

Survey No. M-21-155

Magi No.

DOE yes no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Henry H. Fraley House

and/or common 303 North Frederick Avenue

2. Location

street & number 303 North Frederick Avenue not for publication

city, town Gaithersburg vicinity of _____ congressional district 9

state Maryland county Montgomery

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 checked="" 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	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 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 Roy Jorgensen Associates, Inc.

street & number 17 Firstfield Road telephone no.: 948-8190

city, town Gaithersburg state and zip code Maryland

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Land Records liber 400

street & number Montgomery Co. Courthouse folio 183

city, town Rockville state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

None

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

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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 of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

Shape, proportion, and details make the subject house at 303 North Frederick Avenue a classic example of a 1920s transitional house. The structure closely follows the textbook example listed as "Eclectic Houses: Craftsman," and illustrated in Virginia and Lee McAllester's Field Guide to American Houses.

The structure faces west on North Frederick Avenue, one of a row of houses now converted to commercial use while retaining their residential appearance. The house is surrounded by a grass lawn, azaleas, shrubs and ornamental trees. The lot has been reduced on the front by street widening which has resulted in a steep front grade. A 4 ft. sidewalk fronts the lot, with 4 concrete steps leading to a sidewalk approaching the entrance of the house. A brick pathway leads from the entrance around the north side of the house to the rear. The rear third of the lot is a crushed rock parking area with a garage at the northeast corner accessed via an alley exiting onto Maryland Avenue. The exterior appearance of the house is unaltered except for a commercial sign placed on the porch roof.

This 2-story, hipped-roofed house with central sloped roof dormer is a fine example of mixed Prairie and Craftsman style. The square blocky proportions of the house broken by a central dormer, the paired and strip windows, and wide enclosed overhanging eaves are typical of the Prairie style. The tapered front porch columns mounted on piers of rusticated concrete block are craftsman characteristics as is the asymmetrical entryway and window placement.

The exterior covering is 5" German siding with cornerboards. Windows are double sash, three-over-one and are found singly, paired, and in strips of three. The front upper story has wooden louvered shutters. Windows and doors have plain surrounds. The foundation is rusticated concrete block in front, bevelled block on sides and rear. The full basement has rectangular three light windows set in wells except for one above grade on the west facade. The roof is asphalt shingled with an interior chimney centered on the rear slope. A full width front porch wraps around the south facade, where it has been enclosed. The back, or east facade, has a two story rear lean-to on the left third, and a one story lean-to on the remaining to create a small second story sleeping porch and a full width first floor back porch.

The west, or front facade is capped by the central dormer containing a strip two-light window. The second story has five evenly spaced windows. The first floor porch is covered by a hipped roof and supported by four tapered wooden columns mounted on rusticated concrete block piers. The piers are connected by a plain wooden ballustrade. a strip of three windows is in the left bay, an exterior 9 light door with multi-pane side lights is asymmetrically placed in the second bay, and a strip of two windows is centered on the enclosed east side porch.

continued on attachment 7.1

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303 North Frederick Avenue
Attachment 7.1

The north facade has single windows first and second story in the left bay, and a single second-story window and a pair of windows first story in the right bay.

The east, or rear facade is broken by a two story lean-to which occupies the left third. The upper sleeping porch is enclosed, with a strip of three windows on the rear facade. The first floor has an exterior door in the left corner and two screened window openings to the right which adjoin the one story lean-to's three screened window sized openings. An exterior door with two steps leads into the porch in the center bay, and a single window occupies the extreme right bay. The second story, main block, has a small window in the center bay and a single window in the right bay.

The south facade has the enclosed front porch extension projecting from the first story with a strip of four windows on the south side, and a strip of two on the east. The second story of the house block has two evenly spaced windows, and one in the attached lean-to. The first story, main block, has a single window in the right bay, below the right second story one, an exterior alarm bell, and a single window in the lean-to.

8. Significance

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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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		(Local History)

Specific dates ca. 1921 **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.

Significance

This classic mix of prairie and craftsman styles occupies one lot of an original two lot residential parcel in the newly platted and prestigious subdivision of "Realty Park" in Gaithersburg. Planned during post-WWI optimism on land originally owned by the Gaither family, financial problems forced the division of the parcel back into two lots. The owner of companion lot #20, at #301 North Frederick, prospered by his association with the growing automobile industry. The owners of lot #21, #303 North Frederick, suffered the hardships of the 20s and the depression of the 30's. Together, the two lots show both sides of Gaithersburg life from 1920 to 1935.

History and Support

"Realty Park" was platted in 1919 ^{1/} by the Gaithersburg Realty Association, on land purchased from Herman Rabbitt who inherited the former Gaither property from Emily Cecil Rabbitt. ^{2/} Realty Park fronted North Frederick Avenue, the main street of town, and it was intended to be a prestigious development. Many of its early deeds carried covenants limiting the minimum cost of the dwelling, establishing a frontage of 20 feet, side yard of 10 feet, and included a clause limiting resale only to those of "Caucasian Race." ^{3/} On December 9th, 1920, two of the most prominent lots, #20 and #21, on North Frederick Avenue were sold to Henry H. Fraley. ^{4/} On March 23, 1923, Fraley relinquished lot #20 back to Gaithersburg Realty to satisfy a Judgment. ^{5/} Fraley subsequently built a 2-story frame house. On April 17, 1926, the property was sold to Eugene G. and Gertrude Beane for \$5,500, F. Carroll Walker financing the transaction. ^{6/}

But Gaithersburg and the nation were suffering difficult times and the Beanes, as many others at that time, found they could not make ends meet. A foreclosure sale, one of two to be held in Gaithersburg, was advertised in the Montgomery County Sentinel on July 5, and subsequent issues in 1929, and the property was sold on July 27, for \$5,700. The property was conveyed by William Talbott, attorney, to the Montgomery County National Bank. ^{7/}

Continued on attachment 8.1

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However, the Beanes were not alone. Two of their immediate neighbors were troubled by similar difficulties. 8/ In fact, so many people suffered financial difficulty at the time that lenders were forgiving. The Beanes worked out an arrangement and remained in their house until 1936 9/ when the house was sold to Montgomery County Sherriff, Charles M. Orme. 10/

The house was subsequently sold to Roy Jorgensen Associates, Inc., 11/ who modified the property and added parking for commercial reuse.

Footnotes:

1. Montgomery County Plat Book #3/208.
2. Gaithersburg; The Heart of Montgomery County, City of Gaithersburg, 1978. See "Gaither" in Genealogy section for history of this important property in Gaithersburg.
3. Montgomery County Land Record 294/334 -lot 54 sold to Gaithersburg M.E.Church, South with restrictions. Also Reed property, lot #20, Land Record 394/253.
4. Land Record 300/382.
5. Land Record 328/366, Judgment #157.
6. Land Record 400/183 for sale and 1st mortgage; 400/185 2nd mortgage.
7. Land Record 488/428.
8. Land Record 412/169, foreclosure Vincent G. Mullican, lot 36, Realty Park; and Land Record 339/239, Joseph C. Freeman to Gaithersburg Realty Association.
9. Interview with Evelyn Beane Norris, July, 1985.
10. Land Record 634/96.
11. Land Record

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Montgomery County Land, Equity, and Plat Records; Montgomery County Sentinel newspaper; Interview with Evelyn Beane Norris, July, 1985.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

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

Lot 21, "Realty Park" subdivision in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

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	Judith A. Christensen	
organization	City of Gaithersburg, Maryland	date July, 1985
street & number	31 South Summitt Avenue	telephone 948-3220
city or town	Gaithersburg	state Maryland 20877

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

M:21-155



528

P471

P527

P525

P523

OAK AVENUE

PROSPECT AVE

P461

N581

N609

AVENUE

AVENUE

HIGHLAND AVE

N635

P612

REALTY

PARK

C-1

MONTGOMERY

CENTRAL AVE

AVENUE

N662

R-B

R-90

P687

FREDERICK

MARYLAND

WALKER'S

R-A

P719

P742

P771

P772

Wingham Co. Inc.

5159 / 486

C-2

6.57 Ac

N827

N845

N844

P833

P834

P842

ADD

N888

MCBAIN AVE

P886

ST

AVENUE

WALKER'S

4 RB

R & B ADD

N934

N939

N938

N940

N941

P950

P949

948

RAILROAD

CHESTNUT

GAITHERSBURG

Note: the sites shown on this map either do not have MHT #s or were inventoried after those placed on the other maps.

Summers House
309 N. Frederick Ave.
M-21-169
Beall House
307 N. Frederick Ave.
M-21-167
Fraleley House
303 N. Frederick Ave.
M-21-155
Reed House
301 N. Frederick Ave.
M-21-154

Thomas & Company Cannery
14 Chestnut Street
M-21-168

Gaithersburg B&O Railroad Station
5 S. Summit Ave.
M-21-151

Bowman Mill
317 E. Diamond Ave.
M-21-153

B&O Wye Site
S. Side of B&O Tracks
M-21-166

The Ascension Episcopal Chapel
200 S. Summit Ave.
M-21-136

Summit Hall Farm
502 S. Frederick Ave.
M-21-3

Washington Grove

Brown

NATIONAL BUREAU
OF STANDARDS

Conveyors

Park
Grove



WEST ELEVATION



EAST ELEVATION



SOUTH ELEVATION



NORTH ELEVATION

303 NORTH FREDERICK AVE.

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