

D-57

## Garden of Eden

### **Architectural Survey File**

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site ([mht.maryland.gov](http://mht.maryland.gov)) for details about how to make an appointment.

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***Last Updated: 07-21-2003***

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## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON: Garden of Eden				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: Garden of Eden Road, .8 mile north of Md. Rt. 343				
CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge				
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Dorchester	
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
<b>CATEGORY</b> (Check One)	<b>OWNERSHIP</b>		<b>STATUS</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Howell				
STREET AND NUMBER: R.F.D. 3				
CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge			STATE: Maryland	21613
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Dorchester County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER: High Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge			STATE: Maryland	21613
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 158/339				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	

7. DESCRIPTION			
CONDITION	(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair
	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)		(Check One)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Uncolored	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		
<p>DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE</p> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">Garden of Eden is one of the great Ante-bellum houses of Dorchester County. The main portion of the house is built over a high brick basement. The walls are framed and covered with beaded weatherboard. It is five bays long with a central entrance, and two storys tall. On each side is a 20th century one and one-half story wing, one housing the kitchen, the other a porch.</p> <p>A covered porch over the door with its sidelight and transom appears to be original, a very simple version of the Greek Revival style. Each of the windows have 6/6 sash and louvered shutters, though the first story windows are slightly longer than those above. On each side of the roof are two dormers. There is a deck upon the roof with balustrade extending between the four tall chimneys. On the water side of the house is a screened porch which looks down a partial allee of maples to the waters of the Great Choptank.</p> <p>The interior is divided into four rooms with central stair-hall. The hall and west half of the house have simple Greek Revival architraves around the doors and windows, similar to Ridgeton Farm, Taylor's Island. The openings of the other half of the house and upstairs have bold trim with corner blocks and four-panel doors. The original partition between the front and back rooms on the west has been removed, creating a large living room. Between the two east rooms are closets, which are beneath the corridor and stair to the attic.</p> <p>The stair is deviod of the usual ornamentation of Ante-bellum millwork. It is made of mahogany while most of the period is walnut and oak. The secondary newels are smaller than the main one and their drop finials are delicate acorns.</p> <p>The house has seven fireplaces - only the southeast bedroom lacks a fireplace. It has an openess and rich simplicity not found in other houses of the period.</p>			

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B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                      |   |  |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry    | losophy                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention   | <input type="checkbox"/> Science        | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | Architecture                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature  | itarian                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music       | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Garden of Eden is one of the best Ante-Bellum houses of Dorchester. Only Ridgeton and Liberty Hall rival its detail, but neither has the lightness of interior detail which make Garden of Eden so impressive.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Flowers, Thomas A., Dorchester Trecentenary, 1969.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

Map 19, p.46

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant		
ORGANIZATION Maryland Historical Trust		DATE May 1, 1975
STREET AND NUMBER: Shaw House, 21 State Circle		
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis	STATE Maryland	21401

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature



.12 X 1.66

75%

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M. Bourne May 19<sup>75</sup>