

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Spring Bank

and/or common Spring Bank

2. Location

street & number 7945 Worman's Mill Road n/a not for publication

city, town Frederick n/a vicinity of congressional district Sixth

state Maryland code 24 county Frederick code 021

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 checked="" 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	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 type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Compton (Beverly)

street & number 7945 Worman's Mill Road

city, town Frederick n/a vicinity of state Maryland 21701

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse

street & number North Court Street

city, town Frederick state Maryland 21701

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust
Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1980 federal state county local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

7. Description

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Condition
 excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair unexposed

Check one
 unaltered
 altered

Check one
 original site
 moved date n/a

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 5 </u>	<u> 0 </u> buildings
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> sites
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> structures
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> objects
<u> 5 </u>	<u> 0 </u> Total

Number of previously listed
National Register properties
included in this nomination: 0

Original and historic functions
and uses: residential

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

Spring Bank is a large 2½ story brick dwelling constructed in 1880 near Harmony Grove in Frederick County, Maryland. The house is five bays wide and two rooms deep, with an original two story rear ell. A victorian veranda spans the principal (west) facade, and the south side of the ell has a two-story gallery characteristic of mid to late 19th century farmhouses in central and western Maryland. A fishscale patterned slate roof of complex, multigabled form covers the building; a large frame cupola or belvedere is centered on the main block. The house is constructed of brick laid in common bond, and rests on a low stone foundation. The interior is organized in a center-passage plan, and retains the majority of its original finish and detailing, including etched glass, marbled slate mantels, grain-painted woodwork, plaster ornaments and floral stenciled walls and ceiling. Limited alterations were made to both interior and exterior in 1924-1926, during a renovation conceived by the son of the owners at that time, an architecture student; the house retains considerable integrity, however, and primarily reflects the period of its original construction. Also on the property are several brick outbuildings contemporaneous with the main house, including a privy, gas house, smoke house, and carriage house.

For General Description, see Continuation Sheet No. 1

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Spring Bank is a two and one-half story cross gable vernacular brick residence constructed in 1880 which faces west from the east side of Worman's Mill Road in the small community of Harmony Grove. The principal facade is five bays wide. The southern three bays project slightly forward of the main block of the house. The main entrance, located in an arched paneled opening with radiating stretchers, is twin two panel doors with upper arched panel and plain elliptical transom. The exterior doors open into an entrance foyer with alternating square black and white tile floor. The doors to the interior of the house are twin two panel doors with copper-wheel-etched glass inserts and etched glass elliptical transom in a flower basket design.

Located in the remaining bays on the first level are tall double hung 1/1 semicircular windows with radiating stretcher arches. Located in each bay on the second level are double hung 1/1 segmental windows with radiating stretcher arches. Centered in the front gable of the house is a 1/1 lancet window.

A one story frame porch supported by six full and two half boxed columns with plain flat cast iron bases with wide frieze decorated with round molding repeating rectangular blocks and dentil work, scrolled brackets and flat tin roof extends across the entire front of the house. Four steps lead up to a tongue and groove floor with brick pier foundation decorated by wood trellis work.

The south side of the building is the most ornately decorated side. A frame bay window with four double hung 1/1 windows with paneled aprons supported by brick foundation and covered with a hipped composite roof with boxed cornice, dentiled frieze and small brackets is located in the first bay from the southwest corner. A plain 1/1 semicircular window with radiating stretchers is located immediately over this bay window in the first bay on the second level.

A side entrance and porch are located in the second bay on the first level shaded by a canopy on the second level. The entrance is a five panel door with single light transom. The porch is a small one bay wide frame porch with four wood boxed columns supporting a flat composition roof with boxed wood cornice, dentiled frieze, and small scrolled brackets. A small wood balcony with boxed wood columns topped by turned wood finials and with decorative wood railing is located above the porch. A plain double hung 1/1 window is located over the porch. A triangular composition roof with turned wood finial supported by scrolled brackets and decorated with scalloped edges is located over the porch and window.

See Continuation Sheet No. 2

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

Centered in the south gable is a 1/1 lancet window. One arched double hung window is located on each level in the third bay on the south side of the house.

Two telescoping gable-roofed two-story brick additions extend to the east. The first addition is four bays wide. A two story gallery with original boxed columns and jigsaw balustrade on the second level spans the south side of this wing. The porch rests on brick piers with wooden latticework infill. On the first level, a four panel door with tall one light transom is located in the second bay from the west. On the second level, identical doors are located in the first and third bays. Small narrow 2/2 windows flank the door on the first level. Occupying the remaining bays on the first and second levels are tall 2/2 windows with round molding and jack arches. A hand pump with wood trough is located on the porch. Identical windows are located on each level in the south-east corner of the main block and the addition.

A two story, one bay wide brick addition extends east of the first addition. Small twin 2/2 windows are located on the first level on the south side of this addition. A double hung 6/6 window with jack arch is located on the second level. A plain wood porch is supported by four plain boxed columns. A four panel door is centered on the first level and enters into the kitchen. The porch with tongue and groove floor, plain boxed cornice and composite hipped roof is built on brick piers with wood trellis work.

