

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

1303746627  
HA-374

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Joseph Spencer House  
AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER Lapidum Road  
CITY, TOWN Lapidum VICINITY OF First  
STATE Maryland COUNTY Harford

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" 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 Maryland Department of Natural Resources Telephone #: 267-5656  
STREET & NUMBER Tawes State Office Building  
CITY, TOWN Annapolis VICINITY OF Maryland STATE, zip code 21401

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Harford County Courthouse Liber #: GRG 782  
STREET & NUMBER 40 South Main Street Folio #: 524  
CITY, TOWN Bel Air STATE Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
DATE  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS  
CITY, TOWN STATE

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

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 type="checkbox"/> MOVED	DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED			
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This structure has been torn down and the following description is taken from an earlier survey done by Jean S. Ewing.

"Frame house, asphalt shingle over clapboard. L-shaped, a lean-to kitchen has a large chimney and may have been the original house. The main part faces south, 3 bays by 1, with windows six lights over six. The ridgeline runs east-west, the roof is A shaped. One chimney rises along on inside wall to peak."

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- |   |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| <b>PERIOD</b>                             | <b>AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW</b> |   |   |  |
| <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 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 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 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building was built much later than most of the structures in Lapidum, as it does not appear on the Martenet map. It was probably built in the 1890's by Joseph Spencer, who may have been related to Jarrett Spencer, the owner of a local tavern.

Both the Spencer lots and the lots on the other side of the hotel were owned by a Joseph L. Burkins. The other lots once contained a house that was first owned by Benjamin Heath, one of the proprietors of the large warehouse in the town. During the 1870's, Mary E. Stephenson operated a bakery from the building.

FORMAL PRESENTATION

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Harford County Land Records  
Martinet's Map of 1878  
Silver, Albert P.; Lapidum, 1888.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY about one-half acre

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The parcel is located on the west side of Lapidum Road near the intersection with Stafford Road. It is bounded on the north by the Price house site and to the south by the Lyle property.

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE  
Paul L. Penrod / site surveyor

ORGANIZATION  
Maryland Historical Trust

DATE  
May 21, 1976

STREET & NUMBER  
Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE  
267-1212

CITY OR TOWN  
Annapolis

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

SUSQUEHANNA STATE PARK PROPERTY

Joseph Spencer House

<u>Libre</u>		<u>Folio</u>	
GRG	782	524	In 1968, Joseph L. Burkins sold Lots five and six in Lapidum to the Maryland State Department of Forests and Parks.
GCB	295	146	In 1946, Ernest Wood sold Joseph L. Burkins Lots five and six in Lapidum, also known as the Stevenson House property.
SWC	225	45	In 1932, the Safe Deposit and Trust Company of Baltimore sold Ernest H. Wood Lots five and six of the Stevenson House property.  As a result of an equity case in 1925 involving Elizabeth Bruen Archer and William S. Archer, the property was transferred to the Safe Deposit and Trust Company of Baltimore (X 24). This firm was to act as a trustee in the place of the late Robert Archer.
ALJ	66	328	In 1890, Henry W. Archer, Jr., trustee for the estate of Henry W. Archer sold the lots to Robert Archer, trustee for Elizabeth Archer.
ALJ	54	185	In 1885, Mary E. Stephenson sold the two lots to Henry W. Archer.
WHD	17	360	Romulus R. Griffith sold the lots to Mary E. Donahoo in 1866. He had purchased the property that same year from Isaac Amos, sheriff and auctioneer,
WG	13	261	In 1862, Ann Archer sold the property to Benjamin F. Heath. The lots had been Archer land and laid out as part of Lapidum in 1858. *****
GRG	782	524	In 1968, Joseph L. Burkins sold Lot 19 and one-half of lot 20 to The Maryland Department of Forests and Parks.
GRG	305	69	In 1947, Joseph L. Burkins bought the two parcels from Joseph H. Burkins.
GCB	211	127	Hannah E. Spencer, widow, sold the lots to Joseph A. Burkins in 1928.
WSF	75	307	In 1893, Joseph E. Spencer sold the property to Hannah E. Spencer.
WSF	74	410	Robert Archer, trustee, sold the lots to Joseph E. Spencer in 1892.
ALJ	66	332	In 1890, Henry W. Archer, Jr., sold the lots to Robert Archer, trustee for Mary A. Archer. These lots were previously Archer property which was laid out as Lapidum in 1857.

Libre      Folio

HD      Z      373

In 1817, Cassandra Stump, widow of John Stump, conveyed the tract where Lapidum would be situated to Ann and Robert Archer.

HD      R      229

In 1804, John Stump purchased this tract, being part of Eightrap, from Samuel Gover.

JLG      N      467

Samuel Gover obtained  $273\frac{1}{2}$  acres from his father, Gerrard Gover, in 1797.

ABERDEEN QUADRANG  
MARYLAND  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
SW/4 HAVRE DE GRACE 15' QUADRANG

W 399 DARLINGTON 2.4 MI 10' 400 401 1 040 000 FEET 3.4 MI. TO U.S. 1 OCTOBER 2.4 MI. 4.5 MI. TO U.S. 1 5.5 MI. TO RD. 276

