

## RESIDENCE OF THE MISSES HERR

58½-60 WEST MAIN STREET

The brick house built as the dwelling for "The Misses Herr", relatives of Frank K. Herr who ran the coach yard next door, is flush with its western neighbor, and is 5 bays long on Main Street, 2 stories high, and, in shape, nearly square below its northward-sloping shed roof. Despite this rather box-like appearance, the Herr House is given some enlivenment by a corner triangular oriel window, and, perhaps more especially, by a row of plaques placed between the roofs brackets. These plaques have fairly elaborate carving, carving done in a manner reminiscent of that associated with the Pennsylvania-Germans.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Carroll 430, APPROX  
0704304609

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Residence of The Misses Herr

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

58½-60 West Main Street (MD 32)

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

7

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Carroll

**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

Carroll E. Myers

Telephone #: 848-4838

STREET & NUMBER

60 West Main Street

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 #: 350

Folio #: 263

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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

The house built as a dwelling for "The Misses Herr", relatives of Frank Herr who ran the coach yard next door, looks south to the north side of West Main Street (St. Route 32) about halfway between John and Carroll Streets in Westminster. The building, flush with its western neighbor, is 5 bays long on Main Street, 2 stories high, and, in shape, nearly square below its northward sloping shed roof.

The ground floor bays consist of three doors spaced alternately with two windows. The central bay, a double entrance door, is slightly recessed behind its segmental-arched surround; this shape is also present in the door's transom which sits above a narrow dentil course above the double doors. Doors are in two sections, each having a large, single pane of glass above a smaller enriched panel. The two end doors are similar to each other; they, also, are recessed but within a rectangular surround, topped by a two-part entablature. Their rectangular transoms rest above the doors, which, again similarly, contain a large, single pane of glass above a smaller recessed panel. The eastern window is a large, plate glass, display window, giving evidence of commercial activities; it is topped, like its eastern neighboring door, with a two-part entablature. The other ground floor window repeats the segmental motif of the central door in its nearly flat hood. The window itself is a double-hung sash, two-over-two type and is flanked by narrow, wooden, louvered shutters and is finished by a white wooden sill.

The second floor has three, 2/2 windows to the east; windows are identical to the segmental-arched window on the ground floor from their peeling, wooden sills to their segmental "hoods". The western two bays consist of a three-sided, flat-roofed, oriel window; each of the three exposed sides has a 2/2 window between narrow, wooden, louvered shutters. Below each of the oriel windows, is a narrow enriched panel; the oriel window has a simple cornice. As noted, the roof is shed; it extends about 2' over the main facade in a very simple, modillioned cornice. Six, scroll brackets, spaced alternately with the windows, support the cornice, and have 3 modillions between them; below the modillions, a rounded-edge board decorates the space that is closed on the fourth side by a narrow, wooden, string course which connects the brackets bases. This board has a central rosette and fairly elaborate naturalistic trim, reminiscent of both the Pennsylvania Dutch, and its immediate neighbors. (This is not surprising, considering that the same family built both this building and no. 58 West Main Street, immediately to the east.) It is a good thing that the south front of the building has so many windows (the oriel makes even more sense) when one realizes that the east and west walls are blind; the west wall is a party wall; the east wall is separated from no. 58 by only a narrow 2' alley. A small, flat-capped chimney rises flush with this west wall, about 10' from the south facade.

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

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1883

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ -60 is architectural and commercial (architectural including tints of social coloring as well). The building housed the family of Frank Herr, a leading coach - buggy - phaeton - seller (perhaps builder) in the area. Thus, it is an example of what a successful, late-Victorian, small businessman might build for himself. It is very up-to-date in a conservative manner, with its segmental arches, and its deep cornice. However, we can be more specific than saying "a small businessman", as the decorative elements of the building, especially the sub-eaves plaques, betray the Germanic ancestry of Herr Herr, as clearly as the 5-bay, basic pattern indicates a central Maryland-Pennsylvania origin.

Until February 9, 1903, when Frank K. Herr sold the land to Samuel K. Herr (Carroll County Deed Book 97, Page 380), the history of the land had been identical with the rest of lot no. 5 - see history for number 58 West Main Street. Our house here most likely dates from 1883, soon after the great fire (see form for 62-68 West Main); the 1887 City Directory with "The Misses Herr" as living here. Samuel K. Herr died and the lot was inherited by Emily A. Herr, Elizabeth Herr, and Sallie Herr (Will 10/471); on April 11, 1911, they sold the lot back to Frank K. Herr for \$1500 (117/97). The present owner bought the land on October 4, 1920, from Frank K. Herr, and the deed is recorded in Book 350, Page 263. Thus, the house has only been owned by two families in its slightly more than 100 years of existence.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Being the western 33' of lot no. 5 as shown on a plat of the Catholic Chapel Addition to Westminster, recorded among the Land Records of Carroll County in Book 29, Page 446.

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

February, 1977

ORGANIZATION

Westminster Historical Sites Survey

DATE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

c/o City Hall - Public Works Department

TELEPHONE

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

The rear of 58½-60 (its north facade) reveals its L shape. In the front section, to the east of the rear L, two 2/2 windows appear on each of the two stories, piercing the white clapboard sheathing. The L has a six-panel door on its east front, and a single, 6/6 window in the center of its north front. Double-flighted, wooden steps lead to a second-story balcony and western, six-panel door on the second floor. Also on the second floor, two, 2/2 windows are located to the south of the second floor.

# Industries of Westminster

## Herr & Babylon, Carriage Builders and Automobile Agents

Under a spreading chestnut tree  
The village smithy stands;  
The smith, a mighty man is he,  
With large and sinewy hands;  
And the muscles of his brawny arms  
Are strong as iron bands.

