

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

File 141

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Wards Knowledge

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Wards Hill Road

CITY, TOWN

Warwick

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Cecil

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mary*Ellen Davis/ Frances W. Hearne Telephone #: 755-6849

STREET & NUMBER

Wards Hill Road

CITY, TOWN

Warwick

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 21913

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Liber #: WAS 26

Folio #: 42

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

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"/> MOVED	DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED			
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Ward's Knowledge c. 1830-1860 is a combination of a couple different building periods that remain partially obscure due to inaccessible areas. The main frame block presently faces south with the primary gable running east/west. The farm has an entrance on both Ward's Hill Road and the Cecilton-Warwick Road.

The main (3 story hall/parlor) block rests on a granite foundation and is sheathed with weatherboard. The medium sloped roof is covered with seamed tin. Extending to the north is a 2 story 4 bay by 1 room frame weatherboard structure with a low pitched seamed tin roof. Attached to the north gable end is a two story two bay by one room kitchen with wide and uneven weatherboard siding. It is not exactly known which of the first two structures was built first but family tradition documents the front structure being added in the 1850-1860's.

The main (south) facade is three stories high with a western entrance and symmetrical fenestration. The 6/6 sash have a thumb and astragal backband with beaded corner. Two panel shutters flank the first floor windows and louvered flank the second and third. The western bay entrance has an elaborate framing with multi-pane sidelights with panels below and a delicately divisioned transom. The lights are flanked by simple pilasters and molded architrave. The frieze above that is plain but the cornice has a row of dentils and molded cap. The same dentiled cornice is repeated along the eave of the main facade. A single story porch stretches across the three bays and is supported by elaborate cast iron work. The designs in the supports and railings are lyre forms and grapevine designs run horizontally and fill the corners. Baskets of fruit with birds on each side are located on the front edge of the roof.

The east gable end has a 6/6 sash on each floor and a 3/3 attic light. The end is finished with a plain bargeboard and brick chimney rises out of the gable end with a slightly corbelled cap.

The west gable end is similar except there is no chimney pile. The west side of the middle section is four bays across with an entrance in the third bay from the south. The four panel door has a three light transom. The trim is plain around both the door and the 6/6 sash windows. Two panel shutters flank the first floor windows and louvered flank the second. A boxed cornice stretches across with short continuations on the gable ends. There is a shift in the foundation that would point to the two different stages of construction. The foundation drops with the rear section and a slight seam appears between the sections. A large covered stack rises out of the center section and supplies flues for two rooms. A flat roof porch covers the northern three bays and is supported by square chamfered posts with molded bases and capitals. Scrolled brackets decorate the corners between posts and roof.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEULUGY-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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Davis House or Ward's Knowledge is an extremely significant farm in the first election district. The farm was owned by the present residents ancestor in 1877, a J. W. Davis, and the property has remained in the family's hands to this day. Architecturally, the house is not an uncommon form and similar front blocks can be found, especially in Chesapeake City. The rear section wheather earlier or not is not an unusual addition and neither is the kitchen wing. The house as a whole, however, becomes extremely significant since it is tied together with an abundance of ^{19th CENTURY} interesting details. Exterior porches tie the structure together and interiors are found throughout the house. The illusionary wall paper in the front room to the grained woodwork in the rear section typify the mid nineteenth century. The staircase is not unique but assuredly uncommon.

1860 Tax 637 A Frame House	\$ 12,890
1862 Tax 637 A Frame House	\$ 12,890
1867 Tax 650 A Frame House	\$ 30,550
1877 Tax 650 A Frame Dwelling	\$ 30,850

DIFFER IN TAX ASSESSMENT FROM 1862 TO 1867
 MAY INDICATE ADDITION OF FRONT SECTION OR
 CONSTRUCTION OF ENTIRE HOUSE.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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

Paul B. Touart Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Cecil County Committee

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN

Elkton

DATE

10/16/79

TELEPHONE

398-7568

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

CF-57

The east side of this four bay section has been extended, first with a single story hip roof porch with seamed tin roof and chamfered posts, and then with an enclosed second floor three ~~bays~~^{bays} by one room section over the southern three bays. A pantry was added on the first floor so a one bay by one bay section was enclosed in the third bay from the south. A continuous scrolled fascia decorates the space between each supportive post. The porch covers the first floor of the kitchen which is a two bay by one room structure with steeper tin roof and uneven weatherboards. The east side has a porch entrance and an adjacent 6/6 sash window. There are two 3/6 sash on the second floor with louvered shutters. The north end is plain and it appears as if an earlier opening has been closed-up. The west side has two 9/6 sash with paneled shutters on the first floor and two 3/6 lights with louvered shutters. The moldings on all the kitchen windows is plain except for the two western second floor sash which have the same molding as the front block. (Thumb and astragal).

