

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 69-023-17

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic William Stanton Wormley House

other

2. Location

street and number 7533 Ardwick-Ardmore Road not for publication

city, town Landover Hills vicinity

county Prince George's

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

name Burton W. Lewis, Sr. Living Trust

street and number 801 Lake Shore Drive, Unit 714 telephone

city, town Lake Park state FL zip code 33403-2938

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 8459 folio 805

city, town Upper Marlboro tax map 51 tax parcel 123 tax ID number 02 0139972

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☒ Other: Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Prince George's County Planning Department

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	3	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion		sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social		structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	3	0 Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
				Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
				2	

7. Description

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Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

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

The William Stanton Wormley House, located at 7533 Ardwick-Ardmore Road in Landover Hills, was constructed c. 1898. Originally, the two-story, three-bay wood-frame vernacular structure had a rectangular plan. Multiple side and rear additions have obscured the original form. The dwelling is sited on a steep lot overlooking Ardwick-Ardmore Road to the northwest. Mature shrubs and trees are located throughout the property. A half-circle gravel driveway is located in front of the house. A garage is sited in the southern corner of the property. A stone fireplace/stove is located behind the dwelling.

DWELLING

The two-story, three-bay vernacular William Stanton Wormley House was built c. 1898. Set on a parged concrete foundation, the wood-frame structure has been clad in asbestos shingles. The single dwelling has multiple side and rear additions. At the time of the 1989 on-site survey, the dwelling was clad in a mixture of German siding and asbestos shingles. An exterior-side chimney is constructed of uncoursed stone. A cross gable roof with overhanging eaves caps the dwelling. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles and features a plain fascia. A one-story, one-bay enclosed portico is located on the westernmost portion of the façade (northeast elevation). The portico is covered by a front-gabled roof with raked cornice. Paired wood Tuscan pilasters are located on either side of the single-leaf entry door. Fixed 1/1 windows mark the side elevations of the enclosed portico. Fenestration on the main block consists of 6/6 windows with square-edged surrounds.

The first-story façade (northeast elevation) of the main block is fenestrated by two 6/6 windows with square-edged surrounds and operable wood shutters. Three 6/6 windows with square-edged surrounds and operable wood shutters are located on the second story of the façade. A rectangular louvered vent is located in the front gable end.

A one-story screened-in porch is located on the southeast (side) elevation of the main block. Based on its form and materials, the porch appears to have been constructed c. 1920. Set on a concrete-block foundation, the porch is covered by a half-hipped roof. A single 6/6 window with a square-edged surround is placed over the portico. Tripled 6/1 windows with square-edged surrounds are located on the southernmost portion of the second story. An exterior chimney is located along the southeast elevation of the main block. The screened-in porch has encapsulated the chimney on the first floor. The chimney is covered in cobblestones featuring an arched chimney hood.

The northwest (side) elevation of the main block is fenestrated by a single-leaf wood door with a square-edged surround, located on the northernmost bay. A 6/6 window with a square-edged surround and paired 4/1 windows with square-edged surrounds are located on the southernmost bay of the first story.

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Two 6/6 windows with square-edged surrounds are located on the second story. A rectangular louvered vent is placed in the gable end.

A two-story, two-bay front-gabled ell is located on the southwest (rear) elevation of the main block. Based on its form and materials, the ell appears to have been constructed c. 1920. Set on a solid concrete foundation, the wood-frame ell is clad in asbestos shingles. A brick chimney is centrally located. A half-hipped screened-in porch extends across the first story of the southeast (side) elevation of the ell. Two 6/6 windows with square-edged surrounds are located on the second story. Two symmetrically placed 6/6 windows with square-edged surrounds are on the second story of the southwest (rear) elevation, over a one-story addition. Two rectangular louvered vents are placed in the gable end. The northwest (side) elevation of the first story is fenestrated by tripled 4/1 windows with square-edged surrounds. Two 6/6 windows with square-edged surrounds are located on the second story.

A one-story, two-bay, front-gabled addition is located on the southwest (rear) elevation of the ell. Based on its form and materials, the addition appears to have been constructed c. 1940. Set on a solid stretcher-bond brick foundation, the wood-frame structure is clad in asbestos shingles. A single-leaf paneled door with lights is off-set on the southeast (side) elevation. A 4/4 and a 6/6 metal-sash window, each with a square-edged surround are located on the southeast elevation. Paired small 1/1 metal-sash windows and paired standard-sized 1/1 metal-sash windows, all with square-edged surrounds, are asymmetrically located on the southwest (rear) elevation. A 1-light window with a square-edged surround is located on the northwest (side) elevation. The interior of the dwelling was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

GARAGE

A one-story, one-bay, wood-frame garage is located south of the dwelling. Based on its form and materials, the garage appears to have been constructed c. 1930. Set on a solid concrete foundation, the wood-frame structure is clad in weatherboard siding and features corner boards. The garage has a front gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The roof features a plain fascia with returns. The façade (northeast elevation) is fenestrated by a paneled roll-up wood door with lights and a single-leaf metal door. Vertical boards and a rectangular louvered vent are located in the gable end. The southeast and northwest (side) elevations feature two symmetrically placed 6-light casement windows. The interior of the garage was not accessible at the time of the on-site survey.

