

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Reister's Desire; Reisterstown

AND/OR COMMON

Reisterstown Historic District

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

East and west sides of Routes 140 and 30 between Butler Road to the north and Woodley Avenue to the south; also north and south sides of East and West Chatsworth Avenue and Bond Avenue and Cockey's Mill Road.

CITY, TOWN

Reisterstown

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

COUNTY

Baltimore

CODE

005

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES, RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES, UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Multiple private and public owners

STREET & NUMBER

SEE ATTACHED LIST

CITY, TOWN

Reisterstown

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

21136

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

21204

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The physical development of Reisterstown has been inseparably identified with the roads. Two roads converge to form Main Street, one from the north, and the other from the northwest, the southern terminus being Baltimore, the economic center of the region from the late eighteenth century to the present day. Reisterstown developed largely along the roads, principally south of the intersections, and it has never been a town of both length and breadth with a network of streets. The occupations of many inhabitants have been related to the road, and the town's structures have been an integrated mixture of residential and commercial from the earliest times.

From the mid through the late nineteenth century houses were built along the Hanover Road (the road from the north) to Butler Road; to this day development stops abruptly at this intersection. If a similar early development existed above the intersection along the Westminster Road (the road from the northwest), twentieth century pressures have eliminated its early structures.

Immediately after the Civil War a church and school were established for the black citizens of the town. Located on Bond Avenue about a block off Main Street, a black community developed from the church (St. Luke's Methodist) to Main Street. Many of the oldest houses dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries are located along this stretch.

Chatsworth is a large early farmhouse on the very edge of the town (today on West Chatsworth Avenue); its owners through the years were intimately associated with the town, but its structures are rural, not urban; today it is very much a part of the town.

All Saints' Church, a structure of great architectural significance, was built in 1890 off Main Street along East Chatsworth Avenue. A row of excellent modest early twentieth century suburban houses has developed along the street to the church, where early development ends.

An abrupt end of early structures coincides with a sharp turn in the road to mark the southern boundary of the proposed historic district. South of this boundary are extensive modern shopping centers, but early structures stand on each lot on each side of Main Street north of this boundary.

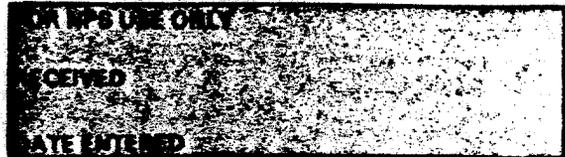
The Main Street is still a mixture of commercial and residential structures. In spite of the intense pressures of mid to late twentieth century use, Reisterstown retains an unusual number of early structures, including at least five and as many as thirteen structures dating from the late eighteenth century. Most surprising among the oldest survivors are the five to seven early log structures; log structures, once quite common, are now the rarest early material.

Reisterstown has never had dwellings of mansion proportion, scale, or sophistication. Relative wealth and sophistication are indicated with a middle class by the use of all available materials: Log, frame, stone, or brick. When in the earlier periods more expensive materials were used, such as brick, the principal facade was laid in Flemish bond. Interior detailing was good but typical. Close adherence to the various revivals of the nineteenth century is conspicuously absent in Reisterstown. Through the century

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

BA-2212

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



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Reisterstown
Baltimore County
Maryland

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(DESCRIPTION, continued)

the same basic traditional form was employed over and over, closely related to eighteenth century simplicity and related to its true period only in its smallest details and construction techniques. Only one structure, formerly a church, is clearly identified with the Greek revival, the entire building in a temple form and with a portico. One house clearly is of the Gothic revival. All Saints' Church is an outstanding example of the Romanesque revival, and several large houses are good examples of the Queen Anne style. In the early twentieth century, with the coming of an electric streetcar line, a twentieth century suburban importance joined the continuing eighteenth and nineteenth century commercial-residential importance, and several Colonial revival and bungalow houses joined their older neighbors.

Inevitably, regardless of size or period, the early Main Street house is closely oriented to the street, and its kitchen is a rear wing extending behind the north end of the house. This allows a long warm southerly exposure for the kitchen, an exposure inevitably sheltered by a porch filling out the 'L' formed by dwelling and kitchen. Until the advent of the modern gas and electric range, Maryland kitchens were usually in separately structured wings, an arrangement which allowed the separation made desirable by the kitchen's heat, smells, susceptibility of fire, and lower class distinction.

A number of houses in all periods prior to the twentieth century have, or originally had, but two rooms in the principal story, a parlor facing the street, and a kitchen in the rear wing. Most have an entrance hall containing an open stair to the upper story, a surprising luxury for so small a house.

Most of the early commercial structures were also the dwellings of their proprietors; architecturally they are not significantly different from other contemporary dwellings, but they often have a distinctive feature revealing their combined use: an extra street-front door; a commercial room without a fireplace as its original source of heat; or a first story front room with interior detailing significantly simpler than would be expected in a typical first story principal room. A number of early shops taken the form of a small, one-story shed wing attached to the dwelling, all apparently early additions.

Losses of early structures have been principally in the small central business district immediately below the convergence of the two roads, and most losses have been by fire, not by deliberate destruction. A large shopping mall immediately west of this intersection unfortunately is slated to remove a row of the earliest remaining structures in the central business district, but discussions are underway between the developers and the community's historic preservation organization to preserve one or two. If the entire row (they are disconnected structures) were preserved and appropriately renovated they would serve as a screen between the scale of the historic town and the gigantic scale of the mall and its parking lot, and they could become

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(DESCRIPTION, continued)

the choicest shops administered as part of the mall.

The principal intrusions today are all on Main Street, a relatively few inappropriate commercial structures, more signs and even more utility poles with the associated proliferation of complex overhead wire systems. The road (Main Street) is four lanes in width including a lane of parking on each side, and it carries a great deal of traffic, another intrusion but a mobile one. Relief will occur in the near future in the form of a new highway bypassing the town. It is hoped the street will be made a bit narrower and trees planted on both sides.

As a whole the town holds together extremely well. The scale and proportions of most buildings harmonizes with their fellows. There is a high level of visual continuity in the streetscapes, for there is very little which overpowers the architectural unity of the town. Reisterstown contains a good collection of buildings representative of the several styles popular throughout its history. Most are of either brick or frame construction. Below are descriptions of representative structures in the historic district:

1. 410 MAIN STREET, The Weist House-BA-167

Is among the oldest structures in Reisterstown, identified in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax Records as the eighteenth century dwelling of a very prosperous citizen. It retains much original detailing as well as good later detailing. The combination of brick and stone in the two sections is interesting, probably related to a desire for greater sophistication in the brick addition. The preservation of the extremely large fireplace is of significance as is the brick smokehouse, indicative of the many outbuildings once required to support rural and village life.

2. 67-69 MAIN STREET, Isaac Dickson House-BA-1278

#67 and #69 together comprise one of the earliest and one of the most sophisticated and visible historic structures in Reisterstown. 67 Main, the northerly section, corresponds to a log structure identified in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax. Structures this old are rare, rarer still are log structures. 69 Main is of a traditional form but its great depth, matched brick facade, its great number of large windows, and its entrance feature with carved consoles marks it as a structure of substance and sophistication. With a large parking lot for the commercial structure to the south, 67-69 Main has become one of the most visible of Reisterstown's historic structures.

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(DESCRIPTION, continued)

3. 301-303 MAIN STREET, John Lanfus House-BA-894

A large and important early Reisterstown structure, dating from the late eighteenth century and identified in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax Records. It is thus one of the oldest structures in Reisterstown, the largest in that early group. Its size and subtle peculiarities of design indicate its original use as a double dwelling. Its interior dates from a massive remodeling about 1920.

4. 340 MAIN STREET, BA-1234

One of the earliest houses in Reisterstown. Its design and absence in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax Records indicate a construction date soon after 1798. Its large size indicates a degree of prosperity and its exterior form and detail are little changed. It was built as a combined house and business.

5. 202 MAIN STREET, John Beckley House-BA-164

Originally dating from the late eighteenth century, 202 Main Street is one of the oldest structures in Reisterstown and also one of the most visible, being very close to the street where it makes a sharp double turn around this structure. Remaining portions of original work indicate substance and sophistication. The original shed form of the west (kitchen) wing is typical of the traditional contemporary detailing. Its separate entrance indicates a separate function. The small south wing probably housed an early trade shop related to the larger adjacent structure (Beckley was the town's first blacksmith and ran his business here, where he also lived.)

6. 234 MAIN STREET BA-166

A two-story log house originally dating from the late eighteenth century or very early in the nineteenth century, and one of the oldest structures in Reisterstown. The south addition, also of log, dates from the very early nineteenth century as do most of the interior finish and details.

7. 14 MAIN STREET, Philip Reister House-BA-1270

One of the oldest half dozen houses in Reisterstown, dating from the late eighteenth century or very early in the nineteenth. #14 is a small, but distinguished brick house with its principal facade laid in Flemish bond and with tooled jack arched above its window.

