

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. # 68-12-4 Building Date: 1896

Building Name: Altemus House

Location: 4300 Pennwood Road, Brentwood, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good-Fair/Inaccessible

Description

The Altemus House is a 2 1/2 story hip-and-cross-gable-roof frame dwelling. There are two two-story semi-octagonal bays on the south elevation; the hip roof of the easterly of these is built into the hip roof of the main block. The original wood siding is covered with brown "bricktex" asphalt shingle. A one-story flat-roof porch with chamfered bracketed posts fills the southeast corner.

Significance

The Altemus House is one of only a half dozen surviving examples of the Victorian cross-gable form in the earliest section of Brentwood. It is probably the finest of the cross-gabled dwellings with Queen Anne style decorative elements. It was begun in 1896 and enlarged shortly thereafter when it was purchased by Elizabeth Altemus, a widow who was employed in the U.S. Pension office. This house, now surrounded by commercial/industrial development, still serves as a fine example of late Victorian domestic architecture. It was one of the earliest dwellings built in the community which was to become Brentwood, and is the earliest still surviving.

Acreage: 13,000 square feet

Survey No. PG#68-12-4

Magi No.

DOE \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Altemus House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 4300 Pennwood Road \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Brentwood \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district 4

state Maryland county Prince George's

## 3. Classification

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

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

name Robert Lawrence

street & number 3217 Edgewood Road telephone no.:

city, town Kensington state and zip code MD 20895

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 6902

street & number 14735 Main Street folio 845

city, town Upper Marlboro state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. PG#68-12-4

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date of move _____
<input checked="" 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.

The Altemus House is a 2 1/2 story hip-and-cross-gable-roof frame dwelling. There are two two-story semi-octagonal bays on the south elevation; the hip roof of the easterly of these is built into the hip roof of the main block. The original wood siding is covered with brown "bricktex" asphalt shingle. A one-story flat-roof porch with chamfered bracketed posts fills the southeast corner.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" 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 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 1896-98 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.

The Altemus House is one of only a half dozen surviving examples of the Victorian cross gable form in the earliest section of Brentwood. It is probably the finest of the cross-gabled dwellings with Queen Anne style decorative elements. It was begun in 1896 and enlarged shortly thereafter when it was purchased by Elizabeth Altemus, a widow who was employed in the U.S. Pension office. This house, now surrounded by commercial/industrial development, still serves as a fine example of late Victorian domestic architecture. It was one of the earliest dwellings built in the community which was to become Brentwood, and is the earliest still surviving.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. PG#68-12-4

Prince George's County Deeds  
Prince George's County Tax Assessments  
Prince George's County Probate Records  
Prince George's County Plats

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 13,000 sq ft (Holladay, Block 15, lot 26)

Quadrangle name Washington East Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

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

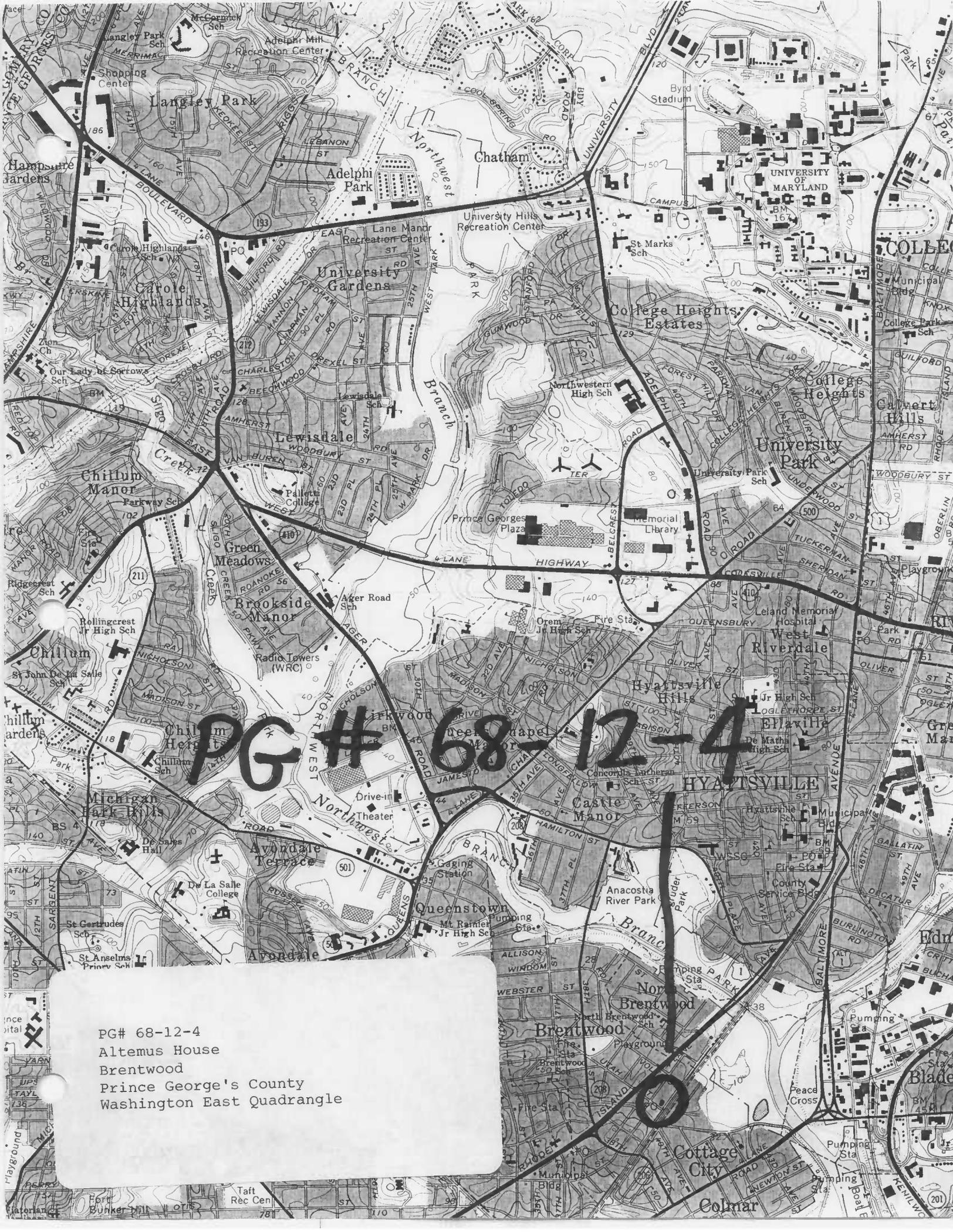
## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Susan G. Pearl, Research/Architectural Historian		
	Historic Preservation Section		
organization	Planning Dept. M-NCPPC	date	June 1992
street & number	14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive	telephone	(301) 952-3521
city or town	Upper Marlboro	state	MD

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



PG# 68-12-4

PG# 68-12-4  
Altemus House  
Brentwood  
Prince George's County  
Washington East Quadrangle



Pb # 68-12-4

(4)

Altemus House  
4300 Pennwood Road  
Brentwood P. O. Co.  
Susan H. Pevel  
February 1992  
Southeast  $\frac{3}{4}$  elevation

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