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Mapping Gettysburg: Baltimore Street in 1910

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Abstract

In 1910, the town of Gettysburg was a thriving, bustling place. The Civil War was long over, and the town had begun to profit from tourists who wished to see the site of the famous battle. Business boomed. Merchants moved in and out of buildings and young families set up housekeeping in their own homes, raising their children and getting off to a running start in their chosen professions. There were cars in the streets next to the old horse-drawn buggies and electricity had begun to replace the gas lamps and candles of the Victorian era. For all that the town was growing rapidly, however, it was still subject to turn of the century problems. Tuberculosis was still widespread and killed many people every year - indeed, lung diseases in general seem to have plagued the country. Kidney disease was another concern, as were rats and other pests. On the whole, Gettysburg was a town in transition -not yet firmly in the twentieth century, but no longer a part of the nineteenth century either. [*excerpt*]

Keywords

Adams County Historical Society, ACHS, Adams County, Pennsylvania History, Gettysburg, Baltimore Street, Fahnestock Building

Mapping Gettysburg: Baltimore Street in 1910

By Danielle Hiss and Megan Gray

In 1910, the town of Gettysburg was a thriving, bustling place. The Civil War was long over, and the town had begun to profit from tourists who wished to see the site of the famous battle. Business boomed. Merchants moved in and out of buildings and young families set up housekeeping in their own homes, raising their children and getting off to a running start in their chosen professions. There were cars in the streets next to the old horse-drawn buggies and electricity had begun to replace the gas lamps and candles of the Victorian era. For all that the town was growing rapidly, however, it was still subject to turn of the century problems. Tuberculosis was still widespread and killed many people every year – indeed, lung diseases in general seem to have plagued the country. Kidney disease was another concern, as were rats and other pests. On the whole, Gettysburg was a town in transition – not yet firmly in the twentieth century, but no longer a part of the nineteenth century either.

In many cases, the people of Gettysburg lived, worked, celebrated, and were buried within the borough's modest limits. A holistic approach to the examination of the town at this time tends to yield the impression that nothing of note occurred in Gettysburg in 1910. When one chooses to narrow the scope of a quest for information, however, to a specific block or two of the borough, the stories available somehow become increasingly vibrant. Everyday activities begin to take on a surprising brilliance when viewed at the microscopic level. The historian can place him or herself into the shoes of the very individuals whose existence made the operation of Gettysburg possible, and can subsequently live vicariously through these ghosts of a time past.

The western side of Baltimore Street was a bustling place in 1910. The first two blocks of this road, leading from the square, were taken up entirely by businesses. At the corner of Baltimore Street nearest the square, there was a dry goods store which stood next to a millinery shop. On the corner of the first block stood a tobacco shop, which was run by one George E. Stock. Outside the store stood a giant Indian, which became emblematic of the tobacco trade in the eighteen and nineteen hundreds. In the next block, there was a grocer's shop, a dentist (Dr. Stoutter), a hardware store, a drug store, a butcher shop, another millinery shop, and a barber shop.¹ The hardware store was most likely run by

Joseph H. Colliflower and his nephew, Ross, who was 19 at the time. The elder Colliflower was thirty-five and married to thirty-three-year-old Lula Colliflower.² The owner of the barber shop was Harry B. Sefton, who had remodeled the shop in 1900. Sefton was married to Clara Eugene Sefton, née Fissel, the daughter of Elias Fissel. Like most shop owners of the time, they did not live above their shop. Instead, they lived on Steinwehr Avenue and had, rather unusually, no children who survived to adulthood.³ Mrs. Sefton was evidently ill early in that year – she was a patient at the Presbyterian Hospital as of April 13 of 1910 and released several weeks later.⁴

