

CAPSULE SUMMARY

B-5249

Maria McDonald House

1442 Gorsuch Avenue

Baltimore, Maryland

ca. 1852

Private

The Maria McDonald House located at 1442 Gorsuch Avenue represents early suburbanization of Homestead and an influx of middle-class Baltimoreans to the city's periphery in the second half of the nineteenth century. Constructed circa 1852 for landowner Maria McDonald, the dwelling is one of the first buildings to be constructed after the neighborhood's platting in 1850 and denotes the anticipation of future growth beyond the city limits into what was then Baltimore County. The house is one of the oldest remaining buildings within Homestead; it continues to reflect nineteenth-century suburban ideals with its wood-framed construction, large lot size, and setback. The dwelling directly contrasts the subsequent twentieth-century brick row house infill, creating a dramatic juxtaposition of two development periods.

The two-story, side-gabled dwelling is not evident on the earliest circa 1851 plat, but is recorded soon after on an updated plat map. In addition, the building is evident on the G.M. Hopkins' 1876 *City Atlas of Baltimore and Environs*. Set on an uncoursed, rough-cut, stone foundation, the building is now clad with wavy asbestos shingles. The façade has a one-story, full-width, flat roof porch. Extending from the northwest and northeast corners of the side-gable block are two gable ells. The west ell extends beyond the northern extent of the east ell. A shed roof projects from the west ell's east elevation, sheltering a two-story porch; the first story is now enclosed. Both ells are set on a stone foundation matching that of the main block; the northeast ell is likely original. The west ell's two-story porch rests on a rusticated, parged foundation. In addition, on the west ell's north elevation, there is a small one-story, single bay, hipped roof mudroom that is set on a concrete foundation. All the gable ends have simple raking cornices and the roofs are covered with asphalt shingles. An interior chimney flue pierces the southern end of the west ell.

7. Description

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Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

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

The two-story, side-gabled dwelling at 1442 Gorsuch Avenue was likely constructed circa 1852. The building, located within the Homestead Village subdivision, is not evident on the earliest circa 1851 plat, but is recorded soon after on an updated plat map. In addition, the building is evident on the G.M. Hopkins' 1876 *City Atlas of Baltimore and Environs*. Set on an uncoursed, rough-cut, stone foundation, the wood-frame building is now clad with wavy asbestos shingles. The south elevation (façade) has a one-story, full-width, flat roof porch. Extending from the northwest and northeast corners of the side-gable block are two gable ells. The west ell extends approximately 15 feet beyond the northern extent of the east ell. A shed roof projects from the west ell's east elevation, sheltering a two-story porch; the first story is now enclosed. Both ells are set on a stone foundation matching that of the main block; the northeast ell is likely original. The west ell's two-story porch rests on a rusticated, parged foundation. In addition, on the west ell's north elevation, there is a small one-story, single bay, hipped roof mudroom that is set on a concrete foundation. All the gable ends have simple raking cornices and the roofs are covered with asphalt shingles. An interior chimney flue pierces the southern end of the west ell.

Baltimore County maps and *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps* record the evolution of the property. An early 1850s plat map of Homestead shows a building on the lot. Wilson Thompson's 1889 *Plats of the Twenty First and Twenty Second Wards of Baltimore City* documents L. Scott Carswell owning the 192x200-foot lot, bound to the south by Gorsuch Avenue, to the east by Taylor Avenue (Kirk Avenue), and the north by Washington Avenue (Carswell Street). The property contained a two-story dwelling, two-story back building (ell), one-story kitchen, one-story barn, one-and-a-half-story stable, and one-story shed. All the buildings featured frame construction. The 1901-1902 *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps* documents a full-width, one-story porch on the south elevation, a two-story porch on the west ell's east elevation, and a one-story addition to the north of the west ell. The one-story addition was likely the kitchen noted on the 1889 map. In addition, the Sanborn map notes a one-story frame stable adjoining a one-story building in the northeast corner of the property along Washington and Taylor Avenues. On the 1914-1915 *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*, the one-story building adjoining the stable was no longer noted, likely demolished. The stable was no longer evident by the 1928-1936 *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*. At that time, a one-story shed and one-story storage building were constructed to the south of the alley directly west of the dwelling. Fifteen years later, the 1914-1951 *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps* noted the subdivision of the property to the north and west of the dwelling. The frame house was surrounded by brick row houses. Also, the one-story kitchen addition and outbuildings were demolished and a concrete block garage was constructed on the alley. Since that time, the first story of the west ell's porch was enclosed and a one-story mudroom was constructed on the north elevation.

