

1. STATE **Maryland**
 COUNTY **Baltimore**
 TOWN **Lutherville** VICINITY **Cockeysville**
 STREET NO. **313 Morris Avenue**

ORIGINAL OWNER **Dr. J. G. Morris**
 ORIGINAL USE **residence**
 PRESENT OWNER **John Waters**
 PRESENT USE **residence**
 WALL CONSTRUCTION **Stone**
 NO. OF STORIES **1 1/2**

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
 INVENTORY

2. NAME **Oak Grove**

DATE OR PERIOD **1852**
 STYLE **Gothic Revival**
 ARCHITECT
 BUILDER **Dr. John G. Morris**

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC

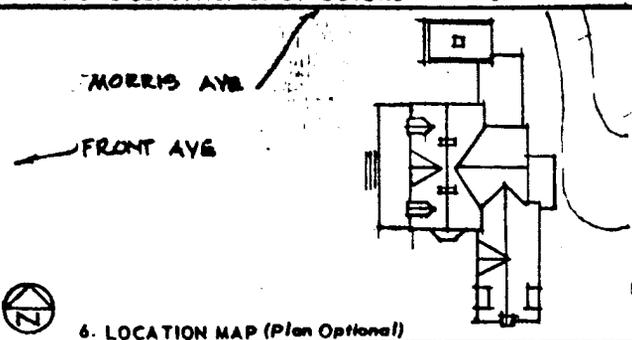
This house, the finest example of the Gothic Revival in the village, was built by the founder of Lutherville and the Female Seminary as his own residence. It began as a symmetrical house, "T" shaped in plan, and was gradually expanded as the Morris family grew. The first addition, connected directly to the original house, was a two story wing extending to the south. A summer kitchen, added later to the north, was connected by a breezeway, now enclosed.

The original house, constructed of stone and sheathed in narrow, flush, vertical siding, indicates the mid-nineteenth century interest in the Gothic Revival style as being suitable for the residence of a clergyman.

Its front facade is symmetrical with a central gable, lower than the main roof ridge, flanked by gabled dormer windows which extend below the eaves of the main roof and project beyond the walling with their sills supported on brackets with pendants. The dormers have pairs of three light casement sash like the casements of the central gable which open inward.

Openwork scalloped verge boards, flush with the fascia boards of the rakes, ornament the front central gable with its apex finial, the dormer gables and the end gables of the side elevations.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE **Endangered**



8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
 INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.



Rodd L. Wheaton

Jan. 1972

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

A pair of corbeled cap chimneys at the roof ridge flank the central gable.

At the first floor level pairs of elongated casements, or French doors, flank the front entry with its paneled, double doors. Its sidelights, like the windows, have full length, paneled shutters. All open onto the one story front porch, the length of the main house. The shed roof of the porch is supported on chamfered columns which have corner brackets at the eave fascia. The columns flanking the front steps are doubled with an "X" replacing the center brackets.

The south elevation of the main house has an oriel type bay window with an elongated pair of casements being flanked by similar single casements at each angled elevation. Above a moulded mullion, square quatrefoil panels echo the casement mullion spacing. At the second floor level a typical casement window with louvered blinds has above it a cast iron roundel attic vent seen in the apexes of the highest gables including the east facade with its large single gable having one second floor window and a low stair landing window above a simplified, shortened version of the front porch. Two windows with casements flank the sidelighted, double doored entrance, which opens nearly onto grade.

This rear facade, now the main entrance from the driveway, is even more noticeably asymmetrical with the addition of the two story, gabled wing to the south and is characterized at the original front facade with an off center attic gable, perpendicular to the main roof slope, over two window bays balanced by a shed roofed dormer which extends well below the eaves. The windows of this wing are double hung, sliding sash with a wide center muntin imitating the casements of the older house. Louvered blinds are hung awkwardly at the second floor wing windows within the gable, while paneled shutters are hung at the first floor windows.

The opposite wing is a two story block with a shallow sloped shed roof which provides a full second floor area. The highly architectural front modillioned cornice and the two vertical bays suggest a misplaced urban, row house. Six over six sash fill the window openings.

In plan there are two rooms, the parlour and dining room, on either side of the central hall at the front of the original house. The hall extends to the rear entrance between the kitchen and stair hall in the stem of the "T" shape.

Like several Gothic Revival houses in this region, the interior woodwork is of simplified classic revival detail. All the mantles are Greek Revival in character with those of the first floor being of marble with flat, unmoulded pilasters supporting unmoulded frieze sections and mantle shelves. At the second floor of the main house fine "dog eared" architrave mantelpieces front the chimney breasts. The staircase has turned balusters, turned newels and a moulded rail.

