

**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 Gallagher Mansion and outbuilding

and/or common Gallagher Mansion and outbuilding

**2. Location**

street & number 431-435 Notre Dame Lane, ~~near York Road~~ N/A not for publication

city, town Baltimore N/A vicinity of congressional district Third

state Maryland code 24 county (independent city) code 510

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	outbldg. used for storage
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied (out bldg)	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied (house)	<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 type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

**4. Owner of Property**

name Sherwood Ford, Inc. contact: Mr. Don Rogers

street & number 5104 York Road

city, town Baltimore N/A vicinity of state Maryland 21212

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Records Office, Baltimore City Courthouse

street & number 100 North Calvert Street

city, town Baltimore state Maryland 21202

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title City of Baltimore Neighborhoods Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date March 1982  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation

city, town Baltimore state Maryland 21202

# 7. Description

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

## Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

### SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The Gallagher Mansion is a large house near the southwest corner of York Road and Notre Dame Lane in the Govans section of northern Baltimore City. It was originally built in the mid-nineteenth century as an Italianate villa, and was subsequently enlarged and embellished in the Second Empire style of the later mid century. The walls are built of local rough fieldstone and rubble. There is a mansard roof covered with decorative slate including polychrome bands of hexagonal-cut and diamond-cut shingles. The house is three stories high, the third story being within the mansard. Its most distinctive architectural features include the mansard roof, the French windows, the Italianate entrance loggia, the true stone construction, and perhaps most interesting, the rear service wing, which upon close examination clearly reflects the stages of alteration and enlargement that gave us the present Second Empire house. The house was built, in its original Italianate form, sometime between 1854 and 1857. The Second Empire enlargements were done in 1873 or shortly thereafter. The outbuilding is a rectangular wood carriage house, two stories high, with a hip roof and cupola.

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

On the main (eastern) elevation, a central section three bays wide projects forward from the rest of the house, and the mansard on this section is higher than the roof on the rest of the house. At the first story of this projection there are three arches leading into an entrance loggia, where there is a doorway in the center and French windows on either side with full-height louvered shutters. On the second story on this front projection there are three 4/4 windows. At the third story, on the front of the mansard, there is a pair of 4/4 windows in a single pedimented dormer.

On either side of the front projection there is a large side wing. The east (front) elevation of each side wing is one bay wide, but it is a very wide bay. On the first story of the east elevation of each side wing there is a French window; on the second story of each wing there is a 4/4 window; and on the third story of each wing there is a 2/2 window in a pedimented dormer.

Across the entire first story of the east facade there is a roofed wooden porch with square wooden posts and quarter-round decorative brackets.

Between the second story and the mansard roof there is a paired bracket cornice that extends around the front and both side wings. This cornice appears to be contemporary with the mansard, probably replacing an earlier smaller one.

The north elevation of the northern side wing is two bays wide. On the first story there is a French window and a 6/6 double-hung window. On the second story there are two 4/4 windows, and on the mansard there are two 2/2 windows, each inside a pedimented dormer. The south elevation of the southern side wing is similar, except that it has only a French window in the center of the first story.

# 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 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** 1854-1857; 1873      **Builder/Architect** unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**      Applicable Criteria: B and C

### SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The Gallagher Mansion is significant for its architecture, and for its association with two prominent Baltimore citizens. Architecturally, it embodies the distinctive characteristics of an Italianate villa of the 1850s enlarged and embellished in the Second Empire style of the 1870s. It is one of only three extant local examples of the mansardic mode employed in a large stone villa. (The others are Clover Hill and Cylburn.) Also, with its mix of styles from different stages of construction, it is an essay in the mid-nineteenth century evolution of local style and taste, a progression rarely illustrated in a single building. Its exterior walls are built of rough fieldstone and rubble. This is a highly unusual building material in Baltimore, and it is especially rare among such large and elaborate houses. The walls are of true stone construction. Most "stone" buildings actually have brick walls covered by stone veneers. The polychromatic, decorative cut shingle roof, having shingles of three distinct shapes and three different colors, is the most elaborate roof covering surviving on a mansard in Baltimore. A similar, but not quite as elaborate mansard roof was recently restored at the southeast corner of Baltimore Street and Broadway. The property derives additional significance from its historic associations: the original portion of the house was built sometime between 1854 and 1857 for Dr. Benjamin W. Woods, a former Army surgeon and a veteran of the Second Seminole War of 1835-1842. Woods was the only physician practicing in that north-central vicinity during part of the time he lived there, and there were never more than three other physicians during his career in Govans; thus he was important to the health and social development of the north central Baltimore region. Also, in 1854, Woods was one of the five principal organizers of the turnpike company that extended Charles Street from the old city line north to what is now Bellona Avenue; thus he helped create one of Baltimore's major transportation arteries. The house's alterations and enlargements were done in 1873 or shortly thereafter for Patrick Gallagher, a Baltimore County roads commissioner and proprietor of a Govans grocery. Since the village of Govanstown was the hub of a sub-economy of farms and estates north of Baltimore, and since Gallagher's grocery business was a point of exchange, where people from the area bought provisions from elsewhere as well as selling some of their own products, Gallagher played a significant role in the economic development of the region.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #6