The Fahnestock House, which stood next to Sefton's barber shop, had been remodeled in 1895. A new brick front with show windows had been added, as had a third story. The third story was immediately appropriated as apartment space, and the second story was remodeled. Indoor plumbing was introduced, as were "baths and all modern conveniences." The house was comprised of two major businesses: a photo shop and a furniture store. The furniture store also contained a funeral parlor; both of these establishments were run by Harry B. Bender, formerly of the firm of Mumper and Bender. Harry was married to Elsie Mumper, who was the daughter of a prominent furniture merchant. It was probably through his association with her father and brother that he had met her in the first place.⁵ Bender, who had started his career as a milkman, eventually became trained in carpentry. At the time, many individuals who possessed this woodworking skill would seek instruction in embalming, so that they could serve also as funeral directors. It appears that this was the case with Bender.⁶ An advertisement in *The Gettysburg Times* from 1910 proclaimed, "H. B. Bender, Funeral Director. Prompt Service. Either day or Night."⁷ At the time, the flexibility Bender offered in his undertaking services certainly would have been most welcome.

When not involved in his business as an undertaker, Bender worked at his furniture store. For this establishment, he ran many advertisements in such local newspapers as the *Gettysburg Times*. One such announcement proclaimed, "Just now: We can give you some interesting prices on furniture. It will pay you to investigate. Our stock you will find equals city stores, and the prices are way below. H. B. Bender, the Homefurnisher."⁸ In his business on Baltimore Street, Bender also sold sewing machines. Bender marketed the machines with such slogans as, "Why pay the agents who travel over the country 25 per cent more

for a sewing machine than you pay us. The Standard is recognized as the best machine made and we have them from \$22.00 up. Guaranteed for 10 years.”⁹

Bender's furniture store evolved through a long process of the transference of property between family members and neighbors, a practice which was certainly common during the early twentieth century. Originally, the shop from which Bender sold his furniture had been owned by the Mumper family, into which Bender had married. The Mumpers were a large, well-known family who lived and worked in Gettysburg. Levi “Lee” Mumper, the patriarch of the family, owned the photo shop and the furniture store, both of which were later run by his sons and their associates. Levi had a great many sons; in fact he was married twice and had a total of eight sons and two daughters.¹⁰ By 1910, Levi, a Civil War veteran, was getting old – he had sold his photo shop to his son Clyde, who had then sold it to his brother John. The furniture store had been bought in 1897 by Levi's son Charles and Harry Bender himself. In the next year, the two expanded into the undertaking business. Bender was only one of a number of carpenter-undertakers in Gettysburg. In fact, he had learned his trade from Charles A. Strack, one of the leading undertakers of the town. With the addition of the new funeral parlor and most likely some help from Charles Mumper's well-known father, the firm took off – one advertisement in the local paper read, “For night calls, ring bell on store door or call on C.S. Mumper at his residence on Chambersburg Street.” The partnership, however, did not last – in 1901 the firm was dissolved and Mumper moved to a different building. By 1910, he was a thriving furniture merchant, while Bender remained in control of the furniture store on Baltimore Street and the funeral parlor.

Charles S. Mumper ran a fair number of advertisements in the *Gettysburg Times* as well as in several other local newspapers, offering his carpentry and cabinetry services to borough residents. “Do you have a piece of old furniture that you can't use because it is in poor repair or needs refinishing? We have competent workmen in our repair department who will fix it. No job is too small or too large for us. We also make to order any piece you have in mind.”¹¹ This sort of versatility in business capabilities was fairly common in the early twentieth century community of Gettysburg. In such a small town, it was necessary for a great many tasks to be accomplished by the population at hand; thus, occupations which were similar in nature to other vocations were often assumed by one person or a particular family.

After 1901, the Fahnestock House, which had been earlier designated as 27 Baltimore Street, became 37 Baltimore Street. The other shop in the Fahnestock House, the Mumper photography studio, was by 1910 owned and operated by John A. Mumper, son of Levi.¹² John, like his father, had served in the army. John, however, was a veteran of the Spanish-American War and had served in the 5th PA Infantry as part of M Company. He was married to Ora Mumper, née Beegle, with whom he had one child, John E. Mumper.¹³ As of 1910, however, his fortunes had taken a turn for the worse. The wagon belonging to both him and his brother, Clyde, had a bad accident while traveling on Little Round Top on the battlefield and the photography equipment it carried was destroyed, with the sole exception of the camera. The horse carrying the cart suffered the worst damage – its leg was broken and the hapless creature had to be shot.¹⁴ This must have been quite a blow for John, and may help to explain why he retired only nine years later.

