

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

PG: 68-59

HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey: PG# 68-13-59 Building Date: 1904

Building Name: Richards House

Location: 3806 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Mount Rainier

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description

The Richards House is a two-and-one-half-story, cross-gabled frame dwelling with a T-shape plan. Entry is in the first bay of the three-bay east gable front. The deeply overhanging cornice is boxed and returned on the east gable front, enclosing a large rectangular louvered opening centered at loft level. A one-story porch shelters the east facade and wraps around the north and south elevations. This porch is supported by tapered Tuscan columns. The house is sided with white synthetic shingle, and the gable roof is covered with gray roofing shingle. Windows are 1/1 double-hung-sash with plain board surrounds. The main block of the house is three bays deep, and is attached at right angles to a cross-gabled rear section. The north and south gable ends of the rear section repeat the same deeply overhanging cornice as the main block: returned on the south, and fully pedimented on the north. Beneath the north pediment of the rear section is a two-story projecting semi-octagonal bay. The house is located on a corner lot planted with mature holly, magnolia and evergreen trees.

Significance

The Richards House is significant as a large, turn-of-the-twentieth-century vernacular dwelling with Victorian and Colonial Revival decorative elements. It is one of a grouping of two-story suburban homes constructed in the first decade of the twentieth century in the newly platted street-car suburb of Mount Rainier. The house was constructed shortly after 1904, when Nicholas and Annie L. Herfurth purchased Lots 16 and 17 in Samuel W. Pickford's resubdivision of Lots 14 and 15 of the Kibbey Subdivision of Granby Farm. Herfurth, listed as a carpenter and house builder in the 1910 Federal census, probably constructed the house. After one other owner, the property passed to the Richards family in 1934, members of whom resided in the house until 1995. The Richards House is a community landmark because of its large size and corner location on the major east-west thoroughfare, making it a handsome and visually prominent community landmark.

Acreage: 12,103 square feet

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Magi No.  
DOE   yes   no

## 1. Name (Indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Richards House

## 2. Location

street & number 3806 30th Street

city, town Mt. Rainier   vicinity of   congregational district   5  

state Maryland county Prince George's

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture	<u>  </u> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial	<u>  </u> park
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<u>  </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u>  </u> entertainment	<u>  </u> religious
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>  </u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government	<u>  </u> scientific
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial	<u>  </u> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<u>  </u> military	<u>  </u> other

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Gregory and Mary Welter

street & number 3806 30th Street telephone no.   

city, town Mt. Rainier state MD zip code 20712

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Court House liber 10317

street & number Main Street folio 624

city, town Upper Marlboro state MD zip code 20772

## 6. Representation in Existing

title Historic Sites and Districts Plan

date 1992    federal    state  county    local

depository for survey records M-NCPPC, Planning & Preservation Section

City, town 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Dr, state Maryland  
Upper Marlboro

7. Description

Survey No. 68-13-59

Condition		Check One	Check One
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input 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		

Prepare both a summary and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today

The Richards house in Mount Rainier is a two-story cross-gabled, frame dwelling with a T-shaped floor plan. It is distinguished by its wraparound porch, deeply overhanging eaves, and projecting pedimented bay, as well as its prominent corner location, on a lot with mature holly, magnolia and evergreen trees.

The principal entry is in the first bay of the three-bay east gable front, through a door with a large rectangular glazed panel. The gable front is two-and-one-half stories, with returned boxed cornice and deeply overhanging eaves. A one-story porch shelters the entrance, and wraps around part of both the north and south elevations (the south section has been enclosed). The porch roof is supported by slim Tuscan columns, and its roof has a plain frieze and boxed cornice; the wooden porch floor is set on low concrete block piers. Above the porch and the three-bay second-story, the deeply overhanging cornices are returned, enclosing a rectangular louvered window in the upper gable.

Windows in the house are 1/1 double-hung sash with plain board surrounds. Original wood siding has been covered with synthetic shingle painted white. The roof is covered with gray shingle. The house rests on a concrete foundation which encloses a basement. One brick chimney rises from the ridge of the principal roof (the stem of the T). This principal (easterly) section of the house is an irregular three bays long. The westerly (rear) section of the house is a crossgable at right angles to the main section, flush with this main section on the south, but projecting to the north.

