

CARR-1200

1898

Martin Gross "A" Cottage

Public

Springfield Hospital Center

Sykesville

"A" Cottage of the Martin Gross Complex was constructed as one of the first four buildings on the Springfield site. Influenced by the Beaux Arts and Romanesque styles of architecture, "A" Cottage displays an elaborate arcade, terra cotta trimmings, and decorative brick work. The building is two and a half stories high and consists of a central pavilion of five bays long and six bays deep and perpendicular wings measuring five bays long and three bays deep.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Men's Group "A" Building

and/or common Martin Gross "A" Cottage

2. Location

Springfield Hospital Center

street & number

not for publication

city, town Sykesville

vicinity of

congressional district 6

state Maryland

county Carroll

3. Classification

Category

district
 building(s)
 structure
 site
 object

Ownership

public
 private
 both
Public Acquisition
 in process
 being considered
 not applicable

Status

occupied
 unoccupied
 work in progress
Accessible
 yes: restricted
 yes: unrestricted
 no

Present Use

agriculture
 commercial
 educational
 entertainment
 government
 industrial
 military
 museum
 park
 private residence
 religious
 scientific
 transportation
 other: Hospital

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

street & number

201 West Preston

telephone no.: 301-225-6816

city, town

Baltimore

state and zip code Maryland 21201

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Carroll County Courthouse Annex, Rm G-8liber

street & number

55 North Court Street

folio

city, town Westminster

state Maryland 21157

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. CARR-1200

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Martin Gross "A" Cottage is one of the original four hospital buildings constructed on the Springfield site. "A" Cottage faces south toward the courtyard formed by the first four buildings. The residential cottage is constructed of garden wall bond brick and rises two and a half stories high. The building consists of a central pavilion with perpendicular wings which extend east and west off of the northern portion of the central pavilion. The pavilion measures five bays long and six bays deep. The wings incorporate the northern three bays of the pavilion to create their depth while extending five bays long. A hipped roof covers the entire building.

The building displays a considerable amount of architectural ornamentation. Terra cotta, brownstone, and red brick were utilized to create a building with influences from the Beaux Arts and Romanesque styles of architecture. The architects employed the materials to produce a decorative arcade, detailed arches, and uncommon lintels. The second floors of the wings reveal an intricate brick pattern created by the color variations in the brick.

The southern facade of the central pavilion displays an arcade fabricated of brick and terra cotta. Brick pillars support the terra cotta arches. The arches are quite elaborate, decorated by egg and dart molding, radiating voussoirs and ornamental wreaths. Brownstone is utilized for the sills of the arcade, supported by a brick base. Above the arcade, second floor windows appear. The windows show a sash of 12/12 with brick vertical joint lintels. A terra cotta string course provides the sills for the window. Two windows on each side flank a central oriel window, supported by a brownstone ledge and two swan neck brackets. Wooden brackets and terra cotta corbels decorate the heavy overhang of the slate roof. A single hipped dormer is located in the center of the roof. It too displays a hipped roof with large overhang. A casement window appears on the face of the dormer.

The east face of the central block has a two story, rounded bay projection. The molded water table and the two string courses are fabricated of terra cotta. The bay exhibits a flat roof. The first floor windows show a 10/10 double-hung sash, brownstone sill and jack arch lintel with a raised keystone. On the second floor windows, two string courses form both the sills and lintels. The double-hung sash is 15/15. A molded brick cornice caps the bay.

The east and west wings extend five bays long from the central block. The molded water table and string courses continue from the main block. The ground level openings on the wings exhibit a brownstone sill and a brick jack arch lintel. Rounded arches, similar but less elaborate than the arcade arches on the central pavilion, cap the first floor windows. Above the 12/12 double-hung sash, the terra cotta arch repeats the egg and dart molding and the lintels of grooved terra cotta bricks.

Continued from "A" Cottage, p. 7.2.

In place of the wreaths, the arches display a decorative brick pattern. The second floor windows also display a 12/12 double-hung sash but receive less ornamentation. The string course acts as the sill and lintel remains a simple brick vertical joint. The lintels graze the corbels and wooden bracketing located under the overhanging eave.

The east and west walls of the wings repeat many elements such as the water table, string courses and round arches. The wall is three bays and exhibits two windows flanking a central doorway. A jack arch lintel and raised keystone cap the single door. A fire escape is attached to the wall and a hipped dormer breaks the roof line.

The north face of "A" Cottage measures fifteen bays long and has a one story modern addition which runs the entire length of the building and is one bay deep. The addition utilizes garden wall bond brick as well but exhibits modern windows arranged in groups of threes and fives. The windows lack lintels but have smooth stone sills. The entire second floor of the original structure is visible. The second floor windows match their counterparts on the south wall. Two individual interior chimneys protrude from the roof of the central pavilion. A segmental brick arch joins the two chimneys. Again the brickwork provides decoration as does the brownstone cornice.

8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-1200

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1898 **Builder/Architect** Wyatt & Nolting, John Waters

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or
Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Designed by the architectural firm of Wyatt and Nolting, "A" Cottage of the Martin Gross group was completed in 1898 along with the three other original buildings in the Men's Group. The act of the General Assembly of Maryland which authorized the construction of Springfield Hospital stipulated that the hospital must be designed according to the colony plan. The colony or cottage plan called for a quadrangular group of detached buildings. Medical experts at the time believed that the colony plan allowed for a better classification of patients. The four original buildings of the Martin Gross group reflect the concrete realization of the colony plan at Springfield.

Though the architecture of "A" Cottage was described as "inexpensive and simple in treatment" by the Second Annual Report of Springfield State Hospital, the architectural elements of the cottage are quite detailed. The appearance of the building reflects influence from two architectural styles of the times Beaux Arts and Romanesque Revival. The combined use of red brick, brownstone and terra cotta is quite effective in creating different textures and colors in the building. The architects employed the technique of mill construction to reduce the fire hazard in the building. The workmanship and design of "A" Cottage is still visible today despite a long addition on the northern wall. The one story addition exhibits the same brick pattern of garden wall bond and only slightly detracts from the architectural character of the original building.

"A" Cottage served as dormitory space for chronic male patients. The first floor provided room for therapeutic activities and day rooms while second floor contained sleeping areas.



CARR-1200

Martin Gross "A" Cottage
Springfield Hospital Center
Sykesville, Maryland

Don Jewell, 6/86

Negatives at MHT

South



CARR-1200

Martin Gross "A" Cottage Cottage

Springfield Hospital Center

Sykesville, Maryland

Don Jewell, 6/86

Negatives at MHT

North