

INDIAN ARCHITECTURE

The vast variety of dwellings built by American Indians has at last come to be regarded as architecture, fully covered in a 1989 book by Peter Nabokov and Robert Easton. For specific Maryland counties, there is little quotable material, but the long, Quonset-hut type of houses drawn by John White during the Raleigh expedition to North Carolina seems to be the sort that was in use from Pamlico Sound to the Chesapeake region. The famous interior view of Powhatan's lodge shown on Captain John Smith's map of the Chesapeake in 1608 may be partly conjectural, having been drawn in Germany from verbal descriptions. Father Andrew White's 1635 description of Native American dwellings in St. Mary's County sounds much like the types drawn by John White in North Carolina and described by Smith in Tidewater Virginia. All the houses mentioned had rounded roofs of saplings with the ends of the branches planted in the ground. The saplings meeting in the center of the roof were tied securely with twine and additional horizontal side struts were lashed in place, interior vertical poles were added and the whole shelter covered with matting made from cattails. According to early observers, Indians could erect the entire house quickly. At temporary camps, the rib-work of such houses was left in place and covered with the matting when the group moved there for a season. The ends of the houses were at times rounded, at times flat. Methods in use were probably the result of ancient discoveries of which reed and leaf linings would provide the greatest insulation. One English settler, Daniel Gookin, claimed the long house was as warm inside in winter as an English cottage — although the English are noted even today for not knowing when they are cold. The traditional round-roofed house was called a "wigwam" in Algonquian, a word that entered into English and broadened to include the structures built by some other cultures (Nabokov and Easton, 1989, pp. 52-61). The houses of the few Indians of Baltimore County were rarely mentioned; there is only a reference in 1697 by Captain John Oulton that his Garrison Rangers had seen the "Indian cabins and tents" some miles beyond the present Stevenson in Green Spring Valley. The word "cabin" at that time meant a "hut," but why did the report distinguish between huts and tents?

"Shawan Cabin Branch" was a placename of 1720 mentioned in the land survey of "John and Thomas Forest." It probably refers to a Shawnee hut-like habitation near present Oregon Park.

Father White described the Southern Maryland houses as 20 feet long by 9 to 10 feet high with an opening in the top to let light in and the smoke out "after the manner of the ancient houses of England." The Piscataways laid out their villages in a circle within a palisade, a fortification system dating from about 900 A. D. There were both circular houses and long houses around a central square in Piscataway towns (Clark, 1980, 75:8).

Smith showed the major Indian town of Cepowig on his 1608 map in a spot that measures out to the present My Lady's Manor, but later writers placed Cepowig at Hampstead in Carroll County and also at a location in Adams County, Pennsylvania. No certain locations of either Piscataway or Susquehannock towns can be assigned to Baltimore County. Numerous archaeological sites have been found of temporary camps and tool making activities. Great mounds of oyster shells along the tidal rivers demonstrated centuries of bivalve fishing. Dr. James Bordley advertised Sparrow's Point Farm, noting "There are large Indian Deposits of Shells at convenient points on the river borders (*American Farmer*, December, 1858)." The shell mounds were eventually consumed as road metal and used as flux for smelting iron.

In 1984, the St. Mary's City Commission built what is probably the most authentic replica of a pre-contact long house, with the lateral ribs spaced according to the measurements found by archaeologists. There were saplings planted in the grounds after charring the ends. The arches overhead were lashed together exactly as shown in the engraving of Powhatan's lodge which decorates the Smith map (Callahan, 1985, 12-40).

The following description of a long house was written in 1751, by John Bartram, a well-known naturalist of Pennsylvania:

This cabin is about 80 feet long, and 17 broad, the common passage 6 feet wide, and the apartments on each side 5 feet, raised a foot above the passage by a long sapling hewed square, and fitted log joints that go from it to the back of the house.

William B. Marye commented that Captain John Smith believed, in spite of his map, that the Baltimore and Harford County region was uninhabited. Marye pointed out that although there were no large Indian towns, there were many villages and also temporary camps where the houses were constructed of the usual sapling ribwork and covered with sheets of bark. Marye discovered a colonial land record, which proved that "one of these Indian Cabins was standing less than 200 years ago near the beginning of a tract of land called 'Heathcoat's Cottage,' that is, not far west of the road between Kingsville and Fork." Of the small settlements, Marye stated:

There is abundant evidence that in times long past there were many small Indian villages or towns in Baltimore County, because nearly every farm of a hundred acres or even less contains remains of them. On almost every such farm a person with a trained eye can discover a place where one of these villages or camps has stood. Such places may be recognized when you find such articles as bits of Indian Pottery, either of clay or sometimes numerous Arrowheads, chips struck off in making these arrowheads, hammer stones (that is, round stones with small cup shaped, shallow holes in them, generally one on each side) one or two grooved stone celts (that is, axes without the grooves) beads, and sometimes rarer objects. Such sites are generally, but by no means always, located on the tops of low hills rising from the northern or western sides of a stream or strong spring. Of course, I do not mean to say that every place where a few arrowheads or a stray axe is found is the site of an Indian village, it is only when a quantity of objects of diverse kinds is to be picked up that you may be sure you are on the site of an Indian village (Marye, 1922, pages 7-8).

Marye also noted that a great stone cairn made by Indians had been used as the beginning point of a colonial survey of the tracts Clarkson's Hope and Heathcote's Cottage in 1678 and 1683. The mounds were funerary monuments and possibly marked the point where a warrior had been slain in battle (Weslager, 1947, 42:46).