He goes on Sunday to the church,  
And sits among his boys,  
And hears the parson pray and preach;  
He hears his daughter's voice,  
Singing in the village choir,  
And it makes his heart rejoice.

—LONGFELLOW

Before the advent of machine made wagons, buggies and carriages the country blacksmith and wheelwright were men of considerable importance in any small town. During the winter months their shops were the gathering places for the idle farmers and loafers in general and many a political career was begun or ended in them. In those days buggies were not as common as later on and the farmer who owned a buggy or even a "carryall" was looked upon as a "big bug". The first top buggies were very high and, after the low ones came into fashion, they were dubbed "band-wagons". Farm wagons, plows, harrows, buggies, family carriages, in fact everything of wood or iron used on the farm was made by these old wheelwrights and blacksmiths and their work was so good that many of their articles may be found still in use.

Westminster, just like all other small towns and villages had its wheelwright and blacksmith shops, and it was here Mr. Frank Kendig Herr, of the firm of Herr and Babylon, of this city, came in 1863 to learn the trade of blacksmithing with Mr. Michael Baughman, who, at that time "carried on" a large country blacksmith shop on E. Main street on the lot on which Basler's store stands. We use the words "country blacksmith" in speaking of Mr. Baughman's shop because his work consisted principally of shoeing horses and making the irons for heavy farm wagons. The others engaged in one branch or the other of the business in Westminster at the time Mr. Herr apprenticed himself to Mr. Baughman were: Mr. Wm. Crouse, who had a blacksmith shop on the lot now occupied by the stores of Miller Bro's, Nusbaum and Jordan and the Albaugh and Babylon Company; Mr. Wm. Shreeve, who had a wheelright shop on the lot on E. Main street now occupied by the residences of Mr. Carroll Lockard and of the late Henry Grammer; Mr. Alfred Troxell, who had a wheelright shop on the lot on W. Main street, adjoining the residence of Mr. Ezra M. Bish, and Messrs Koontz and Ziegler, who had a wheelright and carriage building shop on the lot now occupied by Messrs Herr and Babylon. All of these gentlemen were men of importance in this community and their descendants, many of whom reside in this community, are now and have been leaders in the business and professional life of the town and county. Such were the conditions under which Mr. Herr lived with Mr. Baughman as an apprentice, and it is no wonder he turned out to be one of the leading carriage builders of Maryland. In those days honesty in materials used as well as honesty in words was the principle which governed the building of vehicles in those days.

Mr. Herr finished his apprenticeship with Mr. Baughman in the spring of 1866 and finding the work in a country blacksmith shop too heavy sought and obtained employment with Messrs Koontz and Ziegler who, as we have stated, carried on a carriage and wagon shop on the lot where the subjects of this sketch now conduct their business. The work with Koontz and Ziegler was lighter and more interesting and, better than anything else, there were no horses to be shod. At the end of one year after Mr. Herr began work the firm of Koontz and Ziegler was dissolved and Mr. Koontz took on the business for the following eighteen months, at which time, 1869, Mr. Herr purchased the same and the firm of Frank K. Herr and Michael Baughman (Mr. Herr's former master) doing business as Herr and Baughman, was formed.

The firm of Herr and Baughman was of short duration. Mr. Baughman took a notion to go to farming and at the expiration of 18 months the firm was dissolved. Mr. Herr purchasing Mr. Baughman's interest.

Mr. Herr's next partner was Mr. George W. Stoner who had been carrying on a country shop at Stonersville on the Littlestown turnpike. The latter remained for one year and returned to his first love where he continued until his death. From the time of Mr. Stoner's retirement up until 1880 Mr. Herr ran the business as sole proprietor.

In 1880 Colonel Samuel Kendig Herr, a brother of Mr. F. K. Herr, who had won distinction in the Union Army, but who, though ill health resulting from that service, had been unable to engage in any business, came to Westminster and was given an interest in the business which, at that time, needed some one to look after its outside matters. This was the beginning of the firm of Herr Brothers whose reputation for fine work was excelled by none. It built some of the finest carriages in the state and to say a vehicle was built by Herr Brothers, was as good as stating it was built by Brewster.

The firm of Herr Bro's, existed until 1901 when it was dissolved. Mr. Samuel K. Herr disposing of his interest to Mr. George W. Babylon, one of the subjects of this sketch. Mr. Babylon is a young man, a native of this county and has made a success of his business. Before coming to Westminster he conducted a shop near Medford where he established a reputation for honesty which has followed him here.

The firm of Herr and Babylon has continued the manufacture of extra

fine family carriages but not to the same extent as the firm of Herr Brothers, many of the old firm's customers having disposed of their family carriages and purchased automobiles. The firm's buggy business, however, is still large and with the sale of the Ford and Kline automobiles, for which it is the agent for this territory, the business is increasing very rapidly. The large garage recently instituted by the firm is doing a large business and is fast becoming a very important part of the establishment.

The firm pays out in wages to workmen who live in Westminster between \$5000 and \$6000 per annum and its manufacturing plant is the largest one in the county.

The Herr family came from Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and it was there Mr. Frank K. Herr was born. It moved to Worthington's Valley, Baltimore county, and in 1863 came to Manchester, this county. During the summer of 1863 Mr. Frank K. Herr, in company with some other young men of Manchester, took a large load of provisions to the Union soldiers who were then engaged in the battle of Gettysburg.

### COURT HOUSE NEWS.

#### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The board was in session yesterday, all members being present. Mr. Henry Ruby, of near Hampstead came before the board and offered a hard stone for use on the improvement of the old turnpike between Hampstead and Manchester. The board did not act upon the matter as some details as to crushing have to be worked out. Some routine business was also transacted.