The long north elevation of the house is fully visible from the side street upon which it fronts, and offers most of the interesting Victorian detail of the house. This north elevation is dominated by the wraparound porch, which shelters the three easternmost bays of the main section of the house, and the two-story semi-octagonal projecting bay which comprises most of the crossgable. This semi-octagonal bay is surmounted by a full pediment with the same deeply overhanging molded cornice; enclosed within the pediment is a small double-hung-sash window. The fourth bay of the north crossgable is a recessed entry on the first story approached by a flight of concrete steps. Two windows in the north foundation light the basement.

The south elevation is not visible from either street, but only from the yard to south and west. This elevation is irregularly fenestrated. The westerly three bays make up the crossgable, which, as noted above, is flush with the south elevation of the main section. The crossgable on the south is not pedimented as it is in the corresponding place on the north; its deeply overhanging cornices are returned, enclosing a double-hung-sash window. The first-story opening in the first bay is recessed, forming a small corner porch, approached by a flight of wooden steps, that leads into the kitchen space. This porch is approximately six feet above ground level, because the land on which the house stands slopes away to the west. The easterly section of the south elevation is dominated by the enclosed section of the one-story wraparound porch which now forms a sunroom.

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**State of Significance (continued)**

**Section 7 Page 2**

The west, rear elevation is three bays wide, fully shaded by a row of tall evergreens. The foundation in this section is approximately six feet high. Extending to the west is a small, shed-roof one-car garage space of concrete.

Interior of the house features a side stairhall on the south, and two parlors on the north; the kitchen space and additional space is in the western (rear) part of the house. The main entry leads into a small vestibule, with an interior door of five panels surmounted by a rectangular transom. On each side, an elaborate archway leads out of the stairhall: south into the sunroom and north into the living room. The archways have flanking paneled half-walls which serve as the bases of two elaborately fluted Ionic columns which in turn support a wide inset frieze with applied floral and ribbon swags. Substantial scrolled brackets with applied floral decorative detail complete the sides of the frieze. The whole archway is surmounted by a wide classical cornice with projecting molding.

The open-string stair rises to the west along the south wall of the stairhall, directly to the second story. It has turned balusters, and a heavy square newel with molded panels and spherical cap. Along the side of the staircase, the hall leads west into the kitchen, and a door beneath the stair leads to the basement.

The baseboards throughout the first and second floors have crown and base moldings. The door and window surrounds, also repeated on first and second stories, have a center half-round flanked by inner and outer backbands, and bull's-eye corner blocks. The northeast living room has a mantel on the north wall which is purely decorative, as there is no chimney to serve it. The mantel has Tuscan columns on base blocks supporting a high over-mantel shelf; a beveled oval mirror is centered in the over-mantel. Brackets support the mantel shelf above the rectangular firebox opening, which is infilled with white tile. A large rectangular opening in the west wall of this room leads into the dining room.

The rear (west) cross-gable section of the house contains a bedroom on the north and kitchen on the south. The bedroom is reached from the northwest corner of the dining room. It is located in the semi-octagonal projecting bay and has an entry onto the north section of the wraparound porch.

The second story has five bedrooms opening from a "T" shaped hallway. The two east rooms originally formed one large bedroom that was subdivided during the period when the house was adapted into several apartments. The flooring is regular width, narrow hardwood. A secondary west staircase runs from a rear hallway on the first story to the second story, and then to the attic. The enclosed stair to the attic has a turned newel on a high rectangular base and a spherical cap. The attic has two small finished rooms as well as an unfinished space running the length of the house from east to west. The house is set close to the street on its north and east sides. The south yard is planted with mature hollies, magnolias, evergreens, bushes and flowers. The same family lived here for 50 years and carefully maintained the house and grounds. West of the house, a short driveway leads from Bunker Hill Road to a three-car, shed-roof, metal garage that dates to the 1930s.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. 68-13-59

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"/> archaeology-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 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		Local history

**Specific Dates 1904** **Builder/Architect**

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check: Applicable Criteria  A  B  C  D

and/or

Applicable Exception  A  B  C  D

Level of Significance  national  state  local

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

The Richards House is a large, turn-of-the-twentieth-century vernacular dwelling with Victorian and Colonial Revival stylistic elements. It is one of the group of two-story suburban homes with Victorian stylistic elements constructed in the first decade of the twentieth century in the newly platted streetcar suburb of Mount Rainier. Because of its large size and corner location on an important thoroughfare, it is a visually prominent community landmark.

