

c. 1815

BA 1709  
Fenwick House  
511 Garrison Forest Rd.  
Owings Mills, Md.  
private

The Fenwick House with its log construction is one of the oldest structures in the district. Log structures were once quite common but they are now the rarest form of surviving early construction and two-storey examples such as this house, originally rare, are today rarer still.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

BA 1709  
x-867.840  
y-577.310

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

MAGI # 0317092304

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

FENWICK HOUSE

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

511 Garrison Forest Road

Second

CITY, TOWN

Owings Mills

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

**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 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

Mrs. G. Bernard Fenwick, Jr.

Telephone #: 363-6457

STREET & NUMBER

511 Garrison Forest Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Owings Mills

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE zip code  
Maryland 21117

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore County Courts Bldg.

Liber #: 5239

Folio #: 231

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

BA-1709

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 FENWICK HOUSE is a two storey house, three bays in length, its thick walls in both storeys suggesting log as the material of its construction. Log construction basically is undatable and the datable elements of its modestly-sophisticated finish indicate the ca. 1815-1830 period. Exterior walls are covered with horizontal siding in wide random widths. The central entrance with its four-light transom, the 12/8 windows flanking it and the 8/8 windows of the second storey all have narrow frames acting as weatherboard stops, their exposed edge half-round in profile. Lights are 8 by 10 inches, the traditional size from the eighteenth century to the early twentieth, and the muntins are relatively wide indicating their very early date. A chimney rises internally at the south gable, flanked in the attic by four light casements.

The original section of this house measures approximately 18 by 31½ feet.

A one-storey porch shelters the principal or west front, closely oriented to the road. The gabled roof extends beyond the end walls with a modest rake overhang and the cornices are simple, void of mouldings.

A lower two storey, three bay frame wing extends to the north and another extends to the east, the latter separated from the original section by a two-storey hyphen.

Within are two rooms in each storey, the northerly being the larger. Many original details have been removed but an original chair rail remains in portions of both storeys, a base have a cyma-reversa under a small cavetto at its bottom edge, a cap having a quirked cyma-reversa on its forward edge. Many windows are trimmed with a beaded architrave having a backband with cyma-reversa under a small cavetto, matching the chair rail. The original stair probably rose enclosed and winding within the northwest corner, beside a north chimney, now missing. In the attic original floorboards are fastened with handmade nails and the hewn tapered rafters are joined at the ridge with a pegged mortise-and-tenon joint.

Handmade wrought-iron rose-headed nails are driven at random locations into the rafters. Much of the shingle lath is original; it and the rafters suggest the original existence of a north chimney.

A small cellar extends beneath the central part of the house, accessible by a hatch within the front porch. The first floor joists are of log.

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 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The FENWICK HOUSE, its finish dating at least from ca. 1815-1830, its log construction possibly earlier, is one of the oldest structures in the district. Log structures were once quite common but they are now the rarest form of surviving early construction and two-storey examples, originally rare, are today rarer still.

DE SEARCH - Baltimore County Land Records, County Courts Bldg., Towson, Md.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Liber</u>	<u>Folio</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grantee</u>
1971	5239	2231	4.86	Andre W. and Nancy P. Brewster	Eleanor B. Fenwick
1954	2472	752	1.14	Charles L. & Mary R. Ingram	Andre Brewster & wife Andre Brewster & wife Thomas W. Russell
1949	1757	129	3.72	Thomas W. Russell & wife	
1948	1655	350	3.72	S. Yeardley Smith	
1936	969	440	3.72	John Buckman, widower	S. Yeardley Smith & Doris B., wife.
				(blacksmith shop and all equipment and debris pertaining thereto to be completely removed by 8/15/36)	
1857	19	412		Benjamin R. Buckman et al	John Buckman at \$500 per acre *

\* John died 1864 and bequeathed all his property to his widow Anna Jane for life. In the Office of the Register of Wills for Baltimore County in Wills Liber JLR 2/351, Anna Jane died 1905, the will of John leaving all his property to Anna Jane's three children: John, George W. and Susan. George died 1929 intestate, Susan died 1932 intestate, leaving all the property to brother John who sold it in 1936 to S. Yeardley Smith, etc.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Baltimore County Land Records, Baltimore County Courts Bldg., Towson, Md.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

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

James T. Wollon, Jr., A.I.A./Basil Wagner, Jr., Research Historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Valleys Planning Council

828-7807

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

212 Washington Avenue

April 6, 1980

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Towson,

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





BA 1709

Fenwick Hse.

Gar. For. Rd.

GSVHD

JTW

2-19-80

Md. Hist. Tr.

from NW

*Use*

*1/9/80*