

Capsule Summary

Survey # F-3-155
Street Address 731 N. Market Street
Town, State Frederick, Maryland 21701
private , public

Approximate date 1862-1867

The property known as the Winchester House is a brick Italianate style dwelling located at 731 N. Market Street, opposite the intersection with 8th Street in Frederick City. Built during the 1860s, most likely between 1862 and 1867, It is distinguished by a bracketed cornice, decorative wooden window heads and an entrance porch with square molded columns and brackets. The interior has a central entrance and stair hall, a formal room arrangement, four panel doors and molded and carved plaster ceiling medallions.

Apparently built by Hiram Winchester and his wife, Juliet, between 1862 and 1867 the Winchester House is an excellent example of an Italianate style dwelling which retains most of its important character defining features. It meets criterion C as an example of Frederick architecture of the 1860s, when the city was experiencing a great deal of unrest because of divided loyalties during the Civil War and because of repeated occupation by both armies, in 1862, 1863 and 1864. The architectural character of the house reflects the design preferences of the more affluent population of the town. Hiram Winchester was a founder of the Frederick Female Seminary in 1840, located on Church Street. The Female Seminary eventually became Hood College. The school experienced financial difficulties during the war and was closed in 1863 and 1864. Hiram Winchester was president of the school from 1846-1865.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. F-3-155

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Winchester House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 731 North Market Street

not for publication

city, town Frederick

vicinity of

congressional district 6

state Maryland

county Washington

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district)	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Interfaith Housing of Western Maryland, Inc.

street & number 205 S. Church St., PO Box 48

telephone no.: 301-662-4225

city, town Middletown

state and zip code MD 21769-0048

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Court House

Liber 2321

street & number West Patrick Street

Folio 0882

city, town Frederick

state MD 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historic Surveys

title N/A

date

federal

state

county

local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. F-3-155

<u> </u> excellent	<u> </u> deteriorated	<u> </u> unaltered	<u> X </u> original site
<u> X </u> good	<u> </u> ruins	<u> X </u> altered	<u> </u> moved date of move <u> </u>
<u> </u> fair	<u> </u> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The property known as the Winchester House is a brick Italianate style dwelling located at 731 N. Market Street, opposite the intersection with 8th Street in Frederick City. Built during the 1860s, most likely between 1862 and 1867, It is distinguished by a bracketed cornice, decorative wooden window heads and an entrance porch with square molded columns and brackets. The interior has a central entrance and stair hall, a formal room arrangement, four panel doors and molded and carved plaster ceiling medallions.

General Description:

The house is located on a large landscaped lot (1.2 acres), and is situated well back from the street. The rear yard has been paved to make a parking lot, from the time when the house was used as headquarters for the Frederick police department in the 1960s and 1970s. The house is L-shaped with a telescoping wing to the rear with a south-facing double porch. A modern (ca. 1960s) shed roofed garage has been attached to the west end wall of the wing. The house is two and a half stories high with a raised basement which is entered at the rear of the building. At the north elevation, there is a one and a half story, shed roofed projection, containing a window on each side at the main level and an entrance to the cellar.

Bricks forming the walls are laid in common bond with a ratio of six stretcher courses for each header row, a pattern typical of the third quarter of the 19th century. The building is three bays wide at the front elevation with a central entrance. The entrance is reached by five steps leading to a one-bay-wide porch supported by square columns with molded collars. The entrance has a four panel door surrounded by a six light transom and side lights. These elements are contained by a broad architrave. The rear entrance in the south elevation has a six panel door with a shallow transom and double side lights on one side only. Other entrances open onto the rear porch system. These doors are simpler with four panels and transoms only.

Windows have six over six pane sash. Those at the first floor level front section are elongated. Windows at the front elevation are embellished with decorative carved wooden hoods, consisting of molded cornices with three brackets on each. First story front windows are further embellished with segmentally arched wooden tops above the cornice. The central second story window is actually a jib door with hinged panels beneath the lower sash which opens to allow access to the roof of the entrance porch. The low balustrade on the porch roof is a replacement of the original which would have probably been more similar to the first story deck balustrade. The balustrade was replaced during the time that the police station was located in the building. Windows at the side and rear elevations are much simpler than the front windows, with only a molded cornice forming the headers. The north and south gables of the front section are lit with round windows with eight wedge shaped panes. Windows at the front elevation have pairs of louvered shutters with fixed louvers.

The roof, now covered with asphalt shingles, is a low-pitched gabled structure with a deep overhang. There is a saw-tooth cut wooden frieze embellished with paired brackets. The overhang and bracket trim is only found on the front section, all sides and the first section of the rear wing and the shed roofed north extension. The west gables of the two rear wing extensions terminate with flush barge boards. The only chimneys present are located inside the gable ends of the two rear extensions. The westernmost extension is lower in height than the first extension which is a full three stories high.

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DOE yes no

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Interior:

The front entrance opens into a broad stair hall. The staircase which rises along the south wall of the passageway, has a massive turned newel post, flattened hand rail and turned balusters. The ends of the risers are trimmed with decorative scrolls. Doors from the hallway into rooms on either side have architraves and paneled jambs trimmed with Grecian ogee molding. Doors in front of and behind the staircase open into one large room taking up the entire south side of the front section of the house. Although doors, windows and baseboards remain intact, this room was modified to accommodate the building's former use as a police station. It is likely, in fact, that this space was once two separate rooms or served as a double parlor which would have been typical of the 1860s period.

On the opposite of the entrance hall are two rooms which remain largely intact. The front (northeast) room has had its four panel door sliced in two to create upper and lower leaves. Linoleum tiles have been laid on the floor. However, baseboards, windows and trim all remain. The northwest room of the front section has a window apparently for borrowed light, into the small projecting north end room which has its own window to the exterior. The interior window is complete with four over four light sash.

