

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Hocking House

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 144 East Main Street N/A not for publication

city, town Frostburg vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district Sixth

state Maryland code 24 county Allegany code 001

**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 checked="" 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 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**

name Clarence E. Miller

street & number 140 East Main Street

city, town Frostburg vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state Maryland 21532

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Allegany County Courthouse

street & number 30 Washington Street

city, town Cumberland state Maryland 21502

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Maryland Historical Trust Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1974  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

# 7. Description

AL-VII-A-005

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance** FOR SUMMARY SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #3  
GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The Hocking House is located at 144 East Main Street, on the north side of the street near the present center of Frostburg.

This finely proportioned transitional Greek Revival-Italianate building is square, 2½-stories tall with a low hip roof and a wide, three bay symmetrical facade ( south elevation). Resting on a foundation of coursed ashlar stone, a plain water table separates this from the walls, which are of brick, laid in American common bond in a variation of four stretchers to one row of headers. The hip roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A shallow cross gable marks the central bay of the front facade. The projecting box cornice is supported by decorative brackets. Large chimneys, located within each gable end and at the peaks of the hip roof, have been removed.

Although altered with the addition of modern windows and aluminum baffle, the recessed entranceway to the main facade still retains original fabric, including flat pilasters supporting a bracketed, slightly projecting entablature, also supported with brackets like the cornice above it. Walking through a modern door, one enters the original recessed foyer, also pedimented, complete with beaded stained glass transom, sidelights, and a six-paneled door with original hardware.

Flanking the entranceway are extremely tall paired windows, separated by a thin wooden decorative strip, with 4/6 double hung sash. These have simple sills, with flat simply adorned lintels. Extremely fine wrought iron guards are attached to the base of each window. On the second floor, windows are similar, but smaller than those found below. These are also paired, utilizing 4/4 double hung sash, simple wooden sills, and slightly splayed brick lintels. In the peak of the cross gable is a small paired roundheaded arch window, each portion containing six panes. Sills and lintels are identical to those found on the second floor level. All other windows in each gable end are 6/6 double hung sash, also with splayed brick lintels.

A gabled addition, attached to the northwestern corner of the building appears to be contemporaneous to the main block. This 1½-story tall structure also on a stone foundation is also laid in common bond brick. A small interior end chimney is found within the northern gable end. A modern shed roofed addition of white glazed bricks abuts the east facade of the gabled addition and at its intersection with the south (rear) facade of the main block.

Entering the first floor from the foyer, one walks down a long hall which originally led through double doors to a music room to the east, and through single doors into a living and dining room, respectively, on the west. One of the double doors leading to the music room has been recently covered, thus allowing access only through one door. Double doors which once fed between the living and dining rooms have been closed. Even though these changes have been made, the elliptical arches over each set of doors remain. Windows are all pegged and retain original interior shutters.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET 1.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Hocking House  
Allegany County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

An open-string stairway perpendicular to the hallway is located in the southeast corner of the main block. It runs up two flights and serves the bedrooms above. An elliptical arched opening supported by engaged pilasters notes the stairway's intersection with the front hall.

Three mantels in the living and dining rooms are wooden, with simple molding. A fourth fireplace, on the eastern wall of the music room is more ornate. Constructed of slate, it has a decorative cartouche which supports a plain shelf. A fifth fireplace in the 1½-story addition has been covered with paneling.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Hocking House  
Continuation sheet Allegany County, Maryland Item number 7 Page 3

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The Hocking House is a circa 1855 2½ story, three-bay, hip-roofed dwelling which exhibits features characteristic of the transitional Greek Revival-Italianate style, located in Frostburg, Allegany County, Maryland. The house is constructed of brick laid in four-course American bond, separated from its coursed ashlar foundation by a plain water table. The principal (south) facade is symmetrical, with extremely tall paired 4/6 windows flanking the recessed central entrance. The entrance retains its original bracketed entablature supported on flat pilasters. Similar brackets decorate the boxed roof cornice. A shallow cross gable defines the central bay. On the interior, the building exhibits a center hall plan, and retains considerable original trim, including interior shutters, double doors, and mantelpieces. The trim employs decorative motifs characteristic of the period, including elliptical arches and engaged pilasters. A cartouche embellishes a carved slate fireplace surround. A 1½ story gabled brick addition, apparently contemporaneous with the main block, extends to the rear, with a modern shed-roofed addition abutting it.

