

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Planter's Paradise (preferred)

and/or common Bauernschmidt House

2. Location

street & number 2316 Bauernschmidt Drive not for publication

city, town Baltimore 21221 vicinity of Councilmanic District 5th
congressional district 2nd

state Md. county Baltimore Co.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name William and Suzanne Gerard

street & number 2316 Bauernschmidt Drive telephone no.: 687-6237

city, town Baltimore state and zip code MD 21221

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Courts Building liber SM 7500

street & number 401 Bosley Avenue folio 664

city, town Towson state MD 21204

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title MHT Inventory, Site No. BA 263 since 1965.

date federal state county local

depository for survey records 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state MD 21401

7. Description

Survey No. BA 263

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

Planter's Paradise is a very late example of Italianate rural architecture in frame and clapboard. The main block of the house is a square with a full width front porch that wraps around both sides. The most prominent feature is a large, square, hip-roofed cupola with twin round-topped windows on all four facades. The main front of the house is cross gabled and its gable peak shelters a large Palladian window. The eaves are heavily bracketed and exposed rafters emerge under the cross-gable eaves. The house is Italianate in style but fitted with the window types available in 1904, including large-pane sash windows and leaded glass windows.

The cupola is supported by a brick column coming up from the basement, according to the former owners, the Williams family. The house suffered serious damage in the 1972 tropical storm and water damage did a great deal of harm. Carleton Jones's 1989 article described some of the features of the house, its three stairways, its 16 by 26-foot dining room, 58 windows, and 14 rooms. Some one hundred stair balusters needed replacement in 1987 after vandals had been living in the house.

The house was painted blue some years ago but is now a shade of yellow or gold. Mrs. Gerard has done some Bauernschmidt family research and points out that the original owner had hired Baltimore architect William Wirt Emmart for some of his other projects.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1905 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
 and/or
 Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G
 Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Planter's Paradise was an early landgrant name, selected in March, 1658 by Thomas Cornwallis for a parcel of 1,000 acres at a site that became known as Planter's Point. The survey was apparently made before the creation of Baltimore County, because no county is mentioned in the survey document. (1)

The shoreline of Middle River is poorly delineated on Sidney and Browne's 1850 county map but was well drawn in the 1877 G. M. Hopkins atlas plate for District 12, when the resident, not the actual owner, was shown as William Hughes.

During the 1870s to the 1890s, much of the eastern county was owned by private ducking clubs where members set up blinds and had the use of club houses. The Planter's Point Ducking Club operated on the spit of land downriver of Hog Pen Creek. Both Presidents Harrison and Cleveland visited the ducking shores in this vicinity while in office. When Benjamin Harrison hunted at Bengies Ducking Club in 1891, the Baltimore American published a drawing of the club house and also a sketch of the camp cook, "Aunt Emiline." (2) Grover Cleveland visited the San Domingo Ducking Club in 1886. (3)

Enoch Pratt owned the "Planter's Paradise" property, starting in 1872. (4) Pratt was also a member and secretary of the Carroll Island Ducking Club. In 1878 he sold the Middle River tract to the Planter's Point Ducking Club. (5) That club had been incorporated in October of 1877. (6)

The club house was depicted in the Baltimore American on 1895 and appeared as a frame structure, two bays deep and three bays wide. There were two inside chimneys and a full-width front porch only one step above grade. It is difficult to see how such a modest structure could be combined with a large villa of Italianate design. (7)

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name of property: Planter's Paradise

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The ducking club sold to William O. Hinton in 1899 for \$4,000. (8) Hinton and his wife in turn sold to Frederick Bauernschmidt on December 28, 1904. (9)

It is generally accepted that Frederick Bauernschmidt promptly had a large house constructed, presumably in the 1905 season. A search of local news columns in the Baltimore County Union from December 1904 to the end of 1906 failed to provide anything about building a large house.

The only Bauernschmidt item detected in the weekly papers was a report that Bauernschmidt's employed storekeeper, Otto Caesar, fell through the ice in Middle River and was drowned. (10) Other deeds in the county records show that Frederick Bauernschmidt owned a lot, presumably the store, at Eastern Avenue and Back River Neck Road, a corner shown as "Walter's" on the 1910 topo map, still later known as "Josenhan's Corner."

A tax ledger or transfer book listed as Volume 257 was formerly stored in the Courts Building mezzanine and although undated contained entries for the first decade of this century, for example in District 15, "Bay Shore Park Tours of the Sea" and "John Butschky Monument House." Bay Shore opened in August 1906 and Mr. Butschky was mentioned as owner of the Monument House in the Sun during 1907. (11) An entry without any clue as to its date reads as follows:

Fred. Bauernschmidt
2450 Eutaw Place

About 40 acres on Middle River
Residence \$6000.

