

ABSTRACT

(R. Andrews, 1-77)

scraped

29-33 North Potomac Street

Circa 1820

Hagerstown

Washington County

The building which stood at 29-33 North Potomac Street was demolished by the City of Hagerstown in September 1975 to clear the property for construction of a parking lot. Until razed, the building was one of only two pre-Civil War structures which still retained nearly two-thirds of its facade intact, making the building a prime candidate.

Architecturally, the building was a two and a half story Neoclassical influenced structure of the type commonly erected in Hagerstown about the 1820s. A late nineteenth century stereographic view of Public Square shows that the center of the City was once lined with houses similar to this one. Unfortunately, no early views showing the building before or shortly after the nineteenth century alterations for commercial fronts are known to exist. It is possible that the building was erected for a combination residential and commercial use.

The building was probably erected for Frederick Miller who purchased the property in 1820 for \$3,000. Miller is identified in 1800-1805 census material as a member of the mercantile firm of Miller and Little (Scharf). Miller retained the property until 1854 when it was sold in a bankruptcy case. The structure stood on Lot No. 4 as delineated on the original plat of Hagerstown. The property measurements are given in the 1820 deed as 41' x 240', about one foot narrower than the present size.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

29-33 North Potomac Street (DEMOLISHED 9/75)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

29-33 North Potomac Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

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 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	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"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

City of Hagerstown

Telephone #: 731-3200

STREET & NUMBER

City Hall

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown VICINITY OF

Maryland STATE, zip code 21740

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Courthouse

Liber #: 573

Folio #: 411

STREET & NUMBER

95 West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

NOTE: One (1) Continuation Sheet attached

7 DESCRIPTION

DEMOLISHED

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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

Now the location of a parking lot, the building stood at 29-33 North Potomac Street in Hagerstown, Washington County, and stood on the west side of the street near the center of the block formed by Public Square and Franklin Street.

The building was a two and a half story brick structure with a tin covered gable roof and a parapet on the north end wall. The basic configuration of the building consisted of a rectangular block along the street and abutting the neighboring structures with an ell to the west along the north property line. An ell along the southern side was added in recent years. The building had the basic features of houses erected in Hagerstown in the circa 1820s.

The principal or east elevation had three late nineteenth century shop fronts on the street floor, most of which were altered in later years. The second story of the facade had Flemish brick bonding with fine asymmetrically arranged windows. The windows had narrow frames with wooden double-hung sashes and six-over-six lights. A shallow molded cornice runs across the facade below the roof overhang.

The second floor of the interior contained a few six-panel doors of the 1820s vintage.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 checked="" 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 Circa 1820 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The building which stood at 29-33 North Potomac Street was demolished by the City of Hagerstown in September 1975 to clear the property for construction of a parking lot. Until razed, the building was one of only two pre-Civil War structures which still retained nearly two-thirds of its facade intact, making the building a prime candidate for restoration.

Architecturally, the building was a two and a half story Neoclassical influenced structure of the type commonly erected in Hagerstown about the 1820s. A late nineteenth century stereographic view of Public Square shows that the center of the City was once lined with houses similar to this one. Unfortunately, no early views showing the building before or shortly after the nineteenth century alterations for commercial fronts are known to exist. It is possible that the building was erected for a combination residential and commercial use.

The building was probably erected for Frederick Miller who purchased the property in 1820 for \$3,000 (Deed Book EE, p. 529). Miller is identified in 1800-1805 census material as a member of the mercantile firm of Miller and Little (Scharf). Miller retained the property until 1854 when it was sold in a bankruptcy case. The structure stood on Lot No. 4 as delineated on the original plat of Hagerstown. The property measurements are given in the 1820 deed as 41' x 240', about one foot narrower than the present size.

The visual importance of this building was made obvious with its demolition. In harmonious contrast with the abutting twentieth century structures, the building contributed to creating the streetscape of this block of North Potomac Street.

See Chain of Title

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Western Maryland, 2 vols.
Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1882, vol. II, p. 1062.

Washington County Land Records, Courthouse, Hagerstown, Maryland.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

The property measures approximately 40' x 240'.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ronald L. Andrews, Historic Preservation Consultant

bg

ORGANIZATION

City of Hagerstown

DATE

January 5, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

City Hall

TELEPHONE

(301) 731-3200

CITY OR TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

29-33 North Potomac Street
Hagerstown
Washington County, Maryland

HISTORICAL CHAIN OF TITLE (Washington County Land Records)

Book 573, p. 411

7 February 1974

grantor: Lester P. Widmeyer and wife, Lois

grantee: City of Hagerstown

northern half of Lot #4, 40' x 240'

Book 202, p. 616

28 December 1936

grantor: Walter M. Widmeyer

grantee: Lester P. Widmeyer

Book 193, p. 78

22 March 1933

grantor: Charles R. Beall, Trustee in Bankruptcy of Wolf Kirson
and James A. Strite, Trustee of Bankruptcy of Max Kirson

grantee: Alice C. Widmeyer

Book 160, p. 562

25 July 1921

grantor: Lewis J. Orrick and wife, Annie R.

grantee: Noah, Wolf, Max, and Daniel Kirson

Book 124, p. 746

7 December 1906

grantor: John A. Spielman and wife _____ R.; Alice McNulty,
Attorney in fact, heirs of George W. Henneberger

grantee: Lewis I. Orrick

consideration \$19,000

(53)

Book I.N. #8, p. 603

17 March 1854

grantor: Jervis Spencer and Joshua P. Crist, Trustee

grantee: George W. Henneberger

Trustees represent Frederick Miller, bankruptcy "being the half
lot on which the spring is situated"

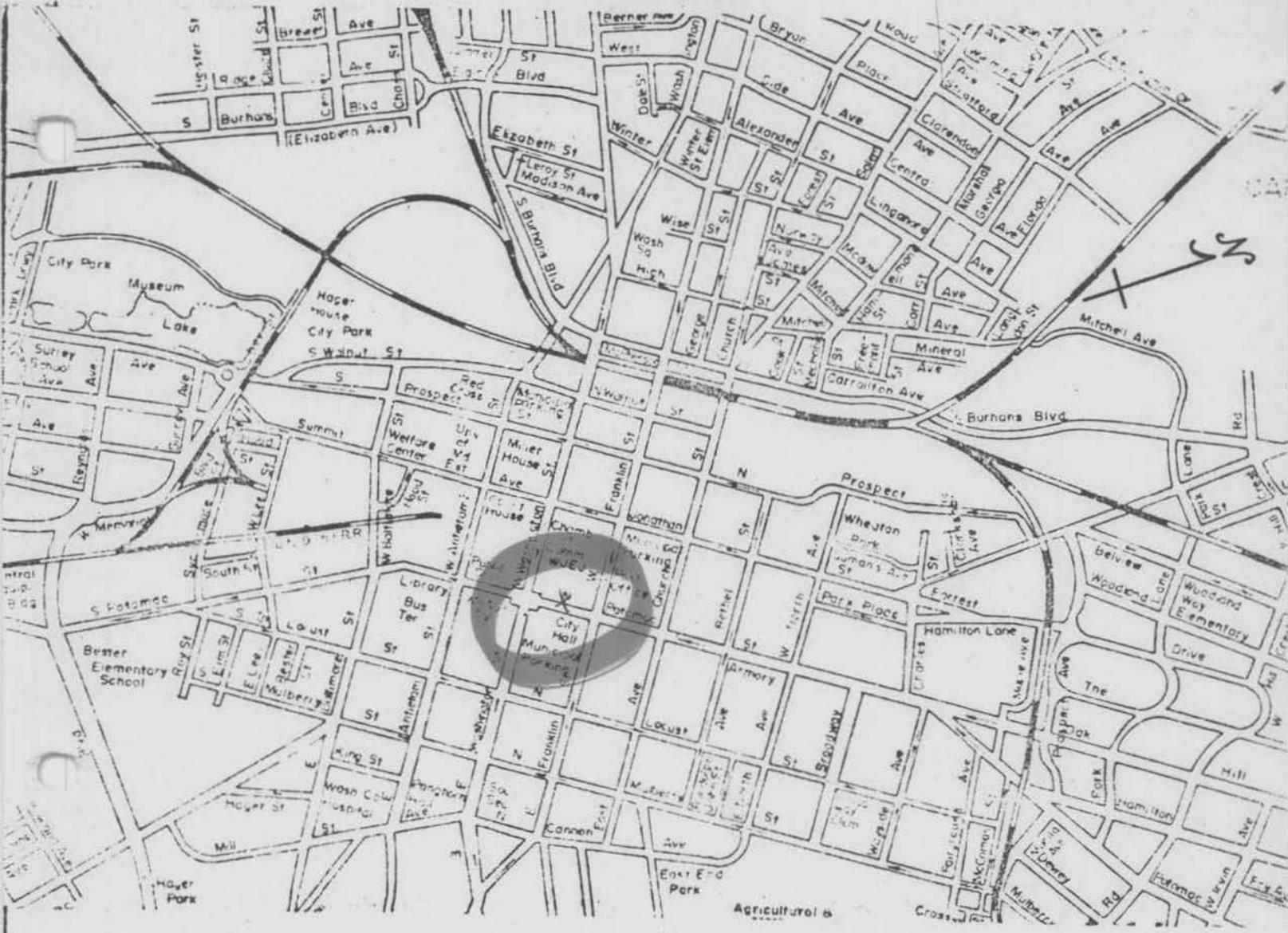
Book EE, p. 529

12 April 1820

grantor: John Hershey, Trustee John Hershey

grantee: Frederick Miller

half of Lot #4, 41' x 240'



SITE: 29-33 North Potomac Street
 Hagerstown
 Washington County, Maryland

map: City of Hagerstown,
Washington County, Md.
 City Engineering Dept.
 July, 1970
 scale 1"=1200'



WA-HAG-25

29-33 North Potomac St
Hagerstown

RONALD L. ANDREWS