

Maryland Historical Trust

Inventory No. BA-1720

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Mason-Weiskittel House
 other Henry Gwynn House

2. Location

street and number 6909 Bellona Avenue not for publication
 city, town Towson X vicinity
 county Baltimore County

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

name Rodgers Choice LLC
 street and number PO Box 528 telephone
 city, town Timonium state MD zip code 21094-0528

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 79-91
 city, town Towson liber 18369 folio 17

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report
- Other MIHP, Nield

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
			Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry		
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape		
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture		
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
		<input type="checkbox"/> social		
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory <u>4</u>	

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-1720

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

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

The Mason-Weiskittel House is located at 6909 Bellona Avenue at the southeast corner of the intersection with Stevenson Lane in Towson, in central Baltimore County, Maryland. The house faces west toward Bellona Avenue and is surrounded by a frame garage, frame outbuilding known as the stable, frame comcrib, and frame sheep shed.

The house is a 2 ½-story, three-bay by two-bay frame structure with a two-story, two-bay by one-bay kitchen wing and a two-story, one-bay by one-bay enclosed porch on the east side of the wing. It has a rubble stone foundation that has been mostly re-pointed with raised, dark gray square mortar joints. There are wood shingles painted light green and these are nailed over earlier wood shingles that are probably not the original siding material either. The wall kicks out at the foundation on all sides. The gable roof has a north-south ridge with cross gables on the east and west and a lantern in the center. The roof has asphalt shingles. The wing has a gable roof with an east-west ridge and asphalt shingles. The first story of the west elevation has a center entrance with a two-panel door that has sunken fields and ovolo and cavetto panel moulds. It has a turned brass handle with a thumb latch and hinges with ball finials. There are four-light sidelights above one panel that matches the door panels on each side of the door. There is a transom bar with a quirked ogee and bevel at the top and a five-light transom, and there is head-cut trim. The transom muntins match the window sash, not the sidelights. The wood sill has patches in front of the sidelights that are ¾ inch deep by 2 ¾ inches long, and probably mark where the earlier doorjamb were located. To each side of the doorway is a four-over-six sash that extends down to the baseboard. These windows have bull nose frames and wide center muntins. There are blinds with louvers above a single panel that has a sunken field and a quirked ogee and bevel panel mould. There is a one-story, three-bay porch that has a hip roof with standing-seam metal and four chamfered square posts. There is an ogee and bevel moulding on the capital of each post and on the fascia board above, and an ogee bed mould. The box cornice has been rebuilt. The tongue-and-groove wood deck has several rotted spots and the soffit has boards with gaps set between them. The second story center bay has a four-over-four sash with a narrow two-over-two sash to each side. The window has a wood lintel with small ogee brackets and an ogee and bevel cornice. This lintel is typical for the house. The end bays have a four-over-four sash with a typical lintel and blinds. There is a central gabled wall dormer with a lunette. The eaves have board soffit that follows the pitch of the rafters. There is an interior brick chimney on the north and south gable ends with a flat top that appears to be slate. In the center of the roof is a lantern with a hip roof of asphalt shingles and paired four-over-four sash on all four sides. It has wood shingles that cover what appear to be pilasters at the corners. A moulding is visible at each corner just under the fascia, and these pilaster capitals have quirked ogee and bevel mouldings.

The south elevation has two three-light sash in the basement. The first story has two four-over-four sash with blinds that have panels at the bottom, and the windows have typical lintels. The second story has two four-over-four sash with blinds and typical lintels. The gable end has two narrow four-over-four sash and no blinds. The east elevation, on the first story, has a four-over-four sash in the south bay that matches the south elevation first story windows. The center bay has a small six-over-six with head-cut trim. The north-center bay has a four-over-four sash like the south bay. The second story has three four-over-four sash like the south elevation second story, with one of them in the north-center bay. There is also a gabled wall dormer that matches the west elevation and the north-center bay is mostly set beneath this dormer.

The south elevation of the wing has the remains of a rotted porch in the west bay, and the foundation stone is not re-pointed where this porch covered it. The east bay has a six-over-six sash. On the first story, the west bay has French doors with ten lights each, and a three-light transom. The east bay has a six-over-six sash with a bull nose frame, blinds with panels at the bottom that have sunken fields and no panel moulds. These and all the blinds are mortised-and-tenoned-and-pegged. All of the six-over-six sash match this in detail. The second story has two six-over-six sash without blinds, and the eave matches that of the main block. The south elevation of the east porch has beaded-edge-and-center, vertical boards on the foundation with lattice over top, and there are wood steps up to the first story. The first story has a door with four lights over two lying panels set to the west and a 20-light casement set to the east. The second story has two six-over-six sash. The east elevation of this porch is open on the foundation

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and the wing of the house has a door with four lights over two frieze panels over two tall panels. There are no panel moulds. The first story has three 20-light casements and the second story has six-over-six sash. The roof of the porch continues the gable of the wing, but the gable end is uneven because the porch is not centered on the wing. The wing has an interior brick chimney at the east end that matches the other chimneys on the house. The north elevation of the east porch has a foundation identical to that on the south elevation. The first story has two 20-light casement windows and the second story has no openings. The north elevation of the wing has a six-over-six sash in the east bay of the foundation. The first story has two six-over-six sash that match the south elevation wing, and has combination blinds and shutters on the windows. The second story has two six-over-six sash that never had blinds. The north elevation of the wing projects northward beyond the main block of the house, and the west elevation of this projection has a small two-light casement on the first story.

The north elevation of the main block has two four-over-six sash with combination blinds and shutters and without lintels on the first story. There is a two-bay, one-story porch with three posts that match the west porch and a hipped roof. The second story has two four-over-four sash that are typical for the house and have lintels. The gable end matches the south elevation gable.

The interior has a center passage, single-pile plan with an ell on the north side of the east elevation. The passage has oak strip flooring with two strips of walnut inlay. The architrave is plain with a beaded interior edge and a pedimented top that has a quirked ogee and bevel. This pedimented lintel overhangs the side pieces slightly. The baseboard has a quirked ogee and bevel on top. The stair stringer and piece of baseboard next to it on the south wall is larger than the rest of the baseboard and appears to have been replaced. The doors have six panels, with frieze panels set in the center, and they have sunken fields and quirked ogee and bevel panel moulds. The front door sidelight panels each have a sunken field with ovolo and cavetto panel moulds. There is a straight run stairway on the south with oak risers and treads and an open stringer with sawn brackets. The large turned newel post appears to be walnut and the turned balusters are stained dark. Beneath the west end of the stairs are three panels that are sunken and flat, with quirked ogee and bevel panel moulds. The wall is filled in to the east with a two-panel door on butt hinges with ball finials, creating a closet under the stairs. The trim to this door matches the other doors but the lintel is flush with the side pieces. The west wall of this closet has two panels that match the three under the stairs. The east wall has a two-panel door with butt hinges that have ball finials and matching trim that is also set flush. Behind this door is a powder room with a tile floor that has gray and speckled rose rectangular tiles and small black and white square tiles. The walls have white tile and the window on the east elevation has a marble sill. The cast iron toilet has no maker or date, and it flushes to the front.

The south room floor and architrave match the passage. The baseboard has a large ogee and bevel like that on the stairs. The windows have deep, narrow ovolo muntins, have parting beads, and are hung on sash cords. The vertical muntins are wide. The center of the ceiling has an oblong plaster patch suggesting there was a plaster medallion here once. There is a brick mantel on the south elevation with a tile hearth and a re-built firebox. The mantelshelf is a piece of thick slate or other stone.

The northwest room has typical flooring, architrave, and windows. The south baseboard has a large ogee and bevel while the north and west baseboards have the smaller ogee and bevel. The ceiling has a patch running north-south across the center, the ghost of an earlier partition wall. The north elevation has a cabinet to the west that has double doors with semicircular-arched glazing at the top, a cross-buck panel door at the bottom, and hinges with ball finials. The east jamb has notches for earlier locks that were on these doors, and there are ghosts of these locks on the doors. The trim is typical and is set flush. Some of the shelf boards are supported by cleats fastened with wire nails. To the east of this cupboard is a fireplace with a flush rubble stone mantel that replaces the original. A stone hearth has also been added on top of the original, and the firebox has splayed brick jambs that appear to be original. The center of the room has two typical full-height windows, and there is a closed-off fireplace to the east of them. At the east end is a cupboard that matches that on the west. The cupboard door has through tenons with single pegs (unlike the west cupboard door), mortise locks with glass knobs, and the locks are made of bent metal plates. There is no clear evidence of earlier locks. It appears that there was always a cupboard in this location, as the trim matches the original and has a slight

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overhang to the lintel. The baseboard inside the cupboard is plain. The east elevation has a window set to the south and a door to the north. The door is typical but was originally hinged on the south jamb to open into the room and now has a spring hinge at the top and bottom. It also had a lock, the mortise for which has now been patched, and has typical trim with an overhang to the lintel. The south elevation has the ghost of what was probably a door from the passage to what was the northeast room. There is a break in the baseboard in the northeast room side about 8 feet, 9 inches east of the east jamb of the existing door, and a change in the depth of the plaster creating a shallow vertical blind that is about 8 feet, 11 inches east of that same door jamb. The passage side of this wall also has a change in plaster in the same location, and there is a change that runs horizontally approximately where the top of the door was. There is no evidence of where the west jamb of this doorway was. Given its proximity to the ghost of the partition wall, it is likely that all the old plaster was removed in order to make one large patch.

The rear wing has a pantry at the west end, with a stair hall to the south and east of it, a large room to the east of that, and an enclosed porch at the east end. The wing passage runs along the south end and has black linoleum with red inlay on the floor. The baseboard has a large ogee and bevel and the architrave has a beaded interior edge and a pedimented top with no moulding. This pedimented lintel overhangs the side trim. On the south elevation are French doors hung on butt hinges with ball finials. On the north side of the passage is the pantry to the west and an enclosed stairway to the east. There are two steps below a door that has three lights at the top and four panels with sunken fields and no panel moulds. The door is hung on ball finial hinges and has a mortise lock that is not original to the door. The glazing appears that it could be original to the door. There is a straight run of pine stairs that ascends to the north with a winder at the north end.

The pantry to the west of the stairs has a six-panel door with the frieze panels in the center. They have sunken fields and no panel moulds, there are ball finial hinges and a mortise lock that is not original to the door. The door is mortised and tenoned and pegged. The pantry has linoleum flooring and plain baseboard. There is a small two-light sash on the west that is mortised and tenoned and pegged and has beaded-interior-edge trim that is mitered and has no pediment. The sash has stamped-plate butt hinges that are not original to the jamb. The north end of the pantry has a cabinet with two two-panel doors at the bottom, two drawers above with a counter top, and two three-light doors. The doors have face-mounted hinges with ball finials that appear to be original.

