

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

NR Eligible: yes
no

Property Name: Old Gaithersburg Survey District Inventory Number: M: 21-2

Address: _____ City: Gaithersburg Zip Code: _____

County: Montgomery County USGS Topographic Map: Gaithersburg

Owner: Multiple Owners

Tax Parcel Number: N/A Tax Map Number: N/A Tax Account ID Number: N/A

Project: M0837A21 Agency: State Highway Administration(SHA)

Site visit by SHA Staff: no yes Name: Liz Buxton Date: June 5, 2001

Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None

Is the property located within a historic district? no yes Name of district: _____

Is district listed? No yes Determined eligible? no yes District Inventory Number: _____

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MHT Inventory Form and Project review and compliance files

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The Old Gaithersburg District was originally surveyed in 1974 (see attached Maryland Historic Trust (MHT) Inventory Form). The MHT Inventory Form indicates a number of noteworthy buildings and churches within the district which is bounded by Walker Ave. and Asbury Home on the north, the first block of Route 355 on the south, the east block of Summit Ave and along Route 124 west to Gerard Street.

Due to the lack of integrity and lack of a concentration of historic buildings in the area, the Gaithersburg District has been previously determined ineligible for the National Register as indicated on DOE forms for other historic properties in the area. DOE forms were found in the MHT files for M: 21-64 and M: 21-68 that refer to Old Gaithersburg as ineligible for National Register. A DOE form for Old Gaithersburg, however, was not found in the MHT files.

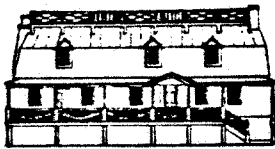
This DOE form has been prepared to officially determine the Old Gaithersburg District as not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places due to lack of integrity and a lack of concentration of historic buildings (See attached letters from MHT).

Prepared by: Liz Buxton Date Prepared: June 6, 2001

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended <input type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: _____	
<u>Andrew Lewis</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>07/19/01</u> Date
<u>[Signature]</u> Reviewer, NR program	<u>7/24/01</u> Date

M:21-2

MARYLAND
HISTORICAL



TRUST

William Donald Schaefer
Governor

Jacqueline H. Rogers
Secretary, DHCD

December 13, 1991

Office of Preservation Services

Ms. Linda Michael
City of Gaithersburg
31 South Summit Avenue
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877

Re: Knights of Pythias Building
12 North Summit Avenue
Gaithersburg, Maryland
CDBG - Section 106 Review

Dear Ms. Michael:

Thank you for the additional information submitted concerning the Olde Towne Commercial District. With the exception of a few isolated historic structures, including the B & O Railroad Station, Freight Shed and the J. A. Belt Building, which are listed in the National Register of Historic Places, there is not a concentration of historic properties in this area that would constitute an historic district. Our office concurs with your determination that the Knights of Pythias Building is not eligible for the National Register either individually or as part of a National Register eligible Historic District. Therefore, in our opinion, the proposed rehabilitation of this building will have no effect on historic properties listed in or eligible for the National Register.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (410) 514-7630.

Sincerely,

Jo Ellen Freese
Administrator
Project Review and Compliance

JEF/jef

cc: Dr. Thomas F. King
Mr. Mike Seebold

Division of Historical and Cultural Programs
Department of Housing and Community Development
100 Community Place, Crownsville, Maryland 21032-2023 (410) 514-7600

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M #21-2

1609164629

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Gaithersburg, Maryland

AND/OR COMMON

"Old Gaithersburg"

2 LOCATION

Area bounded by Walker Ave. & Asbury Home on North;
STREET & NUMBER first block of Rte. 355 on South; East block of Summit
Ave. & along Rte. 124 to Gerard St.

