

122 EAST SOUTH STREET (HOUSE)  
Frederick  
Frederick County  
Maryland

HABS No. MD-1094

HABS  
MD  
11-FRED,  
25-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

National Park Service  
Northeast Region

Philadelphia Support Office

U.S. Custom House

200 Chestnut Street

Philadelphia, P.A. 19106

# HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

122 EAST SOUTH STREET (HOUSE)

HABS No. MD- 1094

HABS  
MD  
11-FRED,  
25-

Location: 122 East South Street  
Frederick, Frederick County, Maryland

USGS Frederick, Maryland Quadrangle  
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:  
18.292705.4364825

Significance: The building exemplifies the mixed industrial and residential development on the periphery of Frederick, Maryland at the turn of the twentieth century and is a contributing element in the Frederick National Register Historic District.

Description: 122 East South Street is a two-bay, one-story, one-room, rectangular building, constructed between 1895 and 1897. The building is oriented on an east-west longitudinal axis, fronting Winchester Street. The entire building is constructed of brick laid in common bond, supported by a random rubble stone foundation. The decorative focus of the building is a three-course, corbelled, brick cornice with brick dentils. The building incorporates a front facing gable roof over the body of the structure, and a projecting shed roof over the front porch. All roof planes are sheathed with corrugated metal.

Remnants of the building's window units indicate that they were composed of wooden, six-over-six, double-hung, sash windows with wooden sills. Primary doorways and window openings are surmounted by brick jack arches.

The two-bay principal elevation (east) exhibits a modern recessed panel door with flanking window. The rear elevation also has two bays occupied by a doorway and window. The north and south walls of the building are punctuated by centrally located windows.

A two-bay, one-story wooden porch spans the principal elevation of the building. The corrugated shed roof of the porch is supported by three square posts set in concrete. The porch planking is supported by brick piers. The porch is a modern addition, constructed of pressure-treated lumber.

The interior of the building is a one-room plan. All original finishes and fixtures have been removed.

History: The city of Frederick, with its abundance of surrounding farmland and its strategic location on established transportation routes in central Maryland, prospered during the late nineteenth century and grew as a regional center for commerce, trade, and industry. A large portion of Frederick's early economic and industrial growth was related to the region's agricultural resources. A cannery, built in 1866 by Louis McMurray, was one of Frederick's earliest industries. By the 1890s, several other independent canneries, which preserved locally grown vegetables and fruits for shipment abroad, had been established in Frederick. Most of these canneries were concentrated along the north side of East South Street and Commerce Street, near the B&O Railway Yards. This area, located on the undeveloped southeastern periphery of city, was characterized by open farmland prior to its residential and industrial development. Four canneries were located on East South Street: the Monocacy Valley Canning Co., the Frederick City Packing Co., and the Colt Dixon Packing Co. The canneries operated seasonally, and supplemented their work in the off season with

the manufacturing of boxes and packaging. Other industries located on East South Street were the Frederick Brick Works and the Farmers Co-operative Association, which supplied feed and fertilizer to local farmers. In conjunction with the industrial growth, a residential area comprised of a mixture of duplexes, rowhouses, and detached single-family houses developed along the southern side of East South Street at the turn-of-the century. These houses reflect vernacular interpretations of Italianate and Second Empire architectural styles. Most of the houses were constructed of brick, as required by fire insurance codes. Most of the neighborhood residents were local laborers and tradesmen.

Following the Great Depression, industrial and residential development ceased on East South Street. By the 1940s, all the canneries in the area had closed, and had been replaced by other light industries. East South Street is characterized by a blend of light industrial and residential occupation. The area appears much as it did at the turn of the century, with few modern intrusions.

The residence at 122 East South Street was constructed between 1895 and 1897, under the ownership of John F. Zellers (Frederick County Land Records CM 2:642). This building predates a blacksmith shop/garage constructed on the front of the lot in the 1920s. At the time of its construction, 122 East South Street, then referred to as 7 Winchester Street, was located across from the Frederick City Packing Co. in an area of mixed residential and industrial development. The building first appears on the 1897 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map. The one-room brick dwelling historically is referred to as the John L. Kenna House. John L. Kenna, a plumber by trade, lived in the building from 1935 to 1977. Prior to this time, only one recorded tenant was listed in the Frederick City Directories.

The building at 122 East South Street is scheduled for demolition in the spring of 1994 in preparation for the construction of five residential dwellings for the Way Station project. 122 East South Street is situated within the boundaries of the City of Frederick National Register Historic District. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has determined that the demolition of this building will have an adverse effect upon the City of Frederick National Register Historic District. This recordation has been completed on behalf of the Way Station, Inc., in compliance with a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), prior to the building's demolition.

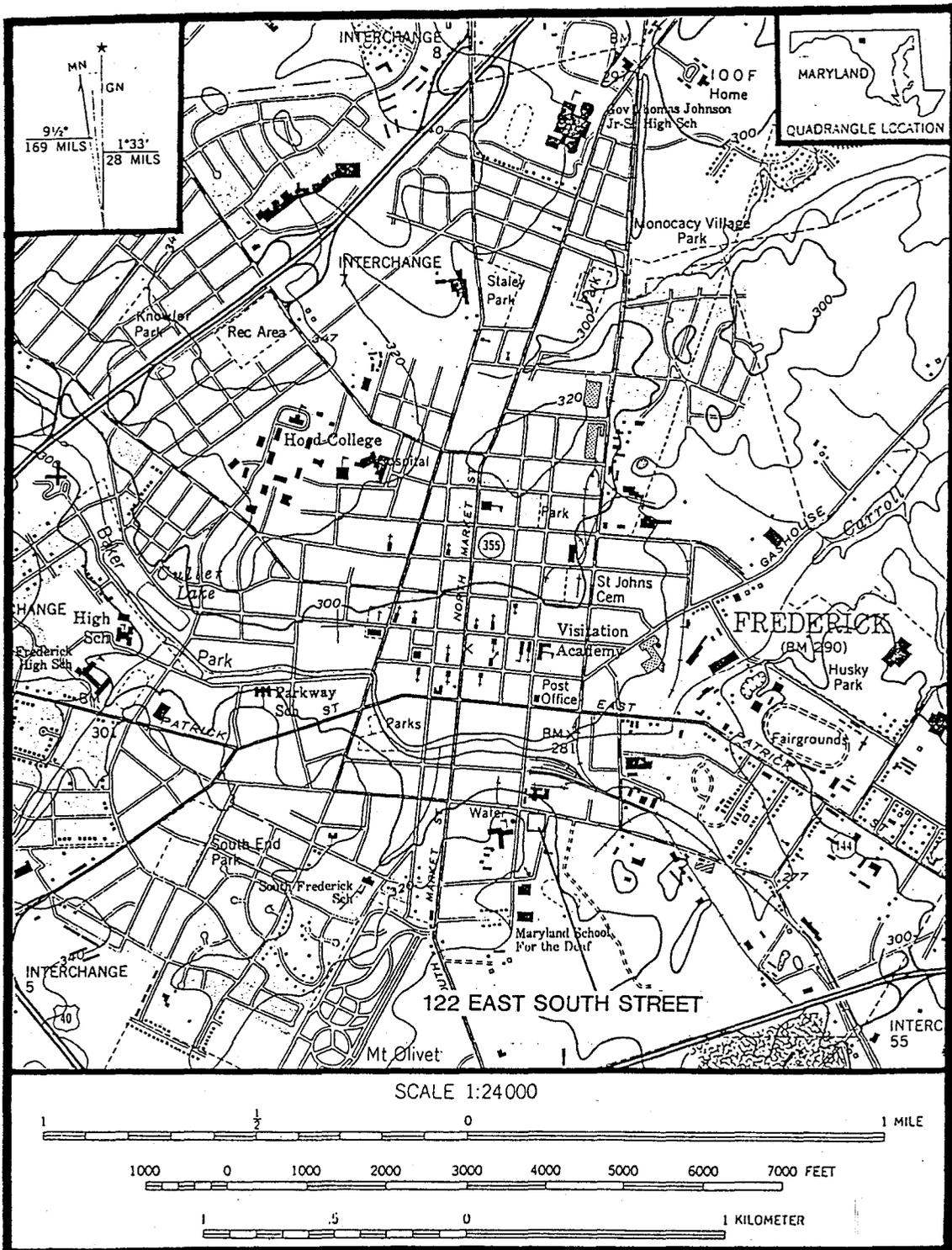
Source: Frederick City Directories (various publishers) assorted years 1924-1991. Maryland Room, C. Burr Artz Library, Frederick, Maryland.

Bowlin, Lauren L. National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, Frederick Historic District (expanded). MSS, Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland.

Sanborn Map Co. Insurance Maps of Frederick, Maryland. 1887, 1892, 1897, 1904, 1911, 1922, 1930. Library of Congress.

Whitmore Nancy, F. and Cannon, Timothy L. *Frederick A Pictorial History*. Norfolk, VA: Donning Company Publishers, 1981.

Prepared By: W. Patrick Giglio  
Goodwin & Associates  
337 East Third Street  
Frederick, Maryland 21701  
March 31, 1994



Photocopy of excerpt from 1985 Frederick, Maryland 7.5' quadrangle, showing approximate location of 122 East South Street.