

**MILESTONES IN THE
HISTORY
OF
REISTERSTOWN, MARYLAND
1758-1965**

Originally written by
(Mrs.) Louise Bland Goodwin
Vice Principal
Franklin Elementary School
1930-1959
605 Main Street
Reisterstown, Maryland
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“MILESTONES”

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INTRODUCTION

Reisterstown is one of the oldest towns still left in Baltimore County. Many old towns of the county are no longer in existence because of the new roads that have been cut through the town, because of lack of industries that once existed in certain towns whereby many people lived in the town and worked there and since these have closed down, much of the population has decreased and moved elsewhere. Some villages have been covered over by dams to supply city water. So far, none of the above has happened here, yet we have one big problem to cope with and that is the great amount of traffic using our main highway with very little parking facilities.

Our town is high above sea level, we are a healthy town and we have a beautiful countryside. All these years there has been little or no manufacturing in the town. While we are commercial, yet much of our town remains residential.

We hold to our old traditions. We want a clean town, we want to patronize our stores, we are friendly to strangers and make them welcome. We are proud of the history of our town and we rejoice with our neighbors and friends when they are successful. From the very beginning of our town, we have been great believers in education and religion.

Today we are on the threshold of a new era when new homeowners are moving in the developments around the town, but we still hope to preserve and keep these worthwhile traditions and landmarks of our town.

To save anything of value it takes first interested people – people willing to work for it and people with determination and leadership. The people of the town have proved this before and we feel certain there will be some means whereby we will be able to keep Reisterstown on the map as the town we have all known and loved.

The purpose of these “milestones” is to acquaint the younger generations with some of the events of this town which we feel are worth remembering.

THE FIRST “MILESTONE” – 1758 – 1776

Around these “milestones” we are going to weave the events of Reisterstown, which will show how from a wilderness we have become one of the oldest towns in Baltimore County.

Soon after the settlement of Maryland in 1634 we see the establishment of Baltimore County around 1659.

Evidently Baltimore County realized quite early that a road was needed leading from Baltimore City to the western lands, because in 1736-37 the Conewago Road was cut through from Baltimore City to Hanover, Pa. by an order of the Court of Baltimore County. Of course this was a dirt road and doubtless followed some of the Indian trails. However, it proves to us that when John Reister in 1758 came to settle in what is now Reisterstown that he found a road passing through with many crossroads; among them, the trail leading from the Patapsco to Chestnut Ridge. Most likely these roads had a great influence in Mr. Reister selecting this site.

John Reister 1st, originally came from Germany, located in Frederick County and in 1758, which was before the Revolution, settled in the place that now bears his name. He took up and patented all the land on both sides of the turnpike, south of what is now Cockeysmill Road, which amounted to about twenty acres. His first home was a log home and a tavern built on what we know today as the Bransfield place or it could have been on the Hess property. At first the town was called Reister’s Desire, John Reister’s town – Reisterstown, Reisterville and finally Reisterstown. When Mr. Reister settled here there were only two families of Indians remaining. One of those lived at Bank’s Spring which is near the Franklin Jr. High School grounds.

John Reister 1st, had six children. They all married and settled in Reisterstown except one daughter who married and moved to Pennsylvania. It is from the Reisters that many of the old families of our town claim relationship, such as the Russells, the Beckleys, the Berrymans, the Yinglings and the Owings families. His two sons were John and Philip. The four daughters were Betsie or Elizabeth who married Henry Weist, Catherine married first John Smith and second a Mr. Mayberry. Mollie married John Beckley, the first blacksmith of the town and Peggy married Mr. Trine and moved to Pennsylvania.

John Reister was a man of sterling qualities, a good leader and one well qualified to found a town. Certainly this town is a memorial to his efforts and hard work.

Duncan Coleman and his wife were the first to take up land in Reisterstown long before the Revolutionary War. The Colemans owned land on the east side of the pike from Hobbs' Hotel north. They never lived here – just bought the land for speculation and later sold it to Messrs Bowers, Morgan and Swope.

Now the land on the west side of the pike beginning at Cockeysmill Road, running north to the Westminster Pike was taken by a Mr. Crawford who never lived here and he sold his land to Bowers and Morgan and others.

Daniel Bowers or Bauer, known as Col. Bowers, emigrated to Maryland from Germany. This is the man who got the above mentioned land which was patented in 1769. He did live here and married a Miss Croll of York, Pa. Part of this land was a tract known later as the Andrew Banks estate. He built a home and a very famous tavern across from Schaeffer's on what is now the Franklin Jr. High School grounds. This tavern had thirty-six rooms, each one named for some city or some place. It seems as if Col Bowers sometimes had financial difficulties and when the collectors came his servant would report, "Col. Bowers is in Boston". Of course this meant he was in the Boston room of his tavern. At any rate the little scheme worked and he didn't have to see him. George Washington spent the night here when he was on his way to Fort Pitt. Col. Bowers ask him to give the village a name. He said, "call it Washington". As we know, this did not last because the entire town has been known as Reisterstown, named for the Reister family. It is said this is the only town in the United States by this name.

