Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries – complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Montgomery
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE: MAY 29 1975

1. NAME

COMMON: Poolesville Historic District

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Junction of Md. Rts. 107, 109, and Willard Road

CITY OR TOWN: Poolesville; 3 1/2 miles west-northwest of Dawsonville.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Eighth

STATE: Maryland — CODE: 24

COUNTY: Montgomery — CODE: 031

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
[X] District [ ] Building [ ] Site [ ] Structure [ ] Object	[ ] Public [ ] Private [X] Both	Public Acquisition: [ ] In Process [ ] Being Considered	[ ] Occupied [ ] Unoccupied [ ] Preservation work in progress	Yes: [ ] Restricted [ ] Unrestricted [ ] No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

[X] Agricultural	[X] Government	[ ] Park	[ ] Transportation	[ ] Comments
[X] Commercial	[ ] Industrial	[X] Private Residence	[ ] Other (Specify)	
[ ] Educational	[ ] Military	[X] Religious		
[ ] Entertainment	[ ] Museum	[ ] Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Multiple ownership

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: — STATE: — CODE:

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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Montgomery County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Rockville — STATE: Maryland — CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1936 — [X] Federal [ ] State [ ] County [ ] Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington — STATE: D.C. — CODE: 11

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Montgomery
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One) ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☒ Fair ☒ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☒ Unexposed	
	(Check One) ☒ Altered ☐ Unaltered	(Check One) ☐ Moved ☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Poolesville Historic District is located at the junctions of Maryland Route 107 (Poolesville-Dawsonville Road), Maryland Route 109 and Willard Road. The Poolesville Historic District is 3 1/2 miles west-northwest of Dawsonville, in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Within the historic district are thirty-three buildings of local architectural and/or historical significance. This number includes structures representing a diversity of styles, materials, and usages, and includes residential, ecclesiastical and commercial architecture, as well as an assorted number of small domestic dependencies, such as dairys and smokehouses. With the exception of the present Town Hall, all of the buildings within the district are privately owned.

Although the occurrence of several disastrous fires in the early twentieth century claimed about twenty-five individual structures dating from the first half of the nineteenth century, a sufficient number remain together with those additional buildings constructed toward the close of the nineteenth century to form one of the largest remaining essentially nineteenth century villages of any significance in Montgomery County. There have fortunately been few intrusions on the town by later, more modern examples of twentieth century commercial architecture. The least obtrusive is the aforementioned Town Hall, built in 1910 in a vaguely classical style. It occupies a prominent location near the center of town and is widely recognized as a local landmark. The most obvious intrusions are those created by two automobile service stations, one located at the intersection of Maryland Routes 107 and 109, and several commercial enterprizes including a farm equipment outlet and a laundromat. The integrity of the village is most immediately threatened by the possibility of one of their three early twentieth century stores (these replaced earlier similar structures and were built in the late Victorian style with elaborate bracketed cornices) being replaced by a modern pre-fab corrugated metal structure. Already one of the three stores has been partially demolished so that the site can be utilized for parking. Unfortunately, these three store buildings represent the last of a number of similar structures that formerly occupied locations near the center of the village; others that do remain have been extensively altered for other uses. Thus far only two buildings have been renovated for adaptive use, and both of these have proved highly successful ventures. One of these is the 1785 House, a two-story, two-part, narrow brick structure at the junction of Maryland Route 107 (Fischer Avenue) and Willard Road, that has been converted for use as a law office and is attractive on the exterior but somewhat "colonialized" on the interior. The other is the Jamison Real Estate Building, a successful utilization of a former three unit Federal-style brick dwelling. The remainder of the structures

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(See continuation sheet No. 1)

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Poolesville

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

within the district are private residences, many dating from within the first half of the nineteenth century, although a few date from the last two decades of the eighteenth century and about ten from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; of the latter category there is one outstanding example of the bungalow style. All of the private residences occupy large tree-shaded lots and are, for the most part, well maintained. Those few that are in a somewhat dilapidated condition, such as the Merchant's Hotel, are said to be candidates for future restorations, according to their respective present owners. Although many of the earlier eighteenth and nineteenth century properties have been enlarged and remodeled since their initial construction, they have managed to retain easily observable vestages of their former appearance and, indeed, through their various stages of "up-dating" physically document the developing sophistication and economic prosperity of their owners. Since many of these houses have remained in the same family for generations, and because there is such a vast amount of primary source material in various private and public collections, a restoration of almost all of these properties to their former appearance, or to any one period in their existance, would be possible.