Another Marye discovery was the location of a steam bath or "sweat house" mentioned in a colonial land survey in 1696. The Indians enjoyed a sauna type of bath by poring water over hot rocks. The site was commemorated by a State historical roadside marker erected in the mid 1930s on Sweat House Road just east of Belair Road (U.S.1) south of Kingsville (Marye, 1930, 25:329).

The county had been thickly settled by Piscataways the century before the settlers arrived but that tribe had been vastly reduced in numbers by Susquehannock attacks in the early 1600s (Akerson, 1988, p. 16).

Archaeologists quoted by the *Sun* in 1975 thought they had found their site of a long-house in the path of the Northwest Expressway near Owings Mills, but on further excavation by Wayne E. Clark, no house was found, depriving the country of an authenticated example of a type believed to have been the customary dwelling of both Piscataways and Powhatans. Dr. Clark reported in 1993 that Maryland Indians tended to use long houses in the summer and the smaller one-family wigwams in the winter (Dawson, 1975).

SETTLEMENT PERIOD

About 1652 settlers appeared in what is now Baltimore County but there is nothing above ground to show for their early efforts. In 1699, a witness in a boundary dispute stated that he had seen “the frames of a small rafter house” being built by Mark Richardson (B. C. Land Records, HW No. 2, folio 367). The only building that stakes a claim to a seventeenth century origin is the Garrison Fort, built in 1695 but not written about by historians until about 1870. The fort is definitely the stone “Negro house,” 18 by 48 feet carried in the 1798 tax list, but before that, its documentation is feeble. All the houses of Eighteenth century Tidewater planters are gone except the Scott-Andrew house on Carroll Island Road. Other compact houses survive in the interior of the county, including three gambrel-roofed cottages, Attamasco, the Blunt House, and the farmhouse at Hampton. The surviving structures could date from the 1730s and 1750s. We know that when the Garrison Rangers established a fort nine miles beyond the inhabitants in 1695, the only settled areas were the Tidewater Necks and the Patapsco Valley. By 1710 there was no longer a discernible frontier in the county and settlers planted dwellings anywhere that the Calvert family would sell them tracts of unoccupied land.

Another small house of 18th century origin is Turkey Cock Hall at Rockland, a 1½-story house with a gable roof that sweeps down over a full-width front porch, a true tidewater house carried inland, probably facing the rolling road leading from Green Spring Valley when built. The chimney bears a 1712 date mark but it is obviously *ex post facto*. The great brick houses came along toward mid-century and the best brick houses represented fortunes earned in iron making rather than tobacco. Baltimore County had missed the most lucrative period of the tobacco trade. In addition, Maryland leaf sold for less than the Virginia product, thus farmers had less money to spend on building than had been the case elsewhere.

The history of three former court house towns sheds some light on the state of building. Old Baltimore on Bush River in present Harford County had a courthouse by 1674. The judges ordered the “dormant windows” of the courthouse taken down in 1683 and the openings in the roof closed up—thus we can account for dormer windows. A brick-ended house at Old Baltimore was excavated in 1998 by archaeologist R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates; it had been the home of James Philips, an inn-keeper (*Sun*, December 22, 1998). When the court moved its seat to Sims Point or Gunpowder Town in 1691, another court house was built, and its freestanding record office, described as a cage, measured 10 by 10 feet. Gunpowder Town failed to attract any residents, and the next courthouse was built at Joppa, in 1712, a place now inside Harford County. Joppa grew to have 40 houses and a stone warehouse mentioned in a 1775 newspaper advertisement. A plat of Joppa in 1725 provides a simplified drawing of the court building, a two-story structure, three bays wide, with inside end-chimneys, much like a plantation dwelling (Scharf, 1881, p. 45). However, James T. Wollon’s rendering of the courthouse from its specifications shows it as a 1½-story building. The second Joppa jail of 1721 was 18 by 24 feet with walls 2 feet thick (Wright, 1967, p. 54). The first

church in the present confines of Baltimore County was built in the present Dundalk area in 1693 and was the first of several St. Paul's Churches. The land was part of the tract "Good Hope," also called "Petties Old Field," where Church Branch of Colgate Creek crosses the present Holabird Avenue. The first church was log, followed by one of brick. There were also two successive vestry houses. In 1730, the congregation moved to Baltimore Town, and after burning a supply of 100,000 bricks, they built a church 50 by 23 feet, 18 feet from floor to ceiling. The vestry house finished in 1731 was 16 by 12 feet, 12½-feet high. Vestry records contain such clues to the building abilities of the settlers.

The second church in the Baltimore County was St. John's at Elk Neck on Gunpowder River, now inside Edgewood Arsenal where the Officer's Club stands. The church was built in 1695, a 20 by 40-foot edifice of log. The parish moved to Joppa in 1724 where a brick church was constructed. This was a rather large building for a frontier as its exposed foundation still reveals. There is no good drawing of Baltimore County's third church structure but its lines may have been copied in building St. Paul's 1730 church in Baltimore town (Cadwalader, 1967, p. 68). A very small drawing of "Joppa Church" appears in a plat made in 1814 showing Edward Day's property on the Joppa Harbor. The church was shown with a round doorway set in an entrance tower. However, the church depicted in Scharf's 1881 history (page 45) showed a three-bay wide structure with a round-arched center door; the cupola was topped by a weathervane.

