

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

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

Property Name: Leight House Inventory Number: BA-2940  
16229  
 Address: 15920 York Road City: Sparks, MD Zip Code: 21111  
Monkton, Md. vic.

County: Baltimore USGS Topographic Map: Hereford

Owner: Audrey Gerber & John R. O'Brien II

Tax Parcel Number: 31 Tax Map Number: 28 Tax Account ID Number: 1600002971

Project: \_\_\_\_\_ Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

The 1925 Leight House is a typical two-story shingled Craftsman-style bungalow with a deep front porch supported by tapered piers and front and rear shed dormers. Unadorned braced stick brackets punctuate the underside of the eaves of the end gables. The building retains its original fenestration, glazing, and hardware with true divided 6-light casements and true divided 6/1 light double-hung sashes framed by plain board molding. The southeast rear porch entry has been enclosed, while that of the northeast remains open and retains a pyramidal pier, and the building shows several signs of poor maintenance and water damage, especially around the front porch and the second story siding. In general, the Leight House retains its original exterior fabric and the organization of elements typical of Craftsman-inspired bungalows. The current owner reports no changes to the interior layout. The north façade was damaged by tree-fall soon after initial recording, crushing a portion of the eave, damaging the roof, and knocking off one of the brackets. The house was built into a cut hillside, possibly by Emory C. Leight who, according to the current owner, built several identical houses in the area. Only one poorly preserved shed with shake siding survives on the lot.

Although it shows signs of poor maintenance in recent years and extensive deterioration, the Leight House retains much of its original exterior fabric and it is an excellent example of Craftsman-inspired

<b>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW</b>	
Eligibility recommended _____	Eligibility not recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input 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: <u>THE OWNER DOES NOT AGREE WITH ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION FOR AIA - property lacks sufficient distinction for individual eligibility</u> <u>3/20/2007</u>	
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services <u>B. Kuntz</u>	Date <u>6/21/07</u>
Reviewer, NR program	Date

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

BA-2940

Continuation Sheet No. 1

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bungalow architecture of the early 20th century. The interior was not accessible for inspection, but is reportedly little changed. The original landscaping plan is not readily discernable beneath the unkempt lawn and foundation plantings, but there is no evidence of extensive land modification. The dwelling was built into a scooped out portion of the hillside. Remedial work and scheduled maintenance should insure the long-term preservation and use of this dwelling. Neither events nor persons significant in national, state, or local history appear to be associated with the Leight House (Criteria A and B). Interior modifications could not be evaluated and the landscaping is unremarkable, there being little evidence of extensive landscaping and reworking the house lot that might yield important information on local history (Criterion D). The Leight House is an excellent, reasonably well-preserved example of later expressions of the Craftsman-style of architecture, successfully using the vocabulary and concepts of that style, especially in its deep front and rear porches (one rear porch now enclosed) that helped to bring the outdoors in. That feel is further expressed in the use of casement and 6/1 double-hung sashes that could be 'thrown open' to the outside. The use of natural materials (wood frame and shakes) and the exposure of dormer roof rafters and stick brackets under wide eaves also are typical Craftsman traits. The Leight House may be a kit house; if not, it certainly was built from published plans and is reportedly one of several built by Emory C. Leight in the area. The dwelling meets Criterion C for inclusion into the National Register of Historic Places.

Prepared by: James G. Gibb

Date Prepared: 22 December 2000

## Capsule Summary

Property Name: Leight House  
MIHP: BA-2940  
Location: 16229 York Road  
Town: Monkton  
Date of Construction: 1925  
Access: Private  
Prepared by: James G. Gibb

The 1925 Leight House is a typical two-story shingled Craftsman-style bungalow with a deep front porch supported by tapered piers and front and rear shed dormers. Unadorned braced stick brackets punctuate the underside of the eaves of the end gables. The building retains its original fenestration, glazing, and hardware with true divided 6-light casements and true divided 6/1 light double-hung sashes framed by plain board molding. The southeast rear porch entry has been enclosed, while that of the northeast remains open and retains a pyramidal pier, and the building shows several signs of poor maintenance and water damage, especially around the front porch and the second story siding. In general, the Leight House retains its original exterior fabric and the organization of elements typical of Craftsman-inspired bungalows. The current owner reports no changes to the interior layout. The north façade was damaged by tree-fall soon after initial recording, crushing a portion of the eave, damaging the roof, and knocking off one of the brackets. The house was built into a cut hillside, possibly by Emory C. Leight who, according to the current owner, built several identical houses in the area. Only one poorly preserved shed with shake siding survives on the lot.

