# MORE REFLECTIONS

ON THE HISTORY OF FREDERICK COUNTY

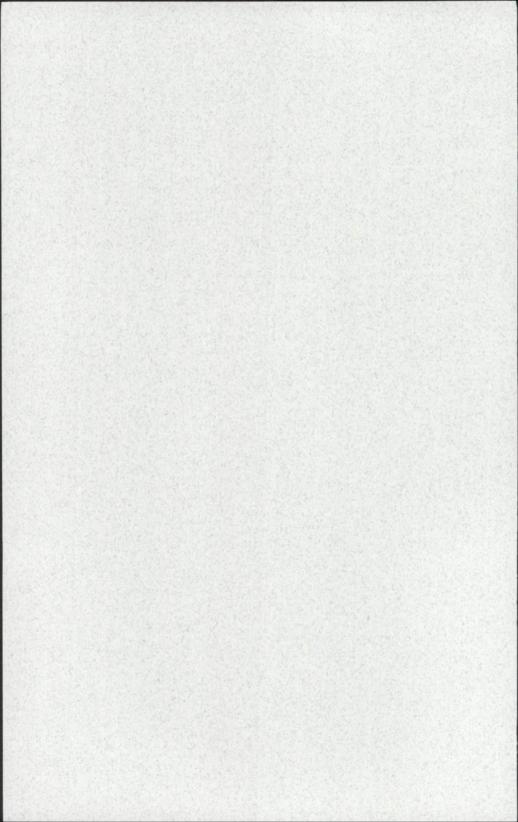


FRANCES A. RANDALL









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ON THE HISTORY OF FREDERICK COUNTY

#### FRANCES A. RANDALL

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#### **DEDICATION**

This book is dedicated to my late father and mother, George Birely, Sr. and Ruth Carty Delaplaine who shared many stories of growing up in Frederick a century ago —

and my late uncle, The Honorable Edward S.

Delaplaine who left a legacy of history and genealogy in his several books —

and our late son, George Elliott Randall, who encouraged me to begin and continue to search Frederick's past.

Frances A. Randall

#### THANK YOU

Many people have assisted the author in preparing this book by encouragement, special bits of history, and technical assistance.

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the Historical Society of Frederick County and the
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#### INTRODUCTION

History is a broad topic, which could include such subjects as the beginning of the world, evolution, the rise of man, and of course man's progress to today as discovered through written words.

Our definition will be: exploration, settlement and life in one region known as Frederick County, which can be found through written records, either first hand or through the works of others.

To begin, we can deduce something of the effect of geology—the mountains, rivers, woods, fertile valleys—which affected early people in the area. As an example of the first settlers from the Pfalz in Germany found mountains that reminded them of their homeland and fertile land, and other natural resources which were available to them. Instead of proceeding to the Valley of Virginia, many remained in the area. These people brought their strong work ethic as well as their religion that helped to mold Frederick's early days.

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# 

Typical summer garb worn by early Maryland Indians was made of skins and other natural materials. Many Indians were reported to be taller and stronger than colonists.

### EARLY MARYLAND

#### American Indians in Frederick County

There have been many evidences of American Indians in our area; many may have been here thousands of years ago. At some sites farmers still occasionally find relics as they plow their fields, and amateur archeologists have been digging in some areas for years.

There were definitely Indians here just before and during the early days of trading and exploration, predating the settlement of the English in 1634. The Monocacy Valley and the land near Sugarloaf Mountain were particularly good hunting grounds and also had good soil conditions for more settled communities. A map drawn by the late E. Ralston Goldsborough, local historian, in 1935 shows many settlements along waterways, especially along the Monocacy. How permanent these were is not known.

Also on the map are Indian trails. The Indians did move around, often because of attacks by nearby tribes. To the east were the Senecas and

Susquehannocks, the latter being very war-like. The Senecas were a part of the Five Nations of Iroquois; Shawnees from Delaware passed through our area to the west to flee the raids and wars. Piscataways (later Conoys) were here and had settlements. One of their settlements was on Conoy Island, across the Potomac River from today's Point of Rocks. By 1704 this village had all but disappeared, either because of a smallpox epidemic or because of difficulty in harvesting crops. The island later became known as Nelson's Island; today it is Heater's Island.