Setting

The dwelling, located on the northwestern corner of Gorsuch and Kirk Avenues, is set back approximately 30 feet. The landscaped property is edged by a rough-cut stone retaining wall on its southern, eastern, and

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northern extents. Directly north of the dwelling, the rear yard slopes to the east and is further defined by a chain link fence. The south elevation is accessed from Gorsuch Avenue's concrete sidewalk by a stone stair with ten risers flanked by stone retaining walls. The eastern side of the stair has a metal hand rail and balusters. Directly west of the stair is a chain link fence. The main block's east elevation contains a storefront accessed from Kirk Avenue's concrete sidewalk by a stone path and single stair flanked by stone retaining walls. Further north on Kirk Avenue, adjoining the east ell's north elevation, is a stone stair consisting of ten risers; the stair leads to the rear yard. A concrete driveway is located off the alley in the northwestern corner and is separated from the property by a concrete stair.

Exterior

The three-bay, south elevation (façade), which is three bays wide, features a full-width porch. The wood-frame porch rests on a solid, uncoursed, rough-cut stone foundation. Three segmental arched openings are supported by asbestos-shingled posts that rest on stone piers. The one-story porch features an arched opening supported by the square wood posts. Simple square metal balusters enclose the porch. The entry holds a single-leaf, twelve-light wood door with a five-light rectangular transom and three-light sidelights. Directly beneath the sidelights are wood spandrels. The entry is sheltered by an ornate metal security door. Flanking the central entry are 1/1 vinyl windows with vinyl-clad sills and surrounds. The second story is pierced by a central, paired 1/1 vinyl window flanked by 1/1 vinyl windows.

The east elevation consists of the two-story main block and side elevation of the northeastern ell, which appears to be original. The main block and ell have a fully exposed basement. According to a local resident, the basement story originally was commercial, at one time containing a men's clothing store. The store was accessed via centrally located double-leaf, paneled wood door with a large rectangular light. The doors are sheltered by a double-leaf, metal screen door. The entry is flanked by two plate glass windows with wood surrounds and stone sills. The basement openings are covered by a shallow asphalt-shingled hipped roof that reads as a pent roof. Above the roof is a centrally located wood sign. The first and second stories of the main block and ell are symmetrically pierced by four window openings, each containing 1/1 vinyl windows with concrete sills.

The north elevation of the main block has been greatly obscured by the construction of the northwestern ell, which extends well beyond the two-bay depth of the northeastern ell. As a result, the original fenestration pattern of the main block was not discernible. The north elevation of the northeastern ell was fully exposed, resting above a berm that extends from the ell's foundation to the alley running through the block. A single

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elongated 1/1 vinyl window with vinyl-clad surrounds and sills pierces the first and second stories of the ell. The openings are set slightly off center.

The northwestern ell addition, covered by a gable roof, includes a shed roof projection that shelters a two-story side porch. The porch, located on the east elevation of the ell addition has been completely enclosed on the first story with vertically placed siding that covers the majority of the asbestos-shingle cladding. The southern bay features a synthetic, double-leaf paneled door with louvered acrylic glass (jalousie windows). The northern bay has paired jalousie windows protected by a small awning. On the second story, the porch is open, featuring square wood balusters and three wood posts supporting the shed roof. A single 1/1 window is partially visible (sash material is unknown but possibly wood). A single-leaf recessed door provides the only access to the porch. The west elevation of the northwestern ell, like the west elevation of the main block, has two openings consisting of 1/1 vinyl windows with vinyl-clad sills and surrounds. The openings in the center two bays, on both stories, are slightly shorter.

The one-story mudroom, on the north elevation of the ell addition just beyond the enclosed porch, has been covered in asbestos shingles, which has also been clad in vertical siding. The mudroom, or entry vestibule, has a half-hipped roof of asphalt shingles and single-entry opening on the north elevation. The opening contains a single-leaf wood door with a small square-light sheltered by a metal screen door.

Integrity

The wood-frame dwelling at 1442 Gorsuch Avenue was constructed of wood frame ca. 1852, well before the masonry row house construction for which the neighborhood is best known was developed. The house was constructed about the time the area was platted, anticipating growth and development beyond the city limits. Located on a corner lot that is wider than those improved by the neighboring row houses, the large dwelling has sufficient integrity of location and setting. The integrity of design, materials, and workmanship has been compromised, however, by alterations and additions. These include the probable construction of the northwest ell addition that does not seem to be original, the inclusion of commercial space in the basement of the structure, application of wavy asbestos shingles popularized in the second quarter of the twentieth century, and replacement of the wood window sash with vinyl sash. The building has been altered substantially and no longer completely reads as a product of the mid-nineteenth century and therefore has limited integrity of feeling and association; although its wood-frame structure, massing, form, siting, and location clearly suggest it predates the row house construction and even possibly the platting/subdivision of the neighborhood.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates ca. 1852 **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates ca. 1852

