

## ENOCH J. FOX HOUSE (J. PHIPPS SITE)

Delaware Ave. has a fine collection of 19th century and Early 20th century residences which can teach us a great deal about Victorian Towson. This small frame house is one of the last in the neighborhood still being used as a residence. Enoch J. Fox has it built earlier in this century to replace a log house which is believed to have been built prior to 1877. Evidence of the log house survives beneath the frame structure and thus in a single building one can see an evolution of wood construction techniques.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

BA - 1477

BA61-0314775704

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Enoch J. Fox House

AND/OR COMMON

Mrs. Irene C. Fox Residence (J. Phipps Site)

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

506 Delaware Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Towson

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

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

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. Irene C. Fox

Telephone #: (301) 825-5782

STREET & NUMBER

506 Delaware Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Towson

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21204

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

New Courts Building

Liber #: 2436

Folio #: 491

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

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

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>Fall, 1977</u>

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The Irene C. Fox residence, located on 506 Delaware Ave., is a rectangular frame house on a longitudinal plan. It has a gable end roof, with very deep cornices on the west and east ends of the building.

The west or street facade is two bays wide with a single story gable roof porch, the porch having wooden verandahs towards the southwest corner of the house. On the north side of the west facade there is a wooden glass entrance door which suggests a side hall plan and towards the southwest is a 1/1 double hung window with louvered shutters and on the attic there is a double hung window.

On the south side, on both stories, there are five double hung windows, three on a swell-front two story bay window, which allows more light into the living room area. On the north side there are two 1/1 double hung windows.

The east end of the house has a wooden glass door with a gable roof hood over it and on the second story there is a 1/1 double hung window. The east end contains the kitchen on the first floor and this portion of the building was where the original house started.

The 1877 and 1898 maps indicate a house on this lot which sits back from the road quite a bit further than the present structure. According to Mrs. Fox, her father tore down the log house which stood where the present kitchen is located and replaced it with this frame dwelling. An opening in the east wall of the basement allows one to look under the kitchen where foundation logs can still be seen. One of them on the north side still contains remainents of a log wall that had been squared and V- notched.

The hall is on the north side of the building. On the first floor, one finds the living room which is well lighted due to the swell-front window. The door frames all over the house are decorated with natural wood and bull eye cornices.

To the east of the dining room one finds the kitchen. The kitchen is a complete reminder of the past with an early 2-th century gas stove and a tall cupboard with tongue groove panelling. It is quite a contrast for one to look outside the window or door and can see a vista of the new and modern Towson.

On the patio behind the kitchen there is a board and batten wooden tool shed which might have been constructed with the wood from the old house (dating back to the 19th century and the new house early 20th century). This is evidenced by the glass on the window and the wooden pegs on the corner of the window frame and square cut nails on the southeast section of the shed.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

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 checked="" 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 1877, 1930

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Delaware Ave. has a fine collection of 19th century and Early 20th century residences which can teach us a great deal about Victorian Towson. This small frame house is one of the last in the neighborhood still being used as a residence. Enoch J. Fox had it built prior to 1877. Evidence of the log house survives beneath the frame structure and thus in a single building one can see an evolution of wood construction techniques.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 25' X 206' (Irreg.)

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Attachment

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

WAYNE L. NIELD, II  
HISTORIC TOWSON, INC.ORGANIZATION  
Mary A. Targa

DATE

Dec. 12, 1977

STREET & NUMBER  
Goucher College

TELEPHONE

296-5483

CITY OR TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

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

Mrs. Irene C. Fox obtained the house from her father, Enoch J. Fox, on Feb. 10, 1954 for the sum of five dollars. Mrs. Fox obtained the lot "beginning for the same 49 ft. and 6 inches from a stone planted on the East side of Delaware Ave. (formerly known as Hillen Rd.) at the end of the first line of a lot of ground leased by Benjamin N. Payne and wife Sarah Whittle, and running thence the same course at the first line South 3 degrees East 25 dt. to a point in said road, thence  $86\frac{1}{2}$  degrees East 206 ft. to what was formerly James Sheridan's line and thence with said line North 11 degrees East to the corner of said Sheridan's and Margaret Flayhart's lot, thence North 88 degrees West 210 ft. to the place of beginning." (1)

Enoch J. Fox acquired this same lot and the adjacent one belonging now to W.J. Phipps on May 22, 1930 from Amy P. Issac for the sum of five dollars. The adjacent lot to Mrs. Fox begins at a "stone standing on the East side of the Hillen Road (Delaware Ave. said to be a boundary of a tract of land called James Meadow) and running thence on the East side of said road South 3 degrees East 49 ft. to the corner between the lots occupied by James Sheridan and Edward Flayhart, thence North 11 degrees East 70 ft. more or less to Shealy's line to the place of beginning. This lot was leased by Benjamin Payne and wife Sarah Whittle May 1, 1867 recorded among the land records of Baltimore County in the liber 53 folio 296." (2)

Amy P. Issac acquired the above mentioned two lots from Nelson and Jamina Cooper on Feb. 26, 1884 for the sum of \$160.00.

Nelson and Jamina Cooper acquired the lots from Robert R. Boarman and D.G. McIntosh who acquired the properties from an equity case involving John Payne and His wife Mary Payne on Feb. 11, 1874. Boarman and McIntosh (trustees) sold the properties to Nelson and Jamina Cooper for \$680.00

FOOTNOTES

1

Land Records of Baltimore County Liber 2436 folio 491

2

Land Records of Baltimore County Liber 853 folio 33

BA-1477

FOX HOUSE ---About 1850---A log cabin covered over ; south of Phipps Hall, east  
side of Delaware Avenue, <sup>Pennsylvania</sup> at corner of Shealey Avenue. ?

## TITLE SEARCH for ENOCH J. FOX HOUSE

Liber 2436, Folio 491 February 10, 1954  
Grantor: Enoch J. Fox, widower  
Grantee: Irene C. Fox

"Beginning...49'6" from a stone planted in the east side of Delaware Avenue...East 25'...East 206'...West 211' to place of beginning."

Liber 846, Folio 186 March 22, 1930  
Grantor: Amy P. Isaac  
Grantee: Enoch J. Fox

Liber 53, Folio 299 May 1, 1867 Lease  
Grantor: Benjamin N. Payne & wife  
Grantee: James Boyd



# PLAN OF TOWSONTOWN.

**TOWSONTOWN.**  
 Real Estate Agent,  
 H. L. BOWEN,  
 Surveyors and Engineers,  
 WHEELER & MELANE.

Dr. Bosley

Miss Julia Barron

BALTIMORE

AVE

**COURT HOUSE**

PENNSYLVANIA

ALLEGHENY

JOPPA

East of Mrs. E. Ware

WASHINGTON

AVE.

**Smedley Prop.**  
**HOUSE**

E. Smedley

ROCK

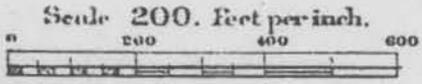
ROAD

Chew

AVE.

YORK

Ware Heirs.



DELAWARE AVE.

AVE.

VIRGINIA

JEFFERSON

AVE.

AVE.

EPSON M. E. CHURCH

Chew Estate



BN-1477

ENOCH FOX HSE.  
(J. PHIPPS SITE)  
W.

W. NIELD  
SPR-78



BA-1477

ENOCH FOX HSE.  
(J. PHIPPS SITE)  
S.E. CORNER

W. Nield  
Spr. - 78