

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. M 23-5

Magi No. 1605115604

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Conrad Royer Farmhouse

and/or common appearing on Atlas as Isreal Griffith House

2. Location

street & number 5900 Damascus Road not for publication

city, town Laytonsville vicinity of congressional district 1st

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Mr. Gillis Owings

street & number 5900 Damascus Road telephone no.:

city, town Laytonsville, Md. state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse liber 562

street & number folio 173

city, town Rockville state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title M-NCPPC Historic Sites Inventory

date 1976 federal state county local

pository for survey records M-NCPPC Park Historian's Office

city, town Rockville state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. M:23-5

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date of move _____

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

This is a two story, frame farmhouse with a five bay facade. The centrally located front entry has narrow sidelights and a transom above. The windows are two over two double hung sash. A porch, supported by Victorian style turned posts with jig-sawn trim, runs the length of the facade. There is a brick chimney with a corbelled top at both interior gable ends. The house has a gable roof with a center gable. To the rear of the house is a two story, frame ell, reportedly built at the same time as the main block.

The house rests on a stone foundation. The original chestnut weatherboarding exterior is now covered with asbestos shingles. The roof is covered with raised seam metal.

8. Significance

Survey No.

M:23-5

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 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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1880-1881 Builder/Architect Conrad Royer

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.

The Conrad Royer Farmhouse is significant as a particularly good example of a style of residential architecture typical of that constructed in rural Montgomery County during the later nineteenth century. Features that identify this popular house form include the rectangular main block, gable roof with a center gable and a porch running the length of the facade. Most examples of this house type have three bay facades. The Conrad Royer farmhouse, somewhat larger, is five bays across. In addition, this house has retained its Victorian style architectural detailing; such as the front porch supported by turned post with ornate bracketing.

This house was built by Conrad Royer in 1880-1881, including the rear wing.¹ Mr. Royer built his house on 183 acres of farm property which he purchased in May of 1879 from the heirs of Isreal Griffith.² The house was built of Chestnut lumber which Mr. Royer cut himself at his mill located on the property. In addition to the mill, Mr. Royer was a wheat farmer. According to his grandson, present owner Mr. Gillis Owings, Mr. Royer owned the first thrashing machine for the harvesting of wheat in Montgomery County.³ Mr. Royer lived here with his wife, Emma and seven children. Following Emma's death the farm was sold to Mr. Royer's grandson, Gillis Owings in 1933. The farm remains the property of Mr. Owings.⁴

¹Mr. Gillis Owings, 2/2/84.

²Equity CKW 62/463, Montgomery County Judgement Records.

³Mr. Gillis Owings, 2/2/84.

⁴Deed 562/173, Montgomery County Land Records.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. M: 23-5

Conversation with Mr. Gillis Owings, present owner
Montgomery County Land Records
Montgomery County Judgement Records

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 86.29 acres

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Catherine Crawford

organization Mont. Co. Hist. Preservation Comm. date 2/84

street & number

telephone

city or town Rockville

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

1605115604

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON:				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Israel Griffith House				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: 5900 Damascus Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Laytonsville				
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Montgomery	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: G. C. Owings				
STREET AND NUMBER: 5900 Damascus Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Laytonsville			STATE: Maryland	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Montgomery County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: None				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house is a two story, frame building with a five bay facade. The central doorway has narrow side and transom lights. The windows are 2/2 double hung sash. There is a porch with bracketed posts across the facade. At either end are internal chimneys. There is a central facade gable. To the rear is a two story, frame ell with an internal end chimney.

There is a frame meat-house on a high, stone foundation standing south of the house.

The house is now shingled.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

[Empty space for the Statement of Significance]

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreege Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: M-NCPPC

DATE: 7 Nov 74

STREET AND NUMBER:
8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring

STATE: Maryland

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:
 National State Local

M: 23-5

PRELIMINARY DRAFT

AMENDMENT TO THE APPROVED AND ADOPTED
MASTER PLAN FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION IN
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

NORTHERN AND EASTERN
MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC RESOURCES

Including sites located in the Olney, Sandy Spring,
Aspen Hill, Norbeck and Burtonsville Areas

March 1986

An amendment to the 1980 Olney Master Plan, 1980 Sandy Spring/
Ashton Special Study Plan, 1970 Aspen Hill Master Plan, and the
1981 Eastern Montgomery County Master Plan; being also an
amendment to the General Plan for the Physical Development of the
Maryland-Washington Regional District and to the Master Plan of
Highways within Montgomery County, Maryland.

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3760

14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-3090

IMPLEMENTATION

Once designated on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation, any substantial changes to the exterior of a resource or its environmental setting must be reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission and a historic area work permit issued. The Ordinance also empowers the County's Department of Environmental Protection and the Historic Preservation Commission to prevent the demolition of historic buildings through neglect.

It is the intent of the Master Plan and Ordinance to provide a rational system for evaluating, protecting and enhancing Montgomery County's heritage for the benefit of present and future residents. The accompanying challenge is to weave protection for this heritage into the County's planning program so as to maximize community support for preservation and minimize infringement on private property rights.