Returning to the subject of Joppa, there were a number of brick houses built by successful merchants. After losing its courthouse and ocean trade, Joppa had only four houses and a church left in 1814. Tradition holds that some houses were disassembled and set up again in the Forks of the Gunpowder near Franklinville, particularly Orwell and Sherwood. The only Joppa house that survived in the 20th century was the brick, Gambrel-roofed Rumsey House; it was the main house of a farm, the fields of which were the former streets and house sites of the defunct city. The Rumsey House was not a very formal house, never intended for more than comfort. Its gambrel-roof and eaves were well crafted and demonstrate that talent existed in the region to build fine houses. A modest house in Belair, the Hayes House, is dated at 1711 and thus existed in the Baltimore County era. It is small, gambrel-roofed, and clad with clapboard, much like the Scott-Andrew House on Seneca Creek. A photo of a similar, but half-sized gambrel-roofed cottage, now extinct, appeared in the *Jeffersonian* on December 5, 1931. It was identified as the Talbott House at Barretts Delight, supposedly built in 1775. The *Maryland Gazette* of May 9, 1754, reported that "a forest fire destroyed many small cottages in the back parts belonging to poor people," wiping out more of the first generation of dwellings.

THE GARRISON FORT

In 1693, Governor Francis Nicholson ordered construction of a chain of frontier forts in northern Maryland to be manned by rangers. Captain John Olton or Oldton was appointed commander in 1694 and hardly two years later he applied for a patent of the land on which the Baltimore County Garrison stood. The land grant was issued under the name "Oldton's Garrison." Since 1855, at least, a small stone building, 48 by 18 feet, in the Green Spring Valley had been identified as the actual fort, and it stands on the tract "Oldton's Garrison" exactly where a palisade symbol was drawn on a plat filed in a land dispute of 1753. The small building belonged to Captain John Risteau in the 1740s and 1750s and there is archival evidence that the Captain stored thirty guns and bayonets for the militia in 1744; the fort was again put to use for militia musters during the French and Indian War in 1755.

The 1798 tax list described the structure as a “stone Negro Quarter, one story,” 48 by 18 feet. The surrounding farm was called “Garrison” when advertised in the *American* of February 16, 1845. However, the first published mention of this outbuilding as a fort came in 1894 when the Rev. George Armistead Leakin reported that many years before, a neighbor had asked Cardiff Tagart, owner of the farm, to sell him the building for its stone content and Mr. Tagart, had replied that the place was a fort and he was preserving it as a memorial. A photo in *The Garrison Church* suggests that the roof gables had been altered at some point to fit in a loft space (Allen, 1898, p. 171). When the Garrison Farm was subdivided in 1965, Baltimore County acquired the fort parcel as an open space, thanks to a campaign started by E. Frances Offutt, Baltimore County’s first historic sites surveyor. Roof repairs were performed in 1974 by Orin M. Bullock, FAIA. However, if the earliest roof really had been raised after the 1798 tax list and prior to a photograph made in the 1880s, the original materials had probably been disturbed or altered. After an accumulation of vines was removed by Baltimore County workers, the walls clearly showed that the building had been put up in two phases.

In his “Report on Inspection of Fort Garrison,” October 28, 1963, Dr. Henry Chandlee Forman, F. A. I. A., described the alterations:

After a hole had been knocked through the loft ceiling, the old loft partition of rough boards and battens was found to go through the ceiling indicating that ceiling, of machine-made laths and plaster, was put in later. The rough boards extended to the roof.

“Fort Garrison” gives evidence of some antiquity, but just how old it is, is difficult to judge from what is left. The rafters are pegged together, and the collar beams are pegged to the rafters. The oak frames of the old louvers or loopholes, the casement windows, and the outside doors are held together with pegs about one inch in diameter. The loft floor is of random width oak boards, some 14 inches wide, held down by nails; the nails could not be identified as rose-headed. In fact, no rose-headed nails in the building were located; but that does not mean that the edifice did not have them...

It is possible that the shell of the structure served as a fort and that about 1800 the building was entirely remodeled as a farm outhouse.... (Forman, 1934, p. 109; Allen, 1898, pp. 171-173).



Garrison Fort

SCOTT-ANDREW HOUSE

The Scott-Andrew House (1725 - 1744) at 701 Luthard Road, Seneca Park is a gambrel-roofed frame house that seems to be a survival of the colonial period and stands on the “Scott’s Improvement” tract near Seneca Creek. Daniel Scott, Gentleman, had the land resurveyed in 1725 and mentioned his dwelling house in his will written in 1744. It is possibly one of eight dwellings charged to Dr. John Simpson in the index pages of the 1798 tax ledger of Middle River Upper Hundred. It came down via complex litigation through the hands of Alexander Furnival, James Swisler, Justus Hoppe, Lewis W. H. Giese, the Havre de Grace Bank, and then in 1829, to Robert Oliver. When advertised at public sale in the *American* of October 20, 1828, there was a “tolerable dwelling house.” Stephen A. Wilkinson acquired the property in 1851 and it has remained in family hands to the present. In 1925, the property was partially laid out into waterfront lots on a shore called Seneca Park.

