

030.428519 85

3A-433

Ensor's Spring Garden
west side of Thornton Mill Road
Not accessible
Date: 1805-1820

Ensor's Spring Garden is a sturdy two story stone traditional house built around 1805-1820 by Daniel Bosley and stayed in the Bosley family until 1910. The westerly room was the original kitchen and contains a large fireplace fitted with a crane for cooking. Other original trim includes chair railing, window and door architraves, beaded panel window jambs and six-panel doors with moulded stiles and rails. Early outbuildings include a stone spring house, a stone ice house, a frame corn crib and a frame bank barn. It is a typical example of the self-supporting way of life during the early 19th century.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Ensor's Spring Garden

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER West side of Thornton Mill Road near Western Road

CITY, TOWN Sparks VICINITY OF 8 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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 Leonel K. Ensor Telephone #: 472-2135

STREET & NUMBER Spring Garden

CITY, TOWN Sparks VICINITY OF Maryland STATE, zip code 21152

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Baltimore County Courthouse

Liber #: 5058 Folio #: 360

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

BA-438

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| 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 story stone house, five bays in length (expressed as three on the rear or north side) with a slightly lower two story stone wing, three bays in length, added in sequence, after the main house was built, probably as a part of the same building effort. The general form and details of this house indicate a construction date of ca. 1805-1820.

Entrances to the main house are in the central bay of each elevation, and secondary entrances into each of the wing's two rooms are side by side within the central bay of the wing's south elevation. A one story hipped roof porch extends across all but the end bays of the south elevation of both sections; a small cantilevered hood shelters the north door to the main house. A small gabled cellar entrance extends from the east end, close to the southeast corner.

Windows are 6/6, with narrow frames and formerly with shutters or blinds, now missing. The central second story window of the main house's north facade is slightly lower than flanking windows, indicating the stair landing within.

The gabled roofs of both sections rise above wood cornices, probably original, which include the classical bed moulding, soffit and fascia, and crown moulding. Originally self-returned at their ends, as indicated by existing conditions at the east end of the wing's cornice, they have been extended to allow heavy eave returns and rake cornices at the three gable ends. Brick chimneys rise flush with each of the three gable ends, flanked by small four-light attic windows.

Internally a central hall, containing the principal staircase rising, with intermediate landings, to the third floor, is flanked by a single room on each side, each with a fireplace. The easterly partition of the hall has been removed in recent years, combining the hall and east room as a single space. Two rooms are in the wing; an enclosed staircase rises against the dividing partition, within the easterly room of the wing. The westerly room was the original kitchen and it contains a large (recently rebuilt)

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"/> 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 / Unknown BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located on the west side of Thornton Mill Road near Western Road, this property is known as Spring Garden. (Another Spring Garden in this district is the Robert Lewis home on Western Run Road near Cuba Road. To add to the confusion, both properties have belonged to the Ensor family, although the Lewis farm is believed to be the original).¹

The house herein described stands on lands called Spring Garden, part of Wheeler's Spot and part of Conclusion. Since there are no patents to be found for Spring Garden, it is possible that this may have been part of a very large tract whose title has been lost, or that it received its name at a later date. Nevertheless, the deed may be traced to a patent called Wheeler's Garden Spot, assigned to John Wheeler in 1746.² Benjamin Wheeler Sr. was taxed for 180 acres known as Spring Garden and seven old frame and log houses in the Federal Direct Tax of 1798.

In 1801, Daniel Bosley and his wife, Mary Ensor Bosley, bought this property and presumably erected the house soon thereafter. The 1818 Baltimore County tax indicated that the land was improved and that Bosley had added several new tracts to his holdings. The Bosley family was a large and prominent family in Baltimore County. At the time of Daniel Bosley's death in 1854, all this real estate was divided between three of his sons, and Spring Garden was assigned to John E. Bosley. Not until 1910 did this house pass from the Bosleys' ownership. In that year, it was bought by William L. Ensor, who, according to the present owner was related by marriage to the Bosley family.

1. See National Registry, Nomination of Robert Lewis' Spring Garden.
 2. Patent Certificate #1713. Hall of Records, Annapolis, Md.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Patent Certificate # 1713. Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.
 Federal Direct Tax Assessment of 1798.
 Baltimore County Taxes: 1818, 1823.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 97 A ±

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)

fireplace fitted with a crane for cooking. An enclosed winding stair formerly rose north of the kitchen chimney to the room above, formerly without communication to the remainder of the second floor.

The rail of the principal stair is round and it is supported by a plain square newel; a half-rail reflects it on the opposite wall. The east room's mantel includes pilasters supporting a frieze with arched panel end and central blocks. Other original trim includes the chair railing, the window and door architraves with their cyma-reversa with astrigal backband, the beaded panel window jambs and the six-panel doors with their moulded stiles and rails and partially raised panel. Lathing is hand split, fastened with cut nails. Rafters of both sections of this house meet at the roof ridge with a half lapped joint, pegged.

Early outbuildings include a spring house, an ice house, a corn crib and a barn. The stone spring house has a gable roof which extends over its north wall to shelter its entrance; small louvered windows are in other walls. The stone ice house is approximately square, covered with a framed gable roof; internally its corners are broadly rounded. The long narrow framed corn crib, standing on stone foundation, has vertical slats covering all its walls. The frame bank barn stands on a stone walled ground story; the taller upper loft story cantilevers over the south wall of the stalls within. The circular-sawn timbers are joined with mortise and tenon joints, pegged, indicating it to be a late 19th or early 20th century replacement of the original.