Martin Charetier, a Frenchman, was an active trader in the area. His trading post was located near the mouth of the Monocacy to the Potomac River. Furs, especially beaver and deer hides, were valuable goods to be sent to Europe, often through the port of Philadelphia.

It is interesting to note that Indians welcomed trade because their primitive tools could be discarded in favor of metal tools, plows and knives, and clay pots were supplanted by metal ones. For some time the Indians accepted the white people, some tribes believing the settlers were just another tribe. However, disputes over land ownership eventually led to animosity and the white men forced the Indians to leave the area.

One interesting tribe who frequented the area briefly were the Tuscaroras. They were originally from North Carolina, where they had fought Swiss and



Nicholas Cusick, a Tuscarora Indian, is remembered as one of the many Tuscaroras who helped Washington and other American Revolution soldiers. Most of the tribe left the Frederick area for New York state and joined the Iroquois Nation.

German settlers in New Bern. This was one reason von Graffenried was interested in Maryland, to relocate settlers here.

In 1712 the Tuscaroras began a mass exodus from their homeland because of warfare with other tribes in that area. About 300 people traveled north through Virginia and settled briefly in Maryland, in the shadow of Sugarloaf on the western bank of the Monocacy. The settlement lasted for only about ten years; they moved north and in 1722 petitioned the Five Nations of Iroquois to be accepted by them. The Tuscaroras became the Sixth Nation and they moved to western New York state and some into Canada where they are today.

Their name remains in Frederick County. There are two Tuscarora Creeks, one north of

Frederick in the vicinity of Sunday's Lane and the other in the south. Tuscarora post office is located on Route 28 west of Route 85 and the newest high school in Frederick County is known as Tuscarora.

When tribes moved around and left former settlements not all families left. Today there are several areas of the state where descendants can be found, one being Piscataways who are active in southern Maryland. These people are not always full-blood Indians as some married whites or black slaves. But they are proud of their heritage and are keeping their culture alive.

#### Early Maryland

There are written records of the early settlement of Maryland on March 25, 1634 when the Ark and the Dove landed on St. Clement's Island near

today's St. Mary's City and County. Earlier settlements had already begun in other parts of the "new world": Virginia and Massachusetts from 1607 and 1620. Pennsylvania was first settled by Swedes in 1643 followed by William Penn in 1681. It is interesting to note that during the previous century (1500's) many explorers and settlers had already staked claims and made settlements in South America and the Caribbean. Word of these new colonies must have reached northern Europe and England from Spain and Portugal, and there was more exploration of the coast of North America before the first permanent settlers arrived. The Vikings from



Replica of "The Dove," one of two ships which brought the first settlers to Maryland March 25, 1634. This ship and "The Ark" first docked at St. Clement's Island near St. Mary's City.

Scandinavia are given credit for being the first in exploring some of the areas, particularly in the North Atlantic. Spanish explorers are said to have explored the northern Atlantic coast in the 1500's and Captain John Smith explored the Chesapeake about 1606–1608. William Claiborne from Virginia founded a trading post on Kent Island on the eastern shore of Maryland in 1631.

#### The Calverts and Early Maryland

Most of the countries of Europe were active in world exploration and colonization in the 1600's. Wars were being fought, depleting resources and forc-



The official Maryland flag is the only U.S. flag using heraldic symbols. Officially adopted in 1904; the yellow and black symbolize the Calvert family and the red and white the Crossland family, in-laws of the Calverts. Both symbols were used in flags previous to its official adoption.

ing all sorts of restrictions and upheavals on the citizens. Problems were not only economic, but religious as well.

George Calvert in England had a successful career in government, but because he became a Roman Catholic, was forced to resign his position. He was treated well, however, given a title "Lord Baltimore" and land in Ireland.

He had visions of leading a colony of settlers in the new world, and in the 1620's tried a settlement in Newfoundland called "Avalon." However, winters proved to be too

harsh, so the experiment was declared a failure.

He turned his thoughts and energies to a warmer location, and settled on what later became Maryland. He died in 1632, so did not see his vision realized.

His son, Cecil, the second Lord Baltimore, was able to succeed in planting the colony. March 25, 1634 two ships, the Ark and the Dove, first landed on St. Clement's Island. The colony's capital was founded at St. Mary's City several years later.

Several factors were unique for the colony. First, they were advised to bring a year's supply of goods, which they did; this eased their struggles.