The rear service wing is divided into four rooms, the largest of which is adjacent to the front part of the house and within the three story section of the wing. This room also includes a service stair to the second story and to the cellar. This room and the stair is accessed from the rear of the main hallway and also directly from the outside rear porch. The stair which is enclosed, runs from south to north and is reached through a door with six raised panels. The door, dating from the 18th century, is not consistent with any others in the house and appears to have been brought in from elsewhere. Most other interior doors have four panels and cast iron rim locks with ceramic knobs which date from the 1860s.

The cellar beneath the front section of the house has been converted for use as a jail. Concrete block walls and iron barred doors are the dominant features of this area.

The second floor follows a plan similar to that of the first floor. Noteworthy features include a small room at the front of the hall with a jib window opening onto the roof of the front porch. Hinged paneled leaves beneath the sash have the same moldings as used elsewhere in the house. The large room at the south side of the front of the house appears to have originally been divided in two. Centered in the ceiling of the front portion is a plaster medallion featuring floral swags within a round bound reed motif. Another ceiling medallion is located in the second floor stair hall. It consists of an acanthus leaf design within a molded border.

Despite the fact that the house served for 20-25 years as headquarters for Frederick police and jail, the architectural elements of this house remain largely intact. The only major architectural features that were removed by the police department were the fireplaces. The building appears to be in good condition. Written documentation as well as physical evidence in the architectural features and construction of the building indicate a construction date in the 1860s.

The house is shown following its current shape on the 1873 **Atlas** map of Frederick. It is identified as "Res. Jas Whitehill."

8. Significance

Survey No. F-3-155

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other(specify)	

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	
and/or	
Applicable Exceptions: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Winchester house, apparently built by Hiram Winchester and his wife, Juliet, between 1862 and 1867 is an excellent example of an Italianate style dwelling which retains most of its important character defining features. It meets criterion C as an example of Frederick architecture of the 1860s, when the city was experiencing a great deal of unrest because of divided loyalties during the Civil War and because of repeated occupation by both armies, in 1862, 1863 and 1864. The architectural character of the house reflects the design preferences of the more affluent population of the town. Hiram Winchester was a founder of the Frederick Female Seminary in 1840, located on Church Street. The Female Seminary eventually became Hood College.

Historic Context:

Frederick was founded in 1745 when landowner Daniel Dulaney laid off lots for sale. The village became a regional agricultural center in an area of central Maryland where the rich land produced handsome grain crops and created a community of prosperous farmers. Due to the prominence of grain production, a major early industry was grist and flour milling and whiskey production. In addition, deposits of iron ore in the mountains to the west of Frederick resulted in an early iron industry. The town was laid out on a major route to the west from Baltimore and another leading south from Pennsylvania to Virginia. Consequently, travel related businesses and industries such as inns, taverns and blacksmith shops grew and became important, particularly along the National Pike. The population of Frederick and the surrounding environs was made up largely of Germans who came into the area from Pennsylvania. However, there was also a substantial number of English descended landowners from eastern Maryland, like Daniel Dulaney, who formed a patrician layer of 18th and 19th century society.

Although Frederick city was established before 1750, the collection of buildings in the town center today is dominated by Federal, Greek Revival and Italianate styles, mostly in brick, denoting a major period of growth and expansion for the city, when first period buildings were replaced or remodeled and the town grew in all directions. During this same time period, the Civil War divided the Frederick community between Union and Confederate sympathizers. While Maryland ultimately stayed within the Union, many families were active supporters of the Confederacy. In the Maryland Campaign of 1862, General Lee chose Frederick as his first place of occupation in Union territory. When Lee's plans for the Maryland Campaign were discovered by the Union Army, their pursuit of the Confederates resulted in the battles of South Mountain and Antietam, less than 20 miles from Frederick. Thus Frederick city and county were terribly impacted by these battles in September of 1862. Frederick was again an encampment site when the Union Army followed Lee into

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Pennsylvania in the summer of 1863 during the Gettysburg Campaign. Then in 1864, the city was ransomed by the Confederates under General Jubal Early, as was Hagerstown, some 20 miles to the west, and Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, about 40 miles to the northwest (Chambersburg refused to pay the ransom and was burned. Hagerstown and Frederick chose to pay.).

Despite this turmoil, Frederick appears to have remained prosperous during the second half of the 19th century. In the downtown area are numerous commercial and residential buildings dating from the 1880s and 1890s and into the 20th century. Today, much of old Frederick is encompassed by a historic district. The Winchester House, located at 731 North Market Street, is not in the historic district. At the time of its construction, it was located on the outskirts of town, and is not part of the concentrated construction that characterizes the downtown district.

Resource History:

The property upon which the Winchester house stands is part of the land grant "Tasker's Chance" upon which much of Frederick now stands. The deeds for the property were traced back to July 31, 1862, when William Lease and Rebecca Lease, his wife, sold slightly more than an acre of land to Juliet Winchester, wife of Hiram Winchester for \$600.00. (Deed Liber BGF, folio 600 and Liber DSB 1, folio 70). According to the deeds, it was part of a larger piece of land conveyed by George Lease to Willaim lease on August 2, 1828 Liber JS 30, folio 23). Sharf's **History of Western Maryland**, (page 485) indicates that George Lease operated a tavern at the north end of Frederick in the early 19th century.

Hiram Winchester was a founder and first president of the Frederick Female Seminary. The school, located on Church Street (in the building known as Winchester Hall which now houses county government offices), was chartered in 1840. The two Greek Revival style temple fronted buildings which contained the school were completed in 1843. Mr. Winchester served as president of the school from 1846 to 1865, when he resigned on August 18th. The school was closed in 1863 and 1864 due to financial difficulties arising from the Civil War. In 1870, a mural tablet was begun in the west building as a memorial to Hiram Winchester, the founder.

On March 27, 1867, Hiram Winchester, and Juliet, his wife sold the house on North Market Street to James Whitehill for \$4550.00. This large jump in price over a five year period, certainly suggests that improvements were made to the property during the Winchester ownership. The architectural features of the house are also consistent with construction during the 1860s. Therefore, it seems that the house was built by the Winchesters either as their home or as a speculative venture.

