

Joseph Biggs appears to have resided here in 1877 after having come from New Castle County, De. in 1856. He also owned an earlier brick house across Route 282 but the word "Residence" designated this house. The traditional 2½ story five bay center hall frame house is enlivened by a second floor "Palladian" window which seems to be a mid 19th Century imitation of the "Palladian" window across the road in Frisby's Prime Choice.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

File 1-110

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Biggs-Ernest House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Maryland Route 282 1/4 mile east of Earleville

CITY, TOWN

Earleville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Cecil

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Douglas E. Ernest

Telephone #: 275-2242

STREET & NUMBER

Maryland Route 282

CITY, TOWN

Cecilton

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21913

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Liber #: WAS 11
Folio #: 109

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CE-954

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input 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

The Biggs-Ernest House c. 1850 is a 2½ story 5 bay single *pile* center hall frame house on Md. Route 282 southeast of Earleville. The house faces northeast with the main gable running on a northwest/southwest axis.

The house rests on a fieldstone foundation and is totally covered with aluminum over weatherboard. There is a medium pitch to the composition tile roof. A 20th century frame addition extends to the south.

The main facade has symmetrical fenestration with a central double door with molded arch panels. The surrounds have been replaced with modern stock "brick" molding. The 4/4 sash are flanked by new louvered wooden shutters. The entrance has three light sidelights and a 4 light transom. Located over the entrance on the second floor is a 4/4 sash with 2/2 sash sidelights and arched lunette overhead with radiating muttins. The boxed cornice is covered with aluminum. Three 6/6 sash dormers light the attic and have plain pilasters that support an arched pediment.

Interior end brick stacks rise out of each gable end and are flanked by first and second floor lights on the east and end.

The interior has retained some of its mid 19th century woodwork. A heavily turned newel supports a continuous oval handrail with turned balusters. The door surrounds are widely molded and frame 4 panel door. A slate mantel with an incised spandral decoration, central keystone and curved and molded shelf is found in the west parlor. The fireplace opening is arched.

Located in the recent addition is an 18th century Federal mantel with an elaborate molded cornice, mantel shelf, and intricate gouge work. The mantel supposedly came from a house in Middletown, Delaware.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

CE-954

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 checked="" 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 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

The Biggs-Ernest House is immediately recognizable as a mid 19th century structure although it has been covered with aluminum and the earlier rear wing removed. The more elaborate central window seems to be an imitation of the palladian window across the road in Frisby's Prime Choice. The interior woodwork described is typical of the period. The 1877 map lists a Joseph Biggs owning the house along with 360 acres. His name is also on the brick house across the road but the ~~wood~~ "residence" is associated with this house. The patron list also mentions that Joseph Biggs came from New Castle County, Delaware around 1856.

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

Paul B. Touart Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Cecil County Committee

DATE

10/16/79

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

TELEPHONE

398-7568

CITY OR TOWN

Elkton

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





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V

19

NORTHEAST ELEVATION
(PHOTOGRAPH REVERSED)
IN DEVELOPMENT

NR

EARLEVILLE, MD.

6/79

PBT

DEV. BY
Elizabeth E. Booth