Secondly, an Indian village was being evacuated because the natives were at war with a neighboring tribe, so the new settlers were able to move into the empty homes. Thirdly, most of the settlers who helped to finance the venture were Roman Catholics, and the workers they brought along were Protestant. Calvert realized the difficulties of dealing with the English king and the Church of England. To set up the colony to be open to Roman Catholics, Protestants also needed to be welcomed. So freedom of religion was the law of the land from the



This reproduction of Maryland's early State House in St. Mary's City was built for the Tercentenary celebration in 1934. Much archaeology continues to be done in the site of the old city.



Houses such as this and its nearby garden were typical of early homes in Maryland settlements. Native materials were used and there was emphasis on self-sufficiency.

beginning, far ahead of its time. This was known as the "Maryland Designe."

Cecil Calvert and his financiers envisioned great wealth and prosperity. They at first planned to trade mainly in furs, but this did not work out. The land was good for farming, so tobacco was planted. However this was not as lucrative as they wished.

Workers on the manors which were set up were indentured servants, but most of them eventually

were able to work their way to freedom and secure their own land. Illness did take its toll, as well as poor diet and hostile Indians.

More settlers arrived from England often, but the area was not densely settled.

Other settlements were gradually made in Tidewater Maryland, along the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. Later settlers moved further inland; for example Annapolis was founded by Puritans in 1649, made the capital in 1694, and the city was chartered by Queen Anne of England in 1708.

#### **Inland Development**

Water routes were the only practical ways of travel and transportation over long distances. So it was natural that the earliest settlement took place along the Chesapeake Bay and rivers where ships could land. But men were never satisfied—there will always be explorers ready to have new adventures and go beyond the safety of the known.

The earliest written records of the area now Frederick County were made by Swiss explorer Franz-Louis Michel in 1702 and Christoph von Graffenried in 1712. They were interested in finding silver ore, and were also looking toward resettling Swiss and Germans from North Carolina. Due to lack of funding, what might have been the first settlement in Frederick County did not happen.



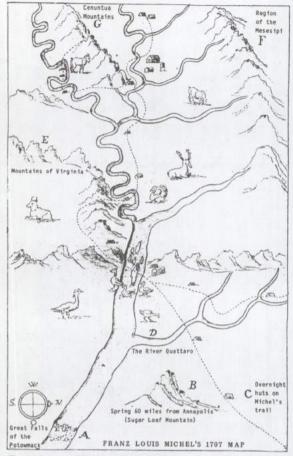
Today's State House is the oldest in the country in continued use. It was built in 1772, many years after the state capital was moved to Annapolis in 1694.

They did leave some records. After traveling by boat as far as they could on the Potomac River, they followed Indian trails on foot. Von Graffenried brought back a map of the lower Frederick County area which includes the Potomac and Monocacy rivers, Sugarloaf and the Catoctin mountains.

By 1720 other explorers and traders were visiting the area, and squatters were moving in.

It was a proclamation by Lord Baltimore in 1732 that opened the western areas of the state for land patents. Previously, Charles Carroll the settler and his brother Daniel and their wives Mary and Ellinor Carroll had patented 10,000 acres of land around present day Buckeystown on April 1, 1724; Benjamin Tasker patented land upon which Frederick Town was later laid out by Daniel Dulany, in 1725. After the 1732 proclamation, over 100 patents of large tracts opened land for settlement.

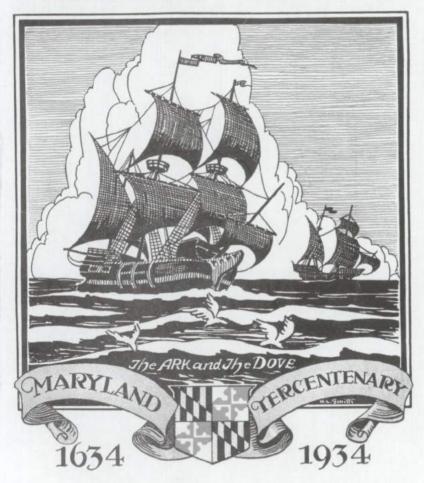
It is hard to realize in today's instant communication how quickly word spread throughout



The early map of Franz Louis Michel drawn about 1707 uses names unfamiliar to us. Recognizable are Potomack river, the River Quattaro (today's Monocacy) and Sugarloaf mountain.