Col. Bowers had five daughters. Margaret died single. Kitty married Andrew Banks. Betsy married William Berryman and after her death he married his housekeeper, a Miss Clark. Polly married James Perego. Fannie wedded Peoli Holliday.

Col. Bowers (also spelled Bauer) was the son of the Burgomaster of Strasburg, Germany, who was forced to England by the Catholic persecutions of the Huguenots. Sir John Bauer (Daniel's father) was also the military governor of Strasburg during these persecutions.

The first church of our town was a log church built in the north east corner of Church Hill, which is now the community (Lutheran) cemetery. Mr. Reister 1st gave the land for a church and cemetery. While it is thought that it was first built for the Lutherans, yet all denominations worshiped here and people of all faiths are buried in the cemetery. Here we find graves of Col. And Mrs. Bowers, Andrew Banks, Betsy Berryman, the Medairys and the Reisters family.

The first people to come to Reisterstown where the German Lutherans and soon afterwards many Methodist families settled here.

The oldest house left standing is 410 Main Street. It is a brick house covered over by stucco and was built in 1773 by Jacob Bren. There was a large brick yard and tannery back of it. At one time the Henry Weist family lived here. Mr. Weist was a son-in-law of Mr. John Reister, 1st. Later it was known as the Berryman house until it was sold in the 1940's.

In 1779 Reister built for his daughter and her husband, John Beckley, the large brick house known today as Schaeffer's Ice Cream Parlor. Beckley had a blacksmith shop on this property. This home is still owned by a Beckley descendant. (1966) He was the first blacksmith in our town.

At first Reisterstown was no more than a frontier village, but soon grew into a town full of color and life. Most of the activity centered around the Bower Inn, Yellow tavern and the other taverns. We know the taverns not only accommodated visitors but they were the gathering places for the inhabitants to get the news. Cock fighting and horse racing were popular with the people in these days.

From the Maryland Journal and Baltimore Advertiser, Tuesday, October 6, 1778 on page 2 the following advertisement is stated:

“Reister's Town Races”

“Baltimore County September 29, 1778. To be run on the 29th day of October, a purse of One Hundred Dollars, free for any horse, mare, or gelding carrying weight for age, the best of three half-mile and half-quarter heats.”

“On the 30th there will be run for a Purse of Sixty Dollars, free as foresaid, the same distance, the winning horse the preceding day only excepted.”

Peter Hahn

With the coming of the Revolutionary War, Jacob Medairy, Daniel Bower, John Reister and many other early settlers in Reister's Town, took the Oath of Fidelity, denying allegiance to the King of Great Britain and promising to be true and faithful to the State of Maryland and to do the utmost in their power to support and defend the freedom and independence of the Government.

During the Revolution these contributed to the cause – Peter Hahn served as recruiting officer in Baltimore County and Jacob Medairy supplied large quantities of shoes to the Maryland Council of Safety for use of the troops. His brother, John Medairy, was Reisterstown's first show maker.

While Col. Bowers had the title of Colonel he was not in any actual battles.

Occupations of some of the early settlers were:

John Reister ran a tavern and his son distilled liquors.

John Beckley who married Mollie Reister was the first blacksmith.

John Medairy (brother of Jacob) was the first shoemaker.

Daniel Forney a hatter by trade and ran Forney Tavern.

Henry Weist married Betsie Reister and had a tannery.

Andrew Banks kept a shop.

John Mackelfresh married Margaret Medairy and kept a shop.

Jacob Medairy was a tavern keeper and ran Yellow Tavern.

His parents were the first Jacob Medairy and Catherine Bauer or Bower, a sister to Colonel Daniel Bower.

After Benedict Swope acquired some of the land in the northern end of town he laid out lots on both sides of the road, giving the town the name of Germantown. We know this name like Washington did not last and soon the town was known as Reister's Town.

Thus we see how our town grew from a wilderness into what is one of the oldest towns in Baltimore County.

THE SECOND “MILESTONE” – 1776 – 1865

Reisterstown from what we can find, had no part in the Revolutionary War in the way of soldiers. Col. Bower is listed as a Colonel in the war but we cannot find where he was present in any battle.

It has been said (supposition) that Benjamin Franklin visited the village sometime during the Revolution to get wagons and supplied to help in the war. Many think Franklin Academy was named for him because of this visit.

Around this period many things were taking place in our town. Methodist had organized under Bishop Asbury in 1777 and they had built a log church in 1791, called “Asbury Chapel”, in what we know today as the Reisterstown Cemetery. The second church was built in 1830 on a site closer to the main road. In 1868 the third and present church was built which we know today as Reisterstown Methodist Church, since the Grace M.E. Church South and Asbury M.E. combined as one church in 1941. John Sunwalt, who married the granddaughter of John Reister, 1st, was a firm and useful pillar in the Methodist Church. He gave the parsonage, located today at 406 Main Street. So we see that Methodism had its beginning here when houses were made of logs, houses were lighted by candles and oil lamps, and the horse, the carriage and the wagon were the chief means of transportation over the unpaved roads.

