

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. B-4915

1. Name

Historic 600 - 630 Jasper Street
and / common

2. Location

street & number 600 - 630 Jasper Street
city, town Baltimore
state & zip code Maryland 21205 county

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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name
street & number telephone
city, town state & zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Land Records liber
street & number Clarence Mitchell Courthouse folio
city, town Baltimore State Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title
date federal state county local
depository for survey records
city, town state & zip code

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:
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move: _____

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

The west side of the 600 block of Jasper St. is built up with several different groups of houses, built between c. 1820 and c. 1895. At either end of the group there are pairs of early Federal-period two-bay-wide, two-and-a-half story brick houses with gable roofs and dormer windows, built c. 1825. Other houses in the group are three stories in height and have both late Italianate and Queen Anne-style cornices.

602 – 604 Jasper St. are a pair of two-and-a-half story houses that are only two rooms deep with the kitchen located in the tall basement. The houses are constructed in common bond and were always painted. The pitched gable roofs are covered with modern asphalt shingles overtop the original cedar shakes. A simple corbelled brick cornice runs across the façade. There is a common chimney stack located along the partition wall at both the front and rear of the houses. The door and window openings have splayed brick lintels and wood sills. The window openings are filled with 6/6 replacement sash. Doorways have single-light transoms and modern replacement doors. The houses sit on high basements, the entrances being reached by five brick steps, set parallel to the facade. The basement kitchen can be reached directly from the street, through a door located beneath the steps and set a few steps below street level.

628 - 630 Jasper St. are a pair of two-and-a-half story houses that are only two rooms deep with a one-story rear kitchen addition. The dormer windows have broken pediments. The houses are constructed in common bond and were always painted. The pitched gable roofs are covered with modern asphalt shingles overtop the original cedar shakes. A simple corbelled brick cornice runs across the façade. There is a common chimney stack located along the partition wall at both the front and rear of the houses. The door and window openings have flat wood lintels and brick sills. The window openings are filled with 6/6 replacement sash. Doorways have single-light transoms and modern replacement doors. The houses sit on medium-height basements, lit by a single-light sash. The entrances are reached by three or four brick steps.

622 Jasper St. is a two-bay-wide, two-story brick house with the low-pitched gable roof typical of working class housing built in the 1850s and 1860s. There is a simple brick corbelled cornice. The house is constructed in common bond and was originally painted. The door has a narrow wood lintel but the first floor window has been reconfigured as two sash under one wide new wood lintel. Second floor windows have no lintels and wood sills. The windows are filled with 6/6 replacement sash. The house sits on a low basement, the entrance being reached by one stone step.

Continuation sheet

602 - 604, 628 - 630, and 622 Jasper St. are two rooms deep, with the front room being entered directly from the front door. The front and back rooms of the first floor are separated by a wide opening, with the tightly winding, narrow stairs set in the rear room, in the space between the partition wall and the fireplace. There are two bedrooms on the second floor of the main part of the house, each with a fireplace, and a third room in the dormer story.

606 - 608 Jasper St. is a pair of three-story, two-bay wide late Italianate-style brick houses with shed roofs and wooden scroll-sawn bracketed cornices built c. 1890. The houses retain their original brick facades, which were always painted. The houses are constructed in running bond. Each house has a single hooded chimney located at the rear corner of the house. The shed roofs are capped by a wooden cornice consisting of a crown molding supported by three long scroll-sawn brackets decorated with horizontal grooves and turnings, that connect to a lower molding strip, decorated with a quarter-round molding. The frieze panel, which also serves as ventilation for the attic, is decorated with a row of butterfly-like shapes, created with a jig saw, and is also bordered on its lower edge by a cut-work band of scallops. The tall, narrow window and door openings have splayed brick lintels and brick sills. All of the windows are filled with 6/6 replacement sash. The doorways have new two- and three-light transoms and modern six panel doors. The houses sit on low basements, the entrances being reached by one stone step.

610 - 616 Jasper St. are a group of four three-story, two-bay wide houses vernacular Queen Anne-style brick houses with shed roofs and sheet metal and stepped brick cornices, built c. 1895. All of the houses retain their original brick facades, which were always painted. After the use of wood was outlawed for cornices in 1892, sheet metal and stepped-back bricks became the predominant materials used. This decorative brickwork represents a vernacular translation of high-style Queen Anne designs first seen in Baltimore rowhouses c. 1880. The houses are constructed in common bond. Each house has a single hooded chimney located near the rear of the house. The shed roof is capped by a sheet metal cornice set above a frieze created by two rows of slightly projecting stretcher bricks set above "drops" of six progressively recessed header bricks. The door and window openings have segmentally arched brick lintels, composed of a double row of headers. At 610 - 612 the windows have scroll-sawn tympanums and stone sills; at 612 - 614 they have plain tympanums and brick sills. The windows are filled with either 4/4 or 6/6 replacement sash. Doorways have single-light transoms and modern six-panel doors. The houses sit on medium-height basements, the entrances being reached by three and four brick steps. There is an arched sallyport running back between each pair of houses.

600 Jasper St. is a single three-story, two-bay-wide house with a shed roof and brick modillion cornice, built c. 1875. It is constructed in running bond and was always painted. Door and window openings have splayed brick lintels and wood sills. Windows are filled with 6/6 replacement sash. The doorway has no transom and a modern six panel door. The house sits on a low basement, being reached by only one brick step.

8. Significance

Period	Area of significance	check one & justify			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" 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"/> theatre	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration	<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. 1820 - 1895

Builder/Architect

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

602 – 604 and 628 – 630 Jasper St. are especially significant as early Federal-period houses that were more commonly built in pairs in the oldest sections of Baltimore in the first two decades of the nineteenth century. By the later 1820s and the 1830s, builders more often constructed longer rows of houses as speculative ventures, but at the beginning of the century pairs, involving less risk and less initial capital, were the rule. The houses do not differ markedly from the two-and-a-half story houses built on nearby main streets—they are simply somewhat narrower and smaller versions priced to serve less affluent residents of the old walking city.

The three story houses represent later in-fill construction and may well have replaced frame houses formerly on the site. Their presence is significant in that it shows the neighborhood, now called Seton Hill, continued to be viable throughout the nineteenth century, attracting builders with capital who erected groups of Houses in the then-popular styles.

These houses are especially significant for being one of the few survivors of similar small street houses located in this part of north Baltimore in the greater Mt. Vernon area, where many fashionable Greek Revival- and Italianate-style dwellings were being built. They gain significance for being located near St. Mary's Seminary, the city's first Catholic teaching facility.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Mary Ellen Hayward and Charles Belfoure, *The Baltimore Rowhouse*
(New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999)

10. Geographic Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

name / title	Dr. Mary Ellen Hayward		
Organization	The Alley House Project	date	
street & number	1306 Carrollton Ave.	telephone	
city, town	Baltimore	state & zip code	Maryland 21204

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 property rights.

Return to:
DHCP/DHCD
Maryland Historical Trust
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032-2023

