

Wolford Farmhouse  
AL-111-C-132  
Valley Road  
vicinity of Cumberland  
ca.1900

This farmhouse was built around 1900 by Charles Wolford. The Wolford family is one of the older families of Allegany County. Charles Wolford was born in 1875 at Bottle Run, seven miles east of Cumberland. Both of his brothers were prominent merchants of Cumberland, Charles Wolford, father, Jacob, was an engineer at the Bottle Run tannery, and his grandfather, Samuel, was one of the substantial farmers of Allegany County. One of the interesting features of this house is its hip-roofed wrap-around veranda with seven Roman doric columns. The house retains much of its original appearance, and is a reminder of one of the older, well-known families of the Cumberland area.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  
Wolford Farmhouse

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
Valley Road near Mason-Dixon Line

CITY, TOWN  
Cumberland

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE  
Maryland

COUNTY  
Allegany

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

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

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME  
Eldridge J. Grove

Telephone #: 722-4465

STREET & NUMBER  
Valley Road

CITY, TOWN  
Cumberland

STATE, zip code  
Maryland 21502

VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 194  
Folio #: 488

STREET & NUMBER  
30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN  
Cumberland,

STATE  
Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

AL-III-C-132

|  |                                       |   |   |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>CONDITION</b>                         |                                       | <b>CHECK ONE</b>                              | <b>CHECK ONE</b>                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT       | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS        | <input 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**

Wolford Farmhouse is located on the western side of Valley Road near the Mason-Dixon Line.

This house is an "L" shaped, two story, three bays wide frame house covered with asbestos shingles. It rests on a high foundation of random ashlar stone with a plain water table. The gable flank roof is covered with ribbed tin. Eaves consist of a box cornice, soffit, and frieze. One original corbeled brick chimney and one replaced cinderblock chimney are located inside end.

The main entrance in the center of the southeastern facade has a one light transom. One over one light and three over one light windows are nailed with plain frames. A shed roofed frame addition is in the corner of the "L". A hip roofed wrap around veranda with seven roman doric columns is on the northeast and southeast.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

| 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING            | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |
| <input checked="" 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                      ca. 1900                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT                      Charles Wolford

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Wolford Farmhouse is situated in north central Allegany County near the Mason-Dixon Line. It was built ca. 1900 by Charles Wolford. <sup>(1)</sup>

The Wolford family is described by Thomas and Williams in their History of Allegany County, Maryland as "one of the old families of Allegany County." <sup>(2)</sup> Both of Charles Wolford's brothers are the subjects of biographical sketches in the Thomas and Williams book. John C. Wolford, <sup>(3)</sup> the oldest brother, was in the "furniture and undertaking business." The other brother, Virgil L. Wolford, <sup>(4)</sup> was the proprietor of the leading cigar and tobacco store in Cumberland.

Charles Wolford was born in 1875 at Bottle Run, seven miles east of Cumberland and was the youngest of five children. His parents were Jacob and Mary Wolford, and his grandfather, Samuel Wolford, was described as "one of the substantial farmers of Allegany County." <sup>(5)</sup> Jacob Wolford "was engineer for many years at the Bottle Run tannery, but late in life retired from Bottle Run to Cumberland." <sup>(6)</sup> Charles Wolford <sup>(7)</sup> is listed in both of his brothers' sketches as a farmer of Allegany County.

The house retains much of its original appearance and is a reminder of one of the older, well-known families of the Cumberland area in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

- (1) Interview with Mrs. Eldridge J. Grove, 9/18/79.
- (2) James W. Thomas and T.J.C. Williams, History of Allegany County (Philadelphia: L.R. Titsworth and Company), p. 1128.
- (3) Ibid
- (4) Ibid, p. 1198
- (5) Ibid
- (6) Ibid
- (7) Ibid

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Thomas, James W. and Williams, T.J.C. History of Allegany County. Philadelphia: L.R. Titworth and Co., 1923.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 4.7 Acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

| STATE | COUNTY |
|-------|--------|
|       |        |
|       |        |

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE David A. Dorsey, Historic Sites Coordinator  
Shara Goodwin, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION Allegany County Historic Sites Survey DATE 4/5/79

STREET & NUMBER County Office Building, 3 Pershing Street TELEPHONE 777-5944

CITY OR TOWN Cumberland, STATE Maryland 21502

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

INVENTORY NO: 99

DATE: 9/18

AL-111-C-132

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

NAME OF PROPERTY: Wolford Farm House

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: west side Valley Rd. <sup>last house before state line</sup>

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: 140° SE

NAME OF OWNER: ES GROVE Eldridge J. Grove

ADDRESS: 194/488 Valley Rd. Cumb.

ph.# 722-4465

STORIES: 1( ) 2() 3( ) 4( ) 5( ) 6( ) BAYS: 1( ) 2( ) 3() 4( ) 5( ) 6( ) 7( ) ( )

WINGS, ADDITIONS: shed in corner L

DWELLING SHAPE: (square, cross, rectangular) L

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- () FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)
- ( ) BRICK: Bond type - common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
- ( ) STONE: Bond type - rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
- ( ) LOG
- () OTHER: Coverings asbestos shingles

WALL FEATURES: Belt Course, Pilasters, Others

FOUNDATIONS: High, Low, Brick, Stone random ashlar

WATER TABLE: None, Plain, Beveled, Moulded Brick

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1() 2/2( ) 6/6() 9/6( ) 9/9( ) other( ) plain frame  
pegged( ) nailed( ) wide( ) narrow( ) mitred( ) pediment( )

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: center 3 light plywood door  
HARDWARE: original( ) replaced()  
FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN  
Paneled, Vertical, Horizontal Boards

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: (crown, fascia, soffit, bed)  
original() replaced( ) rafter ends, modillions, dentils, frieze, architrave

ROOF: Gable front, Gable flank, Hip, RIBBED Shed, Mansard, Gambrel, Flat, Dormers #  
MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin asphalt; original( ) replaced( )

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed hip gable( ) Doric columns around veranda  
one replaced w/ concrete block

CHIMNEYS: Number: 2 Brick() Stone( ) Corbeled( ) original( ) replaced( )  
Location: Flush end( ) Inside end() Outside end( ) Central( ) Interior( )

ARCHES: Door & Windows: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

COMMENTS:

USE: \_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNIFICANCE: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE CONSTRUCTED: ca 1900  
CONDITION: \_\_\_\_\_

*Built by Charles Wolford*





AL-111-C-132  
WOLFORD FARMHOUSE  
VALLEY RD CUMBERLAND  
DAVID A. DORSEY

9/18/78

EAST



AL-111-C-132

WOLFORD FARMHOUSE  
VALLEY RD CUMBERLAND

DAVID A. DORSEY

9/18/78

West