

K-201

Locust Grove Farm
Near Chestertown
c. 1800

One of the most picturesque houses remaining in an extraordinarily unspoiled part of Kent County is Locust Grove Farm. While it sits within sight of the main road, it is not only attractive, but is an excellent example of the most common house form in Kent County in the 18th and early 19th Centuries. The long 1 1/2 story frame dwelling is composed of two four bay sections with the service wing being lower and smaller in scale than the main block. Its plan and fenestration is nearly identical to Shepherd's Delight, even to the extent of the extra room added behind the middle room. The height of Locust Grove, however, is lower.

The exterior retains several original features which are unique. The living room possesses a wall of vertical beaded boards enclosing two closets and the fireplace. Its mantel is a fine piece of Federal design and craftsmanship. The stair has extraordinary vase shaped turned newels and delicate drop finials on an otherwise simple balustrade.

In the mid 20th century, some feather-edge boards and the corner cupboard which had been removed from the Mill House at Chestertown were installed in the dining room.

Locust Grove Farm is part of an early tract called "Batchelor's Resolution." In the late 18th Century, the farm was part of the lands of John Gleaves, lands which he advertised for sale in 1792.¹ Five hundred ninety-one acres of the tract was acquired by James Corse of Richard M.

Gresham in 1804.² Both Gresham and Corse were listed as farmers on the deed. It was one of these two men who was responsible for the construction of the house.

The house has survived well into the 20th Century with few alterations. This is most likely due to the fact that for over a hundred years the house was owned by one family and they chose to keep it as a tenant house. Jacob Raymond from Smyrna, Delaware purchased the farm in 1830.³ He and his family owned the farm until 1946. During this entire period few, if any alterations were made. From the deeds and wills within the family very little about the farm was gleaned. In the will of Jacob's daughter, Susan (1870),⁴ there was mention that it was occupied by Robert H. Loud, which corresponds to the 1877 Atlas.

In 1946 the farm was purchased by the present owner⁵ who was responsible for rehabilitating the house and installing the woodwork from the Mill House mentioned above.

1. Maryland Gazette, Jan 24, 1793.
2. Land Records, Lib. TW 3, fol. 196.
3. Land Records, Lib. JNG 2, fol. 239.
4. Wills, Lib. EC 1, fol. 217.
5. Land Records, Lib. RAS 41, fol. 41.

K-201
Locust Grove
Chestertown
Private

18th Century

Locust Grove is one of the few surviving 18th century frame farm houses in the county. It is a modest but well-proportioned building with a notable stair with sausage turned newel and intermediates and an attractive board fireplace wall. The wing and main house are situated side by side, making the one and one-half story structure eight bays long. An early century smoke house beside the house is constructed with an unusual skeleton of notched planks and posts.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

K-201

MAGI #1502015204

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Locust Grove

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

near Urieville

Augustine Herman Highway (MD 213)

JK 2/2/94

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Kent

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. & Mrs. T. Allen Stradley

Telephone #: 301-778-2680

STREET & NUMBER

Box 51

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21620

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Kent County Courthouse

Liber #: EHP 17

Folio #: 797

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Maryland 21620

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

K-201

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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Locust Grove is a small one and one-half story frame building of two parts which appear to be nearly contemporary. The building is eight bays long; the taller, main house (southwest portion) is four bays long with entrance stair hall and three dormers in the gable roof; the addition is also four bays long lower but as wide as the main house; it has two dormers in the roof. Behind the addition is a one story shed porch; an additional room has been constructed behind the main house.

The building stands on a brick cellar. Both portions have beaded weatherboarding and windows with 6/6 sash and frame trimmed with quarter-round backband moldings. There are two front entrances. One in the four bay portion of the house is centered and has a three pane transom; right of the door are two windows which light the main parlor; to the left is one window. The door in the three bay portion of the house is off-center, but has flanking windows. Shutters are louvered on the larger part and batten on the smaller. Gable dormers, with 6/6 sash windows, and shingle cheeks are evenly spaced in the roof slopes.

Roofs are steeply pitched, finished with verge boards on the gables and box cornices on the eaves. The cornice on the main house has a beaded fascia, ogee crown mold and quarter-round and cove bed molding. There are wide chimneys with simple caps at all gables. That between the two parts of the house is stuccoed and projects into the smaller portion. The two other chimneys are enclosed in gable walls. Front stoops are modern.

Inside Locust Grove is an interesting stair and a fine paneled wall in the main parlor.

The interior is divided, from south to north, the main parlor, stair/entrance hall, den (with the modern bedroom and bath behind), the dining room and kitchen are in the smaller part of the house. The dining room and stair hall have feather-edge paneling and corner cupboard from the demolished Mill House (K-78) in Chestertown.

The stair is of the dog-leg type with a closed string and vertical boarded spandrel. Balusters are plain; the handrail is rounded. Newels and intermediates are most unusual with sausage turnings and block tops and bases. Acorn pendants finish the intermediates and the final newel on the second floor is set several inches from the wall. A door leading to a closet beneath the landing has six raised and beveled panels; trim is of the three part type and has a quarter-round backband. The rear entry is finished on the inside with beaded boards and battens

In the parlor, old ceiling beams have been exposed. The flooring is wide, old yellow pine. Vertical boards sheath the fireplace wall which has two closets with wide six panel doors and a fireplace with vertical opening, recessed panel pilasters and a frieze with shield and broken shelf with cove molded edges. Board partitions and an old mantle also remain on the second floor.

Behind the house is an 18th century smoke house with an unusual type of post and beam construction.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-201

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input 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

Locust Grove is one of the few surviving 18th century frame farm houses in the county. It is a modest but well proportioned building with a notable main stair and attractive board fireplace wall.

Outbuildings seem to be vanishing more quickly than houses, therefore, the simple building at Locust Grove is especially worth preservation. Its construction is also unusual and should be recorded.

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

Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Kent County Historical Society

DATE

August, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Church Alley

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Maryland 21620

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

<p>1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Kent TOWN Chestertown VICINITY Urieville STREET NO. Rt. 213, .8 mile N.E of Rt. 561 (south)</p> <p>ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE dwelling PRESENT OWNER T. Allan Stradley PRESENT USE tenant house WALL CONSTRUCTION frame NO. OF STORIES 1½</p>	<p>HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY K - 201</p> <p>2. NAME Locust Grove</p> <p>DATE OR PERIOD 18th century STYLE colonial ARCHITECT BUILDER</p> <p>3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE</p>
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4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC NO

Locust Grove is a small 1½ story frame dwelling composed of two parts which appear nearly the same age. The taller portion is four bays long with paneled entrance door, second bay from the south gable. The facade is covered with beaded clapboard and the rear with brown shingle. There are three dormers on the "A" roof. All windows have 6/6 sash and those of the first story have louvered shutters.

The lower portion of the house is also four bays long with two dormers on its "A" roof. The door in this portion is second bay from the south end of wing. Brick chimneys on each gable have been reconstructed and the one in the middle is covered with cement. A leanto portion and porch have been added to the east side of the building.

The interior is divided into, from south to north, the living room, stair hall, and den (with bedroom and bath in leanto behind den); then a dining room and kitchen in the northern half of the house. The living room features vertical beaded paneling on the fireplace wall, exposed beams and period trim and chair rail. The hall ~~has~~ ^{has a} ~~the~~ ^{and} period open-string stair; the dining room has some vertical feather-edge paneling taken from the Mill House in Chestertown (K-78)

An 18th century meat house stands south of the house.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered no Interior good Exterior good



<p>6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)</p>	<p>7. PHOTOGRAPH</p>
<p>8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.</p>	<p>9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER Michael Bourne</p> <p>DATE OF RECORD Sept. 18, 1968</p>

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE



LOCUST GROVE MHT-K 201

RT. 213 NEAR URIEVILLE, MD.

FRONT ELEVATION FROM NORTH

C. ENGSTROM AUG. 1977



LOCUST GROVE

MHT-K 201

RT 213 NEAR VRIEVILLE, MD.

STAIRWAY

C. ENGSTROM

AUG. 1977



LOCUST GROVE MHT-K201

RT 213 NEAR URIEVILLE, MD.

PANELING, MAIN ROOM

C. ENGSTROM AUG. 1977

Locust Grove