An event which took place in Reisterstown on March 4, 1787 was the meeting of the Electors of Baltimore County. Scharf’s history of Baltimore City and Baltimore County gives the following account:

“Electors met here for the purpose of consulting together in a public manner and forming such instructions to our representatives as may most probably tend to alleviate their distress at the critical juncture, and at the same time evince their attachment to our excellent constitution.” We recall the Convention to prepare the Constitution was meeting in Philadelphia in 1787. This shows Baltimore County was doing her part and Reisterstown should be proud that the Electors met here and voiced their opinions on this great undertaking.

One of the oldest landmarks, the pack horse road known as the Conewago Road was to see a change. In 1793 Maryland ordered this road stoned and widened for the use of wagons. The first work done on it was with convicts using wheel barrows and then it was called Wheelbarrow Road. Money gave out and the road had to be completed by private individuals, who bought it for \$2,000.00, finished the work and then dotted it with toll gates every few miles. Making it into

a turnpike. This road was thickly traveled by covered wagons, stage coaches, horse back, as well as, privately owned coaches. Drove of cattle, pigs, and turkeys often traveled this road on their way to market. This road was the main artery leading to Pittsburgh, Wheeling, West Virginia and the West. Long caravans of covered wagons freighted with products of the West journeyed to Baltimore all passing through this town. Owners frequently came behind their wagons in coaches. Of course they had to find places to put up for the night. Taverns did a thriving business in Reisterstown. There was a tavern for every mile along this turnpike, but this town, just two miles long, had seven or eight taverns.

Some of the main taverns were the Hitschue's Hotel located at the junction of the Westminster Pike, which was built by Captain Ducker; Fisher's Tavern was where Mr. Schuster has his office, better known as the F.P. Goodwin home; Forney's Tavern near where Dr. Saffell's home is and was quite famous for its entertainment and meals. General Lafayette and Henry Clay were once guest there; Bower's Tavern was where Washington spent the night and this was one of the oldest in the town; Yellow Tavern also known as Central Hotel, Everhart Tavern, Vonersmith Hotel and lastly Hobb's Hotel was one of the last left doing business in the town. It was here at this hotel that the Masonic Order was organized. This hotel was built by Jacob Medairy in 1779.

In 1794 when the General Assembly passed an act to regulate the Militia, Jacob Medairy was elected by the inhabitants as captain. He was commissioned a captain on June 18, 1794 and he served in Major Cockey's Battalion of the 7th Regiment of Baltimore County Militia. The Soldiers Delight Hundred were desirous of having him appointed and strongly recommended the appointment by a unanimous vote.

We got our first Post Office in 1802 when Thomas Jeffereson was President of the United States. Henry Weist, Mr. John Reister's son-in-law was the first Postmaster.

John Reister, 1st, the man who settled our town, died in 1804 having lived here for about forty-six years. He is buried in the Community Cemetery. He was a man of great enterprise and sterling worth. It took plenty of determination and courage to build a town in a Maryland wilderness – and, that is what he did – a town we should all be proud of and we should be very much interested in keeping it true to its old traditions.

From the very beginning the settlers of Reisterstown has a school of some type. The first school was near where the old Franklin Academy now stands. The official history of the Franklin Academy begins January 10, 1820 when at that time an act was passed by the General Assembly of Maryland providing for a grant of

\$800.00 to be used for the Academies of Baltimore County. The school year was the full twelve months from August to August. The first building that housed Franklin Academy was the church situated near the present school building. The first part of Franklin Academy consisted of two rooms erected in 1824-1825. Until the year 1870 Franklin Academy was a private school, equipped through private subscriptions. On January 25, 1849 Academy became a public school. It was after the school and grounds were deeded to the County Board of School Commissioners that a two-story addition was built. They had a hall, three classrooms on the first floor, and a large classroom and assembly hall on the second floor.

Hannah More Academy, the oldest Episcopal school for girls in the United States, was founded in 1832. Anne van Bibber Neilson gave the land and \$10,000.00, so the school could be established. She named it for Hannah More the famous English Writer. Fire destroyed it November 25, 1857 but it was soon afterwards rebuilt. It is an excellent preparatory school for higher colleges.

The following is taken from – Historical Sketches of St. Luke Methodist Church, Bond Avenue.

“From the historical pages of the Class Record Book of the Asbury Chapel, later known as the Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church – now known as the Reisterstown Methodist Church, Main Street, Reisterstown, Md., we found an account of 43 colored Slaves asking for and receiving permission to hold Class Meetings. The year was 1843.”

Out of this meeting sprang two churches, Piney Grove Methodist of Boring, Md., and St. Luke Methodist of Reisterstown.

Mr. George Kephart who owned Walnut Grove farm gave them a cemetery and land for a schoolhouse. Religious services were held in the school for sometime before the church was built.

