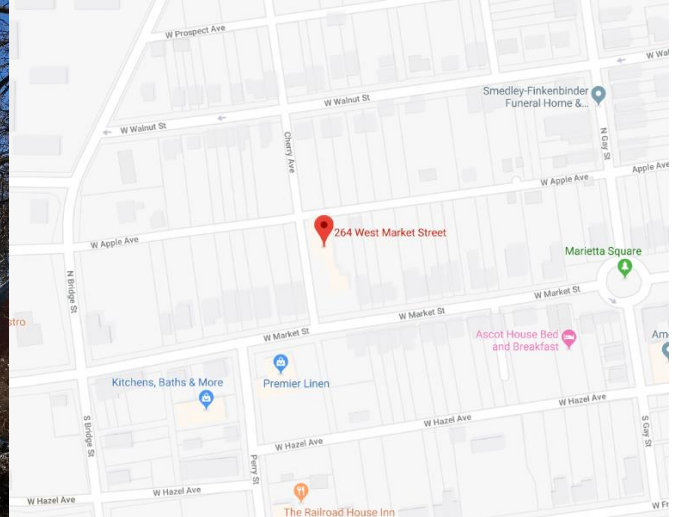


Huston, Bowman, Hiestand Marietta Community House 264 West Market Street, Marietta, Pennsylvania



Abstract:

In 1871 Dr. John Huston (1817-1881) built this colonial revival style house (1880-1960). The home was sold to Dr. Huston's nephew Navy Lieutenant Edwin S. Huston (1845-1905). Amos Bowman (1837-1899) the executor of the Colonel James Duffy estate lived here from 1875-1899. From 1909-1919 the property served as a sanitarium called "The Pines" connected with the Lancaster County Vaccine Farm, created in 1882. In 1919 Henry S. Hiestand (1869-1940) and Elizabeth McCorkle Hiestand (1873-1965) purchased the house as a memorial to their son Lieutenant Benjamin Hiestand (1898-1919) a pilot who was killed in the First World War. This remains the Marietta Community House a venue for community events. The founding principal of this corporation was to "promotion of the spiritual, intellectual, social, and physical welfare of men, women and children." From 1982-1987 the Marietta Community House was the headquarters for the Pennsylvania School of the Arts.

Property Details:

The Marietta Community House, a cultural dwelling-built in 1871 by John Hudson, lies on 264 West Market Street in Marietta. The Lancaster County Recorder of Deeds cites the measurement for the perimeter at 100 ft. x 412 ft. Then, the lot contains 20,600 square feet.¹

Deed Search:

Deeds to the property dates all the way back to John, Andrew, and Jonas Garber, however an accurate date for original origin of the property is undetermined but the latest date of sale is on 15 March 1828.² The chain of ownership since includes Daniel Houston (15 March 1828 – 25 April 1843),³ Samuel Houston (25 April 1843 – 10 January 1844),⁴ Elizabeth Sweeny & John Sweeny (10 January 1844 – 17 May 1845),⁵ Thomas Huston (17

¹ Lancaster County Recorder of Deeds, Search Online Records, Infodex, Document, Book: 5230, Page 0082, accessed 16 January 2019, <https://www.searchiqs.com/palan/InfodexMainMP.aspx>.

² Book: E, Volume: 10, Page Number: 39.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

May 1845 – 9 June 1868),⁶ Dr. John Huston (9 June 1868 – 29 December 1871),⁷ Edwin Huston (29 December 1871 – 23 October 1875),⁸ Amos Bowman (23 October 1875 – 13 January 1909),⁹ Edith A. Gilliland & Dr. S. H. Gilliland (13 January 1909 – 8 April 1911),¹⁰ H. M. Alexander (8 April 1911 – 24 May 1917),¹¹ Gilliland Laboratories (24 May 1917 – 1 April 1919),¹² Henry S. Hiestand (1 April 1919 – 20 January 1920),¹³ Marietta Community House (20 January 1920 – 23 January 1922),¹⁴ Lancaster Trust Co. (23 January 1922 – 9 March 1933),¹⁵ Fulton Bank (9 March 1933 – 17 January 1997),¹⁶ and the most recently First National Bank of Fredericksburg.¹⁷

