

382  
WI-350  
Cox Farm  
Mardela Springs vicinity  
Private

c. 1840, c. 1900

Commonly known as the George Cox farm, this turn of the twentieth-century farmhouse presents a very plain appearance to Hurleys Neck Road. The two-story, three-bay dwelling features a Tuscan columned porch and extended eaves with decorated rafter ends. The two-story main block disguises a shorter two-story section that dates to the mid nineteenth and which was moved to this position from its original site a few yards to the north. Still standing on the original house site is a single-story, one-room plan frame kitchen that survives with late Federal woodwork. The plastered interior was originally finished with an exposed joist ceiling, an enclosed winder staircase as well as chair rail and baseboard moldings. A Federal mantel frames the firebox.

The house is identified with George E. Cox since he held title to the farm between 1901 and his death in 1931. Due to the turn of the twentieth century nature of the front section of the farmhouse, it was probably erected during his period of ownership. George Cox inherited half-interest in this farm at his mother, Sarah A. Cox's death. Sarah Cox purchased this farm in 1866, and she is listed in the 1860 United States census with her husband William, a "mariner," and 1-year old George Edwin. The rear wing and kitchen predate Cox family ownership of the farm.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Cox Farm

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-382

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  
Industrial-Urban Dominance  
1870-1930
  
4. Resource Type(s): Single-family dwelling  
Kitchen

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

**MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES**

Survey No. WI-382  
Magi No.  
DOE  yes  no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Cox Farm

**2. Location**

street & number 23626 East Hurleys Neck Road  not for publication

city, town Mardela Springs  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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input 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 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 type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Williard A. Reynolds, Sr.

street & number 23626 East Hurleys Neck 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 25 p. 3  
liber 1058

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 244

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. WI-382

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" 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 Cox farm is located at 23626 East Hurleys Neck Road southwest of Mardela Springs, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay farmhouse faces south with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Built around 1900 the two-story, three-bay frame dwelling fronts a mid nineteenth century story-and-a-half rear wing that was relocated in its original position behind the house next to an extant single story, one room plan kitchen. The rear wing are kitchen have architectural elements that date around 1840. Supported on a minimal brick foundation, the main house is sheathed with vinyl siding and the steeply pitched roofs are covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the mid nineteenth-century rear wing is a single story gable roofed addition erected since 1986.

The south (main) elevation is a three-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows. The first story is sheltered by a shed roofed porch supported on Tuscan column posts. The ends of the porch rafters are exposed and decorated. Lighting the second story are two-over-two sash windows. The steeply pitched roof is pierced by a pair of interior brick stacks finished with corbeled caps. The edge of the roof has extended eaves, open soffits, and decorated rafter ends.

Each gable end is pierced by a single two-over-two sash window that lights the first and second floors, and the edge of the roof has an extended eave and open soffit.

The north wall is largely covered by the story-and-a-half rear wing, which is extended on the north and west side with additions. The second floor is lighted by a small six-pane window, and the gable end is flush.

Standing behind the house is a single-story, one-room plan kitchen that is sheathed with asphalt shingles over beaded weatherboards. The steeply pitched gable roof has boxed cornices and a covering of asphalt shingles. Attached to the east gable end is an exterior brick chimney with a corbeled base and a single flue stack. The south wall of the kitchen is pierced by a center door opening and flanking six-over-six sash windows.

The interior of the kitchen is finished with second quarter of the nineteenth century woodwork. An enclosed winder staircase is located in the northwest corner and a late Federal mantel is fixed against the east wall. A Federal surround molding frames the firebox and the frieze is embellished with end blocks that support a molded shelf. The room is finished with a Federal chair rail and a beaded baseboard. The ceiling, now covered with sawn lath and plaster, was originally exposed and whitewashed. By contrast the walls are covered with riven lath and plaster. The winder stair is enclosed behind a beaded board partition. Several steps extend into the room beyond the stair closet door.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. WI-382

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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input 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**

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check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or  
Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

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

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This property deserves listing in *Category B* due to the architectural nature of the single story, one-room plan kitchen.

<sup>1</sup> Somerset County Land Record, LW 10/98, 25 August 1866.

<sup>2</sup> Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Somerset County, transcribed by John C. Barnes, 1988.



WI-382  
Cox Farm  
23626 East Hurleys Neck Road  
Mardela Springs vicinity, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title

Map 25 Parcel 3

1058/244

Howard D. Hatton, Sr.

to

2/17/1986

Willard A. Reynolds, Sr.  
Williard A. Reynolds, Jr.

53.77 acres

A J S 843/673

Betty L Cordrey

to

9/30/1975

Howard D. Hatton, Jr.  
Doris V. Hatton

89.50 acres

JWTS 748/185

S. Anne Donoho, widow

to

11/26/1971

Betty L. Cordrey

JWS 222/184

Marion Cox, Executor of George E. Cox

to

1/9/1940

S. Anna Donoho

WI-382  
Cox Farm  
23626 East Hurleys Neck Road  
Mardela Springs vic., Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

Page 2

JAH 1/294

Last Will and Testament of George E. Cox

to

1/28/1931

Marion Cox

\$8250.00 those parcels of land which had been conveyed to George E. Cox by following deeds:

1. from Mary E. Phillips, 6/10/1901,  
EAT 70/191
2. from Ralph L. Lloyd, 5/3/1919,  
JCK 113/315
3. from Margaret J. Cox, 8/8/1925,  
JCK 140/166
4. from Robert A. Major, 7/26/1919,  
JCK 113/31

EAT 70/191

Mary E. Phillips

to

6/10/1901

George E. Cox

Whereas Sarah A. Cox departed this life owning certain real estate hereinafter described and having as her heirs at law George E. Cox and Mary E. Phillips and whereas the said Mary E. Phillips has sold all her right to said property

63 acres \$750

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Mardela Springs vic., Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

Page 3

Somerset County  
Land Record  
LW 10/98

Ichabod D. Evans and others  
Division of real estate of said Robert Russell  
William C. Majors, and Esther his wife, and  
Susan Russell

to

8/25/1866

Sarah Cox

\$1,231.37

Acworth's Purchase  
Langsdale's Discovery

63 1/4 acres being Lot Numbered One of Robert  
Russell's estate

# BARREN CREEK

Dist N<sup>o</sup>1  
WICOMICO C<sup>o</sup>



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Mardela Springs vicinity

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson  
Atlas 1877



WI-382  
 Cox Farm  
 Mardela Springs, MD Quadrangle  
 1982

(WETFOUNI)  
 800 IV SE  
**SCALE 1:24 000**

KILOMETERS



'30 47'30"

QUANTICO 3 KM

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY RESTON

'33

**ROAD CLASSIFICATION**

Primary highway.

Light-duty