

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

For NCRS use only

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

42

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

## 1. Name

historic Nathan Dickerson Poole House (Preferred)

and or common "Ballinadee Farm"

## 2. Location

street & number 15600 Edwards Ferry Road N/A not for publication

city, town Poolesville  vicinity of congressional district Eighth

state Maryland code 24 county Montgomery code 031

## 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name David D. Clark

street & number 6610 Rockledge Drive, Suite 450

city, town Bethesda  vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state Maryland 20817

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse

street & number Courthouse Square

city, town Rockville state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title M-NCPPC Inventory of Historic Sites has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no  
MHT Historic Sites Survey

date 1976  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records M-NCPPC Park Historian's Office  
Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Derwood state Maryland  
Annapolis

# 7. Description

M: 16/26

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" 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

## DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The N. D. Poole house is a large frame dwelling located near Poolesville, Montgomery County. The house was constructed in 1871, and its design combines elements of the Victorian Gothic and Italianate styles. It is 2½ stories high, with a steeply pitched gable roof clad in slate, and a foundation of local sandstone blocks. The principal (northeast) facade is three bays wide: the central bay projects, defined by wooden quoins and capped by a steep cross gable. The entrance is located in this bay, and features double doors with transom and sidelights. Above the entrance, on the second story, is a double window with four over four sash in segmental-arched openings decorated with hood moldings and ornamental sills. A single similarly-detailed square-headed window appears in the peak of the cross gable. The flanking bays have steep wall dormers, tall double windows in arched openings on the ground floor, and fenestration like that of the central bay on the second and half-stories. The building is clad in novelty siding, with wooden quoins at the corners of the northeast facade. A two-story, gable-roofed portico with Colonial Revival columns shelters the entrance, replacing the original veranda. The southeast facade has a one-story three-sided flat-roofed projecting bay, with vertical panels and a bracketed cornice. A two-bay wing extends to the rear, resulting in a cruciform plan. One-story additions have been made to the southwest gable and northwest side of the wing, and to the northwest gable of the main block. On the interior, the first floor retains its original plan, with a long central entrance hall containing the main stair and a fireplace. To the east is the parlor, with a slate fireplace and mantel and some paneling in the projecting bay; the dining room to the west features cornice and chairrail moldings. The kitchen and back stairs are located at the far end of the entrance hall. On the second floor, the master bedroom above the parlor retains some paneling; the second floor plan has been altered. Also on the property are a frame barn and corn shed of early 20th century date.

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This is a classic example of what Andrew Jackson Downing called "Villa Farmhouse" - a dignified home in the country with some measure of taste and elegance. Primarily in Downing's "rural Gothic pointed style," the house is also reflective of Samuel Sloan's "Italian style Country House" (The Model Architect, 1852). The building's tall proportions, high steep gable forms, strong scale contrasts, and hood-mold ornament reflect the High Victorian Gothic style, while its tall, round-headed first-floor windows suggest Italianate influence.

This three bay by four bay 2½ story frame house is cruciform in shape. The foundation is of local sandstone blocks, and the steep cross-gable roof is covered with slate shingles. The house faces northeast. Interior brick chimneys sit about one-third of the length of the house from either end wall.

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

The front facade features a large central steeply pitched gable flanked by wall dormers of similar design but smaller scale. The pedimented doorway has double doors with transom and sidelights, and is reached by a colonial style replacement porch with round columns and a roof of lower pitch than the main gable.

Corners are marked by wooden quoins.

The southeast facade has a one-story three-sided flat-roofed projecting bay, with brackets and vertical panels. Toward the rear are a pair of second-floor wall dormers; these reflect the gable designs on the other facades.

Most windows are four over four double-hung sash. All first floor double windows and second floor windows have segmental arches. Most windows have hood molds with stops and decorative sills.

Additions to the house: On the northwest facade, added to the transept is a small one-story flat-roofed "sun room" with brick foundation. From the rear of the northwest transept, around the west and southwest sides of the rear of the house, is a one-story flat-roofed section; it appears to have been built in sections, has a brick foundation, and a one-story portico. At the south end of this section is an enclosed breezeway which leads to a 1½ story brick garage (which is perpendicular to the house).