Bishop Emory a very noted person in the Methodist churches lived in Reisterstown. On December 6, 1835 he left Reisterstown before daylight to drive to Baltimore. About four or five miles from Baltimore he got out (we think to fix the harness) and the horse evidently kicked him in the head. When found his brains were protruding and he was never able to speak. However he did live until seven o’clock that night. We feel this was quite a tragedy because no one knows just what happened. (Scharf’s History)

One big event happened in our town in 1839 when the town planned to celebrate our first 4th of July for the community. The prominent citizens met at the Everhart Tavern (Hobb’s Hotel) and wrote and signed a petition authorizing the

committee to get a speaker to read the Declaration of Independence. He was to be paid the sum of one dollar and no more for reading it.

Another landmark of our town is the Odd Fellows Hall, built by the Henry Clay Lodge in 1852. The Henry Clay Lodge No. 81 of Reisterstown was instituted in July 15, 1852 and had enrolled with its membership many of the best and most prominent citizens of the county. The cost of the hall was \$1,500.00. The hall was later purchased by the Independent Order of Red Men who sold it in 1914 for \$1,500.00 to the Reisterstown Volunteer Fire Company. It was used as the Reisterstown fire engine house for thirty-four years, until the present quarters of the Fire Company was dedicated January 30, 1949. In the early 1900's Odd Fellows Hall was used as a school to take care of the overflow at Franklin. It has been by the Lutheran and Episcopal Churches and was a voting place for county and national elections. It is now owned by the Christian Science Church.

St. Michael's Chapel was built in 1853 on the grounds of the Hannah More Academy. This church served not only as a school chapel but also as the parish church for residents of this section. It is of Gothic style and is a frame-building, containing leaded windows, a chancel, a reading desk, a reed organ and a baptismal font.

Now let's see what happened in our town during the Civil war. While some of the citizens actually took part in the war there were other who did their part by helping in sending messages and supplies. Many of the people were Southern sympathizers and this story is told – "At the time of Lincoln's election in 1860 only one man in the Reisterstown precinct voted for him. He was from Boring and said he had met Lincoln when on a trip out West and liked him so he decided to vote for him." The citizens of the town evidently didn't agree with him because they rode him out of town on a fence rail.

In 1859 the Reisterstown Rifleman were organized as one of the consequences of the John Brown raid, and on January 13, 1861 the ladies of the neighborhood presented the corps with a handsome flag. The presentation address was made by Miss Ella Kemp. Captain Richard I. Worthington accepted the colors in behalf of the company and made a strongly Southern speech.

Messages and contraband goods were sent to the Confederates in this manner. Colonel William Norris (who lived on Cockeysmill Road) got it first and he sent it to Mrs. Hoffman who ran Fisher's Tavern (later bought and known as F.P. Goodwin Home) and she sent it to C.L. Alder and he to Dr. Larsh (who) lived at what is known as (Bruehl's store and house) and he sent it to Charles Cockey in the valley and then by way of Cockeysville they attempted to get it to the Confederate lines.

Another interesting story told by a son of Captain S. Storm in which he tells how his father hid when the Yankees were searching the house for him. He hid in the basement or cellar under a plank, which was across a little stream in the cellar. The lady of the house kept the cream, milk and butter under this plank. Several soldiers came down but it was so dark he saw nothing and yelled back, as he walked into the stream, "Come and get me. There is no damn Rebel down here."

Col. Harry Gilmor went through this town making his raids to help the Confederate army during the Civil War.

In a letter dated February 19, 1863 the writer wrote her friend living at Warren, Maryland that they had been looking for soldiers all day, but so far none had arrived. She doesn't say which side.

Naturally this was a period of uncertainty and unrest.

THE THIRD “MILESTONE” – 1865 – 1900

Even though the Civil War was over there was still a feeling of division in the community because in 1866 we see the formation of the Grace Methodist Church, South. At first this chapel was called Wesley Chapel. The same year the Lutheran denomination which had been meeting at Odd Fellows Hall decided to build the first Trinity Lutheran Church.

The first meeting to be held at the Emory Grove Camp Grounds was in 1868. The first service was in a big tent, and seats were rough pine boards. Later a Mr. B.F Bennett bought a market house at Hanover, Pa. and had it moved and erected at Emory Grove as the Emory Grove Tabernacle. The camp was incorporated in 1871 and again in 1884. The hotel was built in 1887. A bell was rung to announce meals were being served. Instead of Grace being said they sang the Long Meter Doxology. Chicken dinners cost seventy-five cents. Many people spent the entire summer here sleeping in tents and later they built cottages. This was a very famous Methodist Camp Meeting known far and wide for its beautiful setting, splendid meals, music and preaching.

The Ionic Lodge No. 145 A.F. and A.M. (Masons) was organized February 23, 1869 with twelve Charter Members. This meeting took place at the Yellow Tavern (Hobb's Hotel).

Franklin Academy, which according to oral tradition, says it was named for Benjamin Franklin who was the “patron saint” of high schools, became a high school in 1874 and was known as Reisterstown High School from 1874-1897. In 1897 the Board of School Commissioners changed the name Franklin High School and this was the first and only high school in Baltimore County for a number of years.

