

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

28 WA-HAG-
220564-1311 128 22
(formerly 6002)

FOR NPS USE ONLY
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DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC MILLER HOUSE
AND/OR COMMON MILLER HOUSE

listed on NR as
Price-Miller house

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 131-135 West Washington Street
CITY, TOWN Hagerstown VICINITY OF Third
STATE Maryland CODE 24 COUNTY Washington CODE 043

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input 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	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" 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"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Library, Offices

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Washington County Historical Society, Inc.
STREET & NUMBER 135 West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN Hagerstown VICINITY OF Maryland 21740

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Washington County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER 95 West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN Hagerstown STATE Maryland 21740

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

DESCRIPTION

WA-HAG-128

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located at 131-135 West Washington Street in Hagerstown, Washington County, the Miller House stands on the south side of the street near the center of the block formed by Summit Avenue and Prospect Street.

The Miller House is a circa 1820's brick neoclassical style townhouse which is two and one-half storeys in height and rests on a high cut stone foundation. The house is basically rectangular in shape with an ell or wing projecting from the back or south side and a one bay addition, built circa 1915, attached to the east side. The main section of the house has a metal-covered gable roof which extends over the east addition and internal double-end chimneys on the east and west walls. The west wall extends above the roofline forming a parapet.

The principal or street facade (north side) has four bays, counting the east addition, and a narrow cornice of wood molding. The addition is slightly recessed but otherwise matches the original facade fairly well. The main entranceway is located in the west end bay and is reached by a stone, probably marble, stoop with iron railing. The basement has two windows in line with those of the upper levels in the original house and a window and door in the addition. The basement door is reached by a small flight of steps with iron railing matching that of the steps leading to the main entrance.

The first and second floor windows have double-hung wooden sashes with six-over-six lights and narrow frames molded in an ovolo or convex manner. Each of these windows have stone, probably marble, sills and lintels and are flanked by exterior shutters. The shutters on the first floor windows have three solid panels each while those of the second story windows are louvered. The basement windows have double-hung wooden sashes with three-over-three lights.

The main entranceway has a molded stone, probably marble, lintel, a rectangular transom with geometric tracery, and double wooden doors with three panels each.

The back or south side of the main section has a tripartite window on the first floor looking onto the garden. The wing, which abuts the west property line, has a shed roof sloping downward in an easterly direction. A portion of the wing is thought by many to date from an earlier period. The east wall of the wing has a series of double-hung wooden sash windows with nine-over-six lights and narrow frames with a bead.

Regarding the interior of the Miller House, the floor plan is essentially the same on the first and second floors. The main section of the house has two rooms and a passage on each level. The woodwork of the principal rooms is double-faced architrave molding with a pronounced round bead at the outer edge. Most of the doors have six raised panels. Each of the two parlors on the first floor has dark marble mantels with little embellishment other than reeding and fluting.

The most elaborate interior area is the entrance hall which has a cantilevered, rounded staircase which is open to the top floor. The staircase has open-string stairs and scroll brackets. The balustrade consists of a round handrail and round baluster and terminates in a twist around the newel. The hall is divided into two sections by an archway with fluted round pilasters. Entrance to the second story of the wing is gained by a small set of steps rising from the rounded section of the main staircase.

(See continuation sheet 1)

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MILLER HOUSE
Washington County
Maryland

7

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 1

7. Description Continued:

The woodwork in the back wing is generally of the single-faced type, although not as wide as that in the front section. The mantel in the room now furnished as a dining room is early nineteenth century in design. Immediately behind the entrance hall is a smaller hall with an enclosed staircase on the west end and a large doorway with sidelights and a semi-elliptical transom. This doorway leads onto a porch and is at right angles to the tripartite window of the main section. Both the mantel piece and the doorway described here may not be original to the house as their decorative detailing is not quite the same as that in the rest of the wing.

An early twentieth century photograph of the house, owned by the Historical Society and identified as the house when Dr. Miller purchased it in 1912, shows that the principal or street facade has been changed little except for the alterations noted above. Another area of possible alteration is the flooring of the principal interior rooms which are covered with narrow boards.

SIGNIFICANCE

WA-NAG-128

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Miller House is a circa 1820's neoclassical style townhouse which presently serves as the headquarters of the Washington County Historical Society. The house is a fine example of the type of urban dwelling that was built in western Maryland and south central Pennsylvania in the first third of the nineteenth century.