Although it shows signs of poor maintenance in recent years and extensive deterioration, the Leight House retains much of its original exterior fabric and it is an excellent example of Craftsman-inspired bungalow architecture of the early 20th century. The interior was

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# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-2940

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

historic Leight House  
 other Gerber-O'Brien House

## 2. Location

street and number 16229 York Road not for publication  
 city, town Monkton  vicinity  
 county Baltimore

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

name Audrey Gerber and John O'Brien II  
 street and number 16229 York Road telephone unknown  
 city, town Monkton state MD zip code 21111

## 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dept of Assessments and Taxation liber 10607 folio 553  
 city, town Monkton tax map 28 tax parcel 31 tax ID number 1600002971

## 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>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<u>1</u>	<u>1</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:		
				Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
				<u>0</u>	

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## 7. Description

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Inventory No. BA-2940

### Condition

excellent     deteriorated  
 good         ruins  
 fair          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 1925 Leight House is a typical two-story shingled Craftsman-style bungalow with a deep front porch supported by tapered piers and front and rear shed dormers. Unadorned braced stick brackets punctuate the underside of the eaves of the end gables. The building retains its original fenestration, glazing, and hardware with true divided 6-light casements and true divided 6/1 light double-hung sashes framed by plain board molding. The southeast rear porch entry has been enclosed, while that of the northeast remains open and retains a pyramidal pier, and the building shows several signs of poor maintenance and water damage, especially around the front porch and the second story siding. In general, the Leight House retains its original exterior fabric and the organization of elements typical of Craftsman-inspired bungalows. The current owner reports no changes to the interior layout. The north façade was damaged by tree-fall soon after initial recording, crushing a portion of the eave, damaging the roof, and knocking off one of the brackets. The house was built into a cut hillside, possibly by Emory C. Leight who, according to the current owner, built several identical houses in the area. Only one poorly preserved shed with shake siding survives on the lot.

The front porch has been infilled beneath with concrete block, in contrast to the original fieldstone foundation. The beaded board porch soffit has been damaged by water and it appears unlikely that a permanent repair of the leak has been effected. The base of one tapered and paneled porch pier is rotten and the pier is askew, although the capital, restrained in its decoration, appears to be in good condition. The southwest pier is missing. Plantings around the porch have not been maintained: they obscure much of the front façade and contribute to the deterioration of the porch and siding.

A full complement of stick brackets (6), painted white, survive beneath the eave on the south side of the building. The north façade has one pair of six light casements and one separate casement on the first floor and one double hung sash on the second floor. There are attic vents, presumably recent additions, at the apices of both gables. The shake siding may replace the original material, also likely to have been shakes. Those on the upper story, particularly around the shed dormers, are in need of treatment. Poor gutter maintenance also contributes to the deterioration of the siding and windows.

The rear shed dormer retains two abutting 6/1 light double-hung sashes. The wider front shed dormer has three, and both dormers have projecting rafters. The chimney, difficult to view due to field limitations imposed on the surveyors, appears to be rusticated block projecting from the center of the ridgeline. A bulkhead entranceway on the south façade may be an addition.

The Leight House undoubtedly was constructed from published plans, if not kit built, by local builders.

# 8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-2940

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input 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 history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**Specific dates** 1925–2000 **Architect/Builder** unknown

**Construction dates** 1925

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.)

