

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #70-21 Building Date: 1909

Building Name: Arthur G. Bowie House (Spafield)

Location: 6290 Hillmeade Road, Glenn Dale, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Excellent/Inaccessible

Description:

The Arthur G. Bowie House is a two-and-one-half-story frame house with hip roof and central gables on the north and south facades. There is a one-story porch across the entire (main) south facade, the porch has Tuscan columns with molded capitals and bases. There is a projecting semi-octagonal central bay which forms the entry hall of the house; entrance is through the central bay of this projection. The projecting bay is carried out also at second level, where a low balustrade surrounds the projecting bay. Above this at loft level in the central (south) gable is a tripartite "Palladian" window with small balustrade. The central round-arched window has a keystone motif with decorative capital. There are dormer windows in the east and west planes of the roof; these dormers have small corner pilasters and pediment. One brick chimney with corbelled cap rises from the northwest quadrant of the roof. The siding is German, the roof is of standing seam metal and the foundations are of poured concrete.

Significance

This is a handsome example of early twentieth century rural domestic architecture with Classical Revival elements. It is located on what was once a 100-acre tract known as Spafield. In 1891 Spafield was divided between the children of Cornelia M. Bowie; Ellen Bowie Addison received 26 acres including the dwelling house in which they had grown up (known by then as "Maple Shade" - P.G. #70-31), and Arthur Gillette Bowie received the 74 unimproved acres which adjoined Maple Shade on the north. Arthur Bowie worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad in Wilmington, Delaware, but returned to his Prince George's County property and had this handsome dwelling constructed. It was completed in 1909 and was assessed in that year at \$2,200, a sizeable amount for that period. It remained in the family until 1977. Although there have been some alterations, the house remains a prominent example of modest but fine rural domestic architecture of the early twentieth century.

Acreage: 2.88 acres

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Arthur G. Bowie House (Spafield)

and/or common Carlson House

2. Location

street & number 6290 Hillmeade Road not for publication

city, town Glenn Dale vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county P.G.

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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name William and Martha Emory

street & number 6290 Hillmeade Road telephone no.:

city, town Glenn Dale state and zip code MD. 20769

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. P.G. Co., Courthouse liber 4879

street & number Main Street folio 246

city, town Upper Marlboro, state Md.

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title P.G. Co. Inventory of Historic Sites

date 1974 federal state county local

depository for survey records History Division, MNCPPC

city, town Riverdale, state Md.

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input 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 Arthur G. Bowie House is a two-and-one-half-story frame house with hip roof and central gables on the north and south facades. There is a one-story porch across the entire (main) south facade, the porch has Tuscan columns with molded capitals and bases. There is a projecting semi-octagonal central bay which forms the entry hall of the house; entrance is through the central bay of this projection. The projecting bay is carried out also at second level, where a low balustrade surrounds the projecting bay. Above this at loft level in the central (south) gable is a tripartite "Palladian" window with small balustrade. The central round-arched window has a keystone motif with decorative capital.

All other windows (generally 1/1) have lintels with cyma reversa molding surmounting plain board friezes. On the east facade is a row of three smaller one-pane square windows which light the dining room.

There are dormers in the east and west planes of the roof; these dormers have small corner pilasters and pediment. The roof is of standing seam metal. The shutters, which were in deteriorating condition, have been removed by the present owner, and will be replaced. One brick chimney with corbelled cap rises from the northwest quadrant of the roof. Foundations of the house are of poured concrete.

There is a small one-story porch on the north facade sheltering the kitchen door; this porch has chamfered posts with capital courses. Identical chamfered posts support an enclosed second-story porch which projects from the west facade at its north end.

In plan, the interior is divided in thirds east to west: dining room and pantry on the east, entry stairhall and kitchen in the center, and front-and-back double parlor on the west. The wooden mantel on the interior wall of the rear parlor is decorated with engaged Tuscan columns and a central applied wreath ornament on the plain frieze. Interior door and window surrounds throughout have two vertical grooves; lintels have plain frieze with cyma reversa crown molding.

8. Significance

Survey No. P.G. #70-21

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) local history
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1909 Builder/Architect

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.

The Arthur G. Bowie House is a handsome example of early twentieth century rural domestic architecture with Classical Revival elements. It is situated on a high knoll, set back from Hillmeade Road, the old road from Collington to Springfield Station. It is located on what was once a 100-acre tract known as Spafield. This tract was in the mid-nineteenth century the property of Robert Bowie of Walter.¹ In 1891 the 100-acre Spafield tract was divided between the children of Cornelia M. Bowie; Ellen Bowie Addison received 26 acres including the dwelling house in which they had grown up (known by then as "Maple Shade" - P.G. #70-31), and Arthur Gillette Bowie received the 74 unimproved acres which adjoined Maple Shade on the north.² Arthur Bowie worked a clerk for the Pennsylvania Railroad in Wilmington, Delaware, but after his marriage he returned to his Prince George's County property and had this handsome dwelling constructed. It was completed in 1909 (possibly by local carpenters, John or Millard Schafer) and was assessed in that year at \$2,200, a sizeable amount for that period.³ It remained the home of his daughter, Eleanor Bowie Carlson, until her death in 1977.