John Mumper's photography entrepreneurship was also greatly impacted by the fact that he had to contend with the business of another Gettysburg resident, W. H. Tipton of 20 and 22 Chambersburg Street, also a photographer.¹⁵ Both men ran ads frequently in such publications as the *Gettysburg Times* throughout the year of 1910. Tipton's ads were crafted for a sentimental appeal. They encouraged readers to "Come here with the baby for its first picture! Unlimited patience and quick action is required to obtain a good picture of a restless baby. Bring Baby here where you are sure of a successful result. Have a photo of the Baby as he or she looked at the beginning of 1910." Mumper's advertisements utilized a similar tone denoting the imperative nature of getting one's photograph taken: "We must talk Photography to you. It's our business. The best time to have a photograph taken is when you are in good health—now."¹⁶

Certainly, during the early part of the twentieth century, health was less assured than it is in modern times; Mumper's advertisement, however, does seem rather dismal. Of course, the necessity of having one's photograph taken which is implied in both Tipton's and Mumper's printed proclamations of their services could perhaps be due in part to the fact that photography as we know it had really only been around for sixty or seventy years as of 1910.¹⁷ In any case, the frequency with which each man published his advertisements in the *Gettysburg Times* implies that the competition for business between the two was rather fierce.

On the corner of the block next to the Fahnestock House where the photography studio was housed was a new 5 & 10 cent store, run by Samuel E. Trimmer. The building had formerly been the home of Skelly and Warner's department store. Skelly and Warner's, however, had sold out and moved to the late Captain Martin store room.¹⁸ The next block down was a residential area. In the first house on the block lived Joseph W. Sefton, who was, at the time, 71 years of age and employed as a battlefield guide. He had been married for forty-nine years. We do not, however, have any record of his wife's name, age, or indeed of her having lived in the house. Sefton apparently lived with his daughter, who had no occupation and seems to have been a spinster. In the next house lived Harry Bender, his wife Elsie, and their three children, Ruth, John, and a second daughter. Bender's children were quite young at the time. The eldest, Ruth, was eleven, while John and the second daughter were 10 and 8 respectively.

In the next house lived William H. Pfeffer, 55, who was the bartender at a local hotel and, seemingly, the proprietor. He lived with his wife, Anna, who was two years his senior. They had one daughter, Mary G. Pfeffer, who was twenty-four and who worked in one of the millinery shops on the street. Only three houses down lived 78-year-old Mary A. Pfeffer, who was widowed, and her sister, Amanda Homan, also widowed. With them lived Mary's son, Harry F. Pfeffer, who was 34, single, and worked at a brickyard. It would seem probable that Mary and her son were related in some way to William and Anna Pfeffer, although the name was widespread in the area and often confused with its alternate version of Pfeiffer. Mary could conceivably have been William's elderly aunt or mother, just as her son Harry might have been a brother or cousin. It would seem that most of the residents on the street were related to one another through either business or marriage. There were a great number of Pfeffers who had married into other families on the street, as well as Seftons, Ogdens, and, of course, the Mumper family.

Living with one's mother or mother-in-law seems to have been fairly common at the time. Such was certainly the case for George Black, who lived with his wife, his mother-in-law, Sarah Wellert, and the couple's daughter, Sarah. In 1910, George was 35 years of age and working at the post office as a clerk. His daughter Sarah was only three at the time, one of many young children who lived on the street. Unless Mrs. Wellert waited a rather long time to get married and have children, Mrs. Black could not have been her eldest child, being 32 to

her mother's 72 years of age at the time.¹⁹ It was also uncommon to live alone. In fact, from the Center Square to High Street, there is no record of anyone living alone. Most people lived with either parents, spouses, or offspring, and most boarders lived with families, not single people, reflecting perhaps the lingering effect of Victorian sensibilities and practice.

A number of Gettysburg residents at the time lived very close to their places of employment. Number 239 Baltimore Street was the home of John L. McSherry, who worked as a carpenter. Given his proximity to a carpentry shop at 239 ½, it is not unreasonable to suppose that he worked next door to his home or perhaps for one of the Mumpers up the street. McSherry was thirty at the time and married to Bessie M. McSherry, née Cluck, who was eight years younger than he. They had one daughter, a ten-month-old infant whom they had named Violet. Their immediate neighbors were Joseph H. Colliflower, his wife Lula, and their nephew, Ross. Again, the placement of the couple's dwelling was convenient in relation to the hardware store, which was just up the street. Number 247 was home to Charles D. Winebrenner, his wife Minnie M. Winebrenner, née Golden, and her mother, Susannah Golden, who was 77 and widowed. The couple had no children, or at least none who were living with them. Charles, at the age of 50, had married Minnie fourteen years earlier at the age of 34, possibly after a first marriage that did not last. Given the average age of couples with young children, however, it is not unlikely that Minnie was Charles' first and only wife.

Charles was a tinner, although he did not own his own business – instead he was a renter, living down the street from the tin shop that he worked in.²⁰ There was, in fact, a tin shop just down the street. This was probably Winebrenner's place of employment, making it convenient to get to work as well as easy to get home at the end of the day. In keeping with the tradition of living near one's relatives, there was another Winebrenner, Thomas, doing business on Baltimore Street who owned a stove and paint store. The name is distinctive, and it would be a remarkable coincidence for two Winebrenners to be doing business on the same street and yet have nothing whatsoever to do with one another.²¹ Thomas, like many residents of the street, seems to have had some connection to the Pfeffers – he is listed as having sold the Pfeffer property along the Emmitsburg Road.²²

There does not seem to have been much separation between classes or social strata in Gettysburg in 1910. Near the beginning of the second residential

block of Baltimore Street lived the driver for the grocery store, his wife, Carrie, 48, their daughter Elsie, a sister-in-law named Mary, and the driver's brother, Rufus, who was a carpenter. Given the apparently close-knit nature of the family and their seemingly Germanic names, we might be justified in wondering if the family had not immigrated to the area from another country or perhaps from Lancaster County, where many German immigrants settled. In any case, Rufus and his brother seem to have settled into the area through their professions, becoming part of the predominant trades on the street. Number 253 Baltimore Street and Number 255 were in the same building, one beside the other. In Number 253 lived Robert Caldwell, the superintendent of the local water company, and his wife Margaret, who was known as Maggie. Maggie was a member of the Pfeffer family and it seems not unlikely that she was related to the other Pfeffers on the street – perhaps a sister of William and Harry.²³ With them lived Maurice Miller, a boarder at the tender age of 13.

In Number 255 lived John C. Wills, who was 72 and had been in Gettysburg at the time of the battle. He was the author of *Reminiscences of the Three Days Battle of Gettysburg* and a fairly prominent citizen, being a member of the Wills family and the son of Charles Wills, who had been the proprietor of the Globe Inn at the time of the battle.²⁴ He had been married for 45 years to a woman named Martha and the couple had at least five children – four daughters and a son, all of whom were living with them as of 1910. Ruth, 40, and Margaret, 30, were teachers who worked as private tutors, while their sister Mary was an operator at the telephone company. The youngest girl, Frances, was not employed at the time, nor was she married. The youngest child, a son named Charles, was twenty-eight and worked as a salesman at the department store – most likely Skelly and Warner's, but possibly another department store somewhere in the city.²⁵ This family would have been, if nothing else, well connected in the area, with family members widespread throughout the town and in fact the county, whereas a family of immigrants might have had little to no kin in the area and less connection to the local customs and traditions. Likewise, the Caldwells were connected by marriage to one of the most notable families in the area, and yet there was no physical boundary separating one class from another.