Although it shows signs of poor maintenance in recent years and extensive deterioration, the Leight House retains much of its original exterior fabric and it is an excellent example of Craftsman–inspired bungalow architecture of the early 20th century. The interior was not accessible for inspection, but is reportedly little changed. The original landscaping plan is not readily discernable beneath the unkempt lawn and foundation plantings, but there is no evidence of extensive land modification. The dwelling was built into a scooped out portion of the hillside. Remedial work and scheduled maintenance should insure the long–term preservation and use of this dwelling. Neither events nor persons significant in national, state, or local history appear to be associated with the Leight House (Criteria A and B). Interior modifications could not be evaluated and the landscaping is unremarkable, there being little evidence of extensive landscaping and reworking the houselot that might yield important information on local history (Criterion D). The Leight House is an excellent, reasonably well–preserved example of later expressions of the Craftsman–style of architecture, successfully using the vocabulary and concepts of that style, especially in its deep front and rear porches (one rear porch now enclosed) that helped to bring the outdoors in. That feel is further expressed in the use of casement and 6/1 double–hung sashes that could be ‘thrown open’ to the outside. The use of natural materials (wood frame and shakes) and the exposure of dormer roof rafters and stick brackets under wide eaves also are typical Craftsman traits. The Leight House may be a kit house; if not, it certainly was built from published plans and is reportedly one of several built by Emory C. Leight in the area. The dwelling meets Criterion C for inclusion into the National Register of Historic Places.

John G. and Pearl I Leight acquired the 1.09-acre parcel in June of 1924 and retained ownership until Audrey Gerber purchased it in 1962. Her nephew currently owns and resides in the Leight house.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-2940

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Table. Chain of title, Leight House.

Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Date	Instrument
Audrey Gerber	Audrey Gerber & nephew John O'Brien	1.09	05 May 1994	Deed 10607/553
Audrey Gerber	Virginia Novier & Audrey Gerber	1.09	04 Oct 1993	Deed 10396/244
Audrey Gerber	Virginia Novier & Audrey Gerber	1.09	27 July 1974	Deed 5466/26
Elisabeth Y. Brooks	Virginia Novier & Audrey Gerber & Antoinette Gerber	?	23 Mar 1971	Deed 5184/658
Audrey Gerber	Elisabeth Y. Brooks	?	23 Mar 1971	Deed 5184/656
M. Jaqueline McCurdy	John Leight & A. Gerber		16 Sept 1962	Deed 4031/590
John G. Leight	A. Gerber & M. J. McCurdy		16 Sept 1962	Deed 4031/590
Emory C. & Pearl I. Leight	John G. & Pearl I. Leight		27 June 1924	Deed 655/225

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-2940

Land Records of Baltimore County, Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland.

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## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1.09  
Acreage of historical setting 1.09  
Quadrangle name Hereford, MD

Quadrangle scale: 1:2400

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The Leight House occupies its original 1.09 acre lot overlooking the valley to the west from the east side of York Road.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

name/title	James G. Gibb		
organization	Andrew Garte & Associates	date	22 December 2000
street & number	6285 Shady Side Road	telephone	410.867.4600
city or town	Shady Side	state	MD 20764

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

**Maryland Historical Trust  
Maryland Inventory of  
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Figure 1. Rear of Gerber-O'Brien House.

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
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Figure 2. South façade of the Gerber–O'Brien House. Note first floor casemate windows, 6/1 light double–hung sashes, brackets beneath the eaves, and enclosed rear entry porch.

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Figure 3. Partial view of vegetation shrouded front façade of the Gerber-O'Brien House. Note water damaged porch soffit and decayed base of pier.

