

**CAPSULE SUMMARY**  
**BA-370**  
**Lynch's Desire**  
**5500 Sweet Air Road**  
**Baldwin, Baltimore County**  
**Circa 1872**  
**Private**

Lynch's Desire is located near the historic village of Baldwin in the Eleventh District of Baltimore County. By the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, the community of Baldwin, named for the Baldwin family, was a scattering of dwellings at the intersection of the northern branch of the Harford Turnpike with Baldwin Mill Road and Long Green Pike. Baldwin grew rapidly in a southwesterly direction along the northern branch of the Harford Turnpike and, by 1877, was a post office town with numerous buildings. According to the 1877 Hopkins Atlas, Lynch's Desire is occupied by Morris Baldwin. Between 1877 and 1915, the Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad was constructed, and Baldwin Station was established at the intersection of Baldwin Mill Road and the railroad, enabling the village to maintain its importance through the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

This large farm complex is sited in a rural setting on a level grassy lot surrounded by mature and immature trees and shrubs. Constructed circa 1880, this vernacular wood frame dwelling rises two-and-a-half-stories in height and measures three bays across. It rests on a parged solid random-rubble stone foundation. Clad with German vinyl siding, this dwelling is capped with a side-gable roof sheathed with asphalt shingles. Above the roof is one rebuilt interior-center brick corbelled chimney. Across the full-width of the façade is a replacement half-hipped porch supported with square wood posts with brackets and turned balusters. The center entry contains a single-leaf wood paneled door and is illuminated with five-light sidelights and a 1-light transom. The first and second story of the façade is illuminated with 6/9 and 6/6 wood sash windows, respectively. The roof features overhanging eaves and an aluminum encased soffit. Several wood frame additions, the most recent dating to circa 1995, are seen on the rear elevation. One exterior-end brick corbelled chimney and one interior brick corbelled chimney are located in the rear addition. Four historic and two non-historic outbuildings and one non-historic structure are associated with this property.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA - 370

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

historic Lynch's Desire  
other

### 2. Location

street and number 5500 Sweet Air Road not for publication  
city, town Baldwin vicinity  
county Baltimore County

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

name Marcai M. & Karl F. Mech, Jr.  
street and number 5500 Sweet Air Road telephone Not Available  
city, town Baldwin state MD zip code 21013-9709

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 45, 149  
city, town Towson liber 5789 folio 470

### 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

### 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	5	2
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense		
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic		1
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education		
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	5	3
		<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	
			1	

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## 7. Description

Inventory No. BA - 370

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### Condition

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

This large farm complex is sited in a rural setting on a level grassy lot surrounded by mature and immature trees and shrubs, and foundation plantings. A gravel driveway leads from Sweet Air Road to the house. Wood rail fences line the fields adjacent to the house. Four historic and two non-historic outbuildings and one non-historic structure are associated with this property.

Constructed circa 1872, this vernacular wood frame dwelling rises two-and-a-half-stories in height and measures three bays across. It rests on a parged solid random-rubble stone foundation. Clad with German vinyl siding, this dwelling is capped with a side-gable roof sheathed with asphalt shingles. Above the roof is one rebuilt interior-center brick corbelled chimney. Across the full-width of the façade is a replacement half-hipped porch supported with square wood posts with brackets and turned balusters. The center entry contains a single-leaf wood paneled door and is illuminated with five-light sidelights and a 1-light transom. The first and second story of the façade is illuminated with 6/9 and 6/6 wood sash windows, respectively. The roof features overhanging eaves and an aluminum encased soffit. Several wood frame additions, the most recent dating to circa 1995, are seen on the rear elevation. One exterior-end brick corbelled chimney and one interior brick corbelled chimney are located in the rear addition.

Sited away from the house, the circa 1880 springhouse is constructed of random-rubble stone and contains one single-leaf wood door. It has a front overhanging roof supported with wood posts and clad with wood shingles. Next, the wood frame stable is one story high and measures one bay across. It rests on a parged solid random-rubble stone foundation is clad with vertical board siding. The center bay contains a double-leaf sliding wood door. A side gambrel roof caps the stable and is clad in standing-seam metal. A one-story lateral addition two bays wide, features one sliding door and one 6-light awning window. A large two-story addition is located on the rear elevation.

Next to the dwelling is a wood frame smokehouse, circa 1900, clad in vinyl German siding. It is capped with a side-gable roof, and rests on a solid parged random-rubble stone foundation. To the rear of the house is a circa 1880 carriage house. It is wood frame two-story building measuring two bays across. It rests on a parged solid random-rubble stone foundation. It holds one roll-up door and one flush wood door. It is clad in weatherboards with corner-boards and lattice casement windows. The roof features overhanging eaves.

A 1960s shed/chicken house is wood frame clad with vertical board siding. It features two sliding glass doors and is capped with a shed roof. Next to the shed is a five bay outbuilding standing one-story high and clad in vertical board siding. It is capped with a side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. Finally, to the rear of the house is a non-historic tree-house with two 8-light hopper wood windows and a gable roof.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. BA - 370

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 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** 1872 **Architect/Builder** Not Known

**Construction dates** 1872

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.)

Lynch's desire is located near the historic village of Baldwin in the Eleventh District of Baltimore County. By the mid-19th century, the community of Baldwin, named for the Baldwin family, was a scattering of dwellings at the intersection of the northern branch of the Harford Turnpike with Baldwin Mill Road and Long Green Pike. In 1850, the village included a tavern and school in addition to the many residential buildings along these roads.(1) Although it was little more than a cluster of residential buildings in the mid-19th century, Baldwin grew rapidly in a southwesterly direction along the northern branch of the Harford Turnpike and, by 1877, was a post office town with numerous buildings. A second schoolhouse, blacksmith's shop, Catholic church, and two general stores served the residents of the Baldwin community and surrounding farmland.(2) According to the 1877 Hopkins Atlas, Lynch's Desire is occupied by Morris Baldwin.

Between 1877 and 1915, the Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad was constructed, and its course passed to the north of Baldwin before intersecting with the northern branch of the Harford Turnpike northeast of the village. The establishment of Baldwin Station as the community at the intersection of Baldwin Mill Road and the railroad enabled the village to maintain its importance through the early 20th century.(3) Baldwin has remained a rural crossroads community through the late 20th century.

### ENDNOTES

1. J.C. Sidney, Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).

2. Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland (Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, 1877).

3. Map of Baltimore County (Philadelphia, PA: G.W. Bromley, 1915).

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. BA - 370

See continuation sheet.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 9.02 acresAcreage of historical setting 9.02 acresQuadrangle name JarrettsvilleQuadrangle scale 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

This house constructed in 1872, is located at 5500 Sweet Air Road in Baldwin in the Eleventh District of Baltimore County. It has been historically associated with tax map 45, parcel 149.

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title K. Baynard & J. Riggle, Architectural Historiansorganization E.H.T. Traceriesdate 7/1/02street and number 1121 5th Street NWtelephone 202/393-1199city or town Washingtonstate DC zip code 20001

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

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
**Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No. BA - 370

Name Lynch's Desire

Continuation Sheet

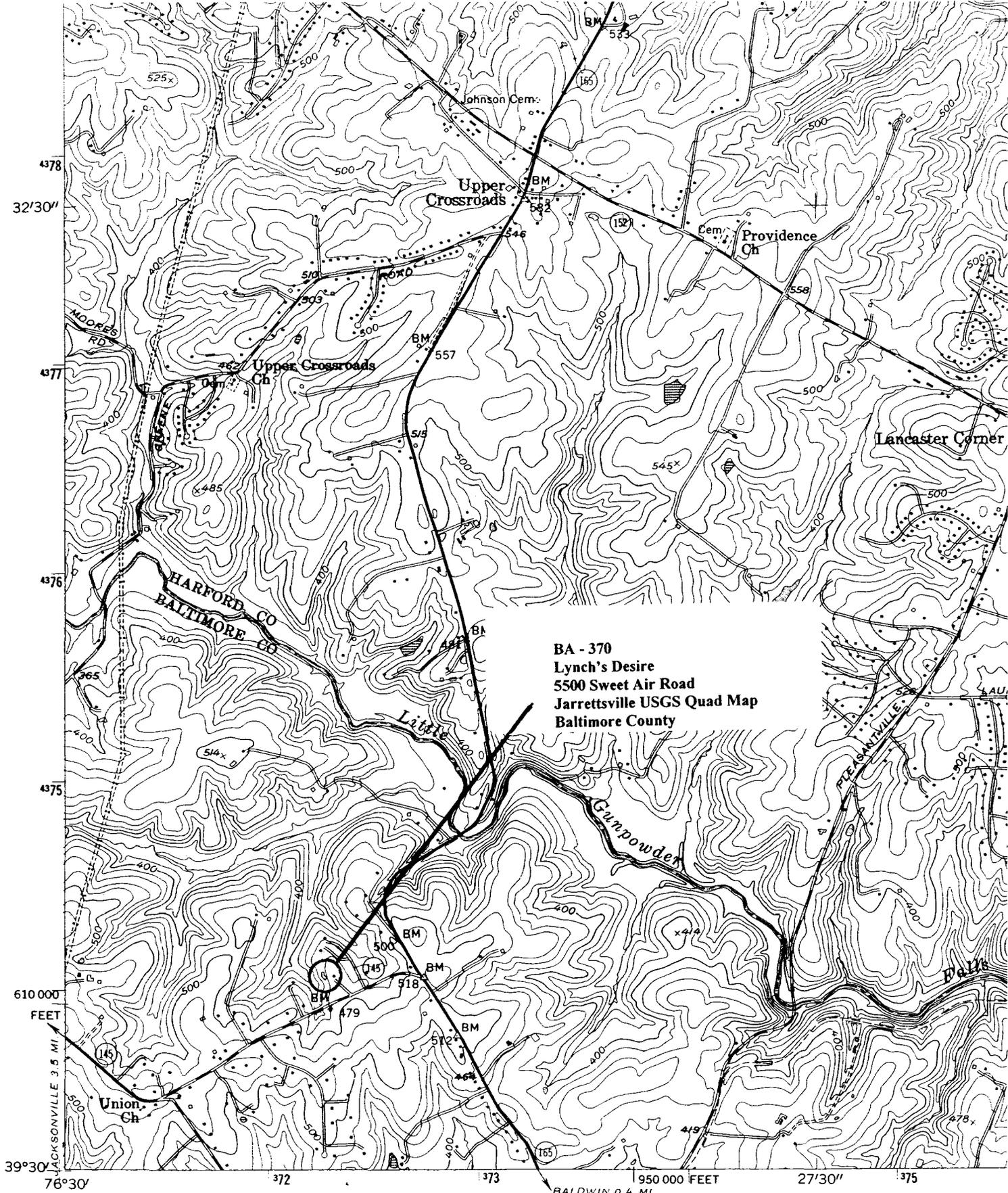
Number   9   Page   1  

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Bromley, G.W. Map of Baltimore County, Maryland. Philadelphia, PA: G.W. Bromley, 1915.

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. Philadelphia, PA: G.M. Hopkins, 1877.

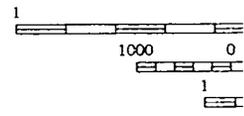
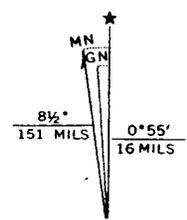
Sidney, J.C. Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys. Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.



BA - 370  
 Lynch's Desire  
 5500 Sweet Air Road  
 Jarrettsville USGS Quad Map  
 Baltimore County

(TOWSON)  
 5662 7 NE

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
 Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE  
 Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods  
 Aerial photographs taken 1954. Field check 1956  
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
 10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system  
 1,000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
 zone 18, shown in blue





BA-370

LYNCH'S DESIRE

5500 SWEET AIR ROAD

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

7/2002

MD SHPO

HOUSE, SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

1 OF 5



BA-370

LYNCH'S DESIRE

5500 SWEET AIR ROAD

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

7/2002

MD SHPO

HOUSE, NORTHWEST CORNER

2 OF 5



BA-370

LYNCH'S DESIRE

5500 SWEET AIR ROAD

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

7/2002

MD SHPO

HOUSE, NORTH CORNER

3 OF 5



BA-370

LYNCH'S DESIRE

5500 SWEET AIR ROAD

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

7/2002

MD SHPO

OUTBUILDINGS, VIEW LOOKING SOUTH

4 OF 5



BA-370

LYNCH'S DESIRE

5500 SWEET AIR ROAD

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

7/2002

MD SHPO

SPRING HOUSE, NORTHEAST ELEVATION

5 OF 5