#### TRANSFERS OF REAL ESTATE

Frederick W. Bitzel and wife to Jos. Arnold and wife, 11a and 22 prs.  
Edward E. Barnes and wife to Howard Moses 1/4 a and 6 1/2 prs.  
Jesse Ruby and wife to Benjamin F. Stansbury, 2 tracts of land.  
Benjamin F. Stansbury and wife to Jesse Ruby and wife, 2 tracts of land.

#### ORPHANS' COURT

The last will and testament of Susan S. Diehl late of Carroll county deceased, admitted to probate and letters testamentary thereon, granted unto Howard R. Diehl and Mervin R. Diehl who received warrant to appraise and order to notify creditors.

Tobias A. and Charles U. Martin, executors of Henrietta M. Martin settled their first and final account.

The Court directed that the funds of Rhodolphus Shoemaker, infant, be deposited with the Westminster Deposit and Trust Company, subject to the further order of the court.

#### ST. BENJAMIN'S (KRIDER'S) REFORMED CHURCH STRUCK BY LIGHTNING

During the thunderstorm yesterday afternoon lightning struck St. Benjamin's (Kriders) Reformed Church, near this city, near the tower and tore off part of the roof, broke every window but two and set fire to the wood work. By heroic efforts the neighbors were able to put the fire out before serious damage was done by it. Some of the windows destroyed had been placed in the church as memorials to departed friends or relatives. The loss of them will be greater than the damage to the other part of the building.

After all the neighbors had left Mr. Frank T. Schaeffer a former chief of the Westminster Fire Department went to the church to see that the fire had been extinguished and found one of the rafters was on fire. He procured a bucket of water and soon had the flames under control. In addition to the loss on the building the congregation lost its Sunday school library.

St. Benjamin's congregation and Salem Lutheran congregation used old Kriders Church as a Union building up until about 20 years ago when the old structure was torn down, the land divided and two beautiful church buildings erected for the use of each congregation, the Lutheran being frame and the Reformed brick. The congregations recently celebrated the 150th anniversary.

#### CARROLLTON

We are glad to say that Mrs. Mary Martin is able to be out again after being confined to her bed a week threatened with apendicitis.

Messrs Andrew Drechsler and Clyde Greene, who have been seriously ill are much improved.

Mr. and Mrs. Horace Garrett, of Baltimore, have returned home after spending several days with Mrs. Garrett's sister Mrs. Luther Davidson.

Mr. and Mrs. John Richards and son Carroll, spent Monday last with Mrs. Richard's sister, Mrs. Guier Robertson, of Spring Mills.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Allgire and son Herbert, spent the past week in Hanover, Pa., as the guests of Mrs. Allgire's sister, Mrs. Irvin Rill.

Miss Jessie Richards and friend of Baltimore, are spending some time with Miss Richard's aunt, Mrs. John Richards.

A number of tickets were sold at this station Sunday last to Emory Grove Camp.

#### WOODBINE

Misses Hilda and Goldie Haines spent Sunday with their sister, Mrs. Shriver Pickett.

Misses Melvia Penn and Clara Bannon were guests of Miss Myrtle Jenkins, of Sam's Creek last week.

Mrs. Levi Haines and Misses Bessie and Sophronia Hood visited Miss Gertrude Hammond Sunday.

Miss Martha, Gillies, who has been very sick is able to take short drives.

Mrs. Elmer Hood spent one day last week with Mrs. Michael Glennan.

Miss Octavia Durham spent last week with Mrs. Saville Hewitt, near Freedom.

Mrs. M. H. Penn and Miss Sophronia Hood and her brother Albin spent Thursday with Mrs. George Marling, of near Mt. Olive.

Miss Martha Robertson spent a day last week with her aunt, Mrs. Muriel Conaway.

Mr. Hary, of Baltimore, is visiting his cousin, Mrs. Burgess Penn.

Mesdames Burgess Penn and Levi Haines spent one day last week with Mrs. Edward Barnes, of Westminster. Health of the community is fair.

Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States,  
Commandery of the District of Columbia.



Headquarters, City of Washington,  
April 4, 1901.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Samuel Kendig Herr, U.S. Volunteers,  
Westminster, Maryland,

Sir:

I have the honor to announce that at a Stated Meeting of this Commandery, holden 3d instant, you were duly elected an "Original Companion of the First Class" of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States.

Be pleased, therefore, to promptly perfect membership by signing the accompanying "Declaration" of acceptance thereof, and returning it to be filed with the archives of the Commandery.

The Insignia and Diploma to which you are entitled during membership, under and subject to the provisions of Section 7, Article VI, Section 1, Article VIII, and Section 1, Article IX, of the Constitution will be furnished by the Chancellor of the Commandery in due course after received from the Chancellor-in-Chief of the Order.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Recorder.

## War Department,

Washington, June 15th, 1865.

Sir:

You are hereby informed that the President of the United States has appointed you for gallant and meritorious services during the War, a Major of Volunteers, by Brevet, in the service of the United States, to rank as such from the thirteenth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five. Should the Senate, at their next session, advise and consent thereto, you will be commissioned accordingly.

Immediately on receipt hereof, please to communicate to this Department, through the ADJUTANT GENERAL of the Army, your acceptance or non-acceptance; and, with your letter of acceptance, return the OATH herewith enclosed, properly filled up, SUBSCRIBED and ATTESTED, and report your AGE, BIRTHPLACE, and the STATE of which you were a permanent RESIDENT.

