

Hyattsville Historic District

FHR-6-300 (11-78)

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

PG-68-10

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received FEB 26 1982

date entered MAR 25 1982

1. Name

historic

and/or common Hyattsville Historic District

2. Location

street & number multiple streets N/A not for publication

city, town Hyattsville N/A vicinity of congressional district Fifth

state Maryland code 24 county Prince George's code 033

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple public and private ownership (more than 50 owners)

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust
Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1976 federal state county local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

7. Description

PG-68-10

Condition		Check one	Check one
<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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The Hyattsville Historic District is a residential neighborhood of contiguous groups of streetscapes and approximately 600 structures, primarily houses, that exhibit late nineteenth and early twentieth century design characteristics. More than ninety percent of the structures included within the boundaries make a positive contribution to the district. The majority of residential buildings are of frame construction, the older ones with foundations of brick or (rarely) fieldstone, the newer of concrete. There is a pleasant continuity of frontyard setbacks and mature trees, a rhythmic sequence of buildings and spaces, and a patchwork of quiet narrow streets and back alleys. Although much alteration has occurred to individual structures, original materials and detailing are everywhere in evidence. Structures are generally in good condition, but maintenance is needed. A number of outbuildings remain, including garages, sheds, and small barns. Non-contributing buildings and intrusions are scattered throughout the district and consist primarily of small parking lots near the churches and lodge hall or new residential structures which are generally one story frame buildings.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Hyattsville historic district is a residential neighborhood of contiguous groups of streetscapes and structures possessing late 19th and early 20th century design characteristics. The buildings of the district together provide a picture of the architectural evolution of the City of Hyattsville from that of a small community to one which now numbers 17,000. Each era of the town, and a variety of architectural styles representing those eras, are in evidence; grand "mansions", summer cottages, duplexes, Second Empire, Queen Anne, Italianate, Bungalow, and Spanish styles are all represented here. There are numerous vernacular buildings as well.

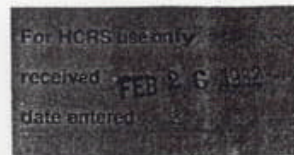
There are approximately 600 structures in the district. The area is predominantly residential in character, with churches sprinkled throughout. The majority of residential buildings are of frame construction, the older ones with foundations of brick or (rarely) fieldstone, the newer of formstone or concrete. There is a pleasant continuity of frontyard setbacks and mature trees, a rhythmic sequence of buildings and spaces, and a patchwork of quiet narrow streets and back alleys. Although much alteration has occurred to individual structures, original materials and detailing are everywhere in evidence. Structures are generally in good condition, but maintenance is needed. Even with the mixture of architectural styles, these styles are generally complementary, and the feeling is one of comfortable late 19th-early 20th century suburban living. A number of outbuildings remain, including garages, sheds, and small barns. Many of the original street names have been changed.

One house which appears on the 1873 map has been identified. The finest concentrations of late 19th century structures occur in the area of Farragut/Gallatin/Hamilton and 42nd Avenue. The early 20th century hipped roof style is found throughout the district. Bungalows with many variations on this 20th century small town theme, are plentiful.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 1

Hyattsville Historic District
Prince George's County, Maryland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

There are some intrusions in the district; these include: parking lots (close to the business area) and recent incompatible residential infill.

Individual descriptions of representative and outstanding buildings follow.

4000 and 4002 Crittenden Street: (photograph #2) These three bay by one bay L-shaped 2½ story frame vernacular cottages, built 1898 and representative of many of this style in the district, are nearly identical and in close-to-original condition. Sheathed in German-style clapboard siding painted white, they sit on concrete foundations. The gable roofs were originally covered with wood shingles, but 4000 is now covered with black asphalt and 4002 with green asphalt shingles. Originally heated by Latrobes, both structures had two interior brick chimneys (one in the rear and one in the main block), but in 4000 the main chimney has been removed above roof level.

Windows throughout the structures are two-over-two double-hung sash; 4000 retains green louvered wooden shutters. The west facade of each building has double windows on the first level and a single window above. The windows of 4002 have been highlighted with a dark green trim; that house has been recently painted.

The gable end faces south to make the front facade. This facade features a five paneled wooden door with transom and decorative molding on the east bay, and butt shingles in the gable. 4000 has simple timbering in the gable, with a small two-over-two window, and 4002 has a semi-elliptical window at that location. Both homes have attractively simple wooden porches across the front facade, that of 4002 wrapping around to the east as well. Each porch has four turned posts with scroll brackets (of differing patterns). 4000 has latticework under the porch, and an early light fixture hanging from the porch ceiling.

Each house has a rear addition, and each small lot has mature trees.

Kuhns House, 4901 40th Place: Constructed before 1873, the Kuhns House is believed to be the oldest building in Hyattsville. This large three bay by two bay 2½ story square house faces southwest. The frame house sits on a brick foundation, and has been recently sheathed in green narrow-lap aluminum siding. The hipped roof is flanked by large interior brick (parged with cement) chimneys, and is covered with diamond-patterned asphalt shingle of a green/gray color.

The central front door is wooden paneled and has sidelights. It is flanked by long narrow eight-light windows. With the exception of those and a six-over-one small central window above, most windows in the house are two-over-two double-hung sash. Each facade of the house has decorated brackets from which hang pendants.

On the front and south facades is a wrap-around porch which has been modernized.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

PG-68-10

For NCRS use only
received FEB 26 1982
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

7

Page

2

Hyattsville Historic District
Prince George's County, Maryland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

On the south facade is a one-story three-sided bay with three windows each surmounting a horizontal wooden panel.

On the rear (northeast) facade is a new one-story wooden porch supported by brick piers; off-center, it covers most of the central part of this facade. This facade also has a central gable-roofed dormer with narrow denticulated trim.

Hyattsville Presbyterian Church, 4201-4203 Farragut Street: (photograph #8) This lovely church was constructed in 1915 of gray stone in a cruciform plan. It is 1½ stories in height, with a full basement, and faces north. The coursed stonework is of a very high quality. Detailing is drawn from several sources, including the Richardsonian tradition and the arts and crafts school. All exterior wooden trim is painted a rich gray.

The transept roofs, jerkinheaded in shape, are lower than the nave roof and are covered with square slate shingles. (The east transept roof has been repaired with green/gray asphalt.)

The nave end (north facade) has three pointed-arch windows; the middle window is flanked by two smaller in size. Between the north and east arms is a shed-roofed entrance porch with a pointed arch doorway and bracketed canopy. The east transept has square-headed windows on the lower floor and in the gable, and there is a tall stone chimney at its south end. On the south end of the chancel is a semicircular apse with an unusual stone roof. A concrete block addition on the west is connected to the church by a covered passageway; the addition repeats the bracketed canopy of the church entrance.

Inside, the stone walls are complemented by fawn-colored wood, wooden beams supporting the jerkinheaded rooflines, and wainscoting. The wooden pews have quatrefoils cut from their ends. There are two lofts, and the simple altar features a slightly pointed stone arch.

Kovalakides House, 4106 Gallatin Street: (photograph #11) This grand Queen Anne style 2½ story four bay by six bay frame house, constructed 1887, displays a variety of textures and shapes. It is rectangular in shape, the main block facing south with a smaller block to the north (rear). Sited on a brick foundation, the pale olive clapboard is topped by gable roofs covered with light green asphalt shingles. Cement steps lead to the wooden porch which wraps around the south and west facades; this has five turned columns with simple brackets and turned balusters, and latticework connects the brick piers below.

Almost all of the windows are one-over-one double-hung sash, the top section a central square surrounded by smaller square panes of stained glass. The entrance door repeats this pattern in its glass panels and in the transom above. The second

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #3

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only
received - FEB 26 1982
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

7

Page

3

Hyattsville Historic District
Prince George's County, Maryland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

level features fish scale shingles all around the house, the third level a board and batten design.