Subdivision of the land which would become the town of Mount Rainier began in the early 1890s, and a streetcar line connecting this area with downtown Washington began operation in 1897. Between 1900 and 1910, eight subdivisions containing a total of 248 acres were platted, and sales and construction activity began. Middle-class families began to settle in the community, building modest houses and using the streetcar line for easy access to and from the city. Mount Rainier was incorporated in 1910.

One of the early subdivisions, immediately adjacent to the boundary of the District of Columbia, was known as Samuel W. Pickford's Resubdivision of Lots 14 and 15 of the Kibbey Subdivision of Granby Farm. This subdivision was platted in 1904, and among the first buyers were Nicholas and Annie L. Herfurth; they purchased Lots 16 and 17 in this new subdivision, and must have begun construction of the subject house very soon thereafter.<sup>1</sup> The Herfurths were assessed for a \$950 improvement on their two lots in 1906. Nicholas Herfurth was listed as a carpenter and housebuilder in the U. S. Census of 1910, and may have been the actual builder of his house.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Prince George's County Deed #19:368 & 370; Prince George's County Plat JWB#5:681.

<sup>2</sup>Prince George's County Tax Assessment Records, Election District 16, 1906.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST**  
**STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM**  
**State of Significance (continued)**

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**Section 8 Page** 2

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The property was purchased by Hattie Wager Little in 1913 and run as a rooming house during the First World War.<sup>3</sup> After default on a mortgage the property was sold to the Richards family in 1934.<sup>4</sup> Except for a five-year period, 1945-1950, members of the Richards family resided in this house for more than 60 years. The property passed out of Richards family ownership after the death of Eleanor Richards in 1995.<sup>5</sup>

The Richards House is an good example of a turn-of-the-century suburban dwelling. It is in near original condition except for the application of synthetic shingle over the original wood siding, and the removal of louvered shutters from the windows. Noteworthy exterior details include the pediment surmounting the two-story semi-octagonal bay on the north, and the wraparound porch with its Tuscan columns. The east and south gable ends have pronounced cornice returns. The most noteworthy interior detail is the double arched entryway leading from the stairhall into the adjoining parlor and sunroom. Other traditional period details include the features of the main staircase, and the door and window moldings.

The metal garage to the west of the house is an interesting example of early (1930s) prefabricated metal buildings.

The Richards House is significant as a large, turn-of-the-twentieth-century vernacular dwelling with Victorian and Colonial Revival stylistic elements. It is one of the grouping of two-story suburban homes with Victorian stylistic elements constructed in the first decade of the twentieth century in the newly platted streetcar suburb of Mount Rainier, and one of few substantial houses of this type in its immediate neighborhood. The Richards House stands at the corner of 30<sup>th</sup> Street and Bunker Hill Road, the latter being the major east-west street bisecting the residential area and connecting with the boundary between Prince George's County and the District of Columbia. Because of its large size and corner location on an important thoroughfare, this handsome house is a visually prominent community landmark.

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<sup>3</sup> Prince George's County Deed #88:52; and interview with Eleanor Richards, March 1988.

<sup>4</sup> Prince George's County Deed #419:371.

<sup>5</sup> Prince George's County Deed #10317:624

### 9. Major Biographical

Survey No. ~~68-13-59~~

See notes, Item 8

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 12,103 square feet

Tax Map 49, Block 10 lots 16, 17 (Pickford Resubdivision)

Quadrangle name Washington East

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	<b>Zone</b>	<b>Easting</b>	<b>Northing</b>		<b>Zone</b>	<b>Easting</b>	<b>Northing</b>
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

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 Susan G. Pearl, Marina King, Architectural Historians

organization PGC Historic Preservation Comm

date November 1988, August 2000

street & number 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive

telephone 301-952-3521

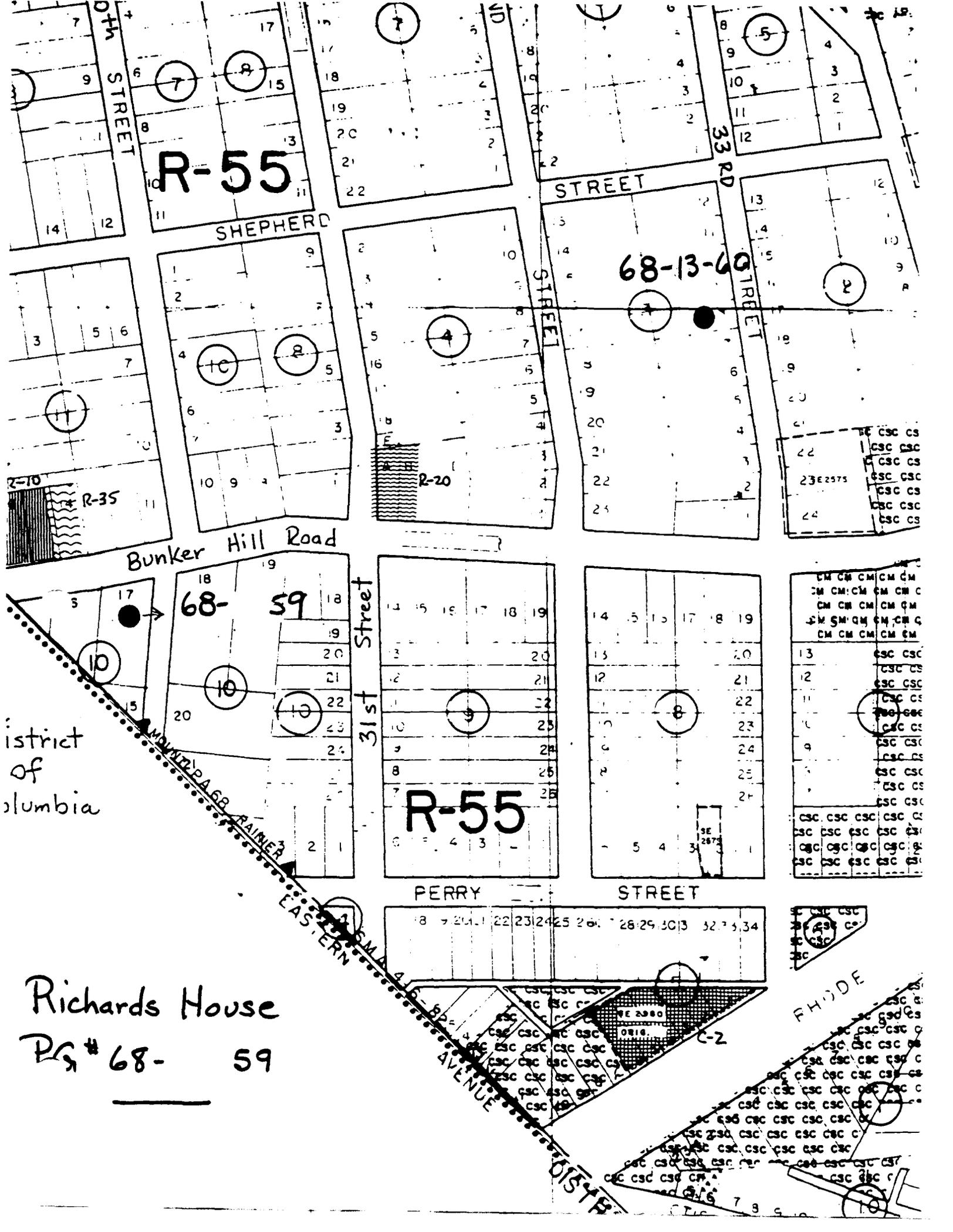
city or town Upper Marlboro

state MD

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, I 974 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  
Shaw house  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, MD 21401



R-55

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Richards House  
Pg # 68- 59

istrict of  
olumbia



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JEFFERSON MEMORIAL 4.1 MI

Washington East

KENILWORT-

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #68- 59 Building Date: 1904

Building Name: Richards House

Location: 3806 30th Street, Mt. Rainier

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description

The Richards house in Mt. Rainier is a two story cross-gable, frame dwelling with a "T" shaped plan. A one-story, flat roof porch crosses the east (main) facade and wraps around the north and south elevations. The house is located on a corner lot planted with mature holly, magnolia and evergreen trees. The three bay east (main) facade is a front-gable with a returned boxed cornice and deeply overhanging eaves. Entry is in the first bay. Windows are 1/1 double-hung sash with plain board surrounds. The four-bay flat roofed entrance porch with a plain frieze and boxed cornice is supported by tapering Tuscan Doric columns. There are three windows at the second story level. A large rectangular louvered opening is centered in the upper gable. The house is sided with white asbestos shingles, and roofed with grey roofing shingle. It rests on a concrete foundation. The east three bays of the long, seven bay north facade are sheltered by the entrance porch, which wraps around the north elevation.

Significance

The Richards House is significant as a large, turn-of-the-century vernacular dwelling with Victorian and Classical Revival stylistic elements. It is one of a grouping of two story suburban homes with Victorian stylistic elements constructed in the first decade of the twentieth century in the newly platted street car suburb of Mt. Rainier. The Richards House is a community landmark because of its large size, white-painted exterior and corner location. It stands at the corner of Bunkerhill and 30th Street. Bunkerhill is a major east-west street bisecting the residential area and connecting to Eastern Avenue at the municipal boundary of the District of Columbia. The Richards House was constructed shortly after 1904, when Nicholas and Annie L. Herfurth purchased lots 16 and 17 in Samuel W. Pickford's resubdivision of Lots 14 and 15 of the Kibbey Subdivision of Granby Farm. Herfurth, listed as a carpenter and house builder in the 1910 U.S. census, probably constructed the house.

Acreage: 12,103 sq. ft.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Richards House

## 2. Location

street & number 3806 30th Street \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Mt. Rainier \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input type="checkbox"/> museum</span>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input type="checkbox"/> park</span>
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence</span>
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input type="checkbox"/> religious</span>
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input type="checkbox"/> scientific</span>
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input type="checkbox"/> transportation</span>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input type="checkbox"/> other:</span>

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mrs. Eleanor Richards

street & number 3806 30th Street telephone no.:

city, town Mt. Rainier state and zip code Maryland 20712

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Court House liber 2167

street & number Main Street folio 058

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title N/A

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 type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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

The Richards house in Mt. Rainier is a two story cross-gable, frame dwelling with a "T" shaped plan. A one-story, flat roof porch crosses the east (main) facade and wraps around the north and south elevations. The house is located on a corner lot planted with mature holly, magnolia and evergreen trees.

The three bay east (main) facade is a front-gable with a returned boxed cornice and deeply overhanging eaves. Entry is in the first bay, through a door with a large rectangular glazed panel. Windows are 1/1 double-hung sash with plain board surrounds. A four-bay flat roofed entrance porch with a plain frieze and boxed cornice with deeply overhanging eaves shelters the first story. The porch roof is supported by tapering Tuscan Doric columns and the wooden floor is set on low concrete block piers. There are three windows at the second story level of the main facade. A large rectangular louvered opening is centered in the upper gable.

The house is sided with white asbestos shingles, and roofed with grey roofing shingle. It rests on a concrete foundation.

The east three bays of the long, seven bay north facade are sheltered by the entrance porch, which wraps around the north elevation. A low brick chimney projects from the gable ridge at the center of the house. The west four bays are in a projecting east-west cross-gable which forms the head of the "T". The cross-gable is marked by a semi-octagonal two story bay and surmounted by a pediment. A full-size 1/1 sash rectangular window is centered in the pediment. The west bay has a recessed entry, reached by a flight of five concrete stairs. Rectangular foundation windows of six panes are beneath the third and fifth bays.

The three bay west facade is shaded by a row of tall evergreen trees planted close to the house. The third bay on the first story is the cut-out southwest corner, in which there is a recessed entry to the kitchen. The foundation on this elevation is approximately six feet above ground level, because the land on which the house stands slopes away toward the west. A shed roof, cement-walled one-car garage, a continuation of the house foundation, is located below the north two bays.

The six-bay south (rear) facade is irregularly fenestrated. The west three bays are surmounted by a cross-gable with a returned cornice and a full-size window centered in the upper gable. The southwest corner is cut-out and shelters a recessed entrance to the kitchen, reached by a

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. P.G.#68-59

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 2

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flight of wooden stairs to a small square porch. The east three bays are sheltered by a section of the main entry porch, which wraps around this elevation. The porch has been enclosed and serves as a sunroom. There is a triple 1/1 sash window at the east corner of the enclosed porch. A foundation window is in the concrete base of the enclosed porch and also beneath the third bay of the main block.

