B.A. 972

CHATSWORTH
Reisterstown, Maryland.

Private.

CHATSWORTH, at the very edge of the town, was the dwelling of a prosperous farmer. of traditional style, it was built substantially of stone and brick and only its smallest details indicate its nineteenth century date. The dairy-smokehouse remains of the many buildings once required to support rural and village life. The barn foundations remain (today on an adjacent property, indicating the very large size of the barn, typical of prosperous farms in the area.

BA-972

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MAGI #0309725404

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC: Chatsworth

AND/OR COMMON:

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: 21 West Chatsworth Avenue

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 6th

CITY, TOWN: Reisterstown

__ VICINITY OF

COUNTY: Baltimore

STATE: Maryland

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		X NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME: Ruth S. Rodgers

Telephone #: Unlisted

STREET & NUMBER: 21 Chatsworth Avenue

CITY, TOWN: Reisterstown

__ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code: Maryland 21136

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Baltimore County

Liber #: 5297

Folio #: 702

STREET & NUMBER:

CITY, TOWN: Towson

STATE: Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE:

DATE:

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

CITY, TOWN:

STATE:

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Chatsworth is a two story stone house with a gabled roof, five bays in length, flush end chimneys, its principal facade to the east. Exterior walls are covered with stucco. At the rear or west side of the northerly three bays is a shed-roofed wing, its roof a continuation of that over the main house but at a slightly lower pitch. Extending west beyond this small wing is a two story wing two bays of which are of brick and two bays are of frame. Interior chimneys are at the west end of each section. A one-story shed-roofed wing is at the extreme west end. The house dates from ca. 1830.

The principal entrance is centered in the east front and it is enframed with a wooden surround in the fluted Greek-revival Doric order. First story windows are 9/6 and second story windows are 6/6; all are set in narrow frames. A 4/4 window is in the north side of the shed-roofed wing. Typical first story windows in both sections of the rear wing are 6/6 while those of the second story are 6/3. Doors are in the easterly bay of the south side of both sections of the rear wing. A shed-roofed porch extends across the south side of the brick section and a small shed-roofed porch shelters the door in the easterly bay of the frame section.

The interior of this house is not accessible for a detailed inspection. Within is a narrow center hall containing an open staircase with an intermediate landing to the second floor. A single room is on either side. A small room is in the shed-roofed wing. Each section of the rear wing contains a single room. Each room has a fireplace including a very large one in the small shed-roofed wing at the extreme west end. The second story plan is similar. Most interior trim is original.

A cellar is beneath the large and small northerly rooms of the principal stuccoed stone section. A separate cellar is beneath the brick section of the rear wing and another is beneath the frame section of the rear wing. There is no cellar beneath the center hall or the southerly room.

A two story brick outbuilding immediately south of the rear wing contains a dairy room in the lower story (slightly below grade) and a smoke house above. A small frame addition is to the west.

The stone foundations of a very large barn stand northwest of the dwelling. Built into the slight hillside, the lower story opened on grade to the south and the upper story was accessible from grade to the north.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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	X AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	X OTHER (SPECIFY) local history
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Chatsworth sets on a tract of land known as "Spring Garden". In 1767, Vachel Worthington and Thomas Sligh, conveyed "Spring Garden" as well as "The Chase" to Benedict Swope (Marks, op. cit., p. 33). Swope conceived the first "housing development" in Reisterstown, laying out building lots and streets and calling it New German Town. He built a large stone house, set well back from the main road, north of Cockeys Mill Road (Dickson, op. cit., p. 10). The deed for Swope's lot was not found, but it is mentioned in AL No. B: 157 Swope and his wife, apparently never lived in this development themselves (Marks, op. cit., p. 35).

In 1768, Daniel Bower, one of the earliest settlers in the development, bought 55 acres from Swope (B No. Q, 1767-68:687ff). This purchase included the stone house, which he apparently rented out eventually to William Berryman, a son-in-law who is listed as Occupant in the Direct Federal Assessment of 1798: No. 3324. Daniel Bower, owner; William Berryman, Occupant. Pt of Chase and Spring Garden. One stone dwelling House two story, 24 x 18. . . 68 acres. Valuation $896.00. Daniel Bower suffered financial reversals after the revolutionary war. In 1792, he had to sell his real estate on the west side of the turnpike to Edward Crawford and Thomas Hartley of Pennsylvania. He later redeemed part of the land in 1797 (including house and lot) deeding some to son-in-law Andrew Banks and John Banks (Marks op. cit., p. 123).

Daniel Bower's daughter, Catharine Bower, had married Andrew Banks. Banks kept a general store on the Bowers' property along Main Street (Marks, op. cit., p. 124). They had one child, Daniel Bower Banks. He became a prominent Baltimore City merchant and the president of the Union Manufacturing Company in Oella, Maryland (later the W. J. Dickey and Sons company). While he owned considerable real estate in the city, he established a summer estate on the Banks property we are considering. He may have built the present house which dates from 1830. He renamed it "Chatsworth" after his town residence (Marks, op. cit., p. 124). Daniel Banks married Margaret Whitelock in 1830. They had children and one was a son, Andrew Banks. He became a member of the Maryland House of Delegates 1872, 1874, 1878 (Marks. op. cit., p. 125). He took a long sea voyage, and upon his return, he commenced the cultivation of "Chatsworth" estate (Scharf, op. cit., p. 856). He had finally purchased back land in 1883 from the Forney estate when it was put up for auction (WMI 139/130). It was 171-3/4 acres. This had belonged originally to Daniel Bower.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Marks, Lillian B. Reisters Desire (Baltimore, 1975)
Scharf, Louis History of Baltimore County & City ( )
Land Records Baltimore County Courthouse Towson, Maryland

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.82 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY James T. Wollon, A.I.A.

NAME / TITLE
Mrs. Helen Horsham, Volunteer Researcher 6/79

ORGANIZATION DATE
Historic Resiterstown, Inc. 833-3078 (Ms. Ives)

STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE
430 Main Street

CITY OR TOWN STATE
Reisterstown, Maryland 21136

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

Significance, continued

Andrew Banks died in 1909. A mortgage which he had taken from C. Ridgely Goodwin and Frank X. Jenkins in 1883 was foreclosed. In 1911, the property was sold by William O'Brien, an attorney to Chatsworth Realty Company, for $25,000.00 (WPC 381/539).

In 1921, Chatsworth Realty sold part of the property to Joshua G. Harvey (WPC 551/58). Many residents still refer to this house as the Harvey place.

In 1967, Elizabeth Norris Harvey, et. al., sold the property to Henry P. Rodgers and Ruth S. Rodgers (OTG 4796/309).

Ruth S. Rodgers purchased the property from Henry P. Rodgers in 1972. She is the current owner (EHK,Jr. 5297/702).

Chatsworth

BA 972
"Chatsworth"
Reist. Md.

Carol Pollack
4/77