

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

NR Eligible: yes \_\_\_  
no \_\_\_

Property Name: Rowe-Orrick House Inventory Number: BA-2053

Address: 16915-16917 York Road City: Monkton Zip Code: 21161

County: Baltimore USGS Topographic Map: Hereford, MD

Owner: Bruce E. Wisnom and Catherine M. Wisnom

Tax Parcel Number: 174 Tax Map Number: 22 Tax Account ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Project: Hereford Tower Project Agency: FCC

Site visit by MHT Staff:  no  yes Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility recommended  Eligibility not recommended

Criteria:  A  B  C  D Considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  None

Is the property located within a historic district?  no  yes Name of district: \_\_\_\_\_

Is district listed?  no  yes Determined eligible?  no  yes District Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MIHP form; Rotenstein 2000

**Description of Property and Eligibility Determination:** *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The Rowe-Orrick House is a 2½-story stone and frame rectangular building. The house measures five bays by two bays and has a full width bracketed shed roof porch. The side gabled roof is clad by standing seam metal and has cornice returns. There are three brick internal chimneys. Windows are wood double-hung sash (2/2 lights). The stone portion of the house is uncoursed rubble and the frame portion is clad by wood drop siding.

According to the MIHP form completed for this property in 1980, the house is one of the oldest surviving structures in Hereford. A deed dated 1846 noted that the property had a "stone house and frame shop" on it. Built by William Rowe, and used as a mixed commercial and residential property throughout much of its history, this building is a significant example of local architecture and represents a survival of the architecture and commerce stimulated by the construction and use of the York Turnpike in the first half of the nineteenth century. This building appears to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C.

Prepared by: David S. Rotenstein

Date Prepared: 09/07/2000

| <b>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW</b>   |  |
|---|--|
| Eligibility recommended   | Eligibility not recommended  |
| Criteria: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D | Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None |
| Comments: _____   |  |
| _____<br>Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services  | _____<br>Date  |
| _____<br>Reviewer, NR program   | _____<br>Date  |



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## 7. Description

Inventory No. BA-2053

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### Condition

excellent

good

fair

deteriorated

ruins

altered

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

The Rowe-Orrick House is a 2½-story stone and frame rectangular building. The house measures five bays by two bays and has a full width bracketed shed roof porch. The side gabled roof is clad by standing seam metal and has cornice returns. There are three brick internal chimneys. Windows are wood double-hung sash (2/2 lights). The stone portion of the house is uncoursed rubble and the frame portion is clad by wood drop siding.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-2053

| 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           | performing arts     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology              | <input type="checkbox"/> education                    | <input type="checkbox"/> industry                  | philosophy          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering                  | <input type="checkbox"/> invention                 | politics/government |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999 | <input type="checkbox"/> art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/<br>recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape<br>architecture | religion            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2000-                | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage              | <input type="checkbox"/> law                       | science             |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/<br>settlement   | <input type="checkbox"/> literature                | social history      |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning      |   | <input type="checkbox"/> maritime history          | transportation      |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation            |   | <input type="checkbox"/> military                  | other:              |

Specific dates                      ca. 1841-1950                      Architect

Construction dates                1841-1846                      Builder

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.)

According to the MIHP form completed for this property in 1980, the house is one of the oldest surviving structures in Hereford. A deed dated 1846 noted that the property had a "stone house and frame shop" on it. Built by William Rowe, and used as a mixed commercial and residential property throughout much of its history, this building is a significant example of local architecture and represents a survival of the architecture and commerce stimulated by the construction and use of the York Turnpike in the first half of the nineteenth century. This building appears to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-2053

Name Rowe-Orrick House

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

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## HISTORIC CONTEXT

### MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Historic Period Theme(s):

Resource Type:

Category:

Historic Environment

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Known Design Source:

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-2053

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Baltimore County Council (1991); Brooks, N. A., and E. G. Rockel (1979); Clemens and Clemens (1983); McGrain (1980)

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## 10. Geographical Data

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|                               |                      |                  |                 |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Acreage of surveyed property  | <u>9,801 sq. ft.</u> |                  |                 |
| Acreage of historical setting | <u>9,801 sq. ft.</u> |                  |                 |
| Quadrangle name               | <u>Hereford, MD</u>  | Quadrangle scale | <u>1:24,000</u> |

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries for this property conform to the tax parcel boundary: Map 22, parcel 174.

