

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

P. 10/10/10

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

1. NAME				
COMMON:				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Intersection of Maryland Route 56 and Charles Mill Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Big Spring				
STATE Maryland		COUNTY: Washington		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<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
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC				
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) _____
Comments _____				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: Leroy Clark				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Big Spring			STATE: Maryland	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Washington County Court House				
STREET AND NUMBER: West Washington Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 251/010				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: Maryland Historical Trust Survey #4027				
DATE OF SURVEY: Summer, 1967 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historical Trust				
STREET AND NUMBER: 2525 Riva Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis			STATE: Maryland	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" 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"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house is located at the intersection of Charles Mill Road and Maryland Route 56 at the village of Big Spring in Washington County. It is situated adjacent to the Big Spring and faces north or toward Route 56.

The house is a two-story, three-bay stone structure with a two-bay frame addition attached to its west gable end. Projecting to the rear of the stone section is a one-and-a-half story frame utility building set on high stone foundations.

The walls of the main section of the dwelling are constructed of uncoursed local fieldstone. The frame addition is sheathed with grey shingle siding and rests on low limestone foundations.

Windows are present on all sides of the structure. There is no decorative stone work associated with the window openings in the main section of the house. Their framing is plain except for a small strip of molding holding the sash. The windows of the first and second stories contain two-over-two pane sashes of a type common during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Other windows in the main section include a small four-light opening at the basement level and two single pane openings to light the attic. The frame addition contains windows which are slightly more elaborate in design. They are elongated and topped with architrave trim.

Doorways, like the windows in the stone section are quite simply framed. The main entrance is located in the third bay from the east end of the house. A narrow transom is present over the door to light the stair hall within. A large double door is located at the basement level in the east gable end.

The roof is covered with sheet metal and the eaves are finished with plain boxing under which has been placed a band of molding. Brick chimneys are located inside each gable end. This style of roof construction with its wide overhang at the gables probably dates from the late 19th or early 20th century.

The interior of the house has been altered considerably. Some original woodwork does, however, remain. The fireplace mantel in the northeast room has decorative work which includes fluted colonettes and diagonal reeding on the mantel frieze.

There is no substantiated date indicating the year that the stone section of this house was built. Most stone houses of this type in Washington County date from the first quarter of the 19th century. The plain exterior appearance of this dwelling as well as the style of its remaining original interior woodwork would support an early 19th century building date. The frame section was probably added ca. 1890.

The property contains 78.18 acres and is used for farming. Other buildings on the property include a barn located on the north side of Route 56 and a stone springhouse built of uncoursed fieldstone at the Big Spring which emerges from underground immediately behind the main house. The dwelling is in good condition and is in no immediate danger of destruction. It would, however, be threatened if Route 56 should ever be widened.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. 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/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house is significant both for its location and for its architecture. It is situated at the Big Spring, a water source that gave its name to the nearby village. Water from the spring is well known in the area for its pleasing taste.

Since the Big Spring provided a constant fresh water supply, there was probably settlement in the area at a very early date. Deed records indicate that the Clark property includes part of a 50-acre tract called "Beall's Fort" which was patented to Evan Shelby on August 30, 1741.¹ Although there is no evidence that he lived at Beall's Fort, it should be noted that Evan Shelby, who owned thousands of acres in the Clear Spring area, was the grandfather of Isaac Shelby, first governor of Kentucky.

By the late seventeen hundreds, there seems to have been considerable activity in the Big Spring area. A 1794 map of Washington County shows a tavern at the head of the spring, while an 1808 map depicts the tavern as well as two grist mills between the spring and the Potomac River. (The mills are discussed in forms WA-V-038 and WA-V-049.) No evidence or information has been found concerning the exact location of the tavern shown on the maps as being at the site of the Clark House.

Although no building date has been established for this house, it appears to have been constructed during the first quarter of the 19th century. It is an example of a type of dwelling very common in western Maryland as well as in southern Pennsylvania and the Shenendoah Valley. Such structures are three bays in width with a door in the end bay of the facade. Entrance is generally made into a spacious stair hall. Three-bay houses with the end hall may be considered an abbreviated version of the five-bay central hall farmhouse which differs only by the width of two additional pairs of windows beyond the entrance door. This farmhouse plan is frequently designated as "rural Georgian" in form while the three-bay end hall structures may be termed "half Georgian."

By the term Georgian is meant a house type that is based very remotely upon the architecture of the late 17th and early 18th centuries in England. There, formality and symmetry are the major features of Georgian or English Renaissance architecture. In America, building in the Georgian style was prominent during the mid to late 18th century in the coastal areas of the thirteen colonies. In the inland areas, architecture of the Georgian

¹ Thomas J. Scharf, History of Western Maryland, Regional Publishing Company, Baltimore, Md., 1968, p. 982.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Blank area for Major Bibliographical References.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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: **78.18 acres**

Acreage Justification:

Blank area for Acreage Justification.

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

STATE:	COUNTY:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Paula S. Dickey, Consultant

ORGANIZATION: **Washington County Historic Sites Survey** DATE: **October, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Court House Annex

CITY OR TOWN: **Hagerstown** STATE: **Maryland**

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

Significance of this property is:

National State Local

Signature _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

WA-V-034 -- #8 Significance (Continued)

inspired form became the standard farmhouse plan. The style lost much of its formal detail as it was adapted to use in sparsely settled areas. Basic symmetry was, however, retained. The prominent feature of this type of house is the center front door which opens into a stair hall. Two rooms are usually located on each side of the hall, each with an opening into the central passageway. The Georgian form farmhouse is usually five bays in width with chimneys internally placed at each gable end. It is unusual in western Maryland to see such houses with hipped roofs and interior chimneys. Very frequently a smaller adaptation of the five-bay plan, the half Georgian was used. The Georgian inspired farmhouses of brick and stone are landmarks in western Maryland, southern Pennsylvania and the Shenendoah Valley.

WA-V-034 -- Deed Records

Liber 251, Folio 010, March 1, 1949, 80.7 acres

Grantor: Anna P. Cross, widow

Grantees: Leroy P. Clark, Bertha M. Clark

Liber 234, Folio 432, March 9, 1946, 80.7 acres

Grantors: Harry E. Newkirk, Blanche S. Newkirk

Grantees: James L. Cross, Anna P. Cross

Liber 214, Folio 675, March 14, 1941, 86 acres

Grantor: Paul E. Newkirk

Grantee: Harry E. Newkirk

Liber 126, Folio 15, April 1, 1907, 86 acres, \$4,600

Grantor: Samuel P. Angle

Grantee: Tunis E. Newkirk

The property is referred to in this deed as part of a tract called "Beall's Fort."

Liber 122, Folio 604, November 11, 1905, 87 acres, 16 perches, \$4,350

Grantor: Harrison Angle

Grantee: Samuel P. Angle

Reference is made to "Beall's Fort."

Liber W.McK.K. 1, Folio 41, September 22, 1868, 97-3/4 acres, \$6,230

Grantor: David N. Wiles, Trustee

Grantee: Harrison Angle

The property was sold as the result of legal action taken in the case of Samuel H. Tice et al vs. Emanuel Tice.





WA-II-034

Springhouse



WA-VI-034

SPRING