

ABRAM PRICE HOUSE

55 LIBERTY STREET

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CARR 512
MAEI # 0705125504

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Abram Price House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

55 Liberty Street (MD 27)

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

7

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Carroll

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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Herbert E. Rhoten

Telephone #: 848-3018

STREET & NUMBER

55 Liberty Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21157

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Carroll County Office Building

Liber #: 196

Folio #: 548

STREET & NUMBER

Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<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	(Addition to Rear)	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Number 55 Liberty Street fronts the east side of that street (State Rt. 27) about halfway between Liberty Street's intersection with East Green and George Streets in Westminster. The two story common bond brick building rests on low coursed fieldstone foundation.

The house is an interesting late 19th century version of the vernacular type structure known as the "British Cabin" building. The principal (west) facade has three regularly spaced bays per floor: three elongated 2/2 windows on the second floor, with two similar ground story windows to the north. All windows have four coursed gauged flat arches, wooden sills and green louvered shutters. The entrance door, the southern ground story bay, is a simple glass and wood panel door resting behind a glass and aluminum storm door and framed by architrave trim and a two-part denticulated entablature supported by two small/scroll brackets. A very simple white wooden cornice tops the facade which is supported by more elongated scroll brackets placed alternately with the windows. The rolled tin covered roof is pierced near the center (from the south, between the second and third windows) by a corbel capped chimney.

The south wall is flush with a neighbor, number 55½ Liberty Street. The east facade is covered by a shed roofed full length two story clapboard addition. The north facade has two 2/2 windows regularly placed on each of the two full stories; a large window to light and ventilate the attic is placed within the gable.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 checked="" 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 .1880 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

"Lynch's Addition", which dates from the 1870's, appears to have been laid out as a (generally speaking) working class area in Westminster. The buildings, again generally speaking, tend to be simpler than those found on Main Street. Thus it is not surprising that the street is made up of buildings that are not avantgarde in style, but, rather, reflect the tried and true building traditions of the City. One such conservative structure is the house is probably built by the Price family around 1890, number 55 Liberty Street. This house is a fine example "British Cabin" style, down to such details as the centrally placed chimney.

The first title reference of help to this lot (number 2 of "Lynch's Addition") is when Edward Lynch sold the place to one Austin Yingling for \$300 on January 29, 1886 (Carroll County Deed Book 64, Page 109). Although no house was evident then, the early City Directory lists one Abram Price as living at 55 Liberty Street so we can assume that the house was built in the late 1880's. The house stayed in the Price family (through deeds 64/109, 64/144, and 158/469) until Saranda Price sold the house to Edison John Morrell on September 3, 1935 (164/273). Helen E. Morrell sold to W. Glenn Speicher on October 24, 1940 (173/592), who sold to Jessie R. Sheep on October 1, 1942 (179/494). Sheep's trustee, F. Murray Denson, sold to the present owners on November 22, 1947. The title to the neighbor, 55½ Liberty Street reveals, in an 1888 deed, that the house must have been built in the late 1880's as it refers to its neighbor (55) as "Abram Price's new brick house".

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Being the northern half of lot number 2 of E. Lynch's Addition to Westminster as shown on the 1876 plat of that City.

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Christopher Weeks, Consultant

October, 1977

ORGANIZATION

Westminster Historical Sites Survey

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

c/o City Hall - Public Works Department

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

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



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