~~You will report for duty to~~

Edwin M. Stanton

Brevet Major Samuel R. Herr,  
United States Volunteers,

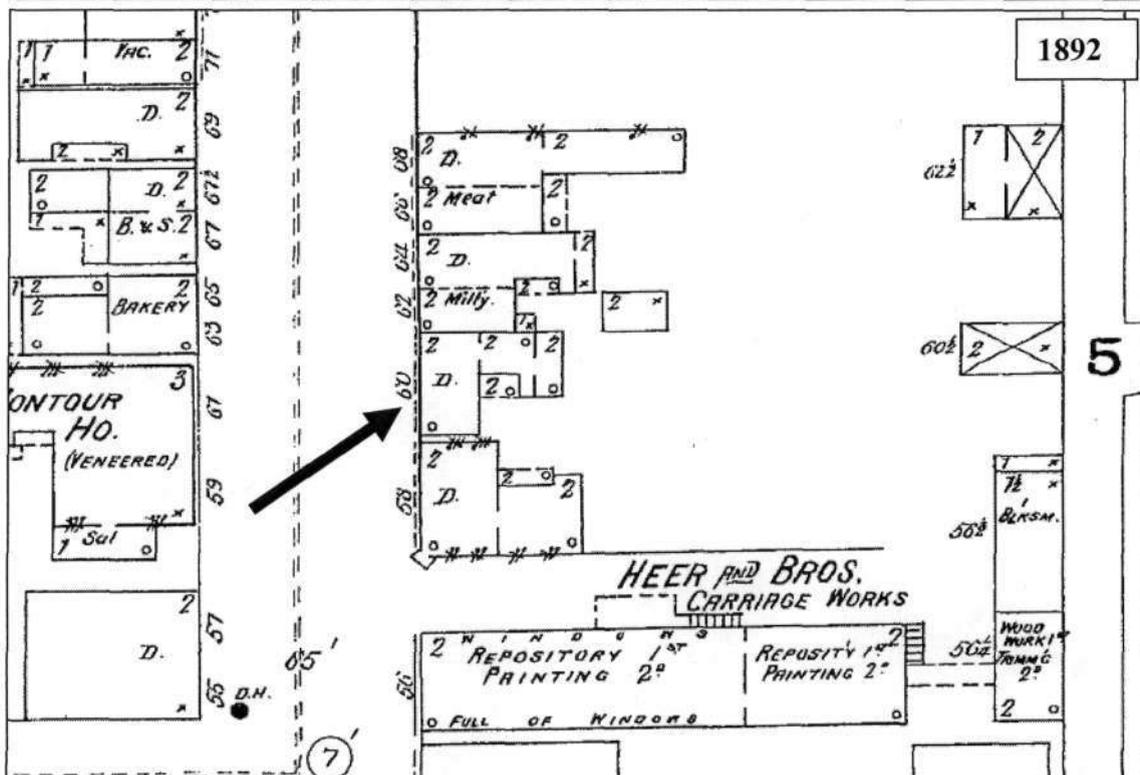
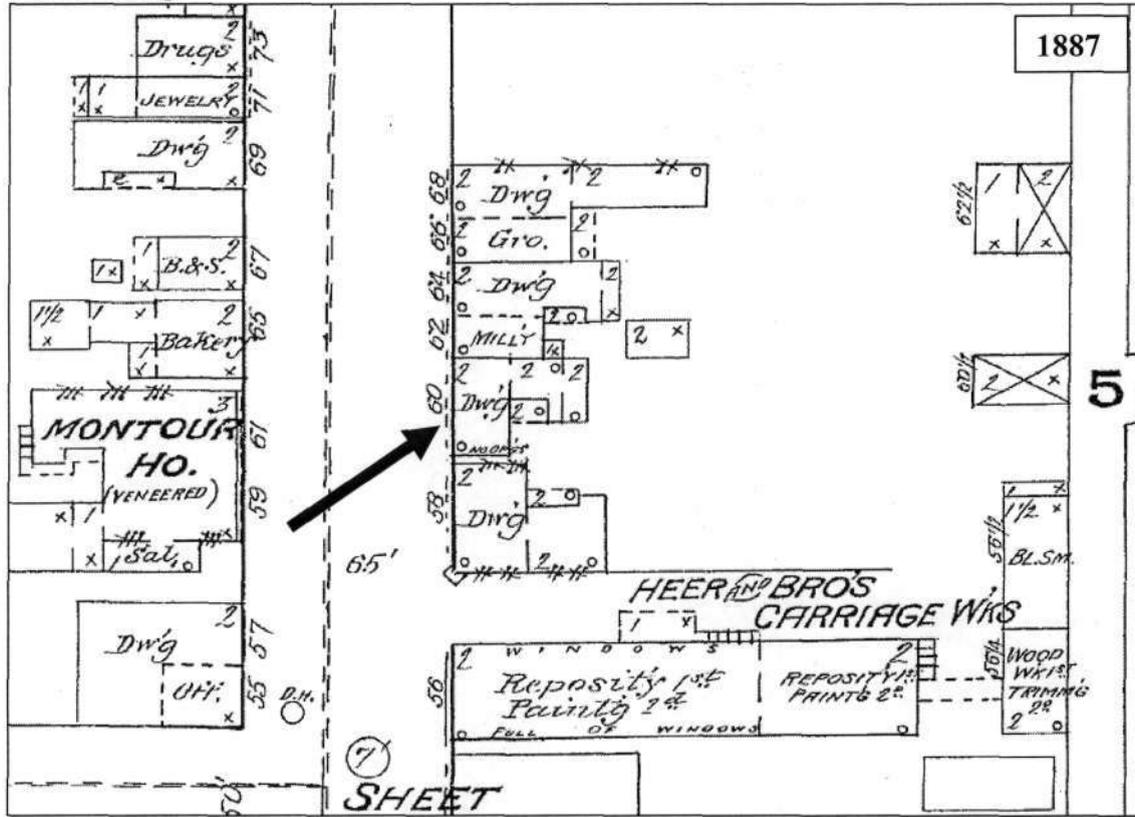
Secretary of War.  
(152)