Scott-Andrew House



HAMPTON FARM HOUSE

Now located at 127 Hampton Lane, the small, gambrel-roofed original house of the Hampton plantation has been given an estimated date of 1727 and attributed to Colonel Henry Darnall who had patented 1500 acres called Northampton in 1695 when there were practically no settlers beyond the tidewater. The house is log beneath its clapboards and was probably the overseer’s house on the property before Charles Ridgely, The Merchant, purchased the estate in 1745. At later dates, four wings were added to the house; there are numerous outbuildings that made it the center of the Ridgely family life before their ironworks earnings allowed them to build the massive Hampton House. Two of the stone outbuildings are slave houses and date from ca. 1860. There is also a “slave dungeon” and a dairy. The Federal government acquired title to this remnant of the Ridgely property in 1979 to add to the main house parcel acquired in 1948. In repairs performed in 1986, National Park Service experts found well crafted 17th-century style wooden paneling that had been hidden by layers of plaster.

Hampton Farm House



ATAMASCO

Atamasco (about 1754) at 10909 Garrison Forest Road, (east side, 0.1 mile north of St. Thomas Lane) was built by Christopher Carnan who married owner Elizabeth North, daughter of Captain Robert North. The land was originally granted to Richard Gist in 1684 and acquired by Captain North in 1745. The house is frame with a sloping roofline and dormers in a style more common to the tidewater country. A log section may date to 1730. By 1798, the dimensions had reached 60 by 20 feet. The house was renovated in 1935. The outbuildings include a large barn and a slave house. Atamasco was acquired in July 1973 by Mrs. Forbes Hall and later owned by Albert Cummings, who restored slave quarters. For its long complex history, see Dawn F. Thomas' *Green Spring Valley*, p. 212.



Atamasco



Blunt Farm

BLUNT FARM AND GRANITE QUARRIES (MOUNT WELCOME)

The Blunt Farm and Granite Quarries (Mount Welcome) on 10322 Old Court Road, 0.45 mile northeast of Granite village is a colonial style frame house, 1½ stories, gable roofed, with dormers, and a full-width front porch, the clapboards painted yellow. The house sits well back from the road and west of some power lines. It was probably built by the ancestors of Captain Alexander Walters, who served in the War of 1812 and married Elizabeth Worthington. In back is a family burial ground. The Blunt family still owns blueprints for restoration work performed ca. 1930 by Hugh I. Kavanagh, a Baltimore architect. The foundations of a quarry engine house survived in 1976. The quarry is documented by surviving photographs.

JENKINS HOMESTEAD

The Long Green Valley house of the early settler Michael Jenkins survives only in photographs and was long ago replaced by the large 20th century dwelling of William Armour Jenkins. The old house stood on Gunpowder Manor, which was not opened to fee-simple ownership until the 1760s. Jenkins family genealogists believe their ancestors first occupied the land as tenants, possibly as early as 1761, when Michael Jenkins married Charity Ann Wheeler. In 1770, Michael Jenkins had a 288-acre tract surveyed under the name "Jenkins' Purchase." The Rev. J. Alphonse Frederick, the Catholic historian, visited the original house because of its associations as a "Mass House" served by Jesuit missionaries and also visited by Baltimore's Bishop John Carroll before there were any Catholic churches in the County. Father Frederick described the house as a plain farm dwelling built of white oak log and covered with weatherboard. Only a story-and-a-half and gambrel-roofed, the house was six bays wide in the main block with three dormers in the upper story. The left wing of the house was possibly the "starter house" and that segment was gambrel-roofed in back and shed-roofed in front, almost a saltbox structure. No other saltbox dwellings have survived in actuality. The broad full-width porch of the main section was sheltered by a roof supported by

plain posts. The house style was in Tidewater architecture but it was located fairly deep into the interior of the county. The last Indian family in the county supposedly lived on the property in a hut about a quarter mile from the Jenkins dwelling. Archbishop Ambrose Marechal also spent a week with the Jenkins family in 1819 and his visit probably brought about the construction of the small frame St. John's Church that opened on Carroll Manor Road in 1822. St. John's frame church and its 1855 stone church were endowed to a great extent by the various generations of the Jenkins family. The *Sun* of October 21, 1899, stated that the 1739 homestead was "to be torn down."

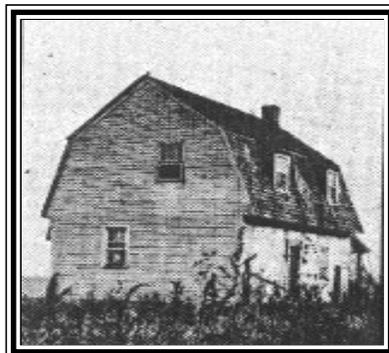
Jenkins Homestead



TALBOTT HOUSE

John Talbott of West River, Anne Arundel County, bought part of the tract Barrett's Delight in 1718 from the widow of John Barrett. Talbott's son Edward spent a lifetime on the tract and in 1775 informally divided the property between his sons Benjamin and Vincent. The senior Talbott built Vincent a one-and-a-half story gambrel-roofed frame house that was apparently sub-taxable in the 1798 assessment. The farm was divided by deed in 1806. The small three-room house passed to Vincent Talbott, Jr., then to his daughter Catherine Talbott Todd. Even after Thomas Todd built a large Second Empire villa in 1877, he kept the small house intact. Both houses eventually passed to the three daughters of the Todd family and in 1918 they sold to John B. Wier. The so-called "Dutch Colonial" house, actually built by ordinary Americans, was photographed by the *Jeffersonian* in 1931 at the moment when J. Goddard Mattingly purchased the farm. The house was only two bays wide and the upper story was only two dormers wide. The outer cladding was made of clapboard. The photo shows that the house resembled the usual tidewater country dwelling. H. Chandlee Forman gave its dimensions as 24 feet 6 inches by 18 feet 7 inches. Both Todd's villa and Vincent Talbott's cottage were burned in the 1950s to develop "Springlake" on Pot Spring Road (Anonymous, *Jeffersonian*, December 5, 1931. Forman, 1967, p. 293).

