

CHAS-344  
CARRICO BUILDING  
La Plata  
Private

circa 1915

Built circa 1915 by P. Reed Wills and referred to in a survey of 1919 as the "New Wills Hotel", the Carrico Building, renamed for its present owners, is the most physically prominent and least altered of the few early commercial structures remaining in La Plata. A large frame building, three-storys in height beneath a hipped roof, it has a two-story, three sided bay window centered on the front above a one-story veranda with block and turned posts and decorative brackets. Two-story rear wings, one of which housed the kitchen and service rooms during its use as a hotel, give the building a "U"-shaped plan. Changes to the building have been minimal, largely confined to the front first floor rooms now used as offices. The woodwork is of heavy, late-Victorian styling.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CHAS-344

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY *MAOI #0408945725*

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

THE CARRICO BUILDING

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

South side of Charles Street (Md. Rte. 6)

CITY, TOWN

La Plata

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Charles

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. Eleanor & Mr. Thomas C. Carrico Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

C/O Thomas C. Carrico, The Carrico Building

CITY, TOWN

La Plata

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20646

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

|  |                                       |   |   |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>CONDITION</b>                         |                                       | <b>CHECK ONE</b>                              | <b>CHECK ONE</b>                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT       | <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED    |   |   |

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Situated directly across the street from the La Plata Courthouse, the Carrico Building is the most physically prominent of La Plata's few remaining early buildings. Built as a hotel, the main block of the building is three-story high beneath a hipped roof. The principal, north elevation is seven bays in width, the center bay occupied by a two-story, three sided bay cantilevered over the front door but visually supported by a one-story porch extending across the front and both ends of the building. The east end of the main block is four bays deep with transomed doors occupying the two center bays. There are three windows at each of the floor levels above. The west end is three bays wide on all three levels. The porch has block and turned posts, a wood platform and modest jig-sawn brackets, the last also used to decorate the eave cornice of the roof. The main entrance door, with over and side lights, occupies the center first floor bay. On the front slope of the roof is a large cross gable with a diamond shaped four pane window. At each end of the main roof is a hipped roof dormer.

Extending out from the rear wall and set back from the ends of the main block are two, two-story wings that give the building its "U"-shaped plan. Both are three bays wide at the first floor and four bays wide at the second. Doors occupy the center bay of the southeast wing and the third bay from the south end of the southwest wing. The southwest wing originally functioned as a kitchen at the first floor level and has a large interior chimney at the south end. Both have shed roofed extensions on their inside back walls. The windows of the wings frame sash of 6-over-6 panes while those of the main block are of 2-over-2 panes. The whole of the building is sheathed on the exterior with German (novelty) siding.

The interior of the Carrico Building remains essentially unaltered except for some minor conversions necessitated by its present use as professional offices on the first floor. A stair rises to the third floor from the south end of the center hall. The second and third floors had been partitioned into rooms of various sizes, some with communal doors to provide private suites. All of the woodwork is of a type characteristic of the buildings use and age.

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 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built circa 1915 by P. Reed Wills and referred to in a survey of 1919 as the "New Wills Hotel", the Carrico Building, renamed for its present owners, is the most physically prominent and least altered of the few early commercial structures remaining in La Plata. A large frame building, three-storys in height beneath a hipped roof, it has a two-story, three sided bay window centered on the front above a one-story veranda with block and turned posts and decorative brackets. Two-story rear wings, one of which housed the kitchen and service rooms during its use as a hotel, give the building a "U"-shaped plan. Changes to the building have been minimal, largely confined to the front first floor rooms now used as offices. The woodwork is of heavy, late-Victorian styling.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

| STATE | COUNTY |
|-------|--------|
|       |        |
|       |        |

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

J. Richard Rivoire, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Charles County Planning Department

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Charles County Courthouse

TELEPHONE

645-6537

CITY OR TOWN

La Plata

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

|  |
|--|
| Property Address 303 Charles Street, La Plata, Charles County                |
| Owner Name/Address Carrico Building, Inc., P.O. Box 1684, La Plata, MD 20646 |
| Year Built circa 1915  |

**Description:**

The Carrico Building was previously surveyed by the Charles County Planning Department; the date of the survey is unknown. Since the time of the survey, there have been no changes to the property. There is one building associated with the property which was not mentioned in the previous survey. The building is a 3-bay, 1-story office with an asphalt shingle, hipped-roof. Constructed circa 1950, the building has 6/1 windows and a 4-light wood door. The office is located a short distance south of the Carrico Building.

**National Register Evaluation:**

The Carrico Building, constructed circa 1915, was previously surveyed by the Charles County Planning Department; the date of the survey is unknown. The property is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C, as an intact example of a early twentieth century hotel with Folk Victorian detailing, including turned porch posts and jigsaw-cut brackets. The building has had minimal alterations, and is one of the few remaining historic buildings in downtown La Plata. The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. Finally, the structure has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, is not eligible under Criterion D.

**Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:**

The National Register boundaries of the Carrico Building follow the current property lines of 303 Charles Street (Charles County Tax Map 113, Parcel 96). This 0.38 hectare (0.94 acre) parcel is bounded on the north by Charles Street, on the west by St. Mary's Avenue, and on the east and south by an alley. The boundary includes the hotel and non-contributing office building, and is the parcel historically associated with the hotel.

|   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <b>MHT CONCURRENCE:</b>                   |   |  |  |
| Eligibility                               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> recommended | <input type="checkbox"/> not recommended |  |
| Criteria                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> A                      | <input type="checkbox"/> B               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D   |
| Considerations                            | <input type="checkbox"/> A                      | <input type="checkbox"/> B               | <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None |
| Comments:                                 |   |  |  |
|   |   |  |  |
|   |   |  |  |
|   |   |  |  |
| Suzanne Pickens                           | 07/21/1997                                      | <i>B. Kuntz</i>                          | 4/4/01   |
| Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services | Date  | Reviewer, NS program                     | Date   |

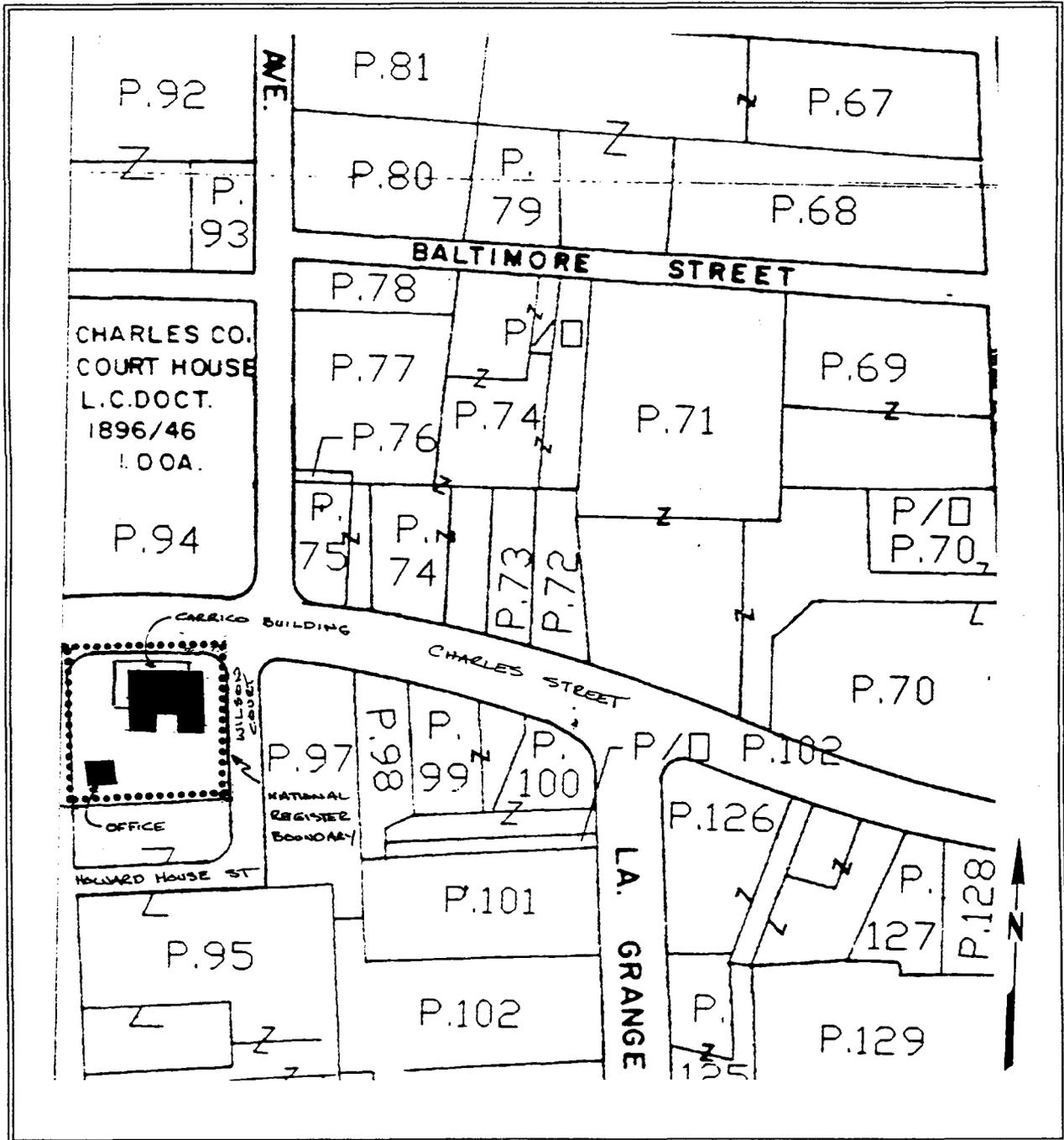
**Preparer:**  
**P.A.C. Spero & Company**  
**September 1996**

Property Address 303 Charles Street, La Plata, Charles County

Owner Name/Address Carrico Building, Inc., P.O. Box 1684, La Plata, MD 20646

Year Built circa 1915

Resource Sketch Map and National Register Boundary Map:



U.S. 301 South Corridor  
Transportation Study  
Survey # CH344  
Property Name CARRICO BUILDING  
Town/County LA PLATA/Charles Co.  
Quadrangle La Plata



CH-344



CH-344





CHAS-344

CARRICO BUILDING

View From SW JRRivoire, 1978



CHAS-344

CARRICO BUILDING

View From NW JRRivoire, 1978