

## GERMAN HOUSE

Finding its roots in the central pediment the "cross-gable" is an architectural element that enjoyed particular popularity in America during most of the 19th century and at least a quarter of the 20th century. It can be found on residences, barns, stores and factories as early as the 1830's and as late as the 1930's. Studies in some sections of Maryland for this period show as many as 50% to 60% of the structures in a given area to have been cross-gables.

This town was no exception and there are at least twenty residences still standing in central Towson (Nov., 1977) to prove the fact.

The German Houses and the Chew house on the northwest corner of Shealey and Virginia Aves. are important not only as individual examples of this stylistic tradition but also as components of what was a continuous streetscape of cross-gable facades.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

German House (German-Herzog House)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

101 Shealey Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Towson

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

John Herzog

Telephone #: 823-2685

STREET & NUMBER

101 Shealey Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Towson

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Maryland 21204

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

New Courts Building

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>Summer, 1978</u>

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house consists of a main block that is three bays wide and one deep with an off center 1' X 1' projection to the rear (north). The entire building is two stories in height plus and attic. This is a wooden frame construction resting on a high cement foundation. The exterior is covered with shingles.

The south facade faces Shealey Ave. and is the main facade. It has a full porch covering the first story and it is characterized by the cross-gable. This latter feature accentuates the fact that this building is centralized in its plan. The entrance occupies the central bay but there is no central hall. The entrance is flanked by a bay on either side which contains a large 1/1 window. The door itself has a two-light transom. The decorative details of this facade include the short and slender doric columns that support the porch roof between it and the railing. The sides of the porch contain shingles identical to those covering the rest of the house. The spaces in between the brick piers are filled with green wooden lattice. The tongue-and-groove ceiling is painted the traditional sky-blue.

The cross-gable is of the add-on variety and is vented by a 1/1 round arch sash window.

A deep cornice projects c. 15 inches out from the building and adds emphasis to the gable-ends of the roof by giving them a pediment-like appearance. Both end gables have round arch windows. The roof is covered with gray slate and has metal "snow guards."

The north wing is as tall as the main block and so is the kitchen wing. It occupies almost half of the west bay but does not reach either corner. This wing has regular fenestration like the rest of the house although the 1/1 sash are smaller. The east ell contains a small shed roofed porch covering an entrance.

A flue-chimney exits the building in a central location where the kitchen wing intersects the main block.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Pre-1915

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A frame cross-gable which was one of several houses built on Shealey Ave. by the same family. This house, and one on the opposite end of the block, is all that is left of what was until recently a complete streetscape of older frame residences.

Finding its roots in the central pediment the "cross-gable" is an architectural element that enjoyed particular popularity in America during most of the 19th century and at least a quarter of the 20th century. It can be found on residences, barns, stores and factories as early as the 1830's and as late as the 1930's. Studies in some sections of Maryland for this period show as many as 50% to 60% of the structures in a given area to have been cross-gables.

This town was no exception and there are at least twenty residences still standing in central Towson (Nov., 1977) to prove the fact.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

See Attachment

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

WAYNE C. NIELD, II  
HISTORIC TOWSON, INC.

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory 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  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

## TITLE SEARCH for GERMAN HOUSE

Liber 1024, Folio 480 March 17, 1938

Grantor: Key Realty Corp.

Grantee: John R. Herzog & wife

"Beginning...north side of Shealey Ave. 100' Easterly from East side of Joppa Road...Easterly line of lot formerly owned by William Bowen of S....Improved by No. 101 Shealey Ave....50'...to place of beginning."

Liber 1008, Folio 278 July 1, 1937

Grantor: Suburban Finance Corp.

Grantee: Key Realty Corp.

Liber 954, Folio 473 July 31, 1935

Grantor: Baltimore Trust Corp.

Grantee: Suburban Finance Corp.

Liber 537, Folio 247 April 1, 1921

Grantor: Andrew J. German

Grantee: R. Calvert Stewart

Liber 404, Folio 209 November 15, 1912

Grantor: William Bowen of S.

Grantee: Andrew J. German

"Beginning... at a front...north side of Shealey Lane (20' wide)... that lot...conveyed by John L. Morris & Charles E. Feudall to William Bowen of S."

Liber 308, Folio 422 April 4, 1902

Grantor: John B. Longnecker

Grantee: William Bowen of S.

"Beginning...end of second line in the Deed dated July 11, 1882... recorded...No. 130/143...parallel with second line...West 129' to place of beginning."