The interior of the Richards house has a south side-hall flanked by a north living room and dining room. The kitchen and a bedroom are at the west (rear) of the house.

The main entry is through a small vestibule. The interior door is of five wooden panels, surmounted by a rectangular transom. The stair hall has flanking elaborately finished archways opening into the dining room on the north and the sunroom on the south. The white-painted wooden archways have flanking paneled half-walls supporting two fluted Ionic columns which support a wide inset frieze with applied floral and ribbon swags. The frieze is supported on the outer ends by scrolled brackets with applied floral designs. The whole arch is surmounted by a wide classical cornice with a projecting crown molding.

The open-string stair rises along the south wall of the stair hall, directly to the second story. The newel is a square, heavy post with an applied ribbon molding forming an inner rectangular on the shaft and the cap. The post is surmounted by a spherical knob. The balusters have a turned center shaft and rectangular upper and lower ends. The stairhall enters the kitchen at the west end. A door beneath the stair leads to the basement.

The baseboards throughout the first and second floors have a cap and a base molding. The door and window surrounds, also repeated on first and second stories, have a center half-round flanked by inner and outer rectangular bands and surmounted by bull's-eye corner blocks. The northeast living room has a mantel on the north wall, which is purely decorative, as there is no chimney behind it. It has full size tapering Tuscan Doric columns on base blocks supporting a high over-mantel shelf. A beveled oval mirror is centered in the over-mantel. Brackets support the mantel shelf above the rectangular hearth opening, which is infilled with tile. A large rectangular opening in the west wall leads from the living room to the dining room.

The rear (west) cross-gable section of the house contains a bedroom on the north and kitchen on the south. The bedroom is reached from the northwest corner of the dining room. It is located in the semi-octagonal projecting bay and has an entry onto the north section of the wrap-around entrance porch.

The second story has five bedrooms opening off of a "T" shaped hallway. The two east rooms were originally one large bedroom that was subdivided. The bedroom doorways are surmounted by transoms. The

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STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. P.G.#69-59

Description (continued)

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flooring is regular width, narrow hardwood. A secondary west staircase runs from a rear hallway on the first story up to the attic, with a break in the run on the second story. The closed string stair to the attic has a turned newel on a high rectangular base and a spherical knob on top. The attic has two small finished rooms and an unfinished attic room running the length of the house from east to west.

The house is set close to the street on its north and east sides. The south yard is planted with mature hollies, magnolias, evergreens, bushes and flowers. The same family has lived in the house for 50 years and has carefully maintained it and the grounds. West of the house, a short driveway opens off of Bunker Hill Road and runs back to a metal three-car, shed roof garage that dates to the 1930's.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. P.G.#68-59

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Local history

**Specific dates**                      1904                      **Builder/Architect**

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check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or  
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.

The Richards House is significant as a large, turn-of-the-century vernacular dwelling with Victorian and Classical Revival stylistic elements. It is one of a grouping of two story suburban homes with Victorian stylistic elements constructed in the first decade of the twentieth century in the newly platted street car suburb of Mt. Rainier. The Richards House is a community landmark because of its large size, white-painted exterior and corner location. It stands at the corner of Bunkerhill and 30th Street. Bunkerhill is a major east-west street bisecting the residential area and connecting to Eastern Avenue at the municipal boundary of the District of Columbia.

The Richards House was constructed shortly after 1904, when Nicholas and Annie L. Herfurth purchased lots 16 and 17 in Samuel W. Pickford's resubdivision of Lots 14 and 15 of the Kibbey Subdivision of Granby Farm.<sup>1</sup> Herfurth, listed as a carpenter and house builder in the 1910 U.S. census, may have constructed the house. He was assessed for a \$950 improvement on his lots in 1906.<sup>2</sup>

The property was purchased by Hattie Wager Little in 1913 and run as a rooming house during the First World War.<sup>3</sup> After default on a mortgage the property was sold to the Richards family in 1934.<sup>4</sup> Save for a five year period, 1945-50, members of the Richards family have resided there until the present day.