# 8. Significance

AL-VII-A-005

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** c. 1855-1858      **Builder/Architect** unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Applicable Criteria: C

The Hocking House is significant for its architecture. Constructed between 1855-1858, the house is an outstanding example of the transitional Greek Revival-Italianate architecture in mid-nineteenth century Frostburg, a medium-sized town in western Allegany County. In its refined proportions and detailing, the house reflects the architectural sophistication of this town during the mid-nineteenth century. During this period, the expansion of local industries including lumber, coal, iron, and locomotive concerns, and improvements in transportation and communication made possible by the development of the National Road (Main Street), supported Frostburg's growth and affected the tastes of the town's citizens. The Hocking House reflects the increasing urbanity of this period; brick construction sets it apart from the majority of Frostburg's mid-nineteenth century dwellings, which are wooden; the Italianate influence apparent in its detailing and in its tall windows distinguishes it from most other houses of its period, whose design emphasizes the more conservative Greek Revival influence.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The Hocking House was built between 1855-1858 on a tract of land known as "The Hotel."<sup>1</sup> The land was part of the estate of Robert Clarke, Sr. one of the original settlers of the area. Clarke owned most of which is now the town of Frostburg and its surroundings.<sup>2</sup> His children, Mary and Robert, Jr. inherited the estate in 1794.<sup>3</sup> Mary married George McCulloh who lost, through financial difficulties, his entire estate in 1821.<sup>4</sup> After having the inheritance in trust for twenty-eight years, Mary regained the use of the land and began to sell lots.<sup>5</sup>

In 1855, the second of three quarter-acre lots which George McCulloh laid out on the northern side of the National Road "near the town of Frostburg" was sold to John Taylor and his wife, who erected this brick house sometime between 1855-1858.<sup>6</sup> It is interesting to note that the house, now almost in the center of Frostburg, was outside the town's boundaries in 1865.<sup>7</sup>

The house was occupied by the Taylor family for a short time after its construction until 1858, when it was sold to the McCarty family, who lived there during the Civil War.<sup>8</sup> Local tradition suggests that the house was a "stop" of the "underground railway", but no written records exist to substantiate this claim. The Kane family occupied the building from 1865 to 1901.<sup>9</sup>

Although research has not produced any information on the Taylor and Kane families, much is known about the Hocking family, who owned the property from 1901 to 1942. Mr. G. Dud Hocking lived in the house and worked in a series of local hardware stores and banks in Frostburg. Mr. G. Dud Hocking inherited his father's musical gatherings in town. He also published a number of church anthems, most notable "Come Holy Spirit" in 1896.<sup>10</sup>

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

AL-VII-A-005

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #3

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Frostburg

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A	1 1 8	6 7 8 1 0 0	4 3 9 1 1 3 6 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
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D			
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E			
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F			
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G			
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H			
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**Verbal boundary description and justification** The property measures 92' along Main Street and is 165' deep; it is further described in the deed recorded in Deed Book 483, page 89. The nominated property consists of a single town lot.

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

state	code	county	code
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N/A			
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mark R. Edwards and David A. Dorsey

organization Maryland Historical Trust date August 1980

street & number 21 State Circle telephone (301) 269-2438

city or town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature [Signature] 10-28-82

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>[Signature]</u>	Entered in the National Register date <u>12/2/82</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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Hocking House  
Allegany County  
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET      ITEM NUMBER    8      PAGE    2

(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

From 1942 to 1947, the building served as the lodge of the Royal Order of Moose. For twenty eight years until 1975, it was maintained as the clubhouse of the Young Men's Republican Club of Frostburg. The building is now used as a private boarding house for students at Frostburg State College.

<sup>1</sup>Allegany County Land Records, Liber 13, Folio 170.

<sup>2</sup>John T. Scharf, History of Western Maryland (Philadelphia: L.H. Everts Co.) p. 517.

<sup>3</sup>Ibid.

<sup>4</sup>Ibid, and Allegany County Equity #261.

<sup>5</sup>Allegany County Equity #807.

