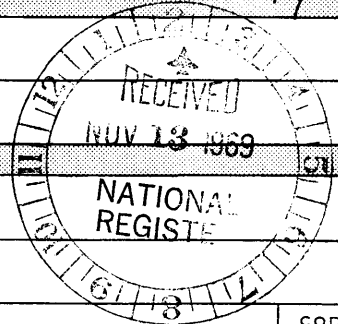


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland	
COUNTY: Baltimore City	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 69-12-19-0018	DATE 12/3/69



1. NAME

COMMON:
The Flag House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
The Star-Spangled Banner Flag House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
844 East Pratt Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Baltimore

STATE Maryland	CODE 19	COUNTY: Baltimore City	CODE 510
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Department of Real Estate, City of Baltimore

STREET AND NUMBER:
212 City Hall, Fayette and Holliday Streets

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore	STATE: Maryland	CODE 19
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Baltimore City Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
St. Paul and Fayette Streets

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore	STATE Maryland	CODE 19
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Commission for Historical & Architectural Preservation

DATE OF SURVEY: **1969** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:
402 City Hall

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore	STATE: Maryland 21202	CODE 19
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Baltimore City
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Star-Spangled Banner Flag House is located on the northwest corner of East Pratt Street, Baltimore, Maryland.

The approximate square foot ground coverage of the house is 854 square feet. The property is 0.443 acres (19,317 square feet).

Built about 1793, one of the oldest houses in the area, it is a two-and-a-half-story, rectangular, corner row house of salmon brick laid in Flemish bond with black slate hipped roof. Facing on Pratt Street, the narrow facade has three second-floor windows, two first-floor windows and an entrance. The longer elevation on Albemarle Street has a grouping of five windows on each floor. The north bays form an addition of about 1820.

The entrance door on Pratt Street is in the southeast corner of the house. The entrance used by the public through the Albemarle Street gate is on the northeast corner of the north (1820) addition. The roofline runs north/south.

Restored in the Federal (1800-1825) period, the house contains many original mantels and doors, butterfly shelves and cupboards. The stairway with poplar rail and half rail is original. Many Pickersgill possessions have been returned to the house including a desk, tea set, Lowestoft platter, Waterford pitchers and a punchbowl, French Empire clock, and scent bottles.

On the yard a Stone Map of the United States, composed of stones native to each state, gives a graphic geography lesson.

In 1953, a Museum was built north of the main building, attached by an open, roofed breezeway. It houses exhibits of the War of 1812, ship models, muskets, pistols, swords, epaulets and bright figurines.

The house is situated south of the Shot Tower and the Carroll Mansion.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1793

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<u>Culture</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The national significance of this building is its association with the creation, representation, interpretation and symbolism of our original Star Spangled Banner flag; the subsequent and lasting sight of the flag flying which inspired Francis Scott Key, on September 14, ~~1812~~, to compose the Star Spangled Banner, our National Anthem. (1814)

Mrs. Mary Young Pickersgill was the niece of Colonel Benjamin Flower, Commissary General for George Washington, whose portrait by Charles Willson Peale now hangs in the house. Mrs. Pickersgill was the owner at the time she and her daughter sewed, in this building, the fifteen star - fifteen stripe original Star Spangled Banner that so defiantly flew over Fort McHenry through the night of bombardment during the Battle of Baltimore in 1813-1814. The symbol of American independence and the patriotism that over the years has grown in stature by stars and stripes, flies proudly twenty-four hours of each day over the Fort.

Mrs. Pickersgill's home was recognized by an act of Congress June 1954, thereby according it, also, the privilege of flying an American flag twenty-four hours a day. Thus Baltimore is privileged to have two of the five such distinguished national sites.

During the remainder of the nineteenth century the house was a rowhouse on Pratt Street in Baltimore. The patriotic fervor engendered during the ceremonies surrounding the Star Spangled Banner Centennial in 1914 awakened an interest in the structure because of its relation to the Star Spangled Banner flag, the American symbol. In 1927, the City of Baltimore purchased the house, to preserve the tangible remnant of the story and events relating to the flag of 1814.

The Star-Spangled Banner Flag House Association was created to preserve the meaning and the message enacted at Fort McHenry; to interpret the evolution and representation

[see continuation sheet]

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Recorders: Mrs. Hugh D. Martin, Director of the Star-Spangled Banner Flag House Association, Inc.; 844 East Pratt Street, Baltimore, Maryland.

Miss Nancy Miller, Historian, Maryland Historical Trust, P. O. Box 1704, Annapolis, Md. 21404

Mary-Paulding Martin, "The Flag House," typescript, September 9, 1969, photostat in files of Maryland Historical Trust.

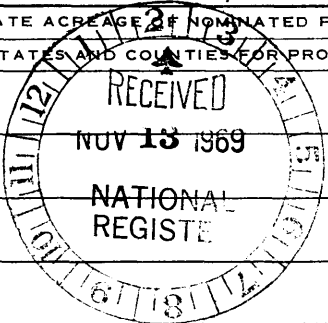
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		39° 17' 15"	76° 36' 10"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **0.443 acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mrs. Preston Parish, Keeper of the Maryland Register

ORGANIZATION: **Maryland Historical Trust** DATE: **Oct. 31, 1969**

STREET AND NUMBER:
P. O. Box 1704

CITY OR TOWN: **Annapolis** STATE: **Maryland 21404** CODE: **19**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Orlando Ridout IV
Orlando Ridout IV

Title State Liaison Officer for Maryland

Date NOV 10 1969

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest Allen Curran III
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date DEC 3 1969

ATTEST:
William J. Murtagh
Keeper of The National Register

Date NOV 26 1969

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Baltimore City	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
69-12-19-0015	12/3/69

(Number all entries)

The Flag House

#6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (continued)

Historic American Buildings Survey

1964

Library of Congress

Washington, D. C. 20540 Code: 08

Maryland Register of historic sites & landmarks

1969

Maryland Historical Trust

P. O. Box 1704

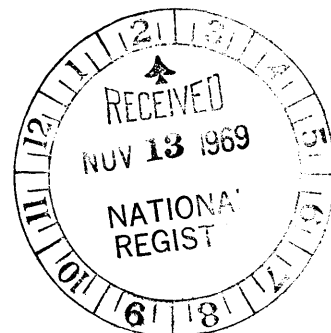
Annapolis, Maryland 21404 Code: 19

#8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

of the tangible evidence of our national symbols, the flag and the National Anthem.

The Association maintains the building to house a museum endemic to the War of 1812 as a permanent exhibit; to act as the clearing house for all questions relating to the several flags of the nation; to serve the several thousand school children visitors annually; to distribute the regulations for the use of our national flag, The United States Flag Code and kits containing information and instructions for classroom use.

Since 1939, the Association has sponsored National Flag Week, a seven-day commemoration of our flag.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

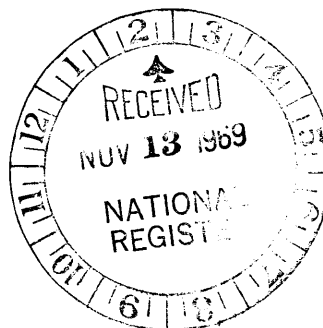
STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Baltimore City	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 69-12-19-0014	DATE 12/3/69

(Number all entries)

The Flag House

#9. REFERENCES

- _____, "The Making of the Star Spangled Banner," typescript, September 9, 1969, in files of Maryland Historical Trust
- James Calhoun to Mary Pickersgill, Receipt for the Star Spangled Banner Flag, August 13, 1813 (photostat in files of Maryland Historical Trust).
- Admiral George Henry Preble, The Origin and History of the American Flag, (no publisher given, 1917)
- Mrs. Hugh D. Martin, Director of the Star-Spangled Banner Flag House Association, Inc.; Interview, October 16, 1969
- "Noteworthy Echos of the Great Star-Spangled Banner Centennial," Baltimore Municipal Journal, III (April 23, 1913), 10-11. Pratt Library, Baltimore, Maryland.
- The Baltimore Sun, March 16, 1954 and June 9, 1954.



Map of City of Baltimore
Department of Public Works
1967
Scale: 1 inch = 1500 feet

