

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Survey No. BA 941

Magi No. 0309415404

DOE  yes  no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic Wright House

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 8919 Reisterstown Road  not for publication

city, town Owings Mills  vicinity of Councilmanic District 2  
congressional district 2

state Maryland county Baltimore County

**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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Mrs. Betty Kreuzburg

street & number 8919 Reisterstown Road telephone no.:

city, town Baltimore state and zip code MD 21208-1015

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Courts Building liber SM 14625

street & number 401 Bosley Avenue folio 560

city, town Towson state MD 21204

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title MHT Inventory

date July 24, 1976  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records MHT, 100 Community Place

city, town Crownsville state MD 21032

## 7. Description

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### Condition

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

### Check one

unaltered  
 altered

### Check one

original site  
 moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

The Wright House is a two-story, frame structure on a slight rise above Reisterstown Road. Its wall cover is German siding in authentic wood, painted white, very fresh appearance. The house consists of two gable-roofed pavilions linked by a hyphen. The link between the end pavilions contains a set-back porch sheltered by a standing seam shed roof. Porch posts are of wood, round columns typical of Colonial Revival houses of the 1920s. The first-story wall along the porch is coated with smooth stucco. Roofing is wooden shakes or a credible imitation of shakes. Windows are set in an irregular pattern and are multi-paned, real wood frames with true-divided lights. The rear of the house is laid out in one plane, with various back doors. A number of irregularly spaced brick chimneys seem to be authentic and irregular. The foundation visible on the front toward the north end is of rubble stone and has the appearance of the Colonial Revival era; possibly this foundation was altered after the original house was constructed. There is no clue as to any part of this house having been converted from a one-room store of the 1850s; possibly the store portion was in the front room behind the porch. South of the house is a stone, gable-roofed stone building, possibly a meat house, of considerable age. The main house is built in a vernacular style with authentic natural materials and is an excellent example of a 19<sup>th</sup> century rural residence. There was probably no architect needed to design this dwelling. The house to the north is an American Four-Square used as the parsonage of Stone Chapel in Garrison Forest. One the east and Northeast, the property has been encroached upon by recent apartment construction. There is a right-angle driveway to the house and garage from the northbound lane of Reisterstown Road; it would probably be impossible to leave by turning left due to the volume of traffic on the highway. This property is surrounded by trees and plantings but the main house is clearly visible on its modest hill.



# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
			<input type="checkbox"/> science
			<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
			<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian
			<input type="checkbox"/> theater
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** Before 1850  Builder/Architect Unknown

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.

Not much is known the present home of Mrs. Betty Kreuzburg. It is apparently the outgrowth of a "store" shown on the road frontage of George H. Elder's property on the east side of Reisterstown Road in the 1850 map of city and county published by J. C. Sidney and P. J. Browne. Robert Taylor's 1857 county map shows a number of house symbols strung along the road but none labeled as either a home or store. Older deeds mention that the land grant name here was "Rich Level," originally surveyed in 1738 for George Ogg. The Elders were heirs to the large Green Spring estate that had given its name to the entire valley. Elder's will probated in 1866 mentioned a house and lot on Reisterstown Road that was occupied by Oliver Wright. (1).

Oliver P. Wright acquired title to a tract of 31-4/10 perches on Reisterstown Road from Mrs. Ellen N. Elder on February 28, 1871 (2). The 1877 atlas showed a small lot belonging to "O. Wright" a little south of the road to Stone Chapel in Garrison Forest. Oliver P. Wright borrowed money from Dr. John Fisher, owner of nearby Alto Dale. (3). at the time he purchased this property, and eventually defaulted. By 1881, Dr. Fisher, was dead, and his executor advertised the property for an auction to be held on Monday, November 7, of that year. Richard D. Fisher, the surviving executor of Dr. Fisher, described the place as "2 acres, more or less, about nine miles from the city on the Baltimore and Reisterstown Turnpike Road, and at the intersection of said Turnpike Road with a lane leading to a stone chapel . . . said lot is improved by a comfortable frame dwelling, together with barn, dairy, and meat house. It is conveniently located and presents many advantages to any one desiring a home." (4)

At the auction conducted by Oliver P. Magill, Richard Fisher sold the property to George C. Winterrode for \$775 (5). Possibly George C. Winterrode was the son of the George Winterrode who was mentioned by Dawn F. Thomas in her Green Spring Valley book as the head carpenter who worked 63 years on the Shoemaker estate, Burnside. (6) The younger Winterrode held the house until 1916, selling to Franklin T. Myerly. (7) Eight years later, Myerly sold to Harry C. Thompson. (8)

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Harry C. Thompson and wife Elizabeth T. Thompson sold in 1930 to James Lyon Hall. The deed reveals that the property fronted 163 feet on the turnpike road. And was now only "about" half an acre. (9). Only three years later, Hall and his wife Mason H. hall sold to G. Dudley Iverson and Gertrude Iverson for an estimated \$9500, judging from the revenue stamps on the deed. (10).

In 1951 G. Dudley Iverson IV and his second wife, Juliet P. Iverson sold to Harvey Wilson and Betty Kreuzburg for an estimated \$29,750, judging from the revenue stamps. (11). Later, in August 2000, Mr. Kreuzburg conveyed his interest to his wife (12). This house was quite isolated until the construction of the Cobblestone development on what had been the open lawns of the Balmuckety mansion of the opposite side of the road. If this house is the outgrowth of a one-room store, its location near the turnpike road that might have been commercially useful in the 19<sup>th</sup> century is now a liability for anyone wishing to live there in peace and quite. The Reisterstown Road is now heavily traveled by large vehicles unknown in the era of the turnpike road when horse drawn vehicles rarely traveled at night. The present proposal of the owner is to adapt the structure for professional office use. There does not seem to be any mention of this house in the oral history book on Owings Mills entitled *Speaking of Our Past*.

NOTES:

1. Baltimore County Wills, Liber 3, folio 136.
2. Baltimore County Deeds, EHA 69:501.
3. Baltimore County Mortgages, EHA 40:263.
4. *Maryland Journal*, Towson, October 15, 1881.
5. B. C. Deeds, WMI 125:561.
6. Dawn F. Thomas, *The Green Spring Valley*, (Baltimore, 1978), p. 223.
7. B. C. Deeds, WPC 469:233.
8. B. C. Deeds, WPC 601:189.

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Continuation Sheet

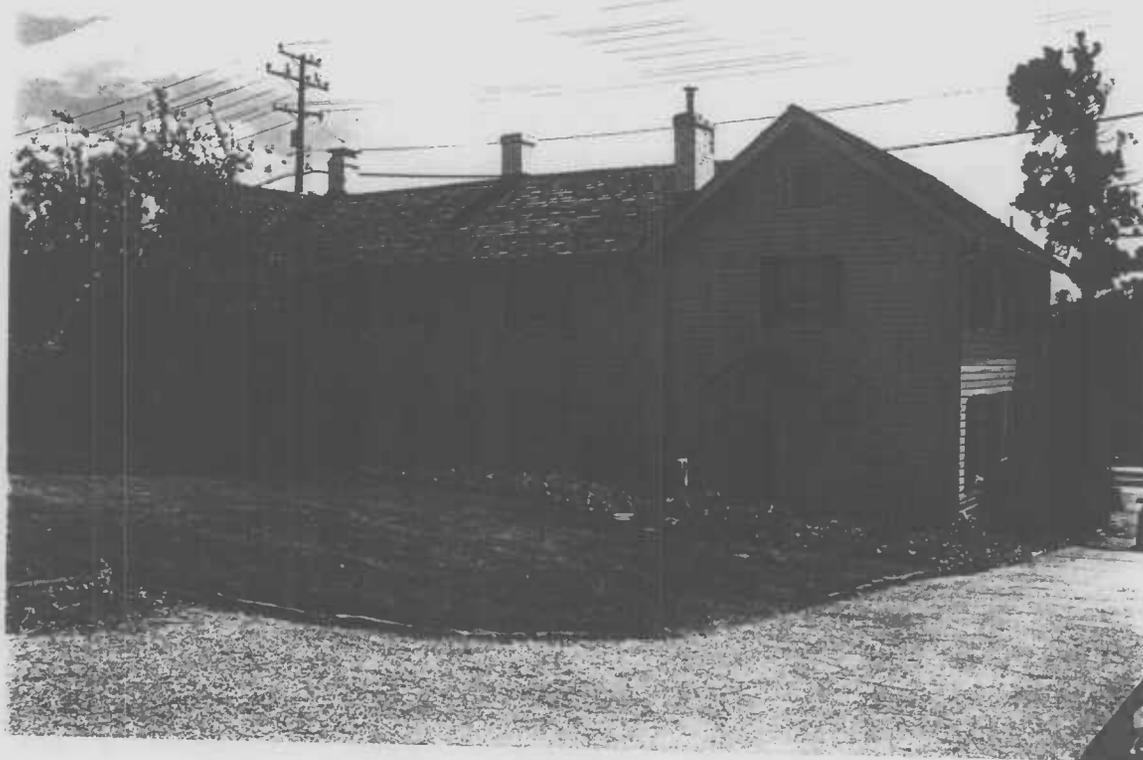
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9. B. C. Deeds, LMCLM 839:543.
10. B. C. Deeds, CWB JR. 923:74.
11. B. C. Deeds, GLB 2020:28.
12. B. C. Deeds, SM 14625:560.



WRIGHT HOUSE, rear view,  
May 2001

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

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No published sources.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 0.5 (22,078.00 sq ft)

Quadrangle name Cockeysville MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

B 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

C 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

D 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

E 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

F 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

G 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

H 

Zone	Easting			Northing					

## Verbal boundary description and justification

See Tax Map 68 Grid 13 Parcel P297.

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

state	code	county	code
None			

state	code	county	code
None			

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title John McGrain, County Historian

organization Office of Planning

date April 26, 2001

street & number 401 Bosley Avenue

telephone 410-887-3495

city or town Towson

state MD 21204