on the second story are windows with 6/6 sash of approximately the same size as the dormers.

At the east side of the south facade, a leanto addition was built extending from the back door to the east end. It has a single window on the south and one on the west opening onto the porch. The porch is identical to the front porch. This portion has 6/6 pane sash

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
X_1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1 <b>900</b> -	COMMUNICATIONS		POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		

# SPECIFIC DATES circa 1767-1783,1810 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

During the 17th century, much of the land in Tidewater Maryland was patented in huge tracts to the first settlers. The acreage of these often being more than one family could farm, they were divided into smaller tracts during the 18th century. On these parcels, the colonial planters built their homes, usually dwellings of frame or brick with one or two rooms, often enlarged at a later time.

Shepherd's Delight is one such planter's house. Built circa 1767 to 1783, it was added to during this period and again circa 1810. Like the majority of dwellings on the 1783 and 1798 tax assessments, it is a frame structure. Most of these houses have disappeared today, making Shepherd's Delight a rare survival of a once common house-type. Also unusual is the survival of the 18th century outbuildings, including a barn, smokehouse, and dairy.

In 1683 a patent was granted to William Marr and Thomas Collins for 1150 acres called "Camwells Worthmore" (variously spelled Camelsworthmore, Campbells Worth more, etc.) then in Cecil County. The property was subsequently broken down into several smaller parcels, one of which Richard Bennett, Rent Roll Keeper of the Eastern Shore, acquired and later devised to his cousin Edward Neale in 1749. Neale sold this land to James Tilghman, an Eastern Shore attorney living in Philadelphia. Tilghman owned the property for fifteen years, then sold it to John Angier, a farmer and resident of Kent County.1

On the Tax Assessment of 1783, Angier was assessed for 445 acres of Camelsworthmore, almost twice as much as he had obtained from Tilghman. On this property were several "Good wooden dwellings and common necessary Houses." The setting was listed as forest and the soil as "Good old Land." Angier owned eleven slaves at this time and had several free persons other than his family living on the property. He was apparently quite a successful planter as the inventory of his personal estate came to slightly over 1000,<sup>2</sup> considered to be the point separating those of middle income from the truly wealthy of the eighteenth century.<sup>3</sup>

Angier sold approximately half of his Camelsworthmore property to each of his sons, 233 acres to Unit in 1789 and 212 acres to Thomas in 1791. The former paid about £700 for his share and the latter £1200 for his, indicating that the house and outbuildings probably stood on the second tract. Thomas sold his parcel to Unit in 1799.4

the second tract. Thomas sold his parcel to unit in 1795. When Unit Angler died intestate in 1824, his property was sold to pay his debts. Thomas Hepbron, Jr. of Kent County purchased the part of

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

PRIMARY SOURCES:

Kent County Inventories, Hall of Records, Annapolis.
Land Records of Kent County, Hall of Records, Annapolis, and Kent County Courthouse, Chestertown, Maryland.
Probate Records of Kent County, Hall of Records, Annapolis.
Tax Assessment of 1783, Kent County, Hall of Records, Annapolis.

# **10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNT					
STATE	CODE	COUNTY		(	CODE
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1 FORM PREPARED BY	Pamela Ja	ames, Assistant !	Historia	n	
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ORGANIZATION Private consultant/ Mary	yland Histo	orical Trust	DATE	ugust	1975
STREET & NUMBER reat Hopes/21 State Circ	cle (30	01) 438-3627/267			
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and original beaded weatherboard. It is in poor structural condition. In the northeast corner of the addition is a tall brick chimney. The two outer dormers on the roof have been doubled in size.

Returning to the north facade, the kitchen wing is also four bays long on the first story and three on the second. Its entrance is located in the second bay from the west and is a batten door. The first bay has a 6/6 pane window, but the remainder of the windows have 8/8 pane sash. Standard weatherboard covers the walls. One flat headed dormer is located in the roof. The east gable has two windows flanking the fireplace on each of the three stories. On the south side is an enclosed leanto porch of 20th century vintage. Where the kitchen porch meets the leanto room, there is a square room which served as a pantry.