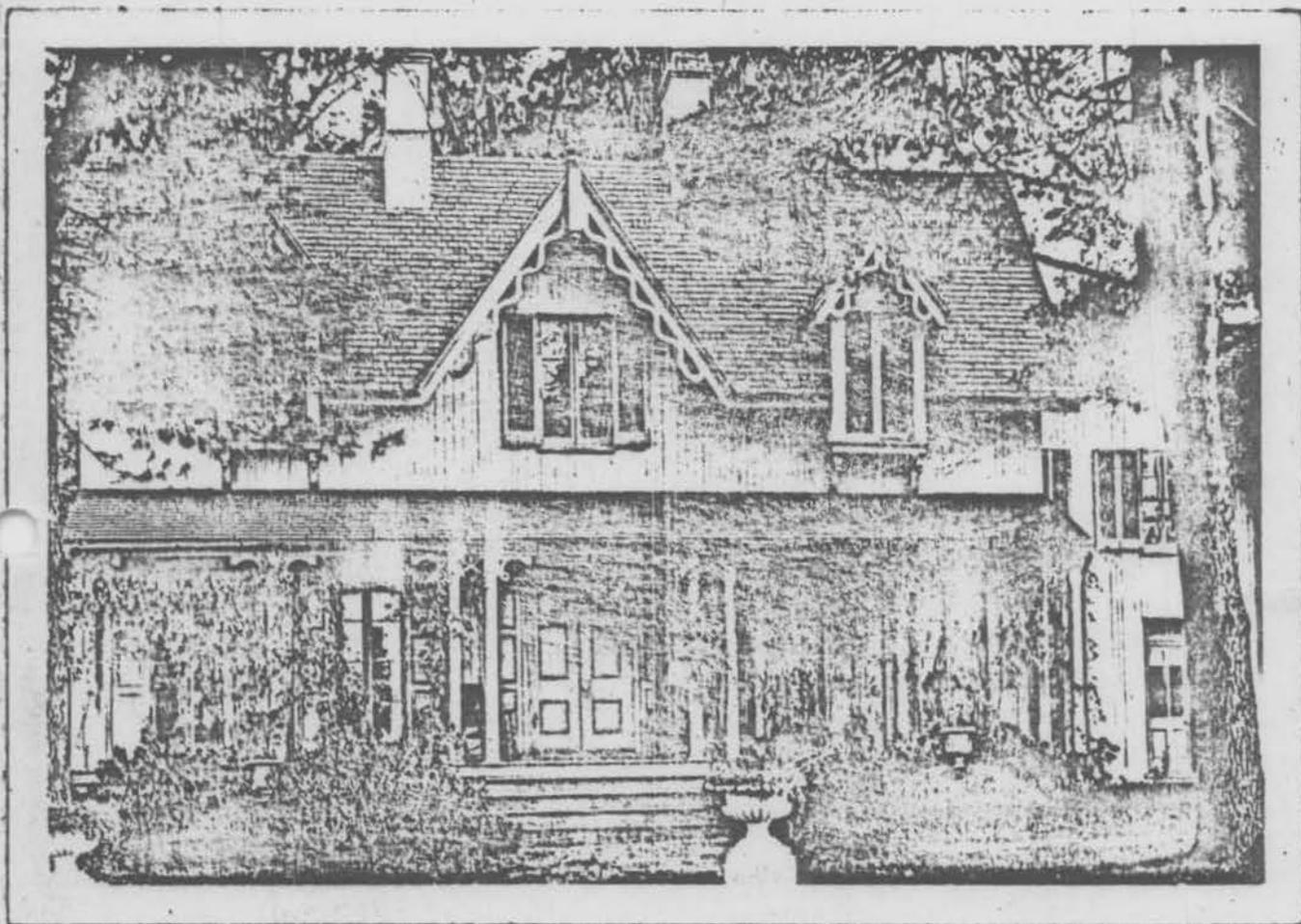
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Form 10-445
(5-62)

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Baltimore TOWN Lutherville VICINITY Dist. VIII STREET NO. 313 Morris Avenue ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE PRESENT OWNER PRESENT USE WALL CONSTRUCTION NO. OF STORIES	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY BA-64
	2. NAME Oak Grove DATE OR PERIOD 1852 STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER
	3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC	
<p style="text-align: center;">Victorian style summer house - vertical siding, decorative cornice, etc.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Built by Dr. John G. Morris, the founder of Lutherville, and the Lutherville Female Seminary.</p>	
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE <i>Endangered</i> <i>Interior</i> <i>Exterior</i>	
 6. LOCATION MAP <i>(Plan Optional)</i>	7. PHOTOGRAPH
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES <i>(Author, Title, Pages)</i> INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.	9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER (First HABS Report) E. Frances Offutt HABS COMMITTEE OF BALTIMORE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY DATE OF RECORD July 29, 1965

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Oak Grove, 313 Morris Avenue, Sheet 3



An early view of Oak Grove, circa 1915.