

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. *CARR-1151*

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic *CHRISTIAN BAUER HOUSE*

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number *1322 Bachman Valley Road (MD 496)*  not for publication

city, town *Westminster*  vicinity of congressional district *Sixth*

state *Maryland* county *Carroll*

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input 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 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 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"/> 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 *Thomas G. and Mary Hallman*

street & number *1322 Bachman Valley Road* telephone no.: *876-3970*

city, town *Westminster* state and zip code *Maryland 21157*

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. *Carroll County Courthouse Annex* liber *781*

street & number *55 North Court Street* folio *431*

city, town *Westminster* state *Maryland*

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title *None*

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. CARR-1151

Condition		Check one	Check one	
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	<u>XX</u> unaltered	<u>XX</u> original site	
<u>XX</u> good	___ ruins	___ altered	___ moved	date of move _____
___ fair	___ unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

*SUMMARY: The Christian Bauer House presents a number of Pennsylvania German architectural characteristics prominent in Carroll County's vernacular architecture. It also contains some unique features that enlighten our knowledge about the Pennsylvania German influences in this region. The building is a one and one-half story stone structure built into a slope and over a spring so that on the south (main) facade there is a ground-level entrance to a spring room and kitchen. The first floor presently consists of a two-room plan but evidence exists that shows the original two-room configuration was partitioned differently. A corner stair led to the attic which was used as a bedroom/sleeping loft. A prominent architectural feature is the large exterior-end chimney stack which served fireplaces in the basement (with a projecting bakeoven) and first story. Along with the 18th century Pennsylvania German hardware and woodwork, the house contains other period features such as two openings on the first story in the exterior wall by the fireplace -- one of which apparently served a stone sink and the other a small casement window for ventilation -- and evidence for a lime mortar floor. Built in 1785, the almost pristine condition of this structure makes it significant to the architectural history of this region.*

*DESCRIPTION: The Christian Bauer House is part of a farm complex located at Bachman Mills. The house is located on the north side of Bachman's Valley Road, approximately 3½ miles west of Maryland Route 30, at the northwest corner of the intersection of Bachman's Valley Road and Bixler Church Road.*

*The Christian Bauer House is a one-story structure of Pennsylvania German origin. It is built into a slope so that there is a ground entrance level on the east facade for a spring room and summer kitchen. The main floor presently consists of a two-room plan with a fireplace. The attic contains a sleeping loft.*

*The main facade faces south and contains the ground level entrance with the slope of the land sloping down from west to east. This facade contains a double-tiered porch with the roof line of the main roof projecting out to form the roof of the upper story of the porch. The main floor has two bays with*

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7. Description

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an entrance in the easternmost bay and a window in the westernmost bay. The stonework has been whitewashed on the main story although it forms an unusual pattern around the entrance where it appears that the masonry has been extensively reworked. The basement level has an entrance directly below the entrance on the main story and a small narrow slit opening in the westernmost bay.

The east facade contains primarily an exterior-end chimney to the structure. There is a small basement window that appears to be reduced in size from a larger original window. There is also a four-pane window in the gable. Primarily, however, this facade contains the exterior-end chimney which is constructed of stone up to the peak of the roof where it is capped by a brick stack. The southernmost side of the chimney runs straight up to its top while the western side is stepped down to ground level. At the basement level is a bricked-in area with a stone arch lintel which provides evidence that there was exterior bake oven which served the basement fireplace.

The Bauer House is constructed on a large rock over a spring and on the north side the large stone outcropping can be viewed. The north side presently contains two bays with windows. The easternmost window has filled-in stonework indicating that at one time this opening was a door, which may or may not have been the original opening. On the east side of this door opening is a small 10" x 15" window with a header brick lintel (as do the other windows on this facade). Below this window is a concrete plug for an opening that was approximately 4" in diameter. The window in the door opening is a six-over-six sash window. The westernmost bay contains an eight-pane (four rows of two panes each) casement window. At the basement level, there is a window to the easternmost room and a small narrow slit window to the westernmost room.

The west gable end contains a recent masonry patch which may have contained a small window into the basement level. There is also a window on the main story with a brick header lintel and batten shutter, a four-pane window to the attic, a half-round datestone, and a small arched ventilation opening to the attic.

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7. Description

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Like many early homes of the Pennsylvania Germans, this house was built directly on a spring. Apparently the early uses of these basement rooms were as a spring room in the westernmost room and a summer kitchen, perhaps the main kitchen of the house, in the easternmost room. There rooms have been altered somewhat over the years. The westernmost wall was built into a large outcropping of rock with the spring is in the southwest corner of the structure. The basement area has been given a cement floor in the twentieth century with a spring opening that served as a dairy room. This room also contains an unusual feature between the basement level and the main story. Between the joists are thick planks that are level with the bottoms of the floor joists. Where there are cracks between the planks, narrow stones are stuck into the crevices. Stones were also laid in the spaces between the floor joists, and they were covered with lime mortar to form the surface of the floor above. At a later date, the underside was covered with lathe and plaster for a basement ceiling. The walls of the summer kitchen and spring room are whitewashed. The entire basement has a large chamfered summer beam with a chamfered edge and lambs-tongue stop.

In the summer kitchen, the floor joists carrying the upper floor are exposed. There is a large kitchen hearth with log lintel. At the rear of the hearth is the opening for the bake oven that stood outside a chimney. There is also a board support system for carrying the hearth, consisting of mud and brick, to the fireplace above. There's a window on the east wall that was apparently reduced in size. On the outside of the basement there is a room that apparently was constructed in the late nineteenth century. This room had a cement trough with excess to water and may have served as a washroom or dairy.

On the main floor of the structure, it is difficult to determine the original partitions. The structure now stands as a two-room plan with the frame partition running through the center of the structure. The east gable end contains a fireplace and a corner stair boxed in a board partition. However, markings on the floor of this eastern room indicate that perhaps the original partition was a board wall located just to the west side of the entrance. There is a boxed summer beam running through these two rooms.

The westernmost room on the main story has plastered walls with a chairrail and baseboard. Three windows light this room and the western and southern windows contain batten shutters. However, the

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sash to these windows is gone. The batten shutters have tapered battens (going from 4" to 3¼" with bead edges). They are fastened to the shutter boards with rosehead nails. They are attached on the outside with 12" long wrought iron hinges with round ends. One might suspect that this room was originally partitioned into a front and back room with a board partition running along the summer beam to form a Pennsylvania German three-room plan. However, there is no visible evidence of that. At some locations one can view the floor joists for the attic floor. While these are chapered with run out stops, they do not appear to be painted, but they still were probably exposed in the original room configuration.

The easternmost room contains some of the most interesting features of the house. This includes the small window on the north wall that has a 15½" wide and 7" tall opening below it. The lower opening appears to be a drain for a stone sink that would have been built into this wall. The window above it was probably to light the sink and provide ventilation to the fireplace. The window on the west side of these openings is the location where there once was a door. The chairrail in this room runs out to this door opening and is notched in a way that may indicate a partitioned wall ran through the room at this location. Cuts in the floor boards in this room also indicate some changes that may have included such a partition wall. The fireplace at this location has a plain shelf with a triangular bracket but is attached with wire nails and probably replaced an earlier fireplace mantel. The stairway in the south-east corner is boxed in with a board tongue-and-groove partition wall. The stairway appears to have originally been open, and the present boards may be from the original partition wall. The door used in this stairway is an early door with a triangular-pointed door pull and a catch with a small tail. The door has strap hinges with pointed ends. However, this apparently is a reused door as the panels of the four panel section face in toward the attic. Another unusual characteristic in this room is that two of the floor boards raise up to form a trap door to the basement and an inserted floor joist in the basement has a scarf joint where this door originally appeared, but both appear to be mid-nineteenth century features.

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7. Description

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The attic contains a sleeping loft which may have originally contained partitions although there is no evidence of them at this time. As one rises the stairs to the attic, one can view one of the floor joists with its run out stop and an unusual wide notch in the framing timber of the east gable wall. The roof is constructed of common rafters pegged at the ridge and with collars to support. The rafters are notched into a hewn wood plate at the north and south sides of the structure. The plate is attached to framing timbers that run at this level in each gable end. On the north side, there are some wide boards covering the rafters which present an unusual appearance but appear not to be original. Primarily, the rafters carry 1½" x 2" per lins present and that carried a wood shingle roof. The remnants of this wood shingle roof are presently covered with sheet metal standing-seam roofing. At the west gable end is the brick opening which provided attic ventilation. A four-pane window is located in each gable end. A late nineteenth century flue is located towards the west side of the structure. This brick flue rests on a board support and received a stove pipe that came back from the room below it. Another unusual feature in the attic is a crude peg rail that appears to be contemporary to the house.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-1151

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Pennsylvania German Culture

**Specific dates** **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.

*SUMMARY: The Christian Bauer House is a unique survivor of an 18th century Pennsylvania German dwelling and spring house. The building contains representative Pennsylvania German architectural characteristics, but also has evidence for early features not typically seen in this region, i. e. the stone sink opening and the lime mortar floor. Future research and comparisons of this structure to other Pennsylvania German houses and spring houses may reveal new insights about Pennsylvania German architecture and culture.*

*HISTORY: Documentary records do not provide much detail about Christian Bauer's life. The first record of the Bauers in this area is 1764 with the granting of the land patent "Cold Friday" (1/6/1764; 80 acres) to Christian Bauer. Bauer was quite active in land acquisition during the late eighteenth century, with the records showing 15 different patents to him from 1764 to 1787. The site of the Bauer House, however, is not on one of the patents ut is located on part of "Hall's Range," an 26 acre parcel purchased by Christian Bauer in 1768 from John Hall. This land tract was valuable because it was located in the forks of the Great Pipe Creek and had been patented by William Hall in 1744.*

*Christian Bauer died in 1790 and his tombstone, which is located at Jerusalem's Church (formerly called Bower's Church) on a parcel of land adjoining the Bauer House property provides other facts about his life. He was born in Switzerland on December 5, 1734 and married Veronica Spicker in 1767. The text of the tombstone (which is partially illegible because of deterioration of the stone) reads as follows: "1791 Hier ruhet Christian Bauer ist geboren in der Schwiz 1734 den 5 December Hat im ehstand gelebt mit Veronica Spickerlin 33 Jahr und mit . . . 13 Kinder*

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8. Significance

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und . . . Gestorben im Jahr 1790 im 18 January Brachte . . . 55 Jahr  
1 Monet und 13 tag."

The tombstone of his wife, Veronica, has the following inscription: "  
"1796 Hier Ruhet in Gott Vronica Bauerin sie lebde mit Christian  
Bauer in der eh beina he 32 jahr sie er zeig den mit ein ander 13  
kinder sie ist gestorben in jahr 1796 den 22 octobre da ihr ganes  
alder wahr."

Other documentary sources have provided little information about the family. Church records do not show baptisms of the children of Christian and Veronica Bauer. Jerusalem's Church was not founded until 1798, and there are no baptism entries for Christian Bauer in other churches of the region -- St. Jaboc's Stone Church, St. David's Sherman's Church, or Manchester German Zion's Church. The grandchildren of Christian (children of Christian and Salome, Johannes and Susanna, and Jacob and Elisabeth) are listed in the baptismal records of Zion's Church during the years 1789 and 1797. In Strassburger Hinke Pennsylvania German Pioneers, there is one Christian Bower (I,621, 623,625) who could be the one that eventually made his way to Bachman's Valley. He arrived in America on September 30, 1754, on the ship, "Neptune."

The first reference to the house that exists in documentary records appears in Christian Bauer's will (Frederick County Wills; Liber GM 2, Folio 325-327). The will provides for the welfare of his wife and the disposition of his lands. His wife is to have the use of his dwelling plantation, mills and all land until August 22, 1796. At that date, the estate is to be appraised for distribution to his children. He allows that if his wife is still alive, she may select, "one horse and saddle, two cows, two sheep, her bed and bedstead and furniture belonging thereto, one good chest and as much household goods as she wants to choose for her use; and she shall have the use of the springhouse for her dwelling house and in which shall put a good pipe stove out of my estate." Bauer also states other items to be provided for her maintenance, including cut firewood for the winter, stabling for livestock, etc.

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*The springhouse cited in the will is apparently the 1785 stone house. Unfortunately, the 1798 Federal Tax Assessment for Frederick County, Maryland is not as detailed as in other areas, and it is difficult to determine exactly what buildings were on the property. In fact, the 1798 tax list does not even record the stone springhouse. The citation records a log house, barn and grist mill assessed to John Bowers on a 60 acre parcel of "Hall's Range." This would be the same property because it was previously assessed to Fornica (sic; Veronica) Bowers.*

*With this limited documentary evidence, we are at risk to draw anything but tentative conclusions about the property. I think that we can safely assume, however, that the 1785 stone house was not the primary residence on the property. It was apparently built for two reasons. The first would be to provide substantial protection to the spring located on the property. Secondly, in 1785, Christian Bauer was 51 years old and the stone "springhouse" may have been constructed as a retirement house in the anticipation of turning the farm and mill property over to a son. The datestone and other architectural features of the building, I believe, substantiate that it was intended to be a dwelling.*

*There is a broader theme identified here about Pennsylvania German springhouses that needs to be more closely examined. Many farm properties in central Maryland had substantial springhouses with residential quarters built in. The oral tradition on many of these farms is that this first residence of the property resided in by the owners until the main house could be built. The other frequently recited oral tradition is that the springhouse served as a residence for indentured servants, slaves, and hired hands. How often are these oral traditions true? Or are there other reasons for this type of Pennsylvania German springhouse? It is difficult to document such oral traditions, and we may be dealing with misinterpretation of early structures or concepts tainted by late 19th century uses. I believe that better documented examples need to surface before we can conclusively state the various uses of the residential space in this prominent springhouse type.*

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8. Significance

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The architecture of the Bauer House presents a number of the characteristic architectural features found in Pennsylvania German houses in this region. The structure underwent some remodeling in the mid-19th century but still retains significant original features. The house can be dated to 1785 by a datestone in the gable of the west elevation. The stone is inscribed as follows: "C B 1785 V B GOTTES SEGEN LEVCHT IN DISEM HAUS VND WER DA GET IN VND AUS." The initials are for Christian Bauer and Veronica Bauer, his wife. The inscription has a house blessing using the "gehen ein und aus" theme that was so popular among the Pennsylvania Germans, not only for datestones but also on handwritten and printed Haus Segen forms. Here, it can be translated as "May God's Blessing enlighten this house and on those who go in and out."

The Christian Bauer House has survived mainly as a springhouse protecting the farm's water supply. If, in fact, it was built as a retirement house, Christian Bauer died before moving into it, and likewise, his wife died before the 1796 date specified in his will. The property changed hands twice in the first decade of the 19th century -- first to John Kohler and then in 1810 to Frederick Bachman.

There are references to the Bauer House in the publication, The Fisher-Stombaugh Families and Allied Lineages of Maryland and Pennsylvania 1715 - 1949, by Florence Hepp Petersen (Boulder, CO: Author, 1950). The author identifies the Bauer House and Mill as the "mill seat" of Michael Fisher, but these references are inaccurate.. Fisher did buy property from the Christian Bauer estate (Baltimore County Land Records, Liber WG HH, Folio 379; April 13, 1792) but it was a one acre tract of "White Oak Spring" in Baltimore County. The Bauer House and Mill was located on a 60 acre tract of "Hall's Range" in Frederick County.

Frederick Bachman built the brick farmhouse in 1818 that stands as the primary residence on the property today. He also tore down the Bauer grist mill and erected a stone grist mill that stood south of the springhouse until the early 20th century. Oral tradition states that the springhouse was used as a store and post office by the Bachmans during the mid-to-late 19th century, which accounts for the mid-19th century interior remodeling of the building.



# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CARR-1151

Carroll and Frederick County Land and Probate Records

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name Manchester, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joe Getty

organization Carroll County Department of Planning and Development date October, 1985

street & number 225 North Center Street telephone (301) 848-6494

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  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438



1. CARR-1151 Christian Bauer House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1985
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. South & west elev. (camera facing ne)
7. 1/16



1. CARR-1151 Christian Bauer House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1985
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. South & East elev. (camera facing nw)
7. 2/16



1. CARR-1151 Christian Bauer House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1985
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. East & North elev. (camera facing sw)
7. 3/16



1. CARR-1151 Christian Bauer House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1985
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. West elev. (camera facing e)
7. 4/16



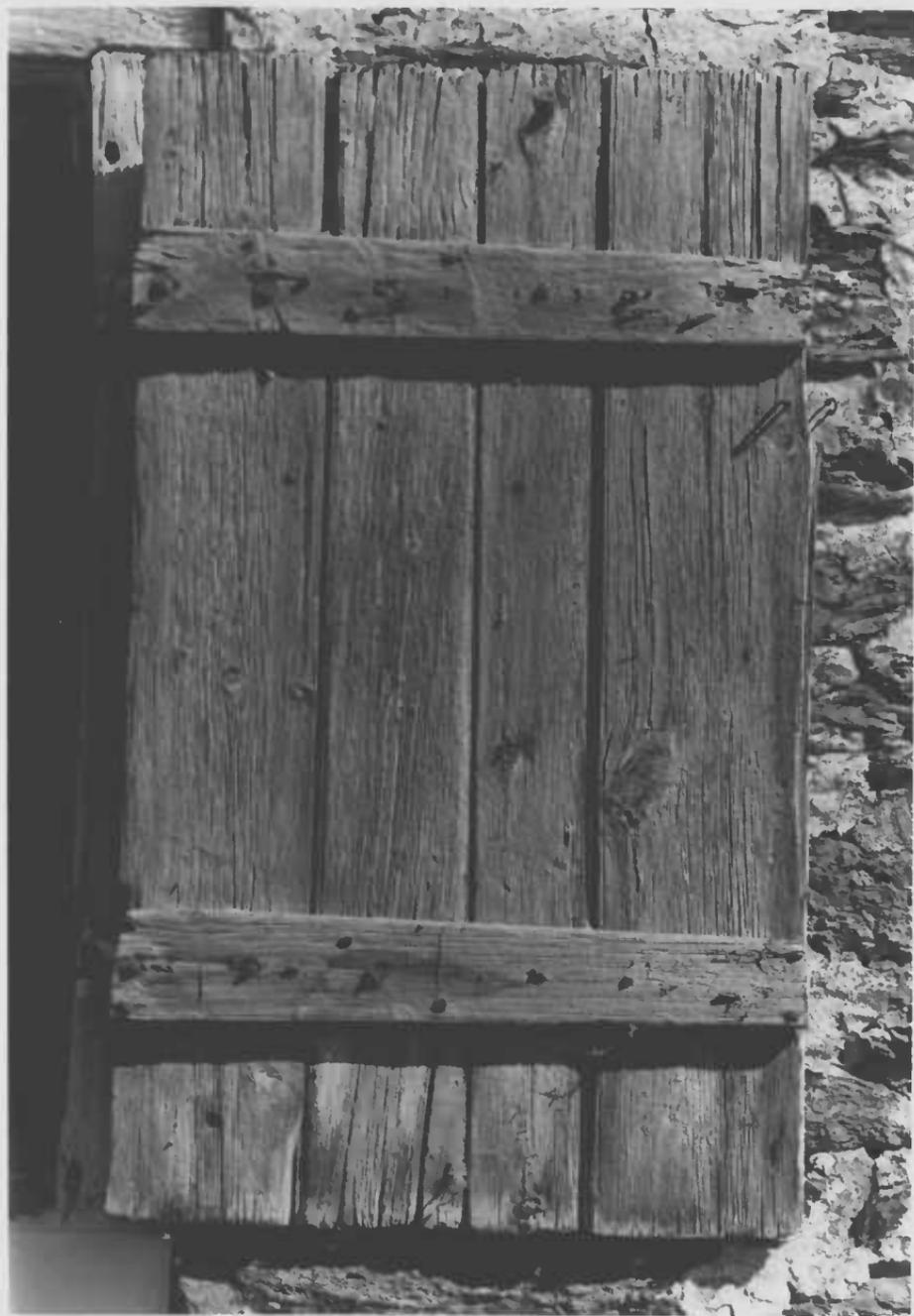
1. CARR-1151 Christian Bauer House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1985
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. East elev. (camera facing w)
7. 5/16



1. CARR-1151 Christian Bauer House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1985
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. North elev. (camera facing s)
7. 6/16



1. CARR-1151 Christian Bauer House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1985
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. Datestone detail (west elev.)
7. 7/16



1. CARR-1151 Christian Bauer House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1983
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. Batten shutter detail (west elev.)
7. 8/16



1. CARR-1151 Christian Bauer House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1985
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. Basement fireplace (east wall)
7. 9/16



1. CARR-1151 Christian Bauer House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1985
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. Basement - spring in sw corner
7. 10/16



1. CARR-1151 Christian Bauer House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1985
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. Basement - ceiling planks & mortar
7. 11/16



1. CARR-1151 Christian Bauer House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1985
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. Parlor - se corner
7. 12/16



1. CARR-1151 Christian Bauer House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1985
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. Hall - se corner (stairway)
7. 13/16



1. CARR-1151 Christian Bauer House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1985
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. Hall - ne corner (openings & fireplace)
7. 14/16



1. CARR-1151 Christian Bauer House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1985
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. Attic - rafters & peg rail
7. 15/16



1. CARR-1151 Christian Bauer House
2. Carroll County, Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1985
5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
6. Attic - diagonal bracing
7. 16/16