The several fires that have occurred in Poolesville have created wide gaps in the streetscape but as the majority remain undisturbed by later development and are, for the most part, wooded, they at least help to preserve the rural nature of the village and provide pleasant open spaces.

It is unfortunate that with the rapid growth of suburban Washington, Poolesville has seen fit to annex a great portion of the open farm land surrounding the village. Most of these hundreds of acres are being zoned for light industrial, commercial, and residential development. To date the extent of this development has been a waste of small housing developments that occupy a large area just east of the town. These developments consist of a variety of housing types, including "suburban ranchers," "bi-level colonials," and rough textured modular farms. The only other recent construction that has taken place in close proximity to the historic district is the large Poolesville High School on Willard Road.

The listing and brief description of the most significant historic buildings in Poolesville that follows is keyed to the attached Historic District map:

(See continuation sheet No. 2)

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Poolesville

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

(1), BAUMAN HOUSE. This simple, two-story stone farmhouse, has been appreciably altered from the original. The front part, of log construction, is believed to be the original house, dating from 1783. (2), ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH. Built in 1847 this structure is one of the oldest churches in Poolesville. The original building was added to in 1890. It was recently restored and is in excellent condition. (3), HOSKINSON HOUSE. The Federal-style trim and overall plan of this house indicates that it was probably built during the second quarter of the nineteenth century. It has been occupied continuously by the Hoskinson family since about 1845. A small brick dairy house at the rear is of particular interest. (4), 1785 HOUSE. The first known record of this house appears in 1832 when this small, two-part, two-story, brick house was owned by John Poole. It was originally two houses but was remodeled recently to adapt it for use as a law office. (5), VETERINARY OFFICE (Methodist Church). This simple, two-story brick building has been somewhat batered over the years but an authentic restoration would be possible using a known collection of contemporary (1820) records and later, pre-alteration photographs. This building has served a variety of purposes, from that of a church whose congregation divided into north and south sympathizers, to a Town Hall where some citizens refused to attend meetings because they felt it sacriligious, to its use in 1892 as a Y.M.C.A. center, and then to its present use as a veterinary clinic. An early minister is buried under the floor, and there are a few early stones in the adjacent cemetery. (6), DR. THOMAS POOLE HOUSE, a two and one-half story, three-bay, brick Federal house that is one of the better representative examples of this architectural style in the area. To one side of the house is a lower, two-story addition built in 1870. A rear wing is of interest for a wide, arched doorway through which a small carriage could be driven. An interesting stone springhouse is also worthy of continued preservation. (7), FREDERICK POOLE HOUSE. The original five-bay section of this two-story, seven-bay stuccoed brick house is believed to have been built by Robert Willson prior to 1820 as it is listed in the tax assessment for that year. The present appearance of the house, however, dates from the late nineteenth century. Decorative Victorian cast iron porch supports and fencing are particularly noteworthy. During the Civil War the body of Col. Edward Baker, friend of President Lincoln, Senator from Oregon and a Commander of the Union Forces, was brought to this house after he was killed at the Battle of Ball's Bluff in October, 1861.

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Poolesville

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

(8), MERCHANT'S HOTEL, built as the home and office of Dr. Stephen White in 1830. The basically Federal-style house was later the home of his son, Dr. Benjamin White. In the late nineteenth century the house served as a small hotel and the present owners are considering restoring it to its late nineteenth century appearance, utilizing the original Merchant's Hotel sign. (10), WATKINS' HOUSE, while this small house is fairly typical of the townhouses of the first half of the nineteenth century its continued maintenance helps to preserve a degree of continuity to the streetscape. (12), OLD BAPTIST CHURCH. This small, two story brick structure with an end facade and crow-stepped gable is one of four churches built within a few years of each other along similar architectural lines. The 25 by 40 foot structure was dedicated in 1865. (14), The SCHUM HOUSE, is the original clapboard faced house built around 1800, recorded as a tavern operated by a Mr. Riney in 1802. It was occupied in 1860 by Samuel Cator who was postmaster and blacksmith. It was restored by Mr. and Mrs. Tillack in the 1950's. Its present owners expect to preserve its period character. (16), HERSPERGER HOUSE. The original section of this two part brick and frame house was built in 1830 in a style reminiscent of tidewater Maryland architecture. A frame addition was made to it in the 1870's. This house appears in pictures of Poolesville taken during the Civil War. (18), TOWN HALL. The foundations of this Hall, the third building to be built on them, are said to have been originally laid in 1826 and the present building erected on them in 1910 which served as a bank until 1967. The original (1826) building was part of a larger inn. Situated on an island made by the juncture of Old Coxen's Lane and Fisher Avenue it is the town landmark. It has so long dominated the center of town that its preservation and restoration is urged. (19), JOHN POOLE HOUSE. Though of a poor appearance, the original log portion of this interesting small house is documented as having been built in 1793 and thus is one of the oldest houses in Poolesville. Its origin as the home of John Poole, for which Poolesville is named, validates its historical significance to the village. The original section has a large stone and brick chimney at one end. When an addition was made to the rear a second similar chimney was built and between the two chimneys a small, shed roofed, stone out-shut. (20), STEVENS' HOUSE. This interesting, two story, ell shaped, late Federal-style brick house is believed to have been built in the 1840's with no alterations

