

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Widrick, George, House

and/or common Widrick, George, House

2. Location

street & number Ballenger Creek Pike n/a not for publication

city, town Frederick vicinity of congressional district Sixth

state Maryland code 24 county Frederick code 021

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Peggy Kinsey

street & number P. O. Box 8

city, town Frederick n/a vicinity of state Maryland 21701

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse

street & number North Court Street

city, town Frederick state Maryland 21701

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust
Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1978 federal state county local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date <u>n/a</u>

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources		Number of previously listed
Contributing	Noncontributing	National Register properties
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings	included in this nomination: <u>0</u>
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites	
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> structures	Original and Historic functions
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects	and uses: residential, agricultural
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u> Total	

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

The George Widrick House is a Federal period brick dwelling located south of the city of Frederick in Frederick County, Maryland. The house is constructed of brick and stands 9 bays wide, 2½ stories high on a low fieldstone foundation facing south. The building consists of two contemporaneous sections: the four eastern bays form the main block which has a side-passage, double-pile plan, and the five bays to the west are a service wing, one room deep, recessed behind a two-story porch. The south facade of the main block is laid in Flemish bond; all the other walls are 5-course common bond. Windows are 6/6 sash set in beaded surrounds with wooden shutters. All window and door openings have stone sills and flat brick arches, and a three-course corbeled cornice defines the eaves. Each gable end has a chimney, and an interior chimney rises from the center of the wing. The interior is distinguished by a wealth of late Federal decorative detailing, including mantels, paneling, chair rail, baseboard, and architraves, stair and balustrade, and plaster ceiling medallions; the richness and variety of this detail are outstanding among rural houses of the period in the country. Also on the property is a small brick smokehouse and the stone foundation of a barn.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet Widrick, George, House Item number 7 Page 1
Frederick County, Maryland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The George Widrick House is a Federal period brick dwelling located on Ballenger Creek Pike south of Frederick in Frederick County, Maryland. The house is nine bays wide, and incorporates a recessed two-story porch across the western five bays of its principal (south) facade. It stands 2½ stories high above a low fieldstone foundation; the gable roof is clad in standing-seam metal. Internal end chimneys rise from each gable, and an interior stack emerges behind the ridge, between the second and third bays from the west.

The eastern section is two rooms deep, arranged in a side-passage, double pile plan. Its south facade is laid in Flemish bond, with a three-course corbeled cornice. The entrance is located in the westernmost bay of this section, and consists of a (reproduction) six-panel door set in a recessed opening with paneled reveals and surmounted by a transom with tracery. The remaining openings on both stories hold 6/6 windows with pegged sash and beaded surrounds; there are small vents with horizontal, diamond-section bars at basement level. All the door and window openings in the house have stone sills and flat-brick arches.

The five western bays of the south elevation hold a service wing, and are spanned by a recessed, two-story porch; this configuration is found in houses of ca. 1820-1860 in rural areas of central and western Maryland, and appears to be a regional variation of the more common practice of placing the service behind and perpendicular to the main block, forming an L or T plan. The south elevation of this wing is laid in 5-course common bond, and has identical fenestration on both levels: reading from west to east, there is a window, door, window, door, window. Both doors on the first story have traceried transoms like the main entrance; those on the upper level lack transoms. All are original six-panel doors set in paneled reveals. On the upper level, the porch retains its original tapered, chamfered posts, railing and balustrade. All the south windows are fitted with early louvered shutters.

The east gable end is symmetrical, with two 6/6 windows on each level and another smaller 6/6 sash centered in the peak to light the half-story. A broad chimney stack with a two-course corbeled cap straddles the ridge. The first and second story windows have paneled shutters. This elevation (like all of the walls except the south facade of the main block) is laid in 5-course common bond.

The west end is pierced only by a 6/6 window in the gable peak. The internal chimney is offset to the north of the ridge.

See Continuation Sheet No. 2

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Widrick, George, House

Continuation sheet Frederick County, Maryland Item number 7 Page 2

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The north (rear) elevation is divided into seven bays; its 5-course common bond brickwork is continuous, indicating that both sections of the house were constructed at the same time. A three-course corbeled cornice stretches across this side. The three eastern bays correspond to the main block: the third bay from the east has the rear entrance to the stair hall, with a 6/6 window lighting the landing above it. (The northernmost opening on the first floor has been enclosed.) The second bay from the west holds an entrance to the kitchen; its stone sill clearly shows much more wear than any other entrance to the building. The remaining bays on both levels hold 6/6 windows; the second-story openings are fitted with paneled shutters, while the first-floor shutters are louvered.

