

## Lentzner House

Reisterstown, Maryland

## Private Access

356 MAIN STREET is related to many other 19th century Reisterstown houses with an entrance and stair hall together with a single parlor in the front, and a rear service wing. This example is distinctive because of the stylish hipped roof in the front and the rear wing's being doubled in length. The middle section, of brick, is the oldest portion of the house, itself probably an addition to an earlier frame or log house, since replaced or unrecognizably remodeled and refinished. The middle section dates from ca. 1850-1865 and the front and rear sections date from ca. 1865-1875. This house has hardly been altered and it retains nearly all of its original detailing and hardware.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

BA 1238  
MAGI #0312385504

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC **Lentzner House**

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

**356 Main Street**

**6th**

CITY, TOWN

**Reisterstown**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

**Maryland**

COUNTY

**Baltimore**

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME **Temple Smith**

Telephone #: **833-1221**

STREET & NUMBER

**143 Main Street (Office)**

CITY, TOWN

**Reisterstown**

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**Md 21136**

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. **Baltimore County Courthouse**

Liber #: **1047**

Folio #: **460**

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

**Towson**

STATE

**Maryland**

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

356 MAIN STREET is a two storey house, closely oriented to the street, facing east, consisting of three sections. The front section, three bays in width, of frame covered with wood shingles, dates from ca. 1865-1875; it has a hipped roof covered with standing-seam tin. The middle section, forming a rear wing behind the north end of the front section, is of brick, three bays in length, and it dates from ca. 1850-1865. Bricks are laid in common bond with every sixth course headers. Jack arches are above first storey windows and wood lintels are above those of the second storey. The north cornice is of corbeled brick. The rear section, two bays in length, is also of frame, covered with wood shingles, and it also dates from ca 1865-1875. The entire rear wing has a gabled roof covered with standing-seam tin, its ridge slightly below the peak of the front roof. A two storey porch extends across the south facade of the entire wing, under a common roof; the second storey of the rear section's porch is enclosed, probably its original form. A one storey hip-roofed porch extends across the east or street facade.

Windows of the front section are 4/4; those of the rear wing are 6/6 and all are flanked with louvred blinds. The principal entrance is in the southerly bay of the east front and secondary entrances are directly opposite it at the east end of the south porch, centered in the south facade of the middle section, in the easterly bay of the rear section and in the west end of the rear section. Doors in the second storey open to that porch above counterparts below.

Within, a hall extends through the southerly bay of the front section containing an open staircase rising to the second floor with a high intermediate landing. A single parlor is to the north and a single room is in each section of the rear wing. An enclosed winding secondary stair is in the northwest corner of the middle section and a straight stair formerly was against the north wall of the rear section.

At the principal stair, the rounded rail is supported by a large turned newel and turned oak balusters. Doors have six raised panels, void of mouldings; the smallest panels are in the middle and most doors retain their original cast-iron rim locks (patented in 1864) with white porcelain or brown mineral knobs. The fireplace in the west wall of the front parlor has a wooden mantel having plain pilasters supporting a plain frieze and shelf. A similar but simpler mantel surrounds the fireplace in the west wall of the middle section. Immediately behind, in the rear section, is a fireplace fitted with a crane for cooking, its brick courses corbeled back to the chimney in the wall above the firebox.

The second floor plan is identical to the first, except that a small room is above the south porch in the rear section. Detailing is similar but simpler and mantels surround false fireplaces having no hearths in the original flooring.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## Maryland Historical Trust - Inventory form for State Historic Sites Survey

Continuation Sheet: Lentzner House  
Reisterstown, Maryland

Item Number 7  
Page 1

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## 7. Description, continued

The attic is accessible via the enclosed staircase in the middle section. Rafters of the middle section are circular-sawn with pegged half-lap joints at the ridge. Rafters of both front and rear sections are circular sawn, mitered at the ridge. The east face of the middle section's east gable, visible from the attic of the front section, is plastered, further indicating the middle section to be the oldest.

A cellar is beneath the middle section and a small excavation for a furnace has been made beneath the front section. The joists of the middle section are circular sawn, those of the front section being hewn logs.

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

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

356 MAIN STREET is related to many other 19th century Reisterstown houses with an entrance and stair hall together with a single parlor in the front, and a rear service wing. This example is distinctive because of the stylish hipped roof in the front and the rear wing's being doubled in length. The middle section, of brick, is the oldest portion of the house, itself probably an addition to an earlier frame or log house, since replaced or unrecognizably remodeled and refinished. The middle section dates from ca. 1850-1865 and the front and rear sections date from ca. 1865-1875. This house has hardly been altered and it retains nearly all of its original detailing and hardware.

This house stands on land that was divided up into lots at John Reister's death by Henry Weist. This property is the majority of Lot #3. This lot passed through several owners before coming into Solomon Choate's possession (Marks, op. cit. p. 182). On March 12, 1860 Solomon Choate and his wife sold this piece of ground to Christian Lentzner for \$200.00 (GHC 28/402). This same land was sold in 1819 for \$100.00 (Marks, op. cit. p. 182). Judging from this small increase in price it is assumed Christian Lentzner built the house on the land he purchased. The house and property were passed down through the Lentzner family until it was sold in 1977.

Sources used; Marks, Lillian B., Reister's Desire (Baltimore, 1975)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

BA-128  
1238

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Baltimore County Land Records  
Reister's Desire, Lillian Bayly Marks (Baltimore, 1975)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

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

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

**11 FORM PREPARED BY James T. Wollon, Jr A.I.A.**

NAME / TITLE Mrs Nathaniel Vincent, Volunteer Researcher  
Cornelia M. Ives, Project Coordinator

August 1978

\* ORGANIZATION

430 Main Street

DATE

833-3078 (Ms Ives)

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Reisterstown, Md

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

\* Historic Reisterstown, Inc

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 1238

Kentzner House  
356 Main St. Reisterstown

Carol Pollack

4-77

East