James Whitehill, the buyer in 1867, was a cabinet maker and undertaker in Frederick, who operated his business at 48-52 East Patrick Street, at the site now occupied by the National Museum of Civil War Medicine. Whitehill, because of his strong abolitionist views, was a controversial figure in Frederick during the 1860s. A series of editorials in the **Maryland Union** of November 16, 1865 criticizes James Whitehill who was an Election Judge that year. The **Union** was a unionist but anti-abolitionist newspaper. Its editor claimed he was disenfranchised by James Whitehill who questioned his loyalty.

Whitehill kept the property at 731 North Market Street until his death. It was sold by his executors to J. Marshall Miller for \$4675.00 on April 4,

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DOE yes no

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1888. (Liber WIP 6, folio 145). The house remained in the Miller family until 1956, when Naomi Miller Koefoed and William H. Hicks, Trustees for the estate of J. Marshall Miller sold the property for \$25,000.00 to the City of Frederick (Liber 566, folio 83). The house was then converted into a police station and jail. It was during this time that much of the rear of the property was paved to create a parking lot. The property belonged to the city until December of 1982 when it was sold to Lee Edward Sharpe and Baerbel Hannelore Sharpe, who sold it to Interfaith Housing of Western Maryland in August, 1997 (Liber 1187, folio 491).

Resource Justification:

The Winchester House meets National Register criterion C as a well documented and intact example of an 1860s period Italianate residence in what was at the time suburban Frederick. Although the house was modified when it was used as a police station in the 1960s and 1970s, it is remarkably intact, considering that function. Major features such as floorplan, woodwork, trim, windows, doors and hardware both exterior and interior remain in place. The house reflects the affluence and growth and development of Frederick during the mid-19th century.

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Magi No.

DOE yes no

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HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Maryland

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Agricultural-Industrial
Transition, 1815-1870.

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture, Landscape
Architecure and Community Planning

Resource Type:

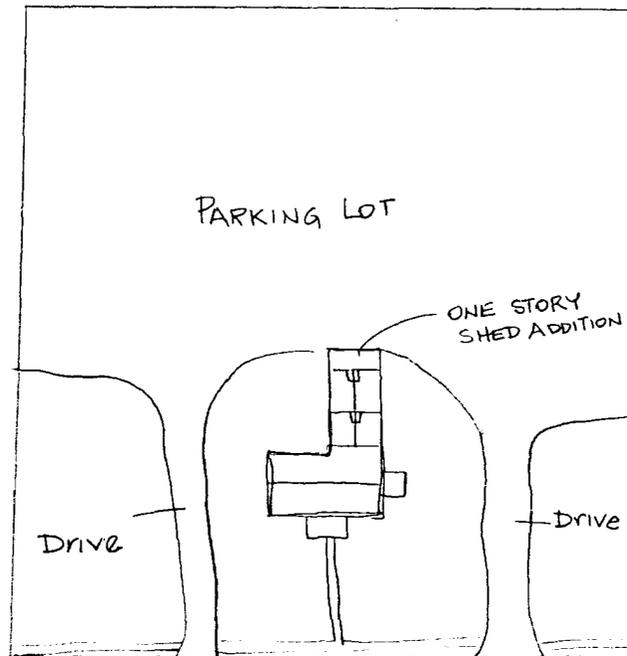
Category: Building

Historic Environment: Suburban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic/Single Dwelling

Known Design Source: None

F-3-155
WINCHESTER HOUSE
731 N. MARKET ST.
FREDERICK, MD
FREDERICK CO.



