

WO-214

## Harvey P. Pruitt House (Davis 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](http://mht.maryland.gov)) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

***Last Updated: 04-04-2013***



## 7. Description

Survey No. WO-214

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input 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.

Sitting on a narrow plot of land, close to the street, as are many of the early 20th century Berlin houses, the Davis house, built in 1915, is located on the west side of South Main Street, near the end of the residential area. A gable-roofed, weatherboard garage and attached shed is behind the house.

This 2½-story frame house is 3 bays by 3 bays, hip-roofed with flaring eaves and a deep overhang. A single interior chimney rises from the south roof slope. "American 4-square" in form, the house is wrapped by a verandah across the front and extending around the south and north facades. Brick piers supporting the verandah and the raised foundation are brick similar to 416 and 412 South Main Street. Windows throughout the house have decorative diamond-paned, upper sash over single-paned lower sash. Entablature molding adorns the top of window frames.

The verandah is a striking feature of the front facade. The heavily overhanging roof is supported by Tuscan-styled columns, with a hip-roofed projection supported by double columns accentuating the entrance. A simple wooden ballustrade extends between the columns. The entrance in the central bay is off center with a shallow bay with 3 windows occupying the left bay and a single over-sized window the right. A hip-roofed dormer with slanting sides and a pair of single sash diamond-paned windows is centered in the front roof slope.

On the south facade, the verandah has been extended over a block foundation and enclosed. Originally, the first bay on the left was a one-story, three-sided bay with two windows and a door. On the second floor another three-window bay projection extends on the third bay from the left.

The rear or west facade has a hip-roofed basement entrance in the central bay flanked by basement windows. On the north facade, the verandah extends the length of the structure terminating in a pantry at the west end. Not a later enclosure, the pantry has a decorative diamond-paned window as in the rest of the house.

# 8. Significance

Survey No.

W0-214

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 c. 1914

Builder/Architect

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

Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

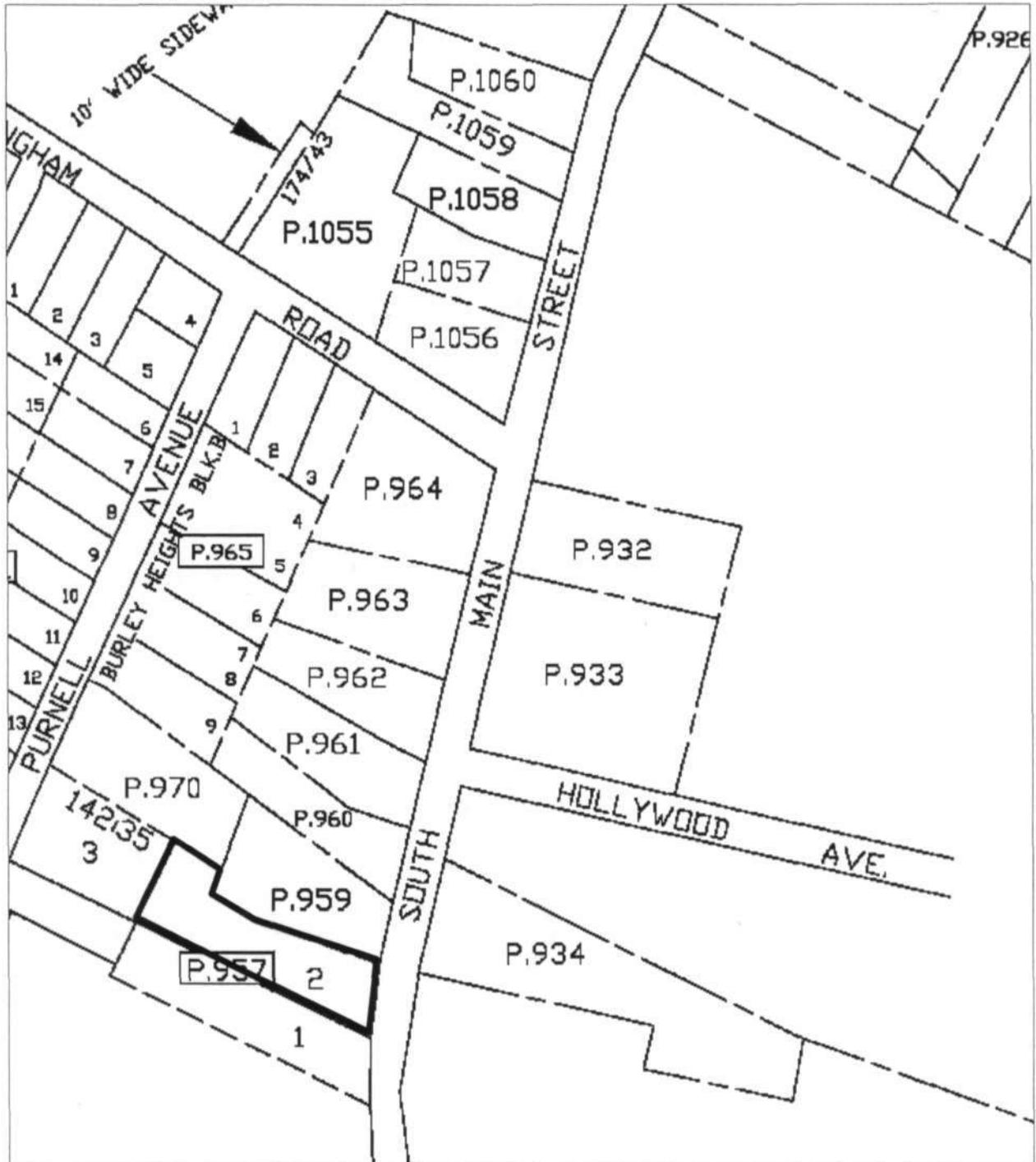
Level of Significance:  national  state  local

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

Although the basic house form is four-square, the shallow three-sided bays, decorative windows and generous verandah create a unique combination. The house is solidly built, with many refinements and is a good example of early 20th century taste and workmanship in Berlin.



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Harvey P. Pruitt House (Davis House)  
414 S. Main Street (MD 818), Berlin  
Worcester County Tax Map 302, P. 957, Lot 2



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Harvey P. Pruitt House  
414 S. Main St.  
Berlin  
Berlin Quad.  
Worcester County