The north side of the main block of the building is two bays wide. Located in the first bay from the northwest corner of the building is a two story projecting bay window constructed on a brick foundation with three arched 1/1 windows surrounded by raised and molded panels with dentiled frieze and boxed cornice supported by scrolled brackets.

Located in the second bay on the first level is a double hung 1/1 semi-circular window with radiating voussoirs. A double hung 1/1 segmental window with radiating arch is located in the second level. A 1/1 lancet arch window is centered in the north gable.

The north elevation of the ell is five bays wide. A one story porch covers a side entrance in the northwest corner of the addition supported by brick piers and four boxed wood columns with boxed cornice, dentiled frieze and shed standing seam tin roof. The side entrance, a six panel door with side lights with recessed panels and three light transom is located in the second bay from the west end of the addition. It is flanked in the first and third bay by double hung 2/2 windows with wood lintels. Tall double hung 2/2 windows with jack arches occupy the remaining bays on the first and second levels.

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The entire building is covered by the original multigabled slate roof with fishscale patterning and boxed cornice with return and dentiled frieze. The frieze is decorated with circular and triangular shapes. Extending from the sides of the north and south gables of the main block of the house are massive corbelled brick chimneys. Centered on the roof of the main block of the building is a large frame cupola with three tall narrow semicircular windows on each side covered by a pyramidal slate roof with finial, weather vane and lightning rod. The roof is supported by a boxed cornice with dentiled frieze and scrolled brackets in each corner of the cupola. A third single interior brick chimney rises from the east gable end of the addition.

The entire building is constructed on a low random stone foundation.

A cornerstone, located in the southwest corner of the building, reads "Spring Bank Built April 1, 1880 George Houck".

The front yard of the site bordering Worman's Mill Road is delineated by a decorative cast iron fence with granite posts and foundation. The site once part of a two hundred acre farm is now contained in ten and one half acres which also includes a one story brick gas house constructed c. 1900 with a standing seam gable roof, a one and one half story carriage house three large bays wide (originally five) constructed in brick c. 1880 with a slate gable roof, a one story brick smoke house with wood shake gable roof, c. 1880, and a two bay wide privy with interior plaster walls and wood shake shed roof c. 1880.

Between 1924 and 1926, the then-current owners made several renovations, planned by their son, who was studying architecture at the time. These renovations are enumerated below:

1. A new herring-bone pattern brick porch deck replaced a wood frame porch on the west (front) facade.
2. The balustraded second level porch on the west facade was removed and a standing-seam, sloped roof installed.
3. Sills to all original floor-to-ceiling windows across the west (front) first level were raised 22 inches. Interior shutters (lower sections) were removed and facing panels altered to accommodate new sill heights. Upper panels were nailed in place - not to be reopened. (A tobacco tin with a note inside was found inside a shutter casing that was opened in 1980. On the paper was written the date: February 24, 1924 and the name J. D. Ford.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 4

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

4. An "L" shaped enclosure was installed at the bottom of the main stairway in order to contain heat on the first level.
5. The existing pantry on the south side, center section, was divided into a new hallway entrance from the south porch, a bathroom, a linen closet, and a bedroom closet. One hall was removed and three constructed to achieve the new uses.
6. A new pantry was constructed by using a section of the northeast corner porch. Two one level brick walls were constructed to form the outer walls and enclose an area that would serve as a passageway to the new kitchen and as a pantry.
7. All new flooring (edge grain pine) was installed throughout the first floor except for the new dining area in which oak flooring was used.
8. All existing painted-grain doors on the first floor level were removed and replaced with "modern" wood paneled doors, or doors with ribbed-glass panels. Glass doorknobs replaced earlier white porcelain type doorknobs.
9. A new plate rail made of oak was installed in the new dining area (formerly the playroom).
10. Two large cedar wardrobes were installed in each of two bedrooms and an oak kitchen cabinet was installed in the former laundry area.
11. Two fireplaces were removed: one from the old kitchen area (to accommodate one of the wardrobes), and one from the laundry area.
12. Sliding parlor doors were removed from the parlor area.
13. Window benches were installed in the two bay areas.
14. An existing hall bath was remodeled and a new bath in the old pantry area, and a half bath across from the hall bath were added.