Inside, the floor plan resembles Hampden, Talbot County, and Long Hill, Wicomico County. It possesses a parlor, stairhall, dining room, leanto off the latter and two rooms in the kitchen wing.

All of the woodwork in the main section is original to the house. In the parlor, the mantel is the chief architectural element. It is richly executed with reeded pilasters, oval panels surrounded with beads and rope and guilloche moldings. The chair rail and trim is decorated with reeding and gouge work carving. Original marbling exists on the baseboard and graining on the door. An original brass lock remains on the latter. Two windows on the north and south walls light the room.

Vertical beaded boards form the walls of the stair hall. The stair ascends in the south end of the hall and its detailing is identical to that of the nearby Janvier House; that is, the balustrade is composed of a turned newel and very delicately turned balusters. A half-rail with pilasters is repeated on the wall, and there is a paneled area enclosing the cellar stair. An original pegboard exists on the west wall.

A secondary stair in the northeast corner of the dining room is enclosed along the same plane as the closet and overmantel. The fireplace has a good mantel with plaster overmantel surrounded by crossetted trim. Only one window now lights the dining room, as a leanto was later added on the south side. The vertical boards of the hall wall are exposed on this side. There is a simple two piece chair rail, trim and baseboard.

The leanto room is finished in very plain order, having chair rail and trim similar to the dining room. Its fireplace is rounded at the corners and lacks its mantel. This room has recently been used as a kitchen. Very low ceilings exist in both rooms of the kitchen wing, though only the east room has exposed ceiling joists. Between the two rooms an enclosed stair ascends to the second story. All of the trim appears to date from the same time the walls were raised, in the latter half of the 19th century.

From evidence in the basement, which is under the living room

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#7-continued

and hall, and the crawl space above the leanto, the original house appears to have been a hall and parlor building approximately thirty feet long, one and one-half stories tall with knee walls and a pent eave at the level of the floor. The kitchen may have existed at this time as a low, one and one-half story structure. This building appears to have been constructed during the third quarter of the 18th century.

The first major alteration seems to have occured around 1810, when the west end of the house was extended about ten feet to create a stair hall and living room. At this time the ceiling height was raised in the latter two rooms about one foot above the dining room ceiling. All woodwork appears to date from this alteration with the exception of some walls and doors in the dining room chamber. The porches also seem to date from this time, although the south porch does not appear to have been as long as the house.

Shortly after 1810, the leanto was added, being built over a short portion of the south porch.

Sometime prior to 1879, the kitchen wing was heightened to its present height. Subsequently, the porches and pantry were added.

The development of this structure is similar to that which occured in Sotterley, St. Mary's County.

### #8-continued

Camelsworthmore which includes Shepherd's Delight. This property was devised to the Reverend Sewell Stavely Hepburn (earlier spelled Hepbron) in 1882. Apparently during his ownership the property was called Shepherd's Delight, the name by which it is still known. The property has remained in the Hepburn family until the present day.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Patent SDA/248; Will DD7/466; Kent County Deeds JS27/226 and DD2/455; Hall of Records.

<sup>2</sup>Tax Assessment of 1783, Kent County, District 4, Lands, p.l, and Property, p.l; and Kent County Inventory 10/467; Hall of Records.

<sup>3</sup>Aubrey C. Land, "The Planters of Colonial Maryland", <u>Maryland</u> Historical Magazine, LXVII (Spring, 1972), 116.

<sup>4</sup>Kent County Deeds EF7/383, BC3/170, and TW1/216; Hall of Records. <sup>5</sup>Kent County Deed JNG3/45, and Wills JCS1/6,

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Shepherd's Delight Kent County

**CONTINUATION SHEET** 

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SECONDARY SOURCES

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Forman, Henry Chandlee. Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland.

Easton, Maryland: By the Author, 1934. Hanson, George A. Old Kent: The Eastern Shore The Eastern Shore of Maryland. Reprint of Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1967. 1876 ed.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point on Maryland Route 292 one mile south of its intersection with Maryland Route 298, then running west 14 1/2 degrees south for 1600 feet, then running south 17 1/2 degrees east for 1800 feet, then east eleven degrees north for 1600 feet to Route 292, then with said road in a straight line 1800 feet to the point of beginning, containing 62 acres, more or less.

pmj 2/23/76