The Franklin Permanent Building Association was organized in 1876. The institution was very successful and was among the first of its kind in Maryland.

The officers were: President, Cornelius Cook; Vice President, Nimrod Yingling; Secretary, Dr. James Gore; Assistant Secretary, Arthur A. Rich; Treasurer, Robert Carron. They met at one time at 624 Main Street, which was the home of Robert Carron.

Our first Free Library started in 1876 or 1877 in the Post Office, which was located up town in the Mackelfresh's home. William Yingling was Postmaster at that time. The books were kept in the post Office and the Postmaster was the Librarian. Whenever the Post Office moved, the books went along until the town got a Library House in 1903.

Around 1890 Mrs. Algermon Tillard donated a number of volumes of books and endowed the Library with \$750.00 with the understanding it was to be called in honor of her husband, the Tillard Memorial Free Library. The library continued in the Library House until 1915 when it was moved to the library of the Franklin High School. Here it stayed until 1959-1960 when it was moved into the Old Franklin Academy, which has now become the Reisterstown Public Library of Baltimore County.

In 1878 the condemnation jury was meeting to condemn land from Glyndon to Hanover, Pa. for the Western Maryland Railway. These men stayed for two weeks, doing this work. At the Hitschue Hotel (as we knew it). According to the Maryland Magazine this event marks the first time the hotel had used table napkins.

When the Episcopal members outgrew St. Michael's Chapel they held services in Odd Fellows Hall from 1870-1883. Now they needed to find still another place for holding services. In 1882 the vestry of St. Michael's Chapel purchased ten acres on Bond Avenue to be used for all Saints' Chapel and a cemetery. In this Chapel the Episcopalians worshipped until 1890 when All Saints' Church, Chatsworth Avenue was built from money given by William Keyser as a memorial to his mother. It is Gothic style built of local stone, red tile roof, small steeple, chimes. The tower with the bell about fifty yards from the Church was built soon after. The corner stone on the Church reads November 1, 1890.

The Glyndon Permanent Building Association, now known as the Aurora Federal Savings & Loan Association located at 107 Main Street opposite the Fire House, was organized in 1887.

This same year the Glyndon public school was built. The land was bought by the Board of Education from Louisa Fisher. In 1930 this school was consolidated with Franklin and the school was closed.

There are two other landmarks which belong to our town and should be preserved. The town clock and the town hall bell were bought in 1888 and put on top of Goodwin's hall (our first town hall). Money was raised to purchase the two by door to door subscriptions and by an oyster supper (the first event to be held in Goodwin's Hall) which netted them \$500.00. The Selby-Eline family wound the clock and Mr. Harry Russell and others rang the bell in case of an alarm of fire. Both of these (before traffic got so bad) could be heard from one end of town to the other.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church was dedicated May 22, 1877. The stone of which the church is built came from Worthington Quarry at the foot of Dark

Hollow Hill. Father Waldron, the guiding spirit in this erection, did not stop with the Church, parsonage and sexton's house. He wanted a school. The school was housed in the parsonage. The school, though short lived, opened its door with a pretentious enrollment. Among the pupils were Fairfax Lanstreet, Frank Zouck, Frank & John Dyer, Richard Norris, John and Peter Smith. This church is frequently spoken of as the Reisterstown Church. Glyndon did not exist at the time of its erection. Today (1966) Sacred Heart has a very modern, up to date elementary school with a large enrollment of over five hundred students.

Street cars came to Reisterstown in 1896 and ended when the buses took over in 1933. The line was first known as the Northern Electric Railway and later as the Emory Grove of the United Transit Company. We had street cars every fifteen minutes in the early morning hours and in the evening rush hours. In between we got a street car every half hour. The stones for this road-bed came from Dyer Quarry on Nicodemus Road, then owned by Mr. Frank Zouck.

While this era was one of growth in our town, yet our village was still small enough that everybody knew each other and the ties of friendship seemed much closer then they do today.

THE FOURTH “MILESTONE” – 1900 – 1965

This is truly a period of much progress and we find many changes in our transportation, roads, schools, stores and housing.

On October 3, 1900 the Porch Club of Glyndon became the Woman's Club of Glyndon. They met at homes of members, in the Sunday School of Glyndon Church, in Glyndon Community House, in Asbury Church, in Red Men's Hall, in the Community Men's Bible Class and finally in December 1932 they bought the Glyndon School at public auction for \$1,620.00. The building was remodeled and redecorated and by 1933 they moved in holding their meetings there since then. This club did many fine things for the community such as getting sign posts with the names of the streets placed on them. Got electric lights and garbage collection for the town. Also stone and cinder walks around the station were secured through their work. They celebrated their 65th anniversary in October 1965, being one of the oldest clubs still in existence.

The much talked of need for a bank materialized in 1901 when Reisterstown Savings Bank started. This bank has remained at 50 Main Street ever since its erection. Additions both inside and outside have been made. It is now the Union Trust Company with branches at the Reisterstown Shopping Center and the Glyndon Bank which had merged with the Reisterstown Bank is also one of the branches of Union Trust. Mr. Frank H. Zouck was President of this bank until his death.

