

JAMES A. C. BOND HOUSE

202 EAST MAIN STREET

The large L-shaped house built as the residence for James A. C. Bond, a prominent local lawyer, is a fine example of a style once popular in Westminster. Facing north onto Main Street, the house is made of two distinct 2½-story, perpendicular sections, each with a gabled roof, with a 1-story, shed-roofed porch across the front between the wooden bay window of the eastern gabled section and the western end of the house. This house has many echoes in the City, such as 189 East Main Street (Wagner House), but probably none can, or could, match the "Early Bull Moose" atmosphere of Bond's house, as evidenced in photographs taken soon after the house's completion in 1909.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CARR-368
0703684704

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

James A. C. Bond House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

202 East Main Street (MD 32)

6

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

Carroll
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 RESIDENCES
<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"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Charles H. Bowers, Jr.

Telephone #: 848-5709

STREET & NUMBER

202 East 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 #: 546

Folio #: 747

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		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The large formerly L-shaped house numbered as 202 East Main Street, Westminster, is, despite its present seedy condition, a fine example of a style once popular in the City.

Facing north onto Main Street, the house is laid in stretcher bond brick above a low coursed fieldstone foundation. Two distinct 2½ story sections present themselves, each with a gabled roof, but perpendicular to each other; the 10 foot projection of the eastern section has been "filled in" by a flat roofed porch. The porch's roof is supported by four white square wooden posts on brick pedestals. White wooden trim creates round arches with spandrels between the posts; these arches have urn pendants at their centers.

The section of the house perpendicular to Main Street is 2 bays wide, with a 3-sided bay window on the ground floor. Each section of this bay window is topped by a full cornice supported by four small brackets between larger end single "cabriole" brackets. Below is a two over two double-hung sash window with simple enframing; below each window is an enriched recessed panel. The entire bay window is of wood. Above the bay are two 2/1 simply enframed windows between white wooden sills and cornices supported by end brackets with, between the brackets, a row of covered wooden flat pendants that look like ducal strawberry leaves. The attic is lighted by a 2/2 window sheltered by a round arched brick hood mold. Mild gingerbread, similar to that of the 202½ cottage (q.v.) decorates the gable.

To the west, the rest of the facade stretches out 3 regularly spaced bays long. On the ground floor, behind the porch, is a modern glass and aluminum storm double door, with two 2/2 windows to the west. These, and all of the windows in this section, have three course gauged flat arches and black louvered shutters. There are three 2/2 windows on the second floor, below a heavily molded cornice. The dark green painted sheet metal covered roof has a recent (c. 1950) asbestos shingle covered box dormer at the junction of the two sections.

The west facade is dominated by the broad gable end of the section parallel with Main Street (the porched section), which, laid in stretcher bond, has two 2/2 attic windows below a continuation of the Main Street cornice, which here projects about two feet from the wall. A large corbel-capped chimney is at the ridge of the gable end. As mentioned, the house originally had an L plan, open to the southwest. During the 1930's, this open area was filled in with a large shed roofed addition, also in stretcher bond but with no eave treatment. The addition has two 1/1 windows towards the north of its second floor, with a 2/2 window below them and a 1/1 window to the south of that. All these windows have simple enframing with white wooden sills and 3 course gauged flat arches. However, the 1/1 windows are, curiously,

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE*Photos - see 202^{1/2} E. Main Street CARR-368***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 checked="" 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

1909

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

James A. C. Bond

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built on the residence for James A. C. Bond, a prominent local lawyer, early photographs show that the house, in its prime, reeked of an atmosphere that might be described as "Early Bull Moose." Certain rooms, filled with stuffed heads of what could pass as water buffaloes, and with heavy rosewood/mahogany furniture, have such a masculine atmosphere that one wonders where the brandy bottle is, and assumes that it was only due to the curdiness of the cameras that no cigar smoke is shown.

The lot itself is less firmly established, being something of an orphan: it was part of a 400' x 180' right triangle between "White's Level," and "New London", and thus, not part of either of Westminster's early "boroughs". Early title information is, therefore, somewhat sketchy. Katharine Shellman suggests that "Old Kiz (Kehiah) colored" lived near the present location of no. 202; the Historical Society has a very old photograph of a log cabin standing "at the intersection of Court and Main Streets" which could well be our property. Number 202's neighbors, the Shellman House and no. 198 both antedate the 1830's; Katharine Shellman lists both of these houses, with "Old Kiz" in between. The lot was sold (Deed 30/445, March 5, 1864) by the heir of John Fisher (Fisher seems to figure in every lot's transfer history) to trustees for the benefit of Katharine Shellman, for life, and then for her children. Mrs. Shellman did not die until 1898, but her children divested themselves of this future interest as early as June 11, 1870 (39/307), which Bond acquired 8 years later, October 2, 1878 (50/293). After Mrs. Shellman's death, Bond, after an equity suit between two of her heirs (Ann and Fred Reese, Eq. \$4449), took full title on March 13, 1909, and, presumably, then built the house we see. It is difficult to see how, legally, he could have built at any other time. However, it is also clear that someone, at sometime, built a Greek Cross plan house, much smaller than Bond's place, as it is clearly shown on an 1877 plat of the City. Furthermore, the 1887 City directory lists nos. 202-204 as "Bond, James A.C., residence and office."

Further evidence for the earlier date is the house built by Orlando Reese at 189 East Main c. 1880, which in plan and main facade treatment is almost an exact, (if small scale) replica.

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 westerly half of lot 46 of "White's Level" as ammended, located about 40' west of the intersection of Sycamore Street and East Main Street, Westminster.

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

November, 1976

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Westminster Historical Sites Survey

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

c/o City Hall - Public Works Department

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Westminster

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

extremely elongated and narrow; one almost expects to see archers behind them, aiming their bows at Maybelle's Antique Shop.

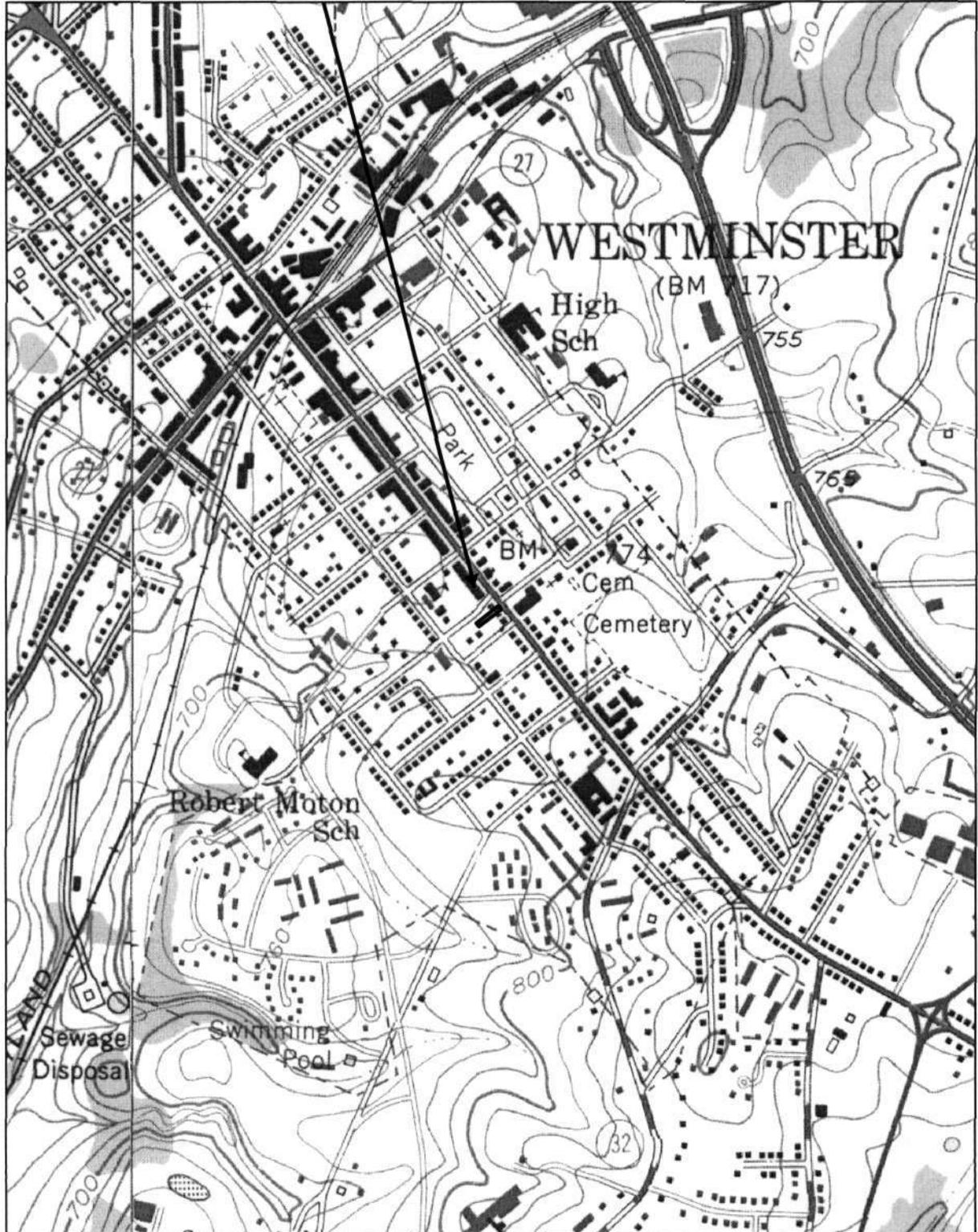
The south front of this addition has one 2/2 similarly arched window in the center of each of its two floors. To the east, above a miasmic junkyard heaped with old cars and washing machines, is the rear of the "perpendicular" section - 2 stories tall, shed roofed behind a 2-tiered porch. The porch, which helps separate the building from its environment, is supported by slender turned columns and creates a second story balcony and top deck with XXX railings. Each floor of this 3 bay section is identical - a door to the west and two windows to the east; all windows and doors are of glass and aluminum, designed to keep out storms.

The east front's deep green roof is pierced by a 2/2 window within a shed roofed dormer; the dormer is covered with green imbricated shingles. Below are two 2/2 simply enframed windows on the second floor, and one similar window to the north on the ground floor. Towards the south of the ground floor is a white wooden box oriel window. The oriel has a full cornice and four identical 2/2 windows - two to the east, one on the north and south. Beyond, the eastern edge of the rear porch has been filled in, with glass on the second floor, and with clapboard on the ground floor; the latter has two openings - a 2/2 window to the south, and a half-glass (two-paned) half-wood door to the north.

In any event, Bond's widow sold the place on July 1, 1943, (181/374) to Charles M. Bowers, Sr. & Jr. as tenants-in-common; the younger Bowers has full title today.

In its present seedy state, Bond's house has lost much of its former swagger. Where it once must have jostled its more traditional 3 and 5 bay neighbors for position, today it actually seems to cower back from their almost feminine respectability. Still, its set-back makes a nice street rhythm, as does the pointed white peak of its perpendicular section's gable.

CARR-368
James A.C. Bond House
East Main Street
Westminster
Westminster Quad
Carroll County



CARR-368

James A.C. Bond House

202 East Main Street (MD 32), Westminster

Jennifer K. Cosham, 12 April 2006



North elevation



Northeast elevation



CARR 368

202 E. Main St.

Vermont

interiors

c. week 10/76

c. 1910