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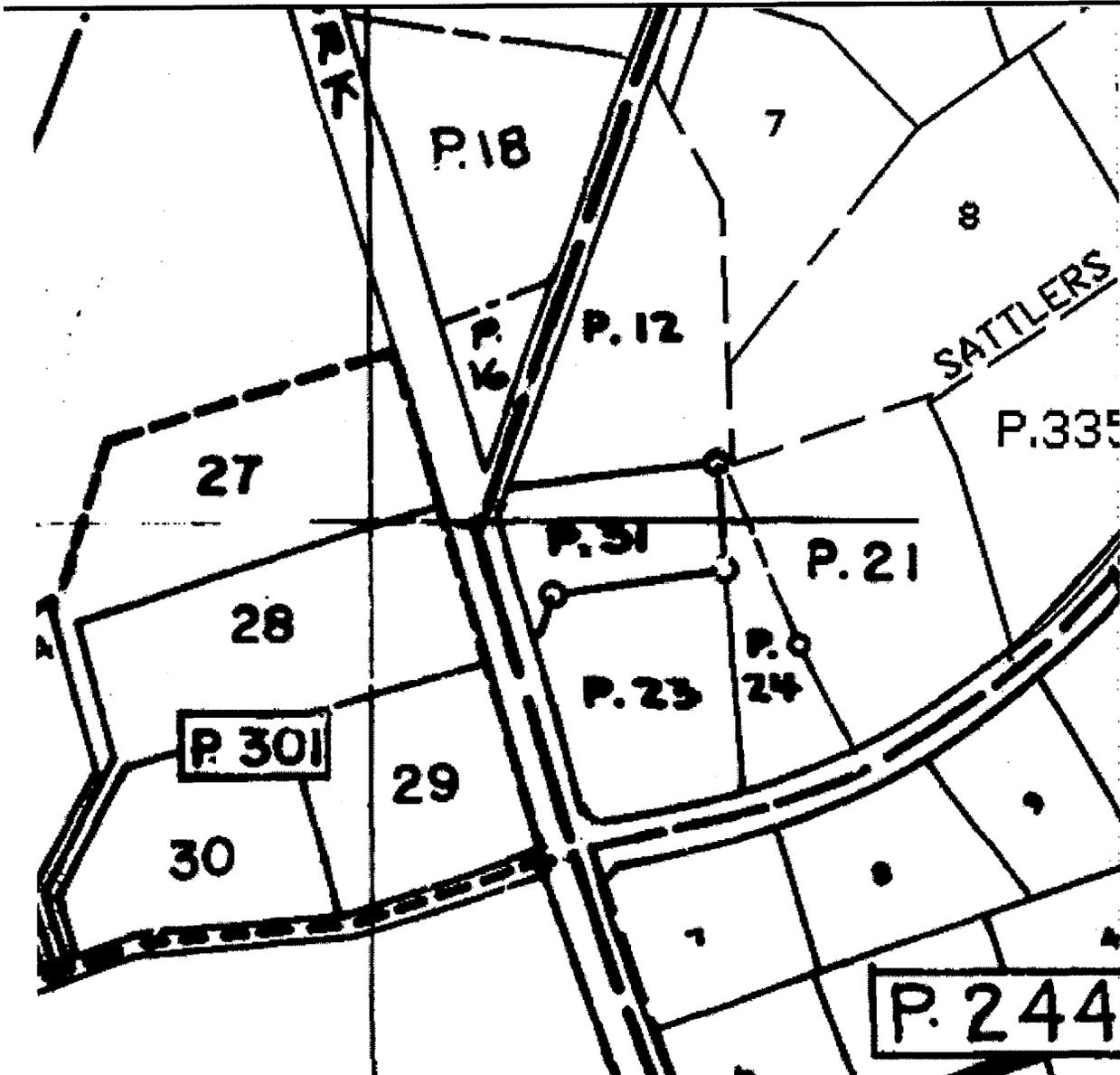


Figure 3. Leight House, tax map.



BA-2940 Leight House, Monkton, Baltimore County  
USGS Quad: Hereford, MD

8 1/2  
51 MILS  
1°03'  
19 MILS



BA-2940

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Leight House

Baltimore County, MD

J.G. Gibb

MD SHPD - negative

View of Leight House from York Rd. facing northeast.

December 28, 2000



BA-2940

Leight House

Baltimore County, MD

J.G. Gibb

MD SHPO - negative

View of Leight House from yard, facing southwest,

December 28, 2000



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Leight House

Baltimore County, MD

J.G. Gibb

MD SHPO - negative

View of outbuilding on Leight House property

December 28, 2000



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Leight House

Baltimore County, MD

J.G. Gibb

MD SHPO - negative

Leight House, south facade

December 28, 2000



BR-2940

Leight House

Baltimore County, MD

J.G. Gibb

MD ST/PO - negative

Leight House, west facade

December 28, 2000



BA-2940

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Leight House

Baltimore County, MD

S. G. Gibb

MA SHPO - negative

Leight House, view from York Road facing east.

December 28, 2000