

KUHN-WAMPLER HOUSE

40 COURT PLACE

Although now in a fairly advance state of disrepair, the c. 1865 Wampler House presents many features that make one imagine how well this building must have originally reflected the best features of Westminster's architecture. Resting on a low coursed fieldstone foundation, the west facade looks out to Court Square. The houses' usual three-bay L-shape is created by two perpendicular sections, each of which has a gable roof. The west (principal) facade has its entrance door as the southern ground-story bay. The door rests above three wooden steps, and is an enriched door surrounded by a three light transom and side lights. Smooth pilasters flank the door and support a full denticulated entablature which is supported, in turn, by scroll brackets with delicately carved applique at their bases. The other five bays of this facade are 6/6 windows placed three on the second floor, two on the ground floor, on a regular manner. All windows have grey louvered shutters and wooden sills; those on the ground floor have small, two-part, bracketed entablatures over them. The roof meets the wall by means of simple two-part entablature; this is supported by four scroll brackets placed alternately with the windows. The black tin roof is pierced to the north by a corbel-capped chimney flush with the north wall a few feet west of the roof's ridge.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Kuhn-Wampler House
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 40 Court Place
CITY, TOWN Westminster VICINITY OF _____ CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 7
STATE Maryland COUNTY Carroll

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" 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 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 Mary E. Wampler Telephone #: _____
STREET & NUMBER _____
CITY, TOWN _____ VICINITY OF _____ STATE, zip code _____

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Carroll County Office Building Liber #: 141
Folio #: 363
STREET & NUMBER Center Street
CITY, TOWN Westminster STATE Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE None
DATE _____
____FEDERAL ____STATE ____COUNTY ____LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS _____
CITY, TOWN _____ STATE _____

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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

Although now in a fairly advanced state of disrepair, the Wampler House presents many features that make one imagine how well this building must have originally reflected the best features of Westminster's architecture. Resting on a low coursed fieldstone foundation, the west facade looks out to Court Square. The houses' usual three-bay L-shape is created by two perpendicular sections, each of which has a gable roof. The west (principal) facade has its entrance door as the southern ground-story bay. The door rests above three wooden steps, and is an enriched door surrounded by a three-light transom and side lights. Smooth pilasters flank the door and support a full denticulated entablature which is supported, in turn, by scroll brackets with delicately carved applique at their bases.

The other five bays of this facade are 6/6 windows placed three on the second floor, two on the ground floor, on a regular manner. All windows have grey louvered shutters and wooden sills; those on the ground floor have small, two-part, bracketed entablatures over them. The roof meets the wall by means of a simple two-part entablature; this is supported by four scroll brackets placed alternately with the windows. The black tin roof is pierced to the north by a corbel-capped chimney flush with the north wall a few feet west of the roof's ridge.

The north front of the building displays the two sections; in the western (main) section are two 6/6 windows placed to the east; in the L there is one 6/6 window centrally placed on each floor. The bracketed cornice runs around this side of the building. There is one 6/1 window to the west of the south facade and a 6/6 window in that facade's gable end which matches the other attic window. The rest of the south facade, that along the L, is shaded by a shed-roofed, two-tiered porch. There are two 4-panel doors to the east on each floor of the porch with a 6/6 window to their east. The porch retains, in its shabby condition, traces of the posts that supported the porch and the very simple railings that ran between them. Ground-story posts were also enlivened by narrow bands of arched wood at their tops uniting the tops in a scalloped way. The east facade of the L is blind with a corbel-capped chimney at the center of the roof's peak and with a ground-story entrance through the stone foundation to the cellar. This is a ruinous condition; it isn't possible to tell whether it was originally a bulkhead entrance or whether it had always been thus exposed. The building has been condemned and there is no way to get inside; one assumes that the floor plan is typical of the area, that is, hall and parlor type.

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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" 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 c. 1865 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although in a rather advanced state of deterioration, the Kuhn-Wampler House has an air of pride even in neglect. More importantly, of all the houses that make up the area around Court Square, an area that presents a very serene, shaded appearance, the Kuhn-Wampler House is probably the most typical of the City. That is to say, this house probably more closely follows the local vernacular building patterns than does, for example, the Roberts-Adams House a few feet away, or than does the Ascension Church or its former Rectory, or....This is so, possibly because the area's being a showplace for the City, would attract people who wished to build splendidly, and make strong individual impressions. This must not have been true with Charles N. Kuhn who bought this lot on December 8, 1865, from Lydia Kelly for \$440.00 (Carroll County Deed Book 32/409). Kuhn apparently wished to build a more modest house, a house following local building patterns, rather than those of large homes built as residences for professional men, or as summer houses.

As an example of local building styles, the house is possibly unrivaled. It possesses the well-spaced, three-bay, main facade; two perpendicular gable-roofed sections; the side porch, and so on. Its neighboring house, built by Lydia Kelly about the same time, may have once been similar, but it has recently been severely altered; William B. O'Neal once remarked that "poverty is the best preservationist"; the comment that would find support in this case. The Kuhn family lived in the house for 60 years, until Estelle Kuhn sold to the present owner on March 16, 1923.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Being a lot on the east side of Court Square in Westminster measuring approximately 46 feet by 172 feet and bounded by the land of T. Bryan McIntire to the south the land of Charles O. Fisher, Sr. to the north, by Court Place to the west, and by Ralph Street extended to the east.

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Christopher Weeks, Consultant

August, 1977

ORGANIZATION

Westminster Historical Sites Survey

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

c/o City Hall - Public Works Department

TELEPHONE

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



CARR 468

44 N. CDW ST

Westminster

SW facade

5/77 C. Wechs

63 1/2



639
0

J-C

CARR 468

44 N. Court St.

Westminster

W. Jacade

5/77 C. Wachs