One enters the house into a large reception hall, with a rear fireplace and major rooms on either side (in transepts). On the first floor the parlour is on the left; it has a slate fireplace with mantel, projecting bay, and paneling below the windows and in the bay ceiling. The dining room to the right features cornice mold, chair rail and double window. Two sets of stairs can be seen from the hall, the main stairway at the front of the house, the smaller to the rear.

On the second floor, the master bedroom is above the parlour and has a (modern) fireplace, but the windows retain paneling below. The second floor plan has been much altered. The attic stairs, at the rear, lead to three "rooms". There are pine floors throughout the house. Above the garage, attached by a breezeway to the kitchen, are two bedrooms and a bath.

The house is approached through brick gates by a 600' entrance drive lined with an umbrella of medium-sized maples. The circular drive in front of the house is outlined with small boxwood, the house is set on a high point of land and commands far-reaching views which extend over much of the surrounding countryside.

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## GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

To the south and east of the house are a turn-of-the-20th-century frame barn and corn shed. The gable-roofed bank barn measures approximately 40' by 70', has a cement replacement foundation, attached silo and three decorative metal finials. The double corn crib measures 26' by 40' and has a metal roof.

# G. Significance

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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/ 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 type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: B and C

## SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The N. D. Poole House derives significance from two sources. First, as a vernacular expression combining elements of the Victorian Gothic and Italianate styles, the house represents an example of the type of architecture chosen in the third quarter of the 19th century by a successful farmer and local official to reflect his material prosperity and urbane tastes. The house embodies the distinctive characteristics of the Victorian Gothic style in its cruciform plan, vertical proportions, repetition of steep gable forms, and decorative detailing, and employs elements of the Italianate style in its tall first floor windows, segmental-arched window openings, and rusticated quoins. These styles frequently characterized high-style urban architecture of the period, and the use of their elements in rural Montgomery County expresses the achievements and aspirations of the builder. Secondly, the house was constructed by Nathan Dickerson Poole (1843-1912) descendant of the original settlers of Poolesville, himself a successful farmer and Tax Collector for the Third District of Montgomery County. After it passed out of the Poole family's ownership, it became the retreat of "Boss" Edward J. Flynn, prominent in Democratic Party politics in the New Deal era.

## HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The Nathan Dickerson Poole House rests on property known since the 18th century as "Cider and Ginger" and "resurvey on Three Springs". The 1783 assessment shows a log dwelling house, tobacco house and another log house on "Cider and Ginger" and a log dwelling on the "Resurvey on Three Springs" portion. In 1843 Thomas and Garey Hickman, brothers, conveyed these lands to William Dennis Poole and his brother Isaac Richard Poole, storekeepers in Poolesville.<sup>1</sup> Isaac lived there until he died, after which it transferred to his brother.<sup>2</sup> William lived in the framed-in log house and farmed the property with his wife and the help of tenants.

At the time of the Civil War, William Poole owned about 450 acres. The farm's proximity to a Potomac River crossing made it desirable for occupation; Union troops encamped there from June 1861 through June 1865. Earthen breastworks (visible as late as the 1920s) were erected, entrenchments dug, and the house was used briefly as a smallpox hospital. Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., a First Lieutenant in Company "A", 20th Mass. Regiment, referred to the old house in his Civil War diary and in a letter to his mother in September 23, 1861. After the war, William Poole's heirs sought compensation from the U. S. Quartermaster's Office for occupation of the farm by Union Troops.

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (Continued)

Nathan Dickerson Poole (1843-1912) gained possession of his father's property in 1870 and built his handsome farmhouse (which he called "River View") the following year.<sup>3</sup> He was known to all as "River Dick" to distinguish him from his cousin, Richard Poole, who lived in town. He enlarged and farmed the property, growing hay, corn, wheat and clover, and raised his family there. He served as Tax Collector for Montgomery County's Third District. He outlived both of his wives and was buried in Monocacy Cemetery in November 1912.

"River View" and 329½ acres were bequeathed to his nieces and nephew (Martha, Katharine, Nannie and William). These heirs sold it to Roland Wootton in 1914.<sup>4</sup> Wootton demolished the old log and frame house which had housed tenants and made alterations to the main dwelling house. In 1935, the property was transferred at a sheriff's sale to the Montgomery County National Bank.<sup>5</sup> At this time it was described as "330 acres land more or less with improvements consisting of a two story frame dwelling, 7 rooms and bath, bank barn 45 X 8 corn house and wagon shed, and etc. (appraised at) \$8000.00".<sup>6</sup> The following April, Eugene B. Casey, a prominent realtor, purchased the property.<sup>7</sup> and leased the house and grounds to the Offutt family. Mr. Casey sold the property in 1943 to J. Hampton Jones, who three years later conveyed it to Thomas F. Corcoran.<sup>8</sup>

Tom Corcoran was a young man who was close to the family of Edward J. Flynn. Flynn, known as "Boss Flynn" of the Bronx, was a close personal friend of President Franklin D. Roosevelt and active in Democratic national politics during the 1930s and 1940s. Tom Corcoran managed and operated the horse and cattle farm on Edwards Ferry Road (which he named Ballinadee to honor his Irish descent), and provided a haven for Flynn when he wanted to rest and remove himself from New York. It was during the Corcoran-Flynn ownership that plumbing and electricity were installed, and the original front porch was replaced.

Bernard and Norma Siegel owned Ballinadee Farms from 1955 to 1966, when it was conveyed to Francis and Henrietta Noonan.<sup>9</sup> The Noonans operated a thoroughbred horse farm for breeding, boarding, training, racing and riding. After selling parcels off to the National Park Service and others, Ballinadee Farms in 1982 was sold to the present owner.

Footnotes:

<sup>1</sup>Montgomery County Land Records, BS12/102 (December 1843)

<sup>2</sup>Ibid., STS1/480 (February 1846)

<sup>3</sup>Montgomery County Tax Assessments, 1869-1876 (Third District)

<sup>4</sup>Land Records, op. cit. 242/385 (June 1914)

<sup>5</sup>Ibid., 602/194 (August 1935)

<sup>6</sup>Montgomery Co. Judgment Records, 61/11

<sup>7</sup>Land Records, op. cit., 622/417 (1936)

<sup>9</sup>Land Records, op. cit., 1043/472 (November 1946)

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Montgomery County Land, Assessment & Orphan's Court Records  
Photograph & Miscellaneous papers located at Montgomery Co. Historical Society  
Notes & recollections of M. S. Poole, Katharine Poole, Francis Noonan, Charles Elgin;  
Inventory information from M-NCPPC form by Anita Hall

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 15 - 20 acres

Quadrangle name Sterling, Va.-Md.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A 

1	8	2	8	7	0	0	0	4	3	3	1	8	8	0
Zone	Easting			Northing										

B 

1	8	2	8	6	9	6	0	4	3	3	1	8	0	0
Zone	Easting			Northing										

C 

1	8	2	8	6	6	6	0	4	3	3	1	8	8	0
Zone	Easting			Northing										

D 

1	8	2	8	6	7	0	0	4	3	3	1	9	6	0
Zone	Easting			Northing										

E 

Zone	Easting			Northing										

F 

Zone	Easting			Northing										

G 

Zone	Easting			Northing										

H 

Zone	Easting			Northing										

Verbal boundary description and justification Rectangular boundary drawn (as shown on attached plat) to include: dwelling house, two major outbuildings (barn and corn crib), environmental setting for the structures, and approach from Edward's Ferry Road.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

