

## BANKERT HOUSE

66 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE

The house probably originally consisted of mirror-image three bay houses; the only door remaining now on the principal facade is in the half closer to The Forks. This door is a six panel door simply enframed and topped by a very fine denticulated cornice. The other eleven bays on the principal facade consist of simply enframed double-hung sash windows with two-over-two panes surrounded by white wooden sills and black louvered shutters. A fine touch on this principal facade, one that the present owners added, is having the door surrounded by pyracantha, the deep green and bright orange of which contrast nicely with the black and white of the house. Number 66 Pennsylvania Avenue, like its neighbor number 64, is a fine example of how mid-19th century builders would conceive and construct row houses in the City. In some instances there are groups of three or more three story structures in the City which, in design, look beyond the area for inspiration, but here it is clear that the units were designed along traditional vernacular lines, but were built sharing a common wall. If the houses could today be split in half, each half would be identical to houses in the City that had been built up to 100 years earlier such as 226 East Main Street.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Bankert House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

66 Pennsylvania Avenue

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 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	<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

James A. Scott

Telephone #: 848-1191

STREET & NUMBER

66 Pennsylvania Avenue

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 #: 476

Folio #: 166

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

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The white clapboard former double-house, number 66 Pennsylvania Avenue fronts the northeast side of that street about halfway between Union Street and "The Forks" in Westminster.

The house probably originally consisted of mirror-image three bay houses; the only door remaining now on the principal facade is in the half closer to The Forks. This door is a six panel door simply enframed and topped by a very fine denticulated cornice. The other eleven bays on the principal facade consist of simply enframed double-hung sash windows with two-over-two panes surrounded by white wooden sills and black louvered shutters. A fine touch on this principal facade, one that the present owners added, is having the door surrounded by pyracantha, the deep green and bright orange of which contrast nicely with the black and white of the house.

The end facades of the building are blind, each having a corbel-capped interior end chimney rising at the respective gable's peak. The 1876 tax plat of the City indicates that the rear of the house was stepped, being deeper the closer one got to the end of the street. This original deep section is today gabled roofed, 2½ stories tall and probably altered. A narrow four light casement window lights the attic; there is a 6/6 and a 2/2 window below, and below that on the ground floor a shed roofed addition (now a kitchen) rests. On the side towards The Forks there is a two story shed roofed addition, which is used as a screened in porch on the ground floor and a variety of windows elsewhere. The site slopes down severely from Pennsylvania Avenue, resulting in a drop of about 6 feet from the main facade on the ground floor; this is made up for by having a simply railed deck crossing the entire rear of the house; the area below the deck is used for storage behind the lattice work. From the "ground floor", the deck looks on to a very attractively planted rear garden. In plan the houses originally contained two side-hall double-parlored units (with stairs running side by side in the center and rooms opening off of them in opposite directions). Much of this plan remains, although there have been some alterations, as one could deduce from the various shed roofed rear addition.

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 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                      c. 1870                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Number 66 Pennsylvania Avenue, like it neighbor number 64, is a fine example of how mid-19th century builders would conceive and construct row houses in the City. In some instances there are groups of three or more three story structures in the City which, in design, look beyond the area for inspiration, but here it is clear that the units were designed along traditional vernacular lines, but were built sharing a common wall. If the houses could today be split in half, each half would be identical to houses in the City that had been built up to 100 years earlier such as 226 East Main Street.

The history of the lot (number 16 of "B. S. Pigmans Addition") can be traced back to May 4, 1847 when one John Miller sold lots 16 and 17 to Jane Doyle for \$140 (Carroll County Deed Book 7, Page 98). Doyle probably had the units constructed as rental property, as they appear on the 1876 plat of the City, and the 1881 City Directory lists Samuel C. Bankard living at 66 Pennsylvania Avenue. Moreover, on May 20, 1885 he transferred the lot to his daughter to Rosanna Walsh, but retained "rental income therefrom" for his life (81/70). On October 31, 1898 Mrs. Walsh sold the lot, and presumably the building, to Josiah Bankert for \$1050; thus one assumes that the Doyle-Walsh family owned the house for perhaps 40 years, while the Bankert family had been multi-generational tenants. On April 2, 1918, Kathryn Lee Bankert sold the house to John H. Smelser for \$2200 (132/127) who sold three years later to Harry E. Nagle, Jr. (138/523). Nagle sold the house to William B. Yingling on May 7, 1925 (145/316) whose family lived there until the Carroll County Bank and Trust Company, as personal representative of his estate, sold land to the present owner for \$15,200 on October 8, 1970 (476/166).

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

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**

NAME / TITLE

Christopher Weeks, Consultant

August, 1977

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

54<sup>o</sup>/<sub>o</sub>



CARR-498

BANKERT HOUSE

66 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Westminster.

E-27

547

1



CARR-498