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FIREPLACE/STOVE

An uncoursed stone fireplace/stove is located to the south of the dwelling. Based on its form and materials, the fireplace/stove appears to have been constructed c. 1930. Approximately 4-feet by 3-feet, the fireplace/stove rests on a concrete base. It has a stepped form with a grill top. Two sets of double-leaf metal doors are located on the northeast side of the structure.

INTEGRITY

The William Stanton Wormley House maintains a low level of integrity. The replacement of the original German siding and multiple rear and side additions have compromised the integrity of materials, design, and workmanship. The additions have obscured the original rectangular plan. The property, although subdivided and now used as a rental property, continues to be owned by the Wormley family. The house, sited in Landover Hills, maintains its integrity of location, feeling, setting, and association.

The garage maintains a low level of integrity. The replacement of the original garage door and original single-leaf door, as well as the overgrowth of vegetation, has compromised the integrity of the materials, workmanship, feeling, and design. The garage retains its integrity of location, setting, and association.

The fireplace/stove maintains a low level of integrity. The condition of the structure during the 2007 on-site survey suggests the fireplace/stove is no longer serving a function. The integrity of design, workmanship, and feeling has been compromised. The fireplace/stove retains its integrity of materials, location, setting, and association.

The William Stanton Wormley House and property maintains a low level of integrity.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: <u>Local History</u>

Specific dates	c. 1898	Architect/Builder	Unknown
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Construction dates	c. 1898, c. 1920, c. 1930, c. 1940
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Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☐ not evaluated

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.)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The William Stanton Wormley House at 7533 Ardwick-Ardmore Road in Landover Hills is a common example of a late-nineteenth-century vernacular dwelling. The area, historically known as Ardwick, was settled between the 1890s and 1940s by a group of African-Americans who were teachers and school administrators in the District of Columbia public schools.¹ William Stanton Wormley, a prominent African-American artist and teacher, was among one of the first to settle in the area. The Wormley House, located on its original site, with replacement materials and multiple additions, maintains a low to moderate level of integrity.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

The community of Ardwick, Maryland, was settled between the 1890s and 1940s by a group of African-American teachers and school administrators. The community lies directly to the east of the Town of Landover Hills. The majority of these educators worked in the District of Columbia public schools. The community grew around the country retreat of William Stanton Wormley, a wealthy artist and educator. Wormley's friends and family constructed country houses around his property and the community expanded. These early buildings were occupied by prominent professional African-American families originally from Washington, D.C.²

The Wormley House was constructed c. 1898 for Hugh Browne. In 1902, Browne sold the 5-acre property and modest frame dwelling to his brother-in-law, Furman Shadd, an early graduate and Administrative Offices of the Howard University Medical School.³ Shadd sold the property one year later to his nephew, William Stanton Wormley, a wealthy artist and D.C. educator.

¹ Susan G. Pearl, "Wormley House," (PG: 69-17) Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form (1989), 8:1.

² Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and Prince George's County Planning Department, *Historic Sites and Districts Plan* (1992), B-17.

³ Hugh Browne to Furman Shadd, Prince George's County Land Records, 9:527.

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William Stanton Wormley came from a prominent African-American family in Washington, D.C. His grandfather, James Wormley established the Wormley Hotel in 1871 at 15th and H Streets, NW.⁴ When James Wormley died in 1884, he left a substantial fortune to his descendants, including William Stanton Wormley. Wormley resided at 7533 Ardwick-Ardmore Road year-round and commuted by railroad into the District of Columbia, where he worked as an artist and teacher in the public schools.⁵ The house was a retreat for the Wormley family and the property originally included a tennis court and Trap Shooting Club. The shooting club was known as Wortay Carbro and was located on the slopping ground south of the dwelling.⁶ Currently, this area of the property is covered in mature trees. At the time of the 1910 census, 40-year-old public school teacher Wormley was living with his fifteen-year-old adopted son Joseph S. Hall and his 35-year-old brother Furman Wormley. All three were listed as mixed race and were born in Washington, D.C.⁷

In 1911, Wormley sold the westerly portion of his land to his friend, artist Thomas Hunster.⁸ In the following year, Hunster built a bungalow on that parcel of land, which functioned as his home and studio.⁹ The dwelling is extant. At the time of the 1920 census, 68-year-old Hunster was working as a public school drawing teacher and living with his fifty-eight-year-old wife Susan. Thomas Hunster was born in Ohio and his wife was born in Washington, D.C.; both Hunsters were listed as mixed-race.¹⁰

In 1912, William Stanton Wormley conveyed half interest of the remaining portion of land to his brother, Furman Wormley. The two brothers continued to live in the house at 7533 Ardwick-Ardmore Road until the 1920s. William Stanton died in 1921 and Furman and his wife Constance sold the property in 1926 to a relation, Jessie A. Wormley and Miriam Wormley Lewis.¹¹

Currently, Miriam Wormley Lewis' son Burton W. Lewis owns the property although he does not reside there.

⁴ Susan G. Pearl, "Wormley House," (PG: 69-17) Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form (1989), 8:1.

⁵ Pearl, "Wormley House," 8:1.

⁶ Pearl, "Wormley House," 8:1.

⁷ 1910 U.S. Federal Census, Bladensburg, Prince George's County, Maryland, Series T624, Roll 567, Page 20B, William Stanton Wormley.

⁸ William Stanton Wormley to Thomas Hunster, Prince George's County Land Records, 62:166 and 88:140.

⁹ Susan G. Pearl, "Wormley House," (PG: 69-17) Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form (1989), 8:1.

¹⁰ 1920 U.S. Federal Census, Bladensburg, Prince George's County, Maryland, Series T625, Roll 674, Page 7A, Thomas Hunster.

¹¹ Furman and Constance Wormley to Jessie A. Wormley and Miriam Wormley Lewis, Prince George's County Land Records, 261:319.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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1910 and 1920 U.S. Federal Census (Population Schedule). Online: The Generations Network, Inc., 2007. Subscription database. Digital scan of original records in the National Archives, Washington, DC. <http://www.ancestry.com>.
Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and Prince George's County Planning Department, *Historic Sites and Districts Plan*, 1992.
Pearl, Susan G. "Wormley House" (PG: 69-17) Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form, 1989.
Prince George's County Land Records.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 2.75
Acreage of historical setting 5
Quadrangle name Washington East Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The William Stanton Wormley House is sited on a 2.75-acre lot, which was originally part of a 5-acre parcel. The lot is bounded on the northeast by Ardwick-Ardmore Road. The house has been historically associated with Parcel 123 as noted on Tax Map 51 since its construction.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Saleh Van Erem, Architectural Historian		
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	October 2007
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

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Chain of Title

Deed JWB 39:712 June 18, 1897	Louise Leach to Junius J. Pittman. (5-acres, \$4,500)
Deed JWB 41:537 October 1, 1897	Junius J. Pittman to Hugh M. Browne. (5-acres, \$3,500)
Deed 9:527 October 15, 1902	Hugh M. Browne to Furman J. Shadd (5-acres, \$3,000)
Deed 10:573 February 4, 1903	Furman J. and Alice Shadd to William Stanton Wormley. (5-acres, \$3,000)
Deed 62:166 October 13, 1911	William Stanton Wormley to Thomas Hunster.
Confirmatory Deed 88:140 February, 1913	William Stanton Workmley to Thomas Hunster. (Westerly part of land which Wormley acquired from Shadd)
Deed 82:352 June 1912	William Stanton Wormley to Furman W. Wormley (undivided ½ interest in 5-acres, minus land sold to Hunster in 1911.)
Quit Claim 171:371 May 17, 1921	Leonard Wormley to Jessie A. Wormley, Furman Wormley, Lawrence Wormley, Helen Anderson and Miriam Lewis, his undivided interest in the land which William Stanton Wormley died possessed, approximately 5-acres, with the exception of land sold to Hunster in 1911.
Deed 261:319 March 19, 1926	Furman and Constance Wormley to Jessie A. Wormley and Miriam W. Lewis.
Deed 970:247 September 2, 1947	Susan Hunster, heir of Thomas Hunster, to Miriam W. Lewis. (several parcels of land including part of the land conveyed to Hunster by Wormley in 1911)
Deed 2039:309 October 8, 1956	Jessie A. Wormley and Miriam W. Lewis to Louise A. Malter. (land which grantors acquired in 1926 from Furman Wormley)

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Deed 2039:311
October 8, 1956

Louise A. Malter to Jessie A. Wormley and Miriam W. Lewis.

Deed 5511:583
February 2, 1982

Burton W. Lewis, personal representative of the estate of Miriam W. Lewis,
to Burton W. Lewis.

Deed 8459:805
September 1, 1992

Burton W. Lewis, Sr. to Burton W. Lewis, Sr. Living Trust. (2.7504-acres)

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Photo: William Stanton Wormley House, view of the façade (northeast elevation), looking southwest.

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Photo: William Stanton Wormley House, view of the southeast elevation, looking northwest.

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Photo: William Stanton Wormley House, view of the southeast elevation, looking northwest.

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Photo: William Stanton Wormley House, view of the west corner, looking east.

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Photo: William Stanton Wormley House, view of the northwest elevation, looking southeast.

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Photo: Garage, view of the façade (northeast elevation), looking southwest.

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Photo: Fireplace/stove, view of the northeast elevation, looking southwest.