The street electric light came to this town in 1902 and it wasn't long before most of the homes had electricity in them. Many civic organizations like the Glyndon Woman's Club and the Community Men's Club were instrumental in getting this.

The first Franklin High School was built in 1904-1905 at the corner of Academy Lane (now Cockeysmill Road) and Main Street. Mr. F.S. Landstreet, a graduate of Franklin, contributed \$5,000.00 toward the erection. In 1914 an addition was added making the school twice the size. Now the elementary school, which had been housed in the old Franklin Academy, was brought over and both high and elementary were together in this building until 1930. (Both of these buildings known then as Junior High were razed in July 1965).

In 1930 the new Franklin High School was built on the adjoining grounds and only the high school used this building while the elementary had all of the 1904-1914 building. At this time (1930) consolidation started and many other

elementary schools were brought to Franklin. There was one principal for high and elementary with a vice-principal for each building.

By 1955 the Franklin Elementary moved into their new building on Cockeysmill Road and the overflow of Franklin High took the 1904-1914 building. In 1960 the new Franklin High on Reisterstown Road opposite the Reisterstown Shopping Center was completed and that became the senior High while the Franklin Junior High had buildings of 1904-1914 and 1930. In 1965 a new addition was added to the 1930 building and our old school of 1904-1914 was demolished causing much unhappiness and talk.

The first telephone exchange was in Dr. White's Drug Store on Central Avenue, Glyndon, but in 1907 it was moved to the home of Dr. C.H. Michael in Reisterstown. It stayed there until many years later it was moved across the street in what was part of the Fisher Tavern or the F.P Goodwin home. Later in 1957, with the installation of the dial system, a new building housing the equipment was erected on Westminster Road.

Our police department began in 1910 with one policeman who walked the streets and rode the street cars in the town. The first police station or "lock up" was at Ruben Berryman's store and from there it moved across the street to where the TV place is – then to rear of Hobbs' Hotel where it stayed until we got a police station on Chatsworth Avenue.

The Reisterstown Baptist Church, which had been holding their meetings in halls around the town, built their first church in 1909 on Main Street near Berryman's Lane. This was sold to the Seventh Day Adventist Church, who in a few years built their church on Berryman's Lane and sold the Main Street property to Robert C. Lynch. A Baptist Church was built 1964-1965 on Chestnut Hill Road and is quite a modern building.

A Reisterstown Community Club composed of men of the town was formed in 1910 (also called Men's Club) and met at All Saint's Parish House. This club was instrumental in getting electric lights on Chatsworth Avenue and they got waiting rooms erected along the Emory Grove car line. Later this club joined with the Patrons' Club and met at the Franklin High School. Still later they became known as the P.T.A.

Glyndon Grange was organized and received its chapter March 1915. The first master was John C. Cockey of the Worthington Valley. They met first in Red Men's Hall, Glyndon and later at Franklin High School.

There had been several fires in our town. The only protection was a horse pulled engine from Glyndon. The people got busy and in 1913 the Reisterstown

Fire Company was organized. The annual Fourth-of-July Picnic is the main source of raising money for our Volunteer Fire Company. After many moves the Reisterstown Volunteer Fire Company is now housed in their very fine station on Main Street, dedicated January 30, 1949.

Our first motorized hearse was gotten by Mr. Joseph F. Eline in 1914 who ran the Eline Funeral Home in the upper end of the town.

The last toll-gate was taken off our turnpike in 1915 and this was the one known as the Owings Mills toll gate.

World War I came in 1918. Many of our men and boys either signed up to enter or were in the draft. We had War Bond Rallies, War Gardens, much canning and saving of food, sugar shortage and many other activities to help our boys over seas. The woman were busy knitting sweaters, gloves, stockings and helmets to be sent to our boys in camp. We were saddened when news came that Peter Zouck, son of Mr. Jacob Zouch of the Worthington Valley, was killed the day Armistice was signed, November 11, 1918.

Russell's Store, long a land mark of the up-town section, went out of the hands of the Russell Brothers in 1920 and became known as the Brook's Department Store.

In 1921 our turnpike now became a State road – really our first good road through the town as up until now our stoned and dirt road would be so dusty in the summer that it was almost impossible to sit on the porch unless the town had the road oiled through town. Of course this meant you brought into the home much oily, black dirt on your shoes.

In 1927 we had our first Health Center with a nurse. It was located at 211 Main Street. In 1939 it was moved to its present location next to what is now the Franklin Junior High School. Mrs. Thelma Kagle has been in charge and given many years of service to this organization. Clinics are held there and many of the people of this community use it. The same year the Franklin P.T.A. was formed from the Franklin Community Club of 1921.

On February 11, 1928 Reisterstown had a terrible fire, which threatened to wipe out the entire uptown business district. Five buildings were destroyed. The town bell was rung to give the alarm. Ten fire companies were called in to help save the town.