The main portion of the house is believed to have been built for William Price (17 -1868), a prominent attorney who purchased the property in 1823. (Deed Book GG, p. 173). Price twice served in the Maryland Legislature and was appointed a U.S. District Attorney by President Lincoln. (Williams, p. 426.) In 1825, he was elected to the State Senate from Washington County. Forty years later, he returned to the Legislature, representing the Baltimore area. A native of Washington County, Price moved to Cumberland, Allegany County, about 1842 and later to Baltimore. He was the father of the noted late nineteenth century architect Bruce Price (1845-1903) and the grandfather of Emily Price Post (1873-1960), the late author and etiquette authority.

Price sold the house in 1844 to Alexander Neil, Jr. (1808-c. 1863), a lawyer and President of the Hagerstown Bank. (Deed Book O.H.W. No. 2, p. 491.) Subsequently, the property was acquired by Neil's son, Alexander Neil, III (1844-1911), who was a member of the Maryland House of Delegates in 1870 and served as auditor of the Washington County Court in 1876. (Scharf, p. 1043.)

The house was enlarged in about 1915 when a one-bay addition was attached to the east end of the main portion. The addition was built to house the medical offices of Victor D. Miller, Jr. (1875-1955), a prominent physician who purchased the property in 1912 from the heirs of Alexander Neil, III. (Deed Book 138, p. 102). Miller is also responsible for restoring the original front doors which had been replaced in the late nineteenth century.

The Washington County Historical Society acquired the house in 1966 from the Miller family through donation and purchase. Named in honor of Dr. Miller, the Miller House is now used by the Society for its office, library, and museum.

The house stands on the westerly half of Lot No. 91 of the original plat of Hagerstown. Peter Bell purchased the half-lot in 1802 for £300. (Deed Book O, p. 481.) Bell and his sons operated a pottery on this site well into the first quarter of the 1800's when the property was sold for payment of debts. It is traditionally said that a section of the Bell House is included in the present back wing of the Miller House.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

MILLER HOUSE

Bibliography

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

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PAGE 2

9. Major Bibliographical References, continued

Washington County Historical Society, files. Miller House,
Hagerstown, Maryland.

Washington County Land Records, Courthouse, Hagerstown, Maryland.

Williams, Thomas J. C. A History of Washington County, Maryland.

2 vols. Hagerstown, Maryland: John M Runk and L.R.

Titsworth, 1906.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Graybill, Samuel H., Jr. "Bruce Price, American Architect, 1845-1903," *WA-HAG-128*
 dissertation. Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, 1957.
 Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Western Maryland*, 2 vols. Philadelphia:
 Louis H. Everts, 1882.
 Thomas, James W. and T.J.C. Williams. *History of Allegany County*, (See continuation
 Maryland, 2 vols. n.p.: Titsworth Publishing Company, 1928. sheet 1)

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 60'x200'

UTM REFERENCES

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ronald L. Andrews, Historic Preservation Consultant