Interior decorations dates from the second to third quarter of the 19th century. The front hall contains the main stair that rises two flights with a continuous oval handrail. The main newel and supportive posts have a long bulbous turning and flat oval cap. The newel like the turned balusters, are made of birds-eye maple. The handrail rises sharply before each landing and makes a 1/4 turn before the next post.

The front parlor mantel has a fluted surround with bulls-eye corner blocks, a plain frieze and molded shelf. The shelf breaks out at the ends. The window and door surrounds are identical to the fire-place surround. Some extra decorations have been done in this room that are not readily found. The floor is striped with an alternating dark and light stain. The walls have been papered with a unusual design that imitates wainscoting, chair rail and cornice.

The second floor bedroom has a similar mantel only on a smaller scale. A closet with a four panel door is located to the south of the mantel. An entry into the back bedroom was cut through the north wall and a few steps descend into the back bedroom. Likewise on the north hall wall a door was cut through but carpenters avoided cutting the girt and boxed it in so the threshold of the door is uneven with the floor. It is raised about 12 inches. The third floor of the main block is finished.

The south room of the middle section is presently used as a living room. It has widely molded door and window surrounds with splayed window reveals and panels below each opening. The slate mantel has an arched opening and concave molded spandrels. A molded volute supports a curved mantel shelf.

The present dining room is on the other side of an enclosed back stair. All the woodwork including the mantel has been grained. The door and window surround change to a stylized crossett. The four panel doors have porcelain escutcheons. The mantel consists of simple slightly beveled pilasters that support a scrolled frieze, bed molding, and a thick mantel shelf.

The kitchen is basically plain with a beaded board enclosed winder stair and closet and built-in cupboards. The second floor of the middle section and this section consist of bedroom with fairly plain detailing. A small mantel is found in the south bedroom of the middle section.

All attic spaces have been closed off and the only basement exists under the front block. Access is gained through an exterior cellar entry on the east porch. The usual whitewashed vertically sawn floor joists are present with a large stack support on the east wall.

Nineteenth century barn buildings include a medium sized hay barn with vertical siding, wood shingle roof and a new block foundation. A louvered cupola with pyramidal roof decorates the ridgeline. Other smaller granaries and storage sheds are found to the west of the main hay barn. A small meat house and obsolete windmill are found to the east of the main house.

SASSAFRAS

NECK

Cecilton

APPROX

BDY

BDY

BIDDLE

Trailer Park

CE-57

Gravel Pit

WARDS

HILL

Creek

Duffy

Cecilton Quad

BUDD LANDING ROAD

ROAD

Ginn

Sassafras

76

50

08

60

80

282

74

80

80

68

80

80

x88

80

60

63

x71

71

55

60

50

60

60

65

67

20

60

60



IV
18

CE-57

WARD'S KNOWLEDGE
EAST ELEVATION
NEAR
CECILTOW, MD.

PBT 7/79



IV

16

WARD'S KNOWLEDGE
EAST ELEVATION

CE-57

NEAR

CECILTON, MD.

P13T

7/79



WARD'S KNOWLEDGE

CE. 57

PORCH DETAIL

NEAR ~~WA~~ CECILTON, MD.

5/14

P13T

9/79



WARD'S KNOWLEDGE

CE-57

NEAR

CECILTON MD.

FRONT DOOR, SIDE LIGHTS, AND TRANSOM

PBT

7/75



TV

22

WARD'S KNOWLEDGE

CE-59

W. EAST PARLOR WALL PAPER

NEAR

CECILTON, MD.

PBT

7/79



TV
25

WARD'S KNOWLEDGE

CE-57

2ND FLOOR BEDROOM

NEAR

CECILTUN, MD

P13T 7/79



WARD'S KNOWLEDGE CE. 59

EAST PARLOR MANTEL

NEAR CECILTON, MD.

P15T 7/79

IV

21



IV

26

WARD'S KNOWLEDGE

CE-57

DINING ROOM MANTEL

NEAR

CECILTOW, MD.

PBT

7/75



IV

23

WARD'S KNOWLEDGE
NEAR CECILTON, MD
MAIN STAIR NEWEL
POST 7/79



IV

24

WARD'S KNOWLEDGE

CE-57

2ND AND 3RD FLIGHT

NEAR
CECILTON, MD.

PBT

7/79



IV

19

WARD'S KNOWLEDGE

CE-57

SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

NEAR

CECILTON MD.

PBT

7/79



IV

20

WARD'S KNOWLEDGE

CE-57

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

NEAR

CECILTON, MD

POST 7/79



CE-57 Ward's Knowledge



57

CE-57

Wards Knowledge