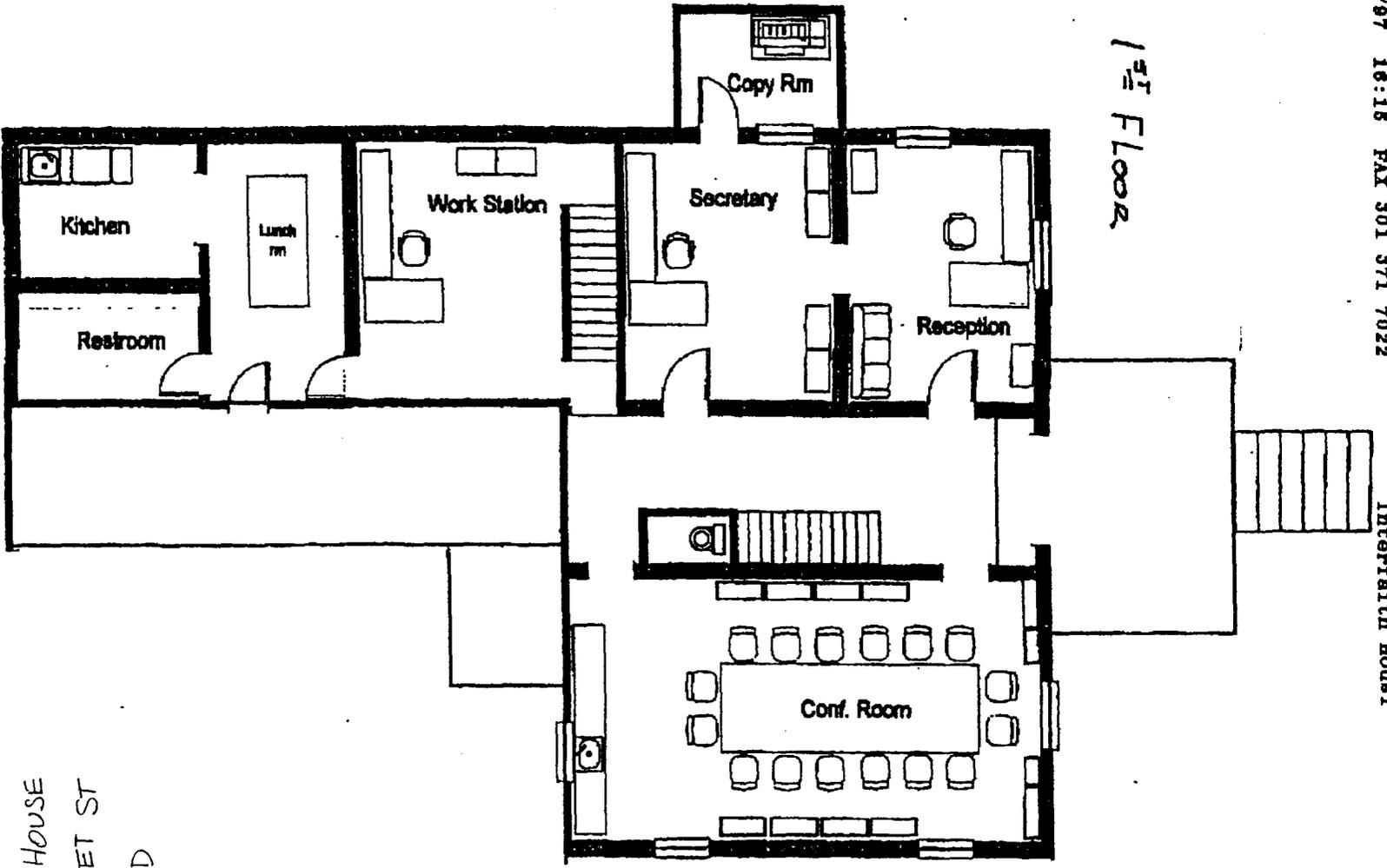
NORTH
→

NOT TO SCALE

N. MARKET ST.

EIGHTH STREET

1ST Floor



1ST Floor

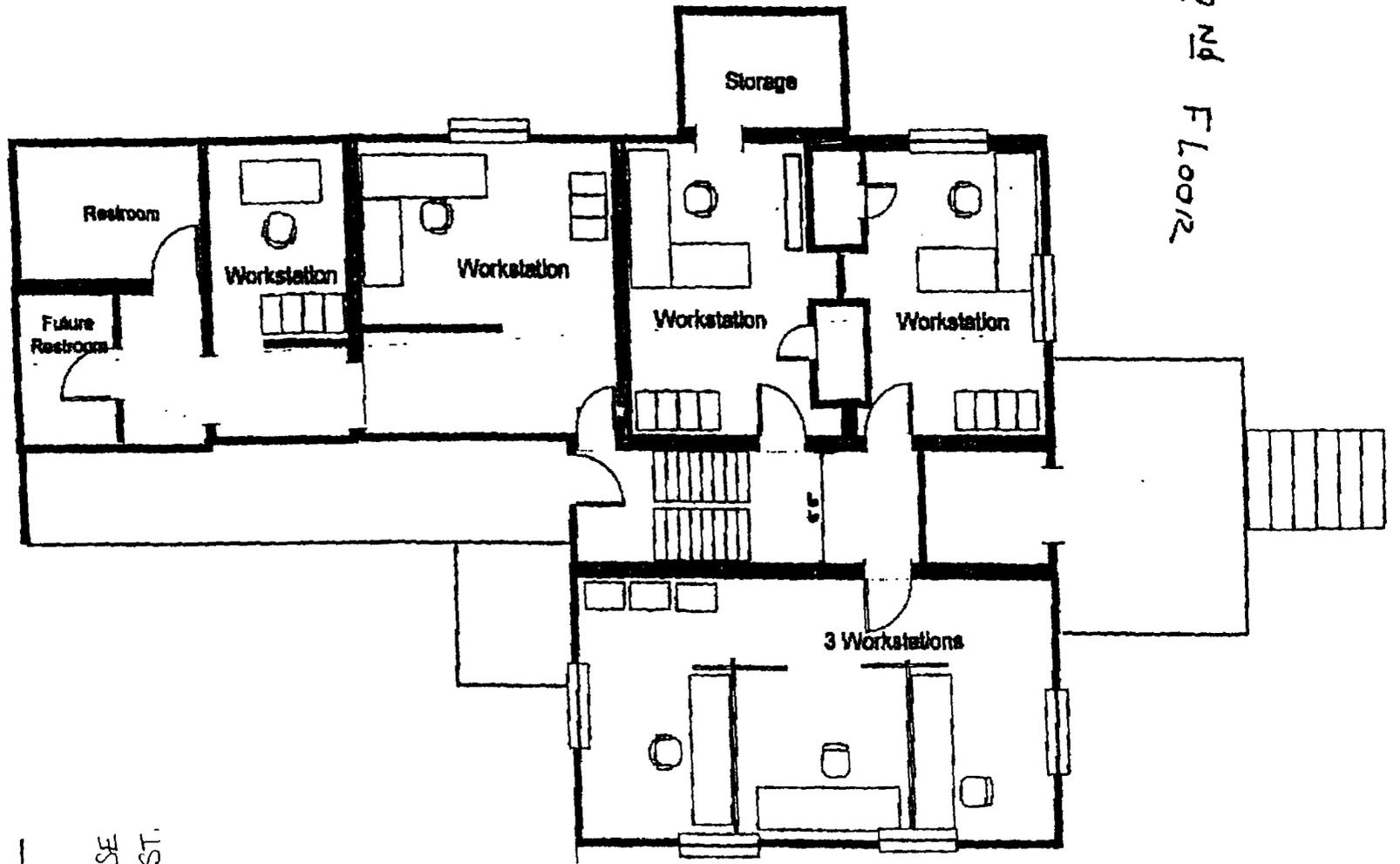
FREDERICK, MD

731 N. MARKET ST

