William C. Manlove 1st Commissioner District

Nelson K. Bolender, President 2nd Commissioner District

Harry A. Hepbron 3rd Commissioner District

Phyllis Kilby, Vice-President 4th Commissioner District

Mark H. Guns 5th Commissioner District



## CECIL COUNTY GOVERNMENT

129 East Main Street Elkton, MD 21921

Alfred C. Wein, Jr. County Administrator 410-996-5203

Board of County Commissioners 107 North Street, Elkton, MD 21921 410-996-5201 Fax: 410-996-1014

> Cecil County Information 410-996-5200 410-658-4041

7 May 2003

Steven Warren & Beth Fisher Jones 836 Pond Neck Road Earleville, Maryland 21919

RE: Nomination for Historic Designation - Upper Wickwire

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Jones:

I am pleased to inform you that the Board of County Commissioners of Cecil County, at our meeting of 6 May 2003, voted to designate the house, pumphouse and shed on the property as historic structures.

The Board finds that the property is of historical note as it was once part of a 900 acre tract known as Larrimore's Addition, there have been agricultural activities conducted on the property since the late 17th century, and that the house was erected in 1857. The Board also finds that the property is of architectural note in that the house is an example of the Italinate style with two porches facing east and west, a low hipped roof with tin cover, and the original shutters.

Thank you for your efforts to preserve Cecil County's historical heritage.

Sincerely,

Nelson K. Bolender, President Board of County Commissioners

NKB/ess

CC:

Eric S. Sennstrom, AICP - Director, PZP&R

# CECIL COUNTY REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATION FORM

Please refer to separate detailed instructions for completing this form.

## Definition

"Property" refers to the entire geographic area being nominated. It may be an individual building, site, structure or object; or it may be a district consisting of numerous buildings, sites, structures or objects. An area consisting of several types of structures with different owners is also a property that is a district.

Nomination Information: Please Print or Type
1. a) Name of property: Upper Wickwire
b) Estimated age or historic dates: 1858
2. Address of property: 836 Pond Neck Road
3. Tax Map: 56 Parcel Number: 126
4. Name, address, and telephone number of all property owners of record within the District:  Steven Warren & Beth Fisher Jones
036 Pond Neek Ka,
Eorleville MD 21919 410.275.8240
(Attach separate sheet, if necessary)
5. Description of property boundaries of the District:  DESIGNATION SOUGHT FOR EXISTING DUELLING, PUMPLIOUSE & SHED ONLY
6. Attach a map showing the boundaries and location of the site or District.
<ol> <li>Please provide photographs or slides showing the important structures or features of the property.</li> </ol>
Please check all designations that apply to this nomination. Add descriptive information for those checked. Is or has this property, in any part, been listed or nominated to:
Cecil County Historic Designation: Upper Wickwise is a fine exemple
Maryland Register of Historic Properties: Upper Wickwine is representative of upper eartern share, head of the Boy, from houses that were once fore
Maryland Register of Historic Properties: Upper Wickerne is representative of upper contains share, head of the Boys form houses that were once none for prevalent and underscores the upward seanonine made lity of the regions mereural.

owners, please attach a	separate sheet providing th	s nomination. If there are more than two the information indicated.
A. Print Name: Stev	en Warren Jones  Lucren Jones	Date: $\frac{03}{2}/06/\frac{3}{02}$
Signature:	a Warren Jones	
B Print Name: Bett	Fisher Jones	Date: 77/06/08
Signature:	F. Joses	
12. Name, address and telep		omitting application:
Name: Steven W.		
Address: 836 Pen	d Neck Kd	
Eorleville	4D 21919	
Telephone Numbers:	(Home) 410 275 B248 (Work)	Hours Available: exercings Hours Available:
E-mail address: FS4	IRINS @ DOL.	
Date Ufictor	03/06/03	
Official Use Only		
Application Number:	HD	C Hearing Date:
Date received:	PC CC	Hearing Date:
Date of Public Notice: Election District:		Hearing Date:
Zoning District:		
Land Use District:		
Tax Map: Parcel(s)		

	National Register of Historic Places:
	Maryland or Cecil Inventory of Historic Properties? The q the few remining places
<del></del>	_ A Preservation Easement by any historic organization? Identify
	Are there any other easements or rights of way affecting the District? Explain
	Other, explain
9. Plea	ase check all of the following criteria that apply to the property.
A.	Historical or Archeological
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	The property has character, interest, or value as part of the development or cultural characteristics of the County, State, or Nation.  The property is the site of a significant County, State, or National historic event.  The property is identified with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the County, State, or Nation.
В. д	Architectural
f 7 a 7	The property has distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, type, method of construction or use of indigenous materials. The property represents the work of a master builder, designer, architect or landscape rehitect whose work influenced the development of the County, State, or Nation. The property has elements of design, detailing, materials or craftsmanship that ender it architecturally significant.
<u>√</u> T e	The property has elements that make it structurally or architecturally innovative.  The property has a unique location or singular physical characteristic that makes it an stablished or familiar usual feature.  The property has character as a particularly fine or unique example of a utilitarian
S	tructure, with a high level of integrity or architectural significance.  the property has significant interior features. List

10. Attach a statement describing the property, its historical significance, and the reasons why it should be designated to the Cecil County Register of Historic Places. At the end of the statement, please list your sources of information, including bibliographic references.

The reasons why Upper Wickwire should be nominated to the Cecil County Register of Historic Places are due to this property's mid-18<sup>th</sup> century vernacular and the surrounding area's agricultural roots.

### The Setting

Situated approximately 100 yards (south) off the "public road called Pond's Neck Road" and one mile west of Stemmer's Run and 3/4 mile east of the head of the Chesapeake Bay, overlooking Turkey Point, is where Upper Wickwire sits. The area's farming tradition dates back to the mid-1600s. Much of the land was known by the 18<sup>th</sup> century as Larrimore's Addition and Larrimore's Neck Enlarged. Both tracts amounted about, at one point in time to 909 acres. Currently, open space buffers Upper Wickwire today and affords the visitor or passerby a glimpse of what parts of Pond Neck resembled in the past.

#### The Structure

This wooden framed, rural Italianate, structure was built for John H. Hessey (1819-1907) circa 1857. It epitomizes the agricultural prosperity of the area, which represented the wealth generated from the farming of such crops as peaches, corn and tobacco. The Cecil County Records indicated that on 15 October 1853 a 160 acre parcel of land for which the building referred to now as Upper Wickwire, would later be situated, was transfer by Charles H. Morgan and his wife Rebecca A. Morgan of Cecil Co. to John H. Hessey for \$2,800.<sup>2</sup> This land was bequeathed to Charles by his father William, a forebear of James Morgan who lived nearly a century earlier. The Morgans came to own land previously held by the Larrimores.

Upper Wickwire faces north and has two porches that face east and west. It has a red low hipped, standing seam, tin roof. Its clapboards are grey and in the future the original shutters will be re-

hung using as much as possible of the original hardware. The east porch, built along the entire length of the ell has a flat tin roof as does the west porch, which faces Turkey Point.

There are no building records of Upper Wickwire, however the 1858 Cecil Co. Tax Assessment records indicated Hessey owned a wood framed house, 182 acres which according to the 1870 was 160 acres. Hessey acquired small tracts west of Cecilton which were consolidated into a farm of 297 by the time of his death on 29 January 1907.<sup>3</sup>

### References

- 1. Debt Book records and the list of Inhabitants of Cecil County, 1649 1774
- 2. Cecil County Record of Deeds (HHM-2-435/436)
- 3. Cecil County Register of Wills

### **Additional Sources**

A Historical Thesis of Upper Wickwire Farm, Circa 1860 by Nancy Weidel (1988)