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property approximately 3.6 acres

Quadrangle name Baltimore East, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24:000

UMT References

A 

1	8	3	6	1	1	9	0	4	3	5	6	7	9	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #7

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 Jeffrey Honick

organization Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation date December 1982

street & number City Hall-Room 601 telephone (301) 396-4866

city or town Baltimore state Maryland 21202

# 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. Honick* 8-10-83

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u><i>William Byers</i></u>	Entered in the National Register date <u>9/15/83</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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Gallagher Mansion and Outbuilding  
Continuation sheet Baltimore City, Maryland      Item number 7      Page 1

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

On the west elevation of the southern wing there is a French window on the first story and a 4/4 window on the second story. The very narrow west elevation of the northern wing is unfenestrated now, but before the rear wing was widened (discussed below) this wall was similar to the west elevation of the southern wing. When the rear wing was widened, the windows were covered, and the French window was converted to an interior door.

The rear wing extends about twenty-five feet from the main part of the house. It, too, is built of stone, and is three stories high including a mansard. But it is of a distinctly smaller scale than the rest of the house. The floor levels are lower, the cornice line is lower, and the roof is lower. Each of its three sides is two bays wide. Its cornice is a simplified version of the paired-bracket cornice on the front of the house.

The rear wing does not pre-date the main house, as is sometimes the case in country mansions with dependencies. Part of the rear wing was built at the same time as the main body of the house, and the rest was added later. At the time the house was first built, the rear wing was substantially narrower than it is now, and it had a very low second story with a gable roof. Furthermore, it was on axis with the main entrance, making the entire house a symmetrical cruciform. The rear wing was enlarged by extending it to the north, almost doubling its width, by raising the height of the stone walls several feet, and by adding a mansard-roofed third story.

On the north elevation of the rear wing, on the first story, there is a 6/6 window and two tall 4/4 windows. There is a small porch on this side, in the corner where a rear wing joins the main house. It has posts and brackets similar to those on the front porch. Curiously, there is no door leading out onto it. The porch has been collapsed by vandals, but enough of the original posts, brackets, and roof structure are still present to allow for a faithful restoration.

On the second story of the north side of the rear wing there is a single 4/4 window to the right and a pair of 4/4 windows to the left; on the third story there are two 2/2 windows each inside a pedimented dormer.

On the south elevation of the rear wing, on the first story, there is a small door and a 6/6 window. The second story has two 4/4 windows and the mansard has two 2/2 windows, each in a pedimented dormer.

The west (rear) elevation of the rear wing has a small wooden door and a large 6/6 window on the first story. The doorway is surrounded by the silhouette of a one story wooden rear addition that is no longer standing. On the second story of the west elevation there are two windows, and on the mansard there are two dormers that are smaller and simpler than those on the sides and front of the house.

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

It is possible to see the old height, width, and roof angle on the southern and western walls of the rear wing. On the south wall, there is a barely visible horizontal line in the stone at the level about the middle of the second story windows. On the west wall there are barely visible diagonal lines near the top of the wall where the gable used to be; the point of the gable was above the present cornice line.

The stonework on the house varies from section to section. On the rear wing it is rubble of random sizes and shapes laid in hardly discernible courses. The stonework on the main body of the house is also rubble, but it is more clearly coursed, and it is quoined with large squared-off blocks. The piers of the entrance arches are of granite ashlar, more finely finished than the rest of the stone.

The most identifiably Italianate feature on the house is the entrance loggia with its three round arches. The main part of the house was originally only two stories high; the roof was probably a low-pitch hip roof. There is no evidence of there having been a tower, but there may have been a cupola. Unlike many Italianate villas which are massed asymmetrically, this house was built symmetrically.

The rear wing reveals much about the stages of development of the house. For instance, it is clear from the inside that the rear wing is not an older house that was added onto. If it were, its old stone east wall would still be present as an interior wall. Yet, the interior wall in that part of the house is composed of studs, lath, and plaster, but no stone - except on that part where the rear wing was widened, covering part of the stone west wall of the main house. On that part of the stone wall, which was originally exterior but became interior, there had been a French window. That huge opening was reduced by brick infill and was made into an interior door. The stone and brick were covered by plaster.