The east room of the wing is a modern kitchen with linoleum flooring that matches the wing passage and is laid over 2 1/4-inch pine that runs east-west. The baseboard has a large ogee and bevel and there is a pressed metal ceiling with an egg and dart cornice, approximately 4 inch squares, and a center ceiling medallion of pressed metal with one row of acanthus and flowers, rope moulding on the outer edge, and plain spandrels. The architrave matches the wing passage. The interior doors of this room match the pantry door and have the same hardware. On the west elevation the door set to the south has been converted to a swinging door and the door to the north leads to the cellar stairs. There is a closed-off chimney on the east that originally had a tall opening probably for a kitchen range. To the north of this chimney is a closet with a door hung on the north jamb that was originally hung on the south jamb. The six-over-six sash are hung on sash tapes. The east door to the enclosed porch matches the main block interior doors.

The east porch has beaded-edge-and-center boards under the windows. The windows open out at the bottom. The floor has linoleum and the ceiling has tongue-and-grooved boards. There are cedar shakes on the west wall.

The second story has the same plan as the first story, with an additional room at the west end of the passage. It has the same flooring throughout, but without any walnut inlay. The stairway has a typical window on the east side of the landing, and the landing between the second and third stories cuts through this window. The passage baseboard has a small ogee on the west and a large ogee elsewhere. The stairway continues up to the attic and the stringer has a large ogee. The stair has oak risers and treads and the same details as the first story. The architrave matches that in the wing on the first story and the doors have three-light

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transoms that are hinged on the side. The doors were originally varnished a dark color, are hung on butt hinges with ball finials, and have mortise locks like the main block on the first story.

The west-center chamber has a marble threshold and a black and white tile floor. The walls have white tile with black trim. There is a new water closet and a cast iron pedestal sink. The tub fixtures are labeled "STANDARD." On the north wall are ceramic light fixtures. There is a closet built in on the north wall, to the east, with a two-panel door and typical trim that is all flush. The east door also has typical flush trim. The west window has a mortised-and-tenoned-and-pegged sash and only the center sash has cords. There is a marble sill.

The south chamber was originally two rooms apparently. There is a chimney in the center of the south wall with a ghost of what appears to be a partition wall on this chimney, and the ghost continues across the ceiling. There is no clear ghosting on the north wall, but there is a crack 6 feet 1 3/4 inches west of the door that is very straight and vertical to about 7 feet above the floor. This is probably the west jamb of the doorway to the original southwest chamber. There is no clear mark of this doorway to the east, but this whole wall was probably re-done when the partition wall was removed. The north and east baseboards have a large ogee and bevel. The sash are hung on cords. The wall on the east appears to have been added, and it creates a bathroom to the north and a closet to the south. The northeast door trim has an overhang while the southeast door trim is all flush, so the northeast is probably re-used trim. The doors are typical. The bathroom has a marble threshold and windowsill, hexagonal gray tiles on the floor, and white tiles on the walls. There are light fixtures identical to the west bathroom on the south elevation, and the pedestal sink, tub, and "STANDARD" fixtures are also the same. The water closet matches that on the first story. The plaster is cracked where the wall and ceiling meet on the south and west indicating that these walls were added. There is an iron light fixture in the center of the south chamber ceiling.

The northwest chamber has a wide chimney breast on the north elevation but the fireplace has been closed off. To the west of it is a closet with a typical door that has no panel moulds on the interior side, and it has typical second-story trim. There is an iron ceiling light in the center of the room. There is an original door between the northeast and northwest chambers. The northeast chamber is a mirror image of the northwest chamber, with the fireplace closed off and the mantel missing. To the east is a closet that must be original. There is a window on the east elevation, set to the south, and a door on the east, set to the north, that leads to the wing passage. This is a typical second-story door with no panel moulds on the east side, and has typical second-story architrave (as do the other openings). The baseboard seems to all have the large ogee and bevel and the light fixture matches that in the northwest chamber.

The second-story wing has the stairway at the west end with a passage along the west side of the stairs and along the south side of the wing. There is a room in the north-center and another at the east end, with an enclosed porch at the far east. The flooring has been added and is 2-1/4 inch pine that runs north-south. The ceiling in the wing follows the roof rafters and collar beams. The stairway has a turned, tapered newel post, square balusters, and a rectangular handrail that is rounded slightly at the corners. The trim is typical for the second story. There are three steps in the passage leading up to the northeast chamber. The main stair has only one winder at the north end.

The north-center wing chamber is now a circa 1920s bathroom with black and white linoleum tile on the floor, white tile with black edges on the walls, a black pedestal sink, and a cast iron water closet. The door has typical architrave and no panel moulds. It has the frieze panels in the center and has cast iron butt hinges that are heavily painted. There is a brass mortise lock plate with mineral knobs and the keyhole is filled in. There is no evidence of another lock. The east wing chamber door and trim is the same as the north-center wing chamber. The cast iron rim lock has a mineral knob and no markings. The cast iron butts are marked "BALDWIN PATENT." The baseboard is plain. The six-over-six sash have parting beads, plain meetings rails, and are mortised-and-tenoned-and-pegged with deep, narrow ovolo muntins. The sash are hung on tapes. There is a narrow chimney on the east that

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never had a fireplace. Also on the east, set to the south, is a door with head-cut trim that has a small bead on the inner edge. The door has four panels with sunken fields and small ogee panel moulds. There is a cast iron rim lock marked with the Russell and Erwin Company logo, and it has mineral knobs. The butt hinges have three knuckles and loose joints. The east porch sash match those in the second story of the wing. The head-cut trim has a large bead on the inner edge. The floor slopes down to the east.

The attic is finished, with oak flooring in the passage and the two east rooms. The baseboard is plain and the mitered architrave has a beaded interior edge. The six-panel doors match those of the wing and the cast iron butt hinges have five knuckles, fast joints, and are labeled "BALDWIN PATENT." The passage ceiling slopes to the east over the stairs, with no access to the east cross gable. There is a winder stair to the lantern on the west, and it is enclosed with beaded-edge, vertical boards and a narrow board door hung on cast iron butt hinges with two knuckles. The southeast attic room sash is hung on tapes and has parting beads. The doors have mortise locks with mineral knobs. The southwest attic room has a built-in cupboard on the east with two four-panel doors that have sunken fields and ogee and bevel panel moulds. The south half of this cupboard has six drawers inside it. There is a short door with three panels leading to the room in the west cross gable. This room and the other west rooms have random-width pine flooring between 6 ½ inches and 7 inches that runs east-west. There is a break in the floor boards where the dormer starts and both sides of the flooring are face-nailed with cut nails. There is a patch in the center of this break in the flooring that probably indicates the location of a knee wall stud. The dormer sash appears to be later than the other sash in the house. There is a typical six-panel door between the northeast and northwest attic rooms.

The lantern has plastered walls and ceiling, mitered architrave with a beaded interior edge, and mortised-and-tenoned-and-pegged sash with deep, narrow ovolo muntins and parting beads. Most of the sash have pivoting anchors to hold the sash open. The baseboard is plain and the railing around the stairway has beaded-edge, tongue-and-groove, vertical boards.

The basement has a concrete floor, rubble stone walls, and is accessed by a straight run of enclosed stairs in the wing. The main block has two summer beams that run east-west and are sawn on three sides and hewn on one side, with three original posts under each. The joists are sash sawn, are 2 ½ inches to 3 inches wide by 9 ¼ inches to 9 ½ inches deep, and are spaced 15 inches to 22 ½ inches on centers. The joists lap each other at both summer beams, and there is no bridging between the joists. The random-width flooring above is 4 inches to 7 ½ inches wide, is sash sawn, and runs east-west. It has numerous cut nails coming through many boards all over the flooring, and some wire nails. The bottom of the newel post passes through the floor at a joist, and this joist has a deep notch for the newel post. There are two wedges that pass through the center of the newel post, one from the west and the other from the east. There are thick boards nailed to the floor above with cut nails, and these wedges press up against these boards. There is a coal bin on the south side, in the center, and it has horizontal board walls. There are two shallow stone chimney buttresses on the north and one on the south. The hearth supports consists of a header that is identical to the joists and has center tenons into the trimmers, with a cut nail into each tenon at an angle. The joists appear to be half-lapped into the header. There are ledger boards against the header and the stone buttress that support rough boards that in turn support the hearth. The floor joists are notched at the bottom ends and rest directly on the stone wall with no board beneath them. The joists butt the sill, but do not connect to it. There are holes cut through the floor for heat registers in each room, and these have been floored over. The wing basement has plastered walls and ceiling and has circular-sawn lath with wire nails. Part of two joists are visible and the construction here is the same as in the main block. There is a store room with shelves beneath the stairway, and it has a vertical-board door hung on stamped plate butt hinges. In the northeast corner of the room is a toilet. There is a large cast iron cooking range on the east wall, set into the brickwork. It is labeled "GOLDEN RULE" on the door, and the side is labeled "A. WEISKITTEL & SON. BALTIMORE, MD." There are mortised-and-tenoned-and-pegged six-over-six sash that have no parting beads. There is a doorway to the south of the chimney on the east elevation. It has plywood over what appears to be a typical six-panel door for this house.

About 100 feet east-southeast of the house is a garage with a poured concrete foundation, frame with wood shingles, and a hip roof

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with asphalt shingles. It is a one-story, three-bay by two-bay structure. The west elevation has seven doors, each with nine lights over one panel that has beaded-edge-and-center vertical boards. The doors are hung on "T" hinges. There is a gable dormer with a triangular sash that has four triangular lights. The south elevation has a six-over-six sash with head-cut trim. The east elevation has two six-over-six sash with head-cut trim. The north elevation has a six-over-six sash to the east and a door with nine lights over two lying panels to the west. Both openings have head-cut trim. The garage is of 2 by 4 construction with doubled-up 2 by 4's for the plates and diagonally-laid sub sheathing. The roof has 2 by 6 rafters with solid board sheathing. There is a cast iron potbelly stove in here labeled "GEM." Set across the tie beams are double doors that each have three octagonal bolection-moulded panels with sunken fields and the frieze panels set in the center. They have a rim lock with a porcelain knob and cast iron butt hinges with five knuckles, labeled "BALDWIN." These doors combined are 47 1/4 inches wide. They were taken down and moved to the house for safe keeping, as the garage is slated for demolition. There is also a six-panel door typical of those in the rest of the house, with panel moulds, a porcelain knob, and cast iron butt hinges with five knuckles.

Behind the garage is a one-story, one-bay by one-bay rectangular corncrib with CMU piers, horizontal-board siding with wire nails, and a gable roof with flat metal roofing and a north-south ridge. On the south elevation is a door with metal over a wood frame, and the door was built this way. There are five wood steps below the doorway. The corncrib has 2 by 4 construction with 2 by 4 rafters and a ridgepole.

