

BA-1174
Farmers and Merchants Bank of Fowblesburg
15204 Old Hanover Pike
Fowblesburg
Private
c. 1920

The Farmers and Merchants Bank of Fowblesburg is located at 15204 Old Hanover Pike and faces east toward the road. It is a one-story, three-bay by four-bay structure with a concrete foundation, running bond brick walls in which the bricks alternate between red and a dark plum color, and a gable roof with an east-west ridge. The center bay of the east elevation has paired doors, and there are one-light sidelights. There is also a leaded glass fanlight. The doorway is recessed. The end bays each have a new one-over-one sash. There is a brick cornice consisting of six courses of corbelled brick, and a false front above it that contains a panel with a painted sign that reads "Farmers & Merchants Bank." In the center of the false front is a small pediment that contains five corbelled arches. The interior of the building has the bank vault in the center, with a passage to the south side of the vault that leads back to a room at the west end. There is a room in the center of the south side of the building, south of the passage. On the north side of the vault is a short passage that leads to a room in the northwest corner. The east room is the banking room.

The Farmers and Merchants Bank of Fowblesburg was incorporated in 1919, and in January of the following year they purchased this lot in town. The date given for construction of the building is 1924-28, though the source for this information is not known. It seems more likely that they would not have bought the lot unless they were prepared to proceed with construction, so they probably built the bank in 1920. The

building is typical of small town banks built from the mid-nineteenth century up to this period, set with the gable end to the street, but with the gable typically hidden behind a parapet to give the building greater presence. The interior also has a typical layout with the banking room in the front, dominated by the centrally located and very visible vault that was meant to insure depositors of the safety of their valuables in this institution. At the rear of the building was likely the meeting room for the board of directors, and there was at least one office for the cashier who oversaw daily operations. The use of polychromatic brick is of interest. The bank retained this property until 1975, when it apparently moved.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-1174

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Farmers and Merchants Bank of Fowlesburg
 other Fowlesburg Bank

2. Location

street and number 15204 Old Hanover Rd not for publication
 city, town Fowlesburg vicinity
 county Baltimore County

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Alexander Obrieht, Marc Lefkowitz, et al
 street and number 15204 Old Hanover Rd telephone
 city, town Upperco state MD zip code 21155-9764

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 31-249
 city, town Towson liber 8972 folio 146

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report
- Other _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
			Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	1	0
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	0	0
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	0	0
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	0	0
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	1	0
		<input type="checkbox"/> government		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry		
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape		
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture		
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
		<input type="checkbox"/> social		
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
			1	

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-1174

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Farmers and Merchants Bank of Fowblesburg is located at 15204 Old Hanover Pike and faces east toward the road. It is a one-story, three-bay by four-bay structure with a concrete foundation, running bond brick walls in which the bricks alternate between red and a dark plum color, and a gable roof with an east-west ridge. The roofing appears to be asphalt shingles. The east elevation has five brick steps in the center, set between concrete cheek walls. The center bay has paired doors that are glazed with one light of beveled glass each, and there are one-light beveled glass sidelights. There is also a leaded glass fanlight. The doorway is recessed. The end bays each have a new one-over-one sash with a brick sill and a splayed brick jack arch. There is a brick cornice consisting of six courses of corbelled brick, and a false front above it that contains a panel with a painted sign that reads "Farmers & Merchants Bank." In the center of the false front is a small pediment that contains five corbelled arches.

The south elevation has a typical one-over-one sash in the west and center bays with an interior brick chimney between them, and paired one-over-one sash in the east bay. The north elevation has paired one-over-one sash in the east bay, no opening in the center bay, and a single one-over-one sash in the west bay.

The interior of the building has the bank vault in the center, with a passage to the south side of the vault that leads back to a room at the west end. There is a room in the center of the south side of the building, south of the passage. It has oak doors on both the east and north elevations that each have five lying panels and a one-light transom. On the north side of the vault is a short passage that leads to a room in the northwest corner. The east room is the banking room, and has a linoleum tile floor, beaded-edge-and-center vertical-board half wainscot that may be new, and a flat plaster ceiling. The architrave has a broken field, a flat back band, and a beaded interior edge. It has a natural finish and appears to be oak.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-1174

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates	n/a	Architect/Builder	n/a
Construction dates	c. 1920		

Evaluation for:

National Register Maryland Register not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

The Farmers and Merchants Bank of Fowlesburg was incorporated in 1919, and in January of the following year they purchased this lot in town. The date given for construction of the building is 1924-28, though the source for this information is not known. It seems more likely that they would not have bought the lot unless they were prepared to proceed with construction, so they probably built the bank in 1920. The building is typical of small town banks built from the mid-nineteenth century up to this period, set with the gable end to the street, but with the gable typically hidden behind a parapet to give the building greater presence. Banks in slightly larger towns would have been of two stories, with the upper floor often leased to another party, but Fowlesburg was apparently not large enough to have that kind of demand for space. The interior also has a typical layout with the banking room in the front, dominated by the centrally located and very visible vault that was meant to insure depositors of the safety of their valuables in this institution. At the rear of the building was likely the meeting room for the board of directors, and there was at least one office for the cashier who oversaw daily operations. The use of polychromatic brick is of interest. This building is just a few years too early for the Colonial Revival that would soon dominate bank design in small towns. The bank retained this property until 1975, when it apparently moved. (1)

Notes:

(1) Baltimore County Incorporations, WPC 6-469. Baltimore County Land Records, 519-532, 5523-538.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-1174

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property .214 A

Acreage of historical setting .214 A

Quadrangle name Hampstead

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries include the entire parcel.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth M. Short

organization _____ date 01/29/2003

street and number 610 Register Ave. telephone 410-377-4953

city or town Baltimore state MD zip code 21212-1915

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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 not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-1174

Name Farmers and Merchants Bank of Fowblesburg

Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

See endnotes

Fowblesby Bank

- 12-146 28 Oct. 1991 Deed - fees
Charles & Patricia A. Campbell - MD to Alexander O'Brien
& Marjif Kowitz & Louis Machimewicz
\$71,000 15209 Old Hammer 9,325 sq. ft.
- 56-377 22 Apr. 1989 Deed - fees
Danny J. Williams & Terry L. Wms. ^{Barto Co} to C. C. & PA Campbell ^{Barto Co}
\$50,000 9,325 sq ft.
- 177-256 23 Sept 1985 Deed - fees ^{- MD corp}
Communications Electronics, Inc to Danny J. Wms & T. L. Wms ^{w/}
\$45,000 9325 sq ft.
- HK, Jr.
132-487 2 Sept 1978 Deed - fees
Glenn D. Cassell - Carroll to Comm. Elec Inc - MD corp
\$29,876.50 9325 sq ft
- 23-538 18 Mar. 1975 Deed - fees
Farmers & Merchants Bank of Fowblesburg - MD corp. to
Glenn D. Cassell, Carroll
\$10,000 9325 sq ft Ernest E. Woodery Pres.
Adelaide G. Hocutt Sec Treas
- 19-532 ~~2~~³ Jan. 1920 Deed - fees
Sue Roop Algire & hus Wm. J. - Barto Co. to Farmers &
Merchants Bank - MD corp
\$5.00 9325 sq ft. in Fowblesburg - 4th D.S.



BA-1174

Farmers & Merchants Bank of Fowblesburg

15204 Old Hanover Pike

Balto. Co, MD

Ken Short

Dec. 2002

MD SHPO

E. & N. clues

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