WINCHESTER, HOUSE

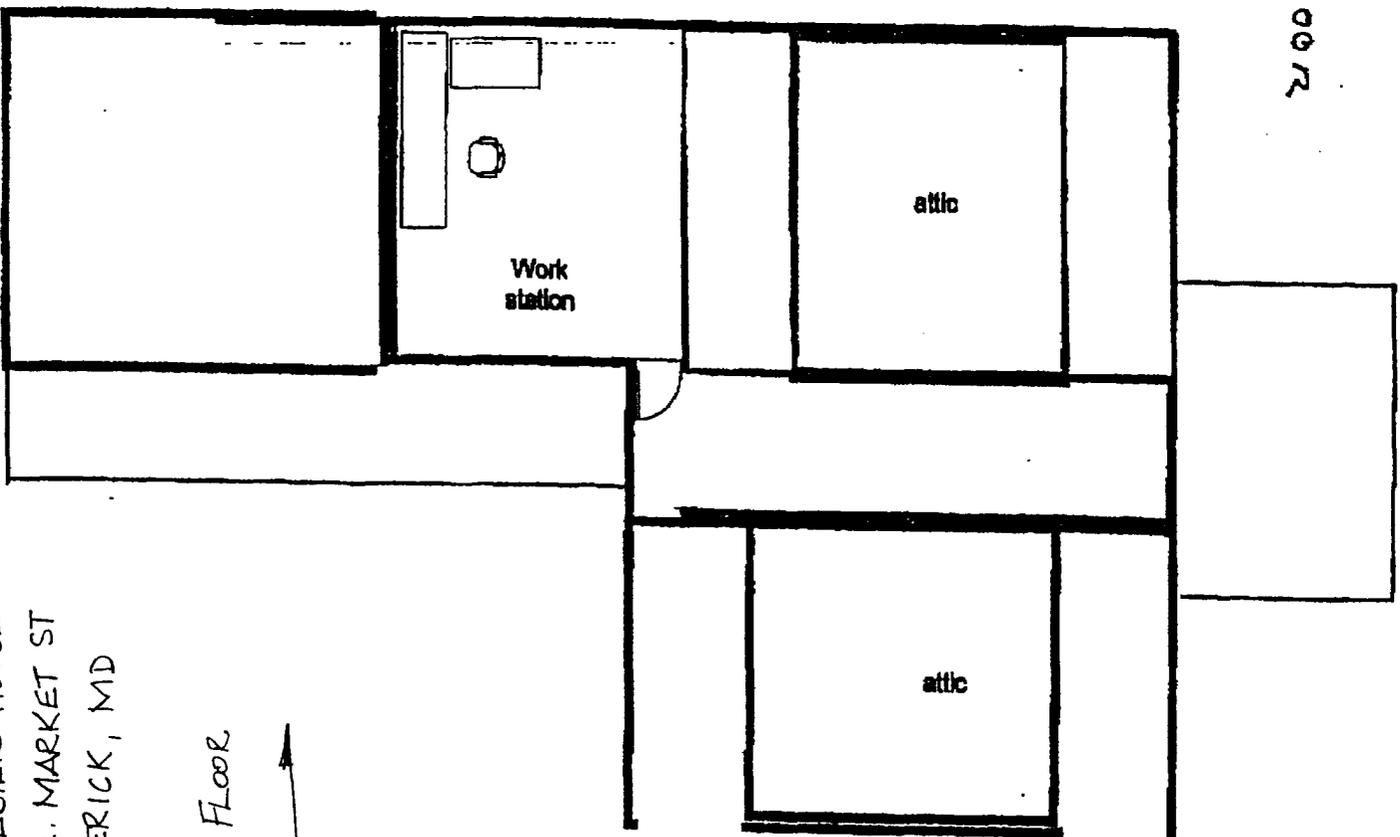
F-3-155

2ND Floor



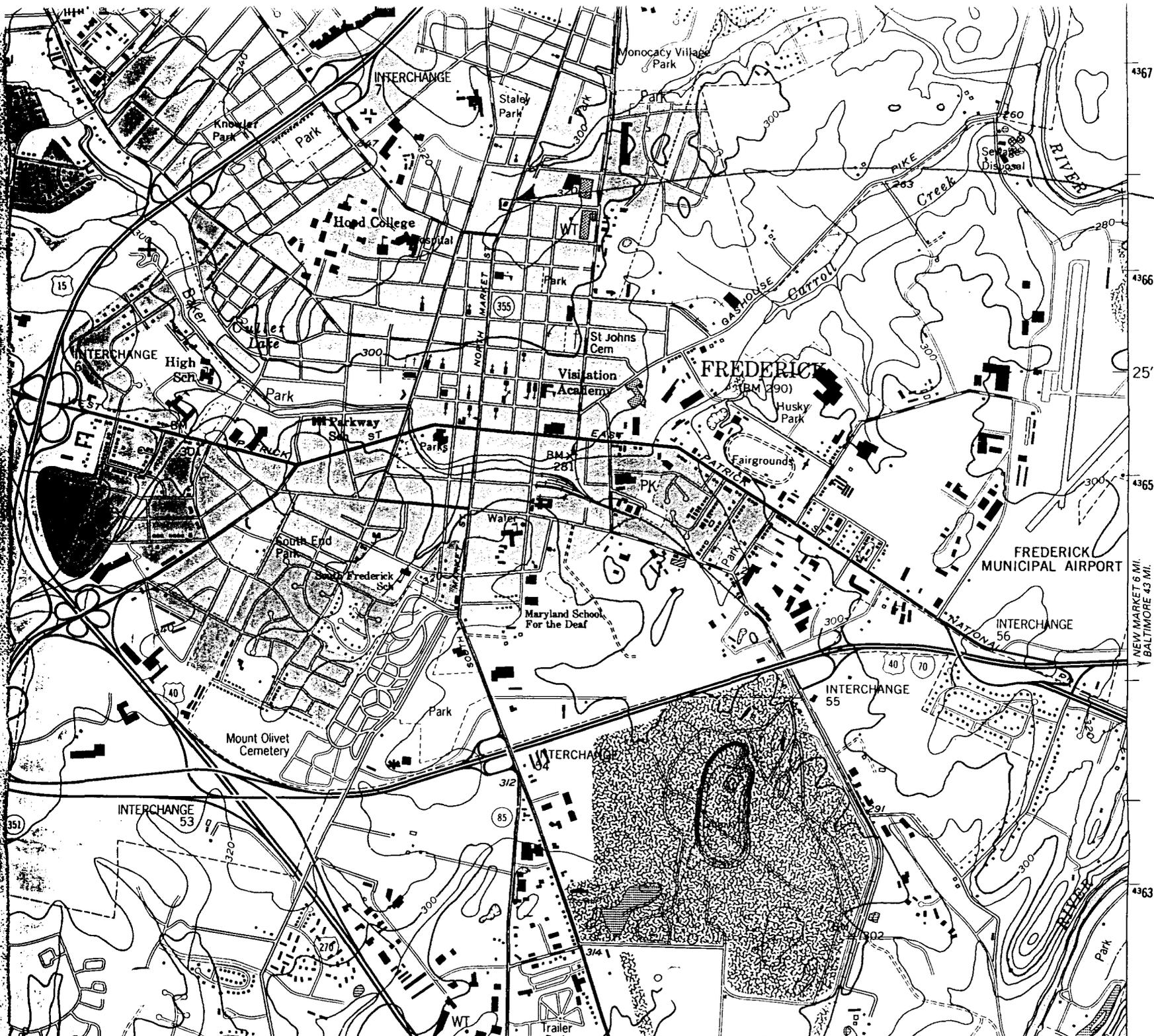
F-3-155
 WINCHESTER HOUSE
 731 N. MARKET ST.
 FREDERICK, MD
 2ND FLOOR
 N →

