

AA-92  
Ringgold House  
Jessup

c. 1860-80  
private

This two-and-a-half story, five-bay frame house is one of several in Jessup that were built in the Italian Villa style. The Ringgold house has an unusual three-story central tower with a pyramidal roof with bracketed flaring eaves. The fenestration displays a variety of different shapes and styles.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Ringgold House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Brock Bridge Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Jessup

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

MD.

COUNTY

Anne Arundel

**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 COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Leo J. Hoyer

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

same as above

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

20794

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Anne Arundel County

Liber #: 368

Folio #: 124

STREET &amp; NUMBER

South St.

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Md.

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY 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

The Ringgold House is located on the east side of Brock Bridge Road, off of Jessup Rd (Rt. 175) and near the Women's House of Correction. It is at the end of a dirt lane.

It is a 2 1/2 story, 5 bay frame dwelling under a hipped roof with wide flaring eaves. A rectangular tower rises from the second story giving the structure the appearance of an Italian villa. The principal facade faces west. The wing of the house, which was not examined, is thought to date from before the Civil War and the front part from the late 1870's.

A five-bay open porch with a flat roof and balustrade on the second story extends across the entire front elevation. It has a cornice with dentils and modillions and is supported by stylized posts which create wide segmental arches in each bay.

The main entrance is in the center bay of the front elevation. The paneled door is surrounded by a six-light transom and sidelights. All of the first and second story fenestration has wide board enframements with crossets.

Windows are spaced evenly on the facade. They contain 6/6 light sash on the first two stories. The dormer windows have round headed frames and sash with curved muntins. The tower has a bull's eye window on line with the dormers and three round arched windows, occurring below the roof, on all sides. A one story bay addition joins the north elevation. The flaring hipped roof has a molded bracketed cornice; the roof of the tower is a smaller version of it. Two interior chimneys are situated toward the rear of the roof.

Since the owner was not cooperative, the above description was based largely on photographs, although the site was visited briefly.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<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/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input 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. 1860 - 1880

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Ringgold House is one of three frame dwellings still standing in Jessup which were built in the Italian Villa style (c.1860-80). Other examples are Trusty Friend (AA-123) and the Asa Linthicum House (AA-91); the Rappaport House is a site (AA-82). At one time the town contained six or more frame dwellings of similar design with either towers or cupolas. Some of these are pictured in The Story of Jessup by G. Marie Biggs. The Ringgold house, a rectangular, two and a half story, five bay dwelling has many unusual features. Some of the features typical of the other Italian villas which were built in Jessup are the hipped roof with wide bracketed eaves, the balustraded veranda, the bay window on the side, and the presence of round arched windows. What is unusual is the prominent flare of the roof, the three story center tower, and the fact that the round arched windows are dormers.

This building and the others mentioned reflect the wide spread influence of designs by Alexander Jackson Davis for picturesque dwellings which were published in Cottage Residences (1842) and The Architecture of Country Houses (1850) by Andrew Jackson Downing. The value of these dwellings is heightened because there are so few of them, the style never having really caught on in the rest of Anne Arundel County.

The name Walter S. Ringgold appears in large letters next to the mark showing his residence and 77 acres on the Hopkins map of 1878.

Jessup today is much dominated by the penal institutions located there. Little remains, with the exception of a few buildings, to remind on of the town's pre World War 1 prosperity.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3.62

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 Marion Horton Carroll- Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION Anne Arundel County Dept. of Planning and Zoning DATE June, 1978

STREET &amp; NUMBER Arundel Center TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN Annapolis 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  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438