

F-3-126
Rose Hill Manor
(Rose Hill, Rose Garden, Part of Tasker's Chance)
1611 North Market Street (MD 355)
Frederick
County

c. mid 1790s

Rose Hill is a 2 1/2-story brick house, five bays wide on the main or south facade of its main block. The center three bays are covered by large two-story pedimented portico supported by fluted Doric columns on the first floor and Ionic columns on the balustraded second floor. The Doric columns support an entablature of triglyphs and dentils. The pediment, with a modillion cornice and raking cornice, holds a traceried fanlight in the tympanum. To either side of this large pediment, the roof is pierced by a dormer window with round-arch and a parapet. A flush chimney rises from each gable end of the main block. The central entrance on each floor is flanked by two windows on either side, with 9/9 lights on the first floor and 9/6 on the second. The first-floor entrance has 4-light sidelights and a 4-light transom, and the door is flanked by slender columns. The second floor door is flanked by 4-light sidelights and surmounted by a transom of two rows of 3 lights each. The north facade of the main block has similar fenestration, but the pediment rests on the roof proper, and above the first-floor door is a slightly lowered 9/6 window. This entrance is sheltered by a one-bay porch. To the west gable end is attached a two-story brick wing, three bays wide and two deep, with a central entrance with 2-light transom. Windows on this wing are 6/6 on the first floor and 9/6 on the second. A flush brick chimney rises from the west gable end. This wing is flush with the north or rear elevation, but

recessed from the front or south by a bay. A shed-roofed porch spans the north side of the wing. Roofs are covered with standing seam metal.

The design of the house is a transitional style, between the late Georgian of Tidewater Maryland, and the Greek Revival style. Thomas Johnson (1732-1819), a close political associate, honored friend, and champion of George Washington whose eulogy he delivered, chose Rose Hill as his retirement home during the end of the 18th century. His political career included being the first elected Governor of the State of Maryland (1777-1779); serving as an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court (1791-1793); nominating George Washington as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army. Johnson helped to form, and was instrumental in the passage and adoption of, the first constitution for the State of Maryland in 1776, as well as assisting in framing the United States Constitution in 1788. He served as a commissioner on the Board of Commissions responsible for authorizing Pierre L'Enfant, architect, to plan Washington, D.C., the federal city. He declined an invitation to become the United States Secretary of State under President Washington. Rose Hill expresses an expanded, comfortable country living near Frederick during the Federal period, after the American Revolution and during the growth of the new nation. Erected. c. mid 1790s by his daughter and son-in-law, the Governor retired here during the last years of his life.

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
	(Check One)			(Check One)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The galleried portico with white columns of Rose Hill Mansion is approached on a circular driveway off an entrance road adjoining the north boundary of the Governor Thomas Johnson High School from the west side of North Market Street (old Route 15).

This home of Maryland's first elected governor, Thomas Johnson, expresses an expanded, comfortable country living near Frederick during the Federal period, after the American Revolution and during the growth of the new nation. Erected c. mid-1790's by his daughter and son-in-law, the Governor retired here during the last years of his life.

The portico forms two porches: one on the ground floor at the entrance level with four Doric columns supporting an entablature of triglyphs and one above on the second floor with four Ionic columns supporting the pediment.

The porch and exterior of the house are decorated with an elaborate, carved cornice, and other intricate woodwork. The design is a transition style, between the late Georgian of Tidewater Maryland, and the Greek Revival style.

The entrance hall is wide. At the north end a broad staircase rises to a landing from which a window overlooks the north garden. The stair continues up to the third story in six units of steps. The upper rails and bannisters are light in weight and plain.

To the east of the south end of the entrance hall there is a twenty-six foot square drawing room containing six windows, a mantel piece, and a large chandelier with crystal prisms.

To the west of the entrance hall a dining room of the same generous dimensions recalls an age of good living and entertaining, for which the house was designed.

The second floor center hall south door opens directly onto the upper level of the porch and overlooks the Governor Thomas Johnson High School.

