

**MHT #FHD-1290**  
**James Poole House (123 Water Street)**  
**Built around 1901**  
**Frederick, Frederick County, Maryland**  
**Private dwelling**

#### **Brief Description**

This two-story, detached, frame dwelling is one of three free-standing structures on Water Street. It has a side gabled roof, a one-story front porch, and a side-hall plan. Although the dwelling is one of the few single dwellings in the neighborhood, its linear plan and its rear back building with a two-story side porch are similar in form to other houses on the street and throughout Frederick. It retains much of its historic form and fabric, but has several recent additions and alterations.

#### **Summary Statement of Significance**

The dwelling at 123 Water Street is a contributing building in the Frederick Historic District. It is among the largest dwellings in Mary Welty's Addition to Frederick, a small subdivision developed in the last decade of the nineteenth century. The house was probably built between 1901 and 1902 by James E. Poole, a laborer who resided in 111 Water Street before building this dwelling. Poole and his family remained in 123 Water Street into the second decade of the twentieth century, and the house was occupied by Thomas Dinterman, a carpenter, in the 1920s. George E. Smith, an employee of the Union Manufacturing Company, moved into the house in the 1930s, and his family remained there into the 1960s.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. FHD-1290

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

### 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic James Poole House

and/or common

### 2. Location

street & number 123 Water Street  not for publication

city, town Frederick  vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Frederick

### 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

### 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name James H. and Frances L. Nusbaum

street & number 123 Water Street telephone no.:

city, town Frederick state and zip code MD 21701

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Court House liber 1375

street & number 100 West Patrick Street folio 263

city, town Frederick state Maryland

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Standing Structures Report, East Street Widening and Extension in Frederick, Maryland

date May 1981  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state Maryland

## 7. Description

Survey No. FHD-1290

### Condition

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

### Check one

unaltered  
 altered

### Check one

original site  
 moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 1 building

This single detached dwelling with a back building is one of three free-standing structures on South Water Street. Like most of the dwellings on Water Street, it was built out to its front lot line. The south side elevation of the dwelling runs along the south property line and faces an alley. Although the dwelling is one of the few single dwellings in the neighborhood and the only dwelling observed with a side hall, its linear plan and its rear back building with a two-story side porch are similar in form to other houses on the street and throughout Frederick. It retains much of its historic form and fabric, but has several recent additions and alterations.

The building consist of a front two-story, three-bay, gable-roofed section and a two-story back building with a recent addition. The original structure, as well as the twentieth century rear addition, are covered with drop or German cladding with corner boards. This German cladding is not original to the dwelling because there are no breaks to indicate the rear addition. The original dwelling rests on a limestone foundation. The standing-seam metal roof is pierced by interior end chimneys on both ends of the gable roof. The north flue is functional, while that to the south is a false chimney built only for symmetry. A third brick flue rises from the center of the flat-roofed rear section.

The east front elevation has two-over-two double sash windows which are covered with storm windows and flanked by decorative louvered shutters. The replacement front door in the first bay has diamond-shaped lights and is covered with a storm door. A hip-roofed porch that spans the front elevation was added about ten years ago. The porch is supported on square posts and has a balustrade of square balusters. Dental blocks on arched fascia boards ornament all three sides of the porch. Similar dental blocks ornament the cornice of the main roof. The porch roof is covered with composition shingles, and a wood lattice work covers the crawl space beneath the porch.

The south elevation faces an alley. The only window is a small, four-light, pivot attic window, positioned asymmetrically below the peak of the gable. The gable end of the north elevation is a mirror image of that on the south. To the rear of the gabled block, the north elevation of the rear wing contains the two-story porch typical to back buildings throughout Frederick. The square balusters and arched fascia boards of the side porch match those on the front and rear porches. Two windows facing the first-floor porch have been boarded up, and the third is a two-over-two double sash. A two-light, two-panel door opens on to the lower porch, and another door opens onto the porch above. The lower porch has a poured-concrete floor, and the exterior entrance to the cellar is located on the ground level at the east end of the porch. Board-and-batten doors open to stairs that lead to the cellar floor.

The two-story, two-bay, shed-roofed addition on the west elevation of the dwelling was added sometime within the last fifty years. The west elevation windows are one-over-one double-sash with storm windows and decorative shutters. A single, second-story, nine-over-nine double-sash window is located on the north elevation of the addition. A shed-roofed porch, added to the west rear elevation of the addition, has a composite shingled roof, supported on four-by fours, and a poured-concrete floor. Arched fascia boards beneath its roof match those on the front and side porches.

A brief interior examination and photographs were permitted on all three levels of the building. The dwelling has the only side-hall plan of the interiors examined in the neighborhood. At the east end of the side hall is the front door. A straight run, closed string stair to the second floor runs along the south wall of the hall. The closed string has flat panels, and the balustrade has turned balusters and a molded rail. The turned newel has an urn finial, similar to that of the nearby 164-166 B&O Avenue. The area beneath the staircase is enclosed with beaded tongue-and-groove boards. The walls are papered, and the hall floor is covered with linoleum.

(please see continuation sheet)

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistory	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1901 Builder/Architect unknown

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
 and/or  
 Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  
 Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The dwelling at 123 Water Street is among the largest dwellings in Mary Welty's Addition to Frederick, a small subdivision developed in the last decade of the nineteenth century. The house was probably built between 1901 and 1902 by James E. Poole, a laborer who resided in 111 Water Street for a few years before he built this dwelling. Poole and his family remained in 123 Water Street into the second decade of the twentieth century, and the house was occupied by Thomas Dinterman, a carpenter, in the 1920s. George E. Smith, an employee of the Union Manufacturing Company, moved into the house in the 1930s, and his family remained there into the 1960s.

In 1891, Horace Welty and John S. Ramsburg surveyed an undeveloped tract on the southeast periphery of Frederick and divided it into twenty lots, as illustrated in a May 23, 1891 plat recorded in the land records of Frederick County. Several days after the plat was recorded, Andrew P. Renner purchased lots 8 and 9 on which he built a row of four brick houses. Renner also owned a vacant lot on Water Street which was assessed at a value of \$55. This was likely the lot on which 123 Water Street was later built. Renner sold the vacant lot to James E. Poole around 1901 when Poole was taxed on the lot, which had risen to a value of \$75. At the time Poole purchased the lot, he lived in 111 Water Street, which he had purchased, along with 113 Water Street, from Andrew Renner in 1897. He had sold 113 Water Street in 1898 and had made a small profit on the sale. He then sold 111 Water Street, also at a small profit, probably in order to raise the capital for the construction of a new home at 123 Water Street. At the time James E. Poole built the new house at 123 Water Street, he was employed by the railroad as an "engineer (stationary)." Although he and his wife, Alice V., were in their forties, they were raising a young daughter, Miriam E., who was adopted.

When Poole was taxed on the completed house in 1902, it was assessed at a value of \$560. It was shown for the first time on the 1904 *Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Frederick*, and was identified as 37 Water Street. The map showed a two-story frame, free-standing dwelling with a two-story rear wing and a two-story side porch adjoining the wing.

In 1910, Poole's family was listed at 123 Water Street, and the household had grown to include Poole's father, retired laborer Charles E. Poole. The census also showed that Poole's wife had taken a job at the nearby brick factory. By 1920, James Poole no longer resided in the house. The census listed a household headed by Thomas Dinterman, a 50-year-old carpenter with a 5-year-old son named Howard Thomas. Dinterman's wife, a 59-year-old Alice V., could have been the same Alice V. that had been Poole's wife, either widowed by or divorced from her first husband. The Dintermans remained in the house throughout the 1920s, but by 1935, the house was occupied by George E. Smith. Smith and his wife Henrietta were listed in the 1940-41 city directory in a house hold of five people. In 1950, Smith was a hosiery worker at the nearby Union Manufacturing Company and Jessie Smith, also listed in the household and possibly the Smith's son, was in the United States Navy. By 1960, George Smith had died, but Henrietta still resided in the house.

# 9. Major Bibliographical Reference

Survey No. FHD-1290

Please see continuation sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1,475 sq. ft.

Quadrangle name Frederick, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

UTM References **do NOT complete UTM references**

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

Frederick Tax Map 418 Lots 894

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

<b>name/title</b>	Elizabeth Barthold O'Brien/Project Architectural Historian		
<b>organization</b>	John Milner Associates, Inc.	<b>date</b>	November 1996
<b>street &amp; number</b>	5250 Cherokee Avenue, Suite 410	<b>telephone</b>	703-354-9737
<b>city or town</b>	Alexandria	<b>state</b>	Virginia

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
 DHCP/DHCD  
 100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
 CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032  
 (301-514-7600)

# MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES Continuation Sheet

MHT # FHD-1290  
Name of Property James Poole House  
123 Water Street  
Frederick County

Section number 7 Page 1

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North of the hall is a formal parlor in the northeast corner of the house. Its walls have paneled wainscoting and a chair rail, and the window surrounds are deeply molded. The floors are wood, and the ceiling is stuccoed. Behind the parlor is an informal parlor or dining room, also accessed from the hall. It has a wood stove on its west wall and chair rails and moldings that match those in the front parlor. At the end of the hall is a doorway to the rear kitchen addition.

The second floor follows the side-hall plan of the first floor. The east front bedroom has been heavily renovated with new moldings and a linoleum floor. The four-panel door appears original, however, and has agate door knobs. Behind the first bedroom is another similar bedroom with an added closet. The second-floor rear addition above the kitchen contains a bedroom and a bath.

The main staircase continues up another flight to the attic. In the attic, the common rafter roof rests on a false plate, and the false brick flue is visible at the south gable end. The attic floor is covered with wide planks, and the original wood shingles are visible on the roof.

Beneath the east front room of the dwelling is a full cellar with a dirt floor, accessed from the outside. Below ground level, the stairs are flanked by limestone retaining walls. Dirt has not been removed from along the north foundation wall and is held back by a limestone retaining wall.

# MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES Continuation Sheet

MHT # FHD-1290

Name of Property James Poole House

Frederick County

Section number 9 Page 1

Frederick County Board of County Commissioners, Frederick County Tax Assessments, 1876-1896, 1896-1910.

Frederick County Recorder of Deeds, *Frederick County Land Books*, liber WIP 13, folio 376; liber JLJ 16, folio 82.

Nusbaum, Mrs. James, Personal Communication, August 1996.

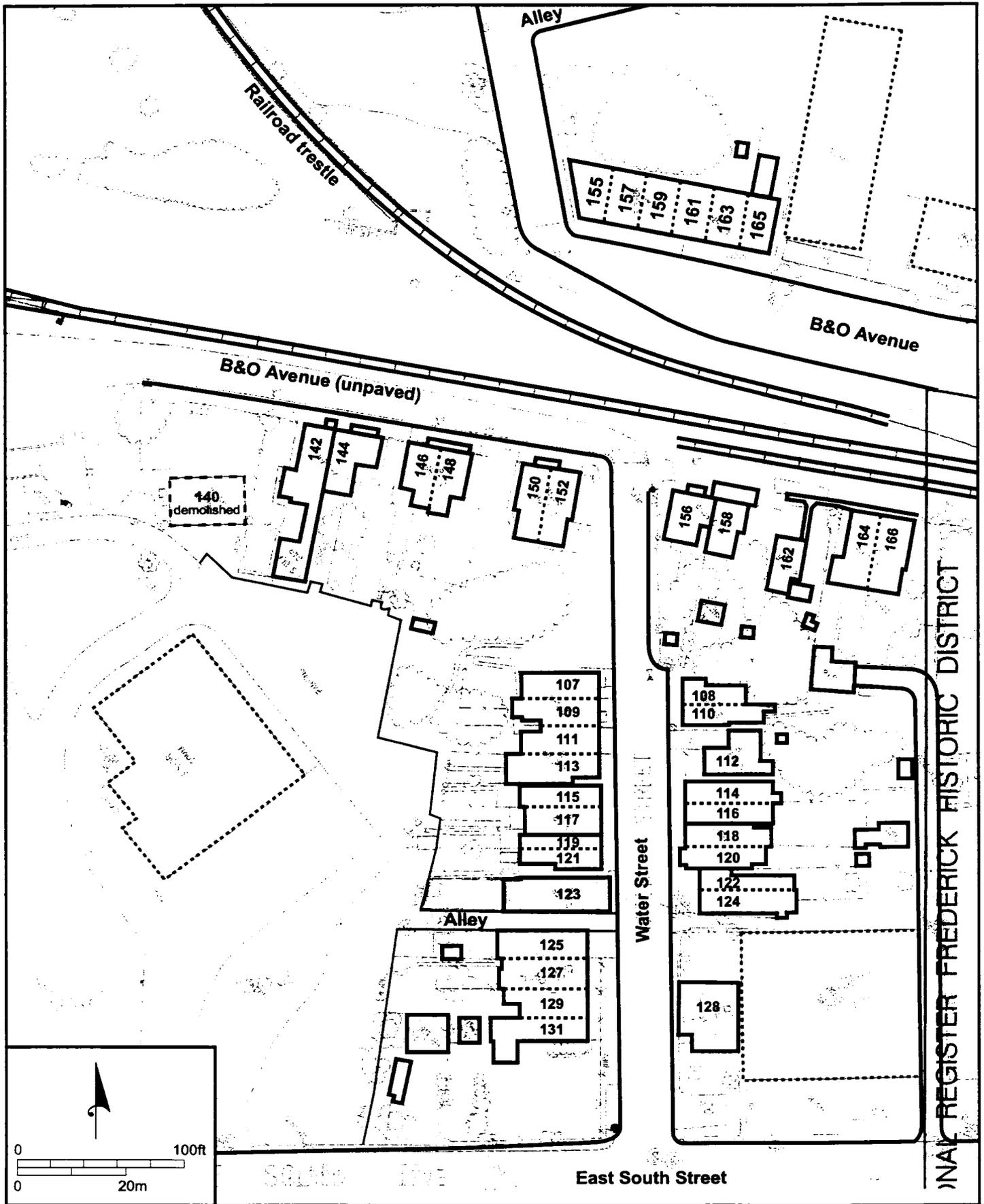
Polk, R.L. and Co., *Polk's Directory of Frederick*, New York, New York, 1928-29, 1935, 1940-41, 1950, 1960.

Sanborn Map Company, *Fire Insurance Map of Frederick, Maryland*, New York, New York, 1904.

United States Bureau of the Census, *Manuscript Population Census of the United States*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1900, 1920.

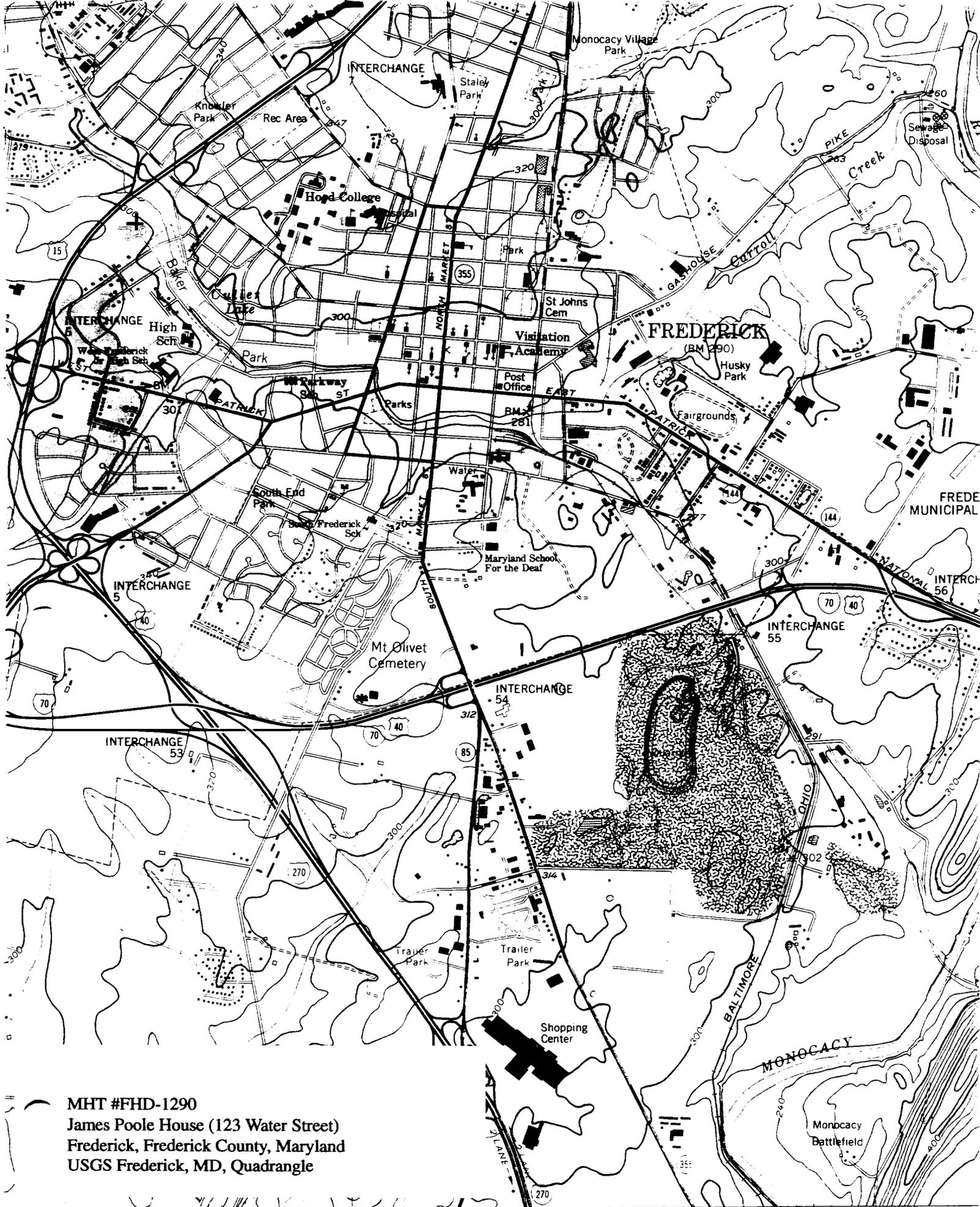
James Poole House (123 Water Street), MHT #FHD-1290

Date	Transaction	Property description	Reference
1960	City Directory: Mrs. Henrietta D. Smith, widow of George	occupant of 123 Water St.	Polk 1960
1955	City Directory: George E. Smith	occupant of 123 Water St.	Polk 1955
1950	City Directory: George E. Smith (Henrietta) hosiery worker, Union Manufacturing Co.; Jessie A. Smith, U.S. Navy	occupant of 123 Water St.	Polk 1950
1946	City Directory: George E. Smith household of 4	occupant of 123 Water St.	Polk 1946
1940-41	City Directory: George E. Smith (Henrietta) household of 5	occupant of 123 Water St.	Polk 1940-41
1935	City Directory: George E. Smith	occupant of 123 Water St.	Polk 1935
1928-29	City Directory: T.E. Dinterman	occupant of 123 Water St.	Polk 1928-29
1920	Census: Thomas Dinterman, 50, carpenter; Alice V., 59; Howard Thomas, 5, son	Owner occupants of 123 Water St.	1920 Census
1910	Census: James Poole, 53, laborer; Alice V., wife, 50, housekeeper brick maker (no children); Myra, adopted daughter, 13; Charles, father, 74, widower, retired laborer	Owner occupants of 123 Water St.	1910 Census
1904	Map:	37 Water St., 2-story frame, single dwelling, 2-story rear wing with 2-story side porch	Sanborn 1904
April 8, 1902	Tax Assessment: James E. Poole for \$635	Lot of A.P. Renner \$75 and new house at \$560	Tax Book 1896-1910
1901	Tax Assessment: James E. Poole for \$75	Lot on Water Street of A.P. Renner	Tax Book 1896-1910
1897	Tax Assessment: Andrew P. Renner for \$55	vacant lot on Water Street	Tax Book 1896-1910
May 25, 1891	Deed: Joseph and Adaline Welty (of Tuscarora, Ohio) to their daughter-in-law, Mary A. Welty for \$1 and natural love and affection	2 acres, 1 rood and 11½ perches	Deed Book WIP 13/372
May 23, 1891	Plat of Mary A. Welty's Addition to Frederick City, Maryland	Lot 5 shown as a 25'x 99' lot facing east onto Water St. with a 10' alley to the south	Deed Book WIP 13/376



NATIONAL REGISTER FREDERICK HISTORIC DISTRICT

Resource Sketch Map  
 MHT #FHD-1290  
 James Poole House (123 Water Street)  
 Frederick, Frederick County, Maryland



MHT #FHD-1290  
 James Pool House (123 Water Street)  
 Frederick, Frederick County, Maryland  
 USGS Frederick, MD, Quadrangle



MHT # FHD-1290

James Poole House

123 S. WATER ST., FREDERICK, MD.

Anita Dodd 8/96

MD SHPO

EAST (FRONT) ELEVATION, LOOKING SW

10 ← 4



MHT # FHD-1290

James Poole House

123 S. Water St. Frederick, Md.

Avita Dodd 8/96

MD SHPO

WEST (REAR) ELEVATION. Looking NE

2 of 4



MHT # FHD-1290

James Poole House

123 S. WATER ST., Frederick, Md.

Elizabeth O'Brien 8/96

MD SHPO

North elevation detail of porch. Looking SW

3 of 4



James Duke House

103 S. Water St., Frederick, Md.

Eritha Dodd 8/10

MS 375

Stairway in passage. To 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, looking SW

4049