CH-737

George Purcell House

**Architectural Survey File**

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

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*Last Updated: 12-18-2012*
George Purcell House
CH-737
Popes Creek
Private

Constructed in 1935, the George Purcell House is an altered 2-story frame dwelling with a 3-bay side-passage plan. The house faces west, includes an original 2-story rear service wing and hipped roof front porch. Principle adornment includes a characteristic cross-gable. In the mid-1930's George and Bertha Purcell obtained a mortgage from the Southern Maryland National Bank for a 10 acre parcel subdivided from Marshall’s Rest (CH-140). In the 1950's it was owned by members of the Drinks family. The George Purcell House is an example of the typical farmhouses constructed in Charles County before World War II.
Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CH-737

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)
   historic George Purcell House
   other

2. Location
   street and number 11680 Edge Hill Road
   city, town Popes Creek
   county Charles

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)
   name John and Pearl Fraser
   street and number 11680 Edge Hill Road
   city, town Newburg
   telephone 301-259-2367
   state MD
   zip code 20664-2113

4. Location of Legal Description
   courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charles County Courthouse
   tax map and parcel: 79 p.65
   city, town LaPlata, MD
   liber 844 folio 252

5. Primary Location of Additional Data
   Contributing Resource in National Register District
   Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
   Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
   Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
   Recorded by HABS/HAER
   Historic Structure Report or Research Report
   Other

6. Classification
   Category district
   building(s) X
   structure
   site
   object
   Ownership public
   private
   both
   Current Function agriculture
   commerce/trade
   defense
   X domestic
   education
   funerary
   government
   health care
   industry
   landscape
   recreation/culture
   religion
   social
   transportation
   work in progress
   unknown
   vacant/not in use
   other:
   Resource Count Contributing 3
   Noncontributing buildings
   sites
   structures
   objects
   Total
   Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory 0
7. Description

Inventory No. CH-737

Condition

- excellent
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The George Purcell House, constructed in 1935, is an altered two story frame dwelling, with a three bay, side passage plan. The house faces west and includes an original two story service wing extending from the east elevation. A one story shed addition is attached to the rear and a late 20th century gable roof addition is found on the north gable elevation. The façade of the main block is adorned with a characteristic center decorative gable with window and a full width porch. The dwelling is set slightly back from Edge Hill Road. A garage and small barn also share the site.

The house has been entirely reclad in contemporary materials including vinyl siding and replacement windows. It has a concrete block foundation and an asphalt shingle roof. Several windows have been added to the original design including one on the second story gable and two vertical 4-light windows on the first floor gable wall. The stair has also been re-aligned.
## 8. Significance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Areas of Significance</th>
<th>Check and justify below</th>
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<td>1600-1699</td>
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<td>economics</td>
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<td></td>
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</table>

Specific dates 1935

Construction dates 1935

Evaluation for:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>National Register</th>
<th>Maryland Register</th>
<th>X not evaluated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

The George Purcell House is an altered example of a typical farmhouse constructed in Charles County before World War II. Modest in scale and ornamentation, the two story single-pile L-plan includes the regionally popular side passage plan where the entrance passage and stair are nestled at the gable end. In 1936, George and Bertha Purcell obtained a mortgage from the Southern Maryland National Bank for a 10 parcel which was a subdivision of Marshall's Rest (CH-140). The Purcell's sold the property to Lester and Joyce Drinks in 1955. Over the next fifteen years the property exchanged hands several times before being purchased by Louis and Cecile Maurin in 1970, who undertook extensive renovations and additions to the existing structure. In 1972, the property was acquired by its present owners.
9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 10
Acreage of historical setting 10
Quadrangle name Popes Creek
Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The George Purcell House is associated with Charles County Property Tax Map 79, Parcel 65.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cathy Hardy/Historic Sites Surveyor
organization Charles County Planning
dat 4/10/2002
street and number 200 Baltimore Street
telephone 301-396-5815
city or town LaPlata
stat MD
zip code 20646

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600
CH-737
GEORGE PURCELL HOUSE
CHARLES CO, MD
C. HARDY
1/2002
MD STATES
LOOKING E
LOF3
CA-737
GEORGE PURCELL HOUSE
CHARLES CO, MD
C. HARDY
1/2002
MD SUPD
LOOKING SW
3 OF 3