

## **CAPSULE SUMMARY**

**BA-2513**

**William and Julia Norbeck House**

**1709 Woodside Avenue**

**Baltimore, Baltimore County**

**1892**

**Private**

The William and Julia Norbeck House dates to a late 19th century period of suburbanization on the southwest side of the City of Baltimore. The dwelling was constructed in 1892, two years after the surrounding subdivision known as Halethorpe was platted. In September 1891, the Norbecks purchased lot number 245 and shortly thereafter constructed the extant dwelling. Through the early 20th century, the development of the Halethorpe was aided by its proximity to rail service. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, which passed near Halethorpe made the community accessible as a suburban residential subdivision. Additionally, the 1908 establishment of the Baltimore and Annapolis Railway Company aided efforts at development within the community. The 1915 county atlas reveals that the community was planned in a rectilinear form within a triangular parcel of land formed by three tracts. In 1877, these tracts were occupied by Mrs. Dr. W.H.D. Hall, Asa Smith, and J. Duffern. By 1915, little development of the lots had occurred. As the twentieth century progressed, Halethorpe grew as a large residential subdivision.

This Queen Anne-style house fronts west at the southeast corner of Woodside and Linden Avenues. Standing two-and-a-half stories high and five bays wide, the dwelling has been re-clad with formstone, which conceals its original construction materials. The complicated roof line features a hipped roof with two projecting square towers, two two-story projecting gabled bays, two shed roof dormers, a gabled ell, and a shed roof wing. All of the roofs are clad with asphalt shingles. Rising from this complexity are two central interior formstone chimneys. The two towers include an aluminum-clad beltcourses, bracketed cornices, and metal roof crests rising above the hipped roofs. The façade spans from tower to tower five bays across. The first story of the façade is protected by a wrap-around porch supported by Tuscan columns on formstone piers. The southern portion of the porch has been enclosed with twelve 6/1 windows. Piercing the first floor are four multi-light Queen Anne windows to the north of the entry. On the second story, the main block is pierced with two 1/1 windows, while the towers and the projecting bay have two paired 1/1 windows each. The second-and-a-half story windows include two paired multi-light Queen Anne windows in the towers and two paired round-arched multi-light Queen Anne windows in the projecting bay. All of the windows have square-edged wood surrounds. The windows on the upper stories have splayed formstone lintels. The central entry features a single-leaf door that is paneled with lights under a one-light transom. The wood door has a molded wood surround.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-2513

## 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic William and Julia Norbeck House (preferred), Norbeck House

other

## 2. Location

street and number 1709 Woodside Avenue not for publication

city, town Baltimore vicinity

county Baltimore County

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

name Carl W. Parr, Jr. and Diana M. Parr

street and number 1709 Woodside Avenue telephone Not Available

city, town Baltimore state MD zip code 21227

## 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 7725 folio 286

city, town Towson tax map 108 tax parcel 594 tax ID number 1318100820

## 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 at MHT  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## 6. Classification

| Category  | Ownership                                   | Current Function                             |   | Resource Count   |                                  |
|---|---|--|---|--|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district               | <input type="checkbox"/> public             | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture         | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape          | Contributing   | Noncontributing                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade      | <input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture | <u>3</u>   | <u>2</u> buildings               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure              | <input type="checkbox"/> both               | <input type="checkbox"/> defense             | <input type="checkbox"/> religion           | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> sites   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site                   |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic | <input type="checkbox"/> social             | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <u>1</u> structures              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object                 |   | <input type="checkbox"/> education           | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation     | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> objects |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> funerary            | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress   | <u>3</u>   | <u>3</u> Total                   |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> government          | <input type="checkbox"/> unknown            |  |                                  |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> health care         | <input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use  |  |                                  |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> industry            | <input type="checkbox"/> other:             |  |                                  |
|   |   |  |   |  |                                  |
|   |   |  |   | <b>Number of Contributing Resources<br/>previously listed in the Inventory</b> |                                  |
|   |   |  |   | <u>1</u>   |                                  |

## 7. Description

Inventory No. BA-2513

### Condition

excellent       deteriorated  
 good             ruins  
 fair               altered