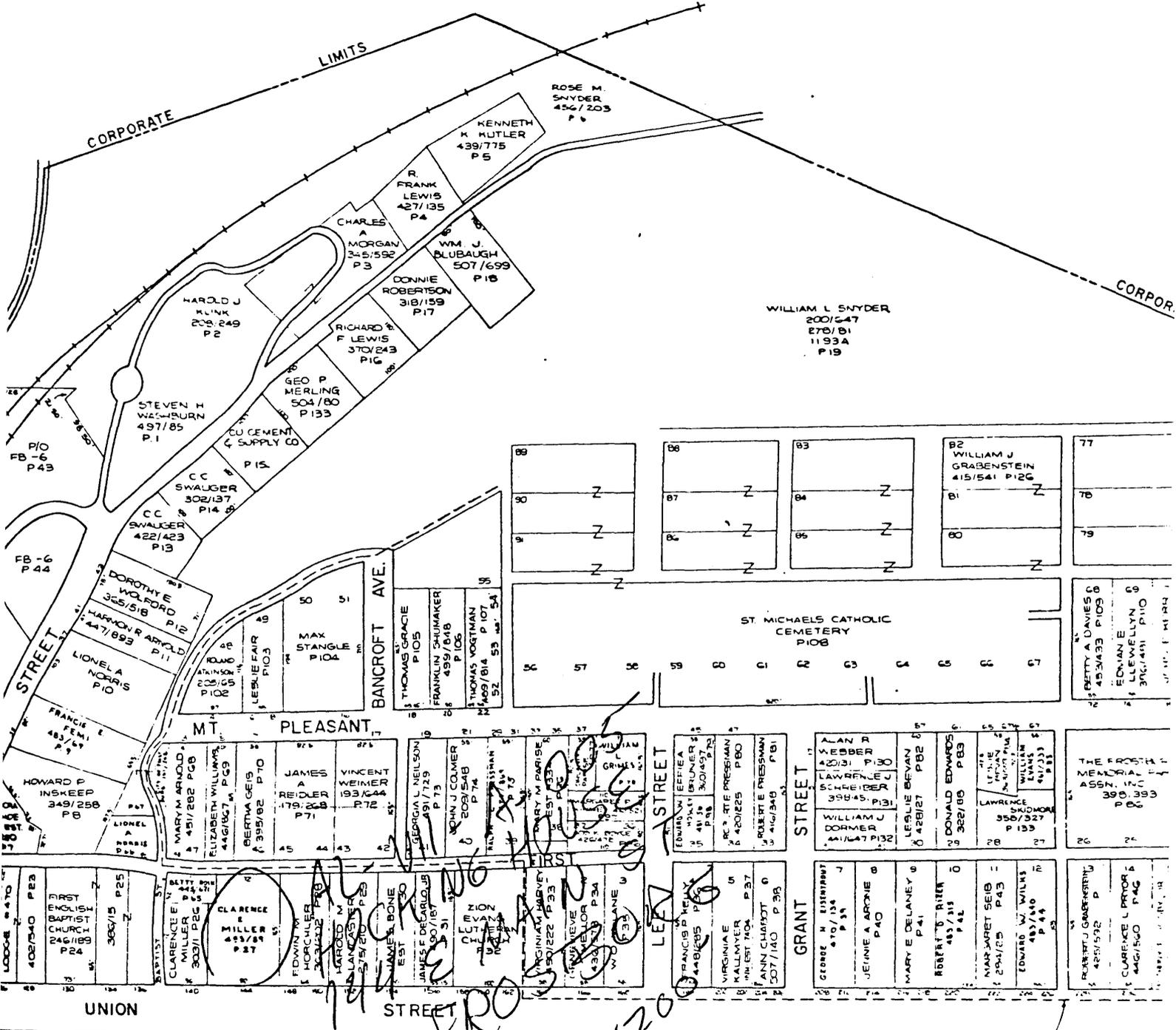
<sup>7</sup>Ibid, Liber 23, Folio 314.

<sup>8</sup>Ibid, Liber 17, Folio 537, and Liber 23, Folio 314.

<sup>9</sup>Ibid, Liber 23, Folio 314, Liber 90, Folio 2, Liber 194, Folio 200.

<sup>10</sup>Frostburg: A Centennial History, 1912, pg. 47. Frostburg Mining Journal, August 27, 1896.

Hocking Horse  
 Frostburg  
 Allegany Co., Md.



G W McCULLOH ADD  
 55/134