CITY, TOWN

Gaithersburg

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

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"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

various private owners & B & O RR Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Liber #:

Folio #:

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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 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

There are a number of noteworthy buildings within the old town area of Gaithersburg. The center of the old town is at the intersection of Summit and Diamond Avenues. On the SW corner here is the old Belt store-formerly the Plantation Room, a square, two-story brick building with a low hip roof of standing seam metal. The parapet on the front section of the roof is trimmed with Seneca Sandstone and carries the inscription "J.A. Belt-1902". Directly across the street is the old Barnett's Drug Store-now Diamond Drugs. The original building has been partially removed and mostly obscured. It was a gable-facade, L-shaped frame structure of two stories. The gable, still visible, was trimmed with patterned shingles and a dentil band with several moldings. On the NE corner is the old bank, built in 1891. It is a low, flat-roofed building covered with light stucco. Nearby is the B & O RR station-a very stylish Victorian brick structure with a narrow center tower, much-molded brick, and decorative Stick-Style trim.

The old town area spreads north, south, east and west of the center here. Many of the homes were built after the 1880's and '90's, and are large, square frame buildings with Classical Revival lines and Victorian trim. There are a number of large brick warehouses (possibly former canneries) along the RR tracks. There are several notable churches-such as the Ascension Chapel, a board and batten, Gothic Revival building, and the Methodist Church on Rte. 355, an elegant structure of Romanesque design, with beautiful stained-glass windows and wood shingle trim. About this are several turn of the century frame homes and commercial buildings-many with the original facades obscured by 1950's remodelings. The area of Walker Ave. contains a number of handsome homes. Some of the earlier buildings in town, along Rte. 355 near St. Martin's Catholic Church, display some of the best Victorian lines seen in Montgomery County. One of the finest is the Trundle House, just SW of the bridge over the RR tracks.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

M:21-2

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 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Gaithersburg was for many years the leading up-county town in Montgomery Co. It began as a tavern/post office stop along the old Frederick Rd. (Rte. 355) amid prosperous farms in the early 1800's. It is still known for its many large oak trees that line its streets. For most of its years it continued as a sleepy village, until the Post-Civil War period when the RR came through the town. During the 1880's and '90's, a number of large milling concerns were established here, and prosperity came to the town. Many handsome homes were built by up-county businessmen, and evidence of "taste" and "quality" can be seen in these structures. The old town continued to be the center of the county's agricultural community until recent years when the arrival of Bureau of Standards, AEC, IBM, and Montgomery Village have all but eclipsed the old town center.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- 1) Maps of 1865, 1878 & excellent map of 1894 by C.J. Maddox.
- 2) Portrait & Biographical Record, 1898.
- 3) Various materials re RR Station, such as Sugarloaf Trails, 1975.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

7/24/74

STREET & NUMBER

8787 Georgia Ave.

TELEPHONE

589-1480

CITY OR TOWN

Silver Spring

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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

of "Deer Park," surveyed for Ralph Crabb, April 19, 1722, which contained four hundred and twenty acres. It takes its name (as does also the district) from Benjamin Gaither, who built the first house in its limits in 1802. This house stood on the site of the residence of Mrs. Rebecca Ann Gloyd, and on the lot is a large oak-tree over two centuries old. Mr. Gaither was born near Anny in 1764, was magistrate for a long term of years, and died in 1838, aged seventy-four years. He had six children, of whom one is Col. James B. Gaither, for a long time one of the best-known magistrates of the country. In 1826 there were only three or four houses in the town. Robert Crawford kept the first hotel, and the first three store-keepers were, respectively, Benjamin Thompson, John Lowe, and Samuel Gloyd. The village was called Gaithersburg up to 1850, when its name was changed to Forest Oak, by which it was known until the completion of the Metropolitan Branch Railroad, in 1873, when the old name was restored. A new public school building, a fine frame structure, has just been completed, which is two stories high, and forty by twenty-four feet.

The Methodist Episcopal church, a two story frame edifice, was built in 1846 and '47. Its pastor is Rev. Mr. Cross. The Methodist Episcopal Church South was erected in 1867, and is called "Forest Chapel." It is a beautiful frame structure. In its rear is "Forest Oak Cemetery," established in 1879, in which are the following interments:

Mary, wife of J. N. Benton, born June 28, 1840, died March 25, 1869.

Anthony Ricketts, born Nov. 10, 1823, died May 6, 1877.

Walter Montgomery, son of William B. and Sarah A. Selby, born July 13, 1875, died March 28, 1879.

Margaret A., daughter of David and Margaret Carlisle, died July 31, 1880, aged 4 years and 4 months.

