

DR. SMITH HOUSE
Fairlee, Maryland
(ca 1900)

K-427

The most architecturally interesting house in the village of Fairlee is a gambrel-roofed Shingle Style building which is located on the northeast side of Old Route 20.

Two stories plus attic in height, the house is L-shaped and covered by a broad gambrel roof. Variety is given by several gambrel-roofed and gable-roofed dormers at the second story.

The first floor is defined by a roof line which covers a porch on the front facade but continues around the sides as a flaring eave of the main gambrel. Under this roof is a screened front porch with round columns and a shingled rail and two three-sided bay windows.

Directly behind the house is a two story, gambrel-roofed barn.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC DR. SMITH HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

Speiden House (preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Northeast side of Old Route 20

(Chestertown Fairlee Road)

1st

314
2/7/94

CITY, TOWN

Fairlee

___ VICINITY OF

Kent

STATE

Maryland

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- ___ DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- ___ STRUCTURE
- ___ SITE
- ___ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- ___ PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- ___ BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- ___ IN PROCESS
- ___ BEING CONSIDERED

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:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. & Mrs. Marion C. Speiden

Telephone #: 301-778-0672

STREET & NUMBER

Box 215

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

___ VICINITY OF

Maryland 21620

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Kent County Court House

Liber #: EHP 2

Folio #: 44

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown, Maryland

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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 most interesting house in the village of Fairlee is a gambrel roofed Shingle Style building which is located on the northeast side of Old Route 20.

Two stories plus attic in height, the house is L-shaped and covered by a broad gambrel roof. Variety is given by several gambrel-roofed and gable-roofed dormers at the second story.

The first floor is defined by a roof line which covers a porch on the front facade but continues around the sides as a flaring eave of the main gambrel. Under this roof is a screened front porch with round columns and a shingled rail and two three-sided bay windows--one on the west corner of the front and one on the northwest side under the crossing gambrel.

Most windows have 1 over 1 sash although some are double. Those in the side gable roofed dormers are wide 2 over 2 sash. Windows on the second floor have segmentally arched upper sash set under shallow pointed or arched frames. The trim is plain and flat with a composite molding backband. The main entry door has a transom and glass door. All roof edges have a composite crownmolding and shallow cornice.

The interior stair is located in the east corner of the building. Trim is reeded and used with corner blocks; doors have five panels. The most unusual feature of the interior is the use of pressed tin ceilings and cornices in all rooms of the house except the maid's room on the second floor rear. A great variety of patterns are used.

The building is covered with dark brown wooden shingles (installed over weather-boarding) and all trim is painted white. It has a black asphalt shingle roof and a brick foundation. Directly behind the house is a two story, gambrel-roofed barn.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-427

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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 ca 1900

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Dr. Frank Smith

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Emerging after the American Centennial Celebration, the Shingle Style merged a reinterpretation of America's colonial architecture with a fascination with the design possibilities inherent in wood and an architectural investigation of the unique American life style. Because it combined American history, an understanding of technology, and culture into new building forms, the "Shingle Style" is considered by some to be the first American style.* The first Shingle Style buildings were enormous resort homes for the wealthy in New England. Gradually its forms entered the lexicon of vernacular architecture and simplified Shingle-style buildings began to appear throughout the country.

In addition to its use of shingles this little building in Fairlee has the expansive gambrel roof and picturesque composition that characterized many shingle style houses. It was built by Dr. Frank Smith about 1900.

