

167 West Main Street

Number 167 West Main Street sits on the southwest corner of the intersection of that street (St. Poute 32) and Push Alley in Westminster. It is a two-sectioned building, consisting of a 3-story, 3-bay-by-two-bay shed-roofed northern piece, and a two-story, 3-bay-by-two-bay, southern piece; together these buildings form not an L, but a rectangle. It is probable that the brick southern section is a generation older than the northern section, or at least the northern section as it now appears (probable dates being c. 1850 and c. 1890). In its finely carved diminutive woodwork, its slender windows and regularity of bay placement on all facades, no. 167 has an air of dignified femininity about it. This slightly trim, very well-mannered appearance makes a fine contrast with the rhythmically vigorous north facade of its eastern neighbor, the row 163-163½-165 West Main Street.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

A. Caroline Starmer & George A. Brown

Telephone #: 848-4887

STREET & NUMBER

16 New Windsor Road

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 #: 517

Folio #: 369

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Number 167 West Main Street sits on the southwest corner of the intersection of West Main Street, (St. Route 32) and Rush Alley in Westminster. It is a two-sectioned building, consisting of a three-story, three-bay-by-two-bay, shed-roofed northern piece, and a two-story, two-bay-by-two-bay, southern piece; together these buildings form not an L, but a rectangle. It is probable that the southern section is a generation older than the northern section, or at least the northern section as it now appears. The seven course common bond white-painted brick north (principal) facade of the building contains 9 bays. There are three double-hung sash windows with two-over-two panes on the third and second stories, and two on the ground floor. All windows have 3 course gauged flat arches, and simple pale-green enframing, including green wooden sills. Second and third floor windows are identical in size, but those on the ground floor are slightly elongated. The other ground-floor bay, located to the west, has a set of double entrance doors. The doors, below their narrow rectangular transom, are panelled Victorian doors and are sheltered by ten-light double storm doors. A double flight of concrete steps leads to the door, and simple, but effective, pale-green pilasters and a small two-part bracketed entablature enframe the doors. The entire facade is capped by a two-part modillioned entablature that displays the same fine, almost daintly, quality of the surround. Four slender brackets, spaced alternately with windows, support the entablature, and are connected at their bases by a narrow, green, wooden string course. Narrow crown molding continues the feeling of the entablature over the front section's east and west facades. The east facade has six regularly-placed 6/6 windows (2 per floor) which are identical to their Main Street counterparts. The west facade of the three-story section is blind. However, the gable-roofed rear section has two bays on each of its floors on each of its exposed sides. Those on the east and west facades are 2/2 windows, which continue the line (on the east) begun by the principal section's windows (except for the rear ground floor window which is much smaller). Those on the west facade are also 2/2, but are uniform in size and regular in placement. Simple, wooden, 3-step "corbelling" contains the gutter at the edge of the roof on the east and west facades. The south facade is shaded by a two tier, shed-roofed porch. The porch is approached from the house by wood and glass doors located to the east of 6/6 windows (this arrangement is the same on both floors and all these are aligned). A small four-light window lights the attic to the west of a corbel-capped chimney which rises flush with the wall at the gable's peak, and creates a nice rhythm with a similar chimney which rises in the eastern section of the main section. A steep flight of white wooden steps leads to the second story of the porch.

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 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 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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1850, c. 1880

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Number 167 West Main Street is significant both for its own qualities, and in the way it works with its neighbor, no. 165. Most of the buildings in the City seem masculine, almost aggressive in appearance (this is especially true in the later-built West End of town). Yet, in its finely-carved, diminutive woodwork, its slender windows, and in the regularity of bay placement on all facades, no. 167 has an air of dignified femininity. Its slightly-prim, very well-mannered appearance, makes a fine contrast with the rhythmically vigorous north facade of its eastern neighbor, the row 163-163½-165 West Main Street. Where the strong, angular bay-window towers of the row are vigorously three dimensional, no. 167 uses its brackets almost apologetically, and seeks to impress through proportions on a one dimensional plain. Similarly, the yellow and black of the row's brick and slate are as jarring to the eye as no. 167's white and pale green are soothing.

The two buildings also work well vis-a-vis Rush Alley which separates them. Between the south facades of the buildings, and the rear alley which borders their lots, is a vast expansive grass and parking area but when one, going towards Main Street is between 165 and 167 a definite sense of constricted space is experienced, one realizes one is in a City (and in an alley). The buildings are built right up to the edge of this alley, and their three-story height gives one an almost European sensation of narrow streets before one reaches the broad expanse of West Main Street.

One Basil Hayden is rumored to have sold four lots, including ours, to Emanuel Gernand; an exact reference seems impossible to locate. However, on February 18, 1856, Gernand sold our lot to Henry Warner for \$1200 (Carroll County Deed Book 19, Page 392). This price makes one suspect that some of the building must have then existed; the 1877 plat of the City shows a small building on the lot a bit removed from Main Street, probably representing the southern half of the present building. Warner sold three lots, including ours, to Andrew M. Warner on March 6, 1879, for \$3550 (51/103). Warner is said to have had a residence and shop at 167 West Main Street in the 1887 City Directory, so we might assume that he had then built the front section. The front section's appearance, especially its woodwork, makes it likely that it would date

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 easterly half of lot 21 of B. S. Pigmans Addition to the City of Westminster.

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

STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Christopher Weeks, Consultant

April

ORGANIZATION

Westminster Historical Sites Survey

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

c/o City Hall - Public Works Department

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Westminster

STATE

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

#8

from the 1870's or early 80's. Andrew Warner sold our lot to Sallie C. Warner on March 1, 1888 for \$10,050 (67/383). This deed also tells us that Henry Warner was Andrew's father. Sallie was probably Andrew's wife, as their children, Annie, John, and M. Viola, appear in a pair of straw deeds (120/212, 120/214) to and from Edwin W. Shriver which served to vest title solely in M. Viloa Ford. These transactions took place August 16, 1912. Mrs. Ford sold the house to Samuel E. Miller three years later for \$3500 (127/312), and his widow, Effie, sold to Albert M. Bleakly on June 14, 1952 (213/8). The property would change titles several times in the next few years (deeds 287/151, 288/446, 329/566, 500/511) until Thomas B. Gist sold the place to its present owners on July 28, 1972 by deed 517/369.

72°.



167

727

E-14

CARR 453

167 W. MAIN ST.

WESTMINSTER

N. facade

3/77 C. Weck



167 W. MAIN

163-165 W. MAIN



CAMP 453
167 W. MAW ST.
S. facade
C. wall #77



CAMP 450
163-165 W. MAW ST.
WESTMINSTER
S. facade
3/77 c. wall