

WI-374
Russell House
Riverton vicinity
Private

c. 1870

Set back from the road along a gravel drive are two mid nineteenth century houses that formerly comprised part of the historic community of Spring Grove. The Russell house is a two-story, three-bay side hall/parlor frame dwelling erected around 1870. The front entrance displays a Greek Revival influence with pilasters flanking the door opening and a dentiled entablature stretching across the top. Two-over-two sash windows light the first and second floors, and a two-story service wing extends to the rear.

Construction of this house is estimated around 1870 and may have been moved to this location by William B. Russell, who purchased a small parcel described as 1 acre, 5 perches, 7 square yards, and 5 square feet for \$51.00 in December 1890. This unusual quantity of land has been maintained with this house to the most recent transfer in 1981. Four years later, William B. Russell transferred the house and lot to Sarah E. Russell for \$500. Sarah E. Russell retained ownership of this property until her death in 1949 when it passed to the only heirs, Roy P. Russell, Harry E. Russell, and Lola V. Bailey. Lola Bailey was a long-time resident as well, holding title to the house and lot until her death in 1976.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Russell House

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-374

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture

2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore

3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Agricultural-Industrial Transition
1815-1870

4. Resource Type(s): Single-family dwelling

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-374
Magi No.
DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Russell House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 11009 Riverton Road not for publication

city, town Riverton vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input 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 type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: storage

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Edward Ray and Mary Ann Stickel

street & number 11013 Riverton Road telephone no.:

city, town Mardela Springs state and zip code MD 21837

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court Map 5, Parcel 102
liber 955

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 7

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. WI-374

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" 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 of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Russell house is a two-story, side hall/parlor frame dwelling that stands on the south side of a private lane that intersects Riverton Road south of the village of Riverton in Wicomico County, Maryland. The address for the property is 11009 Riverton Road. Built with a northeastern exposure, the main roof is oriented northwest/southeast axis. The house is abandoned and in a deteriorated state of repair.

Supported on a low brick pier foundation, the exterior of the c. 1860-70 two-story, three-bay house is clad with plain weatherboards, and the medium pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story, two-bay wing.

The northeast (main) elevation is a three-bay facade with a side entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows. The front entrance, which no longer has a door, is framed by a Greek Revival pilastered surround with a bold dentil molding enhancing the entablature. The adjacent bays are filled with two-over-two sash windows, and each opening has a molded window lintel. The second floor is lighted by three two-over-two sash windows. Trimming the corners of the house are narrow pilasters that rise to a boxed cornice which features bed and crown moldings.

The southeast gable end is a blind wall of continuous weatherboards, whereas the northwest wall is pierced by two-over-two sash windows to each side of an interior end brick chimney stack. The edge of the roof has an extended eave with short returns at the base of the roof.

Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story, two-bay rear wing that is partially deteriorated. The northwest side elevation is two bays across with a four-panel door and adjacent two-over-two sash window. Two-over-two sash windows light the second floor. Consistent details such as corner pilasters and a boxed cornice finish the exterior. Rising through the gable end is interior end brick chimney that is exposed due to the deteriorated wall.

The interior is finished with third quarter of the nineteenth century woodwork. Four-panel doors are framed by plain surrounds.

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-374

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 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	
and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Set back from the road along a gravel drive are two mid nineteenth century houses that formerly comprised part of the historic community of Spring Grove. The Russell house is a two-story, three-bay side hall/parlor frame dwelling erected around 1870. The front entrance displays a Greek Revival influence with pilasters flanking the door opening and a dentiled entablature stretching across the top. Two-over-two sash windows light the first and second floors, and a two-story service wing extends to the rear.

Construction of this house is estimated around 1870 and may have been moved to this location by William B. Russell, who purchased a small parcel described as 1 acre, 5 perches, 7 square yards, and 5 square feet for \$51.00 in December 1890.¹ This unusual quantity of land has been maintained with this house to the most recent transfer in 1981.² Four years later, William B. Russell transferred the house and lot to Sarah E. Russell for \$500.³ Sarah E. Russell retained ownership of this property until her death in 1949 when it passed to the only heirs, Roy P. Russell, Harry E. Russell, and Lola V. Bailey.⁴ Lola Bailey was a long-time resident as well, holding title to the house and lot until her death in 1976.⁵

The deteriorated condition of this house qualifies it for listing in *Category D*, which identifies properties where alterations should be considered most leniently.

