

28-30-32 West Main Street

The buildings 28-30-32 West Main Street stretch along the north side of that thoroughfare in row house fashion. It is probable that the center is the oldest of the three, dating from around 1875, and that the others were added c. 1880, and c. 1900. In any event, this conscious striving for facade repetition makes the row rare in the City. Each building takes a similar 2-story, 3-bay, brick shape, and all have florally-decorated plaques under their eaves.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

John H. Keen, Store - R. C. Matthews Bazaar

AND/OR COMMON

Maryland Saddlery - Sew Business - Colonial Jewerly Company

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

28-30-32 West Main Street (MD 32)

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

7

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Carroll

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

George W. Albaugh Estate

Telephone #: 848-4010

STREET & NUMBER

c/o Albaugh and Babylon Grocery Company - 10 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 #: 119

Folio #: 49

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED (On ground Floor only)	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The buildings 28-30-32 West Main Street stretch along the north side of that thoroughfare (St. Route 32) in row house fashion. It is probable that the center (no. 30) is the oldest of the three; in any event, this conscious striving for facade repetition makes the row rare in the City.

It seems the brickwork, between the buildings, makes it clear that each was built separately, following the lead of no. 30. The basic form is a shed-roofed, two-story box with shops on the ground floor and apartments above. The ground floor facade on each building consists, basically, of a more or less central door between large plate glass display windows, with a sign above; the size of these display windows varies a bit, with no. 32, the jewelry store, having the smallest. Between nos. 30 and 32, a half/glass half/wood door leads to apartments above. The door has a squarish, three-paned transom above. Each building's second floor is identical; five course common bond brick painted white, pierced by 3 elongated, two-over-two, double-hung sash windows with white wooden sills and three course gauged flat arches. (The south facade of no. 32 has a fourth bay because of the presence of the door - stairway hall.)

Above, between the top of the arches and the roof, is the building's most intriguing feature. A white wooden cornice runs the length of all three buildings and is supported by long, cabriole-shaped brackets which are united at their bases by a narrow continuous string course of turned wood. The brackets are placed alternately with the windows, and the space between the brackets is enlivened by a board the same width as the window, but only about 4" tall. Each board has chamfered corners with gouged designs on its face, designs which display the area's Pennsylvania German Heritage; a central four petal (Greek Cross) flower with a slender arrow pointing out on each side. As noted, the intention seems to have been to have these plaques placed above each window; this was achieved on all buildings but no. 28, where they are slightly off-center.

The east and west walls are flush with their neighbors', and are, therefore, blind; to the east it is possible to see the northward sloping shed roof which covers all three buildings. The north facades of all three buildings are confused in a jumble of additions; one odd-sized shed leads to the next, which leads to the next, and one's eye becomes confused by the cement blocks, concrete blocks, corrugated sheet metal, wood, and rolled tin surfaces one sees. All this, of course is to be expected on the service ends of a trio of hundred-year-old commercial buildings.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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. 1875; c. 1880; c. 1900 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The architectural (and decorative) significance of nos. 28-30-32 West Main Street has been hinted at in question 7. It is rare to find rows of identical buildings in Westminster. It is rare, but not unheard of; some other examples are 132-132½-134 East Main Street, and 183-185-187 East Main Street, but neither of these examples now has the mixed-use interest of nos. 28-30-32. (Of course 132-132½-134 originally had one of its buildings used as a shop.) The other main feature of interest is the series of carved plaques located between the cornice's brackets. Other buildings in the City have also used this area for added decoration, and some have even incorporated geometric Germanic designs, as are found here. But the "elegant simplicity" of the carved design here is striking and relates back to both the Germanic origin of many of the town's inhabitants, as well as to the minimalist nature of the finest of the town's basic forms of building, and how these buildings create their attractive and quiet statements through the use of a few basics.

The land these three structures were built on was part of the Mathias-Orndorff transactions described in the write-ups for 36 and 32-34 West Main Street, q.v. This row of buildings is built partly on lot 16 and partly on lot 17 of the land that repeatedly passed back and forth during the 19th century. The 1877 plat of the City shows the building in approximately the right position on lot 16 to be number 30 here, and, in fact, the 1887 City Directory has one John H. Keen having a store at no. 30 West Main Street. The Directory has no one living at no. 28, and lists, intriguingly, one R. C. Matthews as having a "Bazaar" at no. 32. If a Persian Bazaar could have taken place in such a staid building as today's no. 32, that would place its date at the mid 1880's; no. 28, so far unaccounted for, could not date from much after the turn of the century. Our three buildings were sold out of the Orndorff estate by Joseph D. Brooks, trustee, to George W. Albaugh on March 26, 1910 (see equity record 4396, and Carroll County Deed Book 114, Page 49). Albaugh, whose estate presently controls the lots, paid \$8000 for them.

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 16 and the easterly third of lot 17 shown on a plat of Winter's Addition to Westminster recorded among the Land Records of Frederick County in Book JS 2, Page 195, 196.

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

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



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CARR 426

28-30-32 W. Main St.

Westminster

2/77 S. Jacobe

C. Weeks



CARR 426

28-30-32 W. Main St.

Westminster

N. Jacobs 2/77

C. Weeks

45 1/2



45

C-14

CARR 426
28-20-32 W. Main St.
Westminster 2/77
S. Jacobe
C. Weeks



Business

MARYLAND SADDLERY, INC.

28 WEST MAIN ST.



Phone 846-1230

CARR 424

28-30-32 W. Main St.

Westminster 2/77

S. Jorale

C. Wechs