Architectural Style:

This homestead is known as a Colonial Revival and the principle for this style was to establish a structure hold certain elements from styles of yesteryear, such as the Federal and Georgian architectural styles during the Colonial and Early Republic eras. This movement to bring back the designs of the first American people was triggered by the Philadelphia Centennial of 1876 which celebrated the 100th birthday of America. This was known as the Centennial Exposition of 1876.

The Marietta Community House was originally built as a private residence and served as an excellent example of a Victorian mansion and architecture before its original full-width porch was removed.¹⁸ With the removal of the original Victorian porch, the front porch was replaced by a brick patio. What can be seen is that the exterior walls have a wood covering known as clapboard that can be used to weatherproof the board finishes, allow cooler breezes during the summer, or create airtight insulation during the colder seasons.¹⁹ The roof style is a pitched roof which is triangular shaped that tends to be the most common shaped style as well as one of easier styles to create and to help direct rain flow off the coverings.²⁰ The structure itself has several elements from different time periods. The structure has a two side porches which serves as a deflector from a day's heat and somewhere to relax and enjoy the progression of the night all while under a cover.²¹ A glass lantern is present which comes from the Victorian era and its purpose is to give light to a certain area which helps give visibility during times of difficult visual conditions.²² On both the first floor and the second-floors present single sash windows which were first introduced during the Neoclassical era and windows serve to draw in air and light into the house as well as give characteristics to the house itself.²³ Furthermore, the windows on the first floor are raised shutters which originally served for security purposes while the second floor are battened shutters which both derive from Colonial Revival aspects and these shutters are used to protect the windows from natural elements, allow a small amount of light to enter the house, and create privacy.²⁴ Above the main door, there is a horizontal transom which

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Book: R, Volume: 10, Page Number: 360.

⁹ Book: P, Volume: 19, Page Number: 84.

¹⁰ Book: O, Volume: 23, Page Number: 230.

¹¹ Book: D, Volume: 23, Page Number: 214.

¹² Book: U, Volume: 23, Page Number: 279.

¹³ Book: D, Volume: 24, Page Number: 214.

¹⁴ Book: E, Volume: 28, Page Number: 579.

¹⁵ Book: I, Volume: 31, Page Number: 23.

¹⁶ Book: 5230, Page 0082.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Lyn Baker Alarie, *The Scoop on Marietta: A Small River Town* (Marietta, PA.: Yurchak Printing, 2012), 83.

¹⁹ Calder Loth, Weatherboards and Clapboards: Classical Comments by Calder Loth. Retrieved on March 18, 2019, <https://www.classicist.org/articles/classical-comments-weatherboards-and-clapboards/>.

²⁰ Carol Davidson Cragoe, *How to Read Buildings: A crash course in architectural styles* (Brighton, U.K.: The Ivy Press Limited, 2008), 103.

²¹ Will Jones, *How to Read Houses: A crash course in domestic architecture* (Brighton, U.K.: The Ivy Press Limited, 2013), 44.

²² Ibid, 163.

²³ Cragoe, *How to Read Buildings*, 117.

²⁴ Ibid, 187.

comes from Renaissance architecture and serves the same purpose as a window.²⁵ The structure executes the aspect of symmetric perfectly and this comes from the Renaissance era which is meant to give the house itself an element of order.²⁶ The structure has two dormer pediments which is derived from Georgian architecture, but was stimulated by Classical architecture, and this element is utilized to embellish their buildings.²⁷ This building has two chimneys located on the left and right sides of the dwelling. This is inspired by the symmetrical nature of Georgian architecture.²⁸ Bordering the roof line are what are known as Cornices with modillions that originally can be found in Neoclassical architecture.²⁹ On both sides of the structure, on the third floor, two curved windows on each side are called round arch windows while the window shaped installed in the dormers are called segmental arch.³⁰ The front of the houses shows columns at the doorway which is a classical motif that derives from Renaissance architecture to serve for both a structural and decorative purpose.³¹ Lastly, roman arches can be seen on the dormers which were present in both Neoclassical and Federal designs.³²

Historical Context and Purpose:

Samuel Houston was a physician who came to Marietta as a young man around 1815. An anti- Federalist as well as a supporter for the Whig party and a proponent of the War of 1812, he was often maligned by the active local press. According to Ellis' history of Lancaster County, Houston's most lucrative business was in shipping a variety of goods. Politically, he was also a leading member of the anti-Masonic party and an avid abolitionist. Houston is reputed to have employed and sheltered fugitive Negro slaves. His residence stands on the northwest corner of Market Square.³³ Houston relocated to Marietta at the end of the War of 1812 where he engaged in the study of medicine. A passionate supporter of the war and contrasting the federal party, he was elected to be a runner for the state senate but lost. He was involved with the river business where he bought large amounts of stone coal, provisions, grain, flour, and whiskey in which these items were stored in large warehouses upon the river bank. These objects were shipped down the river to port deposits then transferred to schooners which traveled to Baltimore. He became a leading member of the Anti-Masonic party that was created during the election between Andrew Jackson and Henry Adams. Close friends with Thaddeus Stevens, both him and Houston opposed human slavery in which Houston employed colored men for his lumber business whenever he could and concealed them in the neighborhood or sent them to the "Underground Railroad" when they were endangered in returning to a life of bondage.³⁴

Amos Bowman served as the President of the Marietta Hollow Ware and Enameling Company as well as the Vice-President of the First National Bank of Marietta. He was one of the leading businessmen of his time. Born in Columbia, Lancaster County on August 10, 1837 and son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Parker) Bowman, the Bowman family are known to have been living in Lancaster County for multiple generations. Amos's Grandfather Bowman spent most of his life in Lampeter as farmer who was highly respected and regarded as one of the best-informed men of his day. Joseph Bowman, Amos' father, was born on April 11, 1810, where he lived on the family farm near Lampeter in which he received a common school education while assisting his father on the farm. He became dissatisfied with farm life in his later life and embarked elsewhere. He was able to find a job on the Pennsylvania Railroad as conductor, but he soon abandoned it and went to Millersville, where he became

²⁵ Jones, *How to Read Houses*, 127.

²⁶ Ibid, 19.

²⁷ Ibid, 131.

²⁸ Cragoe, *How to Read Buildings*, 120.

²⁹ Ibid, 242.

³⁰ PHMC Pennsylvania Architectural Field Guide, PHMC Dictionary of Architectural Terms. Accessed March 18, 2019, <http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/portal/communities/architecture/resources/dictionary.html>.

³¹ Jones, *How to Read Houses*, 103.

³² Ibid, 151.

³³ United States Department of the Interior, National Register of Historic Place Inventory – Nomination Form: Marietta Historic District. July 18, 1978, Item Number: 8, Page 2.

³⁴ Alarie, *The Scope on Marietta*, 689.

involved with mercantile business. He later moved to Petersburg and engaged in the hotel business and he did this for several years. Next, he clerked for J. H. Kurtz of Lancaster until he was elected Prothonotary where he faithfully served for three years. The father of six children in which one died prematurely: Amanda, Amos, Samuel, Joseph and Adaline. In 1860, he moved to Forest, Ohio with his family where he picked up farming once more in his retirement. He was a supporter of the Republican party and was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Amos Bowman spent the majority of his childhood in Columbia, Lancaster and Petersburg while attending several of the public schools located in these places. He later entered the high school of Lancaster where he completed his education. He served for the Farmers' Bank of Lancaster right after high school and worked there for nine years. He decided to relocate to Marietta in 1863 where he was accepted for the position of Cashier for the First National Bank of Marietta; which became the first bank of that order in the United States. He worked this position for twenty-five years where he earned the respect of his fellow officers in the bank and the entire community. Amos Bowman retired from this position in 1888 and took charge of the estate of James Duffy while receiving the manager position of the Marietta Hollow Wares Company. It was soon after this that he was elected President of the company. Other positions that he held was serving as a Director for the local water company, the building and loan associated to the company as well as the Vice-President of the First National Bank. He was one of the leading campaigners of the electric road from Marietta to Lancaster, and from Marietta to Maytown. However, the project was given to another company. He served as a director for the Marietta and Mt. Joy, Marietta and Maytown, and Maytown and Elizabethtown Turnpike Companies. In his personal life, Amos married Rachel David, daughter of John David of Wilmington, Delaware. He was the father of five children but only two survived; Mary, the wife of James B. Hanna, of Columbus, Ohio; and Joseph, who is employed in his father office. In the political world, Amos played an active role in the Republican party. Finally, he was a part of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias.³⁵

Dr. Hamil Marr Alexander was born on May 17, 1851 and married to Martha (Hulme) Alexander.³⁶ In 1876, he graduated from Bucknell Medical Department and worked in a hospital for a short time before opening his own office in Marietta.³⁷ He was an active physician in Marietta who recognized, in 1882, the necessity for developing a smallpox vaccine in order to control the various of epidemics presented by this disease in the United States as well as the rest of the world. However, smallpox vaccine has not become widely accessible in the United States. Dr. Alexander decided to take action and develop his own vaccine. He processed to establish his operation in a chicken house that was adjacent to his office at 299 West Market Street. From a report that came from Philadelphia Academy of Medicine, his knowledge with his homemade vaccine got the attention of multiple physicians and led him to receive many inquiries. Within the duration of a year, he was able to expand his facilities by acquiring a farm at Wasp and Biddle Streets in Marietta. This location soon developed and become the first commercial biologic laboratory in the United States, now currently under occupation of the Wyeth Laboratories Inc. The company soon became known as Dr. H. M. Alexander & Company as well as the Lancaster County Vaccine Farm. Sources, such as the "Portrait and Biographical Record of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania", of 1894, have shown that these Alexander's laboratories were once the largest producing vaccine laboratories in the United States. Furthermore, statistics have shown that those laboratories produced more vaccine than all other establishments in the United States in that year. Dr. Alexander, at the time in which he established his laboratories, employed 12 men and several ladies. As much as 40 people were later involved during periods of epidemic crisis, when demands called for approximately 100,000 vaccinations per day. However, in 1889, Dr. Alexander closed his practice in Marietta and fully devoted all of his time to the production of vaccine. Before the arrival of the new century, Dr. Alexander expanded his medical interests into various of other fields that involved infectious diseases and their production of creating cures such as Diphtheria Antitoxin, Tetanus Antitoxin, Tuberculin and Typhoid Vaccine.³⁸ Among the various vaccines made, the two most important were for smallpox and Pasteur Rabies Vaccine. The company stayed under his name until 1916 when the existing family enterprise which

³⁵ Portrait and Biographical Record of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania (Chicago: Chapman Publishing Co, 1894), 681-682.

³⁶ Alarie, *The Scope on Marietta*, 684.

³⁷ Ibid, 701.