Talbott House



TURKEY COCK HALL

Turkey Cock Hall, a small, 1½ story house, stands on a land survey of the same name, 200 acres laid out in April of 1706 for Richard Gist who accumulated a great amount of land in the area. Gist sold 80 acres of Turkey Cock Hall in 1713 to Edward Riston (also spelled Reeston, Reaston) for 34 pounds of tobacco per acre. Riston eventually acquired the remainder of the 200 acres from other owners. Dawn F. Thomas' *The Green Spring Valley* cites records in 1728 court proceedings of Riston's living in the county "at the Garrison Ridge" and she finds a reference of 1733 to the "road which leads from Edward Reeston's by Mr. Richard Gist's house."

Mary (Welch) Cook mentioned in a deposition given in 1737 or 1738, that when she and her husband came to live on part of Welch's Adventure, their nearest neighbor for many years "was Edward Riston who lived on Turkey Cock Hall."

The question rises then, if Gist had some other dwelling place near present Pikesville, was there any structure standing when Riston took possession in 1713?

Riston married three times; his last wife and first widow married Rinaldo Monk who lived nearby and was the first miller in the vicinity. Riston's daughter Anne inherited all her father's land on his death in 1749 or 1750. About the same time, Anne Riston married Thomas Johnson and in 1753, their son Rinaldo Johnson, the first of ten children was born. The Johnson family members still continue to live around Rockland in the late 20th century.

Dawn Thomas reported that the date "1712" on the chimney had been added within the previous twenty years (1958-78). Estimates for the antiquity of the house vary:

Mrs. D. F. Thomas	1707-1733
Mr. W. B. Marye	1700-1745
Rinaldo Johnson's advertisement	1706

In 1794, Rinaldo Johnson placed the following advertisement in the *Maryland Journal* and *Baltimore Advertiser*.

To be SOLD, or RENTED, on account of its remoteness from my present residence, for any term of years not exceeding twenty.

That truly valuable GRAZING FARM, called and known generally the name of Turkey-Cock-Hall, situate on Jones-Falls, in Baltimore County, distant seven or eight miles from the town, of which immediate possession will be given, with or without the right of taking off the crop of small grain growing thereon. One half of the rent will be annually left in the hands of the tenant for the first five years, and one fourth of the annual rent for five years thereafter, for the purpose of erecting suitable buildings and improvements on the premises, to be judged of and declared by the proprietor, and executed by the tenant.

Such as may wish, on account of their health or other circumstances, to retire from the dread of war alarms, or the noise and bustle of a city, to the sweet, secure, and calm repose of the country, may here find an asylum, and yet not be too remote to be deprived of the pleasures and advantages of the Town. A particular description of Turkey Cock-Hall is unnecessary, as no one, it is presumed, would either buy or lease without first visiting the lands; but let it suffice, for the present, that this place has been constantly inhabited by a considerable number of people ever since the year 1706, and that there has never been a death on it (as I am well informed) since the year 1739/40, but one who was a person then eighty years of age. For terms apply to the subscriber.

RINALDO JOHNSON
Aquasco, Prince George's County, Maryland
March 15, 1794

The 1798 tax list showed the house as a one-story frame dwelling, 44 x 22 feet, with a "piazza" on both sides, 44 x 8 feet. There were three other one-story log houses on the property, but the Rockland mill town had not appeared.

A theory offered by William B. Marye was that Turkey Cock Hall "had undergone construction three times, with the middle portion built first and the south section a few years later." His conclusions were based on the similarity of wood details inside and out; the existence of the vertical joint where the south and north portions were joined together; and the wood sill on the stone foundation which was also jointed at this point. The house contained a clustered chimney (i.e., all the fireplaces were arranged in the center of the adjoining rooms).

Turkey Cock Hall



Rinaldo Johnson conveyed the old hall to his brother, Dr. Thomas Johnson in 1801; he had been listed as occupant on the 1798 assessment. The doctor had studied at the University of Pennsylvania and served in the Maryland Legislature; the 1796 Baltimore directory showed him practicing in the town. His wife, Joanna Giles Johnson, had inherited extensive lands and ground rents in Fells Point. By at least 1820, Dr. Johnson was calling the old hall "Rockland," a name that extended to the mill and grounds as well. His son, William Fell Johnson, had a large new stone and stucco house built on a hill on the west side of Falls Road in 1836-37; that house came to be the only dwelling known as *Rockland*.

Dr. Johnson had left Turkey Cock Hall to his daughter, Anne G. Johnson Tagart, along with the land east of the Falls Road. The property passed to Samuel H. Tagart, who left his assets to the Mayor and City Council in trust for the McDonogh Educational Fund. William Fell Johnson (2nd) bought the property in 1893. It passed to William Fell Johnson (3rd) and on his death in 1968, the property and cottage passed to Dr. Robert W. Johnson, whose son [at the time of writing] lived next door, the 9th generation of related persons to dwell there.

GREEN SPRING

Green Spring at 12 Valley Road, *Garrison*, is a two-and-a-half story house that has apparently grown from a one-story core, and some ancient fireplaces survive to support the claims of antiquity. The formal front of this white clapboard house is five bays wide. There are two dormers set in a hip roof. Inside chimneys rise through the roof at the extremities of the main facade. There are multiple flues in the chimneys and brick arches—four of them on one chimney—keep rain out of the fireplaces. The house contains an ell or back building and there is also a one-bay extension set back from and on the north end of the main block. Most of the 6-on-6 double-hung sash windows are fitted with blinds (or shutters).

As described in an unsigned *Jeffersonian* article written in the 1930's by William Williams:

The home, which is approached by a driveway breaking off from the Valley Road about two hundred yards east of the Garrison Road, is a two-and-a-half story structure of early colonial design and faces south. The main portion is of stone clapboarded over, while the kitchen wing, in the rear, is of heavy log, covered with clapboards.

The interior is divided into about fourteen rooms, all told, with those in the main part running to the spacious square type of the period. The ceilings are medium high, the doors low, the windows long, the floors laid in wide boards, and each contains the customary fireplace with ornamental mantel.

The fireplace in the old drawing room, which is to the left of the entrance hall as one goes in, is of particular interest. Flanked on either side by its high, arched chimney-corners, it must be just about as it was when John and Ellen Moale sat with their guests before it. But it was not always thus. It was not good enough

for one of the owners of Green Spring, so he had the mantle taken out and substituted for it a more modern and ornate marble affair, and the old mantle found itself relegated to a log cabin on the estate. The next owner hunted it up and restored it to its original place....

Directly back of the kitchen wing is the old smoke-house, which in the early days of the house was connected with the main house, but is now separated. Farther to the rear of the house and to the east stands a two-story slave house, while immediately to the west of the mansion and separated from it by fifty or sixty feet is an interesting little square structure with a high, peaked roof, which might be taken for a springhouse. If one asks about it, however, he learns that once upon a time, it was the schoolhouse for the children of the family, where masters hired by the lord of the manor, taught their young offspring their "three R's"...except for the introduction of

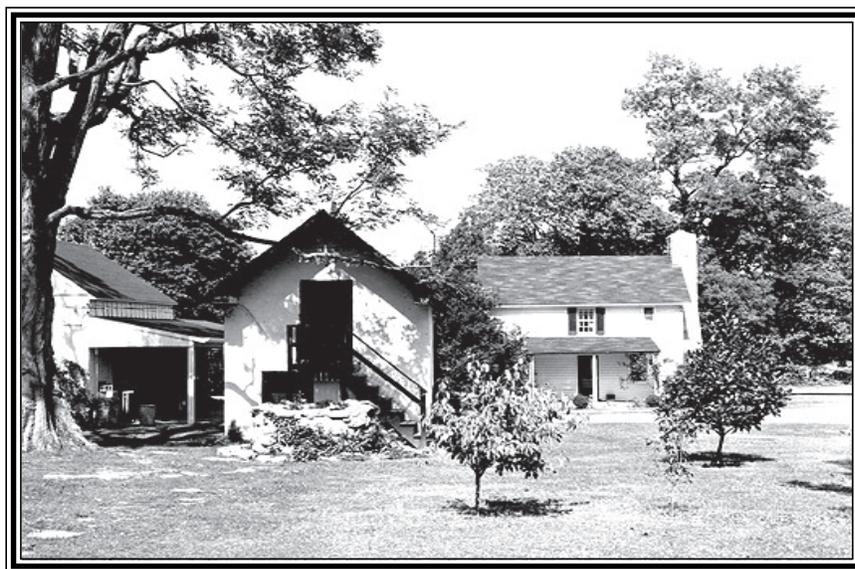
conveniences in the way of heating, lighting, and plumbing, and the addition of a small sun porch in the rear, [the house] is unchanged and unharmed.

In 1970, Claire A. Richardson gathered some data from Mrs. H. Benthall Marshall for the Baltimore County Historical Society's building survey and reported that the smokehouse was then being used as a garage, and smoke-blackened timbers could be seen inside. The slave quarter had been renovated and was occupied by a family relative. The buildings mentioned in the *Jeffersonian* article still stood—along with an ice house. In 1984, Gregory Weidman of the Maryland Historical Society dated the house as post-1749.

Green Spring stands on land that has belonged to persons with the same family connections since the tract was first surveyed. "Green Spring Forest" having been surveyed in 1754 for Christopher Carnan and wife and for Ellen North. The survey covered 1,486 acres and was apparently a resurvey of land previously acquired by Ellen or Ellin North's father, Captain Robert North. Captain North had come to Maryland from Whitton Parrish, Lancashire. His daughter Ellin was born in 1741 and has been called the "first white child born in Baltimore Town" although it is difficult to see how a town established in 1729 could have waited 11 years for its first blessed event.

Captain North left Green Spring Forest to the 7-year-old Ellin in 1748. In 1758, Ellin married John Moale, and they built Green Spring as their country place some time early in their marriage. One of the clues to the age of the house is a cast-iron fireback that was removed from the fireplace in the drawing room. This iron slab bore the inscription "M I W 1762." Possibly the "I W" stood for "Iron Works, but there was no local iron works with a name beginning with "M." Possibly Captain Moale had the fireback custom-cast, but why he left the "I W" as part of the inscription is a mystery.

A Whig in politics, Moale found his way early into revolutionary activity. He was a member of the Committees of Observation and Correspondence, served in the Maryland constitutional convention, and in 1776 became a lieutenant colonel of the Baltimore Town Militia, serving through the entire war. In 1781 he delivered the address of welcome to General Washington and was on the committee to welcome Rochambeau.



Green Spring

Ellin North Moale was painted along with her granddaughter by Joshua Johnson, the first black American portraitist.

