

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

33 Willow Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Baltimore

**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

Charles F. Brown

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

33 Willow Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21234

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Courts Building

Liber #: 5153

Folio #: 597

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

BA 2161

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input 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 _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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

When asked for permission to examine the rear facade and interior of the house at 33 Willow Avenue, the owner negatively replied, "It's a ten room cottage, what else you gotta know." All further attempts were similarly received and, as a consequence, this survey presents only the exterior of the south, east, and west facades. Additions have been made to the rear of the house but the date or extent of the alterations could not be determined without closer examination.

Contrary to the owners belief, this "ten room cottage" is one of the more interesting structures on Willow Avenue. The steepness of the cross gable coupled with the overall size of the building tend to attract one's attention to the building. The house dates from the first decade of the twentieth century. It does not appear on the 1898 Bromley Atlas but record of it is found on the 1915 edition.

The house rests on a slight incline and faces south on Willow Avenue. The main block is three bays wide and two bays deep. It is presently covered with (asphalt) shingles and rests on a stone foundation. A huge cross gable roof caps the building. Two interior brick chimneys exit the roof on either side of the cross gable. The front porch which originally spanned the entire south facade has been partially enclosed on the eastern half.

Six concrete steps lead to the porch which rests upon brick porch piers and is surrounded by a lattice-like porch base. Heavy turned post support the porch roof. A slat railing encloses the porch and scroll brackets add ornamentation.

Fenestration on the south facade consists of one 2/2 floor length window on the left side of the door and three 1/1 sash windows on the enclosed porch to the right of the door. The door is a wood paneled door with glass transom above. A second door leading to the enclosed porch is entered from the south facade as well. This second door is a wood paneled door similar to ones used in the interior of houses. Fenestration on the second floor of the south facade consists of three 2/2 sash windows. A 2/2 sash arched window appears on the attic floor in the center of the cross gable.

The west facade displays two 2/2 sash windows with plain white trim on the first floor and two on the second floor. An arched 2/2 sash window is located in the attic. Also from this facade you see the west end of a single story shed roof addition made to the rear of the main house. It displays two 6/6 sash windows located directly next to one another.

The east facade shows a main block similar to the fenestration pattern on the west side of the house, i.e., two 2/2 sash windows on the first floor; two 2/2 sash windows on the second floor; and, an arched 2/2 sash

(continued)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

BA-2161

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION continued...

window in the attic. In addition, however, there is a side entrance located on the first floor slightly to the right of the window. This entrance is a wood paneled door. Above the door hangs a hood resting on carved brackets that run half the length of the door.

Also from this facade, you see the east side of what appears to be several additions to the house. On the addition immediately to the rear of the main house, there is a door on the first floor and a window opening on the second floor. Irregular fenestration typifies the remaining additions.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

BA-2161

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 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 post-1898, pre-1915 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

33 Willow Avenue, a frame house with cross gable roof, is an example of a significant building type that appeared in Maryland and many parts of the East throughout the mid 19th and early 20th centuries. This particular house is one of the more interesting cross-gables on the street due to the steepness of the gable and the overall size of the building.

Aside from its individual architectural merits, however, 33 Willow is significant as an integral part of the surrounding residential neighborhood. In recent years, increased commercialization has threatened Towson's residential character. Many of the private residences which once typified Towson's built environment have been either demolished or altered in such a manner as to destroy their architectural and historic significance. The houses on Willow Avenue and Linden Terrace constitute one of the few relatively unchanged residential areas left in Central Towson. 33 Willow together with the other vernacular buildings on the street provide a visual representation of Towson's earlier character.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. G.W. Bromley & Co., Philadelphia, 1898.  
Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. G.W. Bromley & Co., Philadelphia, 1915

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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

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

Janice E. Ruth/Historic Site Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Historic Towson, Inc.

DATE

September, 1981

STREET & NUMBER

120 Allegheny Avenue

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

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

BA-2161

CHAIN OF TITLE

ADDRESS: 33 Willow Avenue  
PRESENT OWNER: Charles F. Brown

<u>DATE</u>	<u>GRANTOR</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>	<u>LIBER/FOLIO</u>
31 Oct 1969	Mary Caples Margaret Hines (wife-Francis) Genevieve Hines (wife-John)	Charles F. Brown	5153/597
1 July 1955	Carroll B. Holland	Joseph E. Moore (with remainder to Mary Caples, Francis Hines, and John Hines as <u>tenants in common</u> )	2730/553
8 July 1955	Joseph E. Moore	Carroll B. Holland	2730/551
31 July 1945	Elizabeth M. Terry	Elizabeth Hines Joseph E. Moore ( <u>joint tenants</u> )	1399/174
31 July 1945	Elizabeth Hines	Elizabeth M. Terry	1399/173
11 Feb 1924	David G. McIntosh Charlotte R. McIntosh (wife)	Elizabeth Hines	585/484
26 May 1921	Margaret McIntosh Morton (gives her half interest to David McIntosh, Jr.) W. Walker Morton	David G. McIntosh, Jr.	541/53
18 April 1920	Virginia P. McIntosh	David G. McIntosh, Jr. and Margaret McIntosh Morton <u>tenants in common</u> )	Wills 19/147
29 June 1905	David G. McIntosh Virginia McIntosh (lease)	Elizabeth Hines	287/420





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PHOTOGRAPHS: 33 Willow Avenue

(original photos in Historic Towson's Files)



ABOVE: South-west Corner

BELOW: South (Main) Facade

