

SITE NUMBER: WA-IV-172

ADDRESS: 23 South Main Street, Smithsburg, MD

OWNER/LOT NUMBER/ACCESS: Clifford Kendall, 720/787, private

BUILDING DATE: mid-19th century

23 South Main Street is a west-facing, square, symmetrical, two-story, three-bay, brick, freestanding, residential structure built in a transitional style between Greek Revival and the Italianate. The focus of the building design is on its ornamentation, including the heavy hood molds, the delicate eastlake porch, and the heavy cornice. Characteristic elements of the Greek Revival style found on this building include the symmetry, massing, and the frieze-band grates. Characteristics of the Italianate include the porch, the elaborate hood molds, and the wide boxed cornice with its modillions and carved brackets.

The building rests on a stone foundation, and is laid in a common bond. The flat roof gently slopes toward the back of the building. The entrance is located in the center bay and is protected by the eastlake porch with its flat-cut filigree and spindle railing. The entrance design is comprised of a glazed and panel door set in a simple wood frame. Windows are tall, single, rectangular, wooden sash, double-hung, two-over-two windows in wood frames. The flat lintels of the first floor windows are obscured by the addition of projecting, flat hood molds supported by brackets (possibly evidence that the Italianate detailing was a later addition). The windows of the second floor have elaborately carved, drop hood molds. The building has a two-story frame addition to the rear.

The building is set on original lot 13, a vacant lot that James Hammett had purchased from George Eakley, according to the

1814 plat of the town. A building owned by J.M. Slearman is indicated on the 1875 map of the town. It has the same configuration as the building shown on the 1916 Sanborn and can be assumed to be the extant structure. Both the 1916 and the 1923 Sanborns note this as a dwelling numbered 143 Main Street. According to the Smithsburg Historical Society, this building is known as the "Jakes Building" after the Jakes family that lived there in the late 19th century. The town's first telephone exchange was located in this structure (must have been pre-1916, as another structure on East Water is noted as the exchange on the 1916 Sanborn), and it was also used as a post office at one time.

The building is within the Western Maryland Geographic Organization, the Development Period of Agricultural-Industrial Transition, and falls within the Historic Period Theme of Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning.

Prepared by Julie Mueller, April 1991

TRINITY EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
211/675, 128/338

176 SALLY CLAY
646/351

MORRIS E. LAY
674/425

ROBERT C. GEISER
623/303

D. S. SMITH
708/246

MARY L. RIDENOUR
505/181

JOHN W. EARLEY
498/26

MARY L. RIDENOUR
505/184

JULIAN OLIVER
552/422

TERRY L. MYERS
628/680

CARL E. CLINGAN
829/327

MONROE J. TARANTO
826/785

WAYNE L. RAMBERS
734/815

SIMON CLOPPER
700/171

CLIFFORD KENDALL
720/787

THOMAS D. ECKSTINE
726/931

PAUL C. CORNISH
895/502

GLORIA W. BARNARD, ET AL
881/536

SHAWN T. CHINGLER
913/50

ZELDA P. GROVE, TRUST
922/37

CHEWSVILLE CO-OP ASSOCIATION
290/173

ROBERT L. AURAND
745/548

JOHN L. BURKETT
707/738

CHARLES P. JOHNSON
822/782

WAYNE E. PUTMAN
867/221

RICHARD E. VERDIER
802/615

DONALD E. HAYS, JR.
653/42

EAST WATER

WILLIAM B. KIMLER
141/584

CATHERINE V. POFFENBERGER
62/338/362

SMITHSBURG LIBRARY

DAVID E. REED
755/757

DAVID P. CREAMER
887/865

HOMER L. MYERS
908/498

WILLIAM B. KIMLER
150/364, 141/585, 138/108
5.00 A

SOUTH MAIN ST.

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NA-14-172



WA-10-172

23 South Main St., Smithsburg

Julie Mueller

January 1991

looking NW