The south bay of the east facade is mitred on the first level, and the middle two bays are now located in the enclosed porch; the remaining open bay of the porch has a north-facing door. In the middle of the main block is a hipped roof dormer with three small windows. On the west facade is a central 2½ story gable-roofed, mitred projecting bay; the veranda follows this projection. The rear facade is one bay wide at its northernmost point, with windows on each level; a bulkhead/shed below.

The interior features a carved cherry staircase, original gas light fixtures and pocket doors. The house has a central brick chimney in each block, and the lot is attractively landscaped with mature trees and plantings.

Rogers Mansion, 5220 42nd Place: This large 2½ story T-shaped frame house is situated on a knoll facing east. It is four bays by three bays, sheathed in 5" lap clapboard painted white, and has a high brick foundation. The cross gable roof (with projecting eaves) is now covered with green-gray asphalt shingles.

The wooden paneled double front (east) door has a fanlight and sidelights and is entered through an off-center one-bay entrance porch. The porch, which is supported by brick piers connected by dark green lattice work, has four Greek doric columns and a shed roof.

The main block of the T has two brick interior chimneys, and the stem of the T has a brick interior end chimney and small one-bay porch.

All windows in the house are two-over-two double-hung sash, and have no shutters; there is a triple window on the north bay of the main facade.

At the southeast corner of the house is a square 2½ story gable-roofed bay with double windows on the first and second levels. The south facade has a one-story porch with decorative eaves at the east end, gabled dormer with pointed-arch two-light window, and a central three-sided mitred bay window with double windows on the first two levels; the third floor projects even further and has a single two-over-two window.

Major exterior alterations to the house are the removal of the front portion of the wrap-around porch, and the addition of a modern wooden deck to the rear.

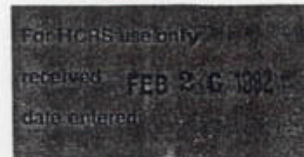
There are several mature trees in the large rear lot, which is enclosed with a chain link fence.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #4

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

FG-68-10



Continuation sheet

Item number

7

Page

4

Hyattsville Historic District
Prince George's County, Maryland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Duplex House, 4107-4109 Crittenden Street: This six-bay by three bay frame 2½ story duplex is located in a neighborhood of late Victorian structures. Several of these structures retain original features and materials, and this duplex is interesting for its mixture of change and retention. It was constructed about 1904.

The building faces north, contains a central block with large symmetrical wings, and is topped by a cross-gable roof. There is a central brick chimney and an interior brick chimney in each wing. Most of the windows are two-over-two double-hung sash, including the small one in the central gable. The foundation is of concrete with a basement dug out later.

The west house, 4107, has been drastically altered. It still retains its red seamed metal roof and glass and wooden paneled front door, but is now sheathed in white, wide-lap aluminum siding. There is a new two bay cement entrance porch with shed roof and new columns on the north facade. A one-story shed-roofed addition is on the rear.

On the other side of the white picket fence separating the front yards is 4109, the east house. This side is covered with green cedar shingles and is topped by a roof of black asphalt shingles. The cornice return on this side has been retained, as well as the transom over the glass and wooden paneled front door. The windows are capped with slightly arched cornices. The one-story entrance porch has modern iron railing, and there is an open one-story back porch.

Brooks House, 4914 43rd Avenue: This is a good example of the hipped roof style house constructed throughout the district around 1900-1910. This 2½ story square three bay wide by three bay frame house is sheathed in white asbestos siding. It has a brick foundation, and the hipped roof is covered with gray asphalt shingles. The house faces east.

The three bay wooden front porch sits on brick piers and has chamfered columns with scroll brackets. The glass and wooden paneled central entrance door has a transom above. This facade has a central shed dormer with one window. Windows throughout the house are one-over-one double-hung sash, and the plain trim is painted black.

