AL-IV-A-107

Form 10-445 (5/62)

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
INVENTORY AL-~~IV~~-89

1. STATE Maryland
COUNTY Allegany
TOWN Cumberland VICINITY at Park St.
STREET NO. Williams at Park St.
ORIGINAL OWNER City gave land to B & O
ORIGINAL USE Home
PRESENT OWNER B & O RR
PRESENT USE Office Building
WALL CONSTRUCTION Brick
NO. OF STORIES 2

2. NAME Capt. Robert Armistead French (1821-1897)
DATE OR PERIOD post-civil-war
STYLE Victorian (Colonial influence)
ARCHITECT
BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC YES

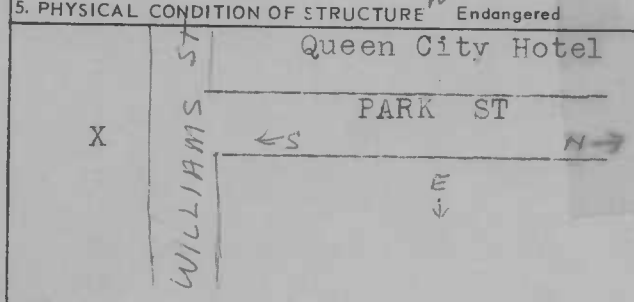
Capt. Robert Armistead French, b.Oct.9,1821, Baltimore, Md., came to Cumberland, Md. with the B&O Railroad people. He at first lived on east Baltimore Street near Park. Later, he built the home on Williams Street facing Park St.

Capt. French took an active part in the Kingsley Methodist Church. The Men's Bible Class there was named for him and was known as "French Bible Class" for years. It disbanded about 1967 when two Sunday School classes joined.

NOTE: BELLE FRENCH TROXELL, DAUGHTER OF CAPT. FRENCH, TOLD ME THAT HER HOME WAS A BEAUTIFUL HOME KEPT WELL PAINTED AND CARED FOR. IT HAD SHUTTERS, BEAUTIFUL SHADE TREES AND LAWN. IT DISTRESSED HER TO SEE IT USED AS A BUSINESS BUILDING, WITH NO TREESM NO LAWN, ETC.

B & O RR ANNOUNCED AUG.21 THAT ABOVE PROPERTY WOULD BE RAZED.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Interior Exterior



6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.
INTERVIEW - with daughter ca 1940 Belle French Troxell -
B & O History
Local History

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER
Hazel Groves Hansrote, Chairman Md. Hist. Trust; Sec. Preservation Society

DATE OF RECORD Jan.10, 1970

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

Capt - French House (B & O prop.)
Wm St -

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taken by
Helen Henkle 1970