Europe in those days about the possibilities and availability of coming to a new land. What seems to us to be so primitive did work for many people who were poor, discontented with overcrowded lands, affected by disease, wars, government and persecuted for their religion. Many entire families made the difficult journey and formed a solid foundation for our nation of today.

## The Hems-Host 1934 YEAR BOOK FREDERICK MARYLAND

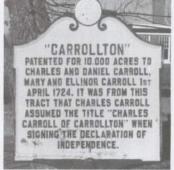


Maryland celebrated its Tercentenary in 1934 and that year's "News-Post Year Book," designed by Helen Smith, contained a brief item about the state's history. The book also furnished many statistics and pertinent information about Frederick City and County.

#### FREDERICK COUNTY'S FIRST CENTURY

Much has been written about the early days in Frederick city and county; the settlement of much of the south of the county by English landlords and the coming from the north of the Germans, many from Pennsylvania via the Monocacy road. Here will be highlighted significant events which occurred in the county during the 1700's.

- 1702—Franz-Louis Michel, Swiss explorer, visited the southern part of Frederick County.
- 1712—Christoph von Graffenried, after meeting Michel in Europe, explored further into the area of the Potomac River and produced a map of the region's tributaries and mountains.
- 1721—Early settlements were appearing in the area, then a part of Prince George's County.
- 1724—Charles Carroll the settler patented 10,000 acres of land in the area of today's Buckeystown.
- 1724—Germans were beginning to settle in the area of Creagerstown in an area known as Monocacy.



This marker in the center of Buckeystown tells of the origin of Carrollton Manor. Charles Carroll of Carrollton was a very active citizen and patriot around the end of the 18th century.

- 1725—Benjamin Tasker patented "Tasker's Chance," the land upon which Frederick City was laid out along Carroll Creek.
- 1732—Lord Baltimore opened lands in the western part of the state for settlement.
- 1732—Susanna Beatty and most of her family arrived in Frederick County from Ulster County, New York. She purchased 1000 acres near today's Ceresville and resided in a house known today as the Beatty-Cramer House. Said to be the oldest house in Frederick County, it was possibly built before the family arrived.
- 1734—It was reported by travelers that Monocacy village was more prominent than the area around Frederick City.



The Beatty-Cramer House on Route 26 east of Frederick is thought to be the oldest house in the county. Susanna Beatty and her family arrived here about 1734.

• 1737—The first Lutheran baptism in the area was recorded.

- 1738—The Lutheran church was established in the county at both Monocacy and Frederick; the Monocacy congregation was larger, but it eventually closed and no trace of its location has been found today.
- 1742—All Saints (Episcopal) Church was founded as an off-shoot of Prince George's Anglican Parish.
- 1745—Daniel Dulany laid out the town of Frederick on a part of "Tasker's Chance."
- 1745—John Thomas Schley arrived in Frederick with his family and 100 settlers from the Pfalz in Germany and founded Fredericktown.
- 1745—The German Reformed Church congregation was founded with John Thomas Schley as organist and schoolmaster.
- 1746—The first child was born in Frederick to John Thomas Schley and his wife Margaretha Wintzer, named Maria Barbara. It is said she had an Indian nurse. She was baptized in the Lutheran Church.
- 1746—John Thomas Schley purchased a lot from Daniel Dulany and built the first house, on the corner of East Patrick Street and Middle Alley. Although torn down in 1856, stones from the original foundation are still visible.



An artist's rendition of John Thomas Schley's first house built in the new city of Frederick in 1746 resembles in part the still standing house of Schley in Möerzheim, Germany It was located on East Patrick Street at the corner of Middle Alley.

- 1746—The first Lutheran church building was built of logs in Frederick.
- 1746—The Moravian church at Graceham was founded.
- 1748—Frederick County was created when all of the western part of the state was split off from Prince George's County.
- 1748-1751—Daniel Weller and family settled in the area of today's Thurmont. A descendant, Jacob Weller, manufactured the first Lucifer matches in 1825.
- 1748—The German Reformed church built a log building facing West Patrick Street. The building was also used by the Lutheran congregation for several years.
- 1752—There were 13,969 people living in Frederick county.
- 1753—John Hawkins received a land grant of 31,000 acres in southern Frederick County.
- 1755—General Edward Braddock came to Frederick to secure supplies for his campaign to capture Fort Duquesne, today's Pittsburgh prior to the French and Indian War. He was disappointed in the small number of wagons available and in the lack of local recruits to augment his English troops.