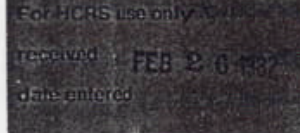
The west bay on the south facade is an oriel with three windows, and there is bulkhead/shed at the east bay. The shed roofed one-story addition to the rear has been recently enlarged to include a small porch, and is now two bays wide. There is crown molding on the interior. Mature trees grace the large lot, which also houses a small frame barn with shed roof, German siding, and concrete foundation. The house was build for former Mayor William Brooks.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #5

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

PG-68-10



Continuation sheet

Item number

7

Page

5

Hyattsville Historic District
Prince George's County, Maryland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Fox's Barn, 5011 42nd Avenue: (photograph #7) This four bay by four bay 2½ story square frame classic Shingle Style dwelling faces west. Other builders in Hyattsville designed their homes after this 1893 model, but Fox's Barn is the least altered. The silhouette of Fox's Barn is low; its steep gambrel roof, covered with light asphalt shingles, overhangs the one-story wood porch across the front and rear. There is lattice work under the porch. On the front facade are two massive gable-roofed dormers. The house is covered (even the square posts and enclosure of the porches) with the natural wood typical of Shingle Style.

There is a brick foundation, and a central brick chimney. Windows are 8 over 1 double-hung sash. The front door is wood and glass paneled. The center bay of the north facade is a doorway topped by a conical hood and leading to a small wooden deck. Alterations to the house have been minor; the rear porch has been screened, a third floor door and deck have been added on the south facade, and a small skylight has been added on the front.

The first floor interior is laid out as a large square of four equal rooms sharing a central fireplace which opens into a corner of each room. Overhanging bedroom window seats enhance the upstairs. The house sits on a large lot enclosed by a chain link fence; there is a small wood garage/barn to the rear.

Masonic Lodge: (photograph #15) This large three bay by seven bay 2½ story brick rectangular building faces north. Constructed in 1893, its features emphasize the verticality of this handsome building: graduated buttresses, long windows with graceful semi-elliptical arches, carved window heads and stone lintels, corbelling, and three chimneys. The central entrance has double wooden panel doors and oversized hinges, and is outlined with stone. The front facade has corner buttresses capped with corbelled brick leading to petal-shaped pinnacles. The center is corbelled and stepped and peaks with decorative carving and a finial.

The brick is common-bonded throughout. The window molding, mullions and cornices are a rich cream color. The east facade is grander than the west, as it abuts 43rd Avenue. As the land drops off to the rear (south), the basement level is more visible. Windows on the south three bays on the east and west facades, added in the 1930s, have been bricked in. Most of the second floor windows have been shortened by bricking in just below the arch and just above the lintel. ~~XG~~ appears in stone above the entrance and on sign projecting from the northeast corner.

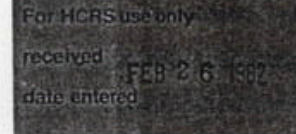
5107 42nd Avenue: (photograph #13) This classically simple frame house is reminiscent of the Italian villa style, with its tall tower and two-story L-shaped floor plan. It is three bays by four bays, has a brick foundation parged with cement, white German siding and an off-center brick chimney.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #6

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

PG-68-10



Continuation sheet

Item number

7

Page

6

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

The slightly pitched gable roof is covered with standing seam metal, and has overhanging eaves. Trim is sparse; there are no shutters, and the molding around the two-over-two double-hung sash windows is narrow.

The central bay on the front (west) is a square projecting three-story tower; the first floor has a glass and wooden paneled door with rectangular transom, the second floor a window, and the tower is topped by a metal roofed peak capped with a ball. The two-bay wooden flat-roofed front porch is supported by unadorned Tuscan columns, and there are lattice screens on both ends. The window of the north bay has been replaced by a double door opening onto the porch.

The north facade features a one-story three-sided projecting bay; the south facade presents two austere stories of four windows each, and two small, not-unsympathetic additions have filled in the rear L. Many original interior features remain. The house is on a small corner lot surrounded by a white picket fence. It was constructed c. 1889.

"Checkerboard Block", 4100 block Emerson Street: (photograph #4) The 15 houses on this block flank the narrow street which runs east-west up a steep hill. All of the houses are 2½ story frame, with similar spacing, setbacks, landscaping, materials, and degree of alteration. The north side of the street was completed in 1903, the opposite side a few years later. Herbert J. Moffatt, local constable and architect, was the builder; he lived at 4100 Emerson for many years.