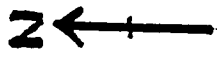
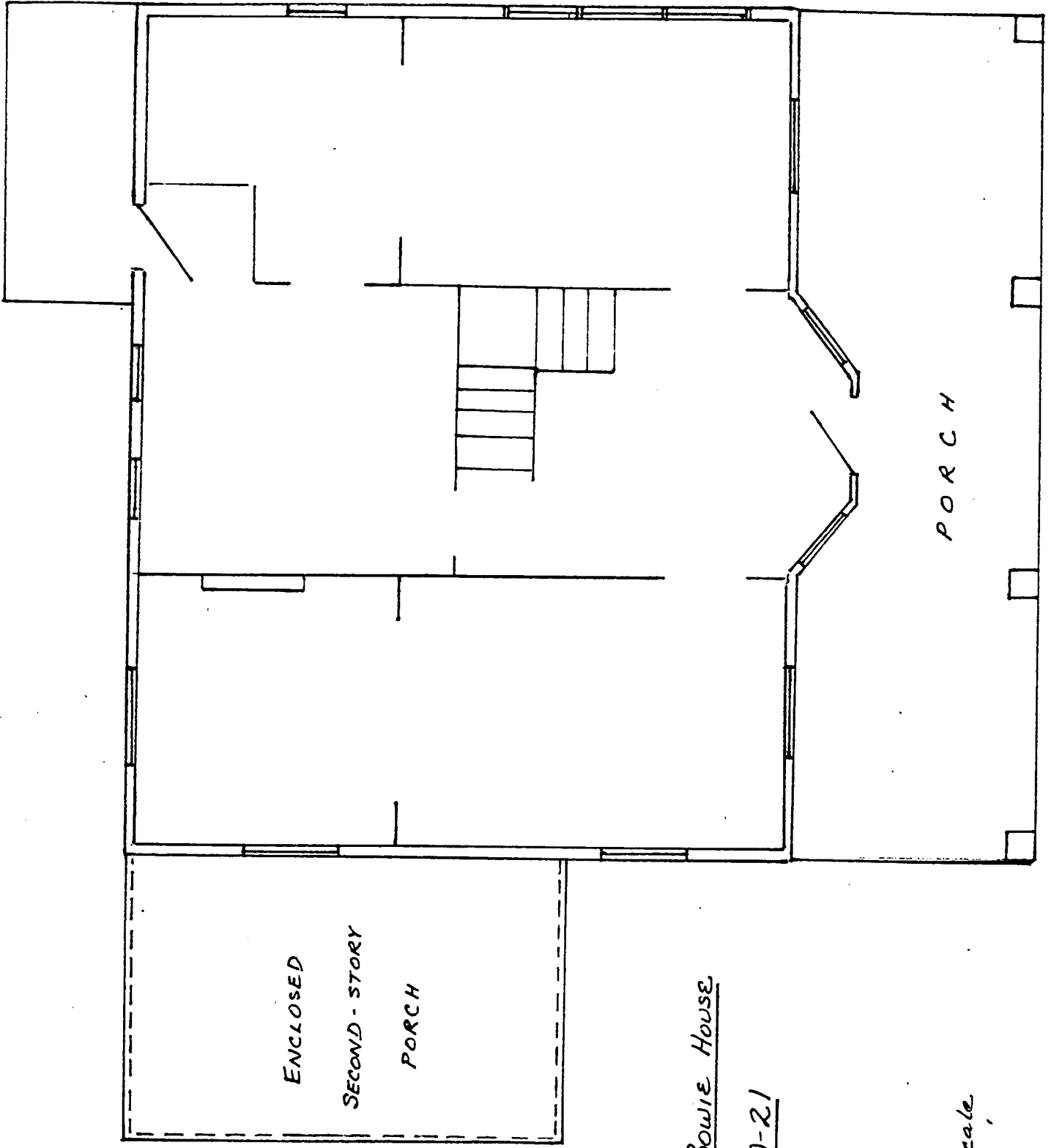
Although there have been significant alterations on the interior, they have been done with sensitivity and care; there has been minimal change to the exterior. The house remains a prominent example of modest but fine rural domestic architecture of the early twentieth century.

Notes:

¹ P.G. County Deeds, CSM #2:82, P.G. County Equity #476.

² P.G. County Deed of Partition, JWB #19:376.

³ Census, 1910; P.G. County Tax Assessments 1909, 1910; E.G. Bowie, Across the Years in Prince George's County. Interview with owners, and with family members, 1983, 1984.



ENCLOSED
SECOND-STORY
PORCH

PORCH

ARTHUR G. BOWIE HOUSE.

P.G. #70-21

1" = 6'

Not exactly to scale

11/84 sgp