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## 11. Form Prepared By

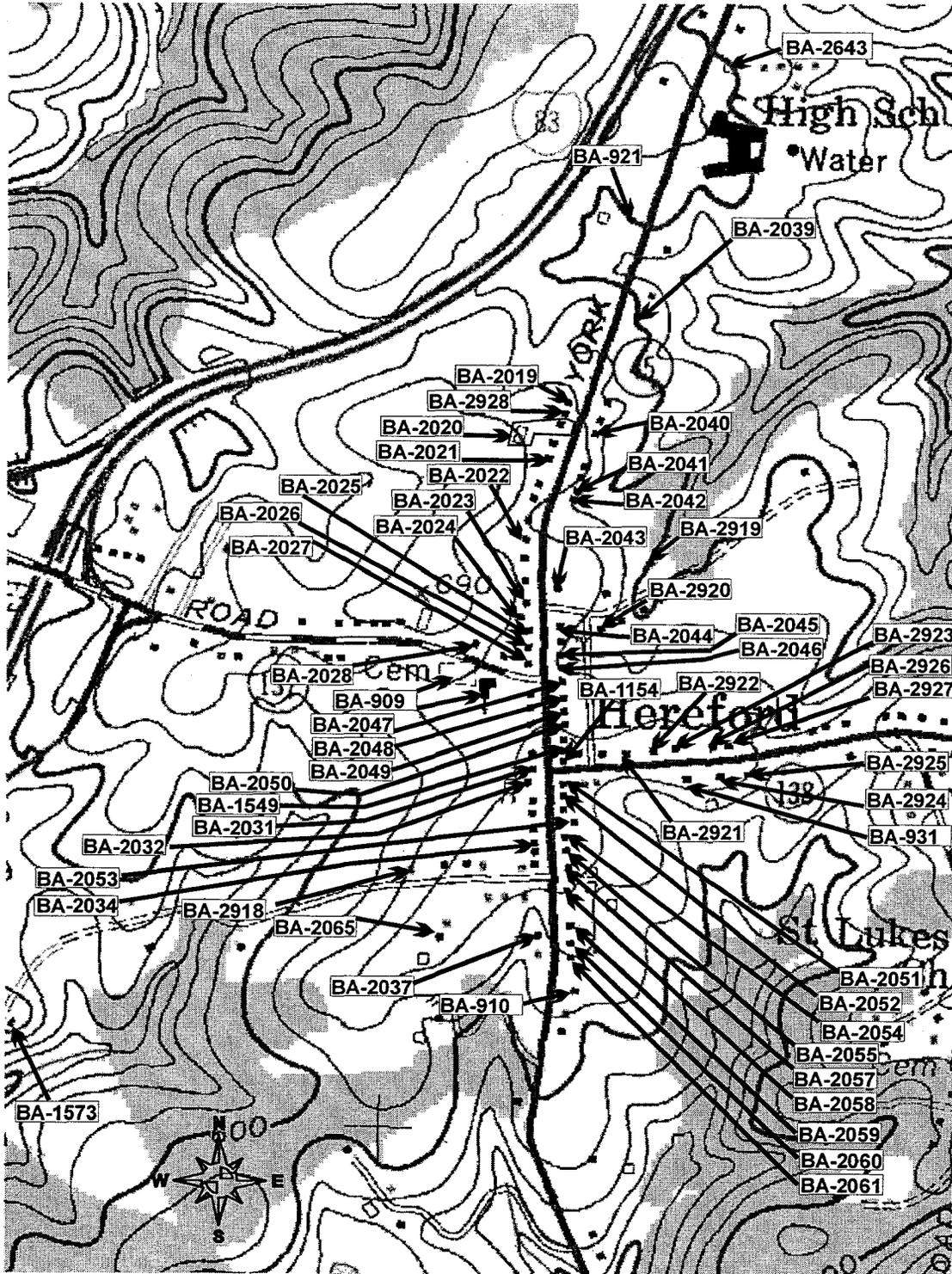
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|                   |   |           |                                     |
|-------------------|---|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| name/title        | <u>David S. Rotenstein, Ph.D./Historian</u> |           |                                     |
| organization      | <u>URS/Dames &amp; Moore</u>                | date      | <u>09/07/2000</u>                   |
| street and number | <u>7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700</u>     | telephone | <u>301-652-221</u>                  |
| city or town      | <u>Bethesda</u>                             | state     | <u>MD</u> zipcode <u>20814-4870</u> |

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

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

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





BA-2053

1/2

Rowe-Orrick House

Bull House

16915-16917 York Road

Baltimore County, Maryland

David S. Rotenstein

8/23/2000

MD SHPO

View of the Rowe-Orrick House, to  
the southeast.

044

NNNN

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09.06.00



BA-2053

2/2

Rowe-Orrick House

Bull House

16915-16917 York Road

Baltimore County, Maryland

David S. Rotenstein

8/23/2000

MD SHPO

View of the Rowe-Orrick House, to the  
northeast.