CARR-430

Residence of the Misses Herr

581/2-60 W. Main Street (MD 32), Westminster

Sanborn Maps

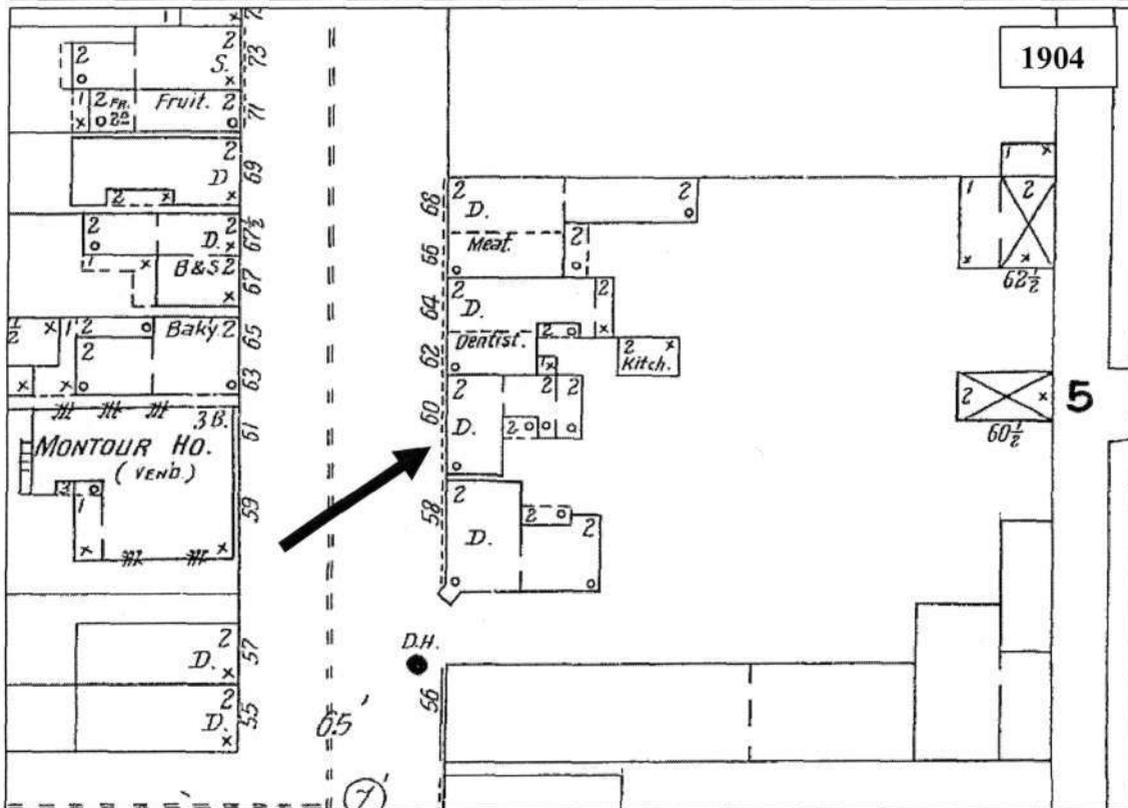
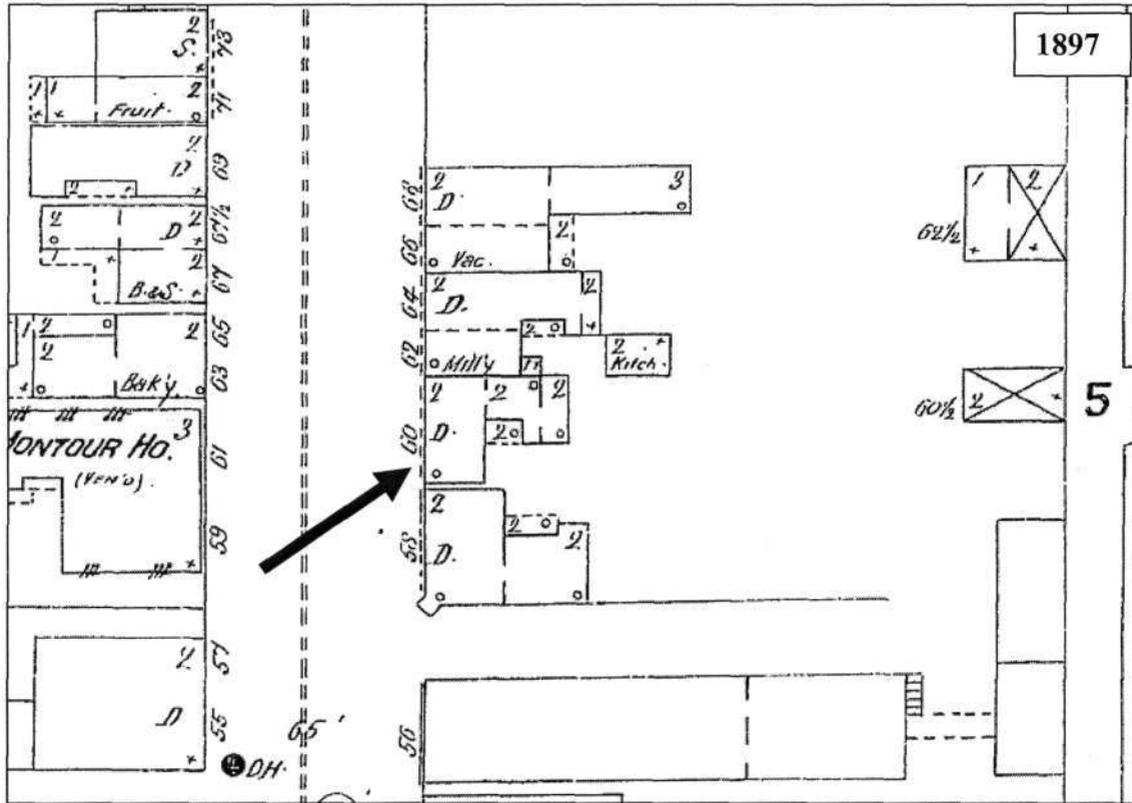