¹ Wicomico County Land Record, FMS 7/294-95, 30 December 1890.

² Wicomico County Land Record, 955/7, 11 February 1981.

³ Wicomico County Land Record, JTT 13/376, 20 November 1894.

⁴ Wicomico County Land Record, JWTS 311/454, 31 August 1949.

⁵ Wicomico County Land Record, A J S 885/853, 27 October 1977.

WI-374
Russell House
11009 Riverton Road
Riverton vicinity, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title

Map 5, Parcel 102

955/7 Edgar A. Russell
Melba Theresa Russell

to

2/11/1981 Edward Ray Stickel
Mary Ann Stickel

1 acre, 5 perches, 7 square yards, 5 square feet

A J S 885/853 Edgar A. Russell, Personal Rep. of Lola R. Bailey

to

10/27/1977 Edgar A. Russell
Melba Theresa Russell
(the said Lola R. Bailey having departed this life 11/2/1976,
Wicomico County Register of Wills, ALL 1/65)

JWTS 311/454 Roy P. Russell

to

8/31/1949 Lola V. Bailey
(Sarah E. Russell died intestate, 2/3/1949, she left as her only
heirs-at-law, children Roy P. Russell, Harry E. Russell, Lola
V. Bailey)

WI-374
Russell House
11009 Riverton Road
Riverton vicinity, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title continued

Page 2

JTT 13/376

William Russell

to

11/20/1894

Sarah E. Russell

\$500 1 acre, 5 perches, 7 square yards, and 5 square feet

FMS 7/294-95

Thomas W. English
Martha J. English

to

12/30/1890

William B. Russell

\$51.00

SPT 5/199

Samuel A. Graham, trustee to sell real estate of
William H. Elzey

to

12/12/1882

Thomas W. English

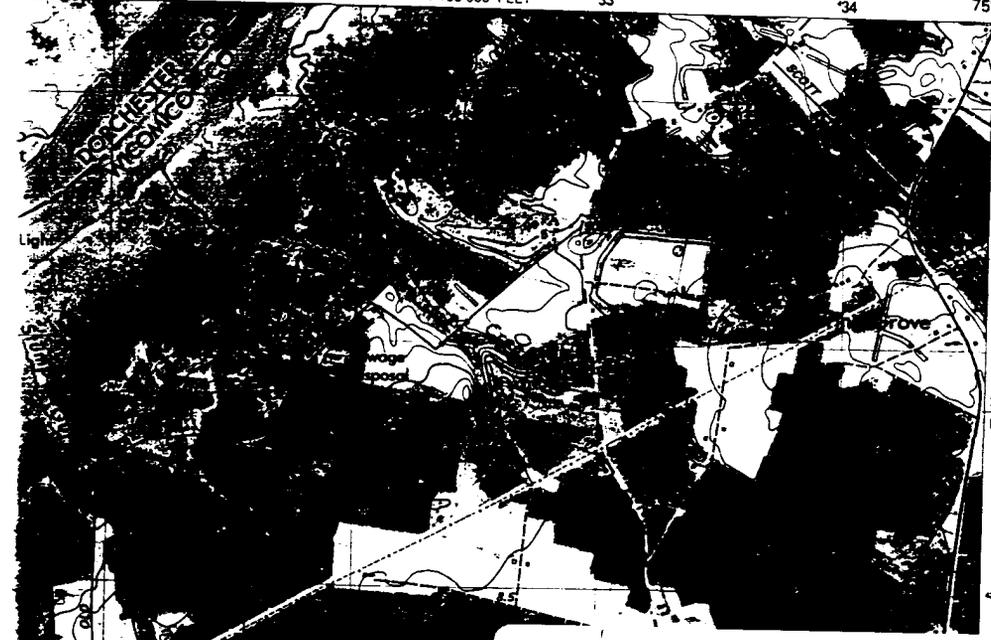
Whereas By Decree of Circuit Court No. 306 in Chancery
6/6/1878

“Wilson’s Discovery”
“Neighbor’s Vexation”
“Graham’s Lott”
“Graham’s Luck”

MARDELA SPRINGS QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES ORTHOPHOTOMAP (TOPOGRAPHIC)

SW 1/4 SW
(SHARPTOWN)

47°30' '32 1 150 000 FEET '33 '34 75°45' 38°30'



WI-374
Russell House

Mardela Springs, MD Quadrangle
1982