044 NNNN 09.06.00

BA 2053

ROWE-ORRICK HOUSE/ BULL HOUSE

1841-1846

HEREFORD

PRIVATE

This house of part frame and clapboard, part stone, is one of the oldest structures in Hereford, easily documented at 1846, when a "stone house and frame shop" was mentioned in a deed from William Rowe to Thomas Phillips. Lydia Wells Orrick bought the house in 1849, selling to Dr. and Mrs. Frederick D. Mitchell in 1850. James O. Jessop, keeper of the large store to the north, purchased in 1867. Numerous persons have owned this property, and in 1932 it also included an "auto repair garage." In the 1970s an antique shop was operated here but it was refurbished for residential use in 1979. This is a two-story vernacular style structure. The frame and stone portions are unified by a full-width front porch. There is also a plain cornice. The porch posts are decorated with small brackets. The basement contains a large stone fireplace.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC **ROWE-ORRICK HOUSE**

AND/OR COMMON

Bull House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
16,915-16,917 York Road

CITY, TOWN  
Hereford

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
2nd

STATE  
Maryland

COUNTY  
Baltimore County

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

| CATEGORY  | OWNERSHIP                                   | STATUS   | PRESENT USE                                      |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT               | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC             | <input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED              | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE              | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH               | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS      | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE                   | <b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>                   | <b>ACCESSIBLE</b>                              | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT                 | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS         | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED       | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT           |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED   | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED     | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT              |
|   |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO         | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL              |
|   |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY                |
|   |   |  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: (VAC) |

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Mrs. Beulah B. Bull

Telephone #: 357-5248

STREET & NUMBER  
528 Monkton Road

CITY, TOWN  
Monkton

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Maryland 21111

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. County Court Building

Liber #: CWB Jr. 1154  
Folio #: 496

STREET & NUMBER  
401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN  
Towson

STATE Maryland 21204

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
NONE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

BA-2053

| CONDITION                                |                                       | CHECK ONE                                   | CHECK ONE   |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT       | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR            | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED    | *i.e., doubled in size from original        |   |

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The Rowe-Orrick House is one of the main visual anchors of Hereford as a town. It is a two-story stone and clapboard duplex, built in two increments. The two halves of this house are unified by a full-width front porch and a gable-roof of standing-seam tin.

The south end of the house is of coursed fieldstone, three bays wide on the street front (west facade). The porch is two steps above grade, its deck of wood. The south door is solid and paneled, protected by a contemporary metal storm door. The door is topped by a narrow transom. This half of the house, as well as that to the north have side-hall plans. The two windows south of the door and opening on the porch are 2-over-2 type double-hung sash windows. At second-story level are three double-hung sash windows, the northern-most one a recent replacement of 1-over-1 format, the two others to the south of 2-over-2 format, probably original window. The south end of the house is two bays deep,

In the stone part of the house, two inside end chimneys rise on either side of the roof ridge, each chimney has a corbeled cap.

The northern half of the house is frame and clapboard, two bays facing the street, its entrance in the inner, or southern bays. The door is paneled, set under a narrow transom, protected by a contemporary metal storm door. The window opening onto the porch is a 2-over-2 double-hung sash type with paneled shutters. The windows at second-story level are 2-over-2 double-hung sash types.

The shed roof of the front porch is supported by four round posts and two recessed posts. The main posts are machined in decorative configurations and decorated with scroll brackets. The porch deck is railed with round balusters. A plain cornice runs across both the stone and frame portions of the house.

The north end of the frame section is two bays deep with all positions filled with 6-over-6 double-hung sash windows. This portion of the house has an inside end chimney that rises through the roof ridge. The south end wall is blank, with only a double-hung sash window of 6-over-6 design in the gable peak.

The owner of the house has made extensive repairs in recent years. The owner believes that the stone portion was built first; there is a large stone basement fireplace but it has been filled up.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

| PERIOD      | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW |   |   |  |  |
|-------------|--|---|---|--|--|
| PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING     | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION            |  |
| 1400-1499   | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC     | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION           | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE             |  |
| 1500-1599   | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS              | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE           |  |
| 1600-1699   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION              | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY               | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |  |
| 1700-1799   | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING            | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |  |
| X 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE     | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |  |
| 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 1841-46

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Rowe-Orrick House is one of the oldest structures in Hereford, and is easily documented at 1846 at the least. It can not be identified among the town lots in the 1841 Assessor's Field Book but William Rowe sold in May, 1846, to Thomas Phillips a "parcel in the village of Hereford ... on which is erected a two story stone dwelling house and frame shop." This property adjoined the Academy Lot and Norris Montgomery's lot, fronting 124 feet on the turnpike; the price was \$1,100, indicating a substantial house which could have been put up in the building season of 1845 or earlier. (1)

In 1849, Thomas and Elizabeth Phillips, residents of Baltimore City, sold to Lydia Wells Orrick for \$750. (2) The purchaser was the wife of Dr. John C. Orrick and they sold in September 1850 to Amelia Mitchell of Washington County. (3) Sidney's 1850 map of the county clearly shows the house of Dr. J.C. Orrick. The 1852 assessment book shows Dr. Frederick D. Mitchell with a lot of land in Hereford and its improvements, worth a total of \$1,000. (4) Mrs. Amelia Mitchell conveyed title to Dr. Mitchell in 1867 for \$5 and natural love. (5) A few months later, Dr. Mitchell conveyed to the storekeeper James O. Jessop for \$1,100. (6) This house was the birthplace of Dr. Alexander Mitchell, who came to own a large farm south of the town.

