

James Williams House (Dockside Restaurant)  
22 Market Space (Baer's Clothing Store)  
Annapolis  
Anne Arundel County  
Maryland

HABS No. MD-279

HABS  
MD,  
2-ANNA,  
66-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240



1772

(May 28) Maryland Gazette, James Williams settles estate of James Reith.

1772 (Sept. 24) Maryland Gazette, James Williams says Alexander Cummings has no titles to lot of late James Reith.

(S. J. Rose, 1963)

The following abstracts from official records cited indicate later history of this property.

- 1782 (August 22) Chancery Court of Maryland #12372, Maryland Land Office, Annapolis Report of Lewis Neth Trustee for the sale of the real estate of the late James Williams. "June 20, 1821 sold to Walter Cross the lot adjoining the above last mentioned house." (Meaning 24 Market Space)
- 1826 (March 21) A.A. Co. Circuit Court, Equity #5917 (1833), Indenture (Mortgage), Walter Cross of Carlisle, Pa. and Lewis Neth lot (22 Market Space). Refers to deed of equal date.
- 1833 (Nov. 18) A.A. Co. Circuit Court, Equity #6071 Alexander, Trustee, vs. Cross and Neth.
- 1876 (May 20) A.A. Co. Deeds SH10 folio 438, Jeffers to Hyde for \$1350 House mentioned.
- 1887 (Feb. 1) A.A. Co. Deeds SH folio 156, Ireland trustee, to Joyce. Previous owner had defaulted mortgage.
- 1888 (Jan. 16) A.A. Co. Land Records SH32 folio 66, Joyce and wife to Mary E. Thompson.
- 1890 (April 26) A.A. Co. Circuit Court, Equity #1892, Mary E. Thompson to Ella Burtis.
- 1916 (July 13) A.A. Co. Land Records GW128 folio 384, James M. Monroe, trustee, to Burtis and wife. See also Burtis to Monroe GW128 folio 385.
- 1951 (Aug. 1) A.A. Co. Land Records JHH636 folio 555, Burtis etc. to William Powell. 33.2' frontage.

2. Date of erection: circa 1830.
3. Architect: No record.
4. Builder, suppliers, etc.: No record.
5. Original plans, construction, etc.: No record.

6. Alterations and additions: The building was converted into a store after 1918 by the Burtis family.
  7. Important old views: Forbes collection #830 (Hall of Records). View looking northeast across Market Space. Copies of Sasch Print of Annapolis 1859. Powell family has early photographs of the building.
- B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure: There is no special history for this building. It was selected for recording because of its typical architecture as a small brick town house in the Federal style.
- C. Sources of Information:
1. Primary and unpublished: A.A. Co. Deeds cited, and Maryland Gazette accounts included above. Indices of community records by Historical Annapolis, Inc., at Hall of Records and Vol. VIII, Blue Research Notebooks of Historic Annapolis, Inc., in Hall of Records are most complete sources.
  2. Secondary and published sources: Possible accounts of earliest owners, citing debts owed or paid to their builders may yet be found.

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 August 1964

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 June 1, 1984

## PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

- A. General Statement:
1. Architectural character: An early nineteenth century house on the waterfront, of interesting architectural character, representative of its period, now altered into a store and apartments.
  2. Condition of fabric: Fairly good.
- B. Description of Exterior:
1. Overall dimensions: About 20' (front) x 24'

2. Wall Construction: Brick, light red color, stretcher bond. Stone lintels over window and a semicircular brick arch over the entrance doorway. Gables are stuccoed now.
  3. Framing: Brick bearing walls, good frame partitions, floors and roof.
  4. Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc.: Two marble steps, with nosing, before the entrance, with ornamental wrought and cast iron railings. There is a railing on each side, terminated by an iron post above a stone base. In the center is an ornamental wrought iron lyre motif, below which is a panel with a small central circle in a horizontal lozenge, whose ends terminate in small scrolls. At each side of the lyre is a vertical panel with a baluster-like motif. At the top is a horizontal panel--a circle at the center and a recumbent lyre at each side. Each post stands diagonally on its base; a central square bar has four others grouped around it. The outer ones flare at the bottom and terminate in a large fret; at the top they are scrolled. Three circular bands unite the pieces. The top rail circles the post, above which are scrolls on four side, and a silver-plated brass finial.
  5. Chimneys: There is one large brick chimney on the northeast gable, stuccoed; it unites the flues of two chimneys below.
  6. Openings:
    - a. Doorways and doors: The entrance occupies the left bay; it has a leaded glazed semi-circular transom, six panes radiating from a semi-circular one. There is a narrow molded wood casing, paneled at the jambs and intrados of the arch. The door is a late nineteenth century or twentieth century replacement.
    - b. Windows and shutters: Molded wood casings are set into the brick opening. Sash are double hung, six-over-six lights. A store window has replaced the first-story window openings. There is a single window in each gable at the attic level.
- C. Description of Interior:
1. First plans:
    - a. First floor: A store installed since c. 1920 now takes up the first story except for a side hall behind the entrance, and leaves little indication of the original plan.

- b. Second floor: The original layout is clear - two rooms (front and rear), a side stair hall and a hall chamber. It may indicate that the first floor was originally similar. The present plan layout now includes rooms added at the rear.
  - c. Attic: The attic appears to have been finished as a single room, originally.
2. Stairways: A dog-leg stair extends at the rear of the hall from the first floor to the attic. It has an open string, round mahogany handrail, thin rectangular balusters, and a newel in the form of a colonnette. A storage partition on the first floor now encloses the lower portion. There are 17 risers from first to second floor, 16 to the attic.
  3. Flooring: Floors are all covered with modern oak boards.
  4. Wall and ceiling finish: Walls and ceilings are plastered. There is a simple circular centerpiece in the hall ceiling a short distance inside the entrance.
  5. Doorways and doors: On the second floor are four original openings, with doors of six moulded panels with slightly raised fields. The trim is of the pilastered type, with corner blocks, resting on a plinth. There is an original closet door on the attic level.
  6. Decorative features and trim: Original wood bases have a simple moulding at the top, rather sharp in profile. Mouldings in general tend to follow Greek profiles.
  7. Heating: On the second story are two fireplaces, now closed up. They have wood mantelpieces of identical design--tapered pilasters, paneled frieze, cove moulding and moulded mantel shelf. The chimneys project on the interior.
- D. Site:
1. General setting and orientation: The building faces southeast on a business street at the waterfront, adjoined by commercial buildings at each side.

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