

M-12-42-25  
James Henry Onley House  
Big Woods Community  
Private

1880's, 1890's

The basic design of this two story frame house resembles the type found in which many small farm houses of the late 1800's were built, whether of log or frame construction. In plan, it contained two rooms down and two up, and its facade consisted of the typical three bays. The land around the house was put to useful production, as shown by the remnants of the old apple orchard near the house.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC The James H. Onley Family House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER West side of Rt. 109

CITY, TOWN

Beallsville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF (Cwensville-Big woods)

3

STATE

Md.

COUNTY  
Montgomery

**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 type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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
	No	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME C.M. Crampton and M.E. Hyson

c/o Donald C.

Telephone #: Crampton

STREET & NUMBER

c/o C.H. Crampton; 20450 Beallsville Rd.

972-8588

CITY, TOWN

Dickerson

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Md. 20753

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Registry of Deeds

Liber #: Will

Folio #: HGC 11/ 103

STREET & NUMBER

County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE  
Md.

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

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

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

M:12-42-25

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" 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

This two story frame dwelling stands on the west side of the Bealls-ville Road, and faces east. The grass lawn in front of it has flowering shrubs and to the north are old apple trees, the remnants of a larger orchard.

The house itself is now in poor condition, having been damaged by fire, but enough remains to tell of its former appearance. In general form, the house resembled the home of Richard and Bertha King, which has been surveyed in the Big Woods community. The exterior of this house, however, has been covered with composition siding, and it has a front porch supported by turned posts, with lattice work for flowering vines or roses. The facade consists of the typical three bays, with a door centrally located, flanked by a window on either side. The windows contain double hung sashes with 6 x 6 panes, and are accented with trim boards painted white. The house is one bay in depth. The roof is covered with tin.

In plan the house probably contained two rooms down and two up, and though the interior was not investigated. A brick stove flue was located in the middle of the house.

When the house was occupied and maintained, it was a substantial and attractive house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

M:12-42-25

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" 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/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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		Black History
				Local History

SPECIFIC DATES      1880's, 1890's      BUILDER/ARCHITECT

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

This property was owned by James Henry (Jim) Onley. There is no deed listed for the land, nor is he found in the grantee/grantor index. Title is secured through his will, probated 1935, in which he leaves this tract of 4 acres and "One Frame House and all necessary out buildings" to his two daughters, Carrie Margaret Crampton and Mary Elizabeth Hyson. In the will he gives to two of his sons, James Henry Onley and Brooks McKinley Onley, 19 acres of woodland adjacent to his homeplace with the provision that John Thomas Mercer was to have the rights of gathering firewood there. His other two sons, William Earnest Onley and Hazel Thomas Onley, are left a dollar apiece. The family is requested to care for his wife, Carah Cordelia Onley.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

1. Oral interviews with Florence Hallman, not taped, by George McDaniel  
Dig Woods community, August, 1978.
2. Registry of Deeds and Register of Wills, Montgomery County Courthouse,  
Rockville,. Will HGC 11/103.

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

George W. McDaniel, Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

8/79

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland 20753

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 Center, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438~~

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS

Box 87, Stronghold  
Dickerson, Md. 20753  
(301) 926-4510



James Onley House

Facade: East length

M-12-42-25

Big Woods

phot by George McDaniel

8/79



James Onley House

South gable end

M-12-42-25

Big Woods Vicinity

photo by George McDaniel

8/79