The 1798 tax list showed Ellen Moal (sic), who had that year become a widow, as owner of parcels in both Back River Upper Hundred and Soldiers Delight Hundred. The land in Soldier's Delight was listed under the name Green Spring Punch with:

One frame Dwelling House one story high hip-roof, 31 by 18,
by addition of log one story 23 by 17

One old frame house one story, 24 by 24

One old log Negroe house, one story 20 by 12

In the Particular List of Lands, the holdings beyond the home two acres, the list showed:

barn ... stone 62 by 25

Log house 10 by 10

One hew'd Log House 14 by 9

Log stable 20 by 12.

Ellin Moale lived until 1825, leaving the place to son Robert North Moale, who was married to Frances Owings, daughter of Samuel Owings, founder of Owings Mills and Revolutionary patriot.

Robert Moale lived on the place until his death in 1852. It was he who deeded a station site to the Baltimore and Susquehanna Railroad in 1833 when that line was attempting to reach Westminster and Pennsylvania. The company's famous English locomotive *Herald*, far superior to the B & O's *Tom Thumb*, passed through the Moale property at speeds of 30 miles per hour on its trial runs in the autumn of 1832.

Upon becoming a widow, Mrs. Elder conveyed part of the estate to son Robert North Elder, November 1869. The 1877 atlas continued to show Mrs. E. N. Elder. In 1890, the property passed to Mrs. William (Frances M.) Shipley, the daughter of Mrs. Elder (Deeds JWS 180:230). An 1889 plat shows the estate and largest of the barns and stables, and the mansion was shown to be L-Shaped.

Mrs. Shipley left the property to Jervis Spencer, Jr. in 1916. In 1940, Mr. Spencer left it to his daughter Katherine S. Brown; Mrs. Brown deeded it to her daughter Frances Brown Marshall (Mrs. H. Benthall Marshall); finally, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall deeded to their daughter

Mrs. Thomas (Katherine M.) Washburne and fellow Washburnes turned the place over to their son. Thus, the chain of title has never deviated from persons with family connections since the time of the first settler to 2005.

Green Spring



The 1918 Tax Ledger of District 3 showed Jarvis Spencer, Jr. with 18 acres of tillable land between Chattolanee and Garrison Station, Green Spring Valley, the main house considerably enlarged since the measurements taken in 1798:

Dwelling	36 X 58	
	16 X 21 & 21 X 36 two and a half sts.	\$4000
Stable	27 X 31 one and half story	301
Dwelling	18 X 26	
	14 X 32 one and two stories	491
Dwelling	17 X 24 one and half stories	535
3 Small Bldgs		50

HEREFORD FARM

Hereford Farm was a Maryland Telescope House built in a number of steps with its oldest segment possibly dating from the time when the first of five generations of Merrymans acquired the land. The Merrymans appeared in the county fairly early, supposedly having migrated from Virginia.

John Merryman of Clover Hill acquired 102 acres in the upper county in 1738 from Thomas Broad and promptly deeded it to son John, Jr. This second John Merryman, distinguished as Junior or John of Hereford, acquired another place called Merryman's Lot (100 acres) in the upper county under lease in 1751. That lot became part of a resurvey called "Hereford" in 1771 (854 acres). In 1789, a second survey was made of all his properties along "the Middle Road leading from Baltimore Town to York Town" under the title of "Hereford Resurveyed" — some 1,038-¾ acres (Patents IC No. D, f. 397).

John Merryman of Hereford (1703-1777) is credited with putting up the first stone barn, a springhouse, and fieldstone slave quarters. He was buried along with his wife Sarah Rogers Merryman (1708- 1775) in a walled plot to the northeast of the house.

The third John Merryman (1736-1814) moved to Baltimore Town in 1763 and became active in local affairs and had a hand in having Baltimore Town incorporated as a city.

The 1798 tax list showed that the house was still only a single section of stone, measuring 21 by 40 feet; the separate kitchen was listed as stone, 22 x 26.

The center link was of stone, 1½-stories, with a gambrel roof that once continued as a porch roof. The front was four bays across. Three dormers were set in the east side of the upstairs roof. The porch had been supported by four posts with Victorian scrolls. The west facade of the same section was four bays, with only one roof dormer. A small, centered, end chimney rose from the south wall.

The second element added to the house was the kitchen wing, four bays wide on the east facade, 1½ stories high with a gable roof. A large square inside chimney was centered at the south end of the kitchen. The south end wall was penetrated by one door at ground level and by two square loft windows at the second, or attic level. The west facade of the kitchen structure was two bays wide, with one dormer at the roof level.

Hereford Farm



The third and final section of the house was the 2½ story main block, located on the north end; this section was three bays wide on the east facade; there had been a porch, possibly a late addition but it later collapsed, along the entire width of the east facade. This porch was supported by four posts decorated with Victorian scrolls. The design of the main block itself was a highly simplified Federal. There were two pedimented dormers on the east facade. The roof was gabled and there were overhanging eaves at the sides. There was a box cornice on the east. A chimney rose outside the south wall between the main block and the middle section. On the north there was an inside chimney, centrally located. The porch of this block did not match the porch on the center section in either height or design. On the west facade, the main block was two bays wide and there were two dormers. Dimensions were given as 36 by 36 in one wing and 20 x 73 in another by the 1918 District 7 Tax Ledger, f. 671, when Hereford Farm was property of Mrs. Eliz. A. Mays.

