

BA-629

1800-1825

Luke Ensor House  
East side of York Road,  
0.4 mile south of Kauffman Road  
Parkton vicinity

This primitive house stands on Lot 4 in the 1811 division of Captain James Calder's estate and was apportioned to his daughter, Charlotte Withers, wife of Michael Withers. Presumably the Withers family lived here in 1820 when the Sheriff attempted to sell the place for debt in 1820 and 1821, but found no buyer. It was shown as the M. Withers house on the 1850 Sidney map. The tract name is Hunter's Delight. The property of the widowed Charlotte Withers was further subdivided in lawsuits of 1860-61-65 and the farmstead where she lived was designated as Lot No. 8. Mrs. Withers continued to live there and failed to move after the property was sold out from under her by her trustees. The house and barn appear near Fowler's Branch on the 1861 sales plat (Towson Plat Books, WPC 6:23). As advertised in 1861, Lot 8 contained a two-story frame house with parlor, dining room, and kitchen on the first floor; there was also "a new Switzer barn, together with Meat House and other necessary outbuildings."

Francis A. Crook bought the tract and in 1869 sold to William Ensor, who appears in the 1877 Hopkins atlas. There are not specifics in the 1876 or 1896 tax ledgers. Under Ensor's will of 1900, Hunter's Delight passed to Peter W. Ensor, and the 1918 tax ledger gave dimensions of the house as two stories, 16 x 46 feet; the tenant house was 18 x 52, and the barn 44 x 74. In 1933, the

property passed to Aerial M. Baily and Julia Ann Ensor, who sold to Walter Shaul in 1971. By that time, Route I-83 had been build along the east edge of the cluster of buildings. The main house is a two-story, two part structure with gable roofing, in vernacular style. The main block is of log, an irregular three bays wide. The lower wing to the east is stuccoed over, two bays wide. There are interior chimneys at each end of the house. The house was vacant in late 1978, but under restoration by the owner of an antiques enterprise across the road to the west. There is also an outbuilding to the east. South of the dwelling are a frame barn and a wagon shed/corn house. The owner was listed as Hubert A. Bellman.