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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The headquarters of the Historical Society of Frederick County is located at 24 East Church Street, the southwest corner of the intersection of East Church Street and Middle Alley.

This imposing Federal mansion is five bays long, three deep, and two-and-a-half stories high with a broad, sloping "A" roof. The house stands on a high basement and is constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond. The central door (north) is reached by a flight of marble steps with a wroughtiron railing of classical design. The ten-panel double door with carved ovals is of noteworthy Federal design. There is a large, arched semi-elliptical fanlight with a marble lintel over it. The door has sidelight windows separated from it by freestanding Doric pillars. It is a handsomely proportioned doorway with a well-carved door. All the large windows have six-over-six sash with marble sills and lintels.

The north roof line of the building has a brick cornice with molded brick dentils. The end walls of the building rise higher than the roof line forming a roof curtain, with squared, buttressed ends. There are twin chimneys connected by curtains enclosed in each end wall of the building. The north side of the roof has three, nine-over-six, roundarched dormers with foliating muntins. They have flat-topped, stepped-in pediments.

There is a small, well-proportioned addition on the east end of the house. It is one bay wide and three bays deep and has brick pilasters at each corner and a small, wooden, classical cornice along the lower edge of the roof. It served as an office for the original owner of the house, John Baltzell, M.D. (1774-1854). There is a lower two-anda-half story wing to the south of the main section of the building.

The stair hall of the house contains some decorative plasterwork. The paneling and staircase are woodwork representative of the period. The mantels are all marble representative of the period, although some of them are of a later period.

There is a well-maintained garden to the south of the structure.

MHT F-1654

	SIGNIFICANCE			
	PERIOD (Check One or More	as Appropriate)		
	🎦 Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
	15th Century	17th Century	🔀 19th Century	
	SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applic	able and Known) af	ter 1824	
5111	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (	Check One or More as Appropria	ate)	
	Abor iginal	🔀 Education	Political	🔲 Urban Planning
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1 21	Commerce	Literature	itarian	
XIIII	Communications	Military	Theater	
5	Conservation	Music	Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Historical Society of Frederick County has acquired and preserved one of the larger, more imposing Federal-style houses in Frederick, Maryland. No longer a private residence, the Society maintains its headquarters in the building. Their facilities include a library, a meeting room, several rooms of "period furniture," memorabilia of local interest and, in an addition to the east of the house, an antique shop. Perhaps the most significant of these cooperative uses for this nineteenth-century building is the 1970 Youth Museum located in the basement.

The association of the Society's headquarters with youth is appropriate in that the previous occupation was that of an orphanage. The third owner of the house, John Loats, devised the house and the property on which it stands to the Loats Female Orphan Asylum of Frederick City which he established in his will of 1879.

In 1870, nine years before his death, Loats had purchased the house from Colonel Alexander Baird Hanson, 1790-1868. Hanson was a distant cousin of John Hanson, 1715-1783, President of the United States in Congress Assembled. Alexander Baird Hanson was born in Kent County, Maryland, where he commanded the Republican Blues, or "Silk Stocking Company," of Kent County. Hanson moved to Frederick City in the early 1830's quickly becoming involved in community affairs. He was instrumental in founding a school for girls called the Frederick Female Seminary. He served as President of the Frederick County Bank and, on a national level, as a director of both the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and the Chesapeake and Potomac Canal companies. In 1855, Secretary of War Jefferson Davis, 1808 to 1889, appointed Hanson to the Board of Visitors to the Annual Examination for the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. Hanson received this appointment one year after he purchased 24 East Church Street from the estate of Dr. John Baltzell.

John Baltzell, 1774-1854, born in Frederick City, studied SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENC	ES							
Recorders:			· · ·					
Paul A. Brinkman, M Annapolis, Mar	aryland H vland.	li	storic	al T	rust,	94 Co	llege	1 24
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FOR NPS USE ONLY

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Marvland

Frederick

ENTRY NUMBER

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Form	10-300 a
(July	1969)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

## INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

The Historical Society of Frederick County

## #8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

medicine at the University of Pennsylvania before returning to his native city to practice. Between 1824 and 1829 Baltzell purchased one and one-half lots on the south side of Church Street on which he built the present house. The addition to the east, according to tradition, was Dr. Baltzell's office.

The lots which Baltzell bought, number fifty-five and the northern half of number fifty-six, were two of the original lots for Frederick Town as it was first laid out in 1745 by Daniel Dulany, 1722-1797. Thomas Schley, who in 1753 was the first purchaser of Lot No. 55, purportedly had built the first house elsewhere in Frederick Town in 1746.

**#9. REFERENCES continued** 

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