3RD Floor



F-3-155
WINCHESTER HOUSE
731 N. MARKET ST
FREDERICK, MD

3RD Floor
N →



F-3-155
WINCHESTER HOUSE
731 N. MARKET ST
FREDERICK, MD
FREDERICK CO.

4367

4366

25'

4365

NEW MARKET 6 MI.
BALTIMORE 43 MI.

4363



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St., Frederick, MD, Frederick Co.

photo by Paula S. Reed

10/97

neg. bc. P. Reed + Assoc., Inc. Hag. MD

Front (E.) elevation, W. View

#1



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St., Frederick, MD, Frederick, Co.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

neg. bc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc. Hagerstown, MD

Front and south elevations, NW view

2



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St., Frederick, MD, Frederick Co.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

neg. bc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc. Hagerstown, MD

East (front) elevation - detail, w. view

3



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St., Frederick, MD, Frederick Co.

Photo by P. Reed

10/97

req bc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc., Hagerstown, MD

North and west elevations, SE. View

#4



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St. Frederick, MD, Frederick Co.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

neg. loc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc. Hagerstown, MD

W + N elevations, NE view

#5



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St.,

Frederick MD; Frederick Co.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

neg. loc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc. Hagerstown, MD

NE view, site

#6



F-3-155

Winchester House
731 N. Market St. Frederick, MD
Frederick Co.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

req. loc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc.
Hagerstown, MD

Interior, stair and entrance hall
#7



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St., Frederick, MD

Frederick Co.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

req. loc. P. Reed + Assoc, Inc.

Hagerstown, MD

Interior, Stair and entrance hall

8



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St. Frederick, MD
Frederick Co.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

req. by P. Reed + Assoc., Inc.
Hagerstown, MD

Front door, Interior

#9



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St., Frederick MD
Frederick Co.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

neg. loc. P. Reed + Assoc., Inc.
Hagerstown, MD

Detail, Stairs

#10



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St., Frederick MD
Frederick Co.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

neg loc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc.
Hagerstown, MD

stairs from landing

#11



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St., Frederick, MD

Frederick Co.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

neg loc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc., Hagerstown MD

South room, first floor

#12



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St., Frederick MD

Frederick Co.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

neg loc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc. Hagerstown
MD

NE Room, 1st floor

#13



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St., Frederick MD

Frederick Co.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

neg. loc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc.

Hagerstown, MD

NW Room, 1st floor, with north
room extension

14



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St., Frederick MD
Frederick Co.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

req. loc. P. Reed and Assoc. Inc.
Hagerstown, MD

1st floor service wing stair door

15



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St., Frederick, MD, Frederick Co.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

req. loc. P. Reed + Assoc, Inc. Hagerstown, MD

1st floor, near service wing.

#16



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St. Frederick MD,
Frederick Co.

