

ADDENDUM

Henry Pinckney House
PG: 72-009-33
608 60th Place
Fairmount Heights, Prince George's County
The Ottery Group, Inc.
Stacy Patterson
March 3, 2009

Chain of Title

Block M, Lots 16, 17, 18, 19, 20

Deed 25: 227 November 10, 1905	Allen C. Clarke and Elizabeth P. Clarke to Henry Pinckney (Lots 18-19)
Deed 42: 204 December 16, 1907	Allen C. Clarke and Elizabeth P. Clarke to Henry Pinckney (Lots 16-17)
Deed 49: 314 December 1, 1908	Allen C. Clarke and Elizabeth P. Clarke to Henry Pinckney (Lot 20)
Deed WWW 3976: 167 July 30, 1971	Roswell N. Pinckney, Theodore R. Pinckney, and Leonora Ethel Salter, children of Henry Pinckney, to Mae Pinckney McGee, surviving heir and daughter of Henry Pinckney (Lots 16-20)
Deed VJ 10294: 642 July 3, 1995	Theodore C. Pinckney, Personal Representative for the Estate of Mae P. McGee (deceased) and Natalie M. Johnson, heir, to Emmerly A. McGee (Lots 16-20)
Deed VJ 11741: 52 October 18, 1997	Emmerly A. McGee to Anthony D. Wallace and Linda H. Wallace (Lots 16-20)

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Section 7. DESCRIPTION

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

SUMMARY

The Henry Pinckney House is located in the Town of Fairmount Heights on the west side of 60th Place. The house is a large 3 x 2 bay, two-story dwelling with a Foursquare plan. The wood frame dwelling has a secondary sheathing of vinyl siding on the first story, a secondary sheathing of aluminum cladding on the second story, and a raised brick foundation. The hip-roof is of steep pitch with overhanging eaves, and is clad in asphalt shingles. The house has undergone a number of modifications that have significantly altered its original form and replaced many of the original materials.

DESCRIPTION

The dwelling is located in the Town of Fairmount Heights on the west side of 60th Place, facing east. There is a paved driveway to the north and a concrete sidewalk leading to the door. A concrete sidewalk and a high curb border the property to the east. The lot slopes to the north. The moderate ten-foot setback is similar to the neighbors. There are no trees on the lot, but there are small foundation plantings at the entry steps. There is a non-contributing dog house in the northwest corner of the lot. No other secondary resources are associated with the dwelling.

The Henry Pinckney House is a large 3 x 2 bay, two-story dwelling with a Foursquare plan. The wood frame dwelling has a secondary sheathing of vinyl siding on the first story, a secondary sheathing of aluminum cladding on the second story, and a raised brick foundation. The hip-roof is of steep pitch with overhanging eaves, and is clad in asphalt shingles. There is a brick interior chimney with a corbelled cap that pierces the roof on the south slope. There is a shallow, narrow, projecting, pavilion in the center bay of the east façade that is surmounted by a small pedimented crossgable which breaks out of the east plane of the roof. The projection is clad in asphalt roof shingles and modern aluminum siding. The main roof is pierced by dormers on north and south slopes. The two gable dormers are clad in asphalt roof shingles and modern aluminum siding, with boxed partial cornice returns, and two-pane replacement sliding windows. The fenestration is symmetrical. Most of the windows are one-over-one double-hung vinyl replacement sash with modern vinyl sills. The central bay has a single one-over-one double-hung vinyl replacement sash window. The first story windows have metal grilles. The front door is centered in a one-story, one-bay modern metal shed roof porch cut by the projecting cross gable. The porch foundation is covered in a PermaStone veneer. The porch is supported by modern, metal, trellis-like posts. Three concrete steps, central on the east façade, are accompanied by a modern metal railing. A second entrance is located on the south elevation.

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The house has undergone a number of modifications that have significantly altered its original form and replaced many of the original materials. According to the current owner, Linda H. Wallace, the house had four bedrooms upstairs, a closet and bathroom. The first story had a formal dining room, formal living room, full, eat-in kitchen, a pantry and a china room with formal china cabinets built into the walls. The current owner removed the china cabinets. The house also had a wooden front porch that ran the length of the façade; however, this porch was removed when the Pinckney family owned the house. The original front door remains, although the transom light has since been covered. The entry door is decorated with a floral crest and ribbon motif matching that of the original fireplace mantle, which also remains in the house today. The house retains a moderate integrity for association, location, feeling and setting. It retains a low integrity for workmanship and materials as many original materials have been replaced.

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Section 8. SIGNIFICANCE

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

SUMMARY

The American Foursquare was a form of vernacular housing popularized by pattern books of the early twentieth century. The Foursquare derives its name from its form, which is square in plan, with four rooms in each corner of each story. These houses are typically one or two stories with steeply pitched hipped or pyramidal roofs. Foursquares may have a dormer on the slope of the roof facing the street. They also typically feature an entry that is not centered on the façade. The American Foursquare house was a common vernacular form in the early twentieth century, as these houses were both stately and practical. The popularity of this form in Fairmount Heights reflects this housing trend.

Henry Pinckney was born in Albany, New York and moved to the area when Theodore Roosevelt did to be steward to Roosevelt during his vice presidency and then during his presidency. Pinckney was known throughout DC, especially in the Eastern Market, because he frequently made purchases for the president there.¹ He also delivered messages for Roosevelt. The Pinckney children played with the Roosevelt children as well. His work under Roosevelt helped him to secure positions with other political figures following Roosevelt's term.² Henry Pinckney died in 1911, leaving the house to his wife Lenora and three children, Roswell, Theodore, and Lenore Emily. Lenora Pinckney worked for the United States Department of Agriculture and was, with her husband, one of the founding members of the First Presbyterian Church of Fairmount Heights. Henry Pinckney's grand or great-granddaughter, Emily McGhee, taught English at Fairmount Heights Senior High School.³ The current owner was one of her pupils.

Henry Pinckney's great-grandson, Kevin Clay Pinckney, wrote an extended essay about Henry Pinckney's experience as a White House steward called "Henry Pinckney White House." Material from this book was used for a fall 2008 exhibition called "The Working White house: Two Centuries of Traditions and Memories," held by the White House Historical Association and the Smithsonian Institute Traveling Exhibition Service.⁴

¹ Linda H. Wallace (current homeowner), in interview given by Charlotte King, August 22, 2008.

² Ibid

³ Ibid

⁴ Ibid

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Pinckney House is representative of the American Foursquare House form, popular in the developing suburbs at the turn of the twentieth century. It was built for Henry Pinckney, who was employed as White House steward to President Theodore Roosevelt. At the time of the 1910 census, he was 48 years of age; he had been born in South Carolina and lived in this house with his wife Leonora and their three children. His dwelling was a large and substantial house; in its original form, it would have been one of the most noticeable early buildings in the community of Fairmount Heights.