³⁸ *Marietta Sesquicentennial: 1812-1962 (History) 1812-1962 Lancaster County, Pennsylvania*, 42.

entailed the heirs of Dr. Alexander who then sold their interests to a new organization known as the Gilliland Laboratories Inc. Dr. Samuel H. Gilliland was the president and Executive Manager of Gilliland Laboratories from 1906-1929 and was Dr. Alexander's successor after he died in 1903.³⁹ Dr. Alexander served as a school director in East Donegal Township as well as a Deacon in the Presbyterian Church. He was involved with various medical matters and became one of the first promoters of the American Exhibitors Association which was organized at the World's Fair in Chicago and later became the Vice-President of the organization. During the Exposition, he was awarded the only gold premium for smallpox vaccine at the time.⁴⁰

In 1871, Dr. John Huston erected 264 West Market Street on a double lot in a part of Marietta called Waterford for his nephew.⁴¹ However, none of the Huston family ever lived in this structure. The house, in 1875, was then sold to a local entrepreneur and banker, Amos Bowman. It remained under his name as it served as a private residence for his family until 1909. In the same year, Edith A. Gilliland purchased the property. She was the daughter of Dr. H. M. Alexander who founded The Vaccine Farms in Marietta where he manufactured vaccines for smallpox, Pasteur rabies and other diseases. Edith married Dr. S. H. Gilliland, in 1904. He had worked side by side with Edith's father at his biological laboratories and eventually the company became the Gilliland Laboratories.⁴² The Gilliland Laboratories operated for 25 years in Marietta. Many of the town's people have and still refer to the Laboratories as the Vaccine Farm.⁴³ While under the ownership of Gilliland, from the years 1909 to 1919, the house was converted and served as a sanitarium entitled, "The Pines."⁴⁴ This was where the Pasteur Rabies Vaccine was administered. With the stern routine that had to be ordered, the patients, who were mostly children, lived in the house while they were given treatment that involved a series of 21 painful shots that need to be precisely administered over a three-week time period.⁴⁵ The Gilliland Laboratories existed all the way until 1943 when it was assimilated into the American Home Products Corporation, which was done through the stock exchange and become an independent subsidiary for that Corporation for only one year. All the manufacturing plants that were owned by the American Home Products Corporation were merged under the name of Wyeth Laboratories Inc, in 1944, in which it was known for its pollo vaccine.⁴⁶ The Wyeth Laboratories served as one of the town's largest sources of employment, at one time, employing approximately 370 individuals.⁴⁷

In 1917, Marietta sent 182 men to serve in World War I and to defend their country. On December 30, 1919, the Marietta Community House was formally and officially dedicated to the loving memory of their son, Lt. Benjamin Hiestand, who died while training a cadet on how to fly, on June 10, 1918 at the age of 19. The dedication of the Marietta Community House was not solely for Lt. Hiestand but for those from the local area who had served in World War I and other wars.⁴⁸ Henry Hiestand served as a director for the Exchange Bank of Marietta.⁴⁹ World War I affected many American homes for the rich and poor alike as they both shared glories and hardships that followed after America's entry into the World War in 1917. The war even affected many of the homes in Marietta. The son of Henry S. Hiestand, Lieutenant Benjamin Hiestand, enlisted in an armed unit of the United States prior to President Wilson's declaration of war against Germany. He served in the Aviation Corps. However, on June 10, 1918, Lieutenant Benjamin Hiestand met his death in the line of duty in which a flying field at La Bella, Florida was dedicated to his memory and named the Hiestand Landing Field by his comrades. Furthermore, his parents in Marietta dedicated the community house, with their remaining son Fitzgerald, to the ex-servicemen and townsmen of Marietta on December 30, 1919 in which a fire inside of the hearth was lit up by Mr. Hiestand

³⁹ Ibid, 686.

⁴⁰ *Marietta Sesquicentennial*, 42.

⁴¹ Ibid, 83.

⁴² "Our Story." The Marietta Community House. Accessed January 22, 2019. <https://mariettacommunityhouse.org/our-story/>.

⁴³ *Marietta Sesquicentennial*, 59-60

⁴⁴ Alarie, *The Scope on Marietta*, 83.

⁴⁵ "Our Story." The Marietta Community House. Accessed January 22, 2019. <https://mariettacommunityhouse.org/our-story/>.

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ *Marietta Sesquicentennial*, 42.

