

HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

(Staff Use Only)

HISTORIC PRESERVATION UNIT
DEPARTMENT of CULTURE & HISTORY
SCIENCE & CULTURE CENTER
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25305

File No: 17
Theme (e):
Neg No (e):
USGS Quad: Charleston West, W.Va.
UTM Ref: 17/443970/424340

DISTRICT . SITE . BUILDING . STRUCTURE . OBJECT

1. NAME(S), historic/common:

Barnes, ~~Bernard~~-Wellford, Elizabeth House

2. LOCATION, street/road:

66 Abney Circle

city/town:

Charleston (~~incorporated/unincorporated~~)

3. USE/FUNCTION, present: residence

(~~public/private~~
~~restricted~~)

original: residence

4. OWNER/ADDRESS, present:

Mrs. Betty Wellford

address above

(~~public/private~~)

original: Bernard Barnes

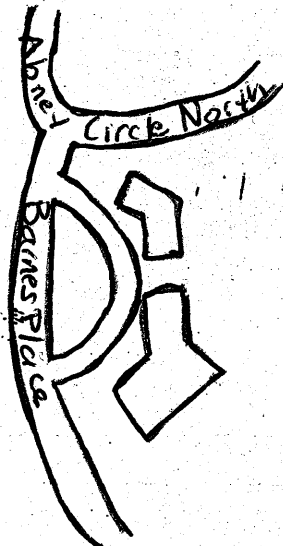
5. PHOTO/SKETCH OF:

7. PLAN (include approx. dimensions):

6. LOCALE/ENVIRONMENT (map):

8. ACREAGE (approx):

1 acre



COUNTY: Kanawha
Survey Region: _____
Planning District: _____

12/16/83

9. DESCRIPTION (clarify as appropriate):

a. Exterior Fabric

stone _____
 brick _____
 concrete _____
 stucco X _____
 weatherboard _____
 clapboard _____
 board & batten _____
 shingle _____
 other _____

b. Structural System

masonry X _____
 frame _____
 log _____
 metal _____
 other _____
 foundation _____
 brick _____

c. Roofing Material

wood _____
 metal _____
 slate X _____
 tile _____
 asphalt _____
 composition _____
 other _____

d. Associated Structures (use/type):

outbuildings studio/garage _____
 dependencies NONE _____
 other N/A _____

e. Integrity (include dates):

original site/relocated _____
 alterations NONE _____
 additions NONE _____

f. Condition:

excellent X _____
 good _____
 fair _____
 deteriorated _____
 abandoned _____

g. Threats: NONE

10. SIGNIFICANCE (use additional sheet if necessary):

a. Architect/Builder/Engineer:
Fred Crowthers
 b. Style/Period: English
cottage
 c. Date(s):
c.1923

The Barnes-Wellford home is a significant South Hills home designed in the 1920's by Fred Crowthers for Bernard Barnes, a leading Charleston businessman, and his wife Dorothy Dyer Barnes.

Fred Crowthers was an English-born architect who worked in Charleston for several years. His Manor Place Apartments, which are in Charleston's East End Historic District, were built at this time. He was the architect for two exceptional residences in South Hills: the Barnes and the Merrill homes.

His work in Charleston was in the English Tudor Style.

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11. BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Charleston City Directories

Interview with Mrs. John B. Merrill, June 29, 1983.

Interview with Betty Wellford, July 15, 1983

12. FORM PREPARED BY Alice Carter ; DATE Sept. 30, 1983

a. Address 4011 Kanawha Avenue, Charleston WV 25304
 b. Organization _____

Barnes, Bernard, -Wellford, Elizabeth, House.
66 Abney Circle

CONTINUED

The Barnes residence is smaller than the Merrill house and is more of a cottage than a manor design, which is the style of the Merrill house. Bernard Barnes was an executive in the Pennsylvania Life Insurance Company. He originally owned all the land on Barnes Place, which he later divided and sold. Landon C. Wellford and his wife Elizabeth bought the home in 1951. Mrs. Wellford resides there today.

13. Verbal Boundary Description

An approximately one acre rectangular lot, 200' by 200', that is bounded on the west by Abney Circle North and is bounded on the south and east by Barnes Place; Lot No. 247, Kanawha County Tax Map No. 5, 15th Ward-16 (4-15-1965).

HISTORIC PRESERVATION UNIT
Department of Culture and History
Capitol Complex
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

1400/83

ATTACHMENT TO HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

HISTORIC PRESERVATION UNIT
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE & HISTORY
THE CULTURAL CENTER
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25305

1. Name(s) Historic/Common: Barnes-Wellford House
(South Hills Multiple Resource Area)
Kanawha County
West Virginia

#7. The Barnes-Wellford House is one of West Virginia's finest examples of early 20th-century traditional revival architecture in the English Romantic manner. It occupies a sloping lot in a wooded section of South Hills off Abney Circle North. The structure is entirely stuccoed with a light tan coloration that blends handsomely in the rustic setting. Brown-painted trim accents the windows, doors and eaves.

Steeply-pitched roofs are punctuated with gabled dormers and are slate covered. The roof ridges are divided at three points above three blocks of differing heights that form a rambling plan along the sloping lot. Each elevation features expanses of stuccoed wall surface within which casement and double-hung windows are placed. The nearly flush eaves greatly emphasize the scale and texture of the walls.

The studio building, like the parent structure, is built on a sloping site, and like the house, features three distinct divisions in its roof plan. This multiple gable effect, above stuccoed walls, is a clearly picturesque mode adopted by the architect to complement the main house. The studio building contributes to the significance of the nominated site; it has been used for guests' housing, storage, and for an artist's studio.

#8. The Barnes-Wellford House is significant as one of the most distinguished examples of English Romantic-style revival architecture, of the early 20th century, in West Virginia. The residence is noted for the excellent execution of detail that "authenticates" the English countryside atmosphere in which habitations were finished in or constructed of half-timbering, nogging or brick infill. The dormered roofs extend away from and below the dormer faces in the manner of thatched roofs. Architecturally, the building is also noteworthy as the work of architect Fred Crowther, a prominent professional architect who practiced in Charleston, West Virginia in the 1900's and 1920's. Mr. Crowther was English-born. His best known Charleston residences are those found in a grouping of six along the Manor Place cul-de-sac in Charleston's East End Historic District. These structures also are of the English cottage style and rank among the finest examples of this genre in West Virginia. Crowther is known to have been published in Pencil Points, an early professional journal; he eventually moved to Detroit, Michigan.