Jessop was quite affluent at the time of the 1876 tax ledger and he is shown with the store and apparently other structures in the 1877 atlas, but in 1883 he lost his store and the stone dwelling house by default of mortgage. The trustee advertised this portion of the property:

Lot One is improved by a good stone dwelling, 2 stories high, and necessary outbuildings, including a stable to accommodate five horses.(7)

Highest bidder was Thomas J. Hunter. (8) Within three weeks, Hunter and wife Ada B. Hunter conveyed to Samuel A. Naylor, who also defaulted and lost control in 1889. The next trustee advertised it as a "comfortable stone dwelling house, frame barn, and stable, chicken house and other outbuildings." Trustee Eli Matthews added that of the town as "a quiet and orderly community." (9) Mortgage-holder Thomas J. Hunter bought the place back at the auction and in 1890 sold to J. Victoria Storm. (10)

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

Mrs. Storm was married to J. Stophel Storm, and he was charged with a "Frame and Stone Dwelling" on the 1896 tax ledger. (11).

The Storms sold to Joshua W. Armacost in 1904. (12) The Armacost house was shown by the 1915 atlas and was found in the 1911 tax ledger, and also in the 1918 ledger, where W. Armacost was shown with two lots in Hereford and :

|          |         |           |          |
|----------|---------|-----------|----------|
| Dwelling | 28 x 32 | 2 stories | \$914    |
| Out bldg |         |           | 25. (14) |

Although the tax ledger places the lots on the west side of the road, subsequent owners of this \$414 house are consistently placed on the east side of the road.

Armacost sold to Emory C. and Pearl I. Leight in 1919, and the Leights sold to George G.C. and Martha Bange in 1922. (14) Paul M. Birmingham bought it in 1927 and lost it by default in 1932. (15) Trustee John Mays Little advertised the house in the Jeffersonian:

The first tract fronting seventy five feet on the York Road is improved by a two-story stone and Frame double house. There are four rooms in one section and five rooms in the other. There is a furnace in one house and electricity and bath in both houses.

An auto repair garage came with the property and it had living space on the upper floor. (16). The house passed through the hands of the Parkton Bank to William M. Kerr, who left it to J. Renwick Kerr et al. The heirs sold in 1941 to George A. Bull. (17) This structure was used in the 1970's as an antique shop carried on by a Mrs. North, but in 1979, it was much refurbished for residential purposes.

This house is one of the visual building blocks of the town scene in Hereford and has been associated with some of the most prominent families there. All its various deeds reference the "Academy Lot" to the north, although no deed to the academy has been found, nor any history of it.

NOTES:

1. Baltimore City Deeds, AWB 372:54.
2. Baltimore City Deeds, AWB 422:286.
3. Baltimore County Deeds, HMF 13:267.
4. Assessment, District 7, 1852 (Hall of Records #8256).
5. B.C. Deeds, JHL 56:140.
6. B.C. Deeds, EHA 58:213.
7. Judicial Records, JWS 126:403.
8. B.C. Deeds, JWS 183:113.

9. Judicial Records, WMI 88:505.
10. B.C. Deeds, JWS 183:115.
11. Tax Ledger, District 7, 1896, n.p.
12. B.C. Deeds, WPC 283:218.
13. Tax Ledger, District 7, 1918, f. 408.
14. B.C. Deeds WPC 557:284.
15. B.C. Deeds, WPC 645:186.
16. Judicial Records, LMCLM 370:314.
17. B.C. Deeds, CWB JR. 1154:496/

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Baltimore City and Baltimore County Deeds  
Baltimore County Tax Ledgers and Judicial Records

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.0

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Rectangular lot fronts 124 feet on east side of York Road with even depth of 180 feet. (Map 22 Parcel P175)

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

|       |      |        |      |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| STATE | None | COUNTY | None |
| STATE | None | COUNTY | None |

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

John McGrain

ORGANIZATION

Office of Planning and Zoning

DATE

March 24, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

TELEPHONE

494-3495

CITY OR TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

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

STATES  
OF THE ARMY  
ENGINEERS

ROWE-ORRICK HOUSE BA 2053  
U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Quad  
HEREFORD





ROWE-ORRICK HOUSE BA 2053  
Baltimore County, Maryland  
J. McGrain, OCT 1979  
Neg. located at MHT  
Main (W) facade from NW