8. Significance

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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 1880 **Builder/Architect** Charles G. Walter, builder

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: C
 Applicable Exceptions: none
 Level of Significance for Evaluation: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

Spring Bank is primarily significant for its architecture, as a well-preserved example of a type of late 19th century dwelling combining Gothic and Italianate influences which appears in rural contexts in north Central Maryland. This form clothes the traditional 5 bay, double pile, 2½ story farmhouse in high-style ornament, including such Gothic-derived details as lancet-arched windows and projecting bays and an irregular multigabled roof clad in fishscale patterned slate, along with an Italianate belvedere and tall round-arched (originally floor-to-ceiling) windows opening onto a veranda. A number of large brick farmhouses displaying this interplay of conservative form and stylish ornament can be found in Frederick County and adjacent Carroll and Washington Counties; Spring Bank is distinguished among these by its excellent state of preservation. The house retains a wealth of original interior fabric and detail intact; notable features include floral stencil-painted walls and ceilings, plaster cornices and ceiling medallions, marbled slate mantels and grain-painted doors, interior shutters and baseboards.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Scarf, J. Thomas. History of Western Maryland. 1882;
rpt. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1968.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 10.41 acres
Quadrangle name Frederick, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A	1 1 8	2 9 1 3 8 1 2 1 0	4 1 3 6 1 9 6 1 3 1 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	1 1 8	2 9 1 3 5 1 2 1 0	4 1 3 6 1 9 5 1 3 1 0
E			
G			

B	1 1 8	2 9 1 3 6 1 6 1 0	4 1 3 6 1 9 4 1 4 1 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	1 1 8	2 9 1 3 6 1 2 1 0	4 1 3 6 1 9 7 1 8 1 0
F			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 6

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	n/a	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cherilyn Widell

organization n/a date May 1984

street & number 115 East Third Street telephone 301-663-6820

city or town Frederick state Maryland 21701

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *J. Little* 8-3-84

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

J. Melores Byers Entered in this National Register date 9/7/84

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Spring Bank Farm, built in 1880, features ornament derived from both Victorian Gothic Revival and Italianate style architecture. The Gothic Revival features of the house include its pointed arch and bay windows, a one story Victorian veranda on the front facade and a multigabled fishscale patterned slate roof. Characteristics of the Italianate style include the tall narrow windows on the first floor of the house, segmental arched windows on the second level of the house, the dentil molding and a belvedere.

The high style characteristics continue on the interior of the house with floral stencilling on the walls and ceilings, imitation marbled slate fireplaces, wood graining on door panels and baseboards. The interior entrance is particularly significant with a diamond patterned floor of slate and marble, simulated leather wallpaper and twin arched doors with copper wheel etched glass panels and transom in flower basket design. Gas fixtures also survive in some locations.

Charles G. Walter, the contractor who built the house, was a resident of the Emmitsburg District, according to the Williams' History of Frederick County, and died in Frederick County on February 7, 1897 according to his headstone in the Mount Olivet Cemetery in Frederick. Despite this, no trace of a will or a property title for him could be found in the Frederick County records. The Williams' History of Frederick County also notes that Walter moved from the Baltimore - Washington area, where he built over one hundred houses, including the residence of S.T. Suit in Washington, D. C., and Clark Bowie in Laurel, Maryland. In addition to Spring Bank Farm, however, another local example of Walter's fine craftsmanship is St. Anthony's Catholic Church at Mount Saint Mary's in Emmitsburg, which was built in 1897. This Romanesque structure incorporates stone from the area where the church stands with advanced, elaborate building techniques of the time. These include its cathedral stained glass windows and pressed copper cornices. Another contractor is known to have helped construct the house: the name of O. F. Bond of Frederick, Maryland is found in the plaster of the house. He is recorded as being a bricklayer in W. H. Kirwin's Frederick City and County Directory of 1887.

The property belonging to Spring Bank Farm began with a land grant. It was originally part of a 172½ acre farm sold to Ezra Houck by Ezra Cramer for \$13,800.00 in 1836 (Frederick County Land Records, Liber HS2; Folio 208). When Ezra Houck, a prominent Frederick County banker, died in 1878, he left 15 acres of this property to his son, George Houck (Register of Wills IRR I 267). George Houck, also a successful businessman, called this property Spring Bank Farm and built the house here in 1880, according to the cornerstone in the south-west corner of the house. George and his wife Eliza Houck, later sold the house with 10½ acres including buildings and improvements to Grayson and Chrissie Bowers in 1908 (Frederick County Land Records, Liber 282; Folio 193).

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

Grayson Bowers, like George Houck, was also a prominent Frederick County businessman. He managed the William D. Bowers Lumber Company, which was started by his father and which became one of the largest lumber companies in Maryland, according to the Williams' History of Frederick, County, Maryland. The Bowers family contribution included renovations made in 1924-1926, which included additions to the front and rear of the house designed by Charles Bowers, (the son of Grayson and Chrissie Bowers), who was a young architecture student. Spring Bank remained in the Bowers family until 1980, when Ray and Beverly Compton bought the property and began restoring it as a country inn.

10. VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Boundaries are depicted on the attached plat, drawn to scale of 1" = 50'.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The nominated property, approximately 10 acres, encompasses the resource within its immediate setting and maintains its historic orientation to Worman's Mill Road and the former Pennsylvania Railroad tracks on the west. The northeast and southeast boundaries follow existing property lines, marked by lines of shrubs and trees, and separate the nominated parcel from broad areas of open agricultural land.

SPRING BANK, FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

FIRST LEVEL: 1880-1923

Note: Cross hatched areas indicate areas which have been removed.

