

CARR-163
KREIT HOUSE
Westminster Vicinity
Private

Circa 1700's

The Kreit House, probably built in the late 1700's, is a log house which is in tact, save for non-existent back kitchen and fireplace, and knocked out dividing walls to make more decorative archways. Outside wall covering is the same on recent back addition and log house, so is deceiving.

Exposed logs can be seen in the basement and attic, as well as alternating structure of mortar/fieldstone construction. They are extremely interesting and in very good shape for a near 200-year old house. A log house of this size seems to me to be a rarity as log houses go. It is a good sized house, perhaps the size of a moderately-built brick house.

It lies in a valley, surrounded by farm buildings of different dates, and its own land. Development homes continue to grow above the valley, but they are not yet a problem.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Kreit House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1845 Benson Road

CITY, TOWN

Westminster #7

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Carroll

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. M. Kreit

Telephone #: 848-4831

STREET & NUMBER

1845 Benson Road

CITY, TOWN

Westminster, #7

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Md. 21157

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Office Bldg.

Liber #: 354

Folio #: 603

STREET & NUMBER

Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Md.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CARR-163

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The structure that is of interest here is part part of the building which is a very old log house. In 1947, Mr. Kreit (deceased) added a back section of four rooms upstairs, and four rooms downstairs to the house himself and his wife. The log house, which constitutes the front of the structure of this now two-family house, was for one Kreit son and his family. The original rectangular house with one wing (the old kitchen) cannot be deciphered from the back, because the entire exterior wall structure is covered with white painted wood weather-boarding, save for the facade which is asbestos shingles. The structure takes on the air of a simple, unobtrusive house which appears to warrant no special notice. One need only to see the logs in attic and basement (that are similar to ones used for wall structure), to know otherwise.

The recent addition will not be dealt with here.

Exterior:

The uncoursed fieldstone foundation supports a three-bay two-story house constructed of alternating hewn logs and mortar/fieldstone combination. Walls are now covered with siding, but plain wood 6/6 windows remain in most instances. A front 1/1 double upstairs window is recent.

The gable roof is of wood with wood shingles directly over beams and then tin strips. A single interior, middle rear chimney did accommodate a huge brick kitchen fireplace in the original structure according to Mrs. Kreit. However, the kitchen fireplace and chimney were removed to make way for the addition. The three-bay wood entrance with shed roof on the first floor of the facade is now entirely enclosed. Heat has been added to this enclosed porch to make a livable room. A similar shed roof four-support structure was attached at one time to the log house. A covered cement walk, used as a side porch running the length of the building, was added later.

There are two front doors inside the enclosed porch with plain wood trim, which enter on each side of the facade.

Interior:

Downstairs (Past): large side hall, diningroom, livingroom, and large back kitchen.

(Pres): livingroom, kitchen, and hall which was used as dining area as well as hall.

The spacious interior suggests a house not of log, but perhaps of brick.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input 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 Late 1700's

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although concealed, the logs of this house are in exceptionally good shape, as is evident in the attic and cellar. In these two areas, the log-mortar/fieldstone alternating structure which is left exposed can be seen also. It was built simply, but with great pains to establish strength, comfort, and durability.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

North/south side of Route 97, south of Tyrone.

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Fredi Eckhardt/Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Carroll County Committee of the
Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

August 16, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

210 East Main Street

TELEPHONE

848-6494

CITY OR TOWN

Westminster

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

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

CONTINUATION SHEET

Kreit House
Carroll County

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The side hall is very spacious. The open-string stairs has a plain round newel with plain square baluster and handrail. It is an open well of two flights with one landing, two decorative turned pendants drip from front frieze of landing. Windows have architrave trim downstairs and plain wood trim upstairs. Walls are now covered with plaster boards, some with peeling paper. Ceilings are 9-10'.

Entrance between rooms and hallway were simply panelled doors, but they are now semi-elliptical arches which were cut into the walls. They make a more gracious appearance. Heat throughout the house has been added, and there are no signs of covered fireplaces or removed chimneys. Outbuildings are barn buildings that have been worked on over the years. The springhouse is nonexistent as the spring has dried up.



CARR. - 163

Kreit Farmhouse

August/18

J.P.E.



CARR. - 163

Kreit Farmhouse

August 178

J.P.E.