There are two styles of houses on the block. Three-bay vernacular cottages (similar to 4000 and 4002 Crittenden Street) with front facing gable ends alternate with three-bay cottages whose gambrel ends face the street. The latter style's second floor overhangs the ends face the street. The latter style's second floor overhangs the first, and each house has a small front porch located on the eastern-most bay. Original detailing on this "checkerboard block" includes turned porch posts with brackets, standing seam metal roofing and projecting bays.

4110 Gallatin Street: (photograph #10) This three bay by five bay cross-shaped 2½ story Carpenter Gothic dwelling was constructed in 1884. Within ten years, the back addition was made. The white clapboard structure sits on a brick foundation and is topped by black-asphalted roof with steep cross gables. There is a central brick chimney. On the first floor of the front (south) facade, there are two six-light floor-length windows and a double glass-paneled door, each with rectangular transoms of stained glass. A wooden porch runs across the front and one bay back on each side; plain thick square columns top brick piers connected by lattice work.

The outstanding features of this house are the gable ends, which are steeply pitched with projecting eaves and gently curved rafters. The vertical boards of the gable ends drop into a saw-toothed design, and lay behind diagonal beams with central diamond design. On the second floor below is a double window with pointed and arched window heads. Most gable ridges have gabled dormers with the

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #7

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

PG-68-10

For HCRS use only
received FEB 28 1982
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

7

Page

7

Hyattsville Historic District
Prince George's County, Maryland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

gable end details in miniature.

Most windows are two-over-two double-hung sash, and are flanked by black wooden louvered shutters. On the east facade is a two-story three-sided projecting bay. There is a frame garage to the rear of the large lot, and there are a number of mature trees.

Bungalow, 4014 Hamilton Street: This is a good example of a small bungalow, built in the early 1920s, which is in near-original condition. It is three bays by four bays, 1½ stories, and faces south high above the street. Of frame construction on formstone foundation and full basement, the house has German siding painted white. Two levels of cement steps lead to the wooden porch, which covers the front facade. It has four short round columns sitting on brick piers connected by dark green latticework. There is a large brick exterior chimney on the east facade flanked by small diagonal-paned windows.

Windows throughout the house are six-over-one double-hung sash, with plain trim and no shutters. The second levels on the east and west facades have a central window, and the east facade has a variety of window sizes. The central glass and wooden paneled entrance door is flanked by double windows.

The gently pitched broad gable roof, covered with green asphalt shingles, has decorative brackets. Rafters are visible under the eaves, and the north and south facades each have a central gable dormer with three windows. There is a small enclosed porch on the west facade, and a small shed-roofed garage of similar design and materials to the north of the house.

Bungalow, 5604 42nd Avenue: This three bay by three bay 1½ story square house faces east. While it is similar to many 1920s bungalows in the district, its repeated use of the jerkin head roof form sets it apart. The building is covered with wood shingle and sits on a formstone foundation, which is more visible as the land drops off to the rear. Overhanging eaves are accentuated with both heavy and light rafters, and there is an exterior brick chimney on the south facade. Windows throughout the house are six-over-one double-hung sash. The building is painted dark brown attractively trimmed in cream.

Six side steps lead up to the front porch, which has heavy flared columns, plain balustrades and lattice below. Covered by a lower gable than the jerkin head front gable, a collar beam and vertical posts top the open porch. The off-center front door is flanked by a single and double window. There is a central jerkin-head-roofed dormer on this facade. Evergreens are planted close to the front of the house.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #8

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCERS use only

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date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

7

Page

8

Hyattsville Historic District
Prince George's County, Maryland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)


On the north facade, a jerkin-headed roofed one bay square room projects from the house; on the rear is a compatible deck with cinderblock carport.

Fuller-Cooper House, 4114 Jefferson Street: (photograph #18) Built around the turn of the century and owned for nearly eighty years by the Fuller family, this large 2½ story three bay by four bay rectangular house faces south. The front block has a gable roof covered with asphalt shingle and a central gabled dormer. Six steps lead to the (replacement) front porch which is supported by four plain heavy square columns and brick piers. The glass and wooden entrance door has a rectangular transom and is flanked by multi-light windows. On the second floor is a three-sided bay with three windows and a gable roof with undulating rafters. Porches on both floors have plain iron railing.