The interior of the main block is laid out on a side-passage, double-pile plan, with the stair hall running the full depth of the building on the west, and two rooms opening off the hall to the east. This layout is repeated on the second story. The wing contains a dining room and kitchen on the first floor; an enclosed winder stair in the kitchen gives access to servants' quarters on the second floor, while a more formal bedroom is above the dining room. The eastern half of the attic is finished as a modern bedroom; the remainder of this space is used for storage.

The interior of the Widrick House is distinguished by an outstanding collection of exceptionally fine decorative detailing combining Federal and Classical forms which remains almost completely intact. Doors throughout the house have six flat fielded panels; most retain original hardware. Chair rail, baseboard, and architrave trim survives in every room, and each of the principal rooms on both floors has a fine mantel and fielded paneling below the windows.

The entrance hall and southeast parlor are the most elaborately detailed. The open-string stair has a slender turned newel and rectangular balusters (two per tread) supporting the handrail; the step ends are decorated with scroll work and the area below the carriage is paneled. Doors opening off the hall are framed with symmetrical molding with bull's eye corner blocks. A plaster medallion is centered in the hallway ceiling.

The southeast parlor features a mantel with fluted columns and a pulvinated frieze; a shallow closet with paneled door is next to the fireplace. There is a large panel below each window, consisting of a raised oval upon a fielded rectangle, set in a beaded surround.

The fireplace in the northeast room has been enclosed and the mantel removed.

See Continuation Sheet No. 3

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Widrick, George, House

Continuation sheet Frederick County, Maryland Item number

7

Page 3

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The dining room mantel is similar, except the columns are not fluted and the frieze is decorated with a recessed flat panel. An original cupboard fills the space to the right of the fireplace. Panels below the windows are fielded rectangles. Architraves have beaded fascia and ogee/astragal backbands.

The kitchen, at the west end of the wing, is simply finished. Window and door surrounds are narrow, double half-round molding. A large cooking fireplace occupies the west wall. An enclosed winder stair ascends in the northeast corner; there is a cabinet with a paneled door under the stair.

On the second floor, the southeast chamber mantel has slender paired columns supporting endblocks decorated with a fielded oval panel; a similar elongated oval panel appears in the frieze. Paneling beneath the windows repeats that of the room below, with a raised oval atop a fielded rectangle in a beaded surround. The symmetrical architrave trim incorporates a series of stepped fillets.

The northeast chamber has the most unusual mantel in the house, featuring a pair of carved fans in the frieze. Endblocks and pilasters have recessed panel decoration. The architraves and chair rail in this room are composed of beaded broken-field fascia with ogee/astragal backbands.

In the middle chamber (in the wing, above the dining room) the paneling beneath the windows consists of fielded rectangles with quarter-round concave corners; the frieze and endblocks of the mantel repeat this design. A similar panel instead of a transom, occurs above the door leading onto the porch. Architrave trim is identical to that in the southeast parlor.

The servant's room above the kitchen is simply finished, with a very plain mantel.

The house has undergone little alteration since its construction. A small room at the south end of the hall on the second floor has been fitted out as a modern bathroom. The easternmost bay of the north wall was in a state of collapse when the present owner acquired the property; in reconstructing this portion of the wall, one window opening was enclosed. The main entrance door is a reproduction, modeled after the five other original exterior doors which survive. The porch posts on the lower level are replacements. The exterior shows evidence of sandblasting and repointing.

About 50 yards east of the house are a small brick smokehouse and stone barn foundation; these structures are believed to be contemporaneous with the dwelling and contribute to the significance of the resource.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
	<input type="checkbox"/> invention			

Specific dates c. 2nd qtr. 19th Cent **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)
 Applicable Criteria: A, C
 Applicable Exceptions: none
 Significance Evaluated: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The George Widrick House is significant for its architecture. Its form, essentially a side-passage, double-pile dwelling with a two-room service wing extending from the side and spanned by a two-story recessed porch, represents a building type whose geographical distribution in Maryland is limited to the Pennsylvania-influenced central and western regions of the state, and whose occurrence is generally associated with the second quarter of the 19th century. The Widrick House is an especially well preserved example of this building type, and derives additional distinction from its extensive interior decorative detailing, nearly all of which survives intact. The richness, variety, and fine workmanship of its interior woodwork which combines Federal and Classical forms are outstanding among rural houses of the period in Frederick County.

