

F-8-74

Ca. 1830

Frees-Reifsnider House

Woodsboro, Maryland

Private

The Frees-Reifsnider House is a 5-bay brick house with carved lintels and a sidelighted entrance which is a well-preserved example of the vernacular Federal style. Its interior features include two parlors of differing dates which are reflected in the window, door and mantel trim. The house also has three associated domestic outbuildings: a summer kitchen, a 1913 metal sheathed garage, and a frame horse barn and carriage shed.

F-8-74  
Frees-Reifsnider House  
Woodsboro  
Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont  
(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery  
Counties, and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Periods:  
Agricultural-Industrial Transition 1815-1870

Historic Period Themes:  
Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Village

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):  
Domestic/single dwelling/residence  
Domestic/secondary structure/summer kitchen  
Domestic/secondary structure/garage  
Domestic/secondary structure/horse barn and carriage shed

Known Design Source: None

# Maryland Historical Trust

## State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION

### 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Frees-Reifsnider House

and/or common

### 2. Location

street & number 2 North Main Street \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Woodsboro \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Frederick

### 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 type="checkbox"/> museum                       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private        | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied                 | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial    | <input type="checkbox"/> park                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure              | <input type="checkbox"/> both                      | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress           | <input type="checkbox"/> educational   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site                   | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                          | <b>Accessible</b>                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> religious                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object                 | <input type="checkbox"/> in process                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government    | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific                   |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered          | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted          | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial    | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation               |
|   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable | <input type="checkbox"/> no                         | <input type="checkbox"/> military      | <input type="checkbox"/> other:                       |

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

name Bernard K., Jr. and Susan Estabrook

street & number 2 North Main Street telephone no.:

city, town Woodsboro state and zip code Md. 21798

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber 7401

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street folio 533

city, town Frederick state Md.

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date \_\_\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. F-8-74

|  |                                       |   |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Condition</b>                         |                                       | <b>Check one</b>                            | <b>Check one</b>                                     |
| <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 of move _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair            | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed    |   |  |

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

Contributing Resource Count: 4

(Description on separate sheet)

# 8. Significance

Survey No. F-8-74

| 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/<br>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              | Ca. 1830   | Builder/Architect |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------------|
| check: Applicable Criteria: | <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D   |                   |
|                             | and/or   |                   |
| Applicable Exception:       | <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G |                   |
| Level of Significance:      | <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local   |                   |

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

( Significance is on a separate sheet)

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. F-8-74

Bond, Isaac, Map of Frederick County, Maryland, 1858  
Smith, F.M., Woodsboro Remembers, privately published, 1976  
Titus, C.O. Atlas of Frederick County, Maryland, 1873  
Title research provided by Ken Estabrook, current owner.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Woodsboro, Md.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

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## Verbal boundary description and justification

Tax map 950  
Parcel 837

## List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janet L. Davis, Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Frederick County Planning & Zoning Dept. date May, 1991

street & number 12 E. Church Street telephone 696-2958

city or town Frederick state Md.

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  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

## 7.1 Description

The Frees-Reifsnider House is a two-story brick dwelling with a rear ell built about 1830 on the northeast corner of North Main Street (Maryland Route 194) and Elizabeth Street in Woodsboro, Frederick County, Maryland. The house has five bays and an entry porch added in the early 20th century, replacing a smaller porch which was relocated to another house on Main Street. The rear ell has a side entrance on Elizabeth Street and a porch which is identical with the original front porch. The house is distinguished by carved wood lintels with a simple scroll relief design. The front doorway has both transom and sidelights. The lot also contains a frame summer kitchen, a 1913 corrugated metal garage, and a small frame late 19th century horse barn.

The most important exterior features of the house are its sidelighted and panelled main entrance and the carved lintels above the door and window openings. The door is an eight-panel with cross crown bevels in each panel. The jambs are articulated by half-round molding and bull's eye corner blocks. The panel bases of the sidelights are shallowly recessed. The leaded glass of the transom and sidelights is late 19th century. The lintels have a flat scroll design in relief; the end of the panels are terminated by a half-round profile.

The plan is a center hall type with exterior end chimneys. The stair is located on the right side of the hall and has a painted balustrade and newel post. The walls are painted plaster. The door trim shows Federal period influence in profile and has bull's eye corner blocks. The north parlor has a simple mantel and Federal period architraves with plain corner blocks. Between the front windows is a molded wood vertical strip described by the current owner as a lamp holder. It has a metal ring just above the center line of the strip, suggesting a hook for hanging an oil lamp. The south parlor has a mid-19th century mantel with horizontal recessed panels above the opening. The window and door architraves in this room are flatter in profile than the north parlor and have bull's eye corner blocks. An inverted T-shaped metal lamp sconce is between the front windows. The floor is oak parquet, dating from the late 19th century.

The attic reveals hand-hewn rafters and the original wood shingle roof under the present standing seam tin. The foundation is rubble stone and the first floor joists and beams are both machine and hand-hewn suggesting repairs and remodeling work at later periods since the construction of the house.

The rear wing or ell extends from the southeast end of the main section. According to the current owner the original kitchen was in the cellar and the first floor was the dining room. In the late 19th and again in the early 20th centuries, the ell was altered, bringing the cooking function to the main floor and adding a large cooking fireplace at the end of the ell. The 20th century alterations also included the enclosure of the north side porch and the infill of a doorway from the dining area to the porch. A wall erected partially across the ell in the early 1980's now separates the present kitchen from the cooking fireplace. In the southeast corner of the ell is a doorway to a winding stair to the second story of the ell. Attached to the east gable end

## 7.2 Description (Continued)

of the ell is a 1 1/2 story frame structure with german siding, 2/2 windows, an interior end chimney and a standing seam metal roof. The interior of this section has a tongue and groove wainscot. It was probably used as slave or servants quarters; it is now a storage area.

### Outbuildings:

Summer kitchen: The one story frame building has a gable roof with a corrugated sheet metal covering and german siding. It has a single door on the west elevation and a sliding barn door on the east elevation.

Garage: This is a one story rectangular frame structure with corrugated sheet metal roof and siding and sliding wood doors with exterior supports on each side. Two windows in each side elevation are 2/2. The garage is dated 1913 in the concrete paving of the floor.

Horse barn and carriage shed: This late 19th century frame building is located at the extreme east end of the lot with access to Second Street. It has vertical wood siding on the barn section with double doors on both the west and east elevation. A shed addition on the south has double doors and was the carriage shed. Original hinges are on all doors. The roof is standing seam tin. A concrete wall south of the barn was used for wood storage.

### 8.1 Significance

The Frees-Reifsnider House is a good example of domestic Federal Architecture during the late period when the Federal style was beginning to give way to the revival influences of the mid 19th century. The main exterior door surround has the molding profile and bull's eye corner blocks of the Federal period, with paneled bases below the sidelights of a flatter outline, indicating less strict conformance with high style Federal panel treatments. The simple carved lintels over the exterior openings are a vernacular treatment of a swag detail common to Federal architecture. The interior north parlor has a mantel and molding trim of the first quarter of the 19th century while the south parlor has mid 19th century trim and mantel.

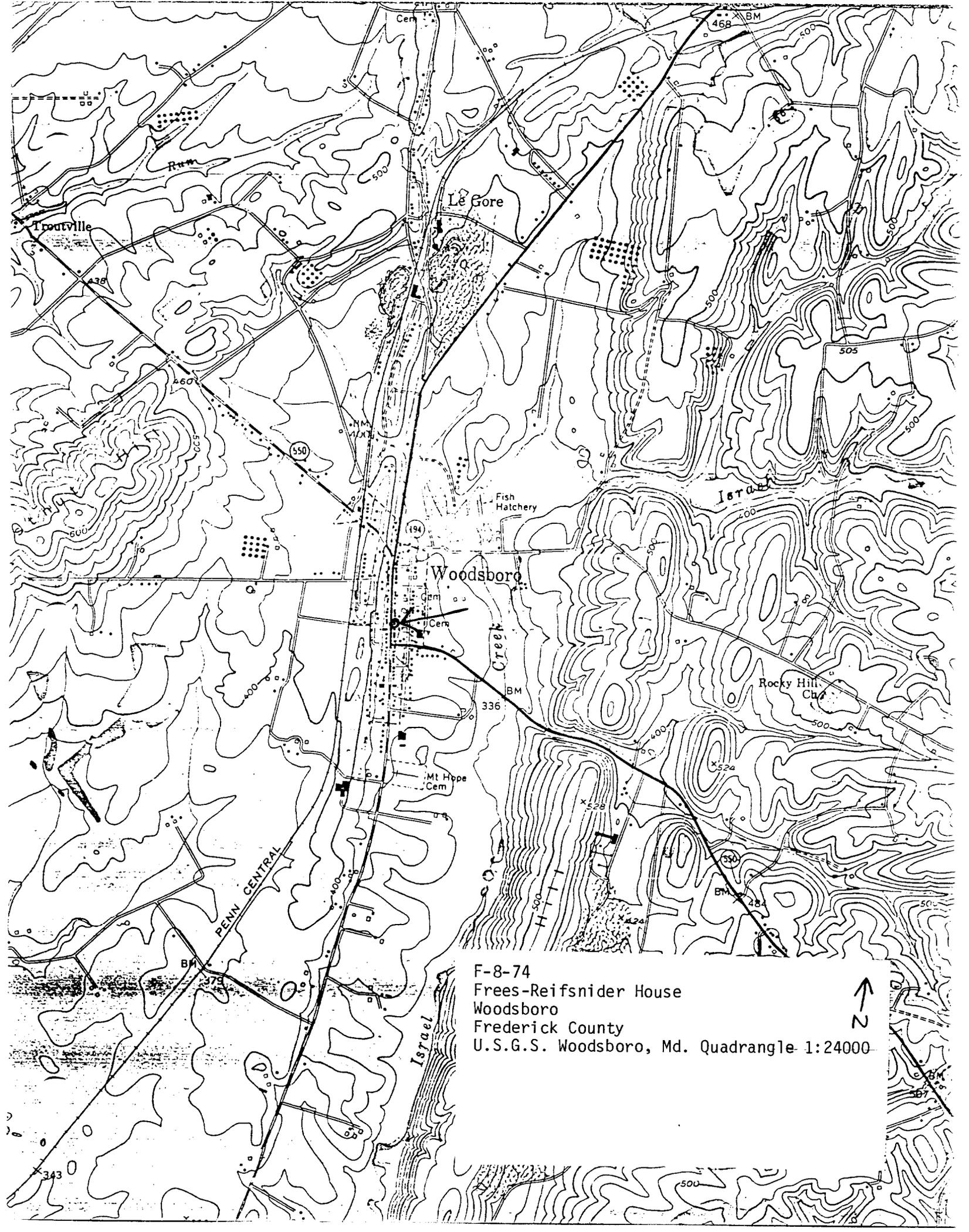
Possibly built in part by Michael Frees or Freeze as early as 1810, the house was probably completed by about 1825-30. It changed hands several times before its purchase by John Reifsnider in 1852. The main features of the house were clearly in place by that date. From 1869 to 1900, the house was owned by Dr. William H. Wagner. From 1900-1920, Dr. William H. Kable was the owner.

Compared to other brick houses in Woodsboro, the Frees-Reifsnider House is more amply proportioned and has distinctive trim at the doors, windows, and porches. More common in Woodsboro is the simple brick house at 110 N. Main Street, the E. Gilbert House (F-8-72). The only brick dwelling of the mid 19th century in Woodsboro which could be considered the same level of craftsmanship is the Lutheran Parsonage at 203 N. Main Street. As the homes of prominent citizens with the means to build houses with fine details, these two represent the best local domestic architecture of the second quarter of the 19th century.

F-8-74

| OWNER   | DATE BOUGHT  | PURCHASE PRICE                                      | LIBER / FOLIO  | REMARKS   |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| COL. JOSEPH WOODS<br>JAMES HARLAN<br>JOHN CAMPBELL<br>WILLIAM GRIMES<br>MICHAEL FREES | SEPTEMBER 29, 1791<br>OCTOBER 1, 1796<br>JUNE 23, 1797<br>FEBRUARY 1, 1804 | 25 POUNDS (6 LBS)<br>9 POUNDS<br>30 POUNDS<br>\$400 | WR 10 / 495<br>WR 14 / 614<br>WR 15 / 446<br>WR 25 / 408 | WOODSTOCK LAND GUT 1 JAN 1786 IN LIBER WR 6 FOLIO 313.<br>HARLAN BOUGHT LOTS 1, 2, 24, 25, 26, AND 30.<br>WIFE JONOT<br>WIFE MARY<br><del>ELDEST SON</del> ELDEST SON GEORGE FREEZE INHERITED HOUSE UPON DEATH OF MICHAEL. GEORGE'S WIFE SUSANNA. ESTATE SETTLE 24 JUL 1815 HS / F.S. |
| HENRY C. WATERS<br>SAMUEL WILHIDE<br>MARY ANN FLOWERS<br>CHARLES SHRIVER              | SEPTEMBER 8, 1820<br>JANUARY 29, 1828<br>APRIL 1, 1839<br>APRIL 10, 1845   | \$1000<br>\$600<br>\$650<br>\$725                   | JS 12 / 582<br>JS 29 / 2<br>WBT 1 / 175<br>WBT 1 / 174   | WIFE ELIZA<br>WIFE SUSANNA<br>HUSBAND BENJAMIN C.<br>EDWARD SHRIVER AND JOHN H. WILLIAMS WERE TRUSTEES FOR CHARLES SHRIVER AS PER <del>LIBER</del> LIBER ES 2, FOLIO 417 PRESUMABLY OF CHARLES' <del>OLD AGE</del> OLD AGE.   |
| EDWARD H. STIMMEL   | APRIL 28, 1852   | \$557   | ES 2 / 416   | BOUGHT HOUSE ON MARCH 18, 1850. <del>FINAL DEED CONTINGENT TERM</del> UPON <sup>DEED</sup> FINAL PAYMENT MADE. WIFE MARY JANE   |
| JOHN REIFSNIDER<br>GEORGE W. DENILBISS  | MAY 11, 1852<br>APRIL 22, 1861   | \$725<br>\$2400                                     | ES 2 / 417<br>BEF 6 / 651                                | WIFE HONORIA E.<br>WIFE ANN M.  |
| DR. WILLIAM H. WATNER<br>JR. WILLIAM H. KABLE   | APRIL 1, 1869<br>JUNE 14, 1900   | \$4000<br>\$5500                                    | CM 3 / 254<br>DHH 7 / 62                                 | WIFE MAGGIE LEE<br>LAST TRANSFER OF ENTIRE LOT 30. GEORGE ADDED NORTH 22' 4" OF LOT 30 TO LOT 29. LOT 30 THEN BECAME 43' 8" WIDE.   |
| GEORGE F. SMITH<br><br>REUBEN H. BAIR   | MARCH 29, 1920<br><br>MAY 22, 1944   | \$7500<br><br>\$10*                                 | 331 / 469<br><br>442 / 235                               | WIFE MINNIE F.<br>WIFE LILLIAN M. * PRICE SUBJECT TO <del>STIPULATION</del> STIPULATION THAT PROPERTY WOULD REVERT TO GEORGE F. SMITH DURING HIS LIFE   |
| WILLIAM GERARD ROBEY }<br>CYNTHIA SUZANNE ROBEY }                                     | NOVEMBER 4, 1980<br><br>MARCH 6, 1987                                      | \$63,900<br><br>\$122,000                           | 1130 / 460<br><br>1401 / 533                             | LILLIAN BAIR DIED AUGUST 13, 1980<br>LIBER 1130 <del>FOLIO</del> FOLIO 460 DESCRIBES SIZE OF LOT  |
| D. KENNETH ESTABROOK, JR.<br>SUSAN B. ESTABROOK                                       |  |   |  | <p>JANET -<br/>PER OUR DISCUSSION,<br/>DEED RESEARCH ON<br/>2 NO. MAIN ST.<br/>WOODSTOCK</p> <p>-KEN ESTABROOK<br/>(301) 845-8524</p>   |





F-8-74  
Frees-Reifsnider House  
Woodsboro  
Frederick County  
U.S.G.S. Woodsboro, Md. Quadrangle 1:24000





F-8-74

Frees-Reifsnider House

2 N. Main St

Woodstock

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

February 1991

Neg. no: Maryland Historical Trust  
Annapolis, Md.

Southwest corner view

1/7



F-8-74

Frees-Reifsnider House

2 N. Main St

Woodsboro

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

February 1991

Neg. loc: Maryland Historical Trust  
Annapolis, Md

North elevation

2/7



F-8-74

Frees-Reifsnider House

2 N. Main St

Woodsboro

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

February 1991

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust  
Annapolis, Md

Door detail, west elevation

3/7



F-3-74

Freeg-Reid'snider House

2 N Main St

Woodsboro

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

February 1991

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust

Annapolis, Md

Outbuildings, view from east

4/7



F-8-74

Frees-Reitshneider House

2 N. Main St

Woodsboro

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

February 1991

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust  
Annapolis, Md.

Horse barn and carriage shed, east elevation

5/7



F-8-74

Frees-Reitshider House

2 N. Main St.

Woodshoro

Frederick County

Photo: Mary Shipe

February 1991.

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust  
Annapolis, Md.

Window detail, north parlor

6/7



F-8-74

Frees-Reifsnider House

2 N. Main St.

Woodstock

Frederick County

Photo: Mary Shipe

February 1991

Neg. loc: Maryland Historical Trust  
Annapolis, Md.

Mantel, south parlor

7/7