

5/79

BA 1227

214 MAIN STREET  
Reisterstown, Maryland.

Private

214 Main Street is a traditional dwelling ca.1870-1885 of moderate size, its front gable being a touch identifying it with the Gothic revival. It is nearly identical to the house next door, 208 Main Street (q.v.).

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

214 Main Street

6th

CITY, TOWN

Reisterstown

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

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

D. Joseph & Marie S. Bransfield

Telephone #: 833-0196

STREET & NUMBER

208, 214 Main Street

Maryland 21136

CITY, TOWN

Reisterstown

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF Main St. & Cockeysmill Rd.

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Baltimore County

Liber #: Land Record 2396  
Folio #: P. 390

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Towson, Maryland

STATE

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
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

214 Main Street is a frame house two storeys in height, five bays in length with a gabled roof having a steep gable in the principal front facing the street to the east. A two storey wing extends to the west from the north end, its low-pitched shed roof perpendicular to the main roof. A one storey hipped-roof porch extends across the east front and two storeys of porches extend across the south side of the rear wing. The first storey has been enclosed. Single flue chimneys originally extended from each gable end but the southerly chimney has been removed. This structure dates from ca. 1870-1885.

The principal entrance is centered in the east front; arched panels have bolection moulding and the door is surrounded by sidelights and transom. A door with transom above is in the southerly bay of the east front. Windows are 2/2, those of the first storey front extending to the floor; frames are of narrow beaded stock and they are flanked with louvred blinds. All roofs extend beyond the walls with wide plain cornices at the eaves and rakes. An arched 2/2 window is in the front gable. Exterior walls are covered with asbestos shingles.

Within is a center stair hall with a single room on either side and two rooms in the rear wing. The rounded walnut rail of the staircase is supported by turned oak balusters and turned walnut newels of moderately large proportion. The staircase rises to the second floor with a high intermediate landing. The entire south chimney has been removed as has the mantel from the north room. The door to the south room has four panels with shallow moulded raises and its plain trim has a raked head. Wide doorways dating from the 20th century connect the hall, the north room and the room in the rear wing. They are trimmed with plain pilasters at the jamb supporting a simple short architrave, frieze and crown. A secondary stair was against the partition between the north room and rear wing, within the latter; it is now removed. A wide bay window was added to the north side of the wing when these spaces were retrimmed, ca. 1925. The mantel of the easterly room of the rear wing has thin fluted columns of a simplified Corinthian order supporting a shelf with neither architrave nor frieze; a wreath of bell flowers in simulated applied carving is above the firebox and painted tiles with naturalistic patterns in bas relief surround the firebox. A modern kitchen is in the westerly room of the rear wing.

The second floor, let as an apartment, was not inspected.

The cellar originally extended beneath the south room and hall; it has been extended beneath the northerly room to accomodate the furnace. First floor joists are straight sawn, the floorboards circular sawn.

**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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) local history	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

**SPECIFIC DATES**

**BUILDER/ARCHITECT**

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

This is a traditional dwelling ca. 1870-1885 of moderate size, its front gable being a touch identifying it with the Gothic revival. It is nearly identical to the house next door, 208 Main Street (q.v.).

The land on which this house eventually stood was part of the original Reister's Desire tract which included the inn. The tract had been devised originally to a son-in-law, John Smith, in 1801. Over a period of fifty some years it changed hands several times: from Smith to John Sumwalt (WG 96/175-78); from Sumwalt to James Warren (AWB 448/9-11); and from Warren to Henry H. Gore in 1866. (JHL 48/56-57) (Marks, op. cit., p. 185-86).

Henry Gore began to divide the property after he obtained it. He leased out parcels. It was probably he who built the house on the land between 1866-1897. No conclusive documentation could be found to back this conjecture up.

Sometime within this period of Gore's ownership, a family named Redman attempted to purchase this house. Gore was the assignee of a certain mortgage from Amanda Redman, widow, to William A. Slade on June 18, 1880. (JWS 148/466). She defaulted and Slade assigned the mortgage to Gore in 1894. (JWS 148/469) The property was put up for auction and was sold in July 1897, to Kephart Pfeffer for \$1525. (LMB 225/362) The Judicial Liber 158/267 did not give any of the background of this occurrence.

The 1898 Bromley Atlas shows the property to be in the name of Redman.

Pfeffer apparently rented out the house. In 1903, there is evidence that the town Post Office was conducted on the premises by Samuel S. Yingling who had also run a Watchmaking and Jewelry Store adjoining. Yingling had been appointed Post Master in 1897 and remained as such for longer than any other post master in Reisterstown. (Zouck, op. cit.)

In 1912 Pfeffer sold the house to J. Frank Miller and his wife, Anna Virgue. Miller was a doctor and had his office in this house. (WPC 392/86)

(see continuation sheet #1)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1943, the son, James A. Miller and his wife received the property through a straw person transaction (1275/503). In that same year, they sold it to George M. Leiby. (RJS 1289/199). With the Second World War and its aftermath, the Draft Board was situated in this house. The Board was run by Mrs. Esther Howard.

In 1953, Eudora A. Leiby, widow, sold the house and some additional acreage (acquired in 1952 GLB 2191/199) to D. Joseph Bransfield and his wife, Marie S. Bransfield. They are the present owners. (2396/390)

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Lillian B. Marks Reister's Desire (Baltimore, 1975)  
Frank H. Zouck "Flight of the Reisterstown Post Office" in an unidentified newspaper article in the possession of Louise Goodwin  
Land Record Baltimore County Courthouse Towson, Maryland

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .44 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  
Jean Schubert Volunteer Researcher

4/24/78

ORGANIZATION

Historic Reisterstown, Inc.

DATE

833-3078 (Ms. Ives)

STREET & NUMBER

430 Main Street

TELEPHONE

Maryland 21136

CITY OR TOWN

Reisterstown

STATE

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



214 Main Street

BA 1227

214 Main St

Reisterstown, Md

Carol Pollack

4/77

West.