This church belongs to the Rockville Circuit, and its pastors for 1881 were Revs. G. T. Tyler and F. M. Strother.

The Protestant Episcopal church, a handsome Gothic structure, was completed in 1881, and is supplied by the rector of the Rockville church, Rev. Mr. Brown. The town contains an excellent hotel, a large frame building, erected in 1881 by Juan Boyle, its proprietor. It is three stories high, near the Protestant Episcopal church, and in a beautiful grove. It has already become a popular resort for summer boarders. Over a thousand tons of fertilizers are sold and delivered in Gaithersburg annually to the neighboring farmers. J. Sprigg Pool has a large grain warehouse, and his shipments of wheat have reached a hundred thousand bushels an-

nually. The well-known Darby mill is only a mile distant. C. F. Hogan has lately erected an extensive building, in which he carries on carriage-making, and employs some dozen hands. John Nicholls has a large harness, saddle, and trunk-making establishment in the lower story of "Diamond Hall," a large hall owned by John A. Diamond, the upper story of which is used for public meetings and entertainments.

Gaithersburg Grange is a flourishing lodge, of which John T. De Sellum is secretary. Henry Ward is postmaster, Dr. E. C. Etchison, physician, and J. Sprigg Poole, railroad and express agent. The merchants are John A. Belt, T. J. Owen, Ward & Fulk, and Gloyd & Amis.

Gaithersburg is increasing in trade and population faster than any other place in the county, and is attracting many business men from other parts.

St. Rose Catholic Church is situated on the Rockville road, midway between Gaithersburg and Germantown, and is attended by a large congregation. It is an outgrowth of the Rockville Mission.

Gaithersburg is situated about midway between the Point of Rocks and Washington City. Six public roads converged at this point, of which one is the Great Western road, from the District of Columbia to Frederick City. Near the town will be the junction of the projected cross railroad to Baltimore City. A large number of new buildings have lately been erected, and building lots are in active demand.

Among the former well-known residents in the vicinity of Gaithersburg was Dr. Thomas Patterson. He was born in Franklin County, Pa., and married Jane Clarke, sister of the late Matthew St. Clair Clarke, clerk of the National House of Representatives three terms. Dr. Patterson practiced medicine a short time in Martinsburg, Va., and then removed to Washington, D. C., where he became librarian of the Congressional Library. He remained there in this position twenty-seven years, residing part of the time in Hagerstown, Md. In 1831 he removed to this county, near Gaithersburg, where he died in 1817, at an advanced age. He left a large family, some of whom are still residents of the State.

Corporation and Officers.—The town was incorporated by an act of the General Assembly passed April 5, 1878, with the following metes and bounds: Beginning at a stone planted on the west side of the Goshen road, a little east of Diamond Hall, and run thence with said road to the southern limits of the Metropolitan Branch Railroad; thence with said railroad, on the south side thereof, to a lot of land belonging to the late Charles Saffell; thence across said lot and the Georgetown and Frederick road to a stone



NAME WAYNE FEED MILLS

21-2

LOCATION RT 124 & RR TRACKS GAITHERSBURG, Md.

FACADE E

PHOTO TAKEN 8/12/74 M DWYER



NAME MILLS HOUSE
LOCATION MUDDY BRANCH Rd AT Rt 70S GAITHERSBURG, Md
FACADE E
PHOTO TAKEN 8/20/74 MDWVER

#21-2



**GENERAL EDWARD BRADDOCK
IN APRIL 1755, ACCOMPANIED BY
GOV. HORATIO SHARPE OF MARY-
LAND, TRAVELED THIS ROAD IN A
COACH AND SIX HORSES, ON HIS
WAY TO FREDERICK, MD. TO MEET
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN AND GEORGE
WASHINGTON, TO ARRANGE FOR
TEAMS FOR THE FORT OUQUESNE
EXPEDITION.**

STATE ROADS COMMISSION

CATHOLIC CHURCH

#21-2

NAME BRADDOCK MARKER

LOCATION Rt. 355 GAITHERSBURG, Md.

FACADE S

PHOTO TAKEN 10/24/74 M DWYER