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Statement of Significance

The wood-framed dwelling located at 1442 Gorsuch Avenue represents early suburbanization of Homestead and an influx of middle-class Baltimoreans to the city's periphery in the second half of the nineteenth century. Constructed circa 1852 for landowner Maria McDonald, the dwelling is one of the first buildings to be constructed after the neighborhood's platting in 1850 and denotes the anticipation of future growth beyond the city limits into what was then Baltimore County. Maria McDonald had immigrated to the United States in 1829 from Ireland. The house is one of the oldest remaining buildings within Homestead; it continues to reflect nineteenth-century suburban ideals with its wood-framed construction, large lot size, and setback. The dwelling directly contrasts the subsequent twentieth-century brick row house infill, creating a dramatic juxtaposition of two development periods.

Historic Context -- Homestead

Many of Baltimore's wealthy merchants established their plantations in proximity to Harford and Belair Roads. In 1731, Thomas Gorsuch purchased and patented two land patents in Baltimore County called Ensor's Choice and Loveless's Addition, respectively.¹ Each consisting of 100 acres of land, the patents adjoined one another and were sited near present-day Clifton Park and Hillen Road. Thomas established his plantation dwelling on the two tracts and remained there until his death in 1774.² On February 14, 1752, he gifted the property to Thomas and John Gorsuch, his sons. Thomas acquired Loveless's Addition and John received Ensor's Choice.³ The tracts, however, were resurveyed into a single 160-acre parcel called Gorsuch's Regulation and jointly

¹ Baltimore County Court Land Records, "John Ensor to Thomas Gorsuch," Liber IS L, Folio 145, <http://www.mdlandrec.net> (accessed June 12, 2012); J.H. P., "The Gorsuch and Lovelace Families (Continued)," *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, 26 no. 2 (April 1918): 326.

² J.H.P., 327.

³ J.H.P., 327.

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patented by the two sons in 1759.⁴ The Gorsuch heirs continued to own the property and the estate, named Homestead, until 1852 when Robert Gorsuch, Jr. subdivided the ancestral land.⁵

Robert Gorsuch and his syndicate including John Fox, Edward Jackson, and John W. Van Hook desired to establish Baltimore's first middle-class suburban neighborhood. Named "Homestead" in honor of the old family estate, the subdivision was one-and-three-quarter miles from Baltimore City's courthouse and a quarter-mile north of the city's limits. The plat consisted of over 1000, 16x90 foot lots, fronting 50 foot streets and 20 foot alleys.⁶ An advertisement in the 1853-1854 *Matchett's City Directory* stated:

The situation is one of the most beautiful, most healthy, and most convenient of access in the neighborhood of Baltimore, being immediately contiguous to Clifton Park and Darley Hall, the splendid residences of Johns Hopkins and Dr. Tropue on the East; to the estates of the late W, Tiffany, Gibson, Taylor, and Tine on the North; to Edward Patterson's and Frisby's on the South, and Huntingdon Village on the West.

A number of Cottages and Country Seats have already been erected, and many other improvements are in contemplation. A beautiful Protestant Episcopal Church is now erected, to which a School House is attached. The proprietors have also in contemplation, by presiding sites for churches, the accommodation of other religious denominations, and making sure other conveniences as a respectable suburban population may require.⁷

The proximity to grand county estates lent weight to promoting the location's rural characteristics, open spaces, ambiance, and prestige. Particularly, since Gorsuch and his syndicate laid the village out in an urban grid-like pattern.

Homestead Village struggled to grow due to poor financial planning and a lack of reliable transportation to Baltimore City.⁸ An omnibus (urban stage coach), however, offered limited access to the neighborhood.⁹ In 1870, the Baltimore and the Halls Spring Passenger Railway was incorporated and constructed a horse-drawn

⁴ J.H.P., 327.

⁵ J.H.P., "The Gorsuch and Lovelace Families," *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, 26 no. 4 (October 1918): 424.

⁶ Baltimore County Circuit Court, "Plan of the Buildings Lots of the Homestead," Plat Book JWS 2, Folio 88, Maryland State Archives, MSA C2136, <http://www.plato.mdarchives.state.md.us> (accessed June 12, 2012); Baltimore City Circuit Court, "Plan of the Building Lots of the Homestead," Plat Book RHB, Folio 2412, Maryland State Archives, MSA 2828-5046, <http://www.plato.mdarchives.state.md.us> (accessed June 12, 2012).

⁷ Richard J. Matchett, *Matchett's Baltimore Director for 1853-4* (Baltimore: Richard J. Matchett, 1853), 18-19.

⁸ William Stump, "Man in the Street: Gorsuch," *The Baltimore Sun*, May 27, 1951, <http://www.proquest.com>.

⁹ *The Baltimore Sun*, "Classified Advertisement," March 29, 1854, <http://www.proquest.com>.

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line "from the City Hall and North street, via Fayette, Aisquith and Madison streets and Central avenue to Harford road, where connection was made with another car for Homestead and Halls Springs."¹⁰ The continued development of the streetcar coupled with affordable and improved transportation increased the desirability of the village.¹¹ Homestead remained the only suburban community laid out in northeast Baltimore in the nineteenth century.¹²

As early as 1799, Baltimore City had outlawed wood-frame dwellings within city limits to minimize the devastation of potential fires. Homestead, however, was located in Baltimore County's more rural setting that was not annexed by Baltimore City until 1888.¹³ As a result, while brick construction dominated Baltimore City's landscape, wood-frame dwellings were a viable possibility within the suburban community. Additionally, frame buildings with wood siding characterized cottages and suburban dwellings of the period. Victorian-era architectural influences in the village included Gothic Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, and Queen Anne styles. Wilson Thompson's 1889 *Plats of the Twenty First and Twenty Second Wards of Baltimore City* documented more wood-frame houses within the northern section of the community than brick.¹⁴ The area contained approximately 62 wood-frame dwellings and 50 masonry dwellings or stores, many set on multiple lots.

The 1888 annexation of Homestead and the surrounding region into Baltimore City altered its land value. The tax structure for land located within the annexation stimulated development and investment leading to a construction boom in the first-quarter of the twentieth century¹⁵. The neighborhood's desirability was further increased when the city purchased Clifton Park, located directly east of Homestead.¹⁶ As evident on *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*, in order to maximize profitability, large lot owners and developers filled the

¹⁰ Clayton Colman Hall, *Baltimore: Its History and Its People* (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1912), 548.

¹¹ For more information, G.M. Hopkins, *City Atlas of Baltimore Maryland and Environs* (Philadelphia: F. Bourquin, 1876), 64, <http://www.baltimorecityhistory.net>; Winfield W. Thompson, C.E., *Plats of the Twenty First and Twenty Second Wards of Baltimore City*, <http://www.baltimorecityhistory.net>; John Scharf, *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day* (Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1881), 890.

¹² Eric L. Holcomb, *The City as Suburb: A History of Northeast Baltimore Since 1660* (Chicago: The Center for American Places, 2008), 95.

¹³ Department of Public Works, "Historical Growth Map of City of Baltimore," 1977, <http://www.mdhistory.net> (accessed June 12, 2012).

¹⁴ The map's boundaries were Carswell Street to the north, Homewood Street to the west, Gorsuch Street (north side), and Harford Avenue to the east.

¹⁵ For more information regarding the annexation's tax structure, Sherry Olson, *Baltimore: The Building of an American City* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997), 219.

¹⁶ Olson, 217.

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neighborhood with brick row houses.¹⁷ Today, the remaining wood-frame dwellings recall early suburbanization efforts on the periphery of Baltimore City and Homestead's built environment prior to its annexation.

Property History

The dwelling at 1442 Gorsuch Avenue, historically known as 401 Gorsuch Avenue, is located at the northwest corner of Gorsuch and Taylor Avenue (now Kirk Avenue). The land records of Baltimore County document the property as consisting of lots 734 and 735 located within the Homestead subdivision. By the 1880s, however, the property also included many of the adjacent lots to the north and west, siting the building on a large parcel of land that spanned the alley.

On September 4, 1850, Robert Gorsuch, David M. McDonald, John Fox, and John W. Van Hook conveyed lots 734 and 735 to David M. McDonald in trust for Maria McDonald. The deed of trust was initiated for \$80.¹⁸ According to the 1850 United States Federal Census, David McDonald, born in 1810, was a Scottish immigrant who lived in Baltimore City and worked as a seaman. He resided with David, Cecelia, William, Sarah H., Josephine, and Elizabeth McDonald.¹⁹ Maria McDonald, born in 1810, was listed as living alone in Baltimore City; her husband, Joel McDonald, was a mariner and likely at sea at the time of the census. McDonald emigrated from Ireland, arriving in the United States in 1829.²⁰ Therefore, it is unknown if these are the David and Maria McDonald referred to in the deed, but they are the best possible matches. Maria McDonald improved the lot with a dwelling.²¹ An undated, early-1850s plat map of Homestead depicts a building on lots 734 and 735. In addition, St. Thomas Protestant Episcopal Church is not depicted, suggesting the map predates the church's 1853 construction.