By 1933 buses took over the Emory Grove street cars. With buses the service has continued to get worse. No longer do we have a street car every half hour and in the early morning and early evening we had one every fifteen or twenty minutes. Quite different now. We wait and wait for a bus. The last bus

leaves the city a little after nine each night and you either make that one or find some other way to get home.

City gas came to our town in 1934 and was changed over to natural gas in 1950. Since then many of our homes today use gas as the fuel for heating.

The new theatre was the first real theatre in our town and was built in 1935. They had excellent movies. Before these movies were shown in Goodwin's Hall and later in a building on the Westminster Pike.

Three big improvements came in the 1930's – Sidewalks and garbage collection in 1937. City water in 1939 was most welcome. Water hydrants meant we had water to fight fires. Until water came to the town the water had to be pumped from the reservoir located back of Hobbs' Hotel, which had been built in 1928.

The ladies Auxiliary of the Reisterstown Fire Company was officially organized in 1933. This group worked at the picnics and other affairs to assist the fire company. The first officers were: President, Mrs. Bessie S. Marshall; Vice Presidents, Mrs. A. Earl Welsh and Mrs. J. Edward Shaeffer; Secretary, Miss Helen A. Ruley (now Mrs. Carroll E. Saumenig) and Treasurer, Mrs. Elmer H. Peregoy.

Some of the things that happened in the 1940's were – The Acme, a self service food store, was opened in 1941 on Main Street; Asbury Methodist and Grace Methodist Church merged and became known as the Reisterstown Methodist Church; a traffic light was installed at the intersection of Main Street and the Hanover and Westminster Roads in 1947.

In 1948 the Hobbs' Hotel was razed. This was the last of the hotels in Reisterstown. A filling station was built on this property. Also in 1948 we got our first ambulance through the generosity of the Kiwanis Club. This had been a great comfort and help to our community.

Many changes took place in the 1950's. One big addition to the town was the remodeling of the Lutheran parsonage and parish house in 1950 when they celebrated their 100th Anniversary. The first Trinity Lutheran Church was built in 1866 but before this church was built the congregation had worshipped in the log church and in Odd Fellows Hall. In 1906 the church of 1866 was torn down and the beautiful edifice we know today was built and dedicated July 21, 1907. The church, the parish house and the parsonage all in keeping with the old brick houses of the town and add very much to the looks of that section of Reisterstown.

Our Post office had been the Masonic Temple since 1931 and was moved in 1950 to the newly leased building on Chatsworth Avenue.

Our first housing development started in 1952 on Berryman's Lane known as the Beverly Road Development. This was built on ground originally in the Berryman family but known for many years as the Grottendick place. At this time it was owned by Arthur Caltrider who tore the old Berryman home on the corner of Berryman's Lane down, putting up a filling station and a very modern brick home. In back of this property in the development.

Reisterstown and Glyndon Banks merged April 14, 1952 only to become the Union Trust on October 27, 1958.

Parking meters were placed in upper Reisterstown December 17, 1954. This was supposed to help the parking situation.

Other developments started. The old Morse property opposite Cherry Hill Lane now became the Academy Acres Development, then Suburbia, the DeVille and now Country Club Estates. Quite a fine shopping center with a drug store and many other stores have been added here. All this started in 1957.

The Chartley Development which had its beginning on the Shirley property started work in 1959. This one also has a very modern shopping center. This property was originally known as Walnut Grove.

This seems to be an era of organized clubs. Of course one of the oldest clubs in town is the Kiwanis, organized in 1935. Now we have the Soroptimist started in 1957, Reisterstown Business and Professional Woman's Club January 1958, Lions Club January 13, 1950, Lioness 1961, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Jaycees, March 1958, Jaycettes, 1961.

The Northminster Presbyterian Church was moved from Baltimore to Reisterstown and started holding services in 1959 in a remodeled chicken hatchery at 705 Main Street. They opened a kindergarten in 1961 and 1965 saw them move into a new church,

The Reisterstown Federal Savings and Loan Association started business in 1959 in the very beautiful remodeled building which had originally been the Grace Methodist Church.

Also in 1959 the Glyndon Building & Loan moved into their new quarters opposite the Reisterstown Fire House on Main Street. In 1967 this organization became the Aurora Federal Savings & Loan Association.

In 1955 the Franklin Elementary School moved from the 1904-1914 building on Main Street to the new school on Cockeysmill Road adjoining the Reisterstown Public Library.

The Seventh Day Adventist congregation had been meeting in the Baptist Church on Main Street, which they had purchased. In 1959 they built a very large and handsome building on Berryman's Lane and sold the Baptist church to Mr. Robert Lynch, who made it into a machine shop.

One of the first events of the 1960's was the completion of the Franklin Senior High School on Reisterstown Road opposite the Reisterstown Shopping Center. Open house was held here October 30, 1960. The auditorium was added in 1964.

Baltimore County Historical Society placed a historical marker on the Franklin Academy on September 8, 1963 showing that it was the oldest high school in Baltimore County.

