

WA-I-009

## Oster House

### **Architectural Survey File**

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site ([mht.maryland.gov](http://mht.maryland.gov)) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

***Last Updated: 03-12-2004***

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON: Stone house, Cedar Lawn				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Oster House				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: 1926 West Washington Street (MD 144)				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown				
STATE Maryland			COUNTY: Washington	
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
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 type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious        _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific        _____				
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: Lewis S. Horst				
STREET AND NUMBER: 1050 Florida Avenue				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown			STATE: Maryland	
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Washington County Court House				
STREET AND NUMBER: West Washington Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 581/725				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
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	<div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">(Check One)</div> <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">(Check One)</div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered &lt; 50%    <input type="checkbox"/> Uncluttered           </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">(Check One)</div> <input type="checkbox"/> Moved    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site           </div> </div>
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>This house is located at 1926 West Washington Street on the north side of Maryland Route 144 about two miles west of Hagerstown in Washington County. It is situated on level ground and faces south.</p> <p>The structure is a two-story, seven-bay log and stone dwelling. A relatively modern one-story, two-bay frame addition extends to the rear or north.</p> <p>The three western bays appear to be of log construction sheathed with horizontal weatherboarding and set on rubble fieldstone foundations. The eastern four-bay section is constructed of roughly coursed local fieldstone and appears to be an addition to the log structure. A stone in the east gable wall about four feet above ground level is inscribed with the initials J.O. and the date 1838. There is no decorative stone work associated with the window and door openings.</p> <p>All windows consist of two-over-two pane Victorian period sashes held within narrow frames in the stone section and trimmed with turn-of-the-century architraves in the log section.</p> <p>The main entrance is located in the third bay from the west end of the front elevation of the log section. The door is flanked by a transom and sidelights and enters into a stair hall. Two entrances are present in the stone section. They are quite simple in appearance and had transoms which have been closed.</p> <p>A double porch framed under the main roof span extends the length of the front elevation of the stone section. The entire south wall of the stone section is recessed several feet behind the front wall of the log section.</p> <p>Asphalt shingles cover a roofing structure which extends beyond the end walls. There is no decorative work at the eaves. A large brick chimney extends from inside the east gable end. Smaller flues, also of brick are located inside the west gable end and extending from the interior at the jointure of the two sections.</p> <p>The interior of the stone section is divided into two rooms at each story with woodwork consistent with the 1838 date. All rooms in the stone section have fireplaces. In addition, a large service fireplace is located in the east wall of the cellar. The wooden section of the house appears to have been extensively altered at the interior with woodwork reflecting turn of the century and later design.</p> <p>The interior wall shared by the stone and log sections is apparently of wood, suggesting the log section of the house was built first.</p> <p>The house is in fair condition and is at present being restored. The house stands on a lot 120' X 200'.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**B. SIGNIFICANCE**

**PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

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

**SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)** stone section dated "1838 J.O."

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

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal<br><input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric<br><input type="checkbox"/> Historic<br><input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture<br><input type="checkbox"/> Art<br><input type="checkbox"/> Commerce<br><input type="checkbox"/> Communications<br><input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Education<br><input type="checkbox"/> Engineering<br><input type="checkbox"/> Industry<br><input type="checkbox"/> Invention<br><input type="checkbox"/> Landscape<br><input type="checkbox"/> Literature<br><input type="checkbox"/> Military<br><input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Political<br><input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy<br><input type="checkbox"/> Science<br><input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture<br><input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian<br><input type="checkbox"/> Theater<br><input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)<br><hr/><br><hr/><br><hr/><br><hr/><br><hr/><br><hr/> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The area of significance of this house is its architecture. The stone section with its 1838 date is a documented example of Washington County's vernacular architecture from the second quarter of the 19th century. The wooden section of the house, although it appears to be the older of the two, has received rather extensive exterior and interior alterations, which would tend to decrease its significance somewhat.

The initials "J.O." inscribed in the date stone presumably refer to someone in the Oster family who owned the property from 1789 to 1878. The property which contains parts of the frants, "Nicholas Ridenour's Pond," "Henry's Last Shift" and "Hager's Delight" was purchased in 1789 by Conrad Oster from David Ridenour. Later, Eve Oster, Conrad's widow purchased 100 acres from her brother Nicholas Ridenour. In 1836, Eve Oster sold 50 acres which presumably included this house to Daniel Oster. Eve Oster apparently died a short time later. Remnants of stone walls east of the house suggest the presence of a barn in that location.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Taggart, Thomas, Map of Washington County, Md., Hagerstown, Md.: L. McKee and C. G. Robertson.

Land Records of Washington County, Md.

**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: 120' X 200'

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant

ORGANIZATION: Washington County Historical Sites Survey      DATE: January, 1975

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Court House Annex

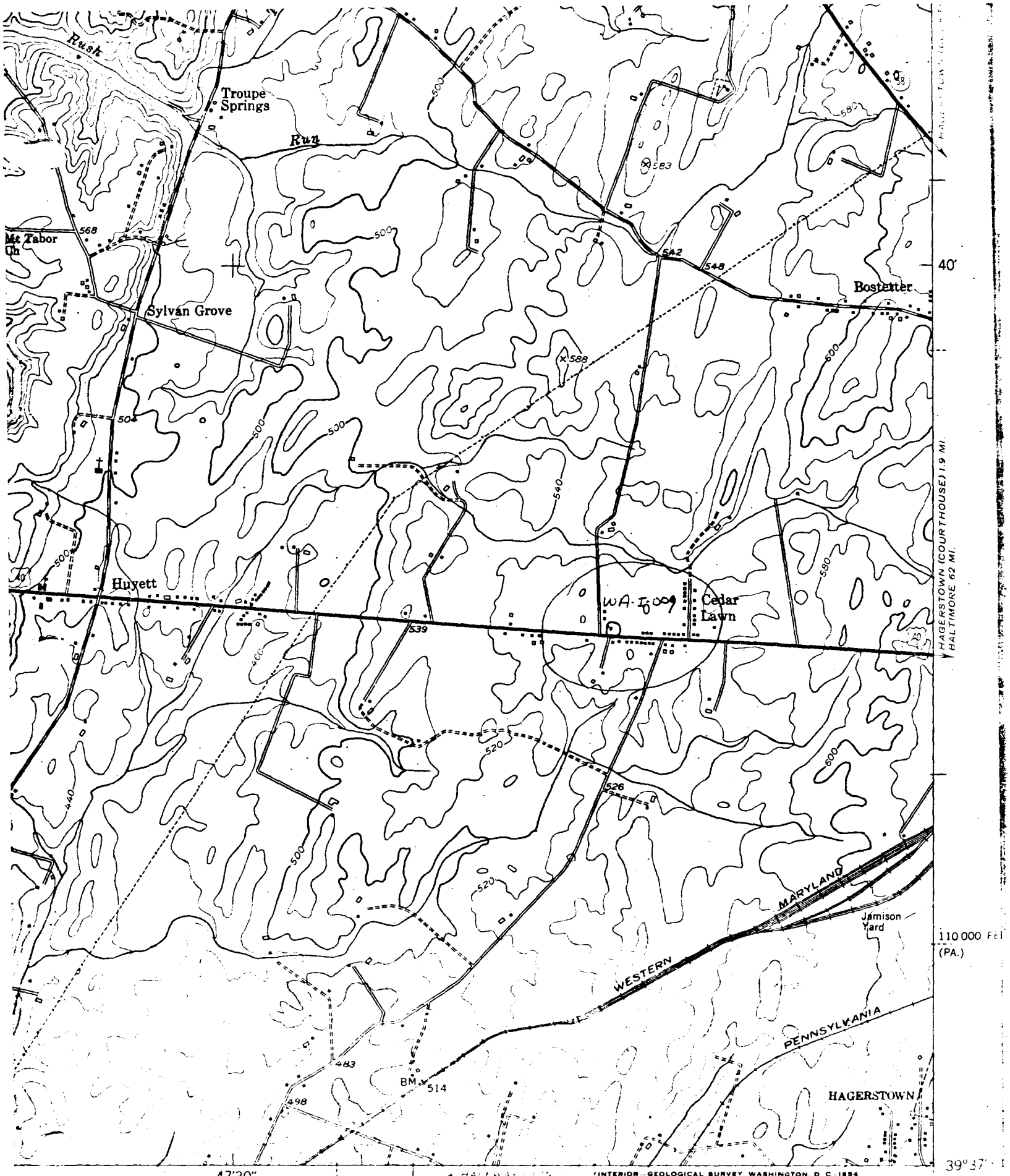
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown      STATE: Maryland

**12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)**

Significance of this property is:

National       State       Local

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature



40'

HAGERSTOWN (COURTHOUSE) 1.9 MI.  
BALTIMORE 62 MI.

110 000 Feet (PA.)

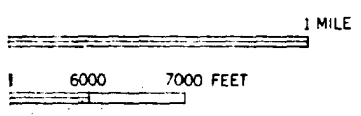
39°37'

47°30'  
1 990 000 FEET (PA.)

INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 1984  
M R-6164

77°45'

Mason-Dixon Quadrangle



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	4 LANE 6 LANE	Light-duty
Medium-duty	2 LANE 4 LANE	Unimproved dirt

TRUNK



11/10/19

S.C.

July, 1914

PAUL STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY





PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-T-009

36

1/5/1973

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY