

PH0672611

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	JUN 29 1976

1. NAME

COMMON:
Manokin Historic District

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Manokin Settlement ******

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: *See of Princess Anne at*
North and south banks of Manokin River from mouth approximately 1 3/4 mile upstream

CITY OR TOWN: Princess Anne *MD* CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: First

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

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	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
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
(See continuation sheet No. 1)

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Somerset County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

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

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

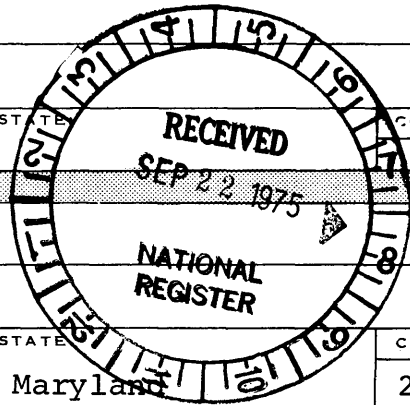
TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey (Almodington)

DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:
Washington D.C. 11



STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Somerset

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Both architecturally and geographically, the Manokin Settlement forms a unique and visually interesting area of great historical significance on the Lower Eastern Shore. These structures, Clifton, More and Case It, Almodington, Elmwood and Homewood are most strongly linked together visually, culturally, and historically, although architecturally they span the period between the early eighteenth through the mid-twentieth centuries.

Clifton is the southernmost property in the historic district, dates from c. 1790, and is located on the south bank of the Manokin River, southwest of Clifton Point, off Revels Neck Road. Originally, the house was an imposing three bay, with projecting center bay, two-and-one-half story brick structure with enclosed gable end chimneys with frame wings. The present one and two story brick wings date from c. 1940 and house service facilities, baths and small bedrooms. All sash and external woodwork is of this period. The front porch, first and second story doors, transoms, sidelights and fanlight and the facade are Georgian Revival in design. The sash is 9/9 on the first floor and 9/6 on the second floor. A fine wooden cornice surrounds the house. The roof is slate and is not original. All wooden lintles have keystones and are of a fine proportion. The main house sits on a high basement with exterior entrances.

Both sides of the house are two bays deep with relatively large attic story windows in the gable end of 2/4 sash. A large two story screened porch runs the entire length of the rear elevation.

The great hall on the first floor runs across the west end of the house with two large rooms off the hall to the east. Both of these rooms have fine period style mantel-pieces, cornices, wainscoting, chair rails, baseboards, dog-eared window and door architrave mouldings and recessed china and book cupboards. Each of Clifton's floors has the same basic configuration. It is said that the recessed china cupboard in the dining room was copied from those removed from Almodington now in the Metropolitan Museum. Gib doors connect these rooms to the rear porch. The stair which ascends to the third floor level was reconstructed c. 1940 using much of the original material. This stair possesses high risers with square pencil balusters. All flooring is screwed and doweled modern dark stained white pine.

There are two large bedchambers on the second floor with period style mantels, cornices, chair rails, baseboards and marble hearths. The second floor hall has been altered by the addition of a bath on the north end of the hall. The third floor consists of a central hall with three large rooms distinguished by chair rails.

The facade of the house sits on a slight rise overlooking much wooded land while the rear elevation sits flatly on the land and surveys the Manokin River. Many large trees are found in the house yard.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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 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>Maryland</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | <u>history</u> |
| <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

The Manokin Historic District is an extant historic environment with associations dating from the 1660's through the depression. Situated on the mouth of the Manokin River, this waterway unites the district. For until the advent of the automobile, the broad rivers were the thoroughfares of the tidewater. The vista from the district to the Chesapeake Bay or from the mouth upstream remains unchangeable from the seventeenth century.

Architecturally the district offers a mix of styles from the oldest building Almodington to the twentieth century alterations to Holly Hurst (More and Case It). Almodington with its high, narrow proportions and glazed headers represents Early Georgian design. Elmwood is a study in architectural history in itself. A late eighteenth century wing telescopes into a more refined and transitional connector and finally to a well executed Federal townhouse. The interior especially the woodwork floor plan and general room dimensions place the wing at Elmwood among the State's best Federal buildings. Homewood, a deceptively plain building, interprets the Federal into Greek Revival in space and woodwork. The presence of Greek Revival is unusual on the Eastern Shore and indicative of the continued sophistication of the Elzey family who built Almodington which originally contained paneling now in the Metropolitan and the Federal wing of Elmwood.

Clifton began as a turn of the nineteenth century brick farm house. (Probably the work of the Elzey's again.) Its architectural significance derives from the alteration of the structure in the twentieth century to fit a colonial ideal. The present five part composition, for example, indicates a conscious effort to emulate eighteenth century precedent when additional space was required. Period woodwork remains indicating a sympathy for original fabric. Clifton's alterations are minor compared with the rebuilding of Holly Hurst (More and Case It) after a fire. The unusual 6/1 sash reveal a dicotomy between the early, even seventeenth century style, form of the walls and the twentieth century treatment of window and door openings and the interior.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

PRIMARY SOURCES:

Hall of Records:

- Somerset County Land and Probate Records.
- Federal Direct Tax Assessments of 1798 for Somerset County.
- Rent Rolls.
- Debt Books.
- Assessment of 1783.
- Archives of Maryland. (See continuation sheet No. 11)

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	38° 10' 31"	75° 48' 07"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	38° 09' 59"	75° 46' 10"				
SE	38° 08' 14"	75° 46' 38"				
SW	38° 08' 14"	75° 48' 26"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2,700 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:
Mrs. Norman Taylor (See continuation sheet No. 11)

ORGANIZATION: Somerset County Committee of Maryland Historical/Trust DATE: 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:
Elmwood

CITY OR TOWN: Princess Anne 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 Pearce
 Title: State Historic Preservation Officer
 Date: 9/15/75

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

Tom Shultz
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/29/76

ATTEST:
Charles H. Hays
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 6.18.76

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet) #1

STATE	Maryland	
COUNTY	Somerset	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
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Manokin Historic District

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY, continued

Mrs. W. C. Benedict
Almodington
Princess Anne, Maryland

Mrs. Norman Taylor
Elmwood
Princess Anne, Maryland

Mrs. W. Samuel Carpenter III
(Clifton)
Brookdale Farm
Greenville, Delaware

Mr. and Mrs. Freedom Ainsworth
Holly Hurst
Princess Anne, Maryland

Mrs. Herbert C. Vanginhoven
Route 3
Locust Point Road
Princess Anne, Maryland



7. DESCRIPTION, continued

More and Case It, or Holly Hurst, lies on the northern bank of the Manokin River and occupies the easternmost site in the Manokin Settlement. The house is of late Georgian design with seventeenth century design antecedents. Being three bays wide with central entrance doorway front and rear, the house is a two-and-one-half story Flemish bond brick mass with a simple parapet gable end roof. The house is two bays in depth.

All of the window sash was replaced after a devastating early twentieth century fire which gutted the interior of the structure. Presently, the window sash is 6/1. The window openings are capped by segmental arches composed of two rows of headers. The second story central window opening on the facade has been made much smaller and placed off center. Window openings on the rear elevation have been enlarged and made into double windows. There are two small 2/2 windows in the gable ends.

Enclosed brick chimneys grace each end of the structure.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Manokin Historic District

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

The most outstanding architectural feature of More and Case It is the roof line. The gable is terminated at each end of the house with a stepped parapet wall, reminiscent of medieval English forms. Willows and boxwoods dominate the grounds.

Almodington lies on the north bank of the Manokin River immediately west of Goose Point and across the bend from Elmwood. The structure sits on flat river land with several large magnolias, deciduous trees and English hollies in the yard. Almodington consists of three basic masses; the main house which dates from the second quarter of the eighteenth century; the rear wing, the interior of which dates from the early second quarter of the twentieth century; and the east kitchen and service wing, which dates from the mid-twentieth century.

This is a large two-and-one-half story Flemish bond brick structure, five bays wide and one room deep with a steeply pitched A-roof. All of the brick headers are glazed a deep blue. A water-table of simple square protruding bricks surround the house. Enclosed chimneys grace the gable ends of the main house and the rear wing. The first floor windows are 16/16 sash and the second floor sash are 12/12. All of the windows on the facade have flat arches of rubbed brick while those on the rear have segmental arches of alternating bands of glazed headers and plain stretchers. The center bay door of the facade has a simple Georgian or portico of Ionic pilasters holding up a flat dentilled cornice. There are no windows on the ends of the house. A three course brick band moulding surrounds the house between the first and second story levels and on the ends between the second story and gable levels. A large 16/12 stair hall window cuts through the belt course at the rear of the house.

Almodington has a central hall plan with a large room on either side of the hall. Entrances to this hall are located in the central bays of the facade and rear elevation. Much of the woodwork in the house dates from the second quarter of the twentieth century due to the fact that the paneling in the great hall was removed to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York c. 1930. Most of the woodwork in the stair hall is original. The stair closet paneling, balusters, banister, and stair ends are exceptionally fine examples of period woodwork. The second floor consists of a large bedroom, stair hall, and two small bedrooms. The large bedroom has two chimney closets. Much of the original woodwork remains on the second floor.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet) #3

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Somerset	
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(Number all entries)

Manokin Historic District

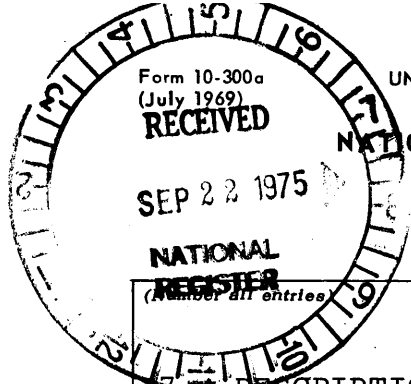
7. DESCRIPTION, continued

Across the bend of the Manokin River lies Elmwood, possibly the most architecturally complex structure in the Manokin Settlement and one of the most refined and elegant of the Federal period mansions in Somerset County. Elmwood is composed of three main sections reminiscent of a telescope house plan in design. The main house, constructed c. 1800-1815, is a large square two-and-one-half story Flemish bond brick structure, three bays wide and three bays deep. The house sits on a high basement. A pedimented gable graces the facade and a heavy wooden cornice surrounds the structure. The facade is the east elevation of the house with a center bay doorway which is surmounted by a Federal overlight with diamond shaped muntins. This doorway is reached by a set of flanking stairs. The sash is 9/6 on the first floor and 6/6 on the second floor. Large flat wooden arches surmount each window opening with projecting keystones. The pediment contains two quarter round windows. The originals are in the attic. The north and south elevations are identical, both having entrance doors in the eastern bay which enter into the great stair hall. Small iron balconies c. 1840 serve to close off these entrances from exterior access. The three dormers found on the south elevation date from the restoration of the 1940's. The west elevation is dominated by two large enclosed brick chimneys. Two asymmetrical windows are found on the second and attic story levels of the west elevation, suggesting that the larger section of the house is the latest addition, which is confirmed by the interior architectural details.

Elmwood telescopes at the rear into a smaller two-and-one-half story, three bay deep brick wing which further telescopes into a smaller two-and-one-half story, two bay deep wood and brick kitchen wing. Each of these wings has an end chimney.

The three bay central brick wing has 6/6 sash with arches similar to those of the main wing. A large two story porch dominates the southern elevation. A double door is found in the eastern most bay of this elevation. The gable end brick chimney appears to have been narrowed in the early nineteenth century to allow it to draw more efficiently.

The kitchen wing appears to have been the earliest section of Elmwood. The present entrance is located on the eastern elevation next to the fireplace. This two bay wide, two bay deep wing has 6/6 sash.



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Manokin Historic District

DESCRIPTION, continued

The interior of the kitchen wing has been altered. The floor is brick and has been raised at least one foot in height since its construction. The fireplace is large and possesses its original iron cooking crane with a sawtooth and dot ornamental pattern on the arm. A quarter turn stair with winders is found in the northeast corner of the one room deep wing. The sourgum banister appears to be original. The second floor has been altered for bedrooms and the original gallery in the hallway has disappeared.

Elmwood's central section, c. 1790, has three entrances, the principal entrance being on the south facade in the eastern bay. This fine Federal double door with three light transom enters into a small hallway with a quarter turn stair with winders to the north, the entrance door to the main section to the east, another door leading to a chamber under the stair on the north, and a door leading into the dining room to the west. The dining room has a Federal mantel, beaded chair rail, baseboard, window architraves and china press north of the fireplace. It appears that a larger fireplace opening once existed where the present fireplace is now. The second floor has been altered and now serves as sleeping space.

The main section of Elmwood appears to have been finished over a period of at least ten years due to the increasingly fine woodwork encountered in different portions of the house. Each of the floors is divided roughly along the same lines consisting of two rooms and a hall. The ground floor consists of a library, drawing room and the great hallway. Both the library and drawing room have mantles, chair rails, baseboards, plaster cornices, paneled window reveals, window and door architraves and plaster walls, however, the drawing room possesses much more elaborate Federal woodwork than the library and is better executed. A double door connects the library and drawing room. The doors in the drawing room have fine reeded architraves. All of the flooring is of matched heart-pine boards.

An exceptionally fine stairhall dominates the eastern wing of Elmwood. Five entrance doors lead into the hallway, three from the exterior and one each for the library and drawing room. The stair has sophisticated carved stair end brackets. An unusual wooden Masonic Order seal is prominently displayed on the outer face of the first floor stair landing. The second floor has two bedrooms with closets, hall and bath, while the third floor is divided into two rooms and a hall.

Homewood lies on Goose Creek just north of Almodington,

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(Continuation Sheet) #5

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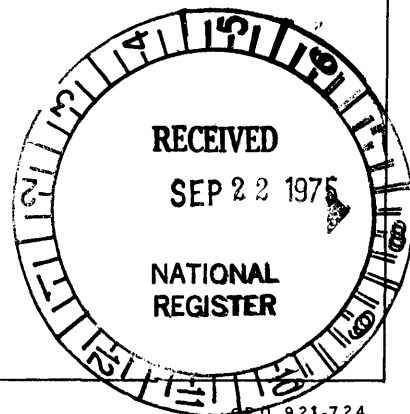
Manokin Historic District

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

It is a large frame two-and-one-half story weatherboard structure, three bays wide and three bays deep with a pedimented gable on the facade. The west elevation has the doorway in the center bay. The structure appears to be c. 1830. The door has a four light transom with a simple Doric order architrave. First story windows are 9/6, while second story windows are 6/6. Located in the gable end is a small round window with muntins radiating from the center. The ends of each of these radiating muntins is connected by a swag. A two-story porch dominates the south elevation. The east elevation has two windows each on the first and second floors with a single window at the attic level symmetrically placed in the gable end. Two enclosed brick chimneys rise inside this wall. The north elevation has been obliterated by the addition of a c. 1870 frame tenant house which was moved to its present location about 1940 to serve as a kitchen and service wing.

While the exterior of Homewood appears Federal in design, the interior is very late transitional Federal-Greek Revival. All of the interior woodwork is original and is a fine example of its period. The first floor plan is similar to that of Elmwood. The west entrance door leads into a large hall which leads into two parlors. The interior doors have heavily ribbed architraves. A delicate free-standing two-and-one-half story stair dominates the hall. The rooms on the first floor have heavy chair rails, baseboards and Greek Revival mantels. A tremendous double hanging door connects the dining and living rooms. Random width pine floors are found throughout the house. The upstairs bedrooms are more Federal in character with six panel doors. These rooms have plain baseboards and no chair rail.

Homewood is the latest structure included in the Manokin Settlement, however it is one of the most interesting architecturally. The transitional nature of Homewood lends great variety to the other structures in the historic district.



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Manokin Historic District

8. SIGNIFICANCE, continued

Although diverse architecturally a strong present and historic relationship exists between the extant buildings. Historically the structures are united by a tangled web of family interconnections. The continuous use of the properties for agriculture adds to the continuity of the intertwined historic associations. The Manokin is unchanged from the seventeenth century.

The natural geographic advantages of the Manokin attracted human settlement long before 1634. Indians occupied what is now Stewart's Neck on Kings Creek (upstream from Clifton). Early white travelers recorded the existence of the Indian village although its precise location and archaeological value is not yet known. In 1670 John Westbrook at the age of 90 described trading activities there in the 1620's.

The 1660's saw the arrival of the first free black family in Maryland. Anthony and Mary Johnson crossed the Chesapeake Bay from Virginia to settle on Double Purchase as "headrights" of the pantentee, Randall Revell. The Johnsons later moved to Wicomico Creek. However, the continuum of black history is evidenced by the presence of St. James' AME Church which exists within the district.

Lord Baltimore took a special interest in the settlement of the Manokin. During the mid-seventeenth century the neighboring government in Jamestown hoped to incorporate this section of the Eastern Shore into Virginia. In 1661, in order to assure the Calvert family claim, Lord Baltimore commissioned three men--John Elzey, Randall Revell and Edmund Scarburgh--to establish a seat of government at what is now Revells' Neck. Within a year Randall Revell reported that "fifty titheable persons" occupied the jurisdiction. By 1668 it had attained the name of Somerton and the status of county seat for Somerset County.

To accompany the seat of government an Anglican church was established (1664-65). In 1705 the parish received title to the acre of ground on which their church stood from Arnold Elzey. A very low tide reveals the foundation of this structure between Elmwood and Almodington which remained in use until the second decade of the eighteenth century.

Of the three original commissioners, two, Revell and Elzey, remained and established plantations as well as a long train of descendants. The third Scarburgh retained his allegiance to Virginia. As commissioner of the Manokin, he agitated to unite the area with Virginia. He verbally attacked Elzey and Revell; he tried to incite the normally

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Manokin Historic District

8. SIGNIFICANCE, continued

peaceful Manokin Indians against the white residents; and made himself generally disagreeable. By 1664 Lord Baltimore had withdrawn his appointment to the commission. With Scarburg's replacement by William Bozman the story of the Manokin settlement begins. Bozman's entry sets the stage for the intertwining of lives and land which provides the unifying force for the historic district.

These three men acting as Baltimore's commissioners established a government, church (see above) and permanent settlement in the entire lower Shore. Each was an immigrant to Maryland from England via Virginia. In the mid-1660's Bozman, Elzey, and Revell received patents for More and Case It, Almodington, and Double Purchase respectively, the land encompassed by the historic district.

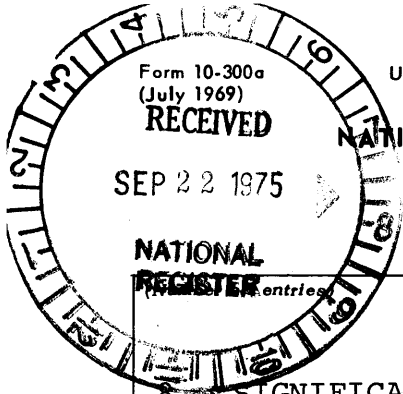
Randall Revell, as his descendants would point out, belonged to a Norman family who participated in the Crusades (c. 1260). Born in England in 1613 he had emigrated to Northampton County by 1633. After a brief residence in St. Mary's County, he returned to Virginia where he served in the assembly and as a justice of the peace. His reason for coming to Maryland (1661) is attributed to the Act Against Quakers which caused migration from Virginia.

John Elzey's family can boast no Norman heritage. Elzey first appears in the colonies in 1655-56 as a resident of Northampton County. His natural ability caused his selection to serve as a commissioner of the Manokin settlement.

The third member of the trio, William Bozman (also spelled Bosman), was the first of the three to settle in the New World, possibly as early as 1627. Records indicate his presence in Northampton County in 1649. His appointment to the Commission (1663) did not inhibit his appointment by the Governor of Virginia to pursue the deletion of Manokin from Maryland. Somerset Countians and their historian Clayton Torrence do not view this activity as "treasonous" as Scarburgh's early participation in a similar scheme.

A study of the five houses, Clifton (Double Purchase), Holly Hurst (More and Case It), Almodington, Elmwood and Homewood revolves around and through the descendents of the three commissioners. The connecting link is one remarkable woman named Sarah. In 1663 she was the wife of John Elzey at the time he received the 1,000 acre patent for Almodington.

(See continuation sheet No. 8)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Manokin Historic District

8. SIGNIFICANCE, continued

Their children established the Elzeys in Somerset County at Almodington.

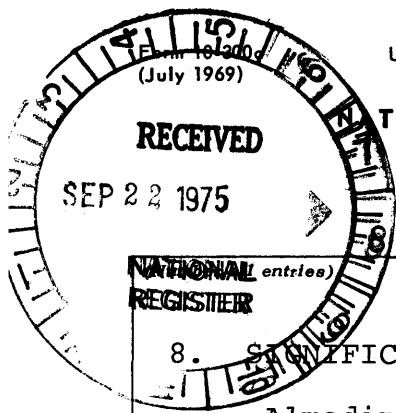
After John Elzey's death, he married Charles Ballard. Their daughter Sarah Ballard married Randall Revell II the son and heir of Randall Revell, the patentee of Double Purchase.

Their daughter, or Sarah Elzey Ballard's granddaughter, inherited Double Purchase and married William Bozman II the son of the patentee and owner of More and Case It. The Bozman family retained Double Purchase for three generations before a Bozman daughter married an Elzey. (James Elzey whose brother, Arnold Elzey II, owned Almodington.) The present form of Clifton (c. 1800) was probably the work of the Elzeys.

Two generations of Elzeys lived at Double Purchase until 1819 when it was sold to Edward H. C. Wilson. The transaction resembled a trade more than a sale because the Elzeys of Clifton bought Wilson's tract More and Case It. This transaction completed the Elzey's circuit of the three properties.

Although Elzeys lived on Double Purchase and More and Case It, Almodington held their principal allegiance. John Elzey (d. 1665) received a patent for 1,000 acres in 1663. The property descended to his son Arnold Elzey (1665-1733), the earliest possible builder of the house. Sarah Elzey (d. 1753), bearing the name of Sarah Elzey Ballard (see above) the common ancestor on the two families who remained unmarried, inherited Almodington. Her nephew Arnold Elzey became the fourth owner. His will specifically mentions a dwelling plantation which he left to his daughter, a third Sarah Elzey.

In 1778 Sarah Elzey married William Jones which saddled him with the responsibility of managing a considerable estate. The Federal Direct Tax Assessment of 1798 for Somerset County illustrates the extent of the development of Ammodington. Jones lived in a two story brick dwelling 52 feet by 22 feet with a two story brick addition 26 feet by 20 feet. Included in the outbuildings were a cook house, a colonade [sic], smoke house, milk house, stable, and carriage house. Jones managed several other properties for his wife's minor siblings. A one story brick house leased by Levin Ballard is believed to be an original wing of Elmwood. Other tenant houses under his management included three frame one-story houses, and two one story brick dwellings. The total value of these properties was \$4,800.



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8. SIGNIFICANCE, continued

Almodington remained intact through 1825 when the Jones descendants divided it into three parts. Sally Elzey Jones became the owner of Almodington. Arnold Elzey Jones received Elmwood where he was already living. (The Federal style two-story section most likely predated the partition.) Elizabeth Jones Waters received Homewood where she had previously been living, most probably in the extant building. The boundaries of the 1825 partition were resurveyed in 1860 and remain intact today.

Elmwood, as it stands today, was the work of Arnold Elzey Jones (1785-1834). Tradition maintains that the Federal wing required ten years to construct. The proportions and detailing of this section make it one of the most outstanding Federal buildings on the lower Shore. The Federal style and those which followed appear infrequently on the Eastern Shore.

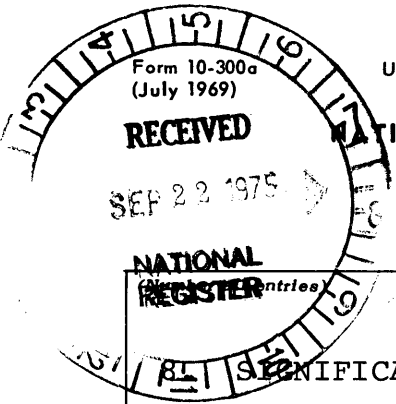
Jones' son Arnold Elzey Jones became a prominent General in the Confederate Army. He is the most noted nineteenth century figure associated with Elmwood and Almodington where he was born. (He dropped his more common surname for Elzey.)

Elmwood belonged to Elzey descendants through the mid twentieth century. In 1947 Mr. and Mrs. Norman Taylor rescued the house, modernized its amenities and made the few necessary restorations (e.g., restoring the front steps).

Norman Taylor (1883-1967) was an eminent botanist whose extensive knowledge is evidenced at Elmwood notably in the row of English hollies flanking the house. Taylor wrote several books including Taylor's Encyclopedia of Gardening, Flight From Reality, and Plant Drugs that Changed the World. The Depression restoration theme connects the houses as do the inter family ties. The Manokin Historic District exemplifies the restoration techniques of the 1930's and 1940's some of which have come under adverse scrutiny by the "experts" of this generation. Almodington, Holly Hurst, and Clifton each were colonialized.

Almodington remained in the hands of the Elzey descendants until 1878. The twentieth century saw a succession of owners. Tragedy struck in c. 1930 (from a Maryland point of view) when the Metropolitan Museum of Art bought the outstanding paneling from the house. The subsequent restoration added paneling appropriate to the eighteenth century date but not of equal quality to the Almodington Room in New York.

Homewood left the Elzey family at the end of the nineteenth century. It post dates the partition as is



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SIGNIFICANCE, continued

evidenced by the Greek Revival elements, especially in the interior. Since few examples of Greek Revival exist in the Eastern Shore, Homewood's period details hold more significance than they might in other regions.

The history of More and Case It, or Holly Hurst, begins in 1663 with the patent to William Bozman, commissioner of the Manokin settlement. Bozman died a year later leaving his "dwelling plantation" to his son John Bozman. The present structure is altered, too, to be this seventeenth century dwelling. Although the form of the exterior walls--specifically the projection of the gable and walls above the roof--recalls English vernacular architecture. Therefore, it is possible that the elements of the shape of the present house have their origins in the seventeenth century.

John Bozman followed his father's example serving Somerset County as a Justice of the Peace, sheriff and delegate. More and Case It passed to Bozman's son and then to his daughter-in-law Elizabeth Bozman. In 1818 Edward H. C. Wilson bought the property--a year before his trade with James Elzey for Double Purchase (Clifton). During the 1820's the property became the subject of a suit concerning non-payment of the mortgage. The delinquent debtor was Levin Ballard a relative of the Elzeys, Revells and Bozmans and probably the same person who was a tenant on Almodington in 1798.

From 1849 to the present Holly Hurst had fourteen owners. Frank Field named it during his residence 1906-1916. In 1914 the house suffered severe fire damage which the subsequent owners repaired. The exterior window placement, brick bonding and the interior reflect the contemporary taste of the second quarter of this century when historic preservation was in its infancy and Colonial Williamsburg was only beginning to take shape. The present owners are Freedom H. Ainsworth and Norma R. Ainsworth.

The story of Double Purchase subsequent to the 1819 swap consists of a long series of land transactions and diminishing acreage. Sometime in the late nineteenth century the name changed to Clifton. Between 1903 and 1913 William Pendleton reassembled the bits and pieces into one tract. Three of the persons from whom he bought land were Bozmans which connects the descendants of the first William Bozman to Double Purchase. Following Pendleton's ownership Mary Wooten Carpenter and Edmund N. Carpenter II bought Clifton. Mrs. Carpenter was a descendant of Randall Revell the original patentee of Double Purchase.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES, continued

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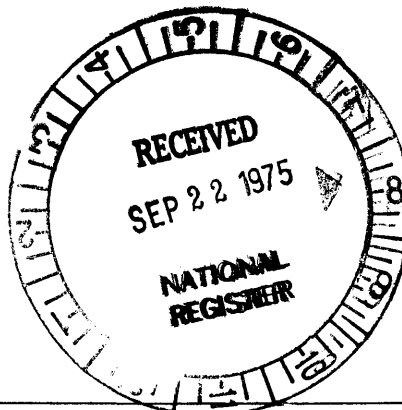
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11. FORM PREPARED BY, continued

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The boundaries of the 2700 acres of the Manokin Historic District follow the original patent boundaries of the five main houses in the district. The rest of this acreage is used for agricultural purposes; the other structures present are 19th and 20th century dwellings architecturally insignificant to this nomination.

The site of St. James A.M.E. Church and its extant and well kept graveyard are included in this nomination for several reasons. It stands on one of these early patents. It was an integral part of the life of the black community in this area, the area in Maryland first settled by free blacks.

Attached please find labeled contact sheets of some of the outbuildings in the Manokin district.

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Verbal Boundary Description.

Beginning at the tip of Raccoon Point (Confluence of Back Creek and the Manokin River), follow the north bank of Back Creek east 2600 feet, then northwest 1600 feet to a dirt road, then following said road northeast 3000 feet to a dirt road (Clifton property), then following this dirt road northwest to the south shore of the Manokin River, from this point moving northeast to a point on the north shore of the River 2000 feet east of "More and Case It" where a creek enters the River, following said creek north to a dirt road, then following said road north 1 1/4 miles, then northwest 1800 feet to the east branch of Goose Creek and following it southeast to the fork in the creek, then following the west branch of the creek northwest to route 627 and following said road southwest to Champ Road, then following Champ Road south for 1400 feet, leaving road, east 400 feet then south 4400 feet then south southeast 5200 feet then by a straight line southeast to the point of beginning, containing 2700 acres.