

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 72-009-17

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Samuel Hargrove House
other

2. Location

street and number 5907 K Street ___ not for publication
city, town Fairmount Heights ___ vicinity
county Prince George's

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

name Pamela Naomi Weeks
street and number 14221 North Gate Drive telephone 301.598.6399
city, town Silver Spring state MD zip code 20906

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 13994 folio 267
city, town Upper Marlboro tax map 0066A-2 tax parcel 10 tax ID number 18 2114023

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	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> 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	
				<u>1</u>	

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

name	Elaine Weeks Hoffman				
street and number	14221 North Gate Drive		telephone	301.598.6399	
city, town	Silver Spring	state	MD	zip code	20906

name	Rose Marie Weeks Taylor				
street and number	14221 North Gate Drive		telephone	301.598.6399	
city, town	Silver Spring	state	MD	zip code	20906

name	Leelia Weeks Padilla				
street and number	14221 North Gate Drive		telephone	301.598.6399	
city, town	Silver Spring	state	MD	zip code	20906

name	Grace Weeks Herrell				
street and number	14221 North Gate Drive		telephone	301.598.6399	
city, town	Silver Spring	state	MD	zip code	20906

name	Cornelious B. Weeks, Jr.				
street and number	14221 North Gate Drive		telephone	301.598.6399	
city, town	Silver Spring	state	MD	zip code	20906

7. Description

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Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input checked="" 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 Samuel Hargrove House is located at 5907 K Street in Fairmount Heights, Maryland. The two-story, two-bay building was built in 1918 on a parcel containing four lots in the Fairmount Heights subdivision. The grassy, level lot features mature trees and shrubs as well as a gravel parking lot to the west of the dwelling. A wood-frame shed is located south of the dwelling. A wood fence marks the southern boundary of the property, while a chain-link fence is located along the northern boundary.

DWELLING

The two-story, two-bay vernacular dwelling has a row house form. Set on a solid stretcher-bond brick foundation, this elaborately detailed masonry building has been painted red. Capped by a shallow hip roof covered with asphalt shingles, the roof includes overhanging boxed eaves and bed molding. Two interior corbeled brick chimneys pierce the roofline of the main block. All of the window and door openings on the façade (north elevation) and west (side) elevation feature segmental brick arches with a carved swag in the head casing. The lintels are composed of a splayed rowlock brick course topped by a beaded brick course. All of the window openings feature cavetto-molded wood surrounds. The southern portion of the main block has been altered significantly to allow for the adaptation of the building for multi-family use. A two-story shed roof addition has been constructed on the south (rear) elevation. Located on the west (side) elevation is a porch and a stair leading to a second-story entry.

The façade (north elevation) features elaborate masonry work. The northwest and northeast corners of the dwelling are defined by rounded bricks, an unusual feature. A four-course belt course consists of rock-faced bricks. Located directly above this is a sill course of fret molding. Flowering table molding is found where the belt course meets a window or door opening. The façade (north elevation) is fenestrated by a paired window in the eastern bay of the first story and a single-leaf paneled wood door in the western bay. The second story is fenestrated by a paired window in the eastern bay flanked by a single window in the western bay. Three string courses are located along the second story. The lower string consists of three courses of alternating bricks with quatrefoil and flowering tablet molding. The middle and uppermost string courses consist of two courses of egg-and-tongue brick flanking two courses of fluted bricks.

The west (side) elevation features molded brick ornamentation as well. A four-course belt of rock-faced bricks is located at ground level. Another four-course belt course of torus molding intersects the first and second story windows at the meeting rails. A one-story, three-bay porch is located on the west (side) elevation. This porch is supported by brick piers that have been parged on their lower halves. The porch is capped by a shed roof covered with asphalt shingles. The roof provides shelter for a single-leaf replacement paneled wooden door featuring a transom opening that has been covered with plywood. Flanking the door to the north is a 2/1 window and to the south a 2/2 window. Fenestration at the second story consists of three windows featuring pivoting steel security bars. The southern two bays of the main block were severely altered c. 1950, resulting in a loss of decorative moldings or elements south of the porch on either story. Located to the south of the porch, a

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single-leaf metal door has been installed in a window opening. Located in the southern-most bay is a 1/1 metal-sash window featuring a square-edge wood surround, heavy concrete sill, and brick arch. The second story is fenestrated by a single-leaf metal door that has been installed in a window opening. The opening has been enlarged to accommodate the door. Located to the south of the door is a small square window. A concrete staircase has been built to provide access to the second story. The stair is supported by concrete walls located perpendicular to the replacement metal door on the first story.

The east (side) elevation fenestration consists of a 2/2 window opening located in the southern bay of the first story. Second-story fenestration consists of two 2/2 window openings with heavy concrete sills. The second-story windows do not feature decorative segmentally-arched brick lintels or scrolled header casing.

The two-story parged concrete-block addition to the south (rear) elevation is capped by a shed roof covered with asphalt shingles. Based on its form and materials, it appears the addition was constructed contemporaneously with the alteration of the main block, c. 1950. The first story is not full-width; however, the second story is and extends beyond the first story to the west. The extension is supported by brick piers. The west elevation of the first story is fenestrated by two six-light awning windows featuring square-edge wood surrounds and a narrow concrete sill. The west and south elevations of the addition are fenestrated by a 6/6 metal-sash window featuring a square-edge metal-surround and a concrete sill. The second-story windows are covered with pivoting steel security bars.

SHED

A wood-frame shed set on a concrete-block pier foundation is situated to the south of the dwelling. The shed is clad in a variety of sizes of plywood boards and capped by a shed roof covered with asphalt sheets. The roof features overhanging eaves and exposed rafters on the façade (west elevation). A double-leaf wood door constructed of T-111 siding is centrally located on the façade (west elevation). The 1939 Sanborn Map of the area depicts a storage shed located in the same spot as the current shed. Based on the current shed's materials, it appears it was constructed c. 1990 and is not the c. 1939 structure.

INTEGRITY

The Samuel Hargrove House has a moderate level of integrity. Alterations and additions have effected, but not compromised, the building's integrity of design, workmanship, and materials. Although many of the original windows and doors have been lost, the unusual brickwork the building is notable for remains. The building's integrity of association has been compromised due to its adaptation for multi-family use. The additions and alterations are not sensitive to the architectural character and detail of the dwelling, compromising the building's integrity of feeling. The building does maintain its integrity of location and setting as a residential building located in Fairmount Heights.

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The shed is a non-contributing resource, based on its recent construction date.

Despite alterations and additions, the unusual Samuel Hargrove House maintains a moderate level of integrity, and is therefore, able to convey its significance as a highly decorative vernacular building constructed at the beginning of the twentieth century in the largest and oldest African-American community in Prince George's County.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" 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	1918	Architect/Builder	Samuel Hargrove
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Construction dates	1918, c. 1950
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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 Samuel Hargrove House was constructed in 1918 at 5907 K Street in Fairmount Heights, Maryland. The highly ornamented vernacular dwelling was one of the first built in Fairmount Heights, a community established for African-Americans at the turn of the twentieth century. The house, constructed by Samuel Hargrove, displays his talent as a master brick mason. The Samuel Hargrove House is an unusual example of a domestic building type constructed in Fairmount Heights in the early 1900s that maintains a strong association with the neighborhood, and as such, retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance as an early twentieth century vernacular dwelling.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

The Samuel Hargrove House is located in the community of Fairmount Heights, Maryland. Located in Prince George's County near Eastern Avenue NE, Fairmount Heights is the largest and oldest African-American community in Prince George's County. The Prince George's County suburbs, with their inexpensive land and low tax rates, were particularly attractive to mid-and working-class newcomers.¹ As Washington, D.C. grew from a small town to a major city, it began to spill over into the adjoining counties. Spurred by the introduction of the streetcar to Prince George's County in 1897, several African-American communities were established, attracting members of an increasing group of black professionals from Washington, D.C.² Around the same time the community of Fairmount Heights was established, the town of North Brentwood also saw its beginning as an African-American community.

The Columbia Railroad built the Bennings streetcar line in 1900, which included a short branch extending to Kenilworth, Maryland, and there the Town of Fairmount Heights was built. The earliest settlers in Fairmount Heights were African-American families who purchased small plots of land between Addison and Sheriff Roads

¹ Alan Vitra, *Prince George's County. A Pictorial History* (Virginia Beach: The Donning Company/Publishers, 1984), 192.

² Jack E. Boucher, Robert J. Kapsch, Catherine C. Lavoie, Susan G. Pearl, and Gail C. Rothrock, *Landmarks of Prince George's County* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1993), 19.

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in 1903, acting on their desire for affordable, low cost, single-family houses in a community that would be self-governed.³

From the beginning, African-Americans were encouraged to buy lots and settle in the new community. The community was subdivided by Robinson White and Allen Clark from parts of several small farms they had purchased from the Wilson, Godfrey, Belt, and Lee families.⁴ White and Clark sold the lots at relatively low prices, making landownership attainable for African-American families. In 1910, Samuel Hargrove purchased four adjoining lots in Fairmount Heights.⁵ Hargrove was a professional brick mason from North Carolina, born about 1870.⁶ There was an existing small dwelling on the property, and it is not known whether it was incorporated into the present brick structure, or whether Hargrove lived in the smaller dwelling while constructing the new one.⁷ The house was completed in 1918 as evident from the sizeable increased assessed value of the property that year.⁸

The property was conveyed by Hargrove's son, Earl W. Hargrove, to Maggie Simms in 1929.⁹ Shortly thereafter Simms conveyed the property to Virginia Cooper in 1931.¹⁰ Cooper sold the property in 1938 to Cornelius B. and Lillian R. Weeks.¹¹ Multiple members of the Weeks family have owned the property since 1938, including the owner at the time of the 2007 on-site survey, Pamela Naomi Weeks.

³ Maryland Municipal League, "Fairmount Heights,"

<http://www.mdmunicipal.org/cities/index.cfm?townname=FairmountHeights&page=home> (accessed December 11, 2007).

⁴ John H. Wilson to Elizabeth Haines, Prince George's County Land Records, 20:590.

⁵ Elizabeth Haines to Samuel Hargrove, Prince George's County Land Records, 60:645.

⁶ 1910 U.S. Federal Census, Kent, Prince George's, Maryland, Series T624, Roll 567, Page 4B, Enumeration District 74, Image 500, Samuel Hargrove.

⁷ Susan G. Pearl, "Samuel Hargrove House," (PG: 72-9-17) Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form (1983), 8:2.

⁸ Susan G. Pearl, "Samuel Hargrove House," (PG: 72-9-17) Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form (1983), 8:2.

⁹ Earl W. Hargrove to Maggie Simms, Prince George's County Land Records, 353:4.

¹⁰ Maggie Simms to Virginia Cooper, Prince George's County Land Records, 361:61.

¹¹ Virginia Cooper to Cornelius B. and Lillian R. Weeks, Prince George's County Land Records, 505:19.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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1910 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 Municipal League. "Fairmount Heights."

<http://www.mdmunicipal.org/cities/index.cfm?townname=FairmountHeights&page=home>.

Pearl, Susan G. "Samuel Hargrove House" (PG: 72-9-17), Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form, 1991. Prince George's County Land Records.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	<u>0.2273</u>
Acreage of historical setting	<u>0.2273</u>
Quadrangle name	<u>Washington East</u>

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Samuel Hargrove House is located on a 0.2273-acre parcel that consists of four adjacent lots. The dwelling lies on the eastern boundary of the property. The remainder of the eastern boundary is formed by a wood fence located to the south of the dwelling running north-south. The northern boundary is formed by K Street, a one-way street running east to west. The western boundary is formed by a tall wood fence running north-south. The southern boundary is formed by a wood fence running west-east. The Samuel Hargrove House is associated with Parcel 10 as noted on Tax Map 0066A-2.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul Weishar, Architectural Historian		
organization	EHT Traceries, Inc.	date	January 2008
street & number	1121 Fifth Street, NW	telephone	202.393.2014
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
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

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CHAIN OF TITLE
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY LAND RECORDS

Deed 20:590
November 16, 1904

John H. Wilson to Elizabeth Haines.

Deed 60:345
August 10, 1910

Elizabeth Haines to Samuel Hargrove.

Deed 353:4
December 5, 1929

Earl W. and Ethel Hargrove, son of deceased Samuel Hargrove, to Maggie Simms.

Deed 361:61
March 26, 1931

Maggie Simms to Virginia Cooper.

Deed 361:361
May 15, 1931

Virginia Cooper to Louis T. and Gertrude M. Dicouse.

Deed 361:361
May 15, 1931

Louis T. and Gertrude M. Dicouse to Thomas D. Walsh and Austin M. Cooper, trustees.

Deed 392:337
May 15, 1931

Thomas D. Walsh and Austin M. Cooper, trustees, to Virginia Cooper.

Deed 505:19
June 6, 1938

Virginia Cooper to Cornelius B. and Lillian R. Weeks.

Deed VJ 10047:124
March 6, 1995

Lillian R. Weeks, widow, to Elaine W. Hoffman and Rose Marie Weeks Taylor, daughters.

Deed VJ 11457:404
May 29, 1997

Elaine W. Hoffman and Rose Marie Weeks Taylor to Lillian R. Weeks.

Deed VJ 13994:267
August 16, 2000

Elaine Weeks Hoffman, trustee of Estate of Lillian R. Weeks, to Pamela Naomi Weeks, Elaine Weeks Hoffman, Rose Marie Weeks Taylor, Leelia Weeks Padillia, Grace Weeks Herrell, and Cornelious B. Weeks, Jr.

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Photo: Samuel Hargrove House, view of the façade (north elevation), looking south. (November 2007)

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Photo: Samuel Hargrove House, view of the west (side) elevation, looking southeast. (November 2007)

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Photo: Samuel Hargrove House, view of the west (side) elevation, looking northeast. (November 2007)

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Photo: Samuel Hargrove House, view of the south (rear) elevation, looking north. (November 2007)

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Photo: Samuel Hargrove House, view of the east (side) elevation, looking southwest. (November 2007)

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Photo: Shed, view of the façade (west elevation), looking east. (November 2007)