In general, the borough of Gettysburg seemed to have been a very closely-knit community in 1910. This can be seen quite clearly in the examination of the area's news publications. The fact that the majority of advertisements included in these newspapers did not include an address or other sorts of contact

information for the businesses and services being publicized seems to indicate that craftsmen and business owners assumed that their customers would know where to find them. Additionally, the community interest sections which seemed to appear in most issues of the borough's news publications made public the minutiae of residents' lives. Oftentimes, these brief tidbits of personal information could be linked back to Baltimore Street itself, further emphasizing how very tight-knit the town really was in 1910.

For instance, the *Gettysburg Times* of January 3, 1910 included a snippet informing residents about the return of Mrs. Morris Musselman (a family name which has historically had and continues to have a tremendous influence on the borough of Gettysburg and the outlying regions).²⁶ The same week in 1910, the *Times* also mentioned the visit of one J. Rowe Stewart, who made his home in New York, to Dr. and Mrs. H. L. Diehl. The Diehls lived on Baltimore Street in Gettysburg.²⁷ Another tidbit mentioned in the *Gettysburg Times*, under the headline of "Profitable Poultry," informed readers that Clyde Mumper had eighteen Rhode Island hens which had managed to lay three hundred and sixty-four eggs in one month. According to the brief report, Mumper gratefully attributed this success to "good stock and good care."²⁸ Certainly, the specificity and intimate details of these sorts of stories were unique to the time; nowadays one would be hard-pressed to find such things in any newspaper, excluding exceedingly provincial publications with limited readership.

Early in the year in 1910, the *Gettysburg Times* included a human interest snippet discussing the re-opening of the Gettysburg public schools. The schools had been closed for nearly two weeks for the holiday season, and, according to the article, "the boys and girls had a good time with various Winter pleasures." The College and Seminary also resumed classes at the same time for the spring semester.²⁹ Though this brief notice did not mention any individuals specifically, we can employ our knowledge of who was living in Gettysburg at the time, and who, of those residents, had children enrolled in the public school system, to determine who the news in this article would have affected. In this case, the Bender children of 235 Baltimore Street, Ruth, John, and their younger sister (whose name is illegible on the 1910 Census records), would likely have enjoyed a two-week vacation from school.³⁰ Perhaps during this recess they passed the time in their father's furniture shop, helping out with odd jobs or waiting on customers. Of course, the children would not have been officially employed at the Bender shop: according to *The Gettysburg Times*, a new federal child labor law

was passed in early 1910 requiring all workers under the age of sixteen to have certain certificates for employment.³¹ It is unlikely that the Benders would have invested in such certificates for their children, who probably just helped out in the shop from time to time. It is entirely possible that Ruth, John, and their younger sister were friends with the Miller children of 269 Baltimore Street. Carrie, aged fifteen, her brother Maurice, aged thirteen, and their sibling Frederick, aged ten were most probably enrolled in the Gettysburg public school system as well.³² It is crucial to extrapolate upon information that can be found in the borough records, for the stories people tell about the not-so-recent past are nothing more than the confluence of documentation and imaginative memories.

Though our focus in this investigation is on the West Side of Baltimore Street from the town square to High Street, it is also worthwhile to examine some of the homes and businesses on Eastern side of the street. After all, the residents and proprietors on the West side interacted with their neighbors across the street each and every day. Through advertisements and announcements printed in the local newspapers, we can tell that an individual by the name of Urie S. Walick managed a store at 46 Baltimore Street (opposite the Court House) called J. H. Myers. This establishment sold children's overcoats, suits for men and boys, and home furnishings.³³ Just a ways down Baltimore Street (at number thirty-six), the discerning consumer of 1910 could pay a visit to the Gettysburg Gas Company. Advertisements that this company ran in the *Gettysburg Times* indicated that the proprietors were quite energy-conscious and knowledgeable; "If your gas does not give all the light you need you are using the wrong fixture," the ad stated. "Call at the office and select a fixture suited to your purpose. Remember it saves the cost in a month."³⁴ For other frugal shoppers, the town's 5 and 10 cent store was located at number six Baltimore Street. The *Gettysburg Times* ran an advertisement for the establishment, "Some Bargains at the 5 and 10 cent store. . . we just received a new line of tools such as Hammers, Hatchets, Gas Plyers [Pliers], Hand Axes, Pinchers, vises. Also a full selection of paints in Enamels, Varnish Stains, and Oil Paints all 10 cents each."³⁵ From these advertisements, as well as those that can be found for businesses on the West side of Baltimore Street and the fire insurance maps from the period, it becomes clear that the street's first fifty addresses or so were largely businesses. Only after the break when West Middle/Middle Streets cut through the block did some of the buildings become more residential.³⁶