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

This Queen Anne-style house, built in 1892, fronts west at the southeast corner of Woodside and Linden Avenues. Standing two-and-a-half stories high and five bays wide, the dwelling has been re-clad with formstone, which conceals its original construction materials. The complicated roof line features a hipped roof with two projecting square towers, two two-story projecting gabled bays, two shed roof dormers, a gabled ell, and a shed roof wing. All of the roofs are clad with asphalt shingles. Rising from this complexity are two central interior formstone chimneys. The two towers include aluminum-clad beltcourses, bracketed cornices, and metal roof crests rising above the hipped roofs. The projecting bays also feature the aluminum-clad belt-course between stories. The façade spans from tower to tower five bays across. The first story of the façade is protected by a wrap-around porch supported by Tuscan columns on formstone piers. The southern portion of the porch has been enclosed with twelve 6/1 windows. Piercing the first floor are four multi-light Queen Anne windows to the north of the entry. On the second story, the main block is pierced with two 1/1 windows, while the towers and the projecting bay have two paired 1/1 windows each. The second-and-a-half story windows include two paired multi-light Queen Anne windows in the towers and two paired round-arched multi-light Queen Anne windows in the projecting bay. All of the windows have square-edged wood surrounds. The windows on the upper stories have splayed formstone lintels. The central entry features a single-leaf door that is paneled with lights under a one-light transom. The wood door has a molded wood surround.

Located directly east of the main dwelling is a circa 1890 shed. Built on a concrete block foundation, this side gable building has been re-clad with formstone. A single-leaf vertical board door marks the entry.

Located to the southeast is another circa 1890 shed that stands one-story high with a hipped, asphalt shingle roof. Also clad with formstone, the shed features a vertical board single-leaf door, and a four-light casement window with square-edged surrounds and sills.

Next to this shed is a circa 1950 garage with a concrete block foundation and formstone cladding. This two-bay structure has two roll-up vinyl doors that are paneled with lights and a front gable roof with asphalt shingles.

Built circa 1970 is a screened shelter with a stone veneer foundation and a side gable roof. Evidence suggests that another building may have once occupied this site.

Located to the rear of the house is a contemporary in-ground pool. Square in shape, the pool is surrounded by a concrete platform and a wood picket fence.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-2513

| 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/<br>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/<br>settlement   | <input type="checkbox"/> literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> social history      |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning      |   | <input type="checkbox"/> maritime history       | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation      |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation            |   | <input type="checkbox"/> military               | <input type="checkbox"/> other:              |

**Specific dates** 1892-present **Architect/Builder** Unknown

**Construction dates** 1892

Evaluation for:

National Register  Maryland Register  not evaluated

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

The William and Julia Norbeck House dates to a late 19<sup>th</sup> century period of suburbanization on the southwest side of the City of Baltimore. The Queen Anne style dwelling was constructed in 1892, two years after the surrounding subdivision known as Halethorpe was platted. In September 1891, the Norbecks purchased lot number 245 and shortly thereafter constructed the extant dwelling. Through the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the development of the Halethorpe was aided by its proximity to rail service. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, which passed near Halethorpe made the community accessible as a suburban residential subdivision.<sup>1</sup> Additionally, the 1908 establishment of the Baltimore and Annapolis Railway Company aided efforts at development within the community.<sup>2</sup> The 1915 county atlas reveals that the community was planned in a rectilinear form within a triangular parcel of land formed by three tracts. In 1877, these tracts were occupied by Mrs. Dr. W.H.D. Hall, Asa Smith, and J. Duffern. The central anchor of the turn-of-the-20<sup>th</sup> century subdivision was the property owned by Mrs. O.J. Murphy. By 1915, little development of the lots had occurred. As the twentieth century progressed, Halethorpe grew as a large residential subdivision.<sup>3</sup> With the growth of Baltimore, Landsdowne has become a near suburb on the city's southwest side.

<sup>1</sup> Neal A. Brooks and Eric G. Rockel, *A History of Baltimore County* (Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979), p. 158.

<sup>2</sup> Neal A. Brooks and Eric G. Rockel, *A History of Baltimore County* (Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979), p. 315.

<sup>3</sup> *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G.W. Bromley, 1915).

