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BA-373

Perry Fuller House
North side of Belfast Rd.
near Priceville Rd.
Not accessible
1801

Located on parts of three tracts of land owned by Abraham Ensor in the early 19th century, this house is closely related to Master's Care (q.v.) Together with Belfast Farm, the three were informally referred to as Ensors' Manor.

The 1801 datestone is a reliable one, but the initials "W.E." are puzzling since no record has been found of a person with those initials, except for a William Ensor who resided in Baltimore City.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Perry W. Fuller House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

North side of Belfast Road near Priceville Road

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sparks

— VICINITY OF

8

STATE

COUNTY

Maryland

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

Perry W. Fuller

Telephone #: 472-2894

STREET & NUMBER

Belfast Road

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

Sparks

— VICINITY OF

Maryland, 21152

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore County Courthouse

Liber #: 3877

Folio #: 412

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Avenue

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Towson

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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

The Fuller House is a stone house, two and one-half stories in height, five bays in length (expressed as three on the rear facade), its principal facade to the south. A lower two story stone kitchen wing, two bays in length, is north of the easterly bays of the main house. Above the door in the central bay of the north facade is a stone inscribed:

W. E. 1801

a date corroborated by the general form, design and details of this house. A carved date, appearing to be 1018 is on a quoin of the southeast corner, partially obscured by a downspout. It is said to indicate 10 1801, meaning the 10th month of 1801, the Society of Friends' method of indicating a date. The unbonded joints in stonework between the main house and the kitchen wing indicate the latter to be an addition, confirmed by the fact of its covering a former window in the north facade's second story, and further admissibly by the existence of a fireplace scaled for cooking operations in the cellar of the main house. The details of the kitchen wing, including the large fireplace there fitted with a crane for cooking, indicate it to be an early addition, probably prior to 1850.

Windows, generally, are 6/6 with narrow beaded frames, all probably dating from no earlier than the middle of the nineteenth century and probably coeval with the enlarged principal entrance of ca. 1875 centered on the south front: (modern) double doors with sidelights and transom set within paneled jambs, the panels, tall ones above shorter ones, with bolection mouldings; all panels have arched tops with hollow corners at the bottom; panels in the sidelights, below the lock rail, match and the original door(s) to this feature undoubtedly matched as well. A stuccoed panel beneath the central window of the second story suggests that it was a door, probably opening to a flat porch roof, coeval with the entrance feature and the windows.

See Continuation Sheet # 1

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"/> 10-1499	<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 1801 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house is the sturdy dwelling of a prosperous but unpretentious farmer. It stands high on a hill on the north side of Belfast Road and has a long view to the south.

Located on parts of three tracts of land owned by Abraham Ensor in the early nineteenth century, the house is closely related to Master's Care (q.v.) and, together with the Marshall Smith house (q.v.); they were informally referred to as Ensors' Manor.

The 1801 datestone is a valuable guide to dating other houses in the district. The initials "W.E." and family tradition indicate that it was built for a William Ensor; however, there is no record in deeds or wills of such a person and the only clue to his identity is a will of a William Ensor who owned land in Baltimore town during the first quarter of the nineteenth century.

The property, amounting to over two hundred acres, was assessed to Abraham Ensor in 1818 and again in 1823. It was inherited by his son, Luke B. Ensor, around 1835 and remained in the family until 1914 when sold to a relative, Lawrence Ensor, who had lived nearby but was descended from another line. The present owners have sold much of the land around the house, retaining for their use only about three and a half acres.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview and notes from Mrs. Perry Fuller
 Baltimore County Tax Assessments: 1818, 1823
 Patent Books: IB #C folio 472 and IB #N folio 92.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3½ 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 # 1

Question # 7 Description (Continued)

Three twentieth century dormers in the southerly roof slope light the attic story, originally lit by only the small windows which flank the flush end chimneys. The gabled roof, covered with standing seam tin, extends beyond the gables in a moderate rake overhang which rises above bold eave returns, all probably dating from the ca. 1875 alteration.

Access to the cellar from outside is through a gabled roof stone entry at the southwest corner, entering beside the kitchen fireplace.

Internally, a central hall is flanked by a single room on each side. The principal stair rises, with an intermediate landing, to the upper storys. Its moulded rail is supported by a square newel and square balusters, all above a closed stringer, details consistent with the very early nineteenth century date carved on this house. Remaining original two plane architraves at the north and cellar door, the latter beneath the principal staircase, have backbands of cyma-recta with astrigal and first story window jambs are paneled with flat panels defined by moulded stiles and rails. Walls generally have been furred out and refinished, thus covering chair railing or its evidence. An original door (to the cellar stair) is of six fully raised panels.

A cupboard built in north of the east chimney breast has an upper and lower pair of paneled doors, apparently an original feature but the early 19th century mantel nearby was installed in recent years.

A secondary stair, enclosed and winding, rises east of the kitchen wing chimney.

In the cellar which extends under the main house, a wide fireplace is in the westerly chimney; log joists of this space are coated with black grease indicating years of cooking having taken place here. No fireplace is in the easterly chimney.

A spring house, a grainery and the remains of an early barn comprise the remaining supporting buildings, all standing west of the dwelling.

See Continuation Sheet # 2

Continuation Sheet # 2

Question #7 Description (Continued)

The stone spring house is two stories in height, its north end set into the hillside. The easterly roof is of a lower pitch than the westerly, extending generously beyond the stone structure to shelter the areaway and doorways to the dairy room below. Originally cantilevered, the joists have been cut away and the roof overhang is supported by log columns.

The two story grainery consists of buttressed stone (north and south) side walls supporting the second floor, roof and frame (east and west) end walls. Access to the second floor is by a partial flight of stone steps which rise against the east face of the southeast buttress; a few wooden steps between the stone steps and a cantilevered section of the second floor are missing. The east gable of the roof cantilevers beyond the end wall to shelter the stair and balcony.

The barn was a typical bank barn; a stone ground story in the hillside with doors and windows to livestock stalls facing south; east and west walls extend south of the south wall to support the upper story which cantilevered over and sheltered the lower. The entire upper story is missing and the remaining ground story walls are covered with a gabled roof.



BA-373

PERRY FULLER HOUSE

Jim Welton

1978