ORGANIZATION

City of Hagerstown

DATE

September, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

City Hall

TELEPHONE

731-3200, Ext. 6885

CITY OR TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

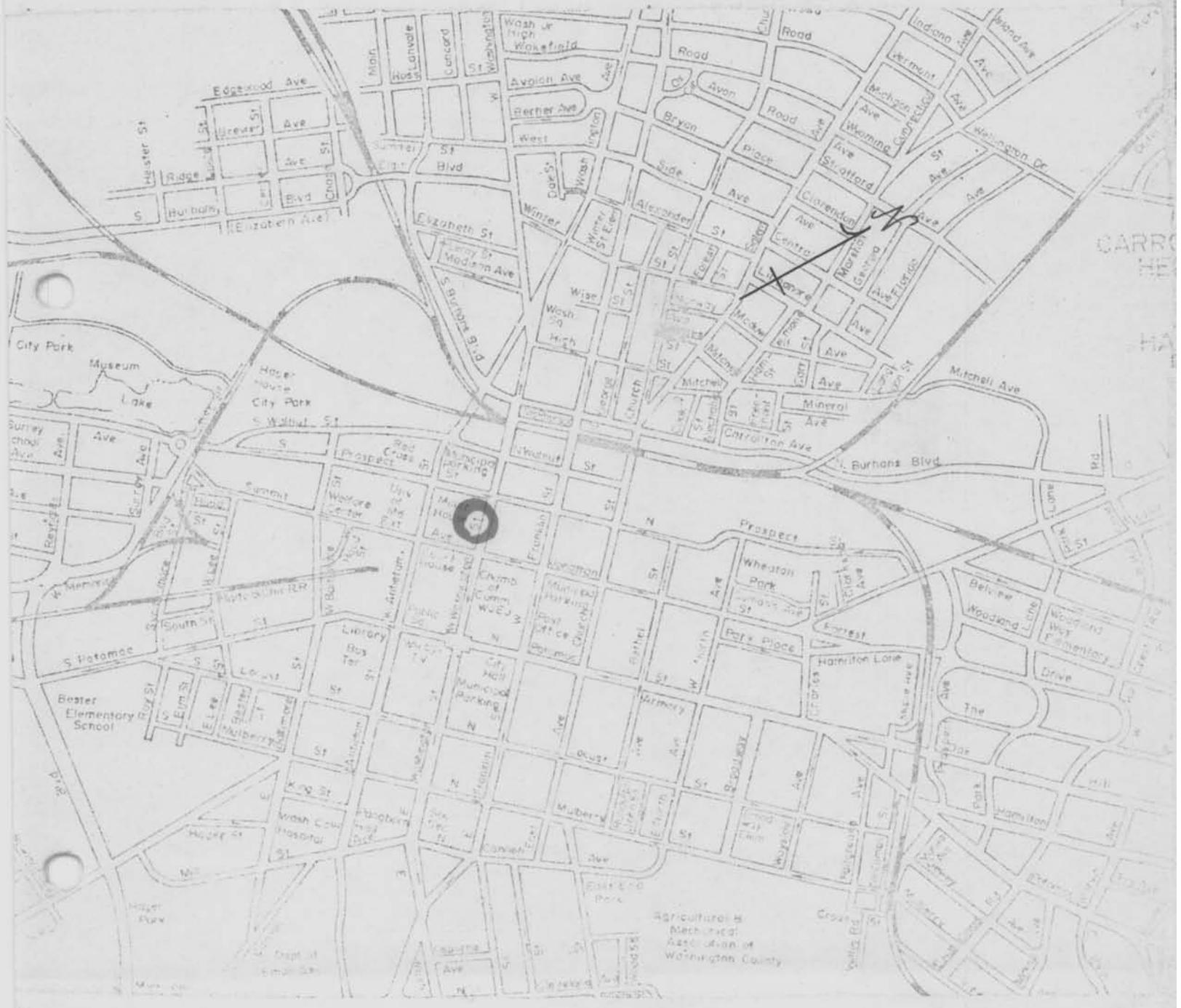
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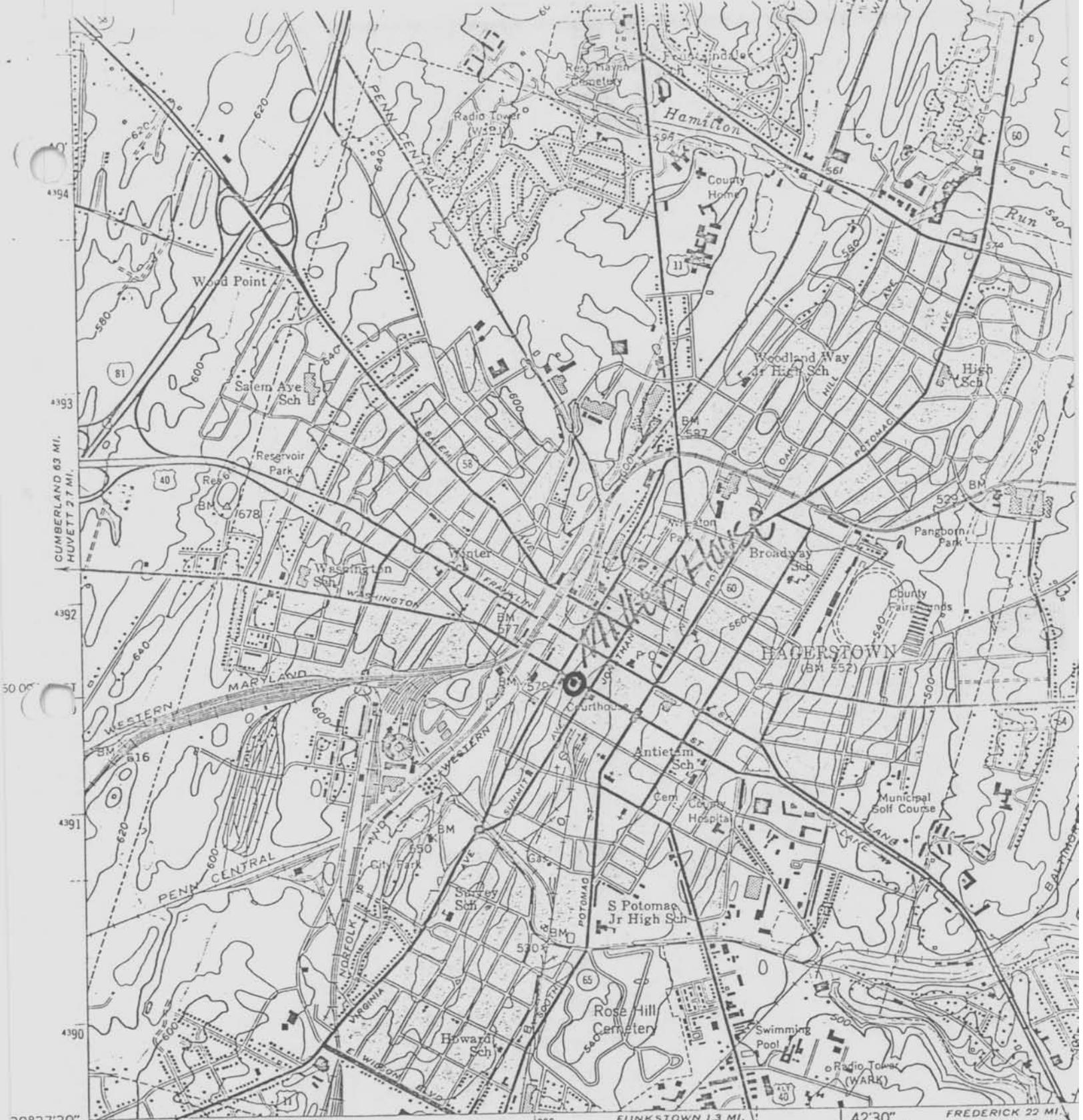
DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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131-135 West Washington Street
Hagerstown
Washington County, Maryland