The Richards House is an excellent example of a turn-of-the-century suburban dwelling. It is in near original condition save for the addition of asbestos shingle over the lapped wood siding and the removal of louvered shutters from the windows. Noteworthy exterior details include the enclosed pediment surmounting a two story semi-octagonal bay on the north side and the wrap-around entry porch supported on Tuscan Doric columns. The east gable end has pronounced cornice returns. Noteworthy interior details include arched entryways supported by grooved Ionic columns which give access from the main hallway to the adjoining parlor and sunroom. The open string stair has a large rectangular newel post

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM  
Statement of Significance (continued)

Survey No. P.G.#68-59

Section 8 Page 2

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with applied ribbon molding, surmounted by a knob. Other original interior features include five-panel doors surmounted by transoms on the second story and half-round moldings with bull's-eye corner blocks around doors and windows.

In the rear yard a three car, shed roof metal garage dating to the 1930's is an interesting example of early prefabricated metal buildings.

Notes

- 1 Prince George's County Land Records, 19:370.
- 2 Prince George's County Tax Assessment Records, District 16, 1906.
- 3 Land Records, 88;52; and interview with Eleanor Richards, March 1988.
- 4 Land Records, 419:371.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. = 68-59

P

See Notes, #8

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 12,103 sq. ft.

Quadrangle name Washington East D

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marina King, Architectural Historian

organization Historic Preservation Commission  
Rm. 4010/C.A.B.

date November 1988

street & number 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive

telephone 301-952-4609

city or town Upper Marlboro

state MD

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.

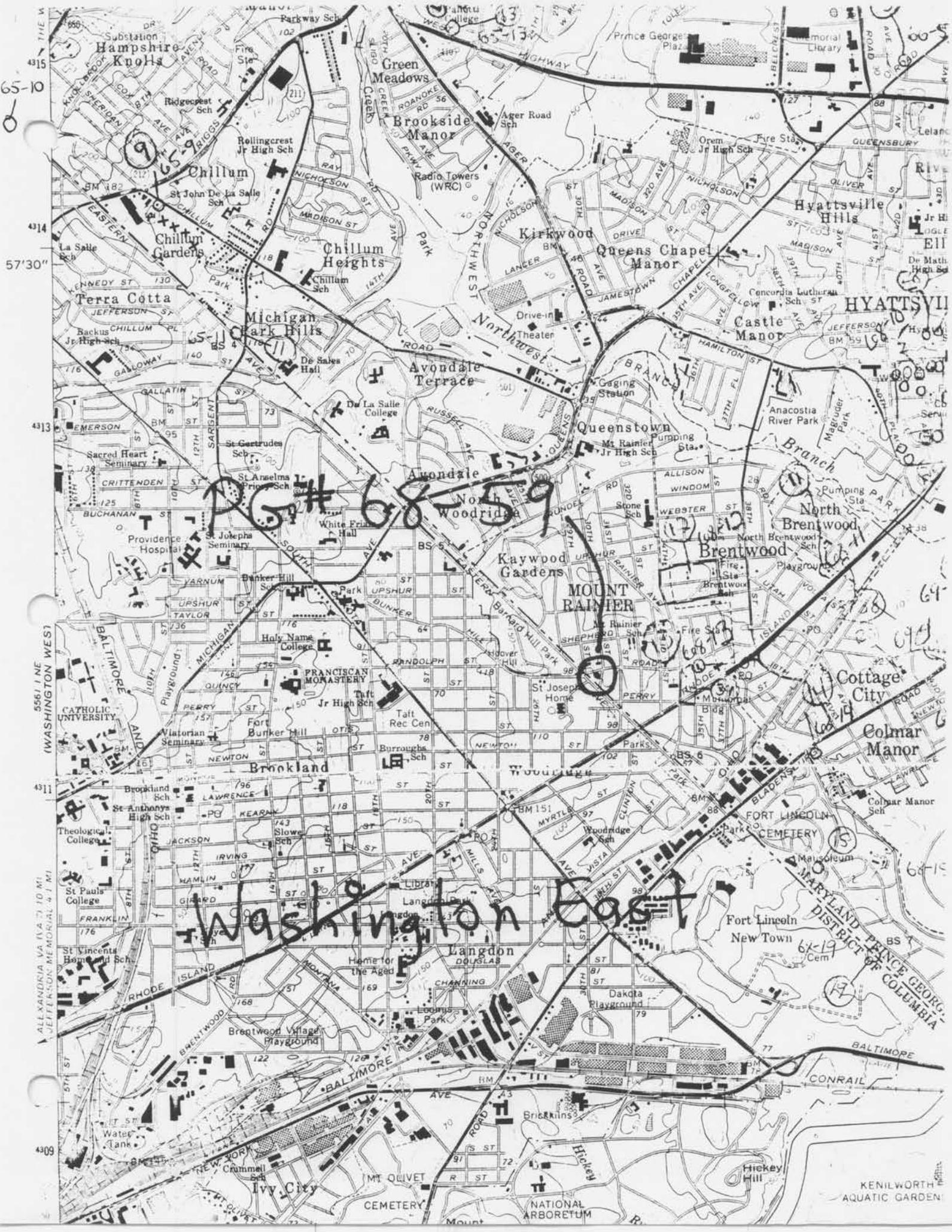
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

