

Spring Garden
South side of Western Run
Rd. west of Cuba Rd.
Not accessible
1807

Built by the patentee's son, George Ensor in 1807, Spring Garden is very similar to the house built by the patentee's other son, John, next door. Spring Garden recieved extensive, but superficial restyling late in the nineteenth century, and the mid-twentieth century alterations recall, but do not duplicate, original detailing. There are several interesting and early outbuildings remaining. One is the circular ice house, recalling other ice and spring houses in the region, and probably built to the philosophy of architects such as Orson S. Fowler who advocated polygonal buildings in his A Home For All, 1853.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Spring Garden

AND/OR COMMON

Robert E. Lewis House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

South side of Western Run Road, west of Cuba Road

CITY, TOWN

Cockeysville

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Lewis

Telephone #: 472-2248

STREET & NUMBER

Western Run Road

CITY, TOWN

Cockeysville

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21030

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore County Courthouse

Liber #: 3454

Folio #: 548

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

B 7-81

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

Spring Garden is a two storey house of rubble stone, three bays in length, its principal facade to the north; it has a lower two storey rubble stone west wing, three irregular bays in length. A large stone high in the north wall, between the middle and the east window of the second storey, is inscribed:

1807

Extensive interior alterations late in the nineteenth century, and a subsequent twentieth century restoration of the interior to a simple Georgian mode, have removed some original details.

In sequence, the west wing was added to the main house, probably at the very early date, if not as part of the same general construction effort. It has no east wall, the west wall of the main house serving that function.

Roofs are gabled and flush chimneys of stone rise from each of the three gable ends. The wide wood cornice of the main house extends up the rakes in a wide overhang, with bold horizontal returns at the eaves. The cornice of the west wing is probably in its original form, with mouldings returning against the masonry at the ends and with barge boards flat against the masonry of the gables.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

Continuation Sheet #1

Question #7 continued

The principal entrance is centered in the north front; opposite it in the south facade, a tall 6/6 window has replaced the door, but the stone sill remains beneath the window sill. First storey windows in the north front of the main house are 9/9, extending nearly to the floor inside. Other windows are 6/6, and all have louvred blinds, except the first storey windows in the wing which have paneled shutters, dating from the twentieth century. Small windows flanking the end chimneys light the attic storeys, and two casemented dormers light the attic storey of the wing through the southerly roof slope.

A one storey hipped-roof porch with simple square columns extends across the north front of the main house, and a cantilevered hood shelters the north door of the wing, centered on its north facade. A one storey shed-roofed porch extends across the south front of the west wing. An entrance to the basement is in the middle bay of the main section's south front; the natural slope in grade allows the basement to be nearly at grade in that area.

Internally, the central hall, with its open staircase extending to the second floor, is flanked by a single room on either side. The west wing, a few steps below the main house, contains two rooms and a back stair; the westerly room had a large kitchen fireplace, now closed. Most interior woodwork dates from the mid-twentieth century but a few moulded architraves with turned corner blocks, dating from the late nineteenth century alteration,

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

Continuation Sheet #2

Question #7 continued

remain in the second storey. The mantel in the east room of the first floor consists of fluted pilasters supporting a frieze with fluting and a moulded shelf cornice, the bed-moulding of which is carved with diagonal reeding.

In the cellar, beneath the main house's west room, is a large fireplace, now reduced in size, once fitted for cooking. Log joists support the first floor structure.

A one storey stone dairy house stands immediately south of the west wing, its entrance through its east gable end. The dairy room, depressed below grade by a short flight of steps, retains water troughs around its perimeter.

Immediately east of the dairy house is the well, with a wooden pump on top of it.

Immediately south of the dairy house is a log smoke house with a belfry on its gabled roof. The entrance is through its east gable end; the east end and south side are sheathed in vertical board-and-batten siding, while the whitewashed logs are exposed on the other two sides.

West of the dairy and smoke houses is a round ice house, its deep stone walls extending just a few feet above grade. A tall dormer in the conical roof, facing west, contains the door.

(See Continuation Sheet #3)

Continuation Sheet #3

Question #7 continued

East of the house is a large framed bank barn on a stone foundation. The stone east and west end walls of the lower storey extend beyond the lower south wall, which contains numerous doors and windows opening into the stalls. The tall framed upper storey, accessible through doors in its north side, extends beyond the lower south wall; its structural members are circular sawn, joined in the traditional fashion with pegged mortise and tenon joints. False pedimented windows were once painted or applied on its ends, recalling the 6/6 window with flanking wood louvres, the whole topped by an applied shallow pediment, high in the gable. Centered on the roof is a small, square, louvred cupola with a pyramidal roof.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 1807 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The land upon which the dwelling of Spring Garden was built, was part of a patent known as "Spring Garden Addition" granted to George Ensor in 1796. George Ensor's sons, George and John, after their father's death, divided the patent in 1806 by deed of partition into the two farms, Spring Garden and Spring Garden's Addition (q.v.).

The house of Spring Garden was built in 1807 by George Ensor or George and remained essentially in the Ensor family until 1941 when the father of the present owner bought it. The dwelling itself is strikingly similar to Spring Garden's Addition (q.v.) next door.

This substantial house of a prosperous practical farmer received an extensive, but superficial restyling late in the nineteenth century by J. Carroll Ensor. However, according to the present owner, the woodwork in the west wing is original, as are the mantel in the library and the floors on the second storey.

(See Continuation Sheet #4)

Continuation Sheet #4

Question #8 continued

The mid-twentieth alterations recall but do not duplicate original detailing. The reliable datestone serves as a standard for dating the forms of undated houses in the region.

The several very interesting early outbuildings recall the era when many such buildings were required to support rural life. The circular ice house is especially interesting, relating to many ice and spring houses of a round or polygonal shape in this region, perhaps built to the philosophy of such architects as Orson S. Fowler who advocated polygonal buildings in his A Home For All, 1853.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Telephone interview with Robert E. Lewis, July 28, 1976.

Patent of Spring Gardens Addition: Patent Book IC #L folio 143.
Hall of Records, Annapolis.

(See Continuation Sheet #5)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 99.75 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Catharine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr. AIA

ORGANIZATION

For Valleys Historical District Project

DATE

September 1976

STREET & NUMBER

1114 Bellemore Road

TELEPHONE

323-3798

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

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

Continuation Sheet #5

Question #9 continued

Deed of Partition between John and George Ensor: WG 90/225 (1806).

Will of George Ensor of George: Will Book 3 folio 38 (1865).