te code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Eileen McGuckian

organization date August 1982

street & number 105 Wall Street telephone (301) 762-8774

city or town Rockville state Maryland 20850

## 12. 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *J. Mitchell*

12-7-82

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

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

date

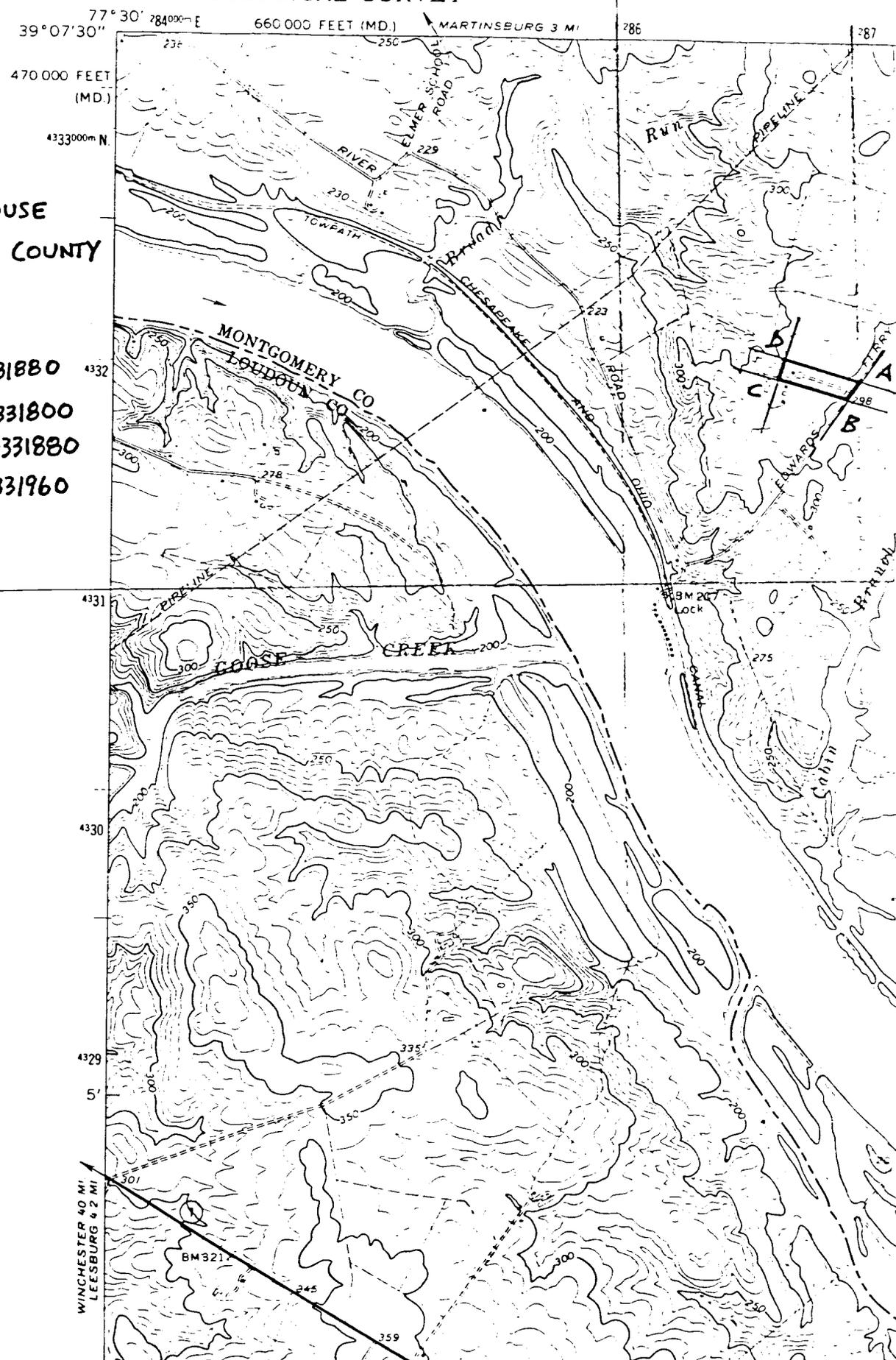
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

WATER FORD



M: 16/26  
N.D. POOLE HOUSE  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
MARYLAND

- A: 18-287000-4331880
- B: 18-286960-4331800
- C: 18-286660-4331880
- D: 18-286700-4331960



#16-26

NAME NATHAN DICKERSON POOLE HOUSE

LOCATION EDWARDS FERRY Rd POOLESVILLE, Md.

FACADE S.E.

PHOTO TAKEN 10/3/73 M. DWYER