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Poolesville

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

or additions of any significance made to it since that time. (21), JAMISON REAL ESTATE OFFICE, an attractive two-part building recently renovated for its present use as a real estate office. This is an excellent example of the adaptive use of a former three unit dwelling that probably dates about 1830. In 1855 this property is recorded as having had, besides the existing building, a tailor shop, a brick meat house, a log kitchen, a small, wooden, one-story shoe shop, and a log stable. (23), HALMDS HOUSE. This pleasant, two-story frame house, the home of the present mayor of Poolesville, is attractively situated on a large tree-shaded lot. Built during the second half of the nineteenth century it has several Victorian-style embellishments. This house is a fairly typical example of similar adjacent structures. (24), HILLARD HOUSE. With its great number of deep, balustraded verandas and wide gables this is perhaps one of the most attractively designed and maintained early twentieth century bungalow-types in this area. (31), PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. The church was built in 1847--1848 of brick made in Washington, D.C. Except for the addition of the entrance vestibule, it remains today exactly as it was when built, with three tall windows on each side elevation, two second floor windows on the gable front, and an interior gallery. This church was the scene of several incidents during the Civil War, including minor skirmishes on its grounds and its use as a hospital. On one historic Sunday Captain "Lige" White's cavalry unit surrounded the church during services, waited for the services to end, and captured the emerging Union troops. (32), SEYMOUR'S HOUSE. Not much is known of the early history of this house. It is of log construction and of an early design. Its appearance with its perfect proportions on an unusually small scale adds to the charm of a small town streetscape. (33), JOHN HALL HOUSE. An 1832 record shows Craven P. Beeding as the owner-builder of "a large frame house" on this site. However, a log portion of this two-story, seven-bay clapboarded house is believed to date from about 1800.

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8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- ☐ Pre-Columbian
- ☐ 15th Century
- ☐ 16th Century
- ☐ 17th Century
- ☒ 18th Century
- ☒ 19th Century
- ☒ 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)*

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- Aboriginal
  - ☐ Prehistoric
  - ☐ Historic
- ☐ Agriculture
- ☒ Architecture
- ☐ Art
- ☒ Commerce
- ☐ Communications
- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Engineering
- ☐ Industry
- ☐ Invention
- ☐ Landscape Architecture
- ☐ Literature
- ☒ Military
- ☐ Music
- ☐ Political
- ☐ Religion/Philosophy
- ☐ Science
- ☐ Sculpture
- ☐ Social/Humanitarian
- ☐ Theater
- ☒ Transportation
- ☐ Urban Planning
- ☐ Other *(Specify)*

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The boundaries of the Poolesville Historic District encompass an interesting collection of nineteenth and early twentieth century architecture that, in context, has great significance to the social and economic development of this area of Montgomery County. Unfortunately, several fires, most notably those of 1923, 1935, and 1953, have destroyed various buildings, creating wide gaps in the streetscapes. In several instances these empty lots have been, within the last two decades, commercially developed, using building styles that do not harmonize architecturally or aesthetically with the surrounding village. However, the integrity of the town has been essentially retained and is worthy of attention on both local and state levels.

Although Poolesville is primarily an early nineteenth century village, that for all practical purposes began its existance as a convenient crossroads settlement which served the many surrounding farms, the building of private residences and commercial establishments continued well after the Civil War. This history of the settlement, however, dates to about the middle of the eighteenth century when various land grants were given to a small number of individuals settling what was then Maryland's frontier. It was these early grants that were, by the close of the eighteenth century and the first two decades of the nineteenth century, eventually re-surveyed and divided into smaller tracts and individual lots.

The first house erected in Poolesville is the John Poole House, a small log structure built in 1793. In the thirty odd years ensuing the tax records show only four additional buildings as having been built, but by 1830 the number had grown to ten, with thirty-one additional lots surveyed but as yet undeveloped. By 1850, however, there were twenty-five families residing in Poolesville and the majority of the houses now standing date from this period of Poolesville's growth. The Federal census of 1850 shows the following occupations represented in Poolesville: three blacksmiths, two cabinetmakers, five tailors, two merchants, two physicians, one teacher, and two wheelwrights. By 1861, when a map of Poolesville was prepared by Simon Martinet, there were fifty-one standing buildings, excluding domestic dependencies,

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Poolesville

8. SIGNIFICANCE, continued

of which there was undoubtedly a large number.

Although Poolesville in the eighteenth century was situated along a well established and frequently traveled route, and by the 1840's had established itself as an important economic center for this then sparsley settled region, it wasn't until the years of the American Civil War that the town experienced state and national attention of any significant degree. The proximity of Poolesville to a number of battle areas placed the village in an awkward situation, given the divided loyalties of the inhabitants; it was as frequently occupied by Union troops as it was Confederates, these troops often arriving within one day, or even several hours of each other.

The following is taken from one of the many sources that document activities that occurred in and around Poolesville during the Civil War:

> Poolesville possibly saw more of the Civil War than any other town in Maryland with the exception of Sharpsburg. In June, 1861, Poolesville was occupied by Stone's Corps of Observation and throughout the winter of 1861-62 some 20,000 troops were encamped within five miles of the town. Many of these troops became a part of the Second Corps of the Army of the Potomac. At the Frederick Poole House located on the south side of Fischer Avenue, just before Willard Road, the funeral services were held for Colonel Edward Baker, killed at Ball's Bluff on October 21, 1861. The town was frequently occupied by Federal troops and occasionally by Confederate troops. During the Antietam campaign, September, 1862, Confederate General "Jeb" Stuart established here his extreme right flank. Federal troops entered, advanced from the east along the present Md. 107 and a considerable skirmish resulted. Colonel E. V. White, a native of this community and commander of the 35th Va. Cavalry Battalion raided this area in December, 1862. During the remainder of the winter some 5,000 Federal Troops were detailed to this area. On June 26, 1863, Poolesville was headquarters for General Joseph Hooker as he followed Lee northward. Following his attack on Washington in July, 1864, Confederate General Jubal A. Early passed through Poolesville in retreat to Virginia.[1]

[1] Maryland Remembers. Hagerstown, Maryland. The Maryland Civil War Centennial Commission; 1964. pp. 30-31.

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Poolesville

8. SIGNIFICANCE, continued

Following the aftermath of the Civil War Poolesville made several attempts to regain its former position as an important and viable economic center but with the building elsewhere of newer towns and commerical centers itsefforts quietly failed. Although it incorporated itself in 1888 its efforts at total revitalization were insufficient. The fires of 1923 and 1935 significantly altered the appearance of the village and the displaced families relocated themselves in other areas of the county. The Poolesville of today is but a fragment of its former self, but with the preservation of the fortunately remaining portion an important visual lesson in local and state history can be maintained.

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY, CONTINUED

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11. FORM PREPARED BY, continued

J. Richard Rivoire,
Maryland Historical Trust
2525 Riva Road
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
May, 1974

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NATIONAL REGISTER

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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(See continuation sheet No. 6)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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 ° 09 ' 01 "	77 ° 25 ' 9 "		° ' "	° ' "
NE	39 ° 08 ' 46 "	77 ° 24 ' 35 "			
SE	39 ° 08 ' 36 "	77 ° 24 ' 39 "			
SW	39 ° 08 ' 43 "	77 ° 25 ' 13 "			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 98

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Poolesville Area Citizens' Association

ORGANIZATION:

DATE: 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Poolesville

STATE: Maryland

CODE: 24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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: Arthur C. Townsend

Title: State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: March 3, 1975

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 5/29/75

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date: MAY 22 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1973—729-147/1442 3-1

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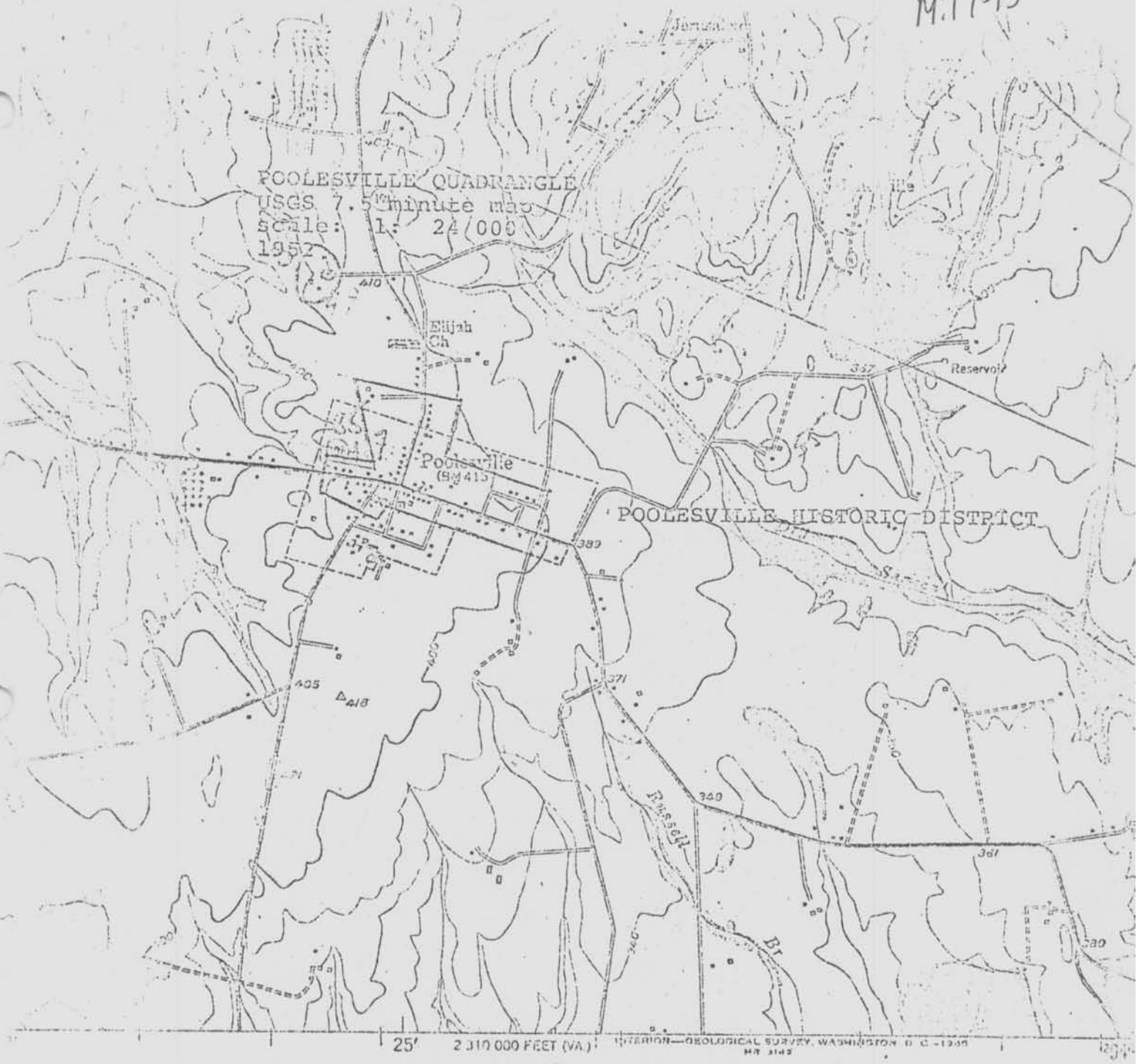

1 MILE

7000 FEET

1 KILOMETER

FEET

MARYLAND

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty — Light duty

Medium-duty — Unimproved

State Route

POOLESVILLE

NW/4 SENECA 15' C

N3902.5—W77

1952

25, D.C.

ON REQUEST

NAME 1785 HOUSE POOLESVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT #17-15

LOCATION Rt. 107 POOLESVILLE, Md.

FACADE NE

PHOTO TAKEN 4/20/74 C. OWENS

Sale

#17-15

NAME DR. POOLE HOUSE POOLESVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

LOCATION Rt. 107 (MAIN ST.) POOLESVILLE, Md.

FACADE NW

PHOTO TAKEN 4/20/74 ~~H. OWNER~~
C. OWENS

#17-15

NAME DR. POOLE HOUSE

LOCATION Rt. 107 (MAIN ST.) POOLESVILLE, Md

FACADE W

PHOTO TAKEN 4/20/74 C. OWENS

#17-15

NAME Wm. Poole House

LOCATION Rt 107 Poolesville, Md

FACADE S

PHOTO TAKEN 4/20/74 Cowens

#17-15

NAME D.R. POOLE HOUSE

LOCATION Rt. 107 (MAIN ST.) POOLESVILLE, Md

FACADE S

PHOTO TAKEN 4/20/74 M. DWYER

NAME DR. THOMAS POOLE HOUSE - OUTBLDGS. #17-15

LOCATION Rt 107 POOLESVILLE, Md.

FACADE

PHOTO TAKEN 4/20/74 C. OWENS