(12)

The house appears at the end of a long drive on the Maryland Geological Survey's 1910 topo map, the only structure on the point. (13) One of the inlets mentioned in original deeds was Greyhound Creek, not usually shown on maps but now commemorated by Greyhound Drive in Turkey Point Park subdivision.

Frederick Bauernschmidt and his family owned the American Brewing Company on Gay Street, a gigantic structure built in 1887 as Wiessner's Brewery, its architect still unknown in current literature. (14) The Baltimore beer industry went through a number of mergers in the late 19th century, and the popular "G.B.S." brand stood for "Globe, Bauernschmidt, Strauss," one of the larger conglomerates. "One Grade Only" was one of the company slogans. "G.B.S." bottles are one of the most commonly found objects in local archaeology.

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name of property: Planter's Paradise

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The Bauernschmidts lived at Planter's Paradise in June, July, and August from 1904 or 1905 until 1940, frequently hosting crab feasts for their employees. The open fields were used to graze and rest the company's strong brewery horses in the era before motorized delivery trucks. The family gave \$7 million to charities during their lifetime and \$12 million by will. One wing at Union Memorial Hospital was a Bauernschmidt donation and bears their name. (15)

Frederick Bauernschmidt died March 8, 1933, and his widow Agnes Wehr Bauernschmidt sold the property in 1940 to Otto F. Unger, a developer from the English Consul area, who at one time had owned the English Consul Mansion. (16) Unger filed a subdivision plat under the name "Bauernschmidt Manor." (17) Of course authentic manors existed only in the era of the Lords Baltimore and were normally a thousand or more acres. The main house was left on Lot 164, which consisted of about one acre. The plan deprived the house of its water frontage, although the individual buyers of the house generally bought a number of adjoining lots.

Nora B. Quillen became owner of the house and its fringe of lots in 1951 but defaulted two years later. (18) The property was a leasehold with a one-cent ground rent, improved "by a two-story frame dwelling containing fourteen rooms and four baths." (19)

The property passed to Charles H. and Anna M. Williams in 1953 and for a while was called Williams Manor and also Bauernhorst. (20) In 1980, James H. Williams, one of the sons of Charles H. Williams, became sole owner. (21) About 18 months later, Williams sold to Richard and Ginger Henley, who paid \$55,000 for lot 164. (22) Lots 140 and 141 were sold to other buyers, diminishing the space around the large structure. The Henleys were making visible progress toward restoration and had painted the house blue. Later, due to health considerations, they sold to the present owners in 1987. In a few short years, Will Gerard and Sue Boyer have restored most of the house and removed old layers of paint inside to reveal turn-of-the-century wood grain and fine workmanship as described in Item 7. (23) By early 1989, the house could be featured as a preservation success story in the Sunday Sun. (24)

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BA 263

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name of property: Planter's Paradise

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NOTES:

1. Patents, Liber Q, folio 451, Hall of Records, Annapolis.
2. Baltimore County Democrat, Towson, March 10, 1891.
3. Maryland Journal, Towson, April 10, 1886.
4. Baltimore County Deeds, EHA 75:380 (100 acres).
5. B.C. Deeds, JB 109:164.
6. B.C. Incorporations, JB 1:156, October 1877.
7. Baltimore American, May 5, 1895, p. 29.
8. B.C. Deeds NBM 242:106.
9. B.C. Deeds, WPC 282:163.
10. Democrat and Journal, Towson, March 13, 1905.
11. Sun, Baltimore, September 8, 1907.
12. Ledger No. 257 when held by B.C. Records Management. Later donated to Hall of Records, Annapolis.
13. William Bullock, State Geologist, Maryland Geological Survey, "Map of Baltimore County and Baltimore City Showing the Topography and Election Districts," Baltimore, 1910.
14. William J. Kelley, Brewing in Maryland (Baltimore, 196__), p. 573.
15. Suzanne Gerard, nomination form, March 6, 1991.
16. B.C. Deeds, CWB JR. 1107:90.
17. B.C. Plat Books, CHK 13:94.
18. B.C. Deeds, GLB 2052:118.
19. B.C. Judicial Records, GLB 553:390.
20. B.C. Deeds, GLB 2361:554.
21. B.C. Deeds, EHK JR. 6178:772.
22. B.C. Deeds, EHK JR. 6351:356.
23. B.C. Deeds, SM 7500:664
24. Carleton Jones, "Bringing Back the Brewer's Retreat," Sunday Sun, January 22, 1989, p. 7M.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 1989



THE SUN/GEORGE H. COOK

Bauernhurst, on the Middle River in Baltimore County, was once the summer home of Frederick Bauernschmidt, a local brewer and philanthropist.

BRINGING BACK THE BREWER'S RETREAT

By Carleton Jones

When the Boy Scout troop came over to help clean out the basement, so much fog had formed over the water on the cellar floor, because of a weird temperature inversion, that distant foundation walls were invisible.