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(DESCRIPTION, continued)

8. 143 MAIN STREET, John Gies, Sr. House-BA-163

Among the half dozen oldest structures standing in Reisterstown. Its log construction--once the most common form of construction--is extremely rare; rarer still is its two-story log form. With its rear lean-to and low story heights, this is the most picturesque house of Reisterstown's ancient structures. Built in at least three basic sections, #143 illustrates perfectly and clearly the growth of a basic structure as needs demanded and as finances allowed; all additions were of traditional materials, respecting and being limited by the nature and size of the original section.

9. 237-239 MAIN STREET, Thomas Store-BA-1257

A very typical large combined house and business of the early nineteenth century, with most of its original features and detailing in place, all reflecting a specific way of life. It illustrates the earlier tradition of combining a business with the proprietor's residence. The attached later shop wing is typical of many in Reisterstown.

10. 218 MAIN STREET, John Sumwalt House-BA-1228

One of the earlier houses in Reisterstown, substantially constructed of brick, its street facade laid in Flemish bond indicating a degree of sophistication. Several late nineteenth century touches indicate a moderate attempt to update the style of the earlier house. The attached shop wing (now a separate parcel) relates to many other Reisterstown houses with attached shop wings. (This structure is on the site of the original Reister-Sumwalt Tavern and may incorporate some of that earlier structure.)

11. 317 MAIN STREET, BA-1253

Incorporates one of the five to seven remaining log houses in Reisterstown. Once most common, log construction is now the rarest form of early construction. Veneering log houses with brick was common in nineteenth century western Maryland. The later, mid-nineteenth century additions retain some original detailings.

12. 238 MAIN STREET, BA-165

An early nineteenth century brick house with an early addition bringing it to its present moderate size. The extremely small size of the oldest section and the absence of a front doorway therein, suggests that it was an addition to an even earlier house which was replaced by the present hall and north room. The use of Flemish bond on its street facade indicates a degree of sophistication. The early brick smokehouse is indicative of the many outbuildings once required to support rural village life.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #5.

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(DESCRIPTION, continued)

13. 121-123 MAIN STREET, BA-1260

A traditional house, its smallest details and its three-story form with very small third story windows being typical of the mid-nineteenth century, relating this structure with 115-117 MAIN STREET to the north and 6 HANOVER ROAD.

14. 230 MAIN STREET, Grace Methodist Church Parsonage, BA-1229

The only Gothic-revival house in Reisterstown, a style rarely found in domestic structures. Built as a parsonage.

15. 19 HANOVER ROAD, Reister Russell House, BA-1106

A large house of basic, traditional form with touches of picturesque mid-to-late nineteenth century ornamentation. Externally, it appears to be in nearly unaltered condition. Members of the Russell family have always lived here.

16. 405 MAIN STREET, BA-1248

A large traditional house, its front gable and single-flue chimneys indicating its date in the second half of the nineteenth century. Externally it appears to be little altered.

17. 208 MAIN STREET, Stumpf House, BA-1226

A traditional dwelling circa 1870-1885 of moderate size, its front gable being a touch identifying it with the Gothic revival.

18. 322 MAIN STREET, BA-1233

A small mid-nineteenth century house, having but a single parlor in the front, together with an entrance and stair hall, and a single room, the kitchen, in the rear wing. This form is characteristic of Reisterstown, this example being rendered substantially in brick. Remarkably, the brick has never been painted.

19. 357 MAIN STREET, Godwin House, BA-1250

A large and important house in the Queen Anne style, especially important because it contains an original and reliable date signature in its west dormer, "1896". Thus this house serves as a guide in the dating of other houses in the region.

In the Queen Anne style the picturesque forms of the Gothic and Romanesque revivals are mixed with late eighteenth century motifs of the Colonial and Georgian revivals. SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #6.

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(DESCRIPTION, continued)

This important house has been adapted as a real estate office; it is an outstanding example of adaptive use and no important features of the original house have been sacrificed.

Behind the dwelling is a frame privy, the sole remainder of many small outbuildings once required to support rural and village life; this example is particularly decorative, an important part of the original landscape design.

20. 10 MAIN STREET, Selby's Funeral Establishment, BA-1269

A typical example of a house type popular in the early twentieth century Colonial revival, square with a pyramidal roof. It has long been the funeral home with residence above of a family undertaking business serving the immediate community. Its older back building was a stable, granary and hay barrack, carriage house, a storage area for the hearse, and a display area for caskets.