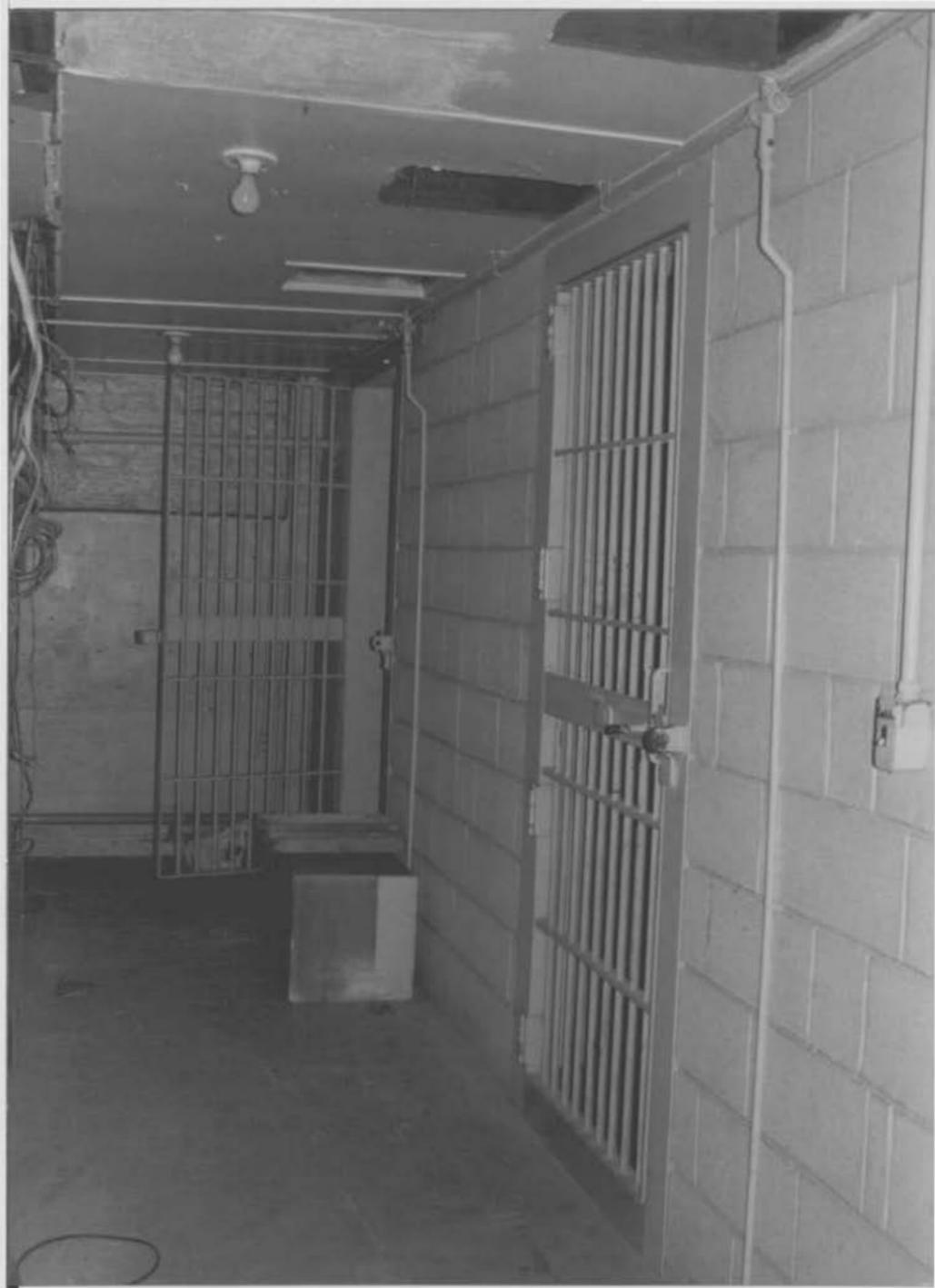
photo by P. Reed

10/97

neg loc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc. Hagerstown
MD

1st floor detail down hardware, door
from service wing to main part of house

#17



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St., Frederick MD
Frederick Co.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

neg. loc. P. Reed + Assoc., Inc.
Hagerstown MD

cellar, converted to jail area

18



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St., Frederick MD
Frederick Co.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

neg. loc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc.

Hagerstown, MD

2nd floor room, front of hall, j'b door

#19

2011.10.24.155



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St. Frederick MD, Frederick Co.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

neg. by P. Reed + Assoc., Inc. Hagerstown, MD

2nd floor, South room

#20



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. MARKET ST., Frederick MD

Frederick Co.