Then 13 30-cubic-yard Dumpster loads of trash (at \$450 a load), including part of an old elevator, were heaved out of the basement and other rooms of the old mansion and hauled away.

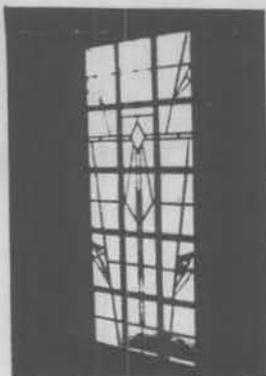
But none of this daunted Will Gerard, a public finance vice president of Maryland National Bank, or his 40-year-old Suzanne Boyer. About a year and a half later, Bauernhurst, a turn-of-the-century shore place of masterly proportions overlooking Middle River, has been virtually restored by their efforts. It's a cupolaed three-story Edwardian glory from the days when servants used the back stairs, ladies fainted every now and then and the gents twanged guitars out on the porch and sang "By the Light of the Silvery Moon."

The sunny, spacious place (five bedrooms and four and a half baths, 4,500 square feet of space, not counting the once-foggy basement) has been put back the way Frederick Bauernschmidt, Baltimore beer baron and philanthropist, wanted it. The big windowed air vent under the cupola is still there for cooling the house on hot days. The brilliant, original window hardware has been cleaned and put back on the casements. Wall sconces (they were black) are now brassy clean and mounted in the dining room, and the enormous sliding doors off the center hall have been repaired and put back on track by Mr. Gerard — who bought the one-acre property in 1987 for \$648,000.

What might please the original owner most is the fact that you can climb up to the observatory, where Bauernschmidt parked his telescope years ago and from which you can see the Eastern Shore on clear days, as well as pretty, watery views of Bowleys Quarters and Hart-Miller Island.

The family cook would sit in the observatory when the owner was expected home. When she spotted his boat approaching from Baltimore, she would go downstairs and start dinner. Sue Boyer relates. A onetime Bauernschmidt servant, now 93 and retired in Florida, related the story to the restorers.

Bauernhurst has new siding on its exterior, a paint job, all new utilities and hundreds of other touches, and if you ask Will Gerard how much it cost, the answer is: "I'd rather not



As 53 of the house's windows showed damage and had to be custom reproduced, but their braces were salvaged.



Above, the dining room, 16 by 26 feet, has a chandelier that once hung in a Virginia parsonage. The original photo roll holds painter, Victorian bone china and other items. Right, the back stairhead passage.



Bauernhurst on Middle River: restoring a Baltimore brewer's summer

BAUERNHURST, from 7M

say." Then he adds, in impressive certainty, "A lot!" This massive restoration looks that way because Mr. Gerard and Ms. Boyer, a Baltimore county real estate agent with Schmidbauer Realty, inherited from families interested in antiques a feeling for what might dress up a waterside home that had seen better days.

A Greek Revival desk in wood veneer, a Gerard family piece from the banker's Kentucky background, has been topped with a hall mirror and is what greets guests in the mansion's entrance. Curving into the hallway is part of the house's unusual double staircase. Two flights of stairs begin on the first floor (one from the front of the house, one from the back), meet on a landing and continue upward in opposite directions. There is a separate stairway in the servants' wing.

In decor, says Mr. Gerard, Bauernhurst is not quite finished, for there are wooden surfaces, including a two-deck fireplace, that still have to be cleaned and restored, and a room or two, including a game room with a wet bar, that are unfinished. Then there's the matter of the walls in the 14-room place. "We painted them all white to see how that worked, and may do some in colors later," says Ms. Boyer.

The white walls make for radiant light levels in the summer mansion. All 58 of the windows had damage and had to be custom reproduced by Walbrook Lumber Co., though their brasses were salvaged.

Obviously, a good many things already work in this mega-restoration. Like a handsomely nostalgic dining room, 16 by 26 feet, with a giant chandelier that once hung in a Virginia tearoom, and the house's original plate rail, decorated with the Gerard collection of pewter, Victorian bone china and other items. A mystery surrounds the massive dining room oak buffet, also bought in a Virginia auction. Its gallery takes Victorian form, but the geometric inlays and medallioned doors suggest later work, even the art deco period.

The floors throughout the house were redone and in larger rooms have been covered with floral Oriental carpets bought from Bentley's Antique Show Mart in Cockeysville.

There are colorful duck decoys, as well as artfully framed sporting prints and turn-of-the-century lithographs, accenting rooms on the ground floor. More modern pieces decorate a family room-entertainment center at the rear of the house. A poster gallery has been created at the second floor rear in the "Baltimore room," as the couple likes to call a room that has been lined with framed posters celebrating city cultural and festival events.