When the rear wing was widened and heightened, the old gable roof rafters had to be removed - all except for the east end rafters where the roof joined the main house. This end pair of rafters is still present inside the wall, and they can tell us the exact height, width, and angle of the old rear wing roof.

Also upon widening, the old north wall of the rear wing was demolished, except at the basement level, where it can still be seen.

The carriage house is rectangular, about twenty-five by thirty feet, two stories high, with a hip roof and cupola. The walls are of horizontal board siding.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #3

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

The east side has a large sliding garage door and a large window on the first story. On the second story there is a window at either end, and in the center there is a pair of diagonal board doors in a wide loading bay; above that is a protruding beam with block and tackle.

The south side has two doors and four small square windows in a row that suggests stable stalls. On the second story there are two windows.

On the west side there is a large door in the center, a window to the left of that, and a small door at the left end. There is a single large opening on the second story, of the same size as the loading door at the east end, but lacking the diagonal board doors.

The north side has only two windows, one at either end of the first floor.

Integrity:

The house has not been substantially altered since the enlargements of the 1870s. There was, for a time, a one story wooden rear addition that was built in the late nineteenth century and was demolished in the 1970s. Because of its small size, its location in the rear, and the fact that it was not part of the original house, its presence or absence would not substantially affect the significance of the property.

The house has been damaged by fire and vandalism; nevertheless it retains its historic integrity. It is able to convey its historic qualities and associations despite the damage, because all of the key elements that make it significant are still present and are intact or easily restorable.

The salient stylistic features - the mansard, the loggia, the French windows, the cornices, the porches - are all present, and most are in relatively good condition. The mansard roof's internal supports may have to be reconstructed, but its visible surfaces - including the dormers and shingles - are largely intact. Almost all of the shingles are still in place, and they retain their shapes and colors. The porches are partially collapsed (due to vandalism, not fire, so they have not been burned); many of the wood members, including decorative brackets, are present and available for reassembly and restoration. The heavy stone walls, the most distinctive and characteristic feature of the Gallagher Mansion and the feature with which it is most identified, are 100% intact.

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The original Italianate core of this house was built between 1854 and 1857. This date is surmised on the evidence of contemporary maps as well as some decorative wood trim inside the house. The 1854 Fifteen Mile Radius map by A. E. Rogerson and L. P. Brown shows no house in the approximate vicinity and position of the Gallagher Mansion, while the 1857 Taylor map of Baltimore City and County clearly shows a house in just the right spot, and labels it as belonging to "Dr. Woods." Inside the house, the scroll-cut brackets on the ends of the steps and the wide heavy moldings around the doors and at the baseboards are typical of the period and tend to corroborate the dates suggested by the maps, according to architectural historians Russell Wright, Phoebe Stanton, and Michael Trostel.

Italianate was the dominant local style in the mid-nineteenth century, so Italianate villas were quite common around Baltimore. While most have been demolished, quite a few remain; the closest remaining one to this house is Tivoli, about a mile east of Govans. While Tivoli is larger than Dr. Woods' original house was, it is much plainer and more box-like in its massing. A closer comparison could be made with "The Mount," a very large Italianate villa in the Windsor Hills section of West Baltimore. Although "The Mount" is much larger and more elaborately detailed than Dr. Woods' house, there are clear similarities in their uses of a projecting central section over an arcaded loggia.

Dr. Benjamin W. Woods (1817-1883), the man for whom the original Italianate house was built, was born in what is now Howard County, received his medical training at the University of Maryland, and entered the Army in 1838 as an assistant surgeon. He was attached to the command of Colonel (later General and President) Zachary Taylor, serving in Florida during the Second Seminole War, hostilities arising out of the forced relocation of the Seminole Indians. He left the Army in 1842 and after living briefly in Ellicott City, settled permanently in Govans, where he practiced medicine. In 1866 Woods was the only physician practicing in that area, and as late as 1878 there were only three additional doctors there (based on contemporary directories). In 1854 Woods was one of the five principal organizers of the turnpike company that extended Charles Street from its old northern terminus between the present 23rd and 24th Streets just above the old city line north to what is now Bellona Avenue, north of the present city line.

From 1848 to 1866 Dr. Woods leased the land where the house stands. In 1866 he bought it outright, then sold most of it, including the portion containing the mansion, to Rachel Vaughn, a New Yorker about whom no information has been found. Whether or not Woods continued to live in the mansion after 1866 is not clear, but he was certainly out by 1873. He had kept a small parcel of land on which two small houses stood at the corner of the estate, fronting on York Road, and he lived in one of these houses toward the end of his life.