There is a sheep shed standing about 100 feet east-southeast of the garage. It is a one-story, three-bay by three-bay frame structure with German siding fastened with cut nails and a shed roof with asphalt roll roofing that slopes down to the north. The south elevation has a six-light sash to the west, a tall, wide opening in the center, and three openings to the east. Nail holes here suggest that something like siding was removed. The east elevation has no openings, as does the north elevation. The west elevation has a center door with five lying panels that is off its hinges. There is a six-light sash with head-cut trim to each side. The shed has 2 by 4 and 3 by 4 construction. The enclosed room at the west end has a rotted wood floor. The east wall of this room has a six-light sash to the south and a beaded-edge-and-center, vertical-board Dutch door to the north. There is a concrete collar for a post that is inscribed "WEISKITTEL SEPT. 15 1949 ED WILLIAMS F.A.W."

There is a building known as the stable about 30 feet north-northeast of the garage. It is a one-story, two-bay by five-bay frame structure with a concrete foundation, asbestos shingle siding, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and an east-west ridge. The south elevation has five six-light sash with head-cut trim and slight pediments. It has open eaves with 2 by 4 exposed rafters. The east elevation has a door to the south with five lying panels, a six-light sash to the north that matches the south windows, and a small vent in the gable end. The north elevation matches the south and the west elevation is a mirror image of the east. Beneath the asbestos shingle siding is asphalt shingle siding. The stable is of 2 by 4 construction with 2 by 4 rafters that have a ridgepole and diagonal wall sheathing and solid wood sheathing on the roof. The west end has a concrete floor. The partition wall dividing the west end from the rest of the building has a typical six-light sash to the north and one of the doors from the house set to the south. This door is now cut in half to make a Dutch door. There is a vent opening in the gable of this wall. The partition wall also has asphalt shingle siding that does not go behind the studs of the west addition. The construction on both halves of the building is the same but there is a clear break, and it appears that the west section was added right after the east half was built. The east half has a dirt floor and a hayrack in the center. All of the sash slide open in wood tracks.

All of the outbuildings are scheduled for demolition shortly, as the vacant land will be developed with new townhouses.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-1720

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

N/A

Construction dates

c. 1864, 1926

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 reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

The Mason-Weiskittel House is located on part of what was the Dumbarton estate, and the land was leased by James W. Curley for \$230 a year from Dumbarton's owner, Robert A. Taylor, in 1850. The site was on the old Gunpowder Road (also known as the old Powder Mill Road, now Bellona Avenue), which made it desirable, but the Chiffelle map of 1852 does not indicate any improvements made in this area. Curley paid Taylor \$1833.33 in 1854 as a down payment on this property, consisting of 83 acres of "Friends Discovery." By 1 July 1856 Curley had paid an additional \$2,000 and a deed was executed. The following day Curley sold 53 acres of this tract to Margaret Wilson and leased it all back from her at a yearly rent of \$360, with the option of extinguishing the lease at the end of ten years by paying \$6,000. Just what Curley was doing through these transactions (perhaps trying to protect property from creditors or perhaps Taylor needed money and Curley could not afford to pay the full amount, or something else), is not clear. The cost of the property and the rent on it suggest that substantial improvements had been made, though their nature and location are not known. The 1857 Robert Taylor Map of the City and County of Baltimore shows the only properties along this portion of Bellona are J. W. Curley's "Maple Grove" estate and E. N. Sweeney's "Montrose," and the 1863 W. F. Reynolds/George Kaiser Military Map of Baltimore County, Maryland shows the same thing. The 1877 Hopkins Atlas shows that Curley still held a large tract of this land, just south of the 11-acre tract, and it contained numerous buildings. (1)

In August 1864 Curley subleased 11 acres of his leased land to William A. Mason for \$3500, and in June 1866 Mason paid the \$6,000 to Margaret Wilson and acquired the land through a deed from Curley, assigning it to his wife, Caroline (Carrie) C. Mason (nee Chase). What exactly became of the other 42 acres is not clear, nor is it explained why Curley executed the deed rather than Wilson. At the same time Mason extinguished his sub-lease to his wife to clear up the title. It has been suggested that Mason built the existing house c. 1864, when he first leased the property. While the purchase price of \$6,000 seems inordinately high for 11 acres without substantial improvements, Caroline Mason sold the 11 acres with a house at public auction in April 1869 for \$13,000. (The Maryland Journal recorded the purchase price as \$18,000, which was apparently a misprint.) Thus, based on the 1877 Atlas it would seem that earlier improvements were on other portions of the land, that Curley sold vacant land to the Masons, and the Masons must have been responsible for the existing dwelling c. 1864. William Mason was a principal in the firm of R. Mason & Sons, a ship's bread, cake and cracker baking business on President Street in Baltimore, with a store on Pratt Street. He was partnered with John Henderson, a ship chandler and commission merchant. The assumption has always been that this house was intended as a summer residence only, but when Mason died in July 1868 he was living in Baltimore County. His business was likely booming during the Civil War, if he had government contracts for hardtack and other provisions, and perhaps he needed to get away from the city for health reasons, or was a very early example of suburban flight. Mason was only 34 when he died, and it must have been rather unexpected, as he will was written the day he died. All of Mason's property was left to his widow with the intention that she would use the profits from the bakery to continue raising their children, and once the youngest son came of legal age then the property would be divided among them. (2)

Maryland Historical Trust

Inventory No BA-1720

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Name Mason-Weiskittel House

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

In March 1869 the house was offered for rent for a three-year term, at \$1,100 a year, with an option to buy. Mason described it as "42 by 85 feet, with twenty acres attached, situated on Charles-street avenue and Powder Mill lane, three miles from the city limits. The dwelling is new and first-class, containing fourteen rooms, papered throughout, and all necessary outbuildings, with ice-house filled with spring water ice." While not far from Charles Street, the house and property were not actually on it. The Sweeney property was actually closer to the intersection of the two roads. Of greater concern is the size of the house. The existing dwelling is less than 38 feet across the front, and about 55 feet deep, including the back wing, so either the measurements were wrong or the house Mason was offering was not the existing Weiskittel House. As far as can be determined, there was no other house along this stretch of the east side of Bellona, and since there are numerous features that suggest that much of this house dates to before 1869, one must assume at this point that the measurements were inaccurate. (3)

Caroline Mason must have only found someone interested in buying rather than renting her house, as she ended up selling the property on 1 April 1869. The Maryland Journal noted that the 11-acre tract was "improved by a handsome three-story dwelling and every necessary outbuilding." Henry and Virginia Gwynn purchased the Mason House and mortgaged the property to Caroline Mason. Gwynn was a cotton factor in the Baltimore firm of Gwynn, Cotton & Company. The mortgage was assigned first to Emily J. Walker and then to E. Calvin Williams, and he foreclosed on the Gwynns in 1876. At this time the property was described as "in the highest state of cultivation and well supplied with fruit trees and is a very desirable place for a country residence; the improvements consist of a two-story and attic double frame dwelling with a two-story back building; also a stable and necessary outbuildings." The description suggests that Gwynn, unlike Mason, was only using the house for a summer retreat from the city heat. (4)

Emily Walker purchased the Mason house for \$6,500. She had a residence on Saratoga Street in Baltimore City, but she was living at least part of the time here in the country. Codicils to her will written in March 1887, March 1890, and September 1891 all note that she was living on Bellona Avenue. March was rather early to be moving out to the country, suggesting that she may have been living year-round near Towson. Emily died in 1892, leaving all of her possessions to her daughter Zoe, wife of William Radebaugh. Emily's inventory for the Bellona Avenue house lists only "Room No. 1," with typical bedroom furniture as well as a cook stove and two fireplace stoves. She was apparently sharing the house with her daughter's family, at least part of the time. The 1898 Bromley Atlas shows this as the property of G. Radebaugh, who was Zoe's son, Garnett. At that time there was 21 acres known as "Ivanhoe," with two houses on the property. The most likely explanation for this was that Garnett purchased the property to the south of his mother and lived there, while Zoe lived in her mother's house during the summers, and the map likely just simplifies the ownership. Zoe lived in Baltimore at least part of the time. The 1915 Bromley Atlas further complicates the issue by labeling both tracts and houses the property of D. S. Radebaugh. In reality this was likely Daniel Heiser Sheppard, grandson of Zoe and son of her daughter Grace Sheppard, who died at the time of his birth. The 1918 tax assessment is probably more accurate. It listed the property as 20 acres under the trusteeship of Zoe Radebaugh, and noted that there were two houses, one 38 by 36 feet with a 24 by 15 foot wing, and the other 29 by 39 feet. There were also two barns on the property, which had 17 acres of tillable land, one acre of pasture, and two acres of marsh. (5)

The house seems to have gone through several stages of development. As built, it was a typical simple vernacular country house, like most farmhouses of the period, with a center passage, one large room to the south and two rooms to the north. The south room may have had an ornate plaster ceiling medallion, as patching in this area suggests, though if interpreted correctly this could have been an added feature. The ell is a little unusual in that the north wall is not in line with the main block of the house, but projects beyond it considerably. This would appear on first glance to be an addition, but the construction and finish between the main block and the wing are identical, and there are no features that indicate the wing was added. Instead, the offset in the wing was probably simply the builder's way of getting a window into the rear room to which the wing is attached. Given the

Maryland Historical Trust

Inventory No BA-1720

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Name Mason-Weiskittel House

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

location near the kitchen ell, with a small room between them that probably always served as a pantry, this rear room must have always been a dining room. The central gabled wall dormers on the front and back were probably added at a later date. They were certainly becoming popular for rural dwellings in Maryland in the 1860s, but there is slight evidence that they were not original. The flooring in the attic stops where the west dormer meets the knee wall, a break that only makes sense if the dormer was added. In addition, the porch has a frieze that the dormers and cornice do not, suggesting that one or the other was added. The eaves soffit has narrow boards that follow the pitch of the rafters, rather than a boxed cornice, and this feature is more typical of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries than of the 1860s and '70s. These dormers must have been added primarily for aesthetic reasons, not functional ones, as the room arrangement of the attic story creates a small storage room in the front dormer and the rear dormer is not accessible, as it is over the staircase and the ceiling follows the pitch of the rafters. There is shingle siding beneath the existing green shingles that was likely added with the dormers. The lantern has a bracketed cornice, and appears to have pilasters at the corners, features that the rest of the house lacks. The different treatment suggests that it, too, was added, probably before the dormers, if one judges by the stylistic details. The door and hardware leading to the lantern are also of a later vintage, though they could have been replaced at any time. Whether the Gwynn's, Walker, or the Radebaughs made the changes is not clear.