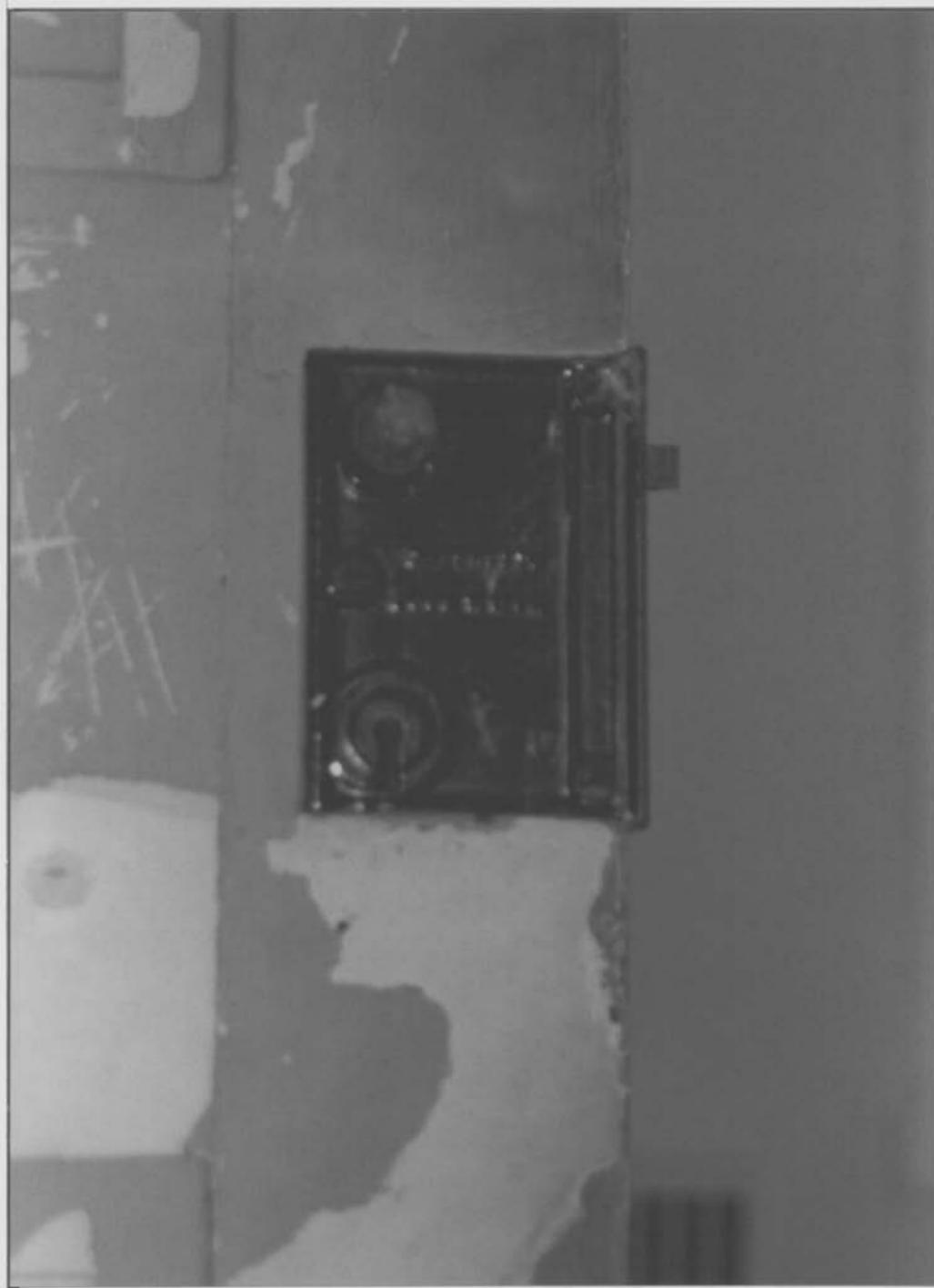
photo by P. Reed

10/97

neg. bc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc. Hagerstown
MD

2nd floor south room floor detail

21



F-3-155

Winchester House
731 N. Market St., Frederick, MD
Frederick Co.

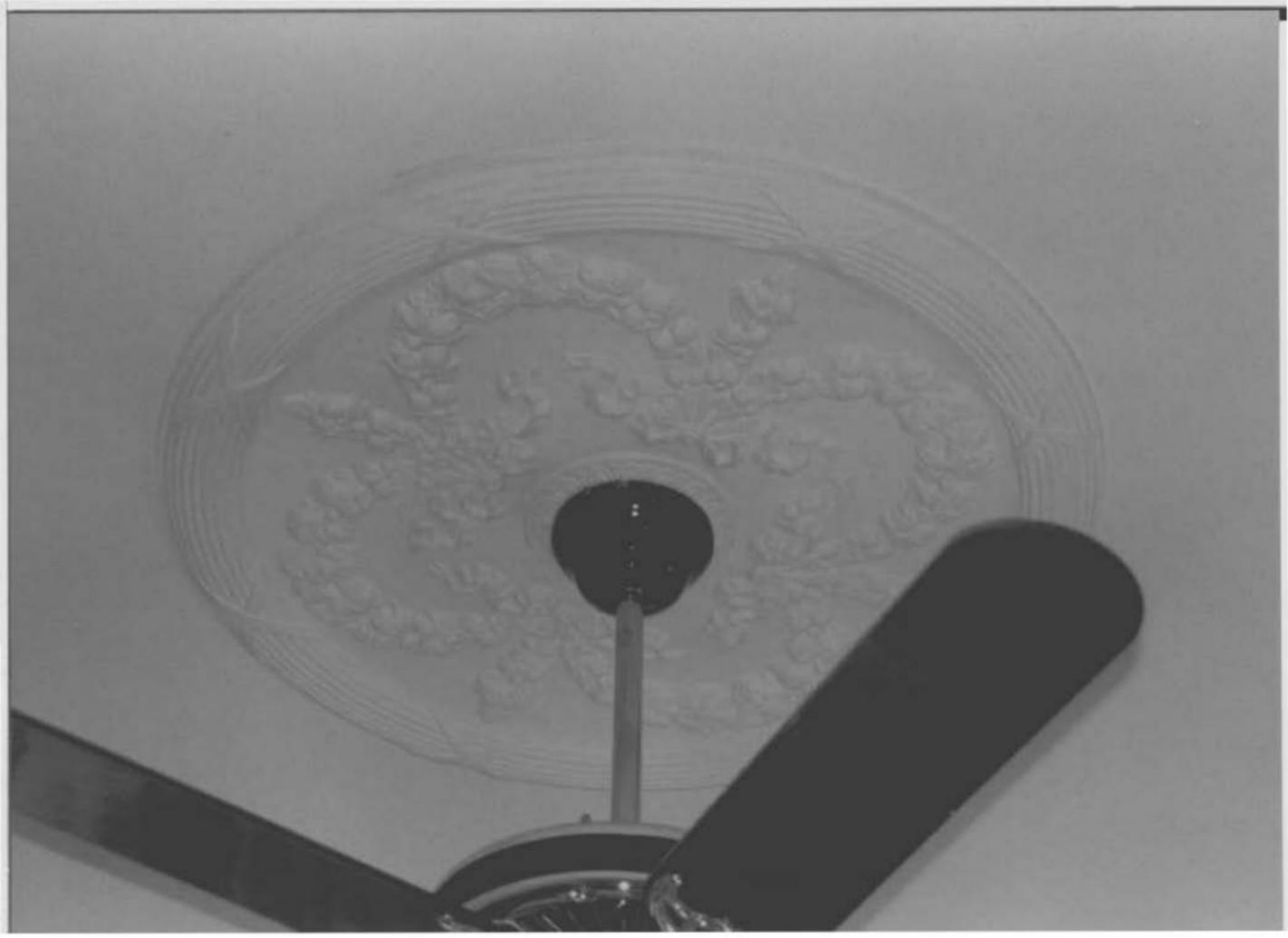
photo by P. Reed

10/97

neg. loc. P. Reed + Assoc, Inc. Hagerstown
MD

Detail, hardware, 2nd floor south room
1860s bck

#22



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St., Frederick, MD, Frederick Co.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

req. loc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc., Hagerstown, MD

plaster ceiling medallion 2nd floor, South room

#23



F-3-155

Winchester House

731 N. Market St.

photo by P. Reed

10/97

req. bc. P. Reed + Assoc, Inc. August 1997

plaster ceiling mucklin, 2nd floor hall

#24