CARR-430

Residence of the Misses Herr

581/2-60 W. Main Street (MD 32), Westminster

Sanborn Maps

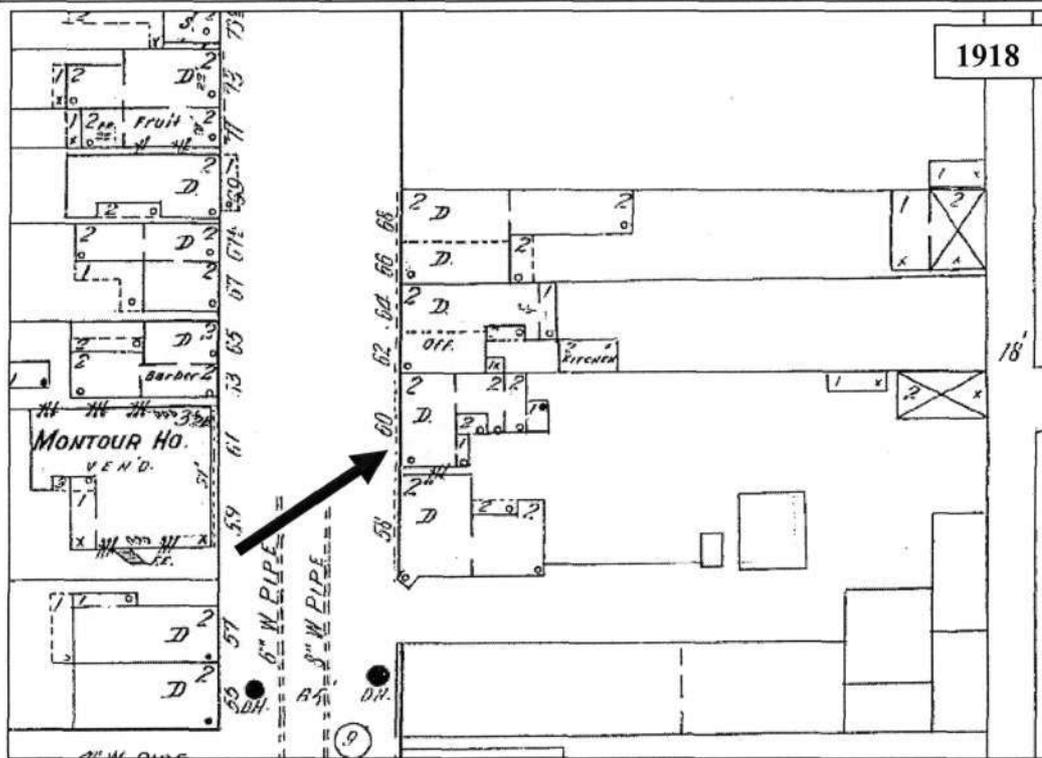
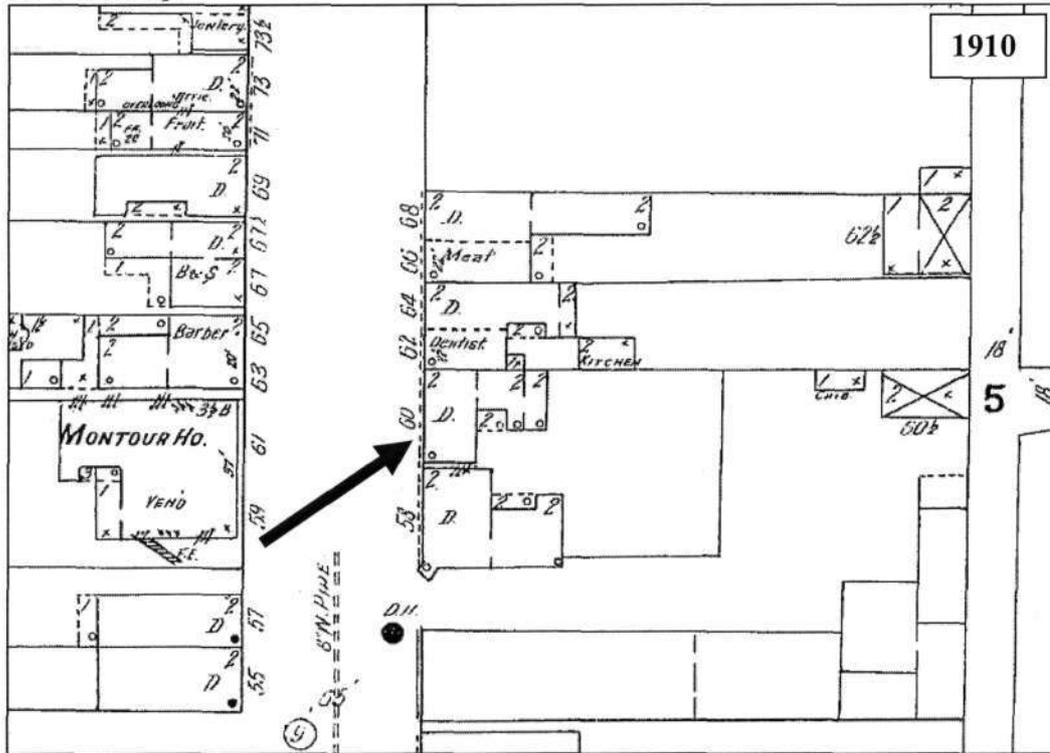