When Zoe Radebaugh died in June 1925 her property passed equally to Garnett and Daniel. That same year Garnett sold his interest to Daniel and the following year, Daniel sold six acres and the northern house, the Mason house, to Herbert L. and Elizabeth B. Weiskittel. The other five acres were apparently to the north of the north house, between present-day Stevenson Lane and Haddon Avenue. Herbert Weiskittel and his brother Francis were partners in the family firm, founded in the mid-nineteenth century. They operated a foundry that manufactured stoves, sinks, pipes, and other cast iron items. Francis Weiskittel held an engineering degree from M.I.T. The business went under in the 1930s and the brothers never spoke to each other again, each blaming the other for the failure. When Herbert and Elizabeth Weiskittel acquired the house they made substantial changes. The front door and sidelights were removed and replaced with the existing ones. The original bolection-moulded doors survive, and the indications on the front sill are that the original sidelights were narrower. The existing shingle siding was added. The east end of the passage was closed off and made into a bathroom, and a closet was built in under the stairs. All of the rooms lost their mantels, and the south room apparently lost its ceiling medallion. A wall with pocket doors probably divided the two north rooms, and this partition was removed to create a larger dining room. In addition, a cupboard was added to the northwest room, and the door on the existing cupboard in the northeast room was replaced to match the new cupboard. The pantry and kitchen received new cupboards, and a new Weiskittel stove was placed in the kitchen. An older model Weiskittel stove was installed in the ell basement, but whether this was Emily Walker's old stove that was removed from the kitchen, or whether it came from elsewhere, is not known. On the second story, the two south chambers were converted into one large room and a bathroom added at the east end. The small chamber at the west end of the passage was made into a modern bathroom, as was one of the chambers in the ell. The Weiskittel firm manufactured all of the sinks and soil pipes installed in the house. The rear porch was enclosed on the first story, and the second story was either added or enclosed. Throughout the house the floors were covered with oak strip flooring, and the stairway was rebuilt with oak as well, though the balusters and railing were reused. The additions were given architrave to match the original, but there are subtle differences, such as the lesser overhang of the pedimented lintel on the newer pieces. Likewise, where doors were closed off and walls removed new baseboard was needed, and this too matches, but not exactly. The Weiskittels also added the garage. (6)

Herbert Weiskittel divorced his wife and later remarried, and they sold the property at a public sale in 1947. The six-acre property was described as "improved by a well-built two and one-half story frame dwelling. First floor: living room with open fireplace, dining room with open fireplace, powder room, kitchen and pantry. Second floor: three large master bedrooms, two baths adjoining, and three smaller bedrooms with bath. Third floor: three rooms. Four car garage. Corn crib. Stable and chicken house." It was purchased by his brother, Francis, and was apparently considered almost a shrine to the family business,

Maryland Historical Trust

Inventory No BA-1720

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Name Mason-Weiskittel House

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3

since it contained so many of their products. Stevenson Lane was cut through in the 1950s, and at an unknown time before 1947 a barn was moved off the property and converted to a dwelling. It is reportedly located on the northeast corner of Stevenson and Bellona. Francis Weiskittel constructed the sheep shed in 1949 out of reused material from a barn at "Bon Air," the home of Francis Weiskittel's grandparents, Charles and Margaret Carmine. The house had been on Smith Avenue, but it burned on a Christmas Eve in the 1920s, while it was sitting vacant. Remarkably, Francis Weiskittel used cut nails in the construction. The plans for the building came from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and handwritten notes on the plans indicate that the building was begun in November 1949 and completed 20 November 1950. Francis Weiskittel kept 40 to 50 sheep on the property to keep the grass mowed. The original front steps of the house were all wood, but some time after 1954 the bottom front step was replaced with a large granite step that came from "Bon Air." (7)

Notes:

(1) Baltimore County Land Records, AWB 428-68, HMF 15-384, HMF 15-336, HMF 15-577. Edward C. Papenfuse and Joseph M. Coale, III, *The Maryland State Archives Atlas of Historical Maps of Maryland, 1608-1908* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2003), pp. 130, 177. Robert Taylor *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, 1857*. W. F. Reynolds/George Kaiser, *Military Map of Baltimore County, Maryland, 1863*, copy in the Baltimore County Historical Society. George M. Hopkins, *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland*. (Philadelphia, 1877).

(2) Baltimore County Land Records, JHL 42-148, JHL 49-365, JHL 49-367, 61-570. [John McGrain] "Henry Gwynn House: Capsule Statement," Baltimore County Department of Planning files. Wood's Baltimore City Directory (Baltimore: James Woods, 1867-68). William A. Mason Will, Baltimore County Register of Wills, 3-306. Sun (Baltimore), 7 July 1868, p. 2.

(3) Sun (Baltimore), 31 March 1869, p. 4.

(4) Maryland Journal (Towson) 3 April 1869, p. 2. Baltimore County Land Records, 61-570, EHA 33-13. Maryland Journal (Towson) 2 September 1876, p. 2.

(5) Emily Walker Will, 9-479, Inventory, BWA 26-321. G. W. Bromley *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland*, (Philadelphia, 1898). G. W. Bromley *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland*, (Philadelphia, 1915). McGrain, "Henry Gwynn House."

(6) Baltimore County Land Records, WPC 619-471, 635-184. Interview with Ford Weiskittel, July 2003.

(7) Sunday Sun (Baltimore), 20 July 1947, copy in the possession of Ford Weiskittel. Baltimore County Land Records, 863-417, 863-418, 1591-581. I am indebted to Ford Weiskittel, Francis' son, for the family history. McGrain, "Henry Gwynn House." "Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics/U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Cooperating/Sheep Shed Ex. 5572. Plans in possession of Ford Weiskittel.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-1720

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 5.1574 A.

Acreage of historical setting 5.1574 A.

Quadrangle name Towson

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries comprise the entire parcel prior to development.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth M. Short

organization _____ date 09/30/2003

street and number 610 Regester Ave. telephone 410-377-4953

city or town Baltimore state MD zip code 21212-1915

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 not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-1720

Name Mason-Weiskittel House

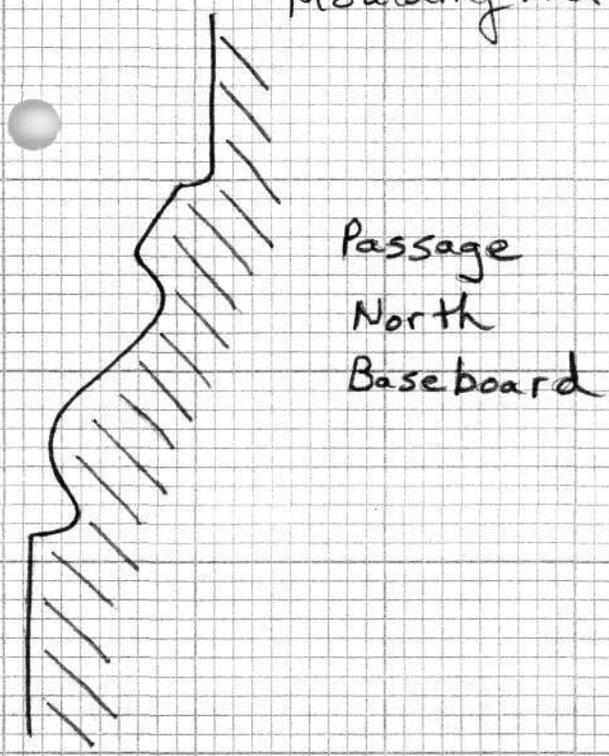
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

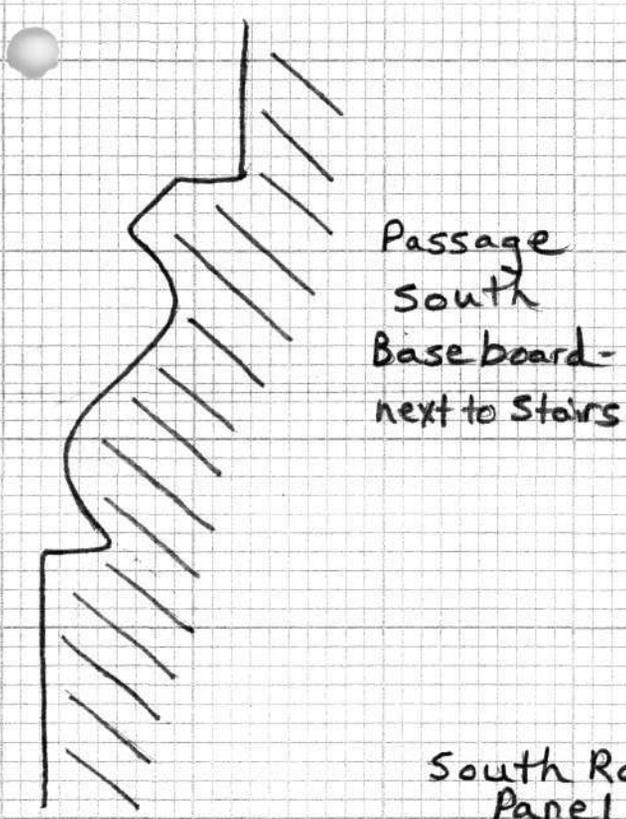
See footnotes

1/2 Mason-Weiskittel House
Moulding Profiles

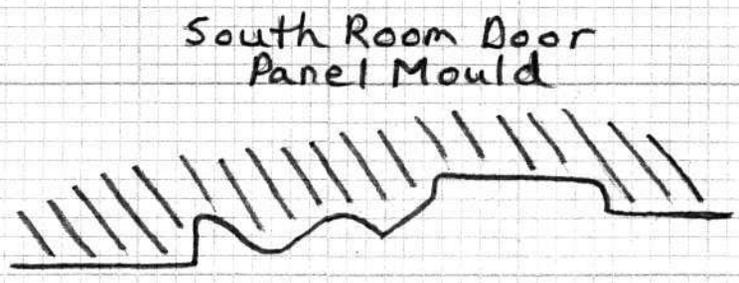
KMS BA-1720
26 Jun '03



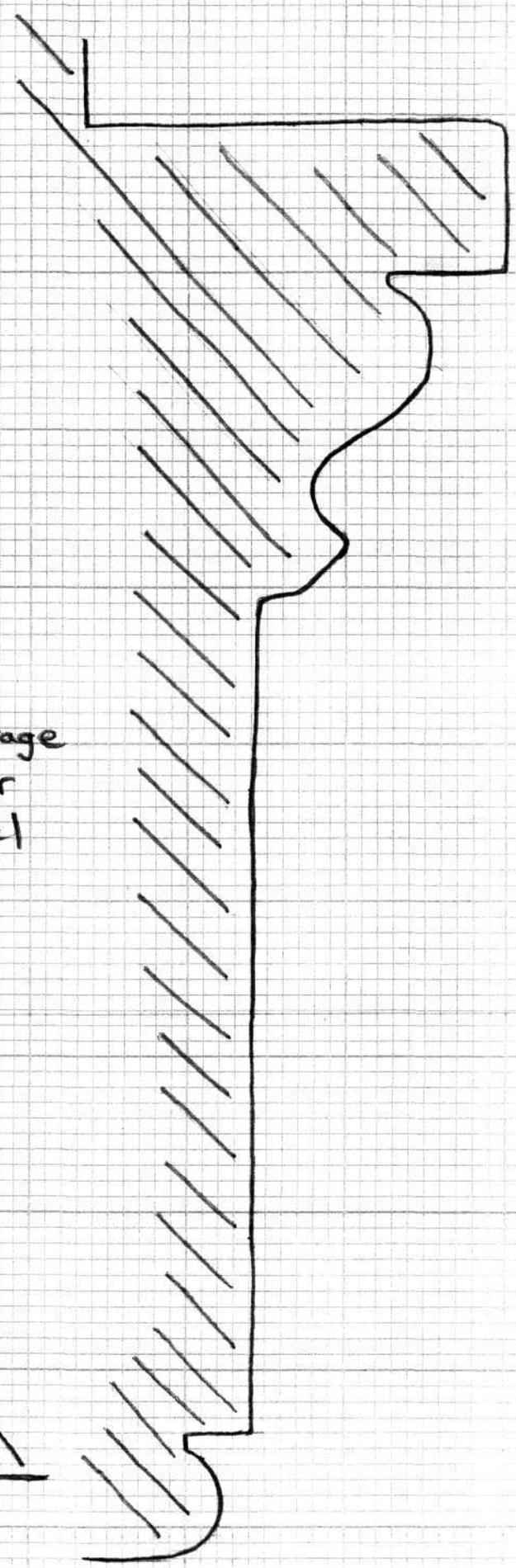
Passage
North
Baseboard



Passage
South
Baseboard-
next to Stairs



South Room Door
Panel Mould



Passage
Door
Lintel

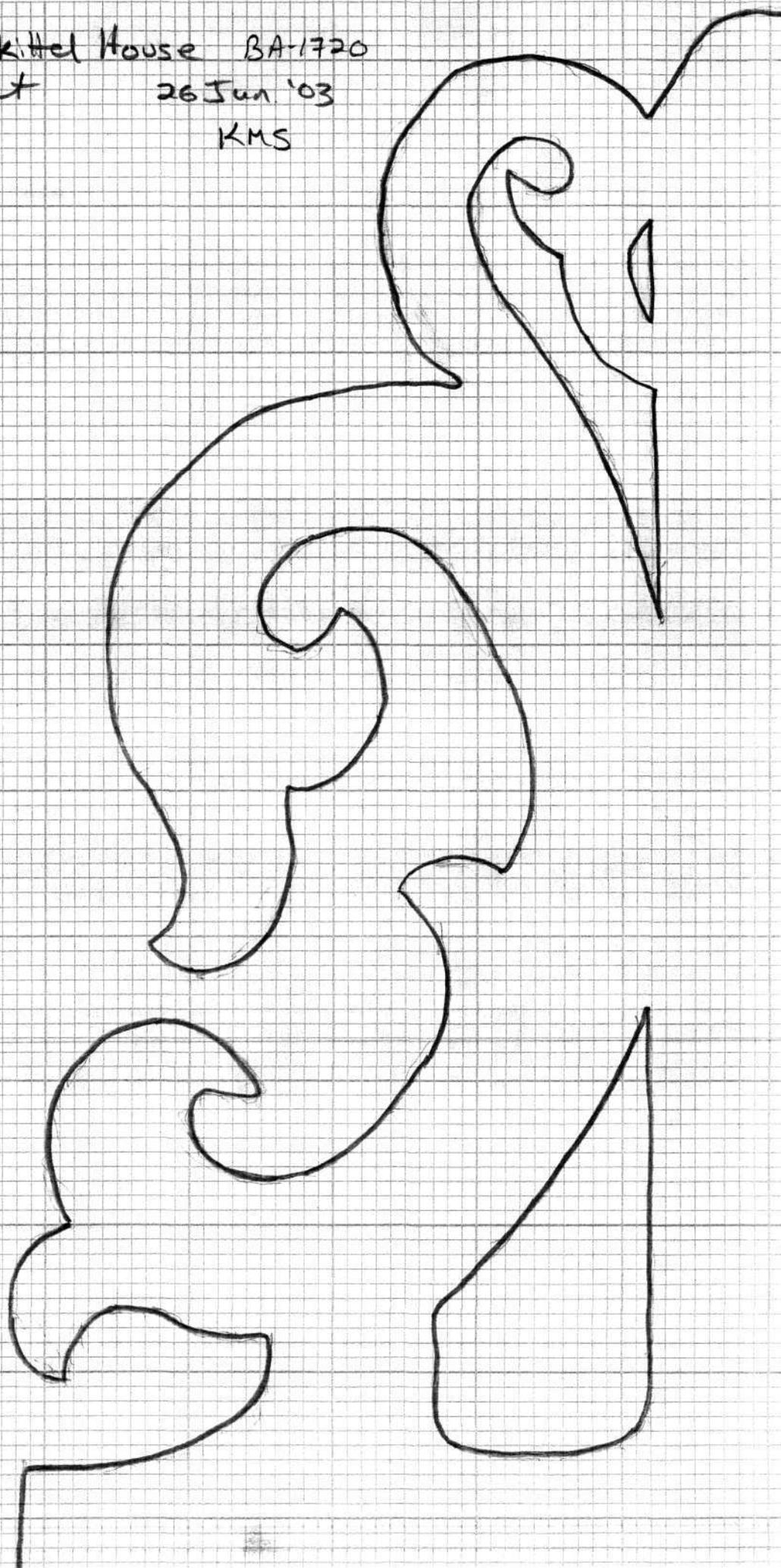
2/2

Mason-Weiskittel House BA-1720

Stair bracket

26 Jun '03

KMS

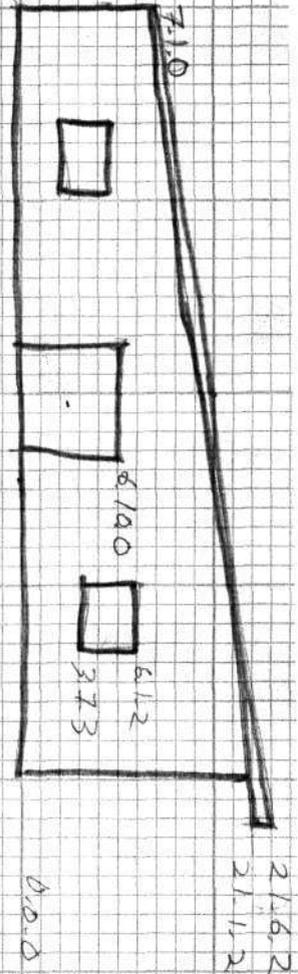
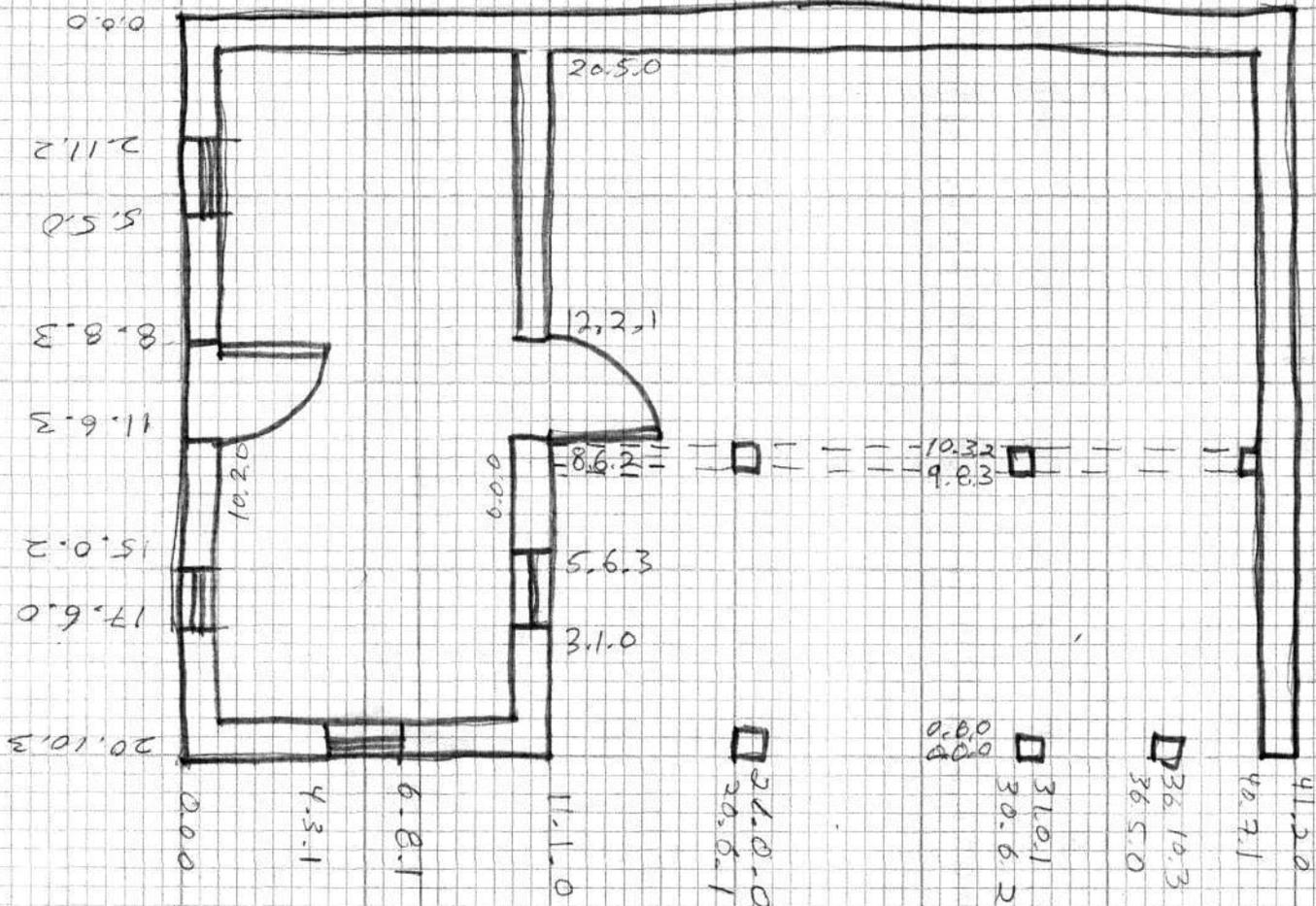


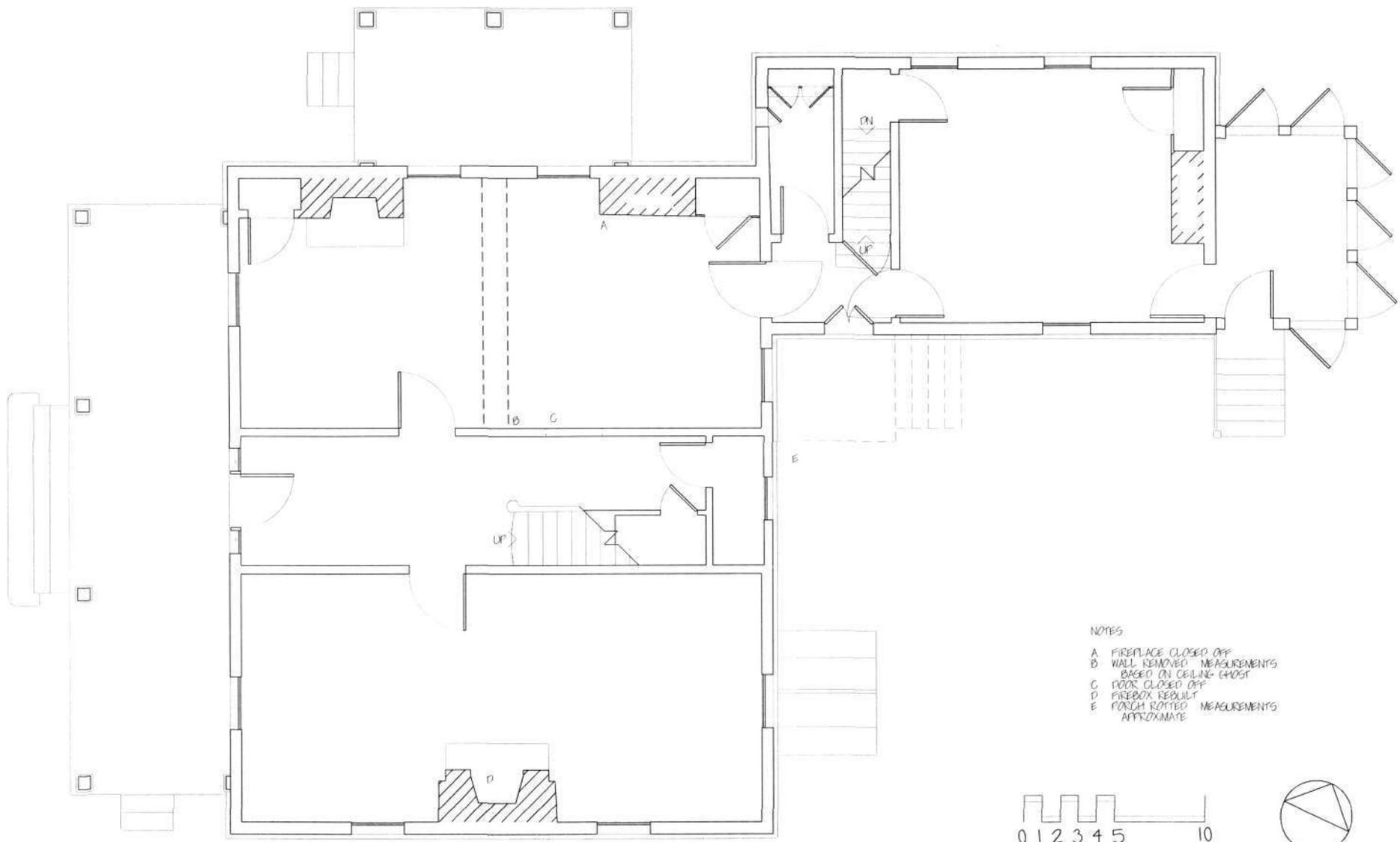
BA-1720

Sheep Shed
Plan & west elev.

KMS & AUS

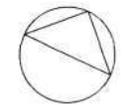
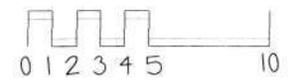
July 2003





NOTES

- A FIREPLACE CLOSED OFF
- B WALL REMOVED MEASUREMENTS BASED ON CEILING HOIST
- C DOOR CLOSED OFF
- D FIREBOX RESULT
- E PORCH ROTTED MEASUREMENTS APPROXIMATE



BA-1720 MASON-WEISKITTEL HOUSE 6909 BELLONA AVENUE

FIRST FLOOR PLAN MEASURED BY KEN SHORT & FORD WESKITTEL DRAWN BY KEN SHORT JULY 2003



NINTH DISTRICT 1877 ATLAS

BA-1720
Mason-Weiskittel House
6909 Bellona Avenue
Hopkins Atlas, 1877

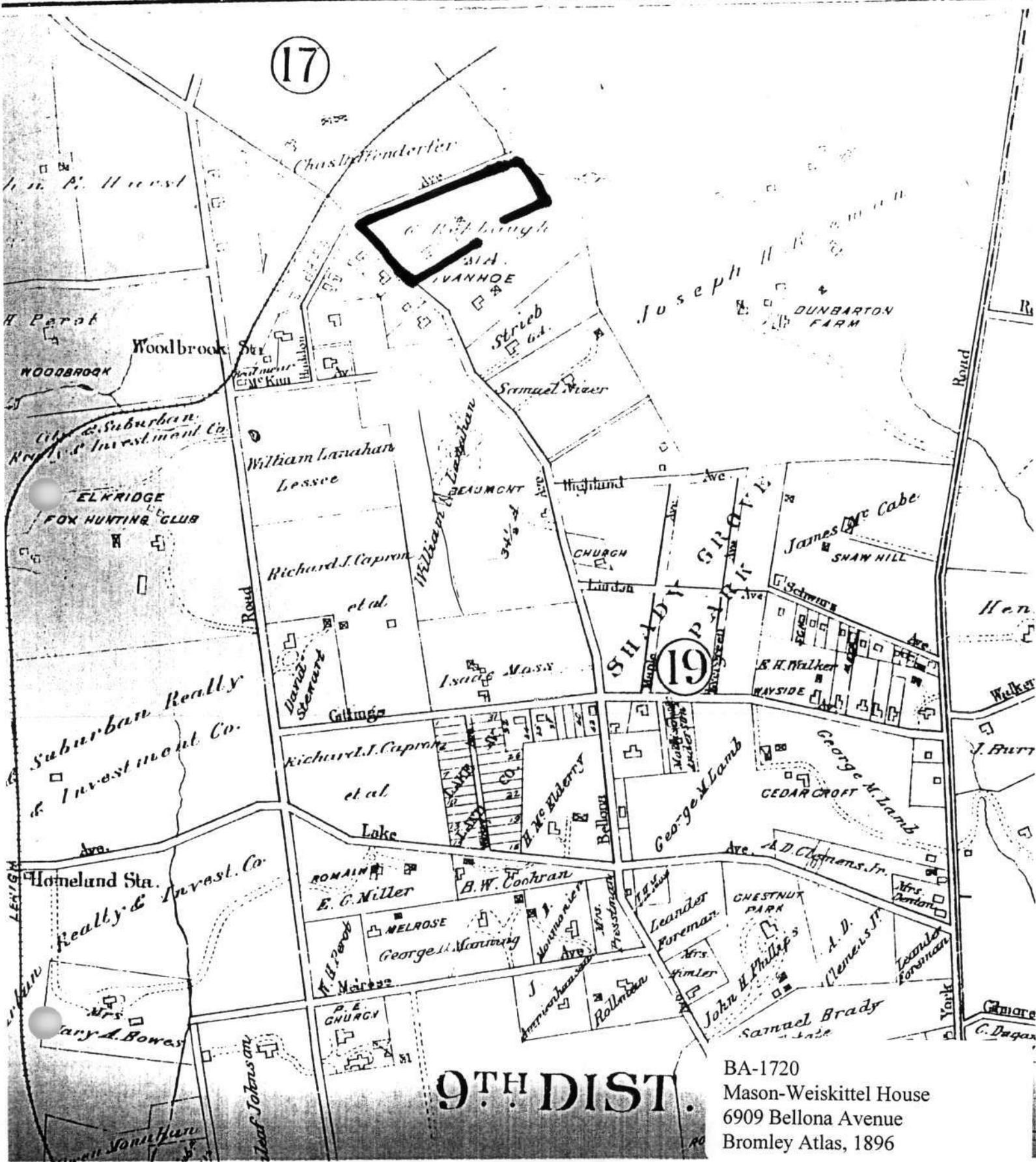
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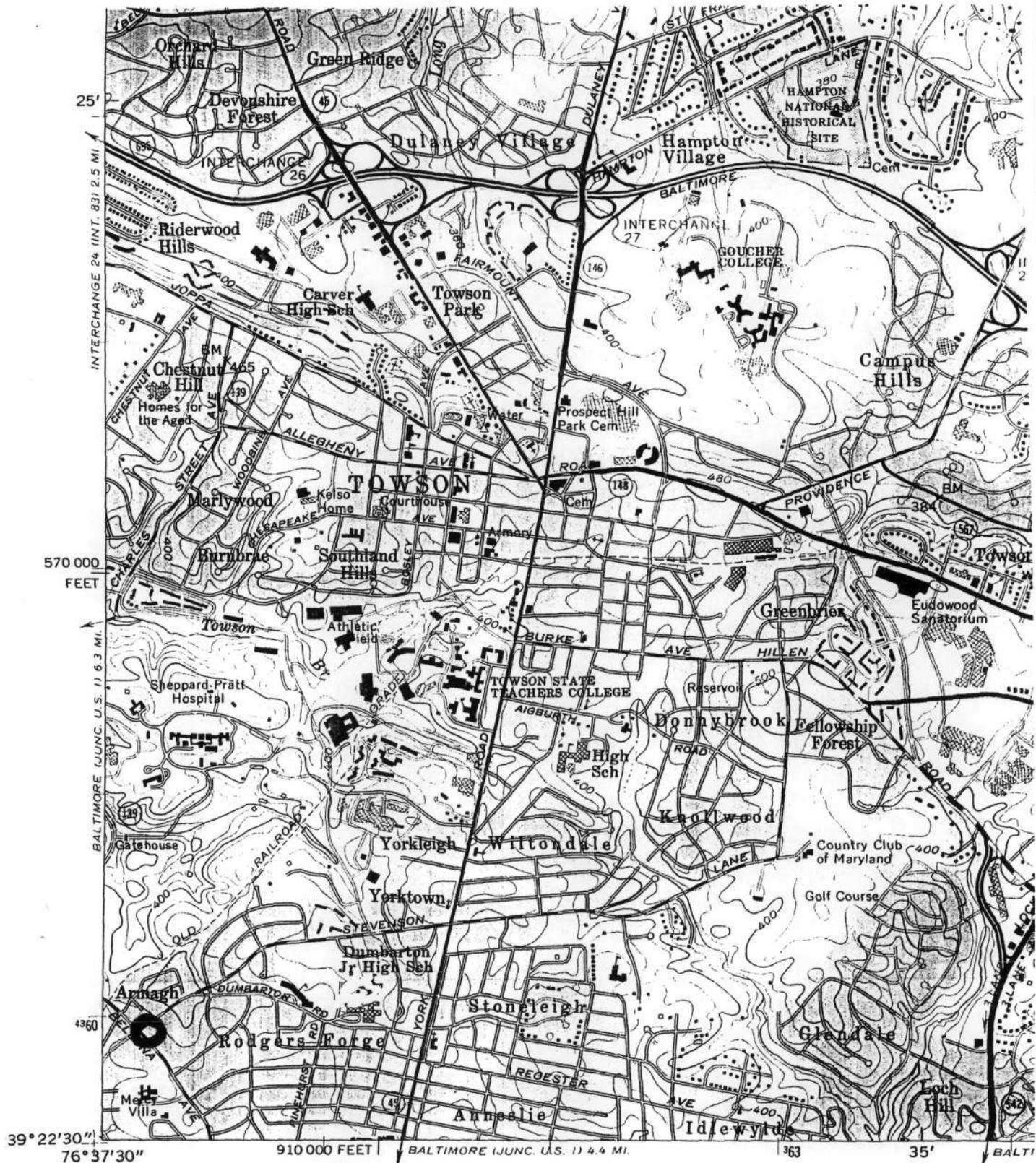
17

19

9TH DIST.