On either side of the upper hall are two large south bed chambers with fireplaces. The two smaller north bedrooms have had a bathroom partitioned off from each room. The result of this practical plan has not spoiled the arrangement of the house. Two large rooms have been finished and plastered in the attic above.

A kitchen with a fireplace next to the north stairway

-see continuation sheet-

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) C. mid-1790's

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Thomas Johnson (1732-1819), a close political associate, honored friend and champion of George Washington whose eulogy he delivered, chose Rose Hill as his retirement home during the end of the eighteenth century. His political career included being the first elected Governor of the State of Maryland (1777-1779); serving as an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court (1791-1793); nominating George Washington as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army. Johnson helped to form, and was instrumental in the passage and adoption of, the first constitution for the State of Maryland (1776) as well as assisting in framing the United States Constitution in 1788. He served as a commissioner on the Board of Commissioners responsible for authorizing Pierre L'Enfant, architect, to plan Washington, D. C., the federal city. He declined an invitation to become the United States Secretary of State under President Washington.

Johnson purchased, in 1778, 225 acres of the 7000 acre Tasker's Chance tract on the Monocacy River. The entire tract had been originally patented to Benjamin Tasker, President of the Governor's Council (Provincial) for 32 years of his 46-year membership (1772-1768) in the Council. He was acting Provincial Governor of Maryland (1752-1753) between the death of Samuel Ogle and the arrival of Horatio Sharpe, Ogle's successor.

Daniel Dulany, Senior, (1685-1753), of Annapolis to whom Tasker's Chance passed, divided the 7000 acres in 1744. On one section he laid out Frederick Town (1745) now Frederick City. Dulany and Tasker each held political offices in Annapolis. Dulany served as an alderman for Annapolis; a delegate to the Maryland Assembly (1722-1742); a member of the Provincial Governor's Council. Dulany wrote "The Rights of Inhabitants of Maryland to the Benefit of English Laws" in 1728 and served on the 1730 commission in order to settle the boundary with Pennsylvania.

Johnson, who came to Frederick with the eighteenth-century population influx, did not erect a building on his
-see continuation sheet-

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Maryland	
COUNTY	Frederick	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE

(Number all entries)

Rose Hill Manor

#6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS continued

Maryland Register of Historic Sites & Landmarks

1969

Maryland Historical Trust

94 College Avenue

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

code: 24

Frederick County Office of Parks and Recreation

1967

Frederick County Office of Parks and Recreation

1611 North Market Street

Frederick, Maryland 21701

code: 24

#7. DESCRIPTION continued

occupies the one wing west of the main block.

There are several small rooms over the kitchen wing. A recent carport has been erected between the kitchen and a brick smokehouse. The smokehouse has "barred" windows, and had flues as outlets for the smoke while curing meat. This little building was converted to an apartment and extra space added to the north. There is an old tool house to the southwest, and an old livestock barn to the north.

A formal garden with old trees occupies about a half acre north of the mansion.

#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

portion of Tasker's Chance. Instead, in 1788, he gave the land to his daughter, Ann Jennings Johnson. The house was built as a home for herself and her husband, Major John Grahame (1760-1833), Frederick County Militia. Grahame was a native of Calvert County; his father Charles Grahame of Patuxent Manor, Calvert County, was an outstanding political figure in late eighteenth-century Maryland and a close associate of Thomas

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#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

Johnson.

Major Grahame, a member of the first Board of Directors of the Frederick National Bank, was mentioned several times in the Episcopal vestry records of All Saints Parish, Frederick County, 1742, as were Henry Ridgely Warfield, William Goldsborough, Benjamin Ogle and Francis Scott Key.

Entering politics in 1813, Grahame was elected to the Maryland Legislature as a Federalist and was nominated and accepted in 1816 as an elector of the state senators, as was Roger Brooke Taney (1777-1864), leader of the Maryland Federalists. Taney was a subsequent cabinet member under President Andrew Jackson and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (1835-1864). (The Taney house in Frederick City was restored with the help of the Maryland Historical Trust.)

In the first decade of the nineteenth century, the Grahame household expanded to include Thomas Johnson, who, as a recent widower, left his home, "Richfields", in order to live with his daughter. Johnson retired from public life holding no position other than that of an acknowledged leader of Frederick County. From 1794 until his death in 1819, Johnson performed only one civic duty: he delivered a panegyric in memory of George Washington on February 22, 1800. Johnson's friendship with Washington and his distinguished career of public service made him the obvious person to be selected to deliver this eulogy.

Thomas Johnson was born November 4, 1732, in Calvert County. He studied law in Annapolis and entered politics through the Maryland Assembly (1762). In the 1700's he joined the movement that separated the thirteen colonies from England. On June 15, 1775, at the urging of John Adams (1735-1826), Johnson nominated George Washington for the position of Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army. Johnson joined the army in 1776, and organized the "Flying Camp", so called for its ability to move quickly. In that same year Johnson helped to frame and adopt the first constitution of the State of Maryland. In February of 1777 the Legislature elected Johnson as Maryland's first Governor, a position he held until November 9, 1779. In 1780 he returned to the Legislature. In 1788 he was instrumental in the Maryland ratification of the United States Constitution. From 1791 to 1793 Johnson sat on the United States

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Rose Hill Manor

#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

Supreme Court. From 1791 to 1794 he served on the Board of Commissioners for Washington, D. C., and it was this Board of Commissioners that hired Pierre L'Enfant to plan the city. In 1794 President Washington asked Johnson to become Secretary of State but he declined. From 1794 until 1819, Johnson held no political office although he must have kept in touch with events. He would often visit Roger Brooke Taney's law office in Frederick.

While Johnson lived at Rose Hill George Washington never visited him there. On the night of August 5-6, 1785 Washington did stay with Johnson in Frederick County. This event occurred before Rose Hill was built - while Johnson's home was "Richfields."

(Source: John C. Fitzpatrick, editor, The Diaries of George Washington 1748-1799, 4 volumes, Boston & New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1925, II, p. 397-398).

After the death of Governor Johnson in 1819, the Grahames occupied Rose Hill until 1833. During the nineteenth century, the house and land had several owners including John McPherson who operated the Catoctin Iron Works. The records of these transactions refer to the land as part of the first patent of Tasker's Chance and no reference is made to the significance of Rose Hill as the last home of the first elected Governor of the State of Maryland. In 1906 the tract was again called Rose Hill, when title to the house and 156 acres was passed to Noah E. Cramer, of Frederick City, who modernized the house. Cramer was a successful businessman who had established a real estate and loan business in Frederick. He served as a director of the First National Bank of Frederick, the Frederick Building and Loan Association, and as an officer of the Woodsboro Turnpike Company.

A representation of Rose Hill is hand-chased on the Frederick County silver game platter used on the cruiser, USS MARYLAND. The silver platter is on display (1971) in the Maryland State House, Annapolis, Maryland.

#9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES continued

Buchholz, Heinrich Ewald. Governors of Maryland from the

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(Number all entries)

Rose Hill Manor

#9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Revolution to the Year 1908. 2nd. ed. Baltimore:
Williams and Wilkins, 1908.

Delaplane, Edward S. The Life of Thomas Johnson. New York:
Grafton Press, 1927.

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Scribner's Sons, 1933.

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1748-1799. 4 vols. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1925.

Forman, Henry Chandlee. Early Manor and Plantation Houses
of Maryland. Easton, Maryland: the author, 1934.

Holdcraft, Jacob Mehrling. Names in Stone 75,000 Cemetery
Inscriptions from Frederick County, Maryland. 2 vols.
Ann Arbor, Michigan: n. p., 1966.

Lake, D. J., Atlas of Frederick County, Maryland,...
Philadelphia: C. O. Titus, 1873.

Menard, Russell. Interview June 1970 and February 1971. Mr.
Menard has prepared a study of Rose Hill for the Frederick
County Park and Recreation Board. This research is due to
be published during Feb. 1971.

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Elder)." Maryland Historical Magazine. XIII. (March
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Stein, Charles Francis. A History of Calvert County. n. p.:
the author and Calvert County Historical Society, 1960.

Swisher, Carl Brent. Roger B. Taney. New York: Macmillan,
1936.

The Sun. (Baltimore). June 15, 1907.

MHT ~~1-42~~

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Recorders: Orlando Ridout IV, Director
 Nancy Miller, Historian
 Maryland Historical Trust
 94 College Avenue, Annapolis, Maryland 21401

April 1970

Sources:
 Bond, Isaac. "Map of Frederick County." c. 1860. Map Collection, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			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	39° 26' 16.5"	77° 24' 30.5"			
NE	39° 26' 16.5"	77° 24' 15.5"			
SE	39° 26' 04.5"	77° 24' 15.5"			
SW	39° 26' 04.5"	77° 24' 15.5"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 36 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Mrs. Preston Parish, Keeper of the Maryland Register

ORGANIZATION
 Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER:
 94 College Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
 Annapolis

STATE
 Maryland

DATE
 July 8, 1971

CODE
 24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Orlando Ridout IV
 Orlando Ridout IV

Title State Liaison Officer for Maryland

Date July 9, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

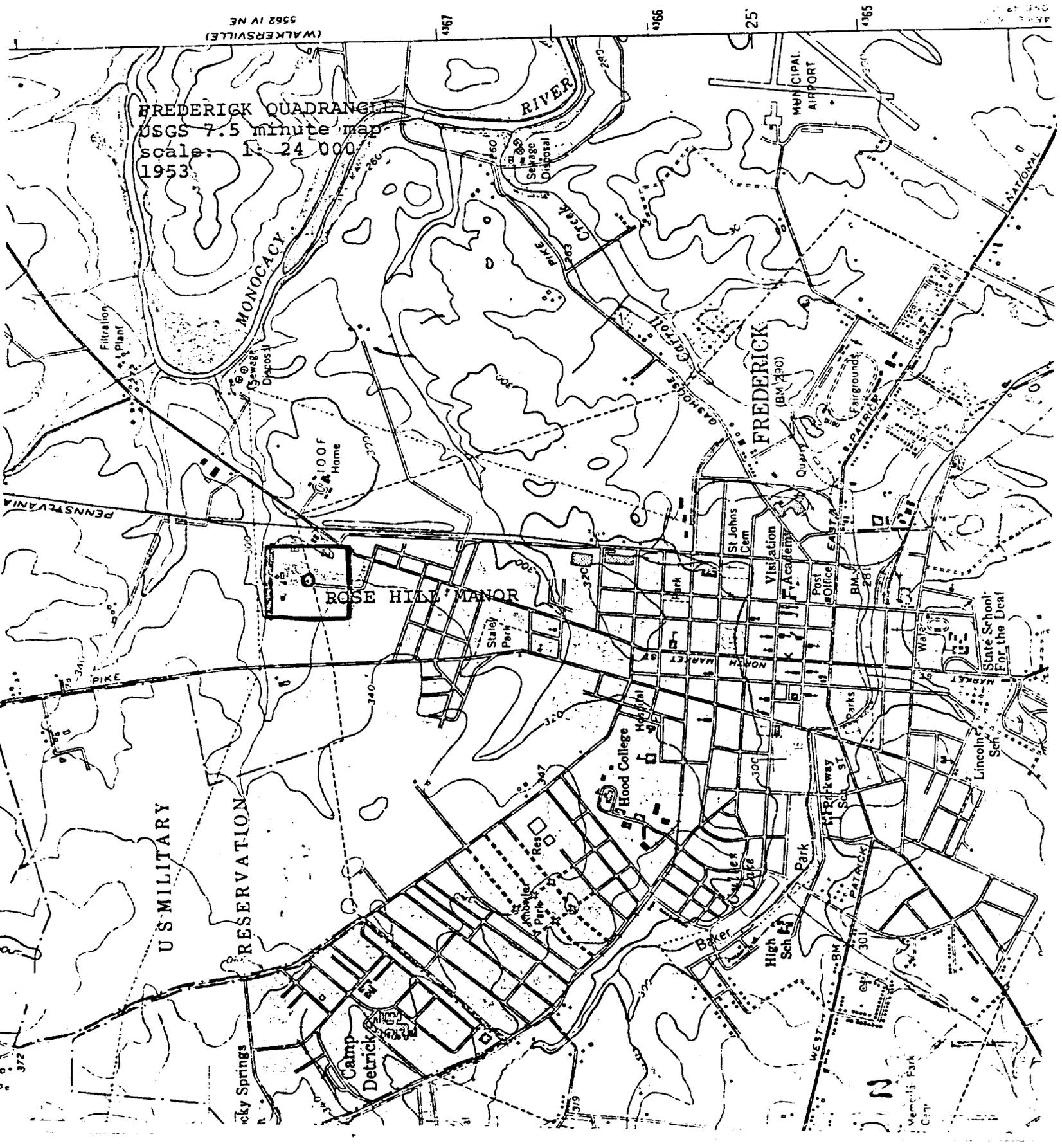
Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

<p>1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Frederick TOWN Frederick VICINITY STREET NO. US Rt. 15</p> <p>ORIGINAL OWNER Maj. John C. Graham ORIGINAL USE dwelling PRESENT OWNER estate of James H. Cramer PRESENT USE Information Center WALL CONSTRUCTION brick NO. OF STORIES two</p>	<p>HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY F - 43</p> <p>2. NAME Rose Hill</p> <p>DATE OR PERIOD 1788</p> <p>STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER Maj. John C. Graham</p> <p>3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE</p>
<p>4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC yes</p> <p>Thomas Johnson, patriot and first elected Governor of the State of Maryland, invested in lands in Frederick County. He gave a portion known as Rose Hill to his daughter, Anne Jennings Graham, and son-in-law, Major John C. Graham, as a wedding gift upon which a stately mansion was erected about 1788.</p> <p>Governor Johnson retired from active business and political life and spent the last twenty-five years of his life at Rose Hill with his daughter's family.</p> <p>Born in Calvert County in 1732, Thomas Johnson was elected Delegate to the Provincial Assembly in 1762. In 1774 he was sent as representative from Maryland to the First Continental Congress. He nominated Washington for Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army. Johnson was successively Brigadier General in the Maryland Militia, Delegate to the Maryland Constitutional Convention, first elected governor of the State of Maryland, member of the State Legislature, Chief Judge of the Maryland general court, chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Federal City, and an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.</p> <p>The mansion was recently purchased with federal aid by the county for restoration and use as a tourist information center near Frederick Town.</p> <p>The white frame mansion house has a tall, columned portico large spacious formal rooms with high ceiling, a graceful curving staircase and a stone-walled garden.</p>	
<p>5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Interior good Exterior good</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Endangered no</p>	
<p>6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>	<p>7. PHOTOGRAPH</p>
<p>8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.</p>	<p>9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Orlando Ridout IV Maryland Historical Trust <i>md Regis - OR</i></p> <p>DATE OF RECORD March 30, 1968</p>

FREDERICK QUADRANGLE
USGS 7.5 minute map
scale: 1: 24 000
1953



(WALKERSVILLE)
5962 IV NE

4367

4366

25

4365

Filtration
Plant

MONOCACY
RIVER

CRACK
PINE

FREDERICK
(BM 290)

MUNICIPAL
AIRPORT

ROSE HILL MANOR

Staley Park

St Johns
Cem

Visitation

Academy

Post
Office

EA 57A

BM 281

FAIRGROUNDS

PATRICK

WALKERSVILLE

MARKET

WALKERSVILLE

MARKET

WALKERSVILLE

MARKET

WALKERSVILLE

U.S. MILITARY
RESERVATION

Staley Park

Hood College

Medical

High Sch

372

341

340

347

320

300

301

319

372



WESTERN MARYLAND-FREDERICK COUNTY

ROSE HILL D7

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