

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #71B-2-2 Building Date: 1893/1894

Building Name: Frank B. Luers House

Location: 13125 10th Street, Bowie, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description

The Frank B. Luers House is a tall cross-gabled frame dwelling, which stands on one of the original lots in the railroad town of Huntington, now known as Bowie. It incorporates features of the late Victorian style, and is embellished by a three-story corner tower. The principal facade consists of a one-bay front-gabled section with three-story pyramidal-roof tower adjoining it on the west, set back into the northwest interior corner. Entrance is through a six-panel door in the north facade of the tower. A one-story hip-roof porch shelters the north facade; it is supported by square posts with molded capitals, and originally had an open work geometric balustrade. The third bay south of the north front consists of a two-and-one-half-story cross gable on both the east and west facades. Extending south from the main section of the house is a two-bay-two story gable roof wing. The cornice is boxed with crown molding, and returned at all gable ends. The building rests on foundations of local ironbearing stone.

Significance

The Frank B. Luers House is a good example of a late Victorian frame dwelling with Queen Anne style motifs. The house was built circa 1893 for Frank B. Luers, son of Bernard Luers, who had immigrated from Germany in 1857, and in the early 1870's had settled in the newly established city of Huntington, working as a shoemaker. His eldest son, Frank Luers, began construction of this house in 1893 on a group of lots in Block 30, east of the railroad. The house was a fine example of late Victorian vernacular frame dwelling, with elements of the Queen Anne style with its tower, gables and projecting bay, which provided a variation in the lines and surfaces of the house. The house remained in the Luers family until 1947. It is a noticeable landmark in the town of Bowie, one of only two surviving examples of what was a popular and typical style of solid late Victorian vernacular domestic architecture.

Acreage: 10,000 square feet

# Maryland Historical Trust

## State Historic Sites Inventory Form

### 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Frank B. Luers House

and/or common Hay House

### 2. Location

street & number 13125 10th Street  not for publication

city, town Bowie  vicinity of congressional district 5

state Md. county P.G.

### 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Wade G. Hay

street & number 13125 10th Street telephone no.:

city, town Bowie state and zip code Md. 20715

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber #980

street & number Main Street folio 431

city, town Upper Marlboro state Md.

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Sites

date 1974  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Prince George's Historic Preservation Commission

city, town Upper Marlboro state Md.

# 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 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			

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

The Frank B. Luers House is a tall cross-gabled frame dwelling, which stands on one of the original lots in the railroad town of Huntington, now known as Bowie. It incorporates features of the late Victorian style, and is embellished by a three-story corner tower.

The building faces north and fronts directly on 10th Street, one of the original streets of Huntington City. The main block of the house is basically two bays by three. Principal facade consists of a one-bay front-gabled section with three-story pyramidal-roof tower adjoining it on the west, set back into the northwest interior corner. Entrance is through a six-panel door in the north facade of the tower. Above the door is a two-light transom, and there is a course of decorative trim between casing and transom. A one-story hip-roof porch (screened) shelters the entire north facade. It is supported by square posts with molded capitals, and originally had an open work geometric balustrade.

The third bay south of the north front consists of a two-and-one-half-story cross gable on both the east and west facade. There is a two-story-two-bay shed projection from this cross gable on the west facade. Extending south from the main section of the house is a two-bay-two story gable roof wing. A one-story screened porch fills the corner between main block and wing on the west.

The original German siding of the house is covered with white asbestos shingle. Windows are 2/2 double hung sash, with plain board surrounds; there are no shutters. There are two small 2/2 windows in the north facade of the tower at third level, and one in the west facade. The cornice is boxed with crown molding, and returned at all gable ends. The roof is covered with green asphalt shingle. There are three corbelled brick chimneys: one at the ridge of the main block, one in the east plane of its roof, and one at the south gable end of the wing. The building rests on foundations of local iron-bearing stone, and, in some places, brick over the stone. The porches rest on concrete block foundations.

# 8. Significance

<b>Period</b>	<b>Areas of Significance—Check and justify below</b>			
<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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1893-94      **Builder/Architect** John Schafer

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 Frank B. Luers House is a good example of a late Victorian frame dwelling with Queen Anne style motifs; it is one of two surviving buildings of this genre in the town of Huntington, now known as Bowie. It was built by the second generation of a family which came to Huntington soon after its establishment, and has remained to the present day.

The house was built circa 1893 for Frank B. Luers, son of Bernard Luers. The elder Luers had immigrated from Germany in 1857, and in the early 1870's had settled in the newly established city of Huntington, working as a shoemaker. In the early 1880's, he constructed a large frame dwelling at the southern edge of the town (cf. #71B-12), in which he raised his family. His eldest son, Frank, worked with his father as a shoemaker, and married in 1884. Circa 1893, Frank Luers began construction of a house for his growing family, on a group of lots in Block 30, east of the railroad in Bowie. He purchased four lots from Edward E. Perkins and contracted with John Schaffer, a carpenter who was involved in the construction of many dwellings in the Bowie area.<sup>1</sup> The new Luers house was a fine example of late Victorian vernacular frame dwelling, with elements of the Queen Anne style with its tower, gables and projecting bay, which provided a variation in the lines and surfaces of the house. It was further highlighted by the geometric patterned railing on the front (north) porch.

Frank Luers continued to work as a government employee, and raised his large family in this house. Early in the twentieth century, he bought up more lots adjoining his home, residing there until his death in 1912. His widow continued to reside in the house until her death in 1941. The Luers heirs sold the house out of the family in 1947.<sup>2</sup>

The Frank Luers house had seen few major changes in the years since that time. It is a noticeable landmark in the town of Bowie, being one of only two surviving examples of what was a popular and typical style of solid late Victorian vernacular domestic architecture.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G.#71B-2-2

Cf. Notes, Item #8

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 10,000 sq. ft. Tax Map 29, Block 30  
 Quadrangle name Laurel, Section I Quadrangle scale lots 28-38

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
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, Research Historian  
 organization Prince George's Historic Preservation Commission date August 1986  
 street & number c/o County Planning, MNCPPC telephone 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, 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

— #8 (Continued)

Notes

1 Prince George's County Deeds, JWB #30:205; Plat A-133; Prince George's County Census 1880 and 1900 for Bowie District, E.D. #14; Prince George's County Tax Assessments.

2 Prince George's County Deeds, JWB #31:714; #3:525,528; #6:577; #980:431.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1701375629

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON: Hay House				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Old Bowie				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: 13125 10th Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Bowie				
STATE: Maryland		COUNTY: Prince George's		
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: Wade G. Hay				
STREET AND NUMBER: 13125 10th Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Bowie		STATE: Maryland		
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Prince George's County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro		STATE: Maryland		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY: None				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)  
 Excellent    Good    Fair    Deteriorated    Ruins    Unexposed

(Check One)  
 Altered    Unaltered

(Check One)  
 Moved    Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house is a 2½ story frame Colonial Revival house with a tower on the west side of the main (north) facade.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian
- 15th Century
- 16th Century
- 17th Century
- 18th Century
- 19th Century
- 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Historic</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Architecture</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Art</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Commerce</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Communications</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Conservation</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Education</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Engineering</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Industry</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Invention</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Literature</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Military</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Music</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Political</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Science</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Theater</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Transportation</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> </ul> |
|--|--|---|--|

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

[Empty box for Statement of Significance]

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

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

STATE:	COUNTY:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: M-NCPPC      DATE: 2/15/73

STREET AND NUMBER:  
8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring      STATE: Maryland

**12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)**

Significance of this property is:  
 National     State     Local

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature





PG#71B-2-2

Frank B. Luers House  
Prince George's County, MD  
Susan G. Pearl  
March 1986  
West elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#71B-2-2

Frank B. Luers House  
Prince George's County, MD  
Susan G. Pearl  
February 1986  
North elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#71B-2-2

Frank B. Luers House  
Prince George's County, MD  
Susan G. Pearl  
March 1986  
Northeast 3/4 elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#71B-2-2

Frank B. Luers House  
Prince George's County, MD  
Susan G. Pearl  
March 1986  
Northwest 3/4 elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



NAME HAY HOUSE (OLD BOWIE) PG# 71B-2-2

LOCATION 13125 10TH. ST. BOWIE, MD

FACADE NW

PHOTO TAKEN 2/15/73 MDWYER