BA-1720
 Mason-Weiskittel House
 6909 Bellona Avenue
 Bromley Atlas, 1896





(BALTIMORE WEST)
 5662 1 SW

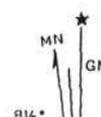
Mapped by the Army Map Service
 Edited and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS, USC&GS, USCE, and Maryland
 Bureau of Control Surveys and Maps

Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs
 taken 1943. Topography by planetable surveys 1944
 Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1957

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system
 1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
 zone 18, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which only
 landmark buildings are shown

Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey



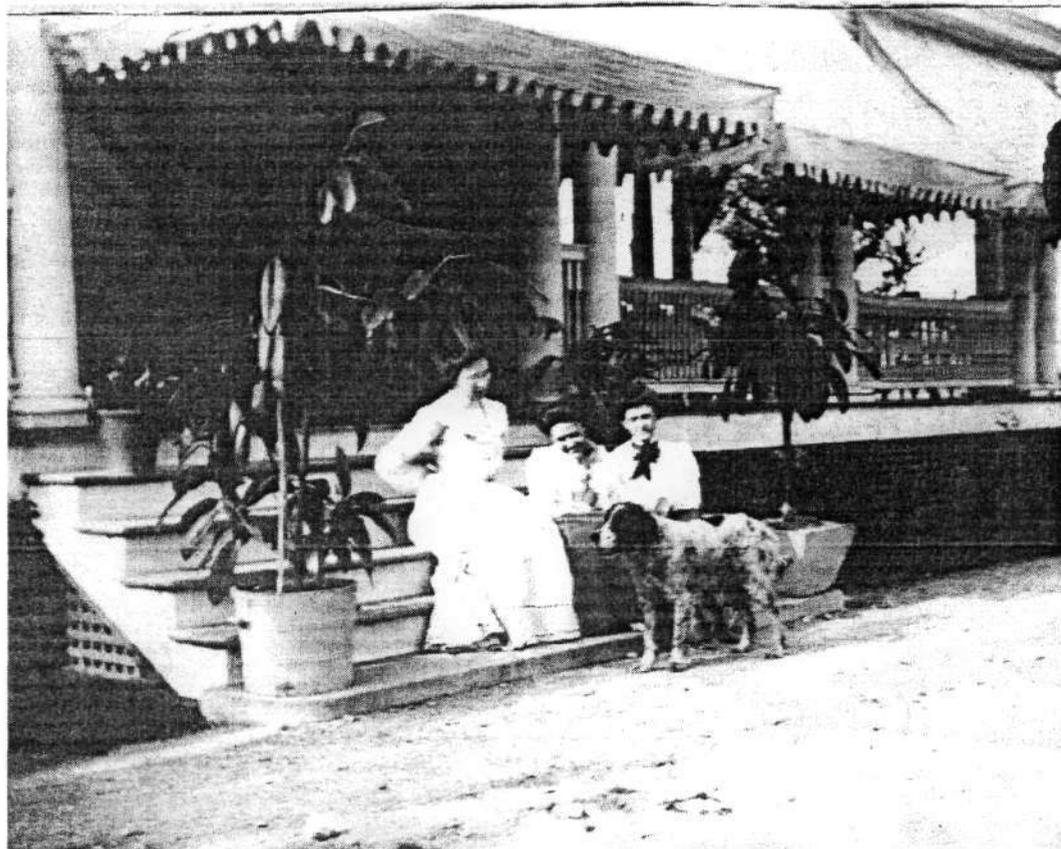
BA-1720
 Mason-Weiskittel House
 6909 Bellona Avenue
 USGS Quad - Towson

BA-1720 Mason-Weiskittel House
6909 Bellona Avenue



Photo taken
18 April
1954, with
Francis,
Virginia, and
Elizabeth
Weiskittel on
the steps of
the house.

“Bon Air,”
home of
Charles and
Margaret
Carmine on
Smith Avenue,
prior to
destruction by
fire, showing
the granite step
now at the
Mason-
Weiskittel
House.





BA-1720

Mason-Weiskittel House

6909 Bellona Ave

Balto Co, MD

Ken Short

June 2003

Neg: MD SHPO

House - Weiskittel

1/10

HT
6917 + 1 11 11 22 (0422)
<NO.25A>050
<0422>



BA-1720

Mason-Weiskittel House

6909 Bellona Ave

Balto. Co., MD

Ken Stort

June 2003

Neg: MA SHPO

House S. & E. elevs

2/10

PHOT
6912 + 1 11 12 12 (0420)
<NO.20A>040
<040>040



BA-1720

Mason-Weiskittel House

6909 Bellona Ave

Balto. Co, MD

Ken Short

June 2003

Neg: MD SHPO

PKT <No. 29A>058
6917 41.714-1-11 (042)0

House - Passage W. E.

3/10



BA-1720

Mason-Weisk: ACE House

6909 Bellona Ave

Balto. Co, MD

Ken Short

June 2003

Neg: MD SHPO

House - N. Rm, VW. NE

4/10

ART 6912 +1 11 11 11 (94208)
<NO.39A>061

REC-111



BA-1720

Mason-Weiskittel House

6909 Bellona Ave

Balto. Co, MD

Ken Short

June 2003

Neg: MD SHPO

House - Attic passage, view W.

5/10

PHOTODUPLICATION SERVICE
& REFERENCE SECTION
JUN 11 2003
11 21 269
<NO. 314> 663
PRT 124



BA-1720

Mason-Weiskittel House

6909 Bellona Ave

Balto. Co, MD

Ken Start

June 2003

Neg: MD SHPO

House-ell Cellar, E elev.

6/10

PHOT
<NO. 19A>038
6912 +1 1141-22 (R4206



BA-1720

Mason-Weisk: HCC House

6909 Bellona Ave.

Balto. Co., MD

Ken Skort

June 2003

Neg: MD SHPO

Garage - Weisk.

7/10

PHOTODUPLICATION SERVICE
SERIALS ACQUISITION
300 N ZEEB RD
ANN ARBOR MI 48106-1500



BA-1720

Mason Weiskittel House

6909 Bellona Ave.

Balto. Co., MD

Ken Short

June 2003

Neg: MD SHPO

Corn Crib - S. & E. elev

8/10

PHOTODUPLICATIONS
(NO. 221) 644
6912 + 1111 + 2169
PHOTODUPLICATIONS



BA-1720

Mason-Weiskittel House

6909 Bellona Ave

Balto. Co, MD

Ken Short

June 2003

Neg: MD SHPO

Stable - S. & E. elevs

9/10

ART (NO. 244) 048
: 0912 +1 11 11-17 (042) 0



HENRY GWYNN RESIDENCE
CAPSULE
6909 BELLONA AVENUE

This large Italianate house is among the Victorian "seats" with which the Towson area was rich. From mid-century on it became popular to build large suburban residences and that they be of the latest style. This area witnessed the Gothic, the Mansard or Second Empire, the Italianate and others.

The vertical thrust of this building, its hipped roof and perhaps most of all its lantern with bracketed eaves gives it an Italianate if not a "castelated" appearance. The cross-gable is a touch of the Gothic. Still standing on a fairly large parcel of land this house, its outbuildings and landscaped grounds are quite illustrative of many of the ideas behind the Picturesque Movement. The fairly dense development that surrounds it emphasizes its value as a lesson in 19th century residential design.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Henry Gwynn Residence

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

6909 Bellona Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Towson

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Ninth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

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 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

Francis Weiskittel

Telephone #: 377-9064

STREET & NUMBER

6906 Bellona Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Towson

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21204

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Courts Building

Liber #: 1591

Folio #: 581

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

BA-1720

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
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>April, 1979</u>

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Dominating the southeast corner of Bellona and Stevenson Lane is a 2½ story Victorian frame house resting on a high stone foundation. The walls of this cross gabled structure are covered with large wooden shingles, but it has been reported by the owner of 32 years that these shingles cover smaller wooden shingles, and weather board.

The main block is three bays wide, two bays deep and has a wing projecting to the east which gives the overall plan an L-shape. The fenestration is regular with some variation in size.

The west facade of the main block is the main facade and faces Bellona Avenue. The first story of this symmetrical facade has a central entrance flanked by tall 2/3 sash windows in each of the outer bays. These windows, as most of the first story windows, have shutters which are louvered on the upper portion and paneled below. All windows have wooden sills.

The entrance itself has flanking side lights and a five light transom. A door with raised cornered panels now being stored in the garage is reported to be the original door.

The single story porch has a flat roof, the entablature of which is supported by four chamfered square posts and two pilasters. The roof, like the main roof, is presently covered with tin but was at one time covered with wooden shingles. There is lattice between the porch and the ground.

The second story has a large centrally located 2/2 sash window flanked by narrow 2/2 sash side lights.

The 2/2 sash windows in the outer bays have bracketed hood molds.

The gable is lighted by a semi-circular window, however, the interior space of this gable is not functional.

The roof has very deep eaves with a semi-pedimented gable. Interior end brick chimneys which are corbeled and capped are located on each of the four corners of the main block.

Atop the cross-gable sits a practically square cupola, with a flat roof and a cornice supported by brackets. Each side contains small 4/4 sash windows.

The gable end of the north facade is two bays wide with a regular 2/3 sash fenestration on the first level and 2/2 sash on the second.

The first level windows are covered by a porch similar to the one on the west facade. One casement cellar window is on the west bay.

The gable itself is vented by a pair of smaller 2/2 sash windows.

A two story wing projects to the east and rests on a stone foundation.

This gabled portion is a long two bays wide on the north facade with a 6/6 sash window in each bay.

A brick capped chimney breaks the ridge at the east end of the building, the porch on the east end has been enclosed.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 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 1850's-1877 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This large Italianate house is among the Victorian "seats" with which the Towson area was rich. From mid-century on it became popular to build large suburban residences and that they be of the latest style. This area witnessed the Gothic, the Mansard or Second Empire, the Italianate and others.