* Scully, Vincent J., Jr. The Shingle Style, (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1976.)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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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, Survey Consultant

ORGANIZATION Kent County Planning Commission DATE 778-4600, ext.67

STREET & NUMBER Court House TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN Chestertown, Maryland STATE

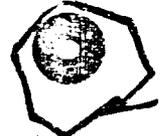
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

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

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS

K-427



12°30'

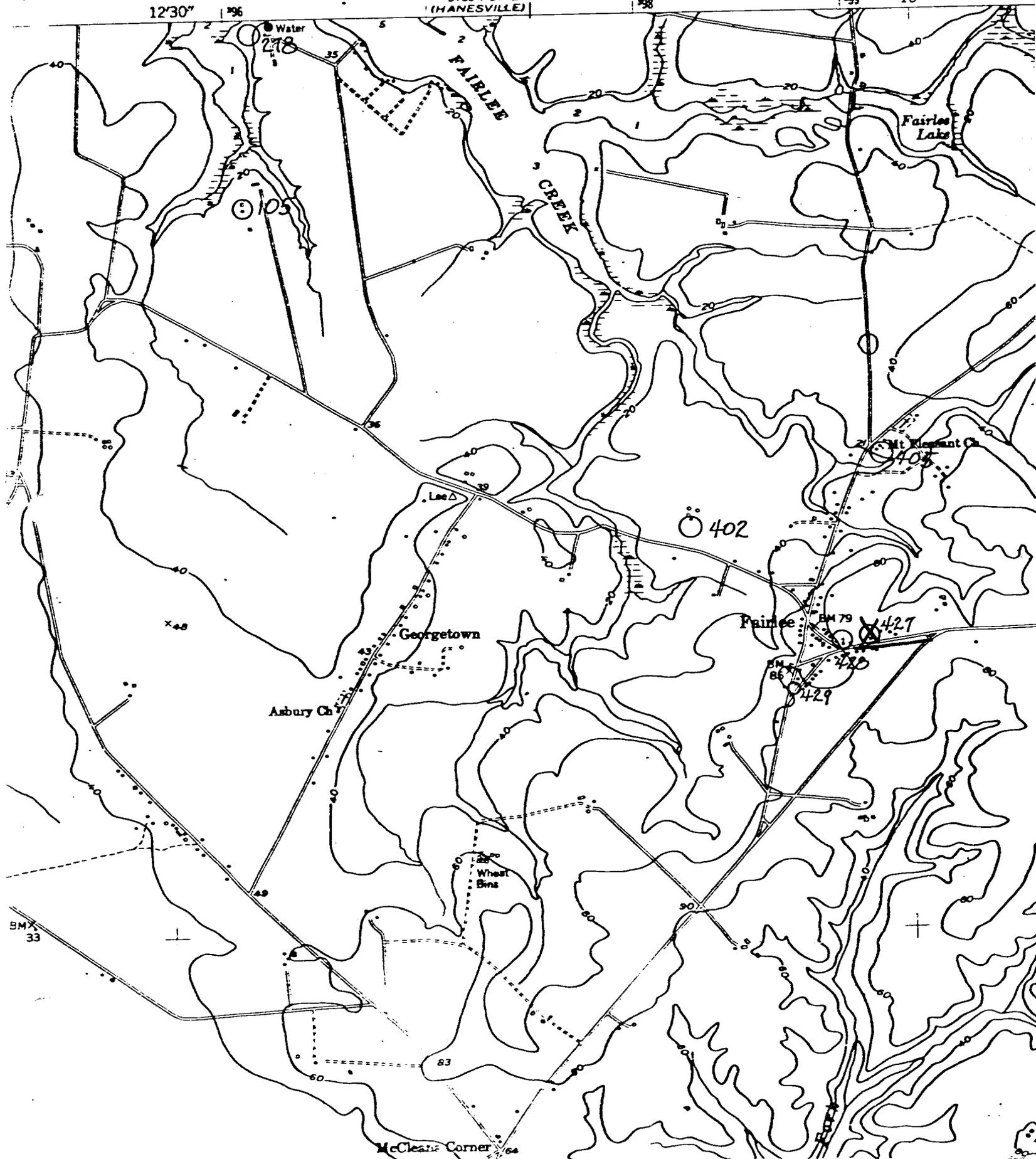
996

5762 1 SW
(HANESVILLE)

998

999

10'





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Speiden House

view to northeast

Fairlee

Kent county

M.L. Fritz

7/1980

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J. Tyler Campbell

CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND

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