

## GERMAN REFORMED CHURCH PARSONAGE

15 BOND STREET

Despite its many alterations, 15 Bond Street is a significant building in its Westminster streetscape. It is significant both for its place in the local building patterns of the area, and for its more sociological connections. The original house was, as for most of the houses of the 19th century, a three bay two story two sectioned roof pile. This makes the house neither exceptional or dull (except, perhaps, in the rather awkwardly widely spaced second story windows on the principal facade). However, what makes the house outstanding is the fact that it served for a generation as the parsonage for the German Reform Church in Westminster. Certainly it is clear by now that things Germanic are prime importance in the City, in deed of this whole area, and any thing as vital to the community as a parsonage for German Reformed Church takes on a significance that the otherwise fairly dull bricks and wood would not have.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

German Reformed Church Parsonage

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

15 Bond Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

7

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Carroll

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Roland Feeser

Telephone #: 848-8439

STREET & NUMBER

842 Littlestown Pike

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21157

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Office Building

Liber #: 642

Folio #: 497

STREET & NUMBER

Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

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 type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The Old German Reformed Church Parsonage, number 15 Bond Street faces the east side of that thoroughfare about halfway between West Main and West Green Streets in Westminster. The house is a simple two sectioned building, each section measuring about 3 bays by 2, each two stretcher bond brick stories tall, each with a gable roof covered in tin. Both sections also sit on coursed fieldstone foundations.

The principal facade, that fronting Bond Street (the west facade) shows much alteration, as, indeed, do all the facades. The second story is the less changed: it consists of three double-hung sash windows, regularly spaced, with six over one panes. The windows appear archless, doubtless what arch they would have is covered with the frieze of the two-part heavy denticulated entablature that forms the crown to this facade. The ground story has been changed by the addition of a hipped roofed porch, which, in turn, has been filled in to the north. This infill takes the place of brick tin section, pierced by several many-paned windows. The two southern bays are relatively unaltered, consisting of a 6/6 central window, and southern door. What trim the door had, beyond the smooth white boarded trim, has been hidden by the porch.

The southern facade is also altered; where the building was once an L open the southeast, there is now weatherboarded infill two stories tall. This infill has a double casement window on the second floor and a modern door on the ground floor. The original section of the principal (Bond Street) facade was blind, except for a small attic window in the center of the gable, and it still is blind today. Opposite, the north facade is also much changed. The change consists largely of the addition of a shed-roof asbestos-shingled two story section off to the east. This section has windows of varied size and shape randomly placed about it. The north facades of the original building, the Bond Street section and the L, however, is unaltered. Each of these sections has two regularly placed 6/1 simply enframed windows, enlivened by 3 course gauged flat arches (the same arches, one assumes, that the main facade windows would have had originally). Chimneys on the building consist of a moderately flat capped chimney to the north of the principal facade flush with the wall at the gables peak, of a large corbel capped chimney halfway back of the L, also at the gables peak, and of a small corbel capped chimney flue in the center of the shed roofed two story eastern addition.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1870

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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The Redemptionists, that group of Catholics that laid out much of the business district downtown Westminster, leased lots 5 and 6 of Matthew's Addition to David Shriver and others, trustees of St. Paul's Reformed Church. They built their church on the southern half of the lot, close to Belle Grove Square, (but, curiously not facing the square) and used the northern half for the parsonage. The parsonage must have been built soon after they purchased the lot, as was the church, as both are clearly shown on the 1876 plat of the City. (The church has since been torn down and replaced by a much larger and newer one). The building remained ecclesiastic until trustees sold the place to James D. Allison on February 18, 1896 for \$1550 (82/460). It was probably Allison who enclosed the porch to the south. Harry Gorsuch, heir of James B. Allison, then sold the place to Charles W. Stambaugh for \$5025 on May 17, 1924 (143/473), and his widow, Maggie, sold to Harry F. Feeser on October 17, 1934 (161/116). The place has stayed in the Feeser family since.

P.S. The Significance of the German influence in the City might be seen by a quick examination of the last name of the people associated with this particular property.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Being the northerly third of lots 5 and 6 of G. W. Matthews addition to the City of Westminster as shown on a plat recorded among the real estate records of Carroll County Book 3, Page 55.

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

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Christopher Weeks, Consultant August, 1977

ORGANIZATION

Westminster Historical Sites Survey

TELEPHONE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

c/o City Hall - Public Works Department

CITY OR TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

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

5670



CAN 485

German Reform Ch.

Parsonage

15 Bow St.

G-1,

50%



CARR-485