9. Major Bibliographical References

F-1-2

See footnotes, Item 8, Continuation Sheet No. 4

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approximately 8 acres

Quadrangle name Frederick, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	18	288900	4361980
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	18	288980	4361740
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	18	288640	4361920
---	----	--------	---------

D	18	288620	4362040
---	----	--------	---------

E			
---	--	--	--

F			
---	--	--	--

G			
---	--	--	--

H			
---	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 5

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	n/a	code	county	code
-------	-----	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Peter E. Kurtze, Assistant National Register Administrator

organization Maryland Historical Trust date March 1985

street & number 21 State Circle telephone (301) 269-2438

city or town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *J. White* 8-12-85

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCERS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<i>for Meloy Byrum</i>	Entered in the National Register date 9/12/85
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet Widrick, George, House Frederick County, Maryland Item number 8 Page 4

HISTORY AND SUPPORT:

The following information was prepared in 1978 by Cherilyn Widell, then Sites Analyst for the Frederick County Office of Historic Preservation.

The land upon which the house stands was originally patented and issued to Adam Ramsburgh March 2, 1765 and was named "Wolf Pitt" and "Last Shift."¹

Upon the death of Adam Ramsburgh in 1795, he left the land to George Widrick, husband of his daughter Catherine Elizabeth, upon the payment of two hundred pounds to both his son, John and other daughter, Maria Catherine Getzendanner.²

Apparently George Widrick built the house sometime after purchasing the property and lived there until his death in 1835. The house does not appear on the 1808 Varlé map of Frederick County.

Widrick died intestate, and the property reverted to all of his heirs, John Widrick and wife, Elizabeth Staley, Christian Widrick, Jacob Wachter and wife, Philip Wachter and wife, John Stull and wife, John and Jacob Wachter and Jacob Widrick, the eldest. As the oldest child, Jacob Widrick was first offered the opportunity to purchase the property, which he did for \$5,550. on August 7, 1835.³

Jacob Widrick owned the property until his death when the land was given to his only child, Elizabeth Mealey.⁴ Upon her death the land was passed on to her many children, finally leaving it in the hands of Laura and Rosanna Mealey by 1867 when it was sold to John Wilcoxon for \$15,720.⁵ The property has been sold many time since that time.

The current owners restored the property upon their purchase.

¹Frederick County Land Records, Liber JS 50; Folio 41.

²Frederick County Probate Records, Liber GM 3; Folio 23.

³Frederick County Land Records, Liber JS 50; Folio 41.

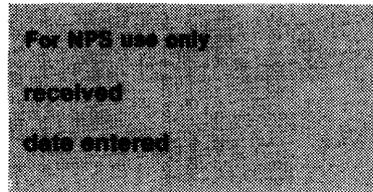
⁴Ibid., Liber JWL 2; Folio 465.

⁵Ibid., Liber DSB 2; Folio 8.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

F-1-2

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Widrick, George, House

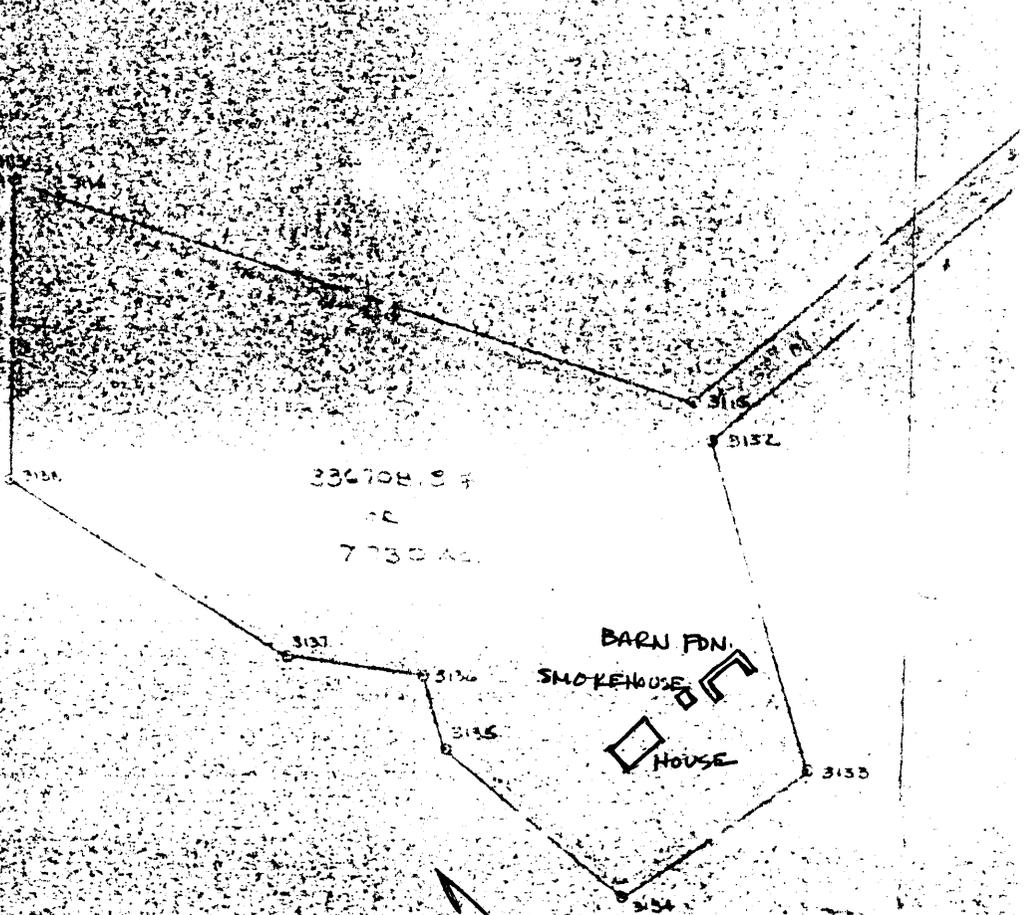
Continuation sheet Frederick County, Maryland Item number 10 Page 5