The rear block, one bay in depth, has a gambrel roof, with the gambrel end attached to the ridge line of the main gable block. On the west facade, at this juncture, is a large brick interior chimney. On the entire house, the first floor is covered with stucco, topped by a slightly flared second floor covered with wood shingle. All are painted an attractive dark blue.

Windows are one-over-one double-hung sash. On the east facade is a three-sided two-story projecting bay; its off-center location unites the two roof shapes, and it too is flared. A small recent one story addition with vertical wood siding and cinderblock foundation is on the rear. The half-acre lot has many mature trees.

4916 40th Place: This 2½ story frame dwelling, constructed c. 1897, is vernacular Queen Anne style, as indicated by its asymmetrical composition and variety of forms and surface textures. Its cross gable roof (covered with asphalt shingle) tops a slightly L-shaped plan on a brick foundation parged with cement. The front gable faces northeast, and the two by four bay house is covered with white asbestos shingle. There are two chimneys near the center of the house, a three-sided two-story mitred projecting bay on the southeast facade, and a shed-roofed rear porch enclosed with vertical clapboarding.

A shed-roofed porch with two entrances wraps around two sides of the house; ornamental brackets top square chamfered support columns, and decorative balustrades are supported by brick piers enclosed with lattice. The southeast gable end is the most ornate of the three; its imbricated wooden shingles are in four different shapes  and the collar tie and king post protect a wheel-and-spoke gable design. Windows are two-over-two double-hung sash and there is a wood and glass paneled entrance door with recessed wood panel above. Two unpainted outbuildings (one board and batted, the other German sided) in poor condition are located at the rear of the small lot.

8. Significance

PG-68-10

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 Late 19th-Early 20th **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: A and C

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The Hyattsville Historic District is architecturally significant as a residential neighborhood exhibiting late 19th and early 20th century design characteristics both in its examples of the Italianate, Queen Anne, Carpenter Gothic and Bungalow Styles and in the proliferation of its vernacular buildings which represent several periods of expansion of the community. As a town that developed primarily after the 1870s as a result of the convenience of transportation and communication between Washington and Baltimore, the residential area is also important historically for its association with typical patterns of suburban development in the early 20th century.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The origins of Hyattsville can be traced to the late 1720s when John Beall purchased land on which part of Hyattsville presently stands. His settlement, known as Beall Town, was not successful and, as Bladensburg further to the south grew, Beall Town declined.

With the opening of the Washington-Baltimore Turnpike early in the 19th century and the B & O's Baltimore to Washington line in 1835, the location of what became Hyattsville regained its appeal for settlement. To this area in 1845 came Christopher Clarke Hyatt, born in 1799 into the well-known family which had come to the County in the late 17th century. Hyatt purchased land from Trueman and Elizabeth Belt, constructed a house for his family and a store, and became the town's first postmaster. Others quickly saw the opportunities presented by the combination of transportation and telegraph communication systems, and land was subdivided into house lots. Guy, Parker, and Bartholow sold lots east of the tracks below Hyatt's Land; Hyatt subdivided land west of the tracks; and people flocked to construct summer cottages and permanent homes in the new town. Many were from Washington; some were veterans of the Civil War who had retired to the new town. G. M. Hopkins in 1878 described Hyattsville as a "beautiful village, (with) tasteful houses in the modern style of architecture ornamented with gardens and lawns, . . . it has gradually increased in beauty and prosperity until it stands as one of the foremost villages between Baltimore and Washington." New residents had their builders construct houses in a variety of styles, in high Queen Anne, Carpenter Gothic, and Italianate styles, as well as vernacular and cottage varieties.

Other developers and settlers followed. By 1893 Hyattsville had a public school, telephone and electric service, volunteer Fire Department, electric railroad, amateur baseball team, more than 170 residences, and churches of four denominations.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #8

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PG-68-10

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Continuation sheet

Item number

8

Page

8

Hyattsville Historic District
Prince George's County, Maryland

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (Continued)

In the business section of town were three groceries, three butcher shops, blacksmith and tinsmith shops, two wood and coal dealers, a livery stable, and a Masonic Lodge.