Liber 130, Folio 143 July 12, 1882

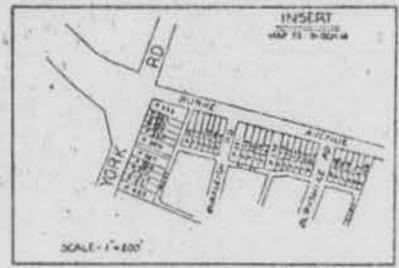
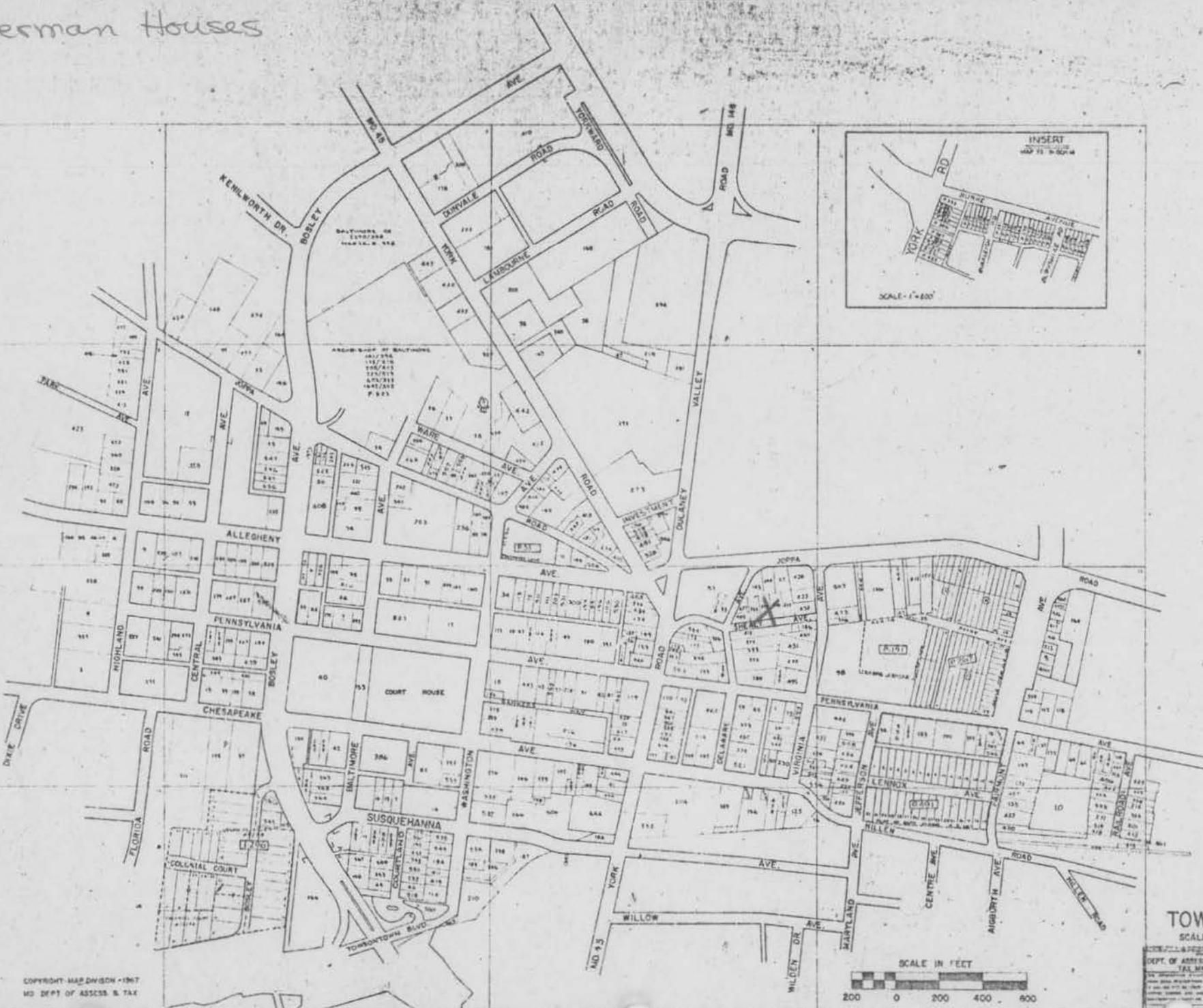
Grantor: John T. Morris & Charles L. Fendall

Grantee: William Bowen of S.

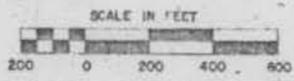
"Beginning...end of line drawn South...105' from point located distance 244  $\frac{3}{10}$ ' in South...East...being part of land on the north side of a road or space 20' in width...West 200' to Country Road... East 100' to place of beginning."

German Houses

BA-1481



COPYRIGHT MAP DIVISION 1967  
MD DEPT OF ASSESS & TAX



TOWSON  
SCALE 1" = 200'  
DEPT. OF ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION  
TAX MAP DIVISION

MAP NO  
70A



BA-1481

GERMAN HSE  
101 ~~WALKER~~ SWEENEY AVE.  
S.

W. NIELT  
SUM-74



BA-1481

German Ave  
101 ~~W~~<sup>SHEALY</sup> Ave  
E.

W. NIELD  
SUM-78