

## ABSTRACT

(R. Andrews, 6-77)

951 The Terrace

1915-1917

Hagerstown

Washington County, Maryland

Perched on the crest of a terraced hill, this Spanish Revival house was erected between 1915 and 1917 for a local industrialist, George E. Roulette. It was designed by Harry E. Yessler (18 -1964), a Hagerstown architect. A starting date of 22 August 1915 and a finishing date of 15 September 1917 are recorded on a board found in the basement of the house. The superintendent of the construction is identified on this board as Paul A. Strickhouse of York, Pennsylvania.

Located in the Oak Hill Addition to Hagerstown, this house is a typical example of the eclectic type of architecture popular in the early twentieth century. Spanish in exterior appearance, the house is Georgian in the arrangement of the central block and flanking pavilions and porches and has Flemish gables and Renaissance interiors. An interesting feature of the house is curvilinear lines of the exterior which reflect the terraced topography of the grounds.

# Easement

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

WA-HAG-97  
MAGI #2206365704

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC/SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

951 The Terrace

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

951 The Terrace

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Washington

### 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
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Emma J. Hessenauer

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

951 The Terrace

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21740

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

95 West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland

### 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED    DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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

Known as 951 The Terrace in Hagerstown, Washington County, the house stands on the west side of the street on the southwest corner of the intersection of Hill Crest Road, about eight blocks north of Public Square. Set at a diagonal to the street, the house is located in a residential neighborhood laid out in 1909 as the Oak Hill Addition to Hagerstown.

Resting on the crest of a hill above a terraced garden, the house is a 1915-1917 Spanish Revival concrete structure with stucco walls and a brown-red terra cotta roof. An excellent example of early twentieth century eclectic architecture, the building consists of a three bay symmetrical facaded central block one and a half stories high with a steeply pitched, dormered roof and flanking one story wings terminated with arcaded porches. Low to the ground, the structure has a Mediterranean or "warm climate" feel and a basic configuration which reflects the terraced topography of the grounds.

Exhibiting a strong Georgian influence in symmetry, the facade or east elevation is divided into five parts: the central block, the two flanking pavilions, and the terminating porches. The central block has a centered doorway with a large set of casement windows to each side. The doorway is set into a pavilion which projects outward slightly and rises into a large window dormer in the roof. Single window roof dormers are positioned in line above the first floor windows. The dormers have round arches and transoms and a Palladian look to them.

The flanking pavilions project somewhat forward from the central block and have a large rectangular casement window and curvilinear gable each. The windows are entirely covered with plain metal grills. The curvilinear lines of the gable are more Flemish than Spanish. The end porches are set back and each have two round arch openings on the front.

The entrance pavilion tapers as it rises to the second story, adding to the curvilinear qualities of the facade. The doorway has a pair of French doors and a narrow rectangular transom. A bracketed balcony with a metal balustrade hangs above the doorway at the dormer window.

On the interior, the rooms are arranged in a U-pattern around a courtyard, now enclosed. The decoration of most of the interior is Renaissance influenced.

Although in need of basic repairs, the house, inside and out, is structurally sound and in fairly original condition.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

<b>PERIOD</b>	<b>AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW</b>			
<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 checked="" 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**      1915-1917                      **BUILDER/ARCHITECT**    Harry E. Yessler, architect

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

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Associated with the Roulette knitting mill, George Roulette purchased the property in June, 1915 (Deed Book 147, p. 187). In 1923 he sold the property to Herbert L. Kneisley and his wife Daisy Bester Kneisley (Deed Book 165, p. 604). Kneisley was a physician as well as proprietor of at least one pharmacy in Hagerstown. The conversion of the courtyard into a sun room was made for the Kneisleys and was designed by Amos J. Klinkhart, another Hagerstown architect.

Title to the property was transferred to the Maryland Historical Trust in 1976 by the estate of the Kneisley daughter, Mary K. Bowman (Mrs. Harry D.). The present owners purchased the house from the Trust in 1977.

Harry E. Yessler, the architect, is listed in the city directories as having an office in Hagerstown as early as 1905. He designed a number of residential and commercial buildings in the city, including the Colonial Theatre and the front of the Maryland Theatre. Eventually moving to York, Pennsylvania, to practice with his son, Yessler transferred his AIA membership to a Pennsylvania chapter in 1939.

