

K-490

Wesley Manor
Rock Hall
1st quarter 19th Century

Before it was consumed by fire, an accurate picture of this frame house that stood near Rees' Corner was obtained by the field surveyor. The four-bay, two-story, frame structure was a product of at least two periods. The north half was constructed in the early 19th century and was a one-and-a-half story structure with tall 'A' roof over two back-to-back rooms with corner fireplaces. Its stair was located in the rear room. There was probably an attached kitchen originally on the south side, but it was removed later in the 19th century when the owner enlarged the house. This enlargement was done by adding the same amount of space to the south, raising the entire structure to two full stories and building a kitchen wing out the back or east side of the new section.

In the process of enlarging the building, the original mantels and other period details were maintained. The principal mantel was a well designed, country style Federal piece with tapered columns, gougework plinths and dentil molded shelf. In general form it was similar to two other Eastern Shore mantels; that at Jarvis Hill, Dorchester County and that at Sewell Mill, Caroline County. The evolution of this frame house was very similar to the brick house called Town Relief, owned by the Wroths and enlarged by the Morrises.