

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

pg.:
Survey No. 66-37-40
Magi No.
DOE ___ yes ___ no

Maryland Historic Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)
 historic The Eddy House
 and/or common

2. Location
 Street & number: 4809 Harvard Road x not for publication
 City, town: The City of College Park ___ vicinity of 5th Cong. District
 State: Maryland County Prince George's County

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	x occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
x building(s)	x private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	x private residence
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	x yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	x not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

1. Owner of Property (give names and mailing address of all owners)
 Name: Margaret Eddy
 Street & number: 4809 Harvard Road Telephone no
 City, town: The City of College Park State & zip code: Maryland, 20740

5. Location of Legal Description
 Courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: Located in Marlborough, MD Liber
 Street & number folio
 City, town State

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys: None
 Title
 Date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local
 Depository for survey records
 City, town State

7. Description

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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 of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

As the original owners of the 4809 Harvard Road house, which was built in ca. 1940, Mr. Russell Eddy and Mrs. Margaret Eddy moved into the house on June 4, 1941. The house was constructed of double-brick walls and real plaster, known as wet-wall plaster. The house was floored with maple, and remains in good condition today. From the front side of the house, the front door is situated behind a porch that is located close to the right side of the house. Walking through the front door leads one to the living room, with the kitchen off to the left. Mrs. Eddy added a dining room with a bay window to the front of her kitchen. This small dining room addition is the only major structural change that the house has undergone. Behind the living room is a small hallway, which has stairs on its immediate right that lead down to the basement. To the back right of the hall is a small bedroom with a full bathroom to the left of the bedroom. Accessed by the hallway, the master bedroom resides in the back of the house to the far-left.

The basement is a large finished-off space in which the stairs leading down to the basement separate the space into two parts. A small room resides in the back left-hand corner of the basement that was once a working bathroom with a sink and toilet.

The upstairs or second floor was built as a large attic space, but Mrs. Eddy has installed sheet-rocking in the middle of the space in order to create two fairly spacious bedrooms. To access the second floor, one must climb the staircase located in the back right corner of the living room.

Viewing the first floor of the house from the front yard, the house has one original window on its front as well as two original windows on both its right and left sides. There additionally exists the new bay window on the front of the house to the far left. Furthermore, the small bedroom and the master bedroom on the first floor each have windows that face the back yard. The attic has a window looking to the front yard and another looking to the back yard of the house.

The house has no chimney and very little closet space.

8. Significance

PG:
Survey No. 66-37-40

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 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:

Check:

Applicable Criteria:

A B C D

Applicable Exception:

A B C D E F G

Level of Significance:

National State Local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Mrs. Margaret Eddy's house located on 4809 Harvard Road was built in ca. 1940 as part of a five-house development scheme. As the original owners, Mrs. Eddy indicates that she and her husband, who has since passed away, purchased their house for approximately \$5,000. Located adjacent to one another, each of the houses in the five-house development plan were built between 1938 and 1940 after Elmore Powers sold part of his land for development. The area was then known as the Elmore Powers Subdivision. All five of the houses were erected by the same vernacular builder, and all were constructed based upon the same design plan. Though small-sized homes, each of the five houses have front and back yards. Each lot is approximately one quarter of an acre large.

Regarding the integrity of the 4809 Harvard Road house, the house's integrity may have been jeopardized by the construction of its new dining room area and bay window. However, the 4804 Harvard Road house, located across the street from Mrs. Eddy's 4809 Harvard Road house and also part of the five-house development scheme, remains in its original form. Therefore, the 4804 Harvard Road house could act as a design guide to the 4809 Harvard Road house if a restoration ever transpired.

The 4809 Harvard Road house maintains local significance not as an individual resource, but as part of the five-house development plan. Together the five houses reveal a smaller house building trend that grew out of the legacy of the Great Depression. The five-house plan is also an example of lower middle-class suburban development immediately preceding the suburban building boom that occurred after World War Two. As Kenneth Jackson has explained, between 1929 and 1933 there was very little suburban development, so the five-house development scheme on Harvard Road was part of a new phase in suburban development. As described by Virginia and Lee McAlester, "minimal traditional" homes, the category that the 4809 Harvard Road house falls under, sprouted as part of large tract-housing developments during the years immediately preceding and following World War Two. The McAlesters also note that "with the economic Depression of the 1930s came this compromise style which reflects the form of traditional Eclectic houses, but lacks their decorative detailing." (p. 478) The houses are also representative of the "simpler" house design and the so-called Comfortable House design, as opposed to the Victorian house design, that were both first popularized at the beginning of the twentieth century.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Alester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984.
 Clark, Clifford Edward. *The American Family Home: 1800-1900*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1986.
 Jackson, Kenneth. *Crabgrass Frontier: The Suburbanization of the United States*. NY: Oxford University Press, 1985.
 Gowans, Alan. *The Comfortable House: North American Suburban Architecture, 1890-1930*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1986.
 Brooke Orr's personal interview with Margaret Eddy, March 8, 1998.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property: approximately one quarter of an acre
 Quadrangle Scale _____ Quadrangle Scale _____
 UTM References: (do not complete UTM references)

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

State	Code	County	Code
State	Code	County	Code

11. Form Prepared By

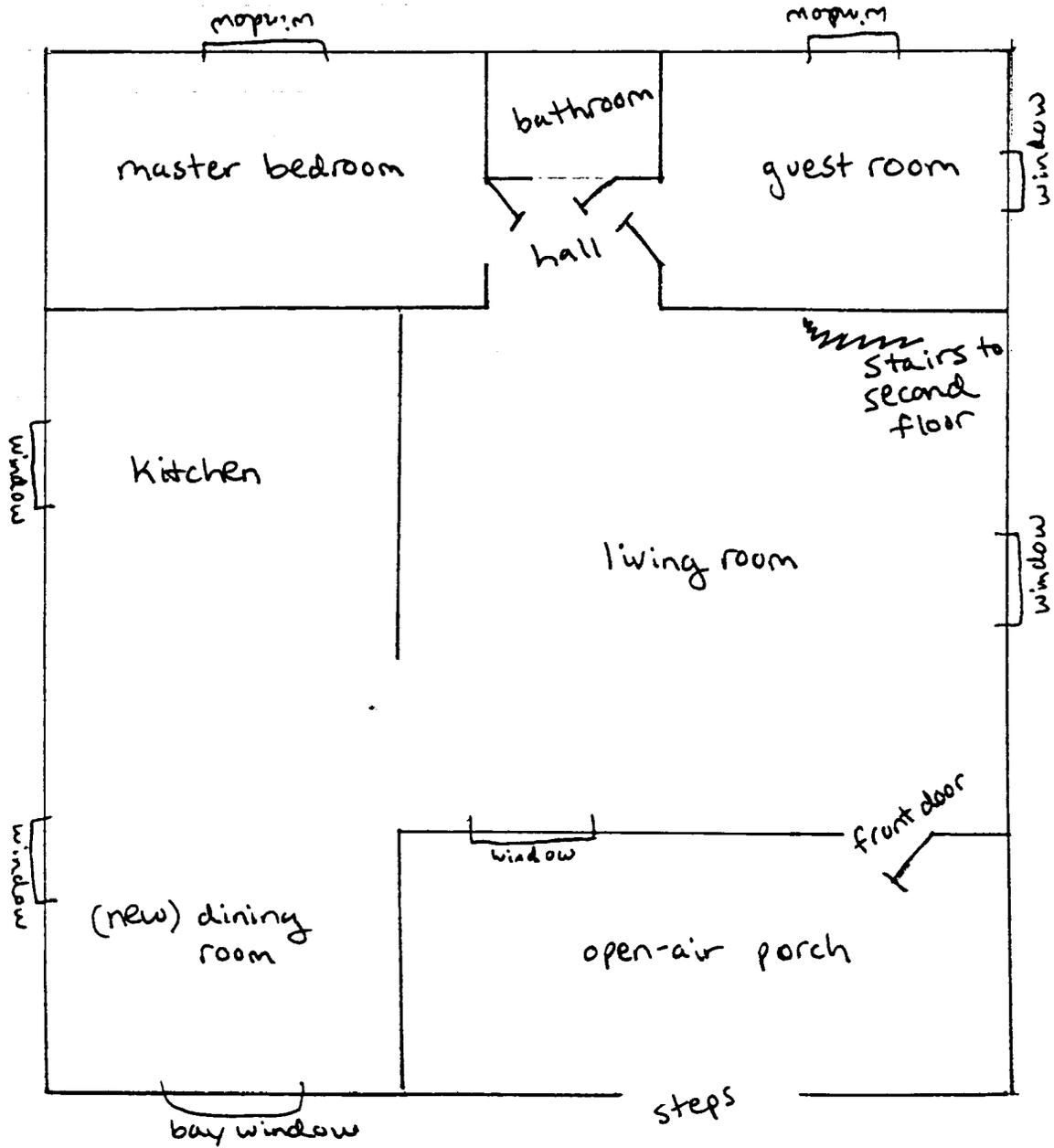
Name/Title: Brooke Orr, Graduate Student at The George Washington University
 Organization: GWU's Historic Preservation Class, History 278 Date: 3-23-98
 Street & Number: 1921 Kalorama Road, N.W. Telephone: 202-319-3156
 City/Town: Washington, D.C. State: DC

The Maryland Historical 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 prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights

Return to: Maryland Historical Trust
 Shaw House
 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, MD
 21401
 (301) 269-2438

back yard



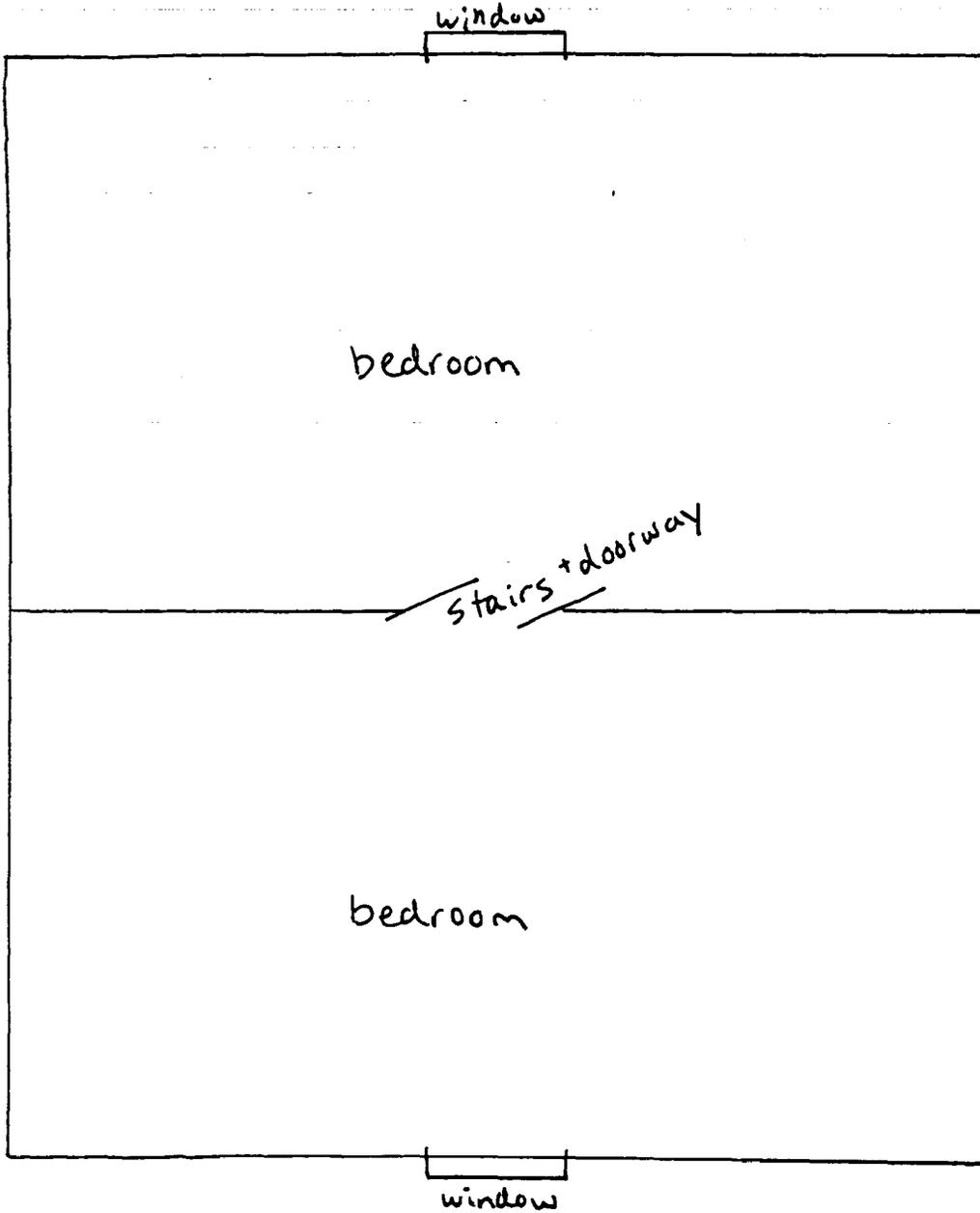
front yard

← street →

4809 Harvard Road
Second Floor

PG: 66-37-40

back yard



front yard

← street →

4809 Harvard Road

PG: 66-37-40