CARR-430

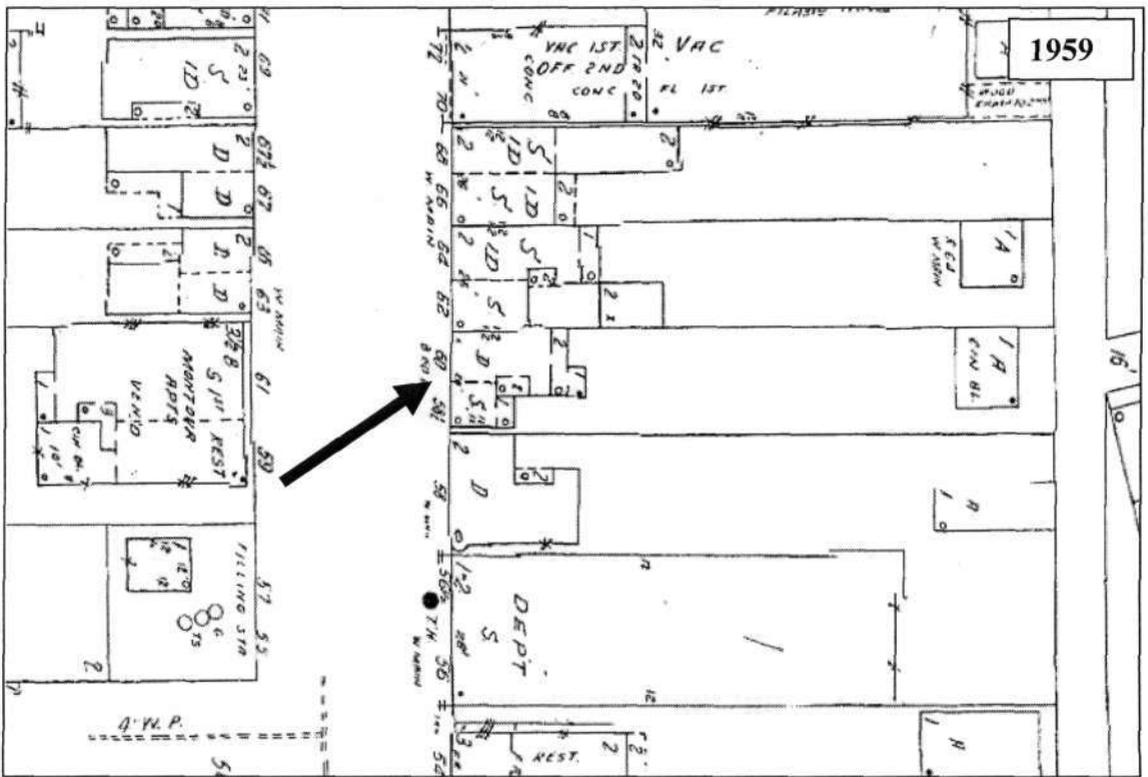
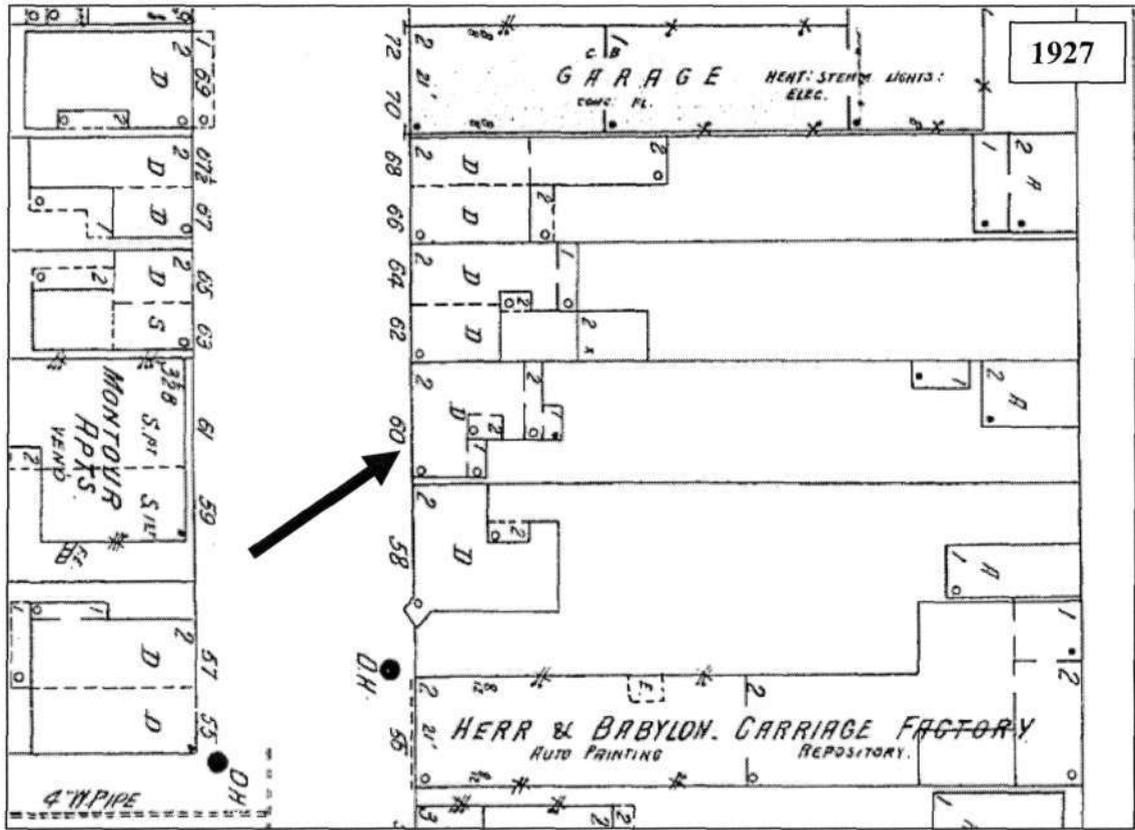
Residence of the Misses Herr

581/2-60 W. Main Street (MD 32), Westminster

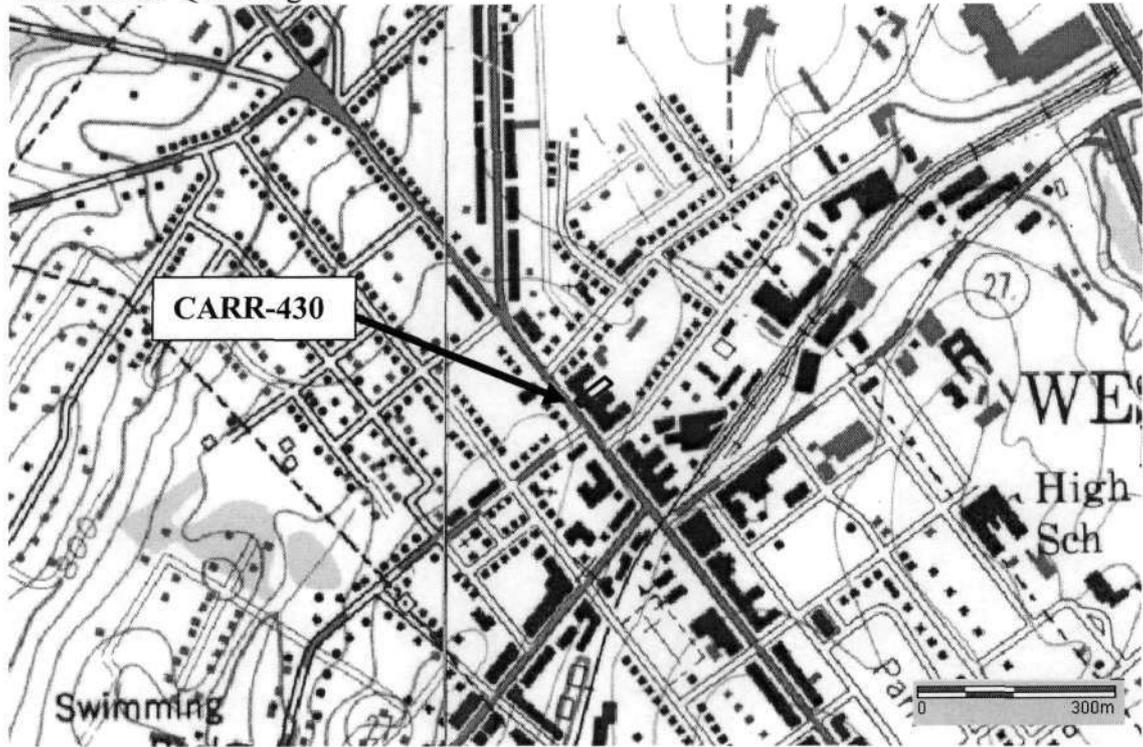
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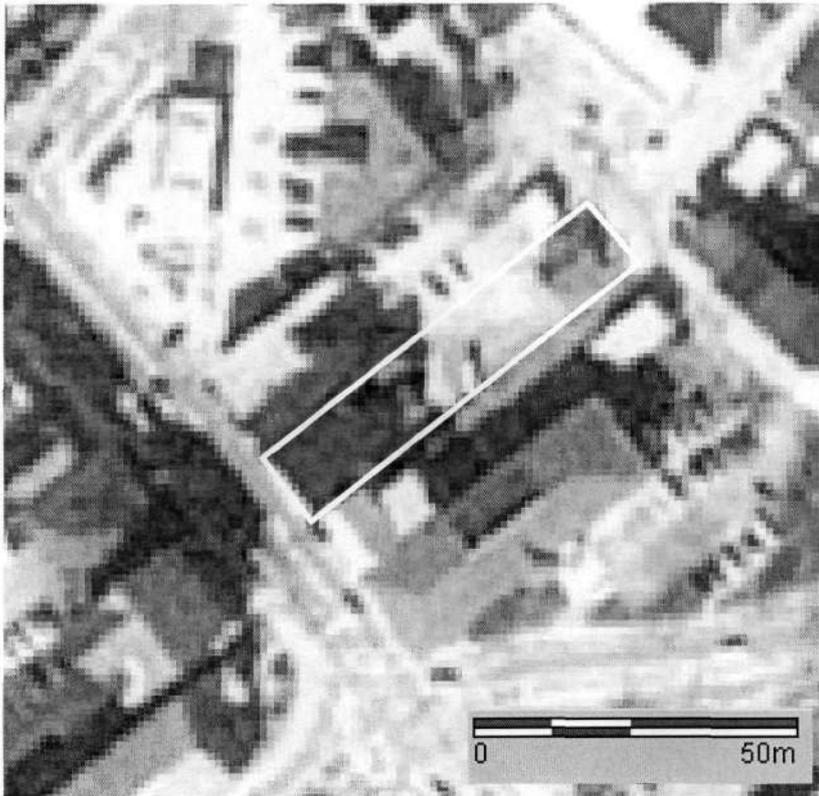
CARR-430  
 Residence of the Misses Herr  
 581/2-60 W. Main Street (MD 32), Westminster  
 Sanborn Maps



CARR-430  
Residence of the Misses Herr  
58 1/2-60 W. Main Street (MD 32), Westminster  
Westminster Quadrangle



1998 Aerial Photo





| 58 1/2 - 60 44% |

(Crop to area shown)

4473

(b-3)

430  
CARR ~~401~~, N. Main St.  
58½ - 68½ W. Main St.  
Westminster  
2/77 (Weeks  
S. Jacobs



CARR 430,431

58 $\frac{1}{2}$  - 68 $\frac{1}{2}$  W. Main St.

Westminster 2/77

N. Jacobs

C. Weck



CARR 429, 430, 431

58-68 U. MAIN ST.  
WESTMINSTER

C. Weeks 3/27

1893 (C.C. Hist. Soc.)