The Oak Hill Addition to Hagerstown which was designed in 1909 for Mrs. Clara Hamilton, widow of former Maryland Governor William T. Hamilton. The addition was a planned residential neighborhood laid out around "Oak Hill" (821 The Terrace), a nineteenth century house which the Hamiltons purchased in 1868 and extensively renovated. 951 The Terrace appears to include parts of Lots No. 29, 30, and 32 of Section B of the Oak Hill Addition.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Washington County Land Records, Courthouse, Hagerstown, Maryland.  
Hagerstown City Directories (various years).  
Architectural Drawings

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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

The property contains approximately 2.3 acres.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Ronald L. Andrews, Historic Preservation Consultant (mbe)

ORGANIZATION

City of Hagerstown

DATE

June 9, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

City Hall

TELEPHONE

(301) 731-3200

CITY OR TOWN

Hagerstown

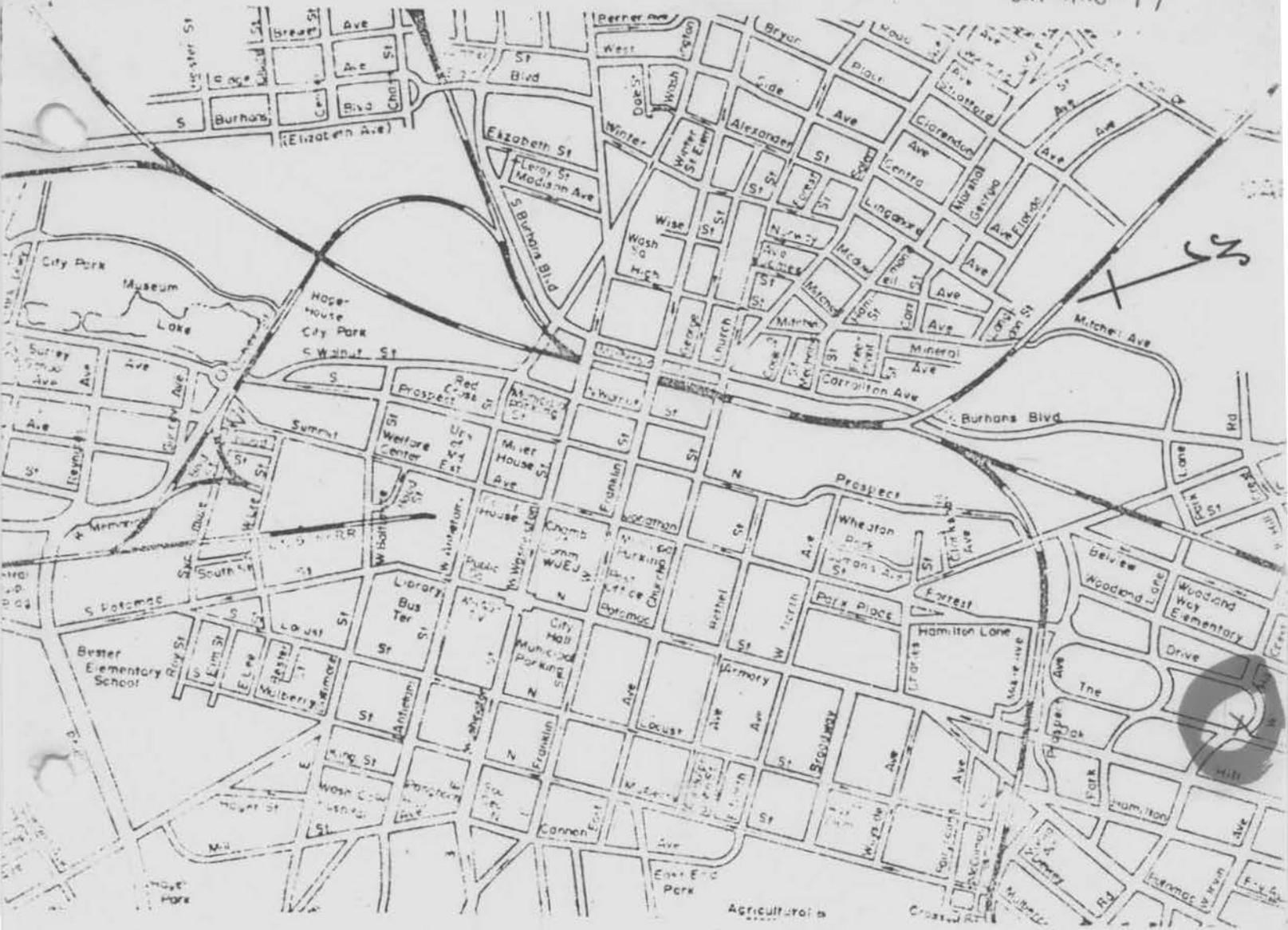
STATE

Maryland 21740

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



SITE: 951 The Terrace  
 Hagerstown  
 Washington County, Maryland

map: City of Hagerstown,  
Washington County, Md.  
 City Engineering Dept.  
 July, 1970  
 scale 1"=1200'



951 The Terrace  
Hagerstown  
Washington Co., Md.

East elevation

April, 1976



WA HAG-99

R. L. ANDREWS  
649 PHILADELPHIA AVE  
CHAMBERSBURG, PA. 17201

951 The Terrace  
Hagerstown  
Washington Co., Md.  
NE view  
July, 1975