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-2513

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- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.* Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.  
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.  
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.  
*Map of Baltimore County.* Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.  
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.  
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.
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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property .50 Acre  
Acreage of historical setting Unknown  
Quadrangle name Relay Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction in 1892, the William and Julia Norbeck House has been associated with the 12,500 square feet of land known as tax parcel 594 of map 108 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

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|                 |   |           |              |
|-----------------|---|-----------|--------------|
| name/title      | A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians |           |              |
| organization    | EHT Tracerics, Incorporated                         | date      | May 29, 2001 |
| street & number | 1121 5th Street NW                                  | telephone | 202.393.1199 |
| city or town    | Washington  | state     | DC           |

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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 21032-2023  
410-514-7600

BA-2513  
1709 WOODSIDE AVENUE  
BALTIMORE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-2510  
112-116 LAVERN AVENUE  
BALTIMORE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-2509

# RELAY QUADRANGLE

MARYLAND

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

NW/4 RELAY 15' QUADRANGLE

5662 1 SE  
(BALTIMORE EA)

5662 SW  
(BALTIMORE WEST)

1355

1356 40'

1357

900 000 FEET

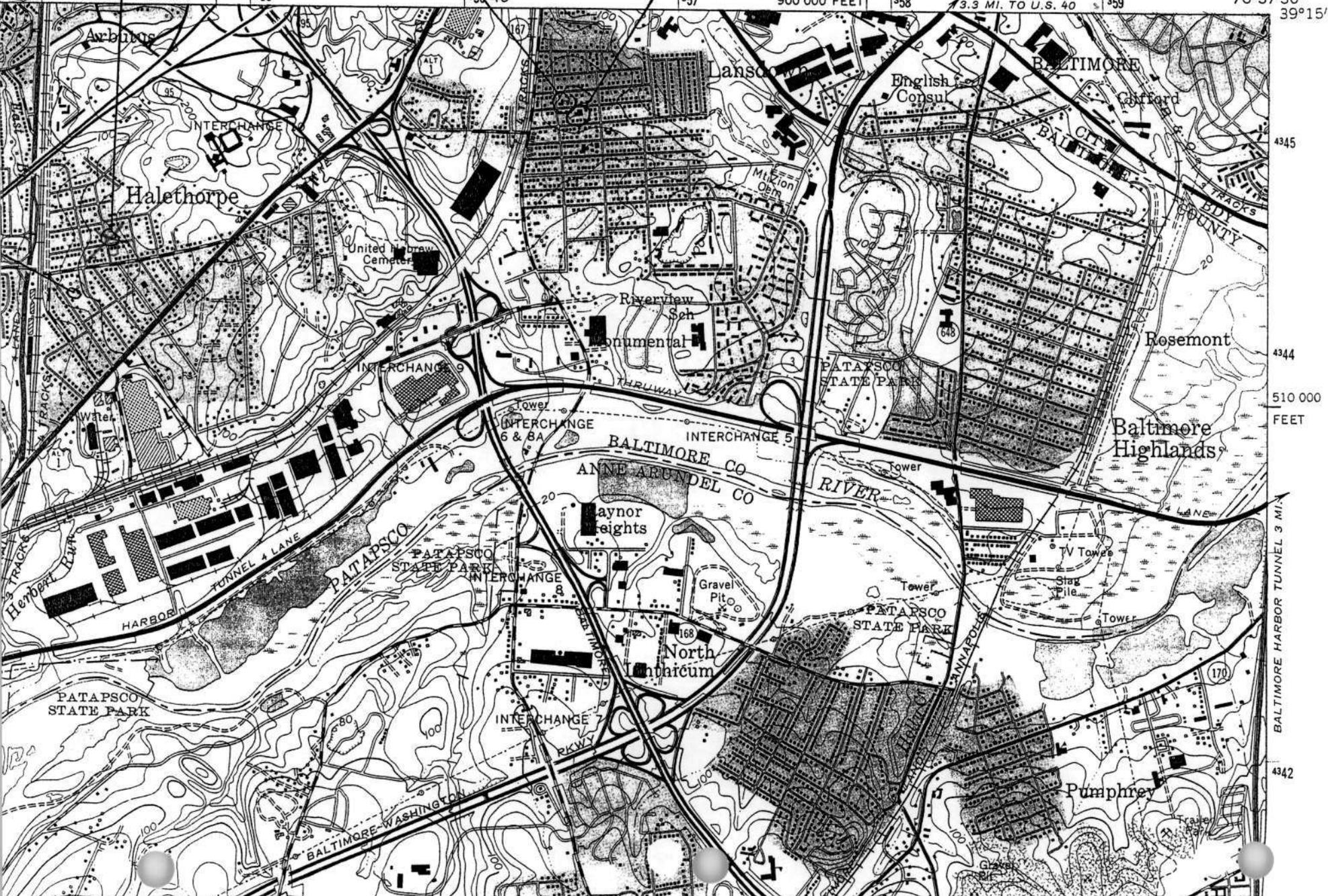
1358

3.3 MI. TO U.S. 40

1359

76°37'30"

39°15'

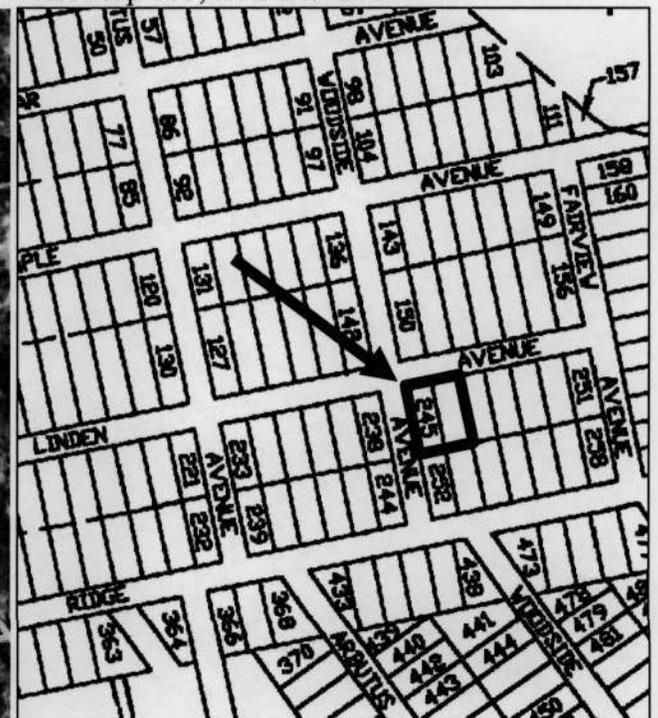


BA-2513  
William and Julia Norbeck House (Parr House)  
1709 Woodside Avenue, Halethorpe  
Relay quadrangle



Mapquest aerial photo, c. 2007

Tax Map 108, Lots 245-246





BA-2513  
1709 Woodside Ave. (Norbeck House)  
Baltimore  
Baltimore county, MD  
Traces  
4/01  
MD SHPO  
Northwest corner

Log 4



BA-2513  
1709 Woodside Avenue (Norbeck House)

Baltimore  
Baltimore County, MD

Traceries

4/01

MD SHPO

Outbuildings

2 of 4



BA-2513

1709 Woodside Avenue (Norbeck House)

Baltimore

Baltimore County, MD

Traceries

4/01

MDSHPD

East Elevation

304



BA-2513  
1709 Woodside Avenue (Norbeck House)  
Baltimore  
Baltimore County, MD  
Traceries  
4/01  
MD SHPD  
Southwest corner

4 of 4

DISTRICT 13 - continued -

BA-2513

PARR HOUSE - 1890-1898 - 1709 Woodside Avenue, Halethorpe. Located at northeast corner of Linden and Woodside Avenues. Remarkably large suburban villa, built after the 1898 platting of Halethorpe, a suburb whose name means "Healthy Village." First shown on Plate 8 of Bromley's 1898 atlas, owner not named. This frame structure is now covered with grey Formstone. Two square, three-story end towers jut out at angles from the corners of the house. The towers are topped by hipped roofing decorations with cresting. Also a central pavilion rising three stories, with round-topped windows at the upper level. Large dormers typical of the "Stick Style." Full-width front porch partially enclosed. Windows with occasional bands of stained glass in the Queen Anne tradition. A mixture of end of the century styles, but lacking the exposed ribs of Stick Style and the round towers of the Queen Anne. Excellent condition in 1992. Owner: Carl W. Parr.