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (Continued)

In 1873 Rachel Vaughn sold her portion of the land, including the mansion, to Patrick T. Gallagher, for whom the house is named. In the 1877 Hopkins atlases of Baltimore City and County the small corner plot is labeled "Dr. Woods," while the bulk of the land, including the mansion, is labeled "Patrick Gallagher."

It is likely that the Second Empire alterations and enlargements were done for Patrick Gallagher in 1873 or shortly thereafter. The original house was only two stories high, three rooms wide, and one room deep, with a small two-story rear wing. While this would have been ample for Woods, a life-long bachelor, Patrick Gallagher had a large family, and probably needed to enlarge the house. This, and the fact that the Second empire style was in vogue in 1873, strongly suggest that Gallagher is responsible for the alterations.

There have been a few Second Empire mansions in Baltimore, but not nearly as many as Italianate mansions. One such house, called "Beaumont" (demolished) was in Govans, and bore some striking similarities to the Gallagher Mansion in its detailing, especially in the mansard and dormers; this suggests that one imitated the other, or that they were designed or built by the same local craftsman. The closest Second Empire mansion still standing is "Clover Hill" at University Parkway and Greenway. "Clover Hill" is less elaborate, more box-like in its massing, but has a more elaborate window treatment than the Gallagher Mansion.

Patrick Gallagher was born in either County Tyrone or County Fermanagh in Ireland, and came to America with his parents and siblings sometime between 1848 and 1850, escaping the political and economic upheavals then going on in Ireland. He moved to Govans and opened his grocery business several years before he bought the mansion. Among the family papers (on deposit in the Maryland Historical Society manuscript collection) there are invoices and receipts from the business that indicate that two items that Gallagher supplied in great quantity were meat and liquor.

Govans takes its name from the estate of William Govane. In 1755 Frederick Calvert, the sixth and last Lord Baltimore, granted several hundred acres of land to Govane, a wealthy shipowner from Scotland who came to Baltimore in the 1740s. The estate remained relatively inactive for some time. In 1786 a turnpike from Baltimore to Lancaster via York - what became the present York Road - was built, following the route of an old Indian trail from Canada to the Chesapeake. Weekly stagecoach service was established in 1797. The opening of the road prompted agricultural development of the area as a source of food for the growing towns at either end of the road. Trading posts and supply depots for the farms and estates, and stopovers for travellers sprouted up along the road, and villages grew up around them. One such village was Govanestown. (Over the years the name mutated to Govanstown, and finally to the present Govans.) The road and the villages continued to serve those functions into the twentieth century. It is in this historical context that Dr. Woods, Patrick Gallagher, and their respective work in Govans should be viewed.

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (Continued)

The house remained in the Gallagher family until Patrick Gallagher's granddaughters, Martha and Antoinette Bokel, the last occupants, vacated the house and sold it to the present owners in 1972.

The outbuilding, the only survivor of several small buildings that stood near the mansion, was apparently a carriage house and stable. The Gallagher family documents indicate that they and the Bokels did have recreational horses. This building is the only one of its type known in Baltimore City. It is a country vernacular building, built entirely of wood, while other remaining carriage houses in Baltimore are usually of an identifiable major style and built of brick or sometimes stone. Also most of the remaining carriage houses are associated with large townhouses; there are few remaining ones associated with country houses, and none that looks like this one.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Land Records of Baltimore City and County
- Maps: "Fifteen Mile Radius"; A. E. Rogerson and L. P. Brown: 1854 Map of Baltimore City and County; Robert Taylor; 1857.
- Obituaries of Dr. Benjamin W. Woods; Baltimore Sun and American; August 20, 1883.
- Gallagher/Bokel family papers; Maryland Historical Society manuscript collection, cat. # MS 1950.
- On-site inspection and analysis by Messrs. Michael F. Trostel and Russell Wright, architects/architectural historians, and by Dr. Phoebe Stanton, architectural historian.
- Maryland State Business Directory, The Maryland Directory, Maryland Directory and Gazetteer, various years.
- City of Baltimore Neighborhood Survey - Govens Study

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point on the southern curb line of Notre Dame Lane 150' west of the western curbline of York Road; go west along Notre Dame Lane 424'; turn south and proceed approximately 275' to a point even with the southwest corner of the frame carriage house; turn east and proceed 424' along a line even with the south wall of the carriage house; then turn north to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property includes the Gallagher mansion and outbuilding within the remnant of their associated land which retains sufficient integrity to provide an approximation of their historic setting. Notre Dame Lane defines the northern boundary. A wooded area lies to the west, screening a modern housing development beyond. The parking lots and buildings of an automobile dealership abut the property on the south and east.