In 1886, two years after the death of Christopher Hyatt, Hyattsville was incorporated and its first Board of Commissioners elected. The Suburban Citizen of February 6, 1892, described Hyattsville as the "largest and most substantial town in Prince George's County." Thirty trains daily, four private schools, grand mansions and summer residences, building lots priced from \$150 to \$600, and a local building association made "Hyattsville's continued prosperity an assured fact."

Hyattsville, in 1901, became one of the first communities in Maryland to have its own water works. A town hall was erected in 1912, and a grand armory (the first in Prince George's County) in 1918. By 1916 the population of the City was 6,000, many of whom commuted to the Capital City by trolley or railroad.

The decade of the 1920s was one of major growth for Hyattsville. In 1920 the City transferred its water and sewerage systems to the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission; offices of that agency have been located in Hyattsville since that decade. The Public Library opened in 1921, and William Magruder deeded land for a park. An overhead crossing of the railroad was built, and in 1929 Rhode Island Avenue was opened. Residential growth continued with the rapidity which had characterized the late 19th century, as new subdivisions were opened to the north and west of the town center and builders constructed rows of dwellings in the new "bungalow" style of the suburbs. Hyattsville remained a popular community for commuters who worked in Washington but preferred to live in the country.

The business community responded to the stimuli of the trolley and residential "building booms" along both the Turnpike and the rail transportation routes. As Hyattsville's business community attempted to retain its earlier prosperity, earlier buildings were modernized and new ones constructed in contemporary styles. The public works movement of the 1930s brought more governmental construction into the area: the Post Office and the County Service Building. Later decades brought the expansion of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission building and the new Municipal Building.

In the 1970s the fervor of the Bicentennial energy consciousness, the presence of affordable housing, and a resurgence in popularity of small town living and in historic buildings have all added to the interest in preservation now found in Hyattsville. Restoration/renovation efforts of individual property owners, a Community Development Block Grant program, downtown revitalization, and a new local preservation membership organization continue to keep this interest level high.

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Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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Hyattsville Historic District, Prince George's County,
Continuation sheet Maryland

Item number 9

Page 9

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Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service****National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

PG-68-10

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Continuation sheet

Item number 10

Page 10

Hyattsville Historic District
Prince George's County, Maryland

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The district contains the highest concentration of architecturally significant resources in Hyattsville, and encompasses a contiguous grouping of blocks and streetscapes which possess integrity of association, design and feeling. Blocks with non-contiguous groupings which have intact representatives elsewhere in the district have been excluded; to the north and west the majority of buildings are of later construction, and to the east are commercial buildings. The boundaries consist primarily of existing property lines. The district boundaries are altered somewhat from the boundaries used in the 1980 Determination of Eligibility. Specifically, the northern boundary of 5801 42nd Avenue is moved closer to the historic resource to exclude a new apartment complex constructed after the Determination of Eligibility was made. The 4200 block of Farragut Street is excluded because either the land is vacant or the buildings are non-contributing. The boundaries are the existing property lines and street curbing as indicated on the attached sketch map drawn to a scale of 1" = 100'.

9. Major Bibliographical References

PC-68-10

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #9

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property Approximately 150 acres
Quadrangle name Washington East Quadrangle

ACREAGE
DATE

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	1 8	3 3 1 0 4 0	4 3 1 2 4 6 0	B	1 8	3 3 0 8 0 0	4 3 1 1 3 1 0 1 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	1 8	3 3 1 6 6 0	4 3 1 2 5 4 0	D	1 8	3 3 1 7 2 0	4 3 1 1 3 8 1 4 1 0
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #10

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

state	N/A	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Eileen S. McGuckian

organization City of Hyattsville date November 1980

street & number 4308 Jefferson Street telephone _____

city or town Hyattsville state Maryland 20781

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature [Signature] date 2-24-82

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date _____

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

[Signature] Entered in the National Register date 3/25/82
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration