

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 76B-065

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Burgdorf House (preferred)
other Seven Oaks Farm

2. Location

street and number 5750 Fisher Road ___ not for publication
city, town Temple Hills ___ vicinity
county Prince George's

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

name Keatra Fuller and Gail Avent
street and number 5750 Lake Vista Drive telephone
city, town Temple Hills state MD zip code 20748

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 29747 folio 46
city, town Upper Marlboro tax map 97/A3 tax parcel 16 tax ID number 12 1218593

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: ___

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
___ district	___ public	___ agriculture	Contributing
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	___ landscape	Noncontributing
___ structure	___ both	___ commerce/trade	<u>2</u>
___ site		___ recreation/culture	___ buildings
___ object		___ defense	___ sites
		<u>X</u> domestic	___ structures
		___ education	___ objects
		___ funerary	<u>2</u>
		___ government	<u>0</u> Total
		___ health care	
		___ industry	
		___ other:	

Number of Contributing Resources
previously listed in the Inventory
0

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 Burgdorf House is located at 5750 Fisher Road in Temple Hills, Maryland. The dwelling is sited on a level, grassy 2 ½-acre lot. The property features mature trees and shrubs, as well as foundation plantings. An asphalt driveway enters the property from Fisher Road. The backyard is encompassed by a wooden privacy fence. A carport is attached to the east (side) elevation of the dwelling.

DWELLING

Constructed c. 1885, this two-and-one-half story, five-bay single dwelling is two bays deep. This Queen-Anne style dwelling has a T-shaped form. The western block is three bays wide while the eastern block is only two bays wide and not as deep. The wood-frame structure is clad in German wood siding. A wide belt course of square-butt wood shingles extends from the lintels of the first-story openings to the sills of the second-story openings. This belt course flares outward approximately four inches from the main block. The east (side) elevation and the eastern-half of the south (rear) elevation do not have this shingled belt course. The cross-gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles and features overhanging eaves, a raking wood cornice, and ogee-molded cornice returns. The upper-gable ends of the façade (north elevation), south (rear) elevation, and east (side) elevation feature a band of five rows of wooden shingles. Fenestration of this building consists of replacement, 1/1, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows with 9/9 false muntins. All of the window openings feature square-edge wood surrounds with plinth blocks, fluted architraves, beaded top rails, and ogee-molded lintels. Two interior brick chimneys pierce the ridge of the building. The westernmost chimney has a plain cap. The easternmost chimney has been extended, as evidenced by corbelling halfway up the exposed stack. According to the current home owner, Keatra Fuller, the dwelling originally had a wrap-around porch extending along the west (side) and south (rear) elevation.¹

The façade (north elevation) features a replacement, single-leaf, paneled wood door with oval light located in the second bay. The square-edge wood surround has a fluted architrave. A one-story, one-bay porch shelters the door opening. The porch was likely added to the building in the mid-twentieth century. The porch extends across the two blocks making up the dwelling. This porch has a front-gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The roof includes overhanging eaves, a raking wood cornice, and German wood siding in the upper-gable end. The roof is supported by tapered, square wood posts. The porch is set on a solid, poured concrete foundation with concrete steps and finished with two wood rails serving as a balustrade. The first and second stories are pierced by four window openings. The upper-gable end of the front-facing western block contains a tripartite window opening. The central bay of this opening features a wide, 1/1, double-hung, vinyl-sash window with 6/6 false muntins. Flanking this window are two small, 1-light, wood-sash, fixed windows.

The south (rear) elevation is fenestrated by small, 1-light, wood-sash basement windows. The western block extends approximately four feet from the elevation of the eastern block. This permitted the placement of a single-leaf, paneled wood door with a single-light transom in the eastern elevation of the western block. Fenestration of the south elevation consists of paired windows with two exceptions. First, the westernmost bay of the first story is pierced by a tripartite window consisting of a large, single-light fixed window flanked by

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1/1, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows with 4/4 false muntins. Second, the third bay of the elevation is fenestrated by single window openings on the first and second stories. The first-story opening is notably small, possibly illuminating a bathroom. The upper-gable end of the south elevation features a tripartite window opening similar to the façade. This opening contains a large central bay that has been enclosed with a louvered vent and flanked by single-leaf, fixed, wood-sash windows.

The west (side) elevation is fenestrated by a small window opening in the southernmost bay of the first story. The second story of the west elevation is pierced by two window openings placed close to the corner. The northernmost bay of the first story features a one-story, one-bay addition. Based on its form and materials, it is likely that this addition was constructed c. 1920. Set on a solid parged foundation, this wood-frame structure is clad in German wood siding. Limited wood corner boards are painted the same color as the exterior cladding. The side-gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles and features thin overhanging eaves, a boxed and raking wood cornice. The façade (north elevation) and south (rear) elevation are fenestrated by window openings smaller than found on the main block. These 1/1, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows have 6/6 false muntins and are set in plain, square-edge wood surrounds. The west (side) elevation contains a single-leaf, paneled vinyl door set in square-edge wood surround.

The east (side) elevation features a three-sided bay in the southernmost bay of the first story. This opening has an asphalt-shingle roof and paneled fields (spandrels) below each window opening. The bay is fenestrated with 1/1, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows with 6/6 false muntins. The openings have square-edge wood surrounds with plinth blocks, fluted architraves, beaded top rails, and ogee-molded lintels. The northern bay of the first story contains a single-leaf, paneled vinyl door with lights and a single-light, fixed transom, set in a square-edge wood surround. The second story is pierced by two window openings. The upper-gable end contains a tripartite window set in a square-edge wood surround. The central bay consists of an arched, 2/2, double-hung, wood-sash window flanked by small, quarter-round, fixed wood-sash windows. A one-story hyphen shelters the door opening on the first story, providing protection as one travels to the garage. The porch is set on a solid, parged foundation with a concrete deck and steps. Based on its form and materials, it appears that this hyphen was constructed in the mid-twentieth century. The side-gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles and supported by the same tapered, square posts found on the façade's porch. Two rails serve as a balustrade.

CARPORT

A one-story, wood-frame carport is located east of the Burgdorf House; it is attached to the dwelling via a small one-story, side-gable hyphen. Based on the structure's materials, it appears that this structure was constructed in the mid-twentieth century. The structure is set on a poured concrete slab. A one-story structure is capped by a steeply pitched, front-gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The roof features a raking wood cornice and a plain wood fascia board. The upper-gable ends of the structure are clad in German wood siding. The property number (5750) has been attached to the façade (north elevation) of the carport. The roof is supported by large,

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square wood posts. These posts are set a solid, two-course, concrete-block wall. The concrete blocks are set on the poured concrete slab. The east (side), south (rear), and west (side) elevations of the carport features knee-high walls clad in German wood siding. The façade is open, having no door.

INTEGRITY

The Burgdorf House maintains a moderate level of integrity of design, workmanship, and materials as a result of the replacement of the original windows, removal of the original wrap-around porch, and its connection to the mid-twentieth-century garage by a hyphen. The exterior cladding is in fair condition, showing evidence of repair and replacement. The building, sited at the intersection of Fisher Road and Myrtle Avenue, maintains its integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association as a visual local landmark.

The carport, a later addition, maintains its integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. The building maintains a high level of integrity of feeling, location, setting, and association.

Overall, the Burgdorf House presents a moderate level of integrity.

¹ Keatra Fuller to Howard Berger, email dated November 17, 2008.

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 checked="" 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. 1885	Architect/Builder	unknown
Construction dates	c. 1885, c. 1920		

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 Burgdorf House was constructed c. 1885 at 5750 Fisher Road in Temple Hills, Maryland, on the edge of a small ridge that slopes to the south. Predating the suburb of Temple Hills, the Burgdorf House was constructed on a 300-acre tract that Ernest Burgdorf had accumulated at the end of the nineteenth century. Burgdorf, owner of a livery stable in the District of Columbia, maintained the Prince George's County property as a horse farm, known as Seven Oaks Stock Farm. The property, subdivided to include just 14.41 acres by 1923, was first owner-occupied in 1925, when Henry G. Andre bought it. Andre, a carpenter by trade, was responsible for the subdivision of the surrounding acres into a working-class subdivision in the mid-twentieth century. Despite the subdivision and construction of mid- to late-twentieth-century houses, the Burgdorf House retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance as a late-nineteenth-century dwelling illustrating elements of the Queen Anne style.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

Temple Hills is located in western Prince George's County. The property was owned by Ernest Burgdorf. Burgdorf was born 1847 in Saxony, a state in present-day Germany. It is not known when he emigrated to America. Burgdorf and his wife, Lizzie, had two small children, Carl E. and Lena. It is certain that the dwelling had been constructed prior to the Burgdorf purchasing the property, though it cannot be determined the builder. The Burgdorfs did not live in the Burgdorf House, rather opting to reside in Washington, DC. and operate a livery stable at 416 Eighth Street, NW.² The size of this lot suggests that Burgdorf could have operated a small livery company in this location. Burgdorf made headlines when a team of his horses were stolen in 1890 by a rampant horse thief.³ Burgdorf purchased the 300-acre tract as a supplement to his livery business. The property was known as Seven Oaks Stock Farm. The farm featured many colts, some of which were used in the family's livery operation in Washington, DC.⁴

In addition to the 300-acre property, Ernest Burgdorf purchased parcels of land from influential and affluent Maryland families. For example, in 1889, he purchased property from Sylvester B. and William W. Boarman

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for \$9,000.⁵ Sylvester B. Boarman was a bank officer, his son William W. Boarman a lawyer, another son was a doctor, and his third son worked in banking.

In 1919, Burgdorf sold approximately 316 acres James M. Beall.⁶ Beall and his wife Nora, both born in 1874, lived in Washington, DC, with their young daughter, Florence. The Bealls, like many living in urban communities, rented rooms to two lodgers and had a personal cook. Beall was a grocer, who supplemented his income by leasing the Burgdorf House property.⁷

In 1923, 14.41 acres of the 316-acre tract including the dwelling were conveyed to Thomas S. Wheeler.⁸ At the time of the sale, the widowed Wheeler lived in Charles County. In 1925, Wheeler sold the property to Henry G. Andre and his wife, Myrtle B. Andre.⁹ Andre, born 1881, was a house carpenter. The Andres had three young children when they purchased the Prince George's County property. It is believed that the Andres family was the first owner to occupy the Burgdorf House.

In 1952, Myrtle B. Andre, widowed, conveyed the property to Colonel James M. and Eleanor J. Clow.¹⁰ The deed of sale refers to the property as Lot D in the "Addition to Andre Subdivision," thus suggesting Henry and Myrtle Andre were responsible for subdividing the larger tract into individual building lots. Like the Andre family, the Clows resided in the house. Colonel Clow served in the military, as did his son, Gordon H. Clow. In 1986, the Clows conveyed the property to Robert Lee Neal, Jr.¹¹ Robert Neal and his wife, Beverly, lived in the house until 2004 when they sold to Raymond W. Bush, Jr.¹² At the time of the sale, the property was designated as Lot 16 in the Addition to Andre Subdivision. Information about Bush could not be located.

In 2007, Bush conveyed the property to Carolyn Childs.¹³ Wells Fargo Bank, acting as trustee of the mortgage company, sold the property to the current owners, Keatra Fuller and Gail Avent in March of 2008.¹⁴

² This is no longer a valid District address; a late-twentieth-century firehouse occupies this location.

³ "Believe Him a Horse Thief: Stolen Teams Recovered and a Vigilant Search Made for a Young Man." The Washington Post (1877-1954), July 12, 1900, <http://www.proquest.com.proxy.library.cornell.edu/> (accessed February 5, 2009).

⁴ "The Post's Amateur Writers: Something About Seven Oaks Farm." The Washington Post (1877-1954), May 1, 1894, <http://www.proquest.com.proxy.library.cornell.edu/> (accessed February 5, 2009).

⁵ "Real Estate Transfers." The Washington Post (1877-1954), July 19, 1889, <http://www.proquest.com.proxy.library.cornell.edu/> (accessed February 5, 2009).

⁶ Charles W. Claggett, Trustee, to James M. Beall, Prince George's County Land Records, 142:317.

⁷ 1920 U.S. Federal Census, District of Columbia, Series T625, Roll 212, Page 6A, District 282, Image 346, James M. Beall.

⁸ James M. Beall and Nora J. Beall to Thomas S. Wheeler, Prince George's County Land Records, 206:434.

⁹ Thomas S. Wheeler, widower, to Myrtle B. Andre and Henry G. Andre, Prince George's County Land Records, 238:513.

¹⁰ Myrtle B. Andre to James M. Clow and Eleanor J. Clow, Prince George's County Land Records, 1519:72.

¹¹ James Eleanor Clow to Robert Lee Neal, Jr., Prince George's County Land Records, NLP 6308:164.

¹² Robert Lee Neal, Jr. and Beverly A. Neal to Raymond W. Bush, Jr., Prince George's County Land Records< 20900:294.

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¹³ Raymond W. Bush, Jr. to Carolyn Childs, Prince George's County Land Records, PM 27078:733.

¹⁴ Wells Fargo Bank to Keatra Fuller and Gail Avent, Prince George's County Land Records, PM 29747:46.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Hopkins, G.M. *Prince George's County, from Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington*. Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, C.E., 1878.
Martenet, Simon J. *Martenet's Map of Prince George's County, Maryland*. Baltimore: Simon J. Martenet, 1861.
Prince George's County Land Records.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	<u>0.582</u>
Acreage of historical setting	<u>316.90</u>
Quadrangle name	<u>Anacostia</u>

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property at 5850 Fisher Road is bounded on the north by Fisher Road, to the east by Carroll Drive, to the south by Henry Avenue, and on the west by a wooden fence and mature shrubs. An asphalt driveway extends southwest from the intersection of Fisher Road and Myrtle Avenue. The property is identified as Parcel 16 as noted on Tax Map 97/A3.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul Weishar and Maria Dayton, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Traceries, Inc. for M-NCPPC	date	March 2009
street & number	1121 Fifth 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
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

PARCELA

Deed
JWB 11:433
October 11, 1888

Julia A. English to Ernest Burgdorf. (206.93 acres)

PARCEL B

Deed
JWB 15:12
April 1, 1890

James and Rachel Barrett, and Francis Barrett to Ernest Burgdorf. (15 acres)

PARCEL C

Deed Unknown

Deed
JWB 8:284
October 18, 1886

John P. Talbert to James Barrett.

James Barrett and Rachel Barrett to James W. Barrett. (30 acres)

Deed
JWB 15:66
April 8, 1890

James W. Barrett to Ernest Burgdorf. (Part of tract of land known as "Tolson's Purchase", containing 18.87 acres)

PARCEL D

Deed
JWB 18:161
March 14, 1891

William A. Mudd to Ernest Burgdorf (Part of "Tolson's Purchase", containing 14.55 acres)

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PARCEL E

Deed
JWB 18:476
May 14, 1891

James Barrett and Rachel Barrett, for Francis Barrett, to Ernest Burgdorf. (Part of "Tolson's Purchase", containing 6.11 acres)

PARCEL F

Deed
JWB 20:287
January 9, 1892

Edward Temple to Ernest Burgdorf. (54.48 acres)

PARCEL G

Deed
18:522
November 23, 1896

William D. Pyles to Ernest Burgdorf. (0.78 acres or 0.46 acres clear of the road)

PARCEL A, B, C, D, E, F, G

Equity
#5247
August 8, 1919

Julia B. Burgdorf vs. Dorothy Burgdorf (infant), et al. Charles W. Clagett appointed Trustee.

Deed
142:317
August 19, 1919

Charles W. Clagett, Trustee, to James M. Beall. (~316.90 acres, known as "The Seven Oaks Farm")

Mortgage
142:320
August 22, 1919

James M. Beall and Nora J. Beall to Lena L. Burgdorf, Ada B. Burgdorf, and Dorothy Burgdorf (infant). (~316.90 acres, known as "The Seven Oaks Farm")

Deed
206:434
November 2, 1923

James M. Beall and Nora J. Beall to Thomas S. Wheeler. (14.41 acres, part of "Seven Oaks Farm")

Deed
238:513
October 5, 1925

Thomas S. Wheeler, widower, to Myrtle B. Andre and Henry G. Andre. (14.41 acres, part of "Seven Oaks Farm")

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LOT D (LATER LOT 16)

Deed WWW 1519:72 July 21, 1952	Myrtle B. Andre, widow, surviving tenant by the entirety of Henry G. Andre, to James M. Clow and Eleanor J. Clow. (Lot "D" in "Addition to Andre Subdivision")
Deed NLP 6308:164 February 21, 1986	James M. Clow and Eleanor J. Clow to Robert Lee Neal, Jr.
Deed VJ 9527:652 March 23, 1994	Robert Lee Neal, Jr. to Robert Lee Neal, Jr. and Beverly A. Neal. (Lot 16 in the "Addition to Andre Subdivision")
Deed REP 20900:294 April 30, 2004	Robert Lee Neal, Jr. and Beverly A. Neal to Raymond W. Bush, Jr.
Deed PM 27078:733 February 6, 2007	Raymond W. Bush, Jr. to Carolyn Childs.
Deed 29747:46 March 21, 2008	Wells Fargo Bank, Trustee for Bear Stearns, LLC, to Keatra Fuller and Gail PM Avent (0.582 acres)

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Photo: Burgdorf House, Temple Hills, c. 1885, view of the facade (northeast) elevation, looking south. (February 2009)

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Photo: Burgdorf House, Temple Hills, c. 1885, view of the facade (northeast) elevation, looking southwest. (February 2009)

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Photo: Burgdorf House, Temple Hills, c. 1885, view of the southwest (rear) elevation, looking north. (February 2009)

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Photo: Burgdorf House, Temple Hills, Carport, c. 1940, looking southwest. (February 2009)