

AL-I-C-005

Merten's Office Building, site, (Merten's Orchard)

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

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Last Updated: 12-11-2003

AL-I-C-005

MERTEN'S OFFICE BUILDING

Merten's Avenue and Western Maryland Railroad
ca. 1860

The Merten's Office Building originally housed the offices for the Merten's Company, a family which owned, among other things, several orchards. Although the building is being demolished, it was originally a two story, three bay wide, rectangular structure covered with weather boarding.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

AL-I-C-005

0101085411

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Merten's Office Building (Merten's Orchard)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Merten's Avenue & Western Md. R.R.

CITY, TOWN

N. E. of Paw Paw

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☒ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Burkey

Telephone #: 729-3636

STREET & NUMBER

900 National Highway

CITY, TOWN

LaVale

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 328

Folio #: 101

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland,

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

AL-I-C-005

CONDITION☐ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☐ FAIR☒ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☐ UNALTERED☒ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Merten's Office Building is located on Merten's Avenue near the Western Maryland Railroad and the Greenridge Tunnel, Allegany Co.

Merten's Office Building is a two story, three bay wide rectangular building. It is covered with weatherboard and originally had a gabled roof. The entire structure rests on a low stone foundation. Lights in the windows are gone, but the windows themselves are pegged wooden sash frames. The main facade has been dismantled but it originally included a recessed porch which covered the main entrance. A single corbeled brick chimney is located at the flush end of the building. The rear of the building, which is still intact, has a prominent overhang on the second floor.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
☐ PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION	
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE	
☐ 1500-1599	☒ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE	
☐ 1600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
☐ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER	
☒ 1800-1899	☐ COMMERCE	☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION	
☐ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☒ INDUSTRY	☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		☐ INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although it is very deteriorated the Merten's Office Building originally housed the offices for the Merten's Company, a group which owned, among other things, several orchards.¹ At one time the building was located opposite the Western Maryland Railroad Station, and was often mistaken for the station itself. Amongst their other concerns, it is known that the Merten family were also prominent boat builders for the C & O Canal.²

The Merten's Building is presently in the process of being demolished. It was, however, an important landmark of the wealth produced through a family business.

¹ Allegany County Land Records, Cumberland, Maryland
² George "Hooper" Wolf, I Drove Mules on the C & O Canal. (Dover, Delaware: Dover Graphic Associates, 1970) p. 190

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allegany County Land Records, Cumberland, Maryland

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 26 Acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John Nelson, Joan Baldwin, & Steve Beale

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Sites Survey

DATE

9/2/76

STREET & NUMBER

57 National Highway

TELEPHONE

777-8991

CITY OR TOWN

LaVale,

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory 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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

INVENTORY NO. A1-I-C-005

328/131

DATE: 8/20/76

26. A

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

NAME OF PROPERTY: Martens Office Building (Martens Orchard)LOCATION OF PROPERTY: 10200 E. Ave. * 10200 E. Ave. R.R.DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: North westNAME OF OWNER: Burkey 729-3636ADDRESS: Larale, Md.Larale, Md.STORIES: 1() 2(☒) 3(~~3~~) 4() 5() 6() BAYS: 1() 2() 3(☒) 4() 5() 6() 7() ()WINGS, ADDITIONS: 1 wingDwelling Shape: (square, cross, rectangular)

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- (☒) FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)
() BRICK: Bond type- common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
() STONE: Bond type- rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
() LOG
() Other: Coverings

WALL FEATURES: BELT COURSE, PILASTERS, OTHERS PlainFOUNDATIONS: HIGH, LOW, BRICK, STONE

WATER TABLE: NONE, PLAIN, BEVELED, MOULDED BRICK

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1() 2/2() 6/6() 9/6() 9/9() other()
pegged() nailed() wide() narrow() mitred() pediment()ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: _____
HARDWARE: original() replaced()
PAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN
Paneled, Verticle, Horizontal BoardsCORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: (crown, fascia, soffit, bed)
original() replaced() Rafter Ends, Modillions, Dentils, Frieze,
ArchitraveROOF: GABLE FRONT, GABLE FLANK, HIP, SHED, LANSARD, GAMBREL, FLAT, FORMERS # _____
MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt original() replaced()

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed() hip() gable()

CHIMNEYS: NUMBER _____ BRICK() STONE() CORBELLED() original() replaced()
LOCATION: Flush end() Inside end() Outside end() Central() Interior()

ARCHES: Door and window: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

COMMENTS:

Use - No Longer Used

Significance - Commercial

Date Constructed -

Condition - Being Demolished

Key points regarding interior architecture.