The West Side of Baltimore Street played host to the “People’s Drug Store,” which surely would have played a focal role in the town of Gettysburg in 1910. Located at 25 Baltimore Street, the drug store ran many advertisements in the town’s newspapers. One such advertisement, published near the beginning of the calendar year, touted the store’s wide selection of Valentine’s Day cards. “Valentines, from the smallest to largest. 1 cent to \$5.00. Big Lot Valentine Postals. 1 cent to \$5.00. The largest assortment ever opened in town,” the advertisement proclaimed.³⁷ This drug store ran many advertisements in the Gettysburg newspapers, and for good reason: a man named Huber ran another establishment of the same type elsewhere in town. Huber’s drug store also seems to have run frequent ads in the paper.

The residents of Gettysburg in 1910 lived in a world very different from the one we inhabit a century later. There was very little electricity. The new lighting technology was installed at Pennsylvania College that year, but everywhere else gas lamps and candles were still the norm, as demonstrated by the frequent advertisements for gas lamp fixtures and supplies that ran in the local newspapers. Carts and horses were still common, although cars were starting to gain in popularity. There was at least one auto accident reported that year, but far more accidents concerning carts overturning or horses spooking and running off with carts still attached to them.³⁸ Clothing and shoes were beginning to be manufactured rather than made especially for their wearers, but wives and mothers still did a fair amount of sewing and patching of clothing. Most women still did not work, although some of the younger generations were starting to do so. Mary G. Pfeffer, for example, worked at the millinery shop and John Wills’ daughters worked at a variety of professions. The vast majority of the women listed in the 1910 census, however, had no profession aside from housewife and, in some cases, mother.

There was an Episcopal church just up the street from the residential area of Baltimore Street.³⁹ It is not hard to imagine that the people of Baltimore Street would have gone to that very church on a regular basis, putting on their Sunday best, spending most of the morning in church, and then coming home to a day of rest and relaxation from their various businesses, save perhaps for the undertaker – after all, Death knows no days. Some, however, may have been good Irish Catholics or Lutherans and would have gone a bit further a-field for their devotions, and in fact there were a good many people of Irish, Scottish, Scots-Irish, and German descent in the borough, since the area had been settled

primarily by those groups in the late 1700s and early 1800s.⁴⁰ The people who lived on Baltimore Street were most likely moderately religious, which is to say that they came from mostly German or Scots-Irish stock, were practicing Christians, and were part of the middle class, which meant that they were neither completely unconcerned with the state of their souls nor obsessed about them. Religious sensibility was beginning to loosen up. There was a debate that year as to whether fishing ought to be permitted on Sundays, evidence that religion and entertainment were beginning to clash with each other.⁴¹

If they were not terribly religious, however, they were remarkably political. There are indications that most of the residents of the street participated in the political activities of the time, and newspaper articles concerning the president's activities would seem to indicate that the residents of the town had at least a passing interest in what was going on in the world at large. Two residents of the street, George P. Black and Joseph Sefton, served on the grand and petit juries respectively at the local courthouse that year.⁴² There was evidently very little for the grand jury to do that year, but the petit jury saw some activity. It is interesting to note that illegitimate children were a matter to be considered by courts – the purported fathers and the mothers were reported in the newspaper along with the outcome of the case.⁴³ Harry Bender was the president pro tempore for the Board of Health in the town and there seems to have been a fair bit of buying and selling of property among the families living on the street. This propensity for politics seems to have been a commonly recognized trait. Henry Eyster Jacobs noted in his journal that the people of the area were a crafty lot, “in fair circumstances, clannish, aristocratic.” He noted their fondness for politics as part of the essential nature of the Scots-Irish who had settled the region.⁴⁴

Of course, the residents of Baltimore Street faced a number of societal problems. The first and foremost of them all was disease. The world in 1910 was not a healthy place – infant mortality was high, as was the death rate from disease of the aged. The report of the Board of Health in 1910 stated that nine children under 5 and nineteen elderly citizens had passed away in the year preceding, and the worst killer among all the possible causes of death was not heart disease, cancer, or old age, but rather various types of lung disease.⁴⁵ Tuberculosis was a major concern for the state in that year. Numerous articles were published concerning the so-called “White Plague” which was sweeping the state and leaving a trail of devastation among the very old and the very young. “Health Commissioner Dixon,” the *Gettysburg Republican Compiler* reported, “is

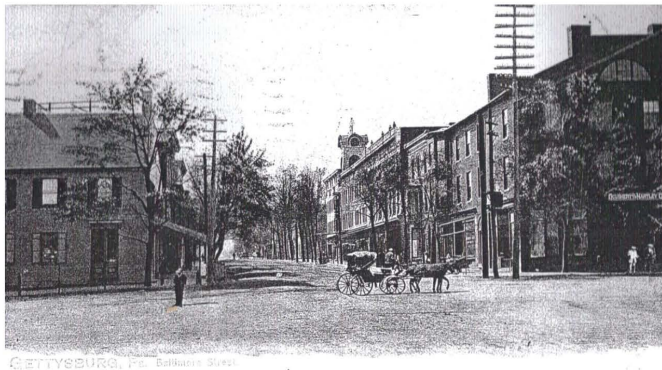
educating the masses to the dangers of tuberculosis and showing them how to guard against the spread of the disease."⁴⁶

There was an outbreak of diphtheria in the nearby town of McSherrystown that year – the sufferers were promptly quarantined to prevent an outbreak in other parts of the county. Another advertisement warned emphatically that, "It May be Pneumonia." The ad went on to warn of "a hard chill, pain through the chest, difficult breathing, then Fever with great prostration. If this should be your experience, send for your doctor."⁴⁷ Last but not least, there was an outbreak of rabies in the town and specifically on Baltimore Street that year. A yellow dog was seen to quite literally tear down the street, biting three people before finally being shot and examined. If further sightings were to be believed, there was more than one rabid animal, and a one hundred day ban was placed on all dogs running in the streets.⁴⁸

The town of Gettysburg in 1910 was, in some ways, a proverbial foreign country. The methods of transportation used, the social concerns, and the customs of the day were vastly different from the ones with which we are familiar today. Life was, in some ways, more settled – there was none of the urgency to life that so many have complained about in modern times. People grew up with their families, lived with them until they themselves married, and then moved out, had children, and supported themselves in different professions than the ones we today find most useful and relevant. In some ways though, life in 1910 was not so very different from the average lifestyle in small towns in modern times. People got up early in the morning, went to work, came home to their children, and had jury duty the same as most of us do on an everyday basis. Women went to visit their friends, men went fishing and hunting, and people were born and died. Local politics mattered more than the great happenings of the world, a fact which is still true in Gettysburg. The year 1910 was, in many ways, part of the transition point between the old world of the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries, and the new reality of cars, telephones, and industrialism that we are so familiar with. With changes in technology came changes in morality, social tradition, and the entire fabric of life in the town, which were slowly chipping away some of the old closeness and insularity of the town and opening it to the bigger happenings of the world.