21. 56 MAIN STREET, Odd Fellow's Hall, BA-1273

The most important surviving civic building in Reisterstown. The many functions which it has served throughout its history represent to a great extent the fabric of a community's daily activities: church, lodge, fire station, polling place, and school. Now it is a shop. This mid-nineteenth century structure has had widespread community importance. Orienting the gable end to the street was a design device to recall the Greek revival without associated expensive detailing.

22. 319 MAIN STREET, Grace Methodist Church-South, BA-1252

This is the only Greek revival temple-form structure in Reisterstown. This was a popular form for churches, and this example may be an adaptation of the Stone Chapel Methodist a few miles south in Owings Mills.

23. 246 MAIN STREET, Reisterstown Methodist Church/Asbury Chapel, BA-1230

The Methodist Church dating from 1868-1870 is a two-story painted brick structure recalling the Romanesque style of northern Italy, in the nineteenth century often called the Norman style. Following Methodist tradition, the Sanctuary is in the second story with Sunday School rooms (and originally contemporary structure designed by Charles Edwin Zimmermann, architect, Towson, 1973-74).

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #7.

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(DESCRIPTION, continued)

24. ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, BA-1262

This structure, designed by Longfellow, Alden, and Harlow, architects, Boston, and built in 1890, is one of Maryland's outstanding structures of the Romanesque revival, a style chiefly developed in the previous decade by Henry Hobson Richardson, also of Boston. This example is in perfect condition with almost no change. Its windows and interior furnishings are outstanding. The separate round Bell Tower is distinctive, as is the shingle style rectory.

25. ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, BA-1255

The only black church in Reisterstown, St. Luke's was built in 1880 in the Gothic revival style, the most popular ecclesiastical style of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The very simple small structure immediately south may be the original church built immediately after the Civil War. The very simple Community Building west of the church was built in 1898.

26. TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, BA-1261

One of the principal churches of the community, the denomination reflecting the Germanic background of its earliest inhabitants. This structure is characteristic of American Gothic revival late in the nineteenth century and early in the twentieth. Its forms and motifs are based on medieval European examples, but original in composition not an exact copy of a specific period in the medieval era, nor of an exact region.

27. FRANKLIN ACADEMY, Cockeys Mill Road, BA-54

The only early Reisterstown structure associated with education. It was a substantial and moderately sophisticated structure when first built in the early nineteenth century and it received an extensive addition later in the nineteenth century and one of distinguished contemporary design in the twentieth. Now in an adaptive reuse, it is still serving the community as a library, a function not incompatible with its original.

28. MILE POST at 337 MAIN STREET, BA-1333

These sandstone mileposts along the Reisterstown Turnpike are typical of mileposts on nineteenth century turnpikes, each marking the miles to the terminus at either end of the turnpike. The one at 337 MAIN STREET retains traces of the letter B, undoubtedly once part of an indication of miles to Baltimore. They serve as reminders of the tremendous symbiotic relationship which has always existed between Reisterstown and the road.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #8.

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(DESCRIPTION, continued)

Historic Structures in
REISTERSTOWN

arranged by date and by street

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| before 1800 | 56 Main Street | 456 Main Street |
| | 69 Main Street | 458 Main Street |
| 26 Main Street | 111-113 Main Street | 10 Hanover Road |
| 67 Main Street | 115-117 Main Street | 16 Hanover Road |
| 202 Main Street | 121-123 Main Street | 18 Hanover Road |
| 249 Main Street | 127 Main Street | 19 Hanover Road |
| 301-303 Main Street | 317 Main Street | 26-28 Hanover Road |
| 410 Main Street | 322 Main Street | 31 Hanover Road |
| | 350 Main Street | 47 Hanover Road |
| | 365 Main Street | 51 Hanover Road |
| 1800-1820 | 406 Main Street | 55 Hanover Road |
| | 408 Main Street | 119 Hanover Road |
| 14 Main Street | 408 Main Street | |
| 143 Main Street | 6 Hanover Road | 1880-1900 |
| 147 Main Street | 116 Hanover Road | |
| 218 Main Street | | All Saints' Cemetery |
| 234 Main Street | 1860-1880 | Caretaker's House |
| 317 Main Street | Franklin Academy | All Saints' Church |
| 1 Hanover Road | Methodist Church | St. Luke's Church |
| | 35 Main Street | St. Luke's Comm. Bldg. |
| 1820-1840 | 147 Main Street | 4 Main Street |
| Chatsworth | 208 Main Street | 30 Main Street |
| Franklin Academy | 214 Main Street | 44 Main Street |
| Milepost at 337 Main St. | 230 Main Street | 47 Main Street |
| Milepost at 116 Hanover Rd. | 308 Main Street | 59-61 Main Street |
| 202 Main Street | 309-311 Main Street | 209 Main Street |
| 225-227 Main Street | 313-315 Main Street | 211 Main Street |
| 237-239 Main Street | 319 Main Street | 213 Main Street |
| 238 Main Street | 356 Main Street | 220 Main Street |
| 309-311 Main Street | 360-362 Main Street | 226 Main Street |
| 316 Main Street | 400 Main Street | 241-243 Main Street |
| 356 Main Street | 405 Main Street | 325 Main Street |
| | 424 Main Street | 337 Main Street |
| 1840-1860 | 426 Main Street | 346 Main Street |
| | 430 Main Street | 357 Main Street |
| St. Luke's old bldg. | 434 Main Street | 438 Main Street |
| 31-33 Main Street | 455 Main Street | 444 Main Street |
| | | 448 Main Street |