By 1973 or before, the house had lost its porches. Seepage, vandalism, and the depredations of woodwork hunters ruined most of the interior materials while the house stood untended. A large part of the roof fell in during the severe winter of 1976-77. In December 1982, the house was demolished but later an elegant new house was built, the barns saved, and the property fenced for horse-raising and the place renamed Ross Valley Farm, then renamed Marathon Farm.

MARTIN FUGATE HOUSE

The Martin Fugate House on Troyer Road, My Lady's Manor, is a one story, stone house of two bays above a high cellar, all in semi-ruinous condition, one of the oldest structures in the vicinity. It measures 18 by 24 feet, the exact dimensions recorded for a house on this property in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax. James T. Wollon, Jr., described the house as follows:

A door near the center of both the east and west facades (the east being toward the road) gives access to the interior, now divided into two rooms with wainscot partition of recent vintage. South of the door, on both the east and west facades, is a window; the west window is considerably smaller than the east, the latter being of an approximate size for 6/6 sash, now missing. In the south end is a very broad fireplace, entirely within the structure; the fireplace lintel is a very large log, hewn square.

Fragments of single plane architrave with ovolo backhand remain at the west openings, and reused, out of context, as chair rail near the northwest corner. Original nails appear to be hand-wrought.

A step stair with winders at the bottom rises to the left story from the northwest corner. A fragment of an H or HL hinge remains on the fragment of trim around the door at the bottom of the stair.

First floor joists are large logs, hewn flat on the top and bottom sides. Some wrought nails were observed, driven into joists at random places. Second floor joists are hewn to more-or-less dimensional proportions without beading. The present first story ceiling is of recent wainscot, but there is no evidence of lathe and plaster; joists and the undersides of attic flooring were whitewashed.

Lathe in the second story is circular sawn, fastened with wire nails. Roof rafters are circular sawn.

Access to the stone walled cellar is through a hatch in the east wall beneath the window. A very wide stone arch supports the hearth above.



Martin Fugate House

A large portion of the stone north end wall has collapsed. Both gable ends are of framed construction, covered with wood shingles.

This tiny house recalls perfectly the cottages of Great Britain or France, and, in its primitive state, is a rare survival of the European cottage transplanted in America.

The indications noted suggest that this is basically, the structure described in 1798, with at least two periods of remodeling, but without substantial additions or change of character.

During the Manor study, Dr. Robert M. N. Crosby recounted the following history:

This stone house is on Lot 51 which was patented to Elizabeth Fugate in 1810. The Fugates were early settlers on the Manor, having been among the original leaseholders from Thomas Brerewood. The first Fugate was James and his son, Edward, married Elizabeth Bacon, the daughter of the first Martin Bacon who was also one of the original leaseholders from Brerewood, whose property later became known as Lot 58, patented to Temperance Hunt Bacon, the sister-in-law of Elizabeth Bacon Fugate.

Several other properties on The Manor were patented to Martin Fugate and his mother, Elizabeth Bacon Fugate.

In the 1798 Direct Federal Tax Assessment other structures listed in addition to the house included a smith's shop. The dimensions of the present stone structure fit the dimensions of the dwelling exactly.

Lot 51 was sold by the Fugates to Josias and Thomas Sparks in 1810 and 1811. The 1823 Tax Assessment for Baltimore County District Five shows this to be in the possession of Thomas and Josias Sparks.

This house remained in the Sparks family for many years and served as a slave house. In fact, it is known as the Sparks' slave house to many old residents on The Manor. It is now unoccupied and deteriorating badly. It is now the property of Mr. Kenneth Marshall.

RUMSEY HOUSE

The brick Rumsey House at the old county seat of Joppa was five bays wide, gambrel-roofed, and featured a deep, flat wooden cornice, heavy eaves, and double inside end-chimneys. One brick wing was a true "salt box" containing the kitchen. On the main block (56 x 24 feet), there were five bays on the water side, three bays on the land side, three dormers on each facade. There is a watertable in brick all around. A center hall ran through from front to back. The interior was paneled, and there was an elegant stair and the great rooms were fitted with moulded cornices. In 1968, local historian Kenneth Bourne stated that this was one of the few Maryland houses built with imported brick, in this instance a very hard brick laid in Flemish bond with

alternating tones of light and dark. Although the house was indeed in sight of navigable water, Mary Cadwalader rejected the idea. The house was probably built sometime after 1724 as the home of Colonel James Maxwell who had constructed the Joppa Court House. The number of bricks needed to build the small city could have been burned on the premises. Later Judge Benjamin Rumsey acquired the place by marrying “the Widow Maxwell.” Rumsey served on the Court of Appeals from 1776 to 1806 and was elected to the Continental Congress. By the time of Joppa’s hundredth birthday, only four houses survived and eventually the Rumsey House was the only one left and its farm fields were the site of the lost city. The last residents before the farm was developed into a marina and housing project were William Chell and family. The first story of the house had been coated with stucco to combat dampness. The mansion was vacant in 1968, threatened with neglect and doom, but was later fully restored starting the next year by Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Anderson. The restoration involved replicating an entire set of stair balusters from the last original, rescued by the rector of the new Joppatowne church. Excellent paneling survived over the fireplace in the parlor, and the room cornices were replicated from a small fragment. Restoration included ordering special glazed-end bricks to fill in gaps in the 31-inch-thick walls. The grounds are too heavily landscaped to provide a good view of this 18th century survival of one of three extinct country seats. (Tilghman, 1968. Cadwalader, 1968, pp. 17-19. Also, Wright, 1967, p. 58).

Rumsey House