On January 31, 1857, John S. Carswell purchased lots 734, 735, and 673 from Maria McDonald for \$700. The purchase price supports the conclusion that McDonald had improved the property by this time. Carswell was

¹⁷ By 1921, the fire limitation code outlawing brick construction still did not include Homestead; however, the prevalence, affordability, and standardization of brick row house construction within the city led to its use within the neighborhood. For more information, City of Baltimore, *Ordinances and Resolutions of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore Passed at the Annual Session, 1920-1921* (Baltimore: Kings Brother City Printer, 1921), 303.

¹⁸ Baltimore County Circuit Court, "Robert Gorsuch, John Fox, and John W. Van Hook to David M. McDonald in trust for Maria McDonald," Liber AWB 441, Folio 136, <http://www.mdlandrec.net> (accessed June 13, 2012).

¹⁹ Ancestry.com, *1850 United States Federal Census* (Provo, Utah: Ancestry.com Operations, 2009), Baltimore Ward 02.

²⁰ Ancestry.com, *1850 and 1870 United States Federal Censuses* (Provo, Utah: Ancestry.com Operations, 2009), Baltimore Wards 01 and 02.

²¹ John S. Carswell paid \$700 for McDonald's lots when the average unimproved lot sold for \$50 to \$150. Baltimore County Circuit Court, "Maria McDonald to John S. Carswell," Liber HMF 17, Folio 505, <http://www.mdlandrec.net> (accessed June 13, 2012).

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born in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland, on January 8, 1807. At twenty years old, Carswell immigrated to Canada, where he worked in the turpentine trade, making important discoveries in its application with distilleries. In 1840, he married Harriet von Ripper. Carswell moved to Baltimore circa 1849.²²

The 1850 United States Census noted Carswell as living within the 2nd Ward of the City of Baltimore. He resided with his wife, Harriet, and their young children, Robert, Henrietta, Elizabeth, Walter, and Octavia.²³ Harriet Carswell died on October 26, 1856.²⁴ The 1850 *Matchett's Baltimore Directory* and the 1860 *Wood's Baltimore City Directory* listed Carswell as a dealer in lamps and oil.²⁵ By 1865, Carswell operated a lamp and oil manufacturer and a kerosene distillery.²⁶ The 1870 United State Census documents John residing at the dwelling constructed for McDonald with Nellie, Elizabeth, and L. Scott. Ten years later, the 1880 United States Census listed John S. living with his son's family. Residing at the house were L. Scott (head of the household), Anne, Walter, Lotta, and Scott. On February 19, 1889, Carswell, at eighty-two years of age, died in his home. He was survived by his sons, Robert S. and Lockhart S., and daughter, Elizabeth.²⁷

Wilson Thompson's 1889 *Plats of the Twenty First and Twenty Second Wards of Baltimore City* records L. Scott Carswell owning the 192x200-foot lot, bound to the south by Gorsuch Avenue, to the east by Taylor Avenue (Kirk Avenue), and the north by Washington Avenue (Carswell Street). The property contained a two-story dwelling, two-story back building (ell), one-story kitchen, one-story barn, one-and-a-half-story stable, and one-story shed. All the buildings featured frame construction. Since John S. Carswell lived on the property till his death in 1889, most of the listed improvements were probably made during his ownership.

L. Scott Carswell was born in 1852 and married Annie C. Carswell 1873. In 1880, he is listed as the head of the household in lieu of his elderly father. Following the family trade, Carswell worked employed as an oil refiner by his father's oil company until its sale in 1886.²⁸ Afterwards, he worked in realty. The Carswells were responsible for various alterations to the property, including the addition and demolition of multiple outbuildings and removal of the rear kitchen addition.

²² *The Baltimore Sun*, "Jolin [John] S. Carswell," February 19, 1889, <http://www.proquest.com>.

²³ Ancestry.com, *1850 United States Federal Census* (Provo, Utah: Ancestry.com Operations, 2009), Baltimore Ward 02.

²⁴ *The Baltimore Sun*, "Died" October 29, 1856, <http://www.proquest.com>.

²⁵ Richard J. Matchett, *Matchett's Baltimore Director for 1850* (Baltimore: Richard J. Matchett, 1850), 51; John W. Woods, *Woods' Baltimore City Directory* (Baltimore: John W. Woods, 1860), 70.

²⁶ John W. Woods, *Woods' Baltimore City Directory* (Baltimore: John W. Woods, 1865-1866), 72.

²⁷ *The Baltimore Sun*, "Jolin [John] S. Carswell."

²⁸ *The Baltimore Sun*, "L. Scott Carswell Dies At Age Of 81: Resident Of Homestead Was Prominent In Baptist Church," April 13, 1933, <http://www.proquest.com>.

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In 1927, the Carswells sold lots 724-730, 672-682, and portions of lots 732-735 to the City Real Estate Company for \$10,000. The company quickly developed the surrounding lots, thereby enveloping the two-story wood-frame house with brick row houses. The Carswells, however, remained at 1442 Gorsuch Avenue after the sale of the property.²⁹ He died on April 13, 1933 at eighty-one years of age.³⁰

The property was subsequently rented for the next forty years to a multitude of occupants. Louis Dollinger, a World War I veteran, was a notable renter in the 1950s. He was a very successful master plumber, heating specialist, and yacht enthusiast.³¹ In 1970, Parkwood Realty Company sold the building to Joseph Garrett.³² He conveyed the property to its current owner and occupant, Lula Garrett, in 1993.³³

²⁹ Ancestry.com, *1930 United States Federal Census* (Provo, Utah: Ancestry.com Operations, 2009), Baltimore Ward 09, Block 330, District 488.

³⁰ *The Baltimore Sun*, "L. Scott Carswell Dies At Age Of 81: Resident Of Homestead Was Prominent In Baptist Church," April 13, 1933, <http://www.proquest.com>.

³¹ *The Baltimore Sun*, "City Paid Plumber \$57,578 For 289 City Jobs In 1948," January 8, 1949, <http://www.proquest.com>; *The Baltimore Sun*, "Deaths," April 17, 1962, <http://www.proquest.com>.

³² Baltimore City Land Records, "Parkwood Realty Company to Joseph Garrett," Liber RHB 2665, Folio 193, <http://www.proquest.com>.

³³ Baltimore City Land Records, "Joseph L. Garret to Lula Garrett," Liber 3943, Folio 412, <http://www.proquest.com>.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Baltimore City Archives and Enoch Pratt Library Map Collections.

Baltimore City Directories.

The Baltimore Sun.

Holcomb, Eric. *The City as a Suburb: A Prehistory of Northeast Baltimore Since 1660*. Chicago: The Center for American Places at Columbia College Chicago, 2008.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	<u>.15</u>	
Acreage of historical setting	<u>.881</u>	
Quadrangle name	<u>Baltimore East</u>	Quadrangle scale: <u>1:24,000</u>

Verbal boundary description and justification

The dwelling at 1442 Gorsuch Avenue, historically known as 401 Gorsuch Avenue, is sited at the northwestern corner of Gorsuch and Kirk Avenues. The property is bound on the north by an alley, on the east by Kirk Avenue, on the south by Gorsuch Avenue, and residential dwellings to the west. It is located in Ward 09, Section 16, Block 4133, Lot 015 of Baltimore City. The building has been associated with this lot since its construction circa 1852; however, the property originally included multiple lots. The lots to the west were later resubdivided and infilled with brick rowhouses.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Robyn Chrabaszcz, Historic Preservation Officer		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Inc. for Baltimore City DHCD	date	June 12, 2012
street & number	417 E. Fayette Street, Suite 301	telephone	443-984-1871
city or town	Baltimore	state	MD

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

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CHAIN OF TITLE

September 4, 1850	Robert Gorsuch, John Fox, and John W. Van Hook to David M. McDonald in trust for Maria McDonald Baltimore County Circuit Court Liber AWB 441, Folio 136.
January 13, 1857	Maria McDonald to John S. Carswell (lot 673, 734, 735). Baltimore County Circuit Court Liber HMF 17, Folio 505
May 31, 1879	George W. and Matilda A. Valiant, John D. and Lavinia McDonald, George E. and Mary L. McDonald, Thomas and Emma Hutchinson and Edmond and Sarah Chaylor to John S. Carswell (lot 672). Baltimore County Land Records Liber JB 112, Folio 247
September 8, 1927	L. Scott Carswell and his wife to the City Real Estate Company Baltimore City Land Records Liber SCL 4787, Folio 131
July 28, 1970	Parkwood Realty Company to Joseph Garrett Baltimore City Land Records Liber R.H.B. 2665, Folio 193
July 28, 1970	Mortgage: Joseph L. Garrett to Parkwood Realty Company (\$14,000) Baltimore City Land Records Liber 2665, Folio 195
September 30, 1993	Joseph L. Garret to Lula Garrett. Baltimore City Land Records Liber 3943, Folio 412



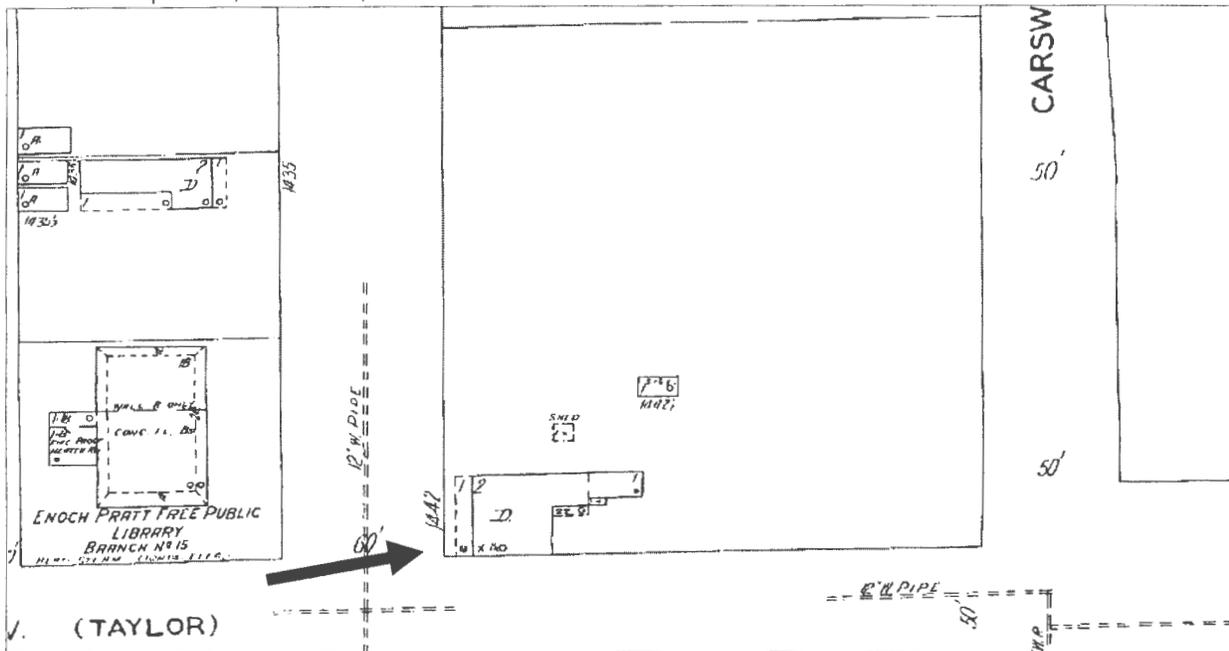
1442 Gorsuch Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21218-3622
City of Baltimore
Baltimore East, USGS Topographic Map, 1953, Revised 1974
EHT Tracerics, Inc., 2012

B-5249

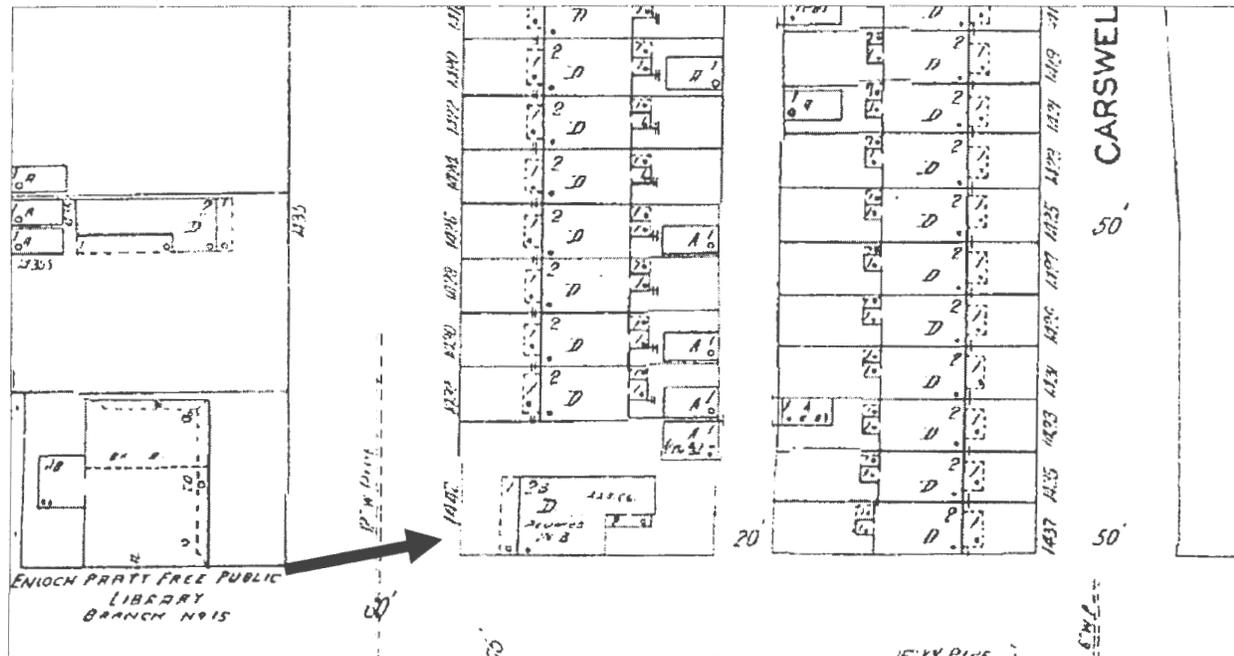
Maria McDonald House

1442 Gorsuch Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21218

Sanborn Map 1928, Volume 7, Sheet 730



Sanborn Map 1953, Volume 7, Sheet 730





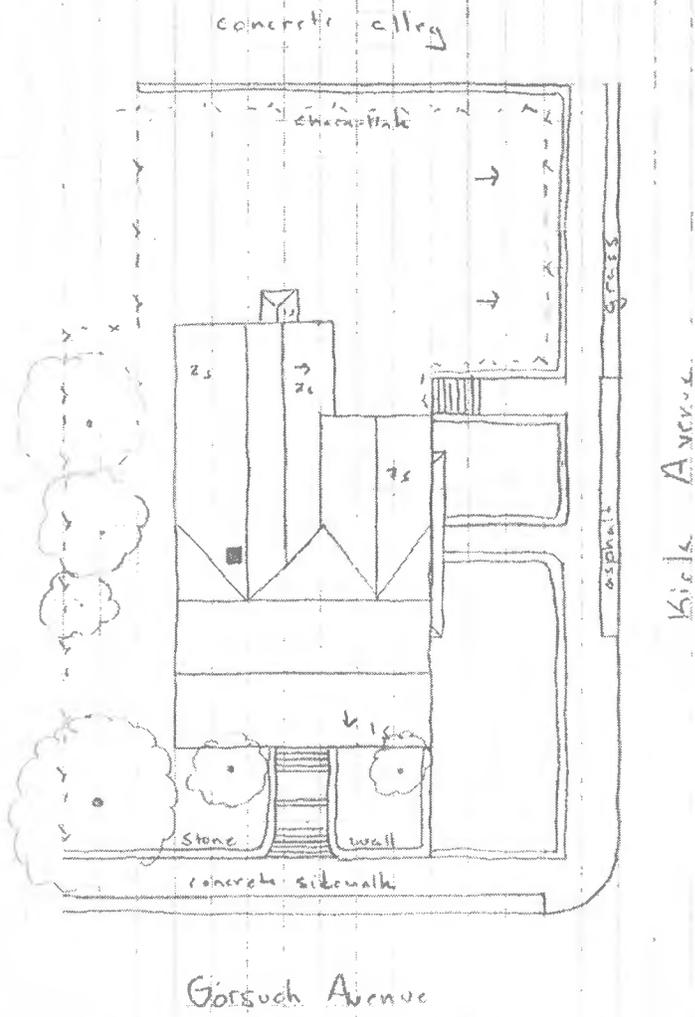
CARSWELL ST

KIRK AVE

Coldstream Homestead

Maria McDonald House
 B-5249
 1442 Gorsuch Avenue
 Coldstream Homestead Montebello, Baltimore City
 Map Courtesy of Baltimore City GIS
 Prepared by EHT Tracerics, 2012





Date 5/8/2012

Not to Scale

I.D. # B-5249

Name/Address 1442 Gorsuch Avenue

**Maria McDonald House
B-5249**

Photographer: EHT Tracerics

Date: May 10, 2012

1.	1442 Gorsuch Avenue	B-5249_2012-05-10_01.tif	Façade, looking northwest
2.	1442 Gorsuch Avenue	B-5249_2012-05-10_02.tif	Façade, looking north
3.	1442 Gorsuch Avenue	B-5249_2012-05-10_03.tif	East elevation, looking southwest
4.	1442 Gorsuch Avenue	B-5249_2012-05-10_04.tif	North (rear) elevation, looking southeast

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MARYA McDONALD HOUSE

1442 GORSUCH AVENUE

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

EHT TRACERIES

5/2012

MDSHPO

FACADE, LOOKING NORTHWEST

*1 of 4



B-5249

MARIA McDONALD HOUSE

1442 GORSUCH AVENUE

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

EHT TRACERIES

5/2012

MDSHPO

FACADE, LOOKING NORTH

2 OF 4



B-5249

MARIA McDONALD HOUSE

1442 GORSUCH AVENUE

BAITMORE CITY, MD

EHT TRACEMES

5/2012

MDSHPO

EAST ELEVATION, LOOKING SOUTHWEST

*30F4



B-5249

MARIA McDONALD HOUSE

1442 GORSUCH AVENUE

BALTIMORE CITY, MD

EHT TRACERIES

5/2012

MDSHP0

NORTH (REAR) ELEVATION, LOOKING SOUTHEAST

#4 of 4