In resurrecting Bauernhurst, Ms. Boyer acted as principal furnisher and woodwork refinisher, while Mr. Gerard led a team of subcontractors. Robert Hooker was the brick and stone artisan who redid the damaged and overpainted fireplaces. Charles Keeley, of CRC Construction, was responsible for the carpentry of the

all-wood home. Woodwork includes the three stairways, which have chestnut balusters, and a balloon-frame construction with 4-by-6-inch chestnut timbers.

"We're delighted with the response of the community. Friends and neighbors helped out, too," says Ms. Boyer. Throughout the house, flower arrangements were brought in by a friend, Rose Ortel, and a neighbor, Emily Bimestefer, contributed drapery designs for the windows.

William W. Emmart, a Baltimore architect who worked on other Bauernschmidt buildings, could have been the architect of the present mansion, but the record seems unclear.

From the time when the lights went on in Bauernhurst and the paint was dry, the fine mansion has served as a hospitable location for parties, at one time accommodating a 500-person county rally, at which the house was cited as a historic achievement by the Baltimore County Historical Trust. Horticultural visitors are awed by the now-mature Oriental trees, including a rare Japanese maple and other exotics that have survived the years in the yard of the mansion.

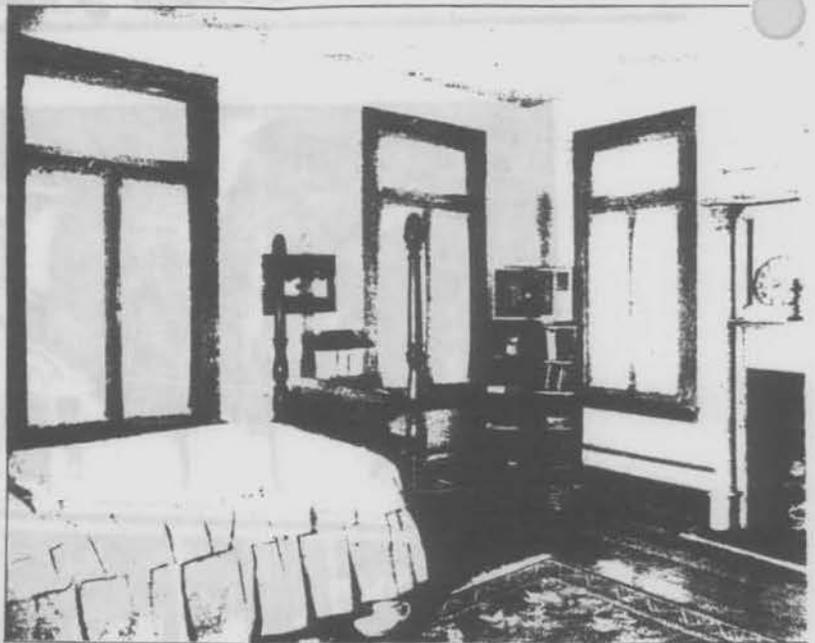
Fred Bauernschmidt would have liked that. The multimillionaire beer overlord assembled a fortune of \$5 to \$6 million in the two decades that preceded the outlawing of liquor in 1919. In the 1930s, in the trough of the great Depression, he proceeded to give a large portion of it away in the form of medical charities for the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Union Memorial Hospital, Church Home and Hospital and various orphanages — 34 different medical and charitable foundations.

When Bauernschmidt died in 1933, his widow, the tall, musically accomplished Agnes Bauernschmidt, was left \$1 million and a mansion at 2450 Eutaw Place in Baltimore, in addition to the Baltimore county house. She sold the county place in 1940. A variety of owners followed. At one point the building was cut up into three large apartments. Then it went through one period, probably in the '70s, says Mr. Gerard, when it was mistreated by squatters.

That mistreatment helped shape the restoration somewhat. Knocked-out stair balusters had to be replaced — about 100 of them — and were crafted for the restoration by Larry Crowl of the Wood Butcher, a Taneytown shop.

So far as is known, no important piece of Bauernschmidt furniture survives in the house, despite the survival of almost all the millwork and much hardware. But the big bright house is not totally free of family mementos. "I have some Bauernschmidt beer bottles," says Ms. Boyer, pointing to five antique bottles in faded colors on an upstairs table. "There are about five more downstairs."

"I'd really love to get an old Bauernschmidt beer barrel," says Ms. Boyer longingly. "Know of any?"



9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. BA 263

No prior study other than newspaper stories.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name ~~White Marsh~~ Middle River

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

See Plat Book, ~~CHK~~ 13, f. 94, Lot 164.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	None	code	county	None	code
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state		code	county		code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title John McGrain

organization Office of Planning

date April 29, 1991

street & number 401 Bosley Avenue

telephone 887-3211

city or town Towson

state MD 21204