map: City of Hagerstown, Maryland
Engineering Department
revised 1972
scale 1:1200

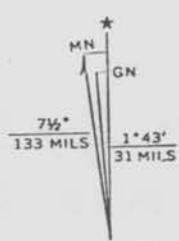




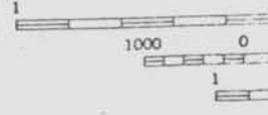
39°37'30" 77°45' 590 000 FEET (MD.) 1265
 WILLIAMSPORT 4.3 MI.
 MARTINSBURG, W. VA. 19 MI.

FUNKSTOWN 1.3 MI. 42'30" FREDERICK 24 MI.
 FREDERICK 22 MI. BALTIMORE 67 MI.

Mapped by Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army
 Edited and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE
 Topography from aerial photographs by stereophotogrammetric
 methods. Aerial photographs taken 1943
 Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1953
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grids based on Maryland coordinate system
 and Pennsylvania coordinate system, south zone
 Red tint indicates area in which only
 landmark buildings are shown



WA-NAG-128



Hagerstown
 Quad

UTM GRID AND 1971 MAGNETIC NORTH
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

THIS

WA-HAG-128



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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821-944-128
WA-HAG-128

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC Miller House

AND/OR COMMON Miller House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Hagerstown VICINITY OF Maryland STATE COUNTY Washington

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Ronald Andrews

DATE OF PHOTO July 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Maryland

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

north elevation

PHOTO NO.

2



WA-ANG-128

821-911-128

Form No. 10-301a
(Rev. 10-74)

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CITY, TOWN Hagerstown VICINITY OF STATE Maryland COUNTY Washington

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4 IDENTIFICATION
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET
entrance hall, first floor
PHOTO NO. 1



WA-HAG-128

Miller House

131 - 135 West Washington St.

Hagerstown

Washington Co.

Maryland

north elevation

July, 1975

Ronald L. Andrews



WA-HAG-128
entrance hall, first floor
Miller House
131-135 West Washington St.
Hagerstown
Washington Co.
Maryland
July, 1975

Ronald L. Andrews