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #9.

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(DESCRIPTION, continued)

452 Main Street	38 E. Chatsworth Ave.	1940-
457 Main Street	40 E. Chatsworth Ave.	
461 Main Street	44 E. Chatsworth Ave.	Methodist Church (new)
465 Main Street	206 E. Chatsworth Ave.	Reisterstown Library
500 Main Street	208 E. Chatsworth Ave.	
2 Hanover Road	31 Bond Ave.	Date Assignment Not Applicable
22 Hanover Road	52 Bond Ave.	
23 Hanover Road		
33 Hanover Road	1920-1940	All Saints' Cemetery
43 Hanover Road		Lutheran Cemetery
63 Hanover Road	Franklin School	
65 Hanover Road	Magistrate's Office	
67 Hanover Road	51 Main Street	
81 Hanover Road	64 Main Street	
20 Bond Avenue	85 Main Street	
24 Bond Avenue	135 Main Street	
53 Bond Avenue	201 Main Street	
55½ Bond Avenue	221-223 Main Street	
	222 Main Street	
1900-1920	413 Main Street	
	415 Main Street	
All Saints' Rectory	59 Hanover Road	
Lutheran Church	73 Hanover Road	
2 Main Street	80 Hanover Road	
10 Main Street	82 Hanover Road	
37-39 Main Street	84 Hanover Road	
50 Main Street	111 Hanover Road	
60 Main Street	115 Hanover Road	
112 Main Street	117 Hanover Road	
324 Main Street	18 E. Chatsworth Ave.	
412 Main Street	22 E. Chatsworth Ave.	
1 Hanover Road	23-25 E. Chatsworth Ave.	
27 Hanover Road	24 E. Chatsworth Ave.	
36 Hanover Road	27 E. Chatsworth Ave.	
40 Hanover Road	29 E. Chatsworth Ave.	
52 Hanover Road	31 E. Chatsworth Ave.	
56 Hanover Road	33 E. Chatsworth Ave.	
109 Hanover Road	201 E. Chatsworth Ave.	
110 Hanover Road	210 E. Chatsworth Ave.	
112 Hanover Road	33 Bond Ave.	
17 E. Chatsworth Ave.	41 Bond Ave.	
19 E. Chatsworth Ave.	42 Bond Ave.	
371 Hanover Road	43 Bond Ave.	

NOTE: Further research may indicate minor revisions in this list, particularly among the earliest two periods and Category II structures not examined internally.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

BA-2212

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PRE-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Local History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES **1758**

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Reisterstown was founded in 1758 and initially flourished because of its unique geographical location--one day's journey by horse drawn vehicle from Baltimore City--a convenient shopping place for weary travelers from the outer reaches of western Maryland or Pennsylvania. Soon it became a commercial center for the surrounding farmlands and mills. From Hanover and Frederick County, settlers, mostly of German origin, migrated down this road to the expanding Baltimore Town.

John Reister, when he founded the town, envisioned a stopping place for these travelers which would accommodate all of their needs. Reisterstown soon began to meet these needs exceedingly well. The first known businesses catered to the traveler: taverns and inns, smithshops, saddleries, stables, waggoners. Many of the buildings which housed these various enterprises are still standing today. The town grew as traffic on the Great Road or Conewago Road increased. It was even considered in the nineteenth century as a site for the county seat.

As the means of transportation changed from horse to train to automobile, local businesses also changed in nature, but not in site. Many present day merchants are housed in buildings that date as commercial structures back to horse and buggy days. An excellent example of this is the Reisterstown Hardware and Supply Company, which was known a hundred years ago as Flory and Stocksdales Carriage Works, makers and purveyors of fine carriages and wagons, as well as leaders in the supplying of grain and feed for horses and farm animals. The building remains basically unchanged. In another example, the home of the Eline Funeral Home was until 1977 a building which has been rebuilt and remodeled several times over 100 years and has been in continuous operation the whole time. The original undertaker was also a carpenter and cabinet maker, with his lumber yard to the rear and side of the house (where he also lived). The lumber yards have disappeared, but the house remained in the hands of the fourth generation until recently.

Many of Reisterstown's existing buildings were built to serve a dual purpose: as both home and business for the proprietors. An outstanding example in the center of the town's business district (north part of town) was known over 100 years ago as Fisher's Inn or Tavern. Various commercial enterprises have continued on the first floor of this building, and today the second floor has been remodeled into apartments, an extension of the original residential use of this part of the building.

Another fine example of the dual use is #237-239 Main Street, built circa 1830-1845 (shop wing added later), which originally housed the James Thomas Dry Goods store and a succession of similar retail stores up to the present. The proprietors lived next to it. Yet another example, built by John Reister's son-in-law, John Beckley, still stands at the corner of Cockeys Mill Road and the Reisterstown Road (#202 Main). The Beckleys lived and conducted a blacksmithing shop and wagon building/repair shop at this location in the 1780's.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET # 10.

BA-2212

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

Subsequent owners continued the smithing operations until the 1850's. #143 Main Street served as a shoemakers shop from the 1860's until the 1960's.

Reisterstown is a town that has, in physical appearance and atmosphere, retained the quiet quaintness and stalwart dignity of a bygone era on its Main Street. Entering this area today, the historic aura is apparent. Through the centuries, the same basic traditional architectural form was used over and over--closely related to eighteenth century simplicity. A surprising number of log dwelling houses remain under tastefully updated facades which kept up with changing taste and the changing needs of the towns people. Modernization of older buildings and the erection of new ones has been done for the most part with an awareness for maintaining the historic ambiance. Modern intrusions are surprisingly few. (For further details about the architectural integrity of the town, see #7, Description.)

Within Baltimore County, Reisterstown is unique in that it remains relatively untouched by the vast suburban sprawl which has crowded in on all sides and which has completely obliterated other towns along major arteries such as the York Road and Liberty Road. Reisterstown's symbiotic relationship with the turnpike has allowed it to flourish and stand firm.

The town has always been aware of its heritage and the need to preserve it. A Reisterstown Room in the local Baltimore County public library was opened in 1973 through the efforts of Mrs. Louise Bland Goodwin. It houses memorabilia of the town. The Optimist Club has had as a project in past years, the publication of a booklet which gives a tour of the historic sites along the streets of the town. The work is compiled and written by Mrs. Ronald Pollack.

In 1977, in an effort to help the town withstand the accelerated pressure of change, Historic Reisterstown, Inc. was formed to gain National Register status for the turnpike town. It is hoped that the convenience of the twentieth century can continue to be unobtrusively superimposed on the historic heritage of 220 years, which is embodied in the roots of the old families and the miraculous survival of so many historic buildings.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #11.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 125 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME _____			QUADRANGLE SCALE _____				
UTM REFERENCES							
A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	D	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
E	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	F	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
G	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	H	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The historic district extends north and south along Maryland Routes 140 and 30 between Butler Road to the north and Woodley Avenue to the south--a distance of 1 1/2 miles. Four arms of the district extend east and west: West Chatsworth Avenue to "Chatsworth".

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #11	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY		CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE	James T. Wollon, Architect; Cornelia Ives, Secretary; Carol Pollack, Vice President
ORGANIZATION	-----; Historic Reisterstown, Inc.
STREET & NUMBER	600 Craigs Corner Road/ 430 Main Street
CITY OR TOWN	Havre de Grace/Reisterstown
DATE	August 1978
TELEPHONE	(301) 833-3078 (Ms. Ives)
STATE	Maryland 21078; 21136

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER DATE _____

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE _____
ATTEST: CHIEF OF REGISTRATION	DATE _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



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#10, VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, continued

East Chatsworth to All Saints' Church; Bond Avenue to All Saints' Cemetery; Cockeys Mill Road to the Franklin Academy. For the most part the boundary follows the back lines of the lots along these streets; for digressions, please refer to the sketch map.

