BA 1242

408 MAIN STREET
Reisterstown, Maryland

Private

408 MAIN STREET is a small but distinguished traditional house of the Greek-revival period, its separate hall with a staircase giving great sophistication to the two-room parlor-and-kitchen plan.

BA 1242
MAGI # 0312422404

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: 408 Main Street

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 6th

CITY, TOWN: Reisterstown

___ VICINITY OF

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Baltimore

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	X YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME: Christine Johansson

Telephone #: 833-0432

STREET & NUMBER: 408 Main Street

CITY, TOWN: Reisterstown

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code: Maryland 21136

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Baltimore County

Liber #: 5648
Folio #: 54

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

BA-1242

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

408 MAIN STREET is a two story brick house, three bays in length, closely oriented to the street, facing east. Extending west behind its north end is a lower two-story two-bay brick wing, now with a low-pitched shed-roof falling to the west; originally it fell to the south. The original house (including the wing) dates from the 1840-1855 period. There is no joint between the house and its wing. Walls are of common bond, every sixth course headers. In the twentieth century, the rear wing was lengthened one bay toward the west and widened toward the south, the latter addition possibly replacing an original porch. Both additions are of frame. A modern small square porch shelters the principal entrance in the southerly bay of the east front and the two first story windows to the north have been opened together as a "picture window" with a separate entrance into the front room within. Original windows elsewhere are 6/6 and louvred blinds remain on the front. Exposed wooden lintels support the masonry above the front windows while brick jack arches are above the windows of the north side. The cornice is of simple corbeled brick. A brick chimney rises flush above the north gable.

Within, a hall extends through the southerly bay, containing an open stair which rises to the second floor; the round rail is supported by turned newels in the form of a Doric column, and rectangular balusters. A single room is north of the hall in each story. Some original detailing remains including doors with two tall panels, corner-block architraves and some hardware. Rooms of the rear wing were altered and refinished when the roof was raised. (First floor rooms, the cellar and the attic were inaccessible for inspection.)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

BA-1242

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

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The land on which this house stands was part of Brotherly Love, owned by John Reister. On January 12, 1793, the property, consisting of two acres, was deeded by Reister to his daughter, Catherine Mayberry. Catherine, by this date, was twice a widow, having married Roland Smith, Jr. in 1772; and, after his death in 1781, she married Francis Mayberry who must have died prior to the 1790 Census. Both her husbands were store-keepers and Catherine continued in this tradition as a widow. Her father deeded her the land "in Consideration of the natural love and affection and good will which I do have and bear unto my well beloved Daughter Catherine Maybury(sic) and her children". It contained the land on which the Mayberry shop stood. (BC Deeds WG LL:216) (Marks op.cit., p. 53-55) The present structure was not built until much later.

Upon Catherine's death, the property was to be divided among her three daughters, 1/3 to Mary Smith, 1/3 to Margaret Smith, and 1/3 to Elizabeth Maybury. This occurred in 1841. It is in Mary Smith's portion (the southern-most) that we are most interested as this eventually became the site of #408.

Mary Smith married Jacob Weist and, eventually moved west. In 1842, the Weists of Preble Co., Ohio deeded this land to Solomon Choate. (TK 320/254) It was Choate who had the present house built. The acreage on which it stood was .21 of an acre. When he died in 1861, he left this property (among others) to his daughter Maria R. Choate, (BC Wills JLR 2/137) "Which said Maria R. Chaote afterwards married James H. Berryman (1863) and died interstate in the year 1910, leaving surviving as her sole heirs at law, her husband, the said James H. Berryman who is since deceased (1918) and three children, the said Bettie M. Berryman, J. Edgar Berryman and Anne S. Berryman in whom the title to said property is now vested". (WPC 513/89)

In 1922, Bettie Berryman deeded the property to George W. Baker and wife. (WPC 549/587)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

Significance, continued

The Bakers sold it to Lewis Bihy and wife in the same year. (WPC 560/356)

The Bihys sold the property in 1929 to Lillian Russell, widow (WHM 816/272). She ran a general store there.

In 1941, Lillian Russell sold to John Bruehl and his wife (CWBJr 1170/399).

In 1942, John Bruehl sold to George L. Gill and wife Jane (CHK 1217/531).

The house was finally sold by Mrs. Gill to Birger E. Johansson in 1976 (EHK,Jr 5648/54).

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lillian Marks, Reisters Desire (Baltimore, 1975)

Land Records, Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .21 acre

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

Mrs. Helen Horsham, Volunteer Researcher

NAME / TITLE James T. Wollon, A.I.A.

DATE 7/79

ORGANIZATION Historic Resiterstown, Inc.

TELEPHONE 833-3078 (Ms. Ives-Proj.Coor.)

STREET & NUMBER 430 Main Street

CITY OR TOWN Reisterstown, Maryland 21136

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

BA 1242

408 Main St
Reist. Md.

Carol Pollack
4/78

East.