Benjamin Franklin met with him but returned to Pennsylvania to secure more supplies. The next day young George Washington arrived in Frederick. He was named aide to General Braddock.

- · 1756-The new Lutheran church was built on East Church Street. A part of that building can be found at the rear of the present building.
- 1756-1790-Peter Mantz, Michael Raymer, Mathias Nead and John Fox operated tanneries in Frederick city.
- · 1756-Schifferstadt, one of Frederick's oldest houses, was built by the Brunner family who came from the town of Schifferstadt in Germany.
- 1756—The first Frederick County court house was built. It lasted only thirty years.



A five mile Mason-Dixon Line marker west of Emmitsburg shows the Maryland seal. Pennsylvania's seal was carved on the other side.

- 1760—Thomas Johnson was admitted to the Frederick County Bar to practice law.
- 1762—The new Lutheran reaching his destination. church building was dedicated. Construction had been slow because of the lack of materials and manpower due to the French and Indian War.
- · 1763-1768-Mason and Dixon surveyed the line dividing Maryland and Pennsylvania which had been disputed by both states.
- 1763—St. John's Roman Catholic Church was formed.
- · 1765-The first act of defiance in the colonies against new English taxes

was the Repudiation of the Stamp Act, an unpopular tax on all legal papers. The "Twelve Immortal Judges" acted here, and the tax collector was hung in effigy.

- 1766—Barbara Fritchie was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The family moved to Frederick when Barbara was a young girl.
- · 1767-Middletown was laid out as "Smithfield."
- 1770—A log house was built on East Fifth Street in Frederick. It is still standing and being lived in today.



"General Braddock," also known as Ben Newton, met with George Washington (George Lewis) in Braddock Heights on May 1, 2005 to reenact the meeting of the two prior to Braddock's expedition toward Fort Duquesne. Unfortunately the expedition was unsuccessful, and Braddock was slain without



The first overt repudiation of an act of the British government took place in Frederick when the "Twelve Immortal Judges" declared the Stamp Act was illegal, on November 23, 1765. This plague is hung in the Frederick County Court House.

- · 1770-The Methodist church was organized in Frederick.
- 1773—Absalom Bonham rode Post from Baltimore to Frederick
- 1774-Catoctin Iron Furnace was being operated by brothers James, Roger and Thomas Johnson, Brother Baker joined the firm in later years.





CATOSTIN FURNACE

AN IMPORTANT IRON FURNACE

DURING THE REVOLUTION OWNED

Route 15. Built about 1775, it ceased operations after many managers and owners, in the early 1900's.

- 1776—Charles Carroll of Carrollton served on the Continental Congress.
- 1776-Frederick County's western and southern areas became Washington and Montgomery Counties. In 1789 Allegany County separated from Washington County, and Garrett County was formed in 1872.



The old Barracks known as the "Hessian Barracks" was a double building. Among its many uses during its lifetime are housing British mercenaries from Hesse, Germany, and as the founding home of the Maryland School for the Deaf. The west building was removed to allow for the main campus building of the school. This has also been removed.

Revolutionary 1777—The Barracks on the present Maryland School for the Deaf property were built. Hessian soldiers (English mercenaries from Hesse, Germany) were quartered here after the defeat of Cornwallis in Yorktown, Many of the prisoners remained here following their release because they felt at home among so

many German-speaking citizens. Originally two buildings, the western one was demolished in 1873 to create space for the school's new building. The Maryland School for the Deaf was begun in 1868 in the old buildings.

- 1777-1779—Thomas Johnson served three one-year terms as the first governor of Maryland during the Revolutionary War.
- 1779-Thomas Sim Lee from Frederick County served two terms as Maryland's governor until 1782 and again 1792-1799.
- · 1780-Berlin was laid out on the tract of land in southern Frederick County previously patented by John Hawkins. Later the name was changed to Barry and today it is known as Brunswick.
- · 1780—Frederick Presbyterian church began.
- 1781—Georgetown and Walkersville were laid out.
- · 1781-John Hanson served as first President of the United States under the Articles of Confederation, preceding the Constitution.

- 1781—By this time properties held by English citizens had been confiscated and many Tory sympathizers had fled to Canada or England.
- 1781—Thomas Sim Lee was a delegate to the Continental Congress.
- 1783—Regular runs of stagecoaches were being made between Baltimore and Frederick.
- 1785—The Amelung Glass Works was located in southern Frederick County, producing fine glassware as well as everyday bottles and window panes. Following a disastrous fire in 1791, the company was bankrupt by 1795.
- 1785—Frederick County built its second court house which burned in 1862.
- 1785-1786—Emmitsburg was founded; it was named for Samuel Emmit.
- 1786—Mathias Bartgis began publishing Frederick's first newspaper, "Maryland Chronicle or Universal Advertiser." It was a weekly.



John Hanson is best known for serving as the first President of the United States under the Articles of Confederation which preceded the U.S. Constitution. He was born in Charles County in 1715 and moved to Frederick as a young man because he was advised that this area was an important and upcoming place to live and work. He was active in many events during his lifetime.



The second Frederick County Court House was erected in 1785. It was destroyed by fire, the origin of which is debated, and immediately replaced in 1862 by the present building which is the Frederick City Hall, in Court Square.

- 1786—Woodsboro (first called Woodberry) was laid out by Joseph Wood.
- 1788—A state convention ratified a constitution for Maryland which lasted about 70 years.
- 1789—The stagecoach line was continued to Sharpsburg and Hagerstown in the west, and York, Lancaster and Georgetown.
- 1789-1792—Charles Carroll served as U.S. Senator from Maryland.
- 1790—John Thomas Schley died on November 20.
- 1791—Barbara Fritchie served tea to George Washington in Frederick.
- 1793—Richard Potts served as U.S. Senator. He had a distinguished career in Frederick as a lawyer and judge.
- 1793—William Plummer began the town of New Market which became a well-known stop for stagecoaches. The land had been patented to John Dorsey, Jr. and the first house and tavern built in 1790 by George Smith.
- 1794—Thomas Johnson's wife, the former Ann Jennings, died in November.
   He was invited to live with his second child Ann Jennings Grahame and her husband Major John Colin Grahame at Rose Hill Manor. They had built the

home on land given to the couple by her father as a wedding gift in 1788. Johnson had built his former residence "Richfield" in 1779 upon his retirement as Maryland's governor. This is located on the east side of Route 15 north of Frederick city.

• 1796-Frederick College, a school for young men, was opened in Frederick on Record Street under a state law. Previously children, including girls, had been tutored at home or attended small



The Frederick College building, built in 1797. was torn down about 1937 to make room for the new C. Burr Artz Library on Record Street.

· 1797—The General Assembly passed enabling legislation to begin planning for a turnpike from Baltimore through Frederick to Boonsboro. It was built about ten years later and eventually became part of U.S. Route 40, running from Atlantic City, New Jersey, to San Francisco, California.

private schools, some of which were operated by churches.

- 1797—Jacob Engelbrecht was born in Frederick on December 11. His diaries chronicle events in Frederick for almost all of his lifetime and are proving invaluable to historians.
- · 1798—The Baptist church in Frederick was begun.
- 1799—George Washington, revered as "The Father of Our Country," died on December 10. He had many visits to Frederick beginning in 1755 and continuing for many years. A tablet on a stone in Woodsboro states that Washington stayed at "Slagle's Inn at the Sign of the White Charger." Further north is a plaque stating that Washington was at "Cookerly's Tavern." He was also at Mrs. Kimball's Tavern in 1791, in Frederick. He was a guest of

Thomas Johnson on other occasions.

It is a well known fact that Washington was a good friend of Thomas Johnson, and he visited Johnson on many occasions. There are many examples of how the two men worked together in business as well as government, shaping our new country into what it became in later years, and serving as a foundation for today.

The death of Washington seems to mark the end of an era in our local history as well as our entire country. History did not stop here-the 1800's and 1900's are full of achievements in buildings, businesses, banking and education.

The following reflections on history in this book will describe some of the many events which have changed the lives of all of us, even during our lifetimes.



Markers such as these were placed along roads in Maryland at the time of the Bicentennial of Washington's birth in 1932. He visited Frederick often and met with Governor Thomas Johnson.

# DOWNTOWN FREDERICK AND AROUND THE SQUARE CORNER

#### Introduction

No look at the history of Frederick City and County would be complete without examining the hub of the county, the center of Frederick City, the crossroads of history, where Patrick and Market streets cross at the "Square Corner."

"Downtown" for many years has been defined as the area surrounding this intersection, and people had homes here, conducted business here, and the centers of social life developed nearby. Gradually, over 250 years, Downtown developed into the area which we know today. This discussion will focus on two blocks in each direction from the Square Corner.

After Frederick City was laid out in 1745 by Daniel Dulany and John Thomas Schley brought his group of 100 persons to settle the new town, there of course was no zoning, or plan for orderly growth as we know it today. However, several characteristics developed during the town's growth:

Many industries were located along Carroll Creek because of the need for water. Some of these created odors, such as tanning and brewing, and they located south and east of town so that prevailing winds from the north and west could dissipate objectionable odors.

Other industries might be located next to residences or retail shops.



The Birely Tannery at the rear of 200 East Patrick was probably the last of the city's tanneries which were located along Carroll Creek. The tanning operation ceased in 1924 but the business continued supplying shoemakers until the early 1950's.

The Court House was not located on either main street.

No churches were located on either Market or Patrick.

The first fire company was not located on either street, although the Junior Company No. 2 and United Co. No. 3 were and are, now both located on Market Street.

Generally lawyers' offices were located near the Court House, not on the main streets. However, some doctors' and dentists' offices were downtown usually in the second floor over stores. The theme was — "If it is in town, it is Downtown."

Early occupations in Frederick included merchant, blacksmith, innholder

and saddler, tailor, hatter, brewer, cooper, leatherworker, gunsmith, butcher, shoemaker, weaver, carpenter, mason, chair maker. Undoubtedly many of these business people lived and worked Downtown. The city limits extended to Bentz Street on the west, Fourth Street on the north, East Street (known as Love Alley) on the east and South Street on the south.

Especially after the formation of Frederick County in 1748, Frederick Town became a trading center for a wide area. It developed into the cross-roads with travel east and west on Patrick Street, and north and south on Market Street. Jacob Engelbrecht in his diary described how farmers traveled from the west to eastern markets, passing his house on West Patrick Street as they drove their horse-drawn carriages and walked their livestock. The return trip brought goods and wares to the frontier which were unavailable in any other way.



The first City Hall and market house was located where Brewer's Alley restaurant is now located. It was torn down in 1872, and the present building then took its place.

#### Market Street - North

Yes, there really was a market on Market Street.

The original market was established in the second block of North Market Street in a building erected in 1769. City Hall was located above the market, and theater shows were presented as early as 1820. Jacob Engelbrecht reported "Slight of Hand Man" in 1823 and Hugh Hagan, Ventriloquist in 1833. Market House was altered in 1835; there were no theatrical performances for about 20 years because no suitable theater existed. Some activities were held nearby in Junior Hall.

In 1860 the market was large — 96 wagons and four carts brought produce. In f the number of soldiers in town and the Army

1862 prices were high because of the number of soldiers in town and the Army at Harpers Ferry was being supplied.

In 1873 a new Market House was erected. Several houses were purchased and demolished for additional space, and the building was completed in 1874, having used 800,000 bricks, according to Benjamin Winchester. City Hall and Opera House were on the second floor.

In 1906 the building was remodeled — the theater was moved downstairs and the market was removed to the rear. A shoe store was located on one side of the front and a dry goods store was on the other. More recently these spaces were taken over by the city administration. The theater was leased to Harry J. Lebherz and Allan Wood; in 1908 the lease was taken over by Pearce and Schick. This was the only theater in Frederick that welcomed black patrons until integration took place.



Stage shows and other entertainment were popular at the City Opera House, even after the coming of the movies. This must have been a lively production!

There was a general decrease in market use due to changes in grocery shopping habits. Auto and truck use by farmers allowed produce to be taken to grocery stores, and other stores carried a wide variety of fresh produce not previously handled. 1958 saw the demise of the market, the addition of public parking in the razed market space, the alteration of the Opera House space and its taking over by City Hall.

When the former Court House was available in the mid-1980s, it was purchased by the city from the county for a new City Hall and the former Market Street City Hall was sold. Today "Brewer's Alley" a micro brewery and restaurant occupies the space.

#### Banks

North Market Street has been a banking center for many years. In 1817 Farmers & Mechanics Bank began as a branch of the Bank of Westminster then in Frederick County on the corner of North Market and East Second streets in Creager's Tavern. The branch was so successful that the Westminster bank petitioned the General Assembly to change the name to Farmers & Mechanics Bank in 1827, and the Westminster Bank later became a separate institution. On May 2, 1865, the stockholders voted to become a National Bank and on June 14, 1865, charter No. 1267 was issued to: The Farmers' and Mechanics' National Bank of Frederick, Maryland.

As Frederick grew, so grew the bank, the first banking house was outgrown by 1882, reflecting the prosperity of the city and county. A new building was erected and electric lighting was installed in 1893, telephones in 1894, central heating in 1899 and an adding machine was purchased in 1896. A new building was completed in 1903. Growth of deposits and earnings were steady through the years. The first woman was hired in December 1917.

During the Great Depression in the 1930's, a difficult time for banks, Farmers and Mechanics Bank was able to retain dividends and no depositor lost even a dollar. In 1924 plans were begun to build yet another new building. The Empire Theater building next door was purchased in 1926, and finally in 1936 a new modern building was completed.

F&M and Citizens Bank merged in 1953, and later other smaller banks were merged. In 1954 a facility was opened at Camp Detrick and in 1957, at Frederick Shopping Center.

Headquarters for Farmers and Mechanics Bank are now located on Thomas Johnson Drive, since November 1987.

In 2003 Farmers and Mechanics Bank was acquired by Mercantile Bankshare Corp. The Farmers and Mechanics name was retained locally.

A year after Farmers & Mechanics Bank opened, another successful bank began operations, in 1818. This was the Frederick County National Bank, always located on the Square Corner. John Colin Grahame, son-in-law of Governor Thomas Johnson, was its first president. As with other banks, prominent citizens of the city and county served on the Board of Directors through the years. As the bank grew, so grew the need for additional space. The bank built a headquarters south of the city in 1996 and retained a branch in its original location. The bank was merged into Branch Bank and Trust Company on March 17, 2001.

Fredericktown Bank & Trust Company began business in 1828. It purchased the building which stood on the east side of North Market Street in 1850, and built a new building there in 1908-10. This building was replaced by the present building in 1968-70, after the purchase of several adjacent stores which were demolished. The bank became affiliated with Mercantile BankShares of Baltimore. Its original name was Fredericktown Savings Institution.

When Mercantile acquired Farmers and Mechanics Bank the branches of Fredericktown Bank and Trust were closed.

Citizens Bank on the Square Corner was begun in 1885 by Joseph Dill Baker, who came to Frederick as a young man. In his later years he was known as "Frederick's First Citizen" because of his charitable and civic contributions. A handsome brick building was erected on the southeast corner of the Square which served as headquarters until 1908. The present building was then erected, after several adjacent buildings were purchased and razed. The bricks from the old structure were used when several houses on Rockwell Terrace were built.

Citizens Bank consolidated with Farmers & Mechanics National Bank in 1953; the building now serves as the downtown branch of F&M Bank.

A new bank building was erected on the southwest corner of Market and Patrick streets in 1925 and was first the home of the Commercial State Bank, no longer in existence. In 1934 the Western Maryland Trust Company was formed, located first on the corner of Market and Church streets. It moved into the square corner property in 1940, was more recently taken over by Nations' Bank, which left the area. The building was remodeled in 1998 and is now occupied by Colonial Jewelers.

A bank with a colorful past which no longer exists was the Central Trust Company, at one time known as Central National Bank. In 1911 the bank moved into a new building on the northeast corner of North Market and East Church streets, which had been built by Lloyd Culler, contractor. It was a hand-some four-story building which contained rented offices as well as the bank. President of the bank was Emory Coblentz, a native of Middletown, who became involved in several business ventures, including the Hagerstown and



The Central Trust building on the corner of North Market and East Church streets had 4 stories before the disastrous fire there which occurred in March, 1941. The city engineers decreed that the top two floors were unsafe but the lower floors were saved.

Frederick Railroad Company. Through the years his name became involved in a scandal which involved the closing of the Central Trust Company in 1931. The bank eventually was able to pay something to its investors and depositors.

Tragedy struck on March 10, 1941. The building was engulfed by the most costly fire in Frederick's history. Fortunately no one was in the building, as it began early in the morning, but city officials declared