The vertical thrust of this building, its hipped roof and perhaps most of all its lantern with bracketed eaves gives it an Italianate if not a "castelated" appearance. The cross-gable is a touch of the Gothic. Still standing on a fairly large parcel of land this house, its outbuildings and landscaped grounds are quite illustrative of many of the ideas behind the Picturesque Movement. The fairly dense development that surrounds it emphasizes its value as a lesson in 19th century residential design.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baltimore County Land Records

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 6 acres

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

D. Owings WAYNE L. NIELD, II
HISTORIC TOWSON, INC.

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & 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

The east facade of the main block reveals an awkward relationship between the windows in the northernmost bay and the projecting wing. These windows, which have bracketed hood molds on all level windows, break the symmetry of the three bays by being closer to center right against the wall of the wing.

As on the front facade, a semi-circular window lights the gable, however, this interior space is used as storage.

The south facade is identical to the north with the exception of having no porch.

Interior:

The basement reflects the L-plan of the building. The stone walls are uncoursed. An interesting feature is an inset opening on the north wall which measures 1 foot deep, 53 inches wide, 2 feet high and 32 inches from the floor.

There are two chimney supports on both the east and west walls with stone buttresses measuring 14 inches deep.

Joists measure 3 inches by 10 inches and have been vertically sawn, however, there are some circular sawn materials. There are occasional rough log joists.

The first floor is that of a central hall plan with flanking parlors. The hall itself is very wide and long and contains a switchback stair. The turned newel post and balusters are very similar to those seen in the Bosley Mansion.* There are open scrolled step ends.

The flanking parlors appear to have once been divided in half but are now one long parlor extending the length of the hall. Evidence of this is that both parlors contain projecting chimneys serving fireplaces on the east and west ends. These chimneys project 25 inches into the room, and have built in cupboards on the outer sides.

The ceilings measure 10 feet 9 inches from the floor. Large tall windows located between the fireplaces in the north parlor are triple hung sash measuring within 22 inches from the ceiling. The glass is wavy. The opening measures 7 feet 1 inch tall, 36 inches wide, and have been recessed effecting a doorway leading to the porch.

Decorative features seen here, and throughout the first floor are formal wide pedimented mouldings above doors and windows.

The wing contains the kitchen area.

The second level reflects the plan of the first, with the south extension being at a lower level than the main block, being a 25 inch drop.

The ceilings on this level measure 9½ feet high.

The doors have three light transoms and also have the pedimented mouldings although they are not as formal as those on the first level.

The bathroom contains early fixtures made of porcelain.

The landing between the second and third level divides a window.

The third level has four rooms, although one of these is only a small storage space in the east gable.

Original flooring can be seen in two of the rooms. There are trapezoidal ceilings and plain mouldings 2 and ¾ inches wide with an inner bead. One of the rooms has built in cupboards extending along one wall.

* See BA # 97

The cupola is approximately 7 feet 5 inches square and 9 feet 5 inches high. There is a pair of 2/2 sash windows on each wall which have wavy glass. Decoration includes cornice wall paper.

Outbuildings:

There are several outbuildings sporadically located on the property.

Building A was originally built as a stable for cows in the early 20th century. It measures $32\frac{1}{2}$ feet long by 13 feet wide, however, 14 feet of the length had been added later. This building was moved approximately 50 feet to the south at the time of road construction of Stevenson Lane.

Building B was built by the present owner as a shelter for sheep. Much of the material came from a barn in Mt. Washington built in 1895. The georgia pine german clapboards are fastened with cut nails. There is a shed roof. Mr. Weiskittel built the many interesting features including creep feeders.

This building measures $20\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide by 41 feet long. The north end of the east and west facade is 9 feet while the south end is 10 feet 8 inches.

The north and east ends are windowless while most of the south end is open with a small enclosure in the southwest corner.

Building C is a corn crib raised from the ground 45 inches by concrete blocks.

The building itself measures 14 feet 4 inches by 7 feet 3 inches. From the eaves to the sill is $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The building is of frame construction with feather edge siding set with a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch spacing to allow for circulation.

CHAIN OF TITLE FOR HENRY GWYNN RESIDENCE
Parcel 91, map 79

<u>LIBER</u>	<u>FOLIO</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>GRANTOR</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>
1591	581	September 10, 1947	Herbert L. Weiskittel	Francis A. Weiskittel et al
Beginning...center line of Bellona Ave. at the end of South 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ ⁰ West 50.3 perches line of whole tract of land which now is being described...deed from Garnett P. Radebaugh and wife to D. Heisler Sheppard dated September 15, 1925 Land Record 619/471...containing 6 acres.				
1082	36	October 4, 1939	G. William Parker	Herbert L. Weiskittel
1082	35	October 4, 1939	Herbert L. Weiskittel	G. William Parker
863	418	November 13, 1930	Amos L. Buchsbaum	Herbert L. Weiskittel
863	417	November 13, 1930	Herbert . Weiskittel	Amos L. Buchsbaum
635	184	July 16, 1926	Daniel H. Sheppard & wf	Herbert L. Weiskittel
619	471	September 15, 1925	Garnett P. Radebaugh	D. Heisler Sheppard
Emily J. Walker, by way of will dated April 14, 1881 (Will Book 9/479) conveyed to her daughter Zoe Radebaugh this property. Zoe Radebaugh's living children were Garnett P. Radebaugh and Grace Radebaugh Sheppard. Grace Sheppard died leaving a son - Daniel Heisler Sheppard. Upon Zoe's death, Garnett P. Radebaugh and Daniel H. Sheppard became heirs at law, entitled to $\frac{1}{2}$ undivided share.				
99	309	February 15, 1877	E. Calvin Williams, Assignee	Emily J. Walker
Beginning...boundary line of land conveyed by James W. Curley & wife to Joseph Reynolds by Deed dated August 20, 1858 Book 24/37 to center of Old Powder Mill Road (now Bellona Ave) leading from Govenstown to Hunts Meeting House being parts of "Friends Discovery" containing 11 acres, 1 square perch.				

61 570 April 1, 1869 Caroline C. Mason Henry Gwynn

Mortgage record 33/13 Henry Gwynn to Caroline Mason
Sold in public auction to Emily J. Walker

Lot was sublet to William A. Mason by James W. Curley August 19, 1864
Land Record JW 42/148, later surrendered to Caroline C. Mason in
Land Record 49/367.

49 363 June 29, 1866 John Henderson & wife Carrie (Caroline) C. Mason

SUBLEASE:

42 148 August 19, 1864 James W. Curley William A. Mason

= James W. Curley holds lease from Margaret M. Wilson through deed
dated July 2, 1856 in the Land Records 15/577 with a yearly rent
of \$360 redeemable at the end of ten years upon the payment of \$ 6,000.

"...a triangular lot fronting 15.2 perches on the Old Powder Mill
Road up to and along a private Road opened by Curley and Joseph
Reynolds."

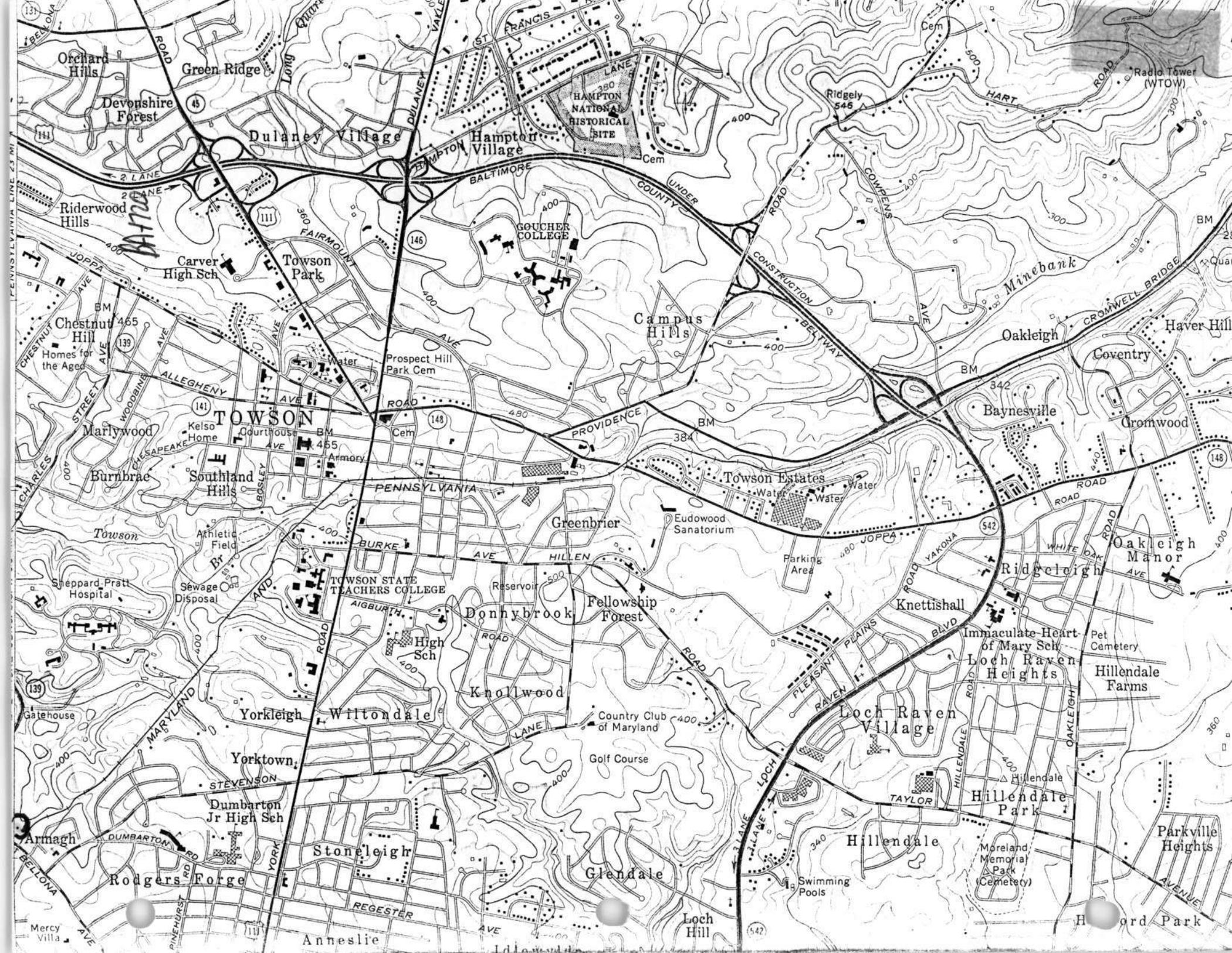
15 336 July 2, 1856 James W. Curley & wife Margaret M. Wilson

Beginning South 87° West 20 perches from the beginning of tract
called Friends Discovery...containg 53 acres.

15 384 July 1, ? Robert A. Taylor & wife James C. Curley

supposed to contain 83 acres.

July 3, 1840 Samuel Hopkins Robert A. Taylor





BA-1720

HENRY GWYNN RES.

S.W. CORNER

J. CORCORAN
7/79



BA-1720

HENRY GWYNN RES
S.E.

J. CORCORAN
7/79