

Gerber House
South side of Shawan Rd.
east of Beaver Dam Rd.
Cockeysville
Not accessible
1811

The earliest stone section of this house bears a datestone of 1811 in the topstone of the east gable. This was probably the kitchen wing of a larger dwelling, although no details are known. A small frame wing now replaces the original house which belonged to Abraham Price. A family cemetery is nearby with graves of members of this Quaker family.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Gerber House (Abraham Price House)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

South side of Shawan Road East of Beaver Dam Road

CITY, TOWN

Cockeysville

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

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 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"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

William E. Gerber

Telephone #: 666-1321

STREET & NUMBER

2404 Broad Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Timonium

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21093

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore County Courthouse

Liber #: 5637

Folio #: 69

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Gerber House appears to be the house related to the Price Cemetery, noted as owned by Price on the 1850 map. It is of stone, two storeys in height, two bays in length, measuring approximately 18 by 20 feet. A datestone inscribed 1811 is said to remain in the walls, now covered with a heavy growth of ivy. The principal entrance is in the westerly bay of the north facade and a 6/6 window is in the easterly bay; the south facade is similar, although a two-storey frame addition covers it. The addition appears as though it may have been two storeys of porches; the first storey window is considerably smaller than its counterpart in the north facade. A chimney rises flush with the east gable; a window to its south in the first storey is a modern insertion.

Internally the house is a single room in the first storey; the second storey was not examined. A massive fireplace is in the east end with a massive hewn timber lintel. Hewn floor joists of the second floor are exposed. The fireplace is north of center and modern second-storey flooring to its south suggests a location for an enclosed winding stair, now removed. Interior finishes are plain, void of mouldings. A crawl space is beneath this room and first floor joists are of log.

No stone west wall exists, suggesting that the stone section was built, in sequence, after a structure to its west. The present

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 checked="" 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/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1811 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Gerber House on the South side of Shawan Road near Beaver Dam Road, was built during the first quarter of the nineteenth century. It appears on the 1823 Baltimore County tax assessment as the dwelling of Abraham Price and since a datestone marked "1811" is located in the topstone of the gable at the east end, it is likely that the earliest portion was built at that time.

Price inherited parts of two tracts, Long Look and Long Tract, from his father, Stephen Price. Both were very early patents, dating from 1729 and 1737, respectively. Part of the property was sold to the Ashland Iron Company but the easternmost half was retained by the family and their burial ground is located near this dwelling.

Price's youngest son, Joseph R.J. Price, lost the house by default of a mortgage in 1879 and it has been owned by numerous people since then.

The marker inscribed "J.H." on the edge of Shawan Road has not been identified.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baltimore County Tax Assessment of 1823.

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

(See Continuation Sheet #3)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 12 acres ±

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Catharine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr., AIA

ORGANIZATION

For Valleys Historical District Project

DATE

September 1976

STREET & NUMBER

1114 Bellemore Road

TELEPHONE

323-3798

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory 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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Continuation Sheet #1

Question #7 continued

structure to the west is said to be a replacement of another which burned about a century ago.

A two storey frame addition is at the west end, its north and south walls and its roof coincidental with the stone section; it measures approximately 17 by 18 feet and it is two bays in length. Exterior walls are sheathed in board-and-batten; windows are 6/6. An entrance is in the easterly bay of the north facade. A one-storey hipped-roof porch extends across its north front, and across the westerly bay of the stone section. A small single-flue brick chimney rises internally at the west end.

The cellar beneath the west section appears to be a deepened crawl space; first floor joists are of straight-sawn dimensional material.

Two markers are of interest. One stands on the west edge of the lawn, about midway between the house and Shawan Road, but it is not visible at this time due to summer foliage. Another is at the edge of Shawan Road, just west of the lane into the house. It is a small white marble stone, cut square, with chamfered corners and pyramidal top, inscribed with letters carved in a small sunken panel

J H

The Price Cemetery is a small, forgotten family cemetery. The small white marble stones have arched or segmentally-arched tops,

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

Continuation Sheet #2

Question #7 continued

all typical of the mid-nineteenth century. Most of the markers do not indicate the date of birth, a date the reader must deduce from the age, given in years. Visible markers are as follows:

Jacob Barnhart, 1792-1855

Elizabeth Rose, died 1867, age 75

Martha Price, relict of Abraham Price, died 1867, age 85

Abraham Price

Rebecca Constantia, wife of Abel M.W. James, daughter of
Abraham and Martha Price, died 1855, age 45

William R. Lynch, died 1855, age 17

Mary A. P. Price, daughter of Abraham and Martha Price,
died 1854, age 58

Asemeth Wollet, died 1879 (?), age 85

Unmarked fieldstone

Prior to the twentieth century, burials were often in private family cemeteries, located on the family farm, a practicable way of life when farms remained, or were expected to remain, in a family for many generations. As is so often the case, this farm has changed hands many times and the cemetery is forgotten; this one has received virtually no maintenance for many years. These stones are typical unpretentious examples of mid-nineteenth century tombstone design.

Continuation Sheet #3

Question #9 continued

Sidney, J.C. Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland.
(Baltimore, 1850).

Will of Abraham H. Price: Will Book 14, folio 313, at Hall of
Records, Annapolis.