The new Reisterstown Elementary School located in Chartley was dedicated May 17, 1964.

On June 7, 1964 the first commencement to be held in the new auditorium of the Franklin Senior High took place.

The summer of 1965 saw an addition being made to the Junior High School and the two schools of 1904 and 1914 were torn down, much to the sorrow of lots of the former pupils, teachers and citizens. They claimed the buildings were unsafe and couldn't be used – hence they made way for progress and while a very modern addition was built yet many grieved to see the old buildings demolished. Open House to which the public was invited to see the school was on March 17, 1966.

Beginning in February of 1966 the C & P Telephone Company started putting in underground wire for all new phones and for those in the developments.

During this stretch from 1900 to 1966 we have passed through two World Wars. We have had depression. Banks have been closed. We have had rationing of food and gasoline. We have had several bad fires in our town. We have seen garages and filling stations take over livery stables. We have seen the Post Office moved many, many times. Chain stores are doing the business of the local stores. Our last hotel or tavern has gone.

But, today we have sidewalks, garbage collection, parking meters, new schools, new churches, housing developments, apartments, traffic lights, good roads and with all the improvements we still have problems. Our biggest problem is the great amount of traffic through our town. But time marches on and we must keep up with progress. What will the next thirty years bring?

GLYNDON

Before there was a village called Glyndon, the Western Maryland Railroad passed through this land on its way from Baltimore to Hagerstown. This was around 1859. In 1860 Lanser Shipley built a station then known as Reisterstown station and he also erected a home near to where the present Glyndon station stands. The Post Office located in the station was known as Emory Grove. This station house was purchased by Patrick Dyer in 1874 and he lived there.

A year later, 1875, S.P. Townsend bought 30 acres built cottages, a hall, post office, hotel, warehouse, and a fine home for himself. (Hack Home)

Just before this or near this time, Dr. Charles A. Lease, grandfather to Miss Rosamond Smith, and who was the first health officer of Baltimore in 1854 founded the town around 1875 where he laid out streets and planted trees. By 1879 there were seven or nine houses in the village. He also gave land for the Methodist Church.

So far the village hadn't a name and several stories are told about how it got the name Glyndon. One story is Dr. Lease named it for Glyndon, England where he had visited and liked very much. Another version is that people were asked to write names on slips of paper. These were placed in a hat. The committee in charge had President Mifflin Hood, who was President of the Western Maryland Railroad draw a name and the one he pulled out was Glyndon.

Glyndon has many Methodist families living in the village. It was really a summer resort and many families from Baltimore spent the summers here staying either in their own cottage or at one of the boarding houses.

Emory Grove was very near by and this camp attracted many visitors and people from Glyndon.

Glyndon public school was built in 1887. Mr. John Marshall was the builder and the land was purchased from Mrs. Louisa Fisher. In 1930 this school was consolidated with Franklin and the school was purchased by the Woman's Club of Glyndon for \$1620.00.

Glyndon had a very bad fire in the late 1890's before they had a fire department. A coal oil stove exploded in the residence of Mr. C.K. Yingling on Dover Road near Waugh Avenue at two p.m. (Copied from the Baltimore Sun)
"All thought the fire was completely put out when a fire broke out in a couch in the same room where the stove had been. They extinguished this fire by carrying the couch in the yard. After this a close watch was kept until midnight when they retired thinking everything was safe. They were aroused at 1:15 a.m. that night

and the entire house of 14 rooms was destroyed by a terrible fire. The occupants had difficulty escaping down a back stairway.”

The following night the house next door occupied by Mr. Thomas Bishop burned around six p.m. caused by a coal oil stove exploding.

The entire town was very much disturbed over these fires and of course they had no assistance to help in the way of water, chemicals or engines.

Glyndon Woman's Club started as a Porch Club for some of the summer visitors but in 1900 it became the Woman's Club of Glyndon.

Glyndon Station burned December 4, 1903 and was rebuilt in 1904.

The bank was organized May 5, 1920 and temporarily located in the post office building. Then July 1927 a brick building was built on Butler Road. The first President was Albert Smith and the first cashier was J. Edward Hewes. This bank is now a branch of the Union Trust Company.

Dr. White had a drug store located on Central Avenue next to the Carpenter home. Our first telephone exchange was in this building.

The Glyndon Volunteer Fire Company was organized March 25, 1904. The original engine house was on Railroad Avenue. They remained here until 1956 when the fine new house and hall was built on Butler Road.

Another bad fire was on December 8, 1929 when the Glyndon Methodist Church, the Parsonage, the Men's Bible Class and Mr. George Arnold's home were all destroyed.

Glyndon has a swimming pool, a store, post office, laundry, garage, fire engine house, a bank, and a beauty parlor, so we can see that industry has not taken over the village. There are several apartment houses but most of the people continue to live in their two and three story homes set back in beautifully kept lawns.

Glyndon still remains one of the fine towns in Baltimore County, which has kept her avenue of trees and large homes. Until Progress invades the town there will be one left where people can still chat with friends, sit on their porches in peace and wave to their friends passing by.