The George E. Stock Tobacco Store on Baltimore Street, circa. 1910
Image courtesy of the Adams County Historical Society



Postcard depicting Baltimore Street circa. 1910
Image courtesy of the Adams County Historical Society



Image depicting church on Baltimore Street circa. 1910
Image courtesy of the Adams County Historical Society



Image depicting Baltimore Street circa. 1910
Image courtesy of the Adams County Historical Society

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ENDNOTES

- ¹ Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps and professional service advertisements in *Gettysburg Republican Compiler*, 1910.
- ² 1910 Census Records, 212.
- ³ *Gettysburg Republican Compiler*, June 6, 1928.
- ⁴ *Ibid.*, Apr. 13 and Apr. 26, 1910.
- ⁵ Dr. Charles Glatfelter, *Research Report No. 1*, April 1973, 15, ACHS.
- ⁶ *Ibid.*, 16.
- ⁷ *The Gettysburg Times*, January 1, 1910.
- ⁸ *Ibid.*, January 1, 1910.
- ⁹ *The Gettysburg Times*, 1910 . Such advertisements ran on a regular basis.
- ¹⁰ *Star and Sentinel*, Dec. 2, 1916.
- ¹¹ See for example *The Gettysburg Times*, April 27, 1910.
- ¹² Glatfelter, *Research Report No. 1*, 14.
- ¹³ Mumper Family File, Adams County Historical Society.
- ¹⁴ *Gettysburg Republican Compiler*, May 11, 1910.
- ¹⁵ *The Gettysburg Times*, January 1, 1910.
- ¹⁶ *Ibid.*, January 1, 1910.
- ¹⁷ National Geographic Society,
<http://photography.nationalgeographic.com/photography/photographers/photography-timeline.html>.
- ¹⁸ See for example *Gettysburg Republican Compiler* Apr. 6, 1910.
- ¹⁹ 1910 Census Records Gettysburg Borough 2nd Ward, 212.
- ²⁰ *Ibid.*, 212.
- ²¹ *Gettysburg Republican Compiler*, July 20, 1910.
- ²² *Ibid.*, Early November (Before the sixteenth of the month).
- ²³ *Ibid.*, May 16, 1910, 4.
- ²⁴ *Ibid.*, Mar. 16, 1918.
- ²⁵ 1910 Census Records Gettysburg Borough 2nd Ward , 213.
- ²⁶ *Gettysburg Times*, Jan. 3, 1910.
- ²⁷ *Gettysburg Times*, Jan. 1, 1910.
- ²⁸ *Ibid.*, January 3, 1910.
- ²⁹ *Ibid.*, January 3, 1910.
- ³⁰ 1910 Census Records Gettysburg Borough 2nd Ward, 212.

³¹ *The Gettysburg Times*, January 1, 1910.

³² 1910 Census Records Gettysburg Borough 2nd Ward, 214 or 215.

³³ *The Gettysburg Times*, 1910 – this was a generally run advertisement and can be easily found in almost any edition of the paper.

³⁴ *Ibid.*, 1910.

³⁵ *Ibid.*, 1910.

³⁶ Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1912.

³⁷ *The Gettysburg Times*, Feb, 1910.

³⁸ There was in fact an auto accident on Baltimore Street – a Miss Stammers was hit while crossing the road in June of 1910 – see *Gettysburg Republican Compiler*, Wednesday, June 15, 1910. There were also a number of cart accidents that year, including one that resulted in a fatality – see *Star and Sentinel*, December 7, 1910.

³⁹ Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1907 and 1912. This was the Prince of Peace Church, at the corner of Baltimore and High Streets.

⁴⁰ Henry Eyster Jacobs, *Early Gettysburg History: Town and College* (Transcript of his journal, Courtesy of Gettysburg College Special Collections), 6.

⁴¹ *Gettysburg Republican Compiler*, Early November, 1910.

⁴² *Ibid.*, Jan 19, 1910.

⁴³ *Ibid.*, Jan. 26, 1910.

⁴⁴ Jacobs, *Early Gettysburg History*, 6.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.*, Jan 12, 1910.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*, March 16, 1910.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.*, Feb. 9, 1910.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*, Feb. 9 and Feb. 16, 1910.