

MARTHA WORLEY HOUSE
121 EAST GREEN STREET

Number 121 East Green Street, probably built by one Martha Worley around 1890, is an interesting building in its own right, as well as being a fine, (possibly the finest) decorated example of a popular late 19th century style. It, like its close relative 32 Bond Street, gives the impression of being a rowhouse without a row. There is a group of buildings, numbers 62-68 West Main Street, that resembles these isolated structures, but here it is their isolation that makes them interesting. Beyond this almost biological grouping, number 121 East Green Street is interesting for the exceptionally fine wood decoration on its principal facade: the brackets which, at least give the appearance, of supporting the ground floor porch resemble lace, and the attention given to the plaques which decorate a sort of psuedo frieze in the entablature as well as the string course which creates the space for the frieze between the entablatures brackets. Both motifs are found elsewhere, but rarely done with such care or intricacy.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CARR-532
MAGI # 0705325604

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Martha Worley House

AND/OR COMMON _____

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 121 East Green Street

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	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 John F. D. Bowersox Telephone #: 848-3303

STREET & NUMBER 121 East Green 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 #: 390

STREET & NUMBER Center Street Folio #: 299

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Number 121 East Green Street, the Worley-Bowersox House, fronts the north side of that street, between Westminster Avenue and Lincoln Road in Westminster.

The house has definite links, in form and in decoration, with several other houses in the City, e.g., number 32 Bond Street, and numbers 62-68 West Main Street. Like these structures it is a 2 story deep, 3 bay, shed roofed brick pile, with the principal facade enlivened by a denticulated modillioned cornice supported by brackets which in turn have a wooden string course running through their bases, with the area between the cornice and string course acting as a sort of frieze decorated by carved panels. However, the decoration here at 121 is more elaborate and intricate than that found elsewhere; the cornice decoration is very fine, the plaques are crisp and slightly more involved in their dramatic carving, and the string course itself is decorated by a fine, almost invisible, row of dentil work. The east wall of the building is randomly pierced by 2/2 windows (this wall how others are common stretcher bond). The west wall supports a one story shed roofed cube-like addition, which is pierced by pairs of 6/6 windows (when this house was owned by a doctor perhaps this cubical addition as served as an office, as it has its own separate entrance door on its west facade). The rear of the building displays additions, notably a clapboard section on the ground floor with screened in shed roofed porch on the second floor.

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 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. 1890

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Martha Worley

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Number 121 East Green Street, probably built by one Martha Worley around 1890, is an interesting building in its own right, as well as being a fine, (possibly the finest) decorated example of a popular late 19th century style. It, like its close relative 32 Bond Street, gives the impression of being a rowhouse without a row. There is a group of buildings, numbers 62-68 West Main Street, that resembles these isolated structures, but here it is their isolation that makes them interesting. Beyond this almost biological grouping, number 121 East Green Street is interesting for the exceptionally fine wood decoration on its principal facade: the brackets which, at least give the appearance, of supporting the ground floor porch resemble lace, and the attention given to the plaques which decorate a sort of pseudo frieze in the entablature as well as the string course which creates the space for the frieze between the entablatures brackets. Both motifs are found elsewhere, but rarely done with such care or intricacy.

When this part of Green Street, known as "Fisher's Addition", was being laid out in the late 19th century, lots 16, 17, 18 and 19 were generally treated as a unit having been owned by Maria Wampler and Emily J. Rinehart nee Rippard. All four lots were sold to Joseph B. Boyle, for example, on June 8, 1886, for \$1700 (Carroll County Deed Book 64, Page 421) who then sold this single lot to Martha Worley for \$350 on May 23, 1888 (68/140). There was no house on the lot, none appears on the City plat or in the 1881 City Directory, so we can assume that Ms. Worley built the house we now see. The reasons are not quite clear, but on May 23, 1900 Michael Walsh and Robert Carr sold the house to Michael Yingling for \$1800 (91/192) who sold it nine years later to Amos Smelser for \$2300 (112/562). Smelser sold the place a year later to J. Wesley Biggs (113/559) who sold it on October 31, 1933 to Dr. William C. Stone for \$3800 (159/309). His son, William C. Stone, Jr. obtained power of attorney and sold the house to the present owner on June 10, 1965.

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 all of lot 16 of "John Fisher's Addition to Westminster"
as shown on a plat recorded among the land records of Carroll County in
Plat Book 1, Page 119.

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

October, 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 infringe-
ment of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

77%



CARR-592

MARTHA WORLEY HOUSE

121 E. GREEN ST.
WESTMINSTER

17/10

I-3





CARR-532