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Verbal Boundary description: Boundaries are depicted on the attached plat.

Boundary Justification: The nominated property, approximately 8 acres, comprises the resource within its immediate setting. The surrounding area is predominantly open agricultural land, much of which is under development as a local recreation area.

SCALE: 1" = 200'
(IMPROVEMENTS NOT
TO SCALE)



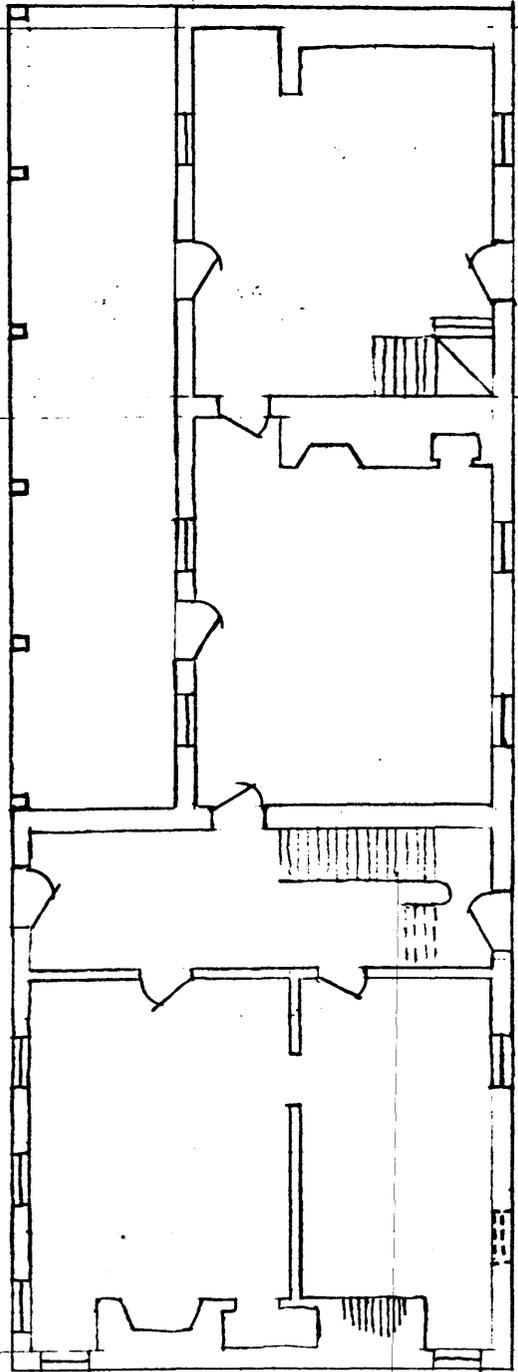
71.94 AC

F-1-2
WIDRICK, GEORGE,
HOUSE
FREDERICK COUNTY,
MARYLAND.

NATIONAL REGISTER
BOUNDARY
MARCH 1985

WIDRICK HOUSE
FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

SKETCH PLAN - NOT TO SCALE



N
↑