⁴⁸ "History." Marietta Restoration. Accessed January 22, 2019. <http://www.mariettarestitution.org/history.html>.

⁴⁹ *Marietta Register* Saturday February 3, 1883, vol XXIX, lio. 27.

to create a sense of warmth to draw in Mariettians to collaborate in a communal effort to honor the young men of Marietta who left the fireside to answer the call of duty during the gloomy dark days of the First World War.⁵⁰ The building was then bought by Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Hiestand, in 1919, in which they formed a corporation called, “The Marietta Community House.” The founding principal of this corporation to “promotion of the spiritual, intellectual, social and physical welfare of men, women and children”.⁵¹ There is a brief the history of the community house on a bronze tablet inside the Memorial Hall. It reads: “To the memory of Lieutenant Benjamin Hiestand, U. S. A. S.; born August 11, 1898; entered the service of the United State, April 4, 1917; was killed June 10, 1918, at Arcadia, Florida, while instructing a cadet in flying. This house was given and furnished for the community of Marietta, by his father, mother, and brother. Henry S. Hiestand, Elizabeth F. G. Hiestand, FitzGerald Hiestand.” There is also another bronze tablet that records the fact that 182 man and women from Marietta served in the armed forces of the United States. The Borough of Marietta supported the movement that gave them the community house with an endowment fund which would be utilized to maintain the institution in perpetual usefulness. The citizen of Marietta contributed \$25,000 for this purpose. This led to the erection of a gymnasium on the community house grounds. Marietta was one of the first boroughs in the State to have its own community house.⁵² The Marietta Community House was once hosted as a public library as well as a Well Baby Clinic. During the era of the Great Depression, it served as a soup kitchen and coal distribution center. For several severe floods that took place in the area, the building was used as a Red Cross Headquarter. It has served as the meeting place for various organizations such as the American Legion, the Girl and Boy Scouts, Senior Citizens, the Lions Club and multiple community and church groups. During the early 1980s, it also served as the administration headquarters for the Pennsylvania School of the Arts, which is presently under the title of the Pennsylvania College of Art and Design, in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.⁵³

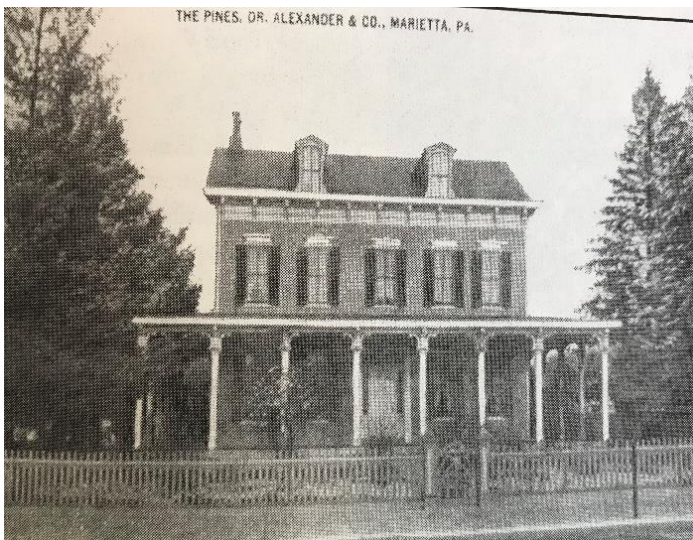
⁵⁰ H. M. Klein, *Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, A History* (New York and Chicago, Lewis Historical Publishing Company), 287.

⁵¹ 30th Annual Bridge Bust. Accessed January 22, 2019. <http://parivertowns.com/m/listing/view/anrisipe>.

⁵² Klein, Lancaster County, 287-288.

⁵³ 30th Annual Bridge Bust. Accessed January 22, 2019. <http://parivertowns.com/m/listing/view/anrisipe>.

Appendix Historical Photos:



Appendix Current Photos:



