F-3-159, Francis Scott Key Monument
Frederick County
Capsule Summary

The Francis Scott Key Monument stands inside the main entrance to the Mount Olivet Cemetery in Frederick. Facing east, and marking the grave of Key and his wife, Mary Tayloe Lloyd Key, the monument features a bronze statue of Key atop a tall, cylindrical granite pedestal. At the base of the pedestal is an allegorical group of three bronze figures. A bronze tablet on the rear of the pedestal is inscribed with all four verses of the Star Spangled Banner.

The Francis Scott Key Monument, which commemorates the author of the Star Spangled Banner, is significant under Criterion C as an outstanding example of the work of sculptor Pompeo Coppini (1870-1957). The monument was dedicated August 9, 1898. The total cost of the monument was $25,000, paid for with funds contributed by school children and others from around the country, and a $5,000 allocation from the State of Maryland in 1897.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. F-3-159

Magi No.

DOE __yes __no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Francis Scott Key Monument

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Mount Olivet Cemetery, 515 S. Market St. ___ not for publication

city, town Frederick ___ vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Frederick

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	___ occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
___ building(s)	_x_ private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
_x_ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	_x_ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	_x_ not applicable	___ no	___ military	_x_ other: commemorative

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

name Mount Olivet Cemetery

street & number 515 S. Market St. telephone no.: (301) 662-1164

city, town Frederick state and zip code MD 21701

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. liber

street & number folio

city, town state

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. F-3-159

Condition		Check one	Check one
_x_ excellent	___ deteriorated	_x_ unaltered	_x_ original site
___ good	___ ruins	___ altered	___ moved date of move _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

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

See 7.1 Description

8. Significance

Survey No. F-3-159

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

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: __A __B _x_C __D
and/or
Applicable Exception: __A __B __C __D __E _x_F __G

Level of Significance: __national _x_state __local

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

See 8.1 Significance

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. F-3-159

Delaplaine, Edward S. Doyle and Coppini: Sculptors of the Francis Scott Key Monument. Frederick:Frederick News-Post, 1987.

Hendricks, Patricia D. and Becky Duval Reese. A Century of Sculpture in Texas, 1889-1989. Austin:University of Texas Press, 1989.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name USGS Frederick MD **Quadrangle scale** 1:24,000

UTM **References** do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Nancy Kurtz, Monuments Survey Administrator

organization Maryland Historical Trust **date** 1 October 1998

street & number 100 Community Place **telephone** (410) 514-7648

city or town Crownsville **state** MD 21032

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

PS-2746

F-3-159, Francis Scott Key Monument
Frederick County
7.1 Description

The Francis Scott Key Monument stands inside the main entrance to the Mount Olivet Cemetery in Frederick. Facing east, and marking the grave of Key and his wife, Mary Tayloe Lloyd Key, the monument features a bronze statue of Key atop a tall, cylindrical granite pedestal. At the base of the pedestal is an allegorical group of three bronze figures. A bronze tablet on the rear of the pedestal is inscribed with all four verses of the Star Spangled Banner.

The statue of Key stands 9'-5" in height. The figure stands with arms raised, the manuscript of the National Anthem in his left hand, his right hand pointing to a nearby flag. The contrapposto stance, the gestures and the sweep of his coat create a dynamic composition. On a raised, square plinth set into the base of the pedestal sits the figure of Columbia. She holds a flag at her side and is flanked by a youth on her left, who rests his arms on the hilt of a sword and symbolizes Defense, and a child holding a lyre on her right, symbolizing Music and Song. On the front of the plinth below the figural group is a bronze relief composed of the Maryland Seal set in a wreath of laurel and backed by a palm frond.

The granite pedestal is circular in plan, and 16' in height. Around the edge of the top of the cylinder, just below the figure of Key, is the raised inscription:

THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER

Below the inscription is a cornice enriched with torus molding; below the cornice is an encircling band of raised stars. The pedestal is supported by a tall plinth, which rests on a broad circular base of three levels.

The monument occupies a prominent position between the main gate of the cemetery and the chapel, in a landscaped island separate from the rest of the graves. The bronzes were removed and completely refinished by the Karkadoulias Bronze Art Foundry of Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1987; the work was funded by the Francis Scott Key Memorial Foundation and the Board of Managers of the Mount Olivet Cemetery.

F-3-159, Francis Scott Key Monument
Frederick County
8.1 Significance

The Francis Scott Key Monument, which commemorates the author of the Star Spangled Banner, is significant under Criterion C as an outstanding example of the work of sculptor Pompeo Coppini (1870-1957).

The monument was dedicated August 9, 1898. The total cost of the monument was $25,000, paid for with funds contributed by school children and others from around the country, and a $5,000 allocation from the State of Maryland in 1897.[1]

Francis Scott Key (1779-1843) was born in Frederick, now Carroll, County. While practicing law in 1814, he was detained on a British ship in Baltimore harbor during the Battle of Baltimore. From his position on the ship he was able to observe the bombardment of Fort McHenry and was inspired to write the verses to the Star Spangled Banner, which became the National Anthem in 1931.

The monument was designed by Pompeo Coppini, an Italian immigrant who had studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Florence. Coppini was an assistant to Alexander Doyle of New York. Doyle entered the competition sponsored by the Key Monument Commission, for which Coppini submitted the pen and ink sketch and model. Coppini had also worked for Roland Hinton Perry on the Court of Neptune Fountain for the Library of Congress.[2] In 1901 Coppini was employed by Frank Teich of San Antonio to complete the commission for the Confederate Monument in Austin, sculpting the figure of Jefferson Davis and four servicemen figures. Settling in San Antonio, Coppini received commissions for other Confederate monuments around the state, including the equestrian monument to Terry's Texas Rangers; he also sculpted the Joanna Troutman Memorial in the Texas State Cemetery and figures for the Littlefield Fountain at the University of Texas in Austin. He maintained a studio in New York to save on shipping costs to the Roman Bronze Works Foundry, the company that cast the Littlefield Fountain.

In 1941 Coppini received an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from Baylor University. He served for two years as head of the art department at Trinity University in San Antonio. With his colleague Waldine Amanda Tauch, he founded the Academy of Fine Arts in San Antonio in 1945.[3]

---

[1] Mount Olivet, Frederick, Maryland. Cemetery pamphlet, undated.
[2] Edward S. Delaplaine, Doyle and Coppini: Sculptors of the Francis Scott Key Monument (Frederick, Maryland: Frederick News-Post, 1987), 4-10.
[3] Patricia D. Hendricks and Becky Duval Reese, A Century of Sculpture in Texas, 1889-1989 (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1989), 19-29.

F-3-159, Francis Scott Key Monument
Frederick County

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

STATEWIDE HISTORIC CONTEXTS

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance (1870-1930)

Historic Period Theme(s): Social/Educational/Cultural

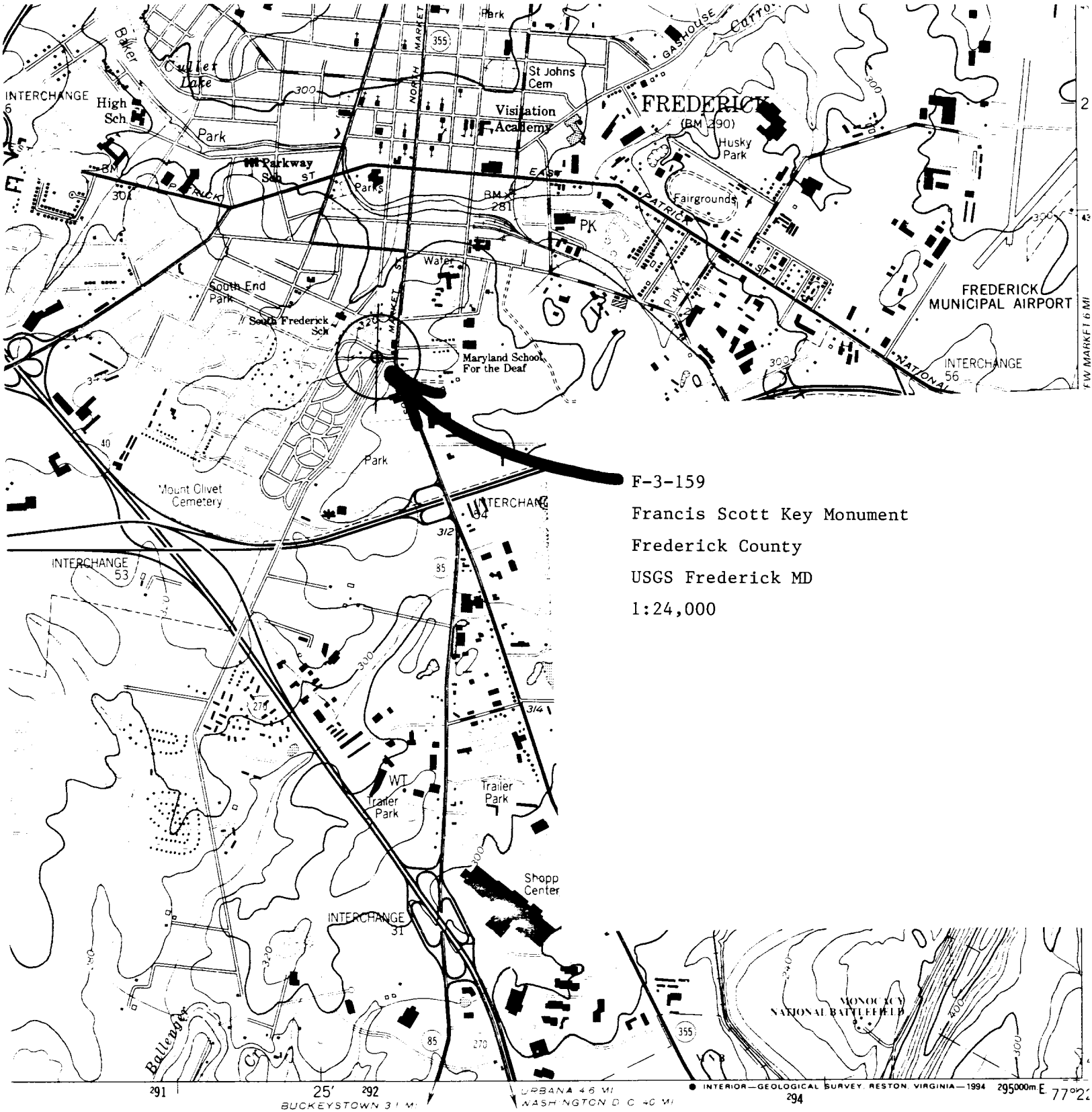
Resource Type:

Category: Object

Historic Environment: Town

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): RECREATION AND CULTURE/monument

Known Design Source(s): Pompeo Coppini and Alexander Doyle



F-3-159

Francis Scott Key Monument

Frederick County

USGS Frederick MD

1:24,000

291 25' 292 294 295000m E 77°22

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1994

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route / State Route

1 MILE

0 5000 6000 7000 FEET

1 KILOMETER

FE_
UM OF 1929

FOR SPATIAL ACCURACY - CLASS 2
ADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
BOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

MARYLAND

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

Revisions shown in purple compiled by the U.S. Geological Survey from aerial photographs taken 1988 and other sources
This information not field checked. Map edited 1993

Information shown in purple may not meet USGS content standards and may conflict with previously mapped contours

FREDERICK, MD.
39077-D4-TF-024

1953
REVISED 1993
DMA 5562 IV NW-SERIES V833