

ABSTRACT

36-40 North Potomac Street
Hagerstown
Washington County

Mid 19th century

Probably built in the mid-nineteenth century, 36-40 North Potomac Street shows signs of a major alteration in the late 1800s. The narrow frames of the twelve light windows and the sharply angled brick flat arches are features commonly found in Hagerstown buildings dating from the 1840s-1850s. The bracketed cornice and the decorative detailing of the first floor doorway appear to date from the late nineteenth century. This combination of architectural features leads to the speculation that the building may have originally been three-and-a-half stories in height and lowered when the cornice was added, an alteration that was made to several other buildings in the area, or the third floor may have been added later.

HISTORIC SITE
SURVEY INVENTORY

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON: 36-40 North Potomac Street				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: 36-40 North Potomac Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown				
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Washington	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
Comments				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: Hagerstown Homes Corporation				
STREET AND NUMBER: Route 2				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown			STATE: Maryland	
21740				
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Washington County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER: 95 West Washington Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 289-612				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

36-40 North Potomac Street in Hagerstown, Washington County, stands on the east side of the street in the northern third of the block formed by Public Square and Franklin Street.

The building is a mid-nineteenth century painted brick structure, three stories high with a bracketed cornice, which sits tight to the sidewalk and the neighboring buildings. The street or principal facade (west side) is symmetrically arranged with three bays on the first floor and five on the upper levels. Two ells project from the east side with portions of the north wing possibly being original. The brick of the street facade are laid in Stretcher bond.

The first floor of the principal facade has a center doorway flanked by two twentieth century shop fronts. The doorway has rectangular sidelights and transom and is late nineteenth century in the decorative detailing of the frame and door. The shop front to the north of the doorway, number 40, has polished tile surrounding a display window and double wooden doors and probably dates from the 1940s or 1950s. Number 36 has a shop front which was added in the summer of 1975.

The five windows on each of the upper two stories have double-hung wooden sashes with, generally, six-over-six lights. The frames of these windows are narrow with rounded outer edges. Both the frames and the sills are wooden. The windows and the center doorway on the first floor have brick flat arches. The arches on the first and second floors flair out more than do those on the third floor.

The building appears to be structurally sound although a few of the window frames of the upper stories have shifted, probably a result of the wall being disturbed when the shop fronts were added on the street level.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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)

mid nineteenth

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/> Historic <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> Art <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> Communications <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> Industry <input type="checkbox"/> Invention <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape <input type="checkbox"/> Literature <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Political <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/> Science <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/> Theater <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ |
|--|---|---|---|

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Probably built in the mid-nineteenth century, 36-40 North Potomac Street shows signs of a major alteration in the late 1800s. The narrow frames of the twelve light windows and the sharply angled brick flat arches are features commonly found in Hagerstown buildings dating from the 1840s-1850s. The bracketed cornice and the decorative detailing of the first floor doorway appear to date from the late nineteenth century. This combination of architectural features leads to the speculation that the building may have originally been three-and-a-half stories in height and lowered when the cornice was added, an alteration that was made to several other buildings in the area, or the third floor may have been added later.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

WA-HAG-28

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Washington County Land Records, Courthouse, Hagerstown, Maryland

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

The property measures approximately 41' x 240'.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Ronald L. Andrews, Historic Preservation Consultant (mbe)

ORGANIZATION: City of Hagerstown DATE:

STREET AND NUMBER:
 City Hall

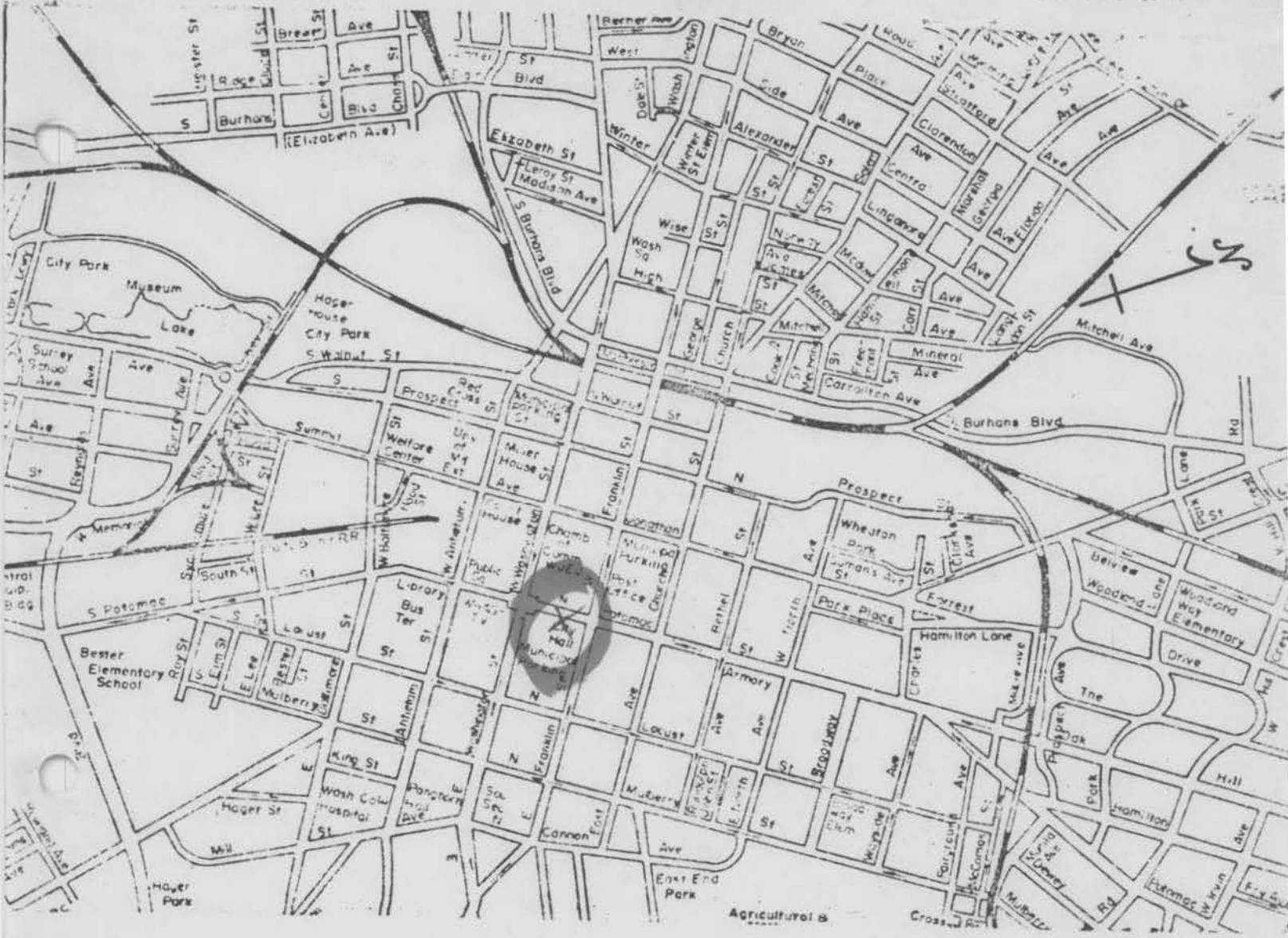
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown STATE: Maryland

12 State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National State Local

Signature _____



SITE: 36-40 North Potomac Street
 Hagerstown
 Washington County, Maryland

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



WA-HAG-28

36-40 North Potomac St.

Hagerstown

Washington Co., Md.

west elevation

July, 1975

RONALD L. ANDREWS