1. Floor plan

No through hall--How many rooms long and deep?
Where is stairway? Straight or winding?

With through hall--Rooms on both sides? How many?

Rooms on one side only? How many?

Is stair in through hall?

Open or enclosed? Straight--one run. Straight--landing

How many? Curved.

If not in hall, where is stair?

2. Wall finish: plaster, paneled, board partition

Note presence of chair rail, cornice, etc.

3. Fireplaces: How many? Parallel to walls or diagonal in corner?

Mantels: wood--mouldings, pilasters, columns
masonry--marble(what color?), brick

3. Doors: on the inside of exterior doors, note the presence of applied flush boards and their direction (diagonal, vertical, horizontal). In general are doors paneled or ledge or other?

4. Door and window trim: plain, architrave; fluted, reeded; pilasters

5. Kitchen: Where is original if extant or known (marked by very large fireplace)? Separate building; wing to principal dwelling; within principal dwelling? On which floor of any of the above?

6. New partitions or walls (if any) or any existing partitions removed.

PAW PAW
WEST VIRG
7.6 MINUTE SER
3W/4 PAW P

5353 11 NW
(ARTEMAS)

721

25'

177

723

2310000 FEET IN LA

29





Merten's Office Bldg.

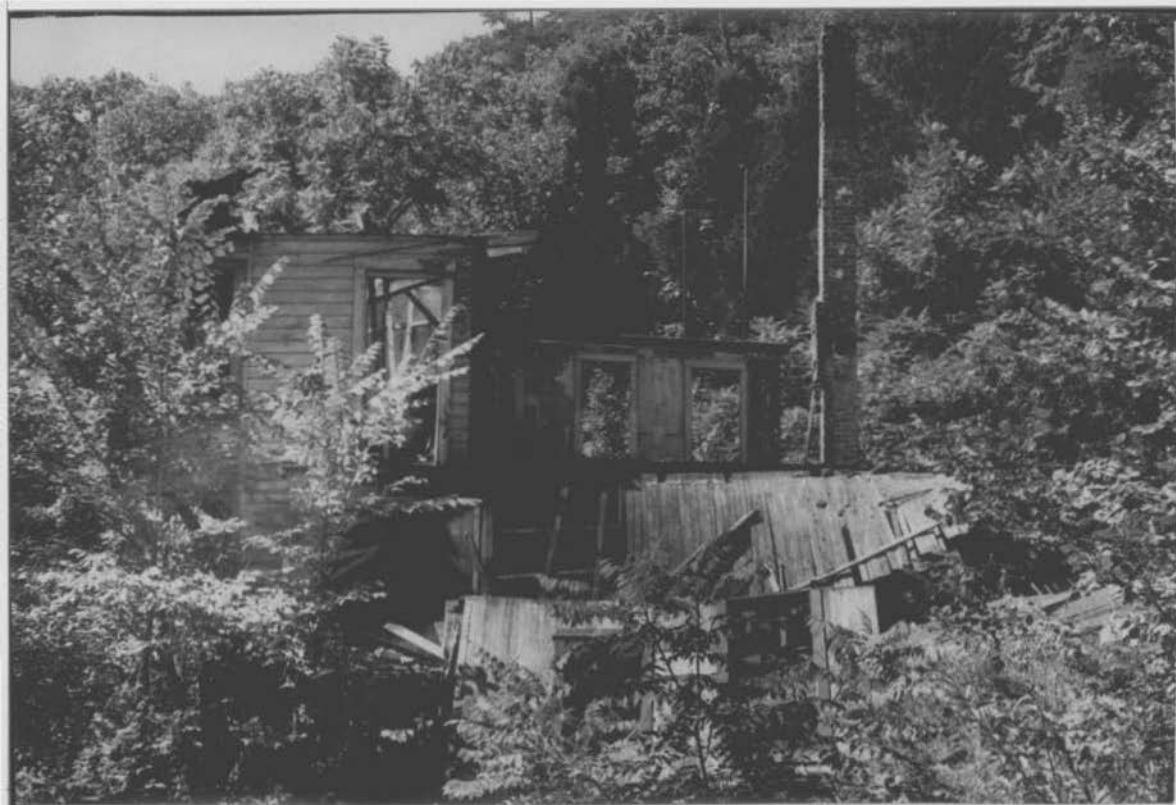
AI-I-C-005

Merten's Ave. N. of Paw Paw

John E. Nelson

8/20 /76

West



Merten's Office Bldg.

A1- I- C- 005

Merten's Ave - N. of Paw Paw

John E. Nelson

8/20/76

South