THE AMENDMENT

The purpose of this Preliminary Draft Amendment is to consider the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission's recommendations that the following sites be designated on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation and protected under the County's Historic Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 24A of the Montgomery County Code. A copy of the Ordinance is provided in Appendix B of this document.

(NOTE: Unless otherwise specified in the Preservation Commission's nomination, the recommended environmental setting for each site is the entire parcel on which the resource is located as of the date it is designated on the Master Plan as defined in Section 24A-2 of the County's Preservation Ordinance. Where additional buildings of historical or architectural importance are associated with a site, these buildings are noted in the nomination as being part of the recommended setting.)

<u>Atlas #</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Location</u>
15/55	Spencer/Carr House	2420 Spencerville
-	Dating from 1855 with a rear section added in the 1870's, this three-story house is distinguished by three over three windows on the third floor and a one-story porch with bracketed pillars on the front facade.	
-	Significant as an example of the "Spencerville style", a local style characterized by a special grouping of architectural detail most notably half windows on the third story extending into the boxed cornice and roof line.	

- The house is reputed to have been built by William Spencer the founder of Spencerville, and is therefore important to the heritage of that community and that part of the County.

15/67 Maiden's Fancy 15701 Aitcheson Lane

- 1807 -- Two and one-half story, Federal style, brick house with front facade laid in Flemish bond, featuring flat arches on the 1st floor windows and a doorway with a transom light and flat arch with keystone.
- Associated with the Waters family and Benjamin D. Carr; both significant in the history of the Burtonsville community.
- Included in the recommended setting is the main house and a stone smokehouse associated with site.

23/5

Israel Griffith House 5900 Damascus Road

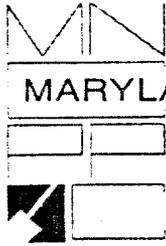
- Circa 1880 -- Good example of Gothic Revival architecture exhibiting such characteristics of the style as the center gable, turned porch posts, porch brackets, and corbelled chimneys.
- The recommended environmental setting includes the small board and batten shed, the frame meat house and the frame corncrib associated with the site.

23/9 Elton 3801 Elton Farm Road

- Handsome Federal style fieldstone farmhouse dating from 1780.
- Associated with Henry Griffith, early settler of the eastern part of the County.
- The recommended environmental setting is 25 acres and includes the stone meat house, dairy, and the cemetery, resting place of Colonel Ridgely Brown, local Civil War hero.

23/12 Greendale Farm 23200 Howard Chapel Road

- Early 20th century farm residence built in two sections; the first portion in 1907, the second added in 1924.
- Excellent example of transitional architecture which is representative of the period in that area of the county.



THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

8787 Georgia Avenue • Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760

M: 23/5
RECEIVED

MEMORANDUM

March 21, 1986 MAR 24 1986

MARYLAND HISTORICAL
TRUST

TO: Richard Ferrara, Director
Department of Housing and Community Development
John L. Menke, Director
Department of Environmental Protection
✓ J. Rodney Little, Director
State Historic Preservation Office
Philip Cantelon, Chairperson
Historic Preservation Commission

FROM: Melissa C. Banach, Coordinator *MB*
Community Planning North

SUBJECT: Preliminary Draft Amendment to the Master Plan for
Historic Preservation: Northern and Eastern
Montgomery County Resources

I am pleased to transmit to you this Preliminary Draft Amendment to the Master Plan for Historic Preservation: Northern and Eastern Montgomery County Resources.

This document contains the recommendations of the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission on approximately 80 historic sites located in the Olney, Sandy Spring, Aspen Hill, and Burtonsville areas of the County.

The Montgomery County Planning Board will hold a public hearing on this Preliminary Draft Amendment on Monday, April 21, 1986, at 7:30 P.M., in the Auditorium of the Montgomery Regional Office at 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland.

Should you have any questions concerning this specific Preliminary Draft Amendment, please do not hesitate to contact Marty Reinhart at 495-4565.

MCB:MR:dws
Attachment

M.23-5

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See correspondence dated April 8, 1987

ACTION TAKEN

The following sites will be removed from the Locational Atlas.

- | | | |
|--------|--------|----------|
| 23/1 | 23/28 | 23/96 |
| 23/2 | 23/32 | 23/98 |
| 23/3 | 23/43 | |
| 23/4 | 23/44 | *23/98-3 |
| *23/5 | *23/50 | 23/99 |
| | 23/52 | 23/107-2 |
| 23/10 | 23/55 | *23/110 |
| *23/14 | 23/56 | 23/113 |
| 23/16 | 23/59 | 23/114 |
| 23/20 | 23/61 | |
| 23/22 | 23/74 | 23/116 |
| 23/25 | 23/88 | 23/117 |



#23-5

NAME ISRAEL GRIFFITH (OWINGS)
LOCATION DAMASCUS Rd. UNITY, Md
FACADE NE
PHOTO TAKEN 11/7/74 M DWYER