

(Within Washington Valley, NR district)

BA-1111

may 7 1975

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

**1. NAME**

COMMON: **Octagon House**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: **North side of Piney Grove Road west of Butler Road**

CITY OR TOWN: **Glyndon**

STATE: **Maryland** COUNTY: **Baltimore**

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME: **Janet H. Hughes - c/o Robert A. Bicks**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Breed, Abbott, & Morgan, 1 Chase Manhattan Plaza**

CITY OR TOWN: **New York** STATE: **New York 10005**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Baltimore County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Washington Avenue**

CITY OR TOWN: **Towson** STATE: **Maryland**

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): **597/575**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: **None**

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>This house is a rather small, three storey rubble stone, stuccoed house of octagonal shape, set in the hillside, allowing the basement storey to open nearly at grade. Stucco is scored in imitation of ashlar. Each side contains a 6/6 window in each of the two principal storeys; a window containing a single six-light sash is in every other side of the third storey. The principal entrance to both the main floor and to the basement is in the south side, sheltered by a shed roofed wooden porch. The north-east side contains a secondary entrance to the main floor, also sheltered by a shed roofed wooden porch. In the second storey of the north side is a pair of 4/4 windows, in lieu of the single 6/6 window, a variation caused by a partition inside. The brick chimney rises above the corner formed by the west and northwest walls, bent to conform to the two planes of the two walls. The roof is a low eight-sided pyramid, rising above a simple wood cornice, capped with a low finial.</p> <p>Internally, the stair case rises through the center of the house, and the chimney serves a fireplace in each storey except the third. The mantel in the principal storey consists of oval columns supporting a paneled frieze and moulded shelf. The south front door consists of six partially-raised panels, a pair of smaller ones being immediately above the lock rails, with a pair of taller ones above and below. Some interior doors are of four raised but unmoulded panels. Many partitions appear to have been relocated, and most finished work inside is of the 20th century.</p> <p>South of the house is a stone spring house with a gable roof.</p>	

**B. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |  |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Octagon House, located on the northside of Piney Grove Road adjoining the St. John's Church property, was undoubtedly built from a design published in the 1850's in Orson S. Fowler's A Home For All. Fowler advocated building walls of 'gravel' (a mixture of small rubble stone and mortar), poured in wooden molds, and finished with a stucco surface - exactly the technique employed in constructing this house.

A deed of 1858 devised the property to Eleanor Johnson Bruster and Ann W. Johnson who were descendants of the Walker family. Since Ann Johnson was unmarried, it is likely that the Octagon House was built for her use. It was very near the family homestead, "Woodburn" in which the Hopkins Atlas of Baltimore County of 1877 indicates Mrs. Bruster lived.

The "Woodburn" estate was first occupied by Charles Walker (1744-1825). He had married Ann Cradock, daughter of Dr. Thomas Cradock, rector of St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Garrison, and fought in the American Revolution. In 1816, Charles Walker donated the land for St. John's Church, worthington. One of his daughters married into the Hickman Johnson family of Lacust Hill and through her, the property descended through several generations until 1924 when the farm was sold at auction to Herman J. Hughes whose heirs now own the Octagon House.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Baltimore City and Baltimore County.  
 (Philadelphia, 1881). P. 362.

Baltimore County Tax Assessments: 1876, 1896.

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. 1877. (Philadelphia, 1877)

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **270 acres**

Acreage Justification:

*(This area is currently blank in the image)*

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Catherine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr. AIA**

ORGANIZATION: **Worthington Valley Historical District Project**      DATE: **Jan. 1, 1976**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1114 Bellemore Road**

CITY OR TOWN: **Baltimore**      STATE: **Maryland**

**12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)**

Significance of this property is:

National       State       Local

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



Octagon House

BA-1111

28