

Form 10-445  
(5/62)

1. STATE **Maryland**  
 COUNTY **Baltimore**  
 TOWN **Lutherville** VICINITY  
 STREET NO. **215 Lincoln Avenue at**  
**the corner of Clark Avenue**  
 ORIGINAL OWNER **Francis Corkran**  
 ORIGINAL USE **residence**  
 PRESENT OWNER **Guy Shipley**  
 PRESENT USE **residence**  
 WALL CONSTRUCTION **stone**  
 NO. OF STORIES **1½**

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
INVENTORY

2. NAME **The COCKRAN HOUSE**  
 DATE OR PERIOD **1857**  
 STYLE **Downing-Vaux Villa**  
 ARCHITECT  
 BUILDER **F. Corkran**

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

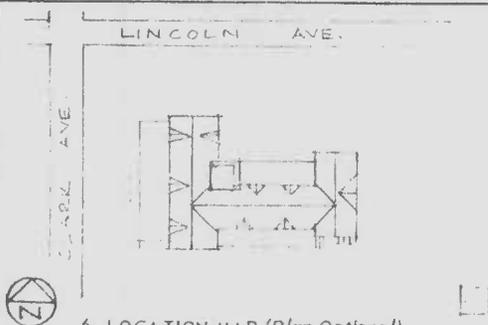
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC **NO**

The Shipley House is surely one of the most significant in Lutherville. In general character it offers an interesting example of the Gothic Revival merging with an Italianate country house that originally was located outside the 1855 boundaries of the village.

The plan is an irregular 'H' shape. At the first floor the entry hall with the main staircase separates the original dining room and parlour which occupy the west wing. The center section--primarily one large room--provides access to the rooms of the east wing. The house was a duplex until about 1965 and the original use of many rooms is obscured by modern partitions and millwork. The dining room and parlour have lost their mantelpieces and there is scant evidence of even chimney breasts in other rooms on the ground floor. Probably the only surviving interior work of particular architectural interest is the staircase with handsome heavy turned balusters and newels set with a moulded rail and scrolled step ends. Also of note are sections of original trim with plain, simple moulding.

The exterior is characterized by the fine random ashlar stonework, though recently repointed, which extends into various gables with decorative verge boards at the second floor level. The four main gables of the front and rear of the side wings typically have two bays with flat lentiled windows at the first floor with six over six sash and at the second floor level semi-circular arched lentils over windows set with

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered **NO**



6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)  
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.



Rodd L. Wheaton

Sept. 1971

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

## ShIPLEY House, 215 Lincoln Avenue, Sheet 2

radial muntined upper sash and six light lower sash. Above these windows, also within the gables, there are round windows which light the attic space. The side wings have smaller, secondary gables set at right angles to the main roof ridges. Over the three bay front entrance facade facing Clark Avenue three gables, each with an arched window, are set over the front door with its side lights and transom filled with colored, leaded glass which is flanked by elongated sash with six over nine lights. Opposite this facade, on the same west wing which projects toward Lincoln Avenue, a similar elongated window lighting the parlour has an additional arched second floor window set into a typical single, steep gable not quite the height of the main roof ridge. All these secondary gables, including the large gable of the east facade with its two flat headed, six over six sash set over a solid first floor level, have decorative verge boards in the form of loops flattened in what appears to be a chevron pattern. This verge detailing was also used on the main gables of the end wings. The effect of the verges on the secondary, single window gables suggests a decidedly Gothic Revival form.

The central section of the house is typified with the use of front and back dormers which break the main eaves. These dormers, which have semi-circular arched windows with regular six over six sash without the use of radial muntins. Gables, the same pitch as the main gables, are over the dormers and are decorated with inverted crocket motif verge boards contrasting to the larger detail of the other gables.

The windows, except for those of the small secondary gables of the flanking wings and the central section's dormers, typically have louvered blinds, which at the second floor level are cut to fit the arched openings.

Porches were originally set along the front and back of the center section between the wings. Facing Lincoln Avenue a rebuilt low roof is supported on round Tuscan type columns set on a modern brick terrace onto which opens a simple doorway set with a typical flat lintel. This porch is constructed at the west against what appears to be the base of a tower, two stories high, breaking the eaves and built into the angle of the wings. At the first floor level a door opens onto the covered terrace with a four over four sash window set above and similar sash at each floor level of the other face. This vestibule tower has decorative shingles on a mansard roof form and is set onto the slopes of the main gables.

## ShIPLEY House, 215 Lincoln Avenue, Sheet 3

The opposite rear facade had a similar porch, now removed, though ghosted on the wall, and is replaced by a modern brick terrace with iron railings. Opening onto this porch are two elongated windows with casements, four lights to each leaf, and a doorway and a six over six sash window similar to that of the opposite facade.

Facing Clark Avenue, at the original main front entrance there also was a porch that still retains its wooden floor structure; though, it has lost its roof. This porch is in a badly deteriorated condition and is slated to be removed and replaced with yet another brick terrace, an unfortunate decision.

At the rear of the east wing's gable there is a particularly interesting door hood over a back entry stoop. It has jig-saw cut verge boards forming an ogee arch. Two small corbeled cap chimneys are set at the ridges of the wing roofs with their modern asbestos shingles.

At the rear of the house there is a delightful, highly architectural small outbuilding with board and batten siding. The gable verge boards are cut in scallops and are set with finials at each end of the ridge. Above the gable collar beam level closely spaced vertical members fill the space under the overhang. A pendant is set under each. The entry door in the gable end is flanked by small windows.