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

Chain of Title  
Richards House  
P.G. #68- 59

2167:058 12 July 1957 Deed	William T. Ward to Tina Richards, Eleanor C. Richards and Jerome A. Richards, joint tenants. For \$10 grants conveys part of Lots 16 and 17, Samuel W. Pickford's Subdivision of original lots 14 and 15 in Kibbey Subdivision of Granby, platted JWB 5:681.
2167:055 12 July 1957 Deed	Tina and Eleanor Richards to William T. Ward.
419:371 6 Nov. 1934 Deed	East Washington Savings Bank to Tina Richards, Lots 16 and 17.
179:351 9 June 1922 Deed	Hattie Wager Little to Charles A. McCarthy and Walter H. Marlow, Jr. Little indebted to East Washington Savings Bank for \$5000. To secure debt, grantor mortgaged lots 16 and 17.
88:52 27 Feb. 1913 Deed	James C. and Blanche R. Rogers to Hattie Wager Little. For \$10 grantors convey lots 16 and 17 excepting the south 82 feet.
80:57 14 Nov. 1912 Deed	Nicholas Herfurth and Annie L. Herfurth to James C. Rogers. For \$10 grantors convey all of Lots 16 and 17 excepting the south 82 feet.
19:370 30 July 1904 Deed	Samuel W. Pickford to Nicholas Herfurth. All of Lots 16 and 17 excepting the south 82 feet.





65-10  
65-13  
64  
68-19  
68-15

PG # 68-59

Washington East

Hampshire Knolls

Chillum

Terra Cotta

Michigan Park Hills

Brookland

St. Pauls College

St. Vincents

Ivy City

Green Meadows

Brookside Manor

Avondale Terrace

Avondale

North Woodridge

Woodridge

Langdon Douglas

Langdon Douglas

Langdon Douglas

Langdon Douglas

Prince George Plaza

Green Meadows

Brookside Manor

Kirkwood

Queens Chapel Manor

Queenstown

Mount Rainier

Mount Rainier

Woodridge

Langdon Douglas

Langdon Douglas

Langdon Douglas

Hyattsville Hills

Hyattsville

Castle Manor

North Brentwood

Brentwood

Cottage City

Colmar Manor

Fort Lincoln

Fort Lincoln

Fort Lincoln

Fort Lincoln

Hyattsville Hills

Hyattsville

Castle Manor

North Brentwood

Brentwood

Cottage City

Colmar Manor

Fort Lincoln

Fort Lincoln

Fort Lincoln

Fort Lincoln

KENILWORTH AQUATIC GARDEN



P.G.# 68-59

Richards House  
Prince George's County, MD  
Marina King  
March 1988  
E elevation  
Negatives - MD Historical  
Trust, Annapolis



P.G. #68-59

Richards House  
Prince George's County, MD  
Marina King  
March 1988  
N elevation  
Negatives - MD Historical  
Trust, Annapolis



P.G. # 68-59

Richards House

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

March 1988

SW elevation

Negatives - MD Historical Trust

Annapolis



Richards House

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

March 1988

Living room detail

Negatives - MD Historical Trust,

Annapolis



PG # 65-59

Richards House  
Prince Georges County, MD  
Marina King  
March 1988  
Stair hall - looking W  
Negatives - MD  
Historical Trust, Annapolis



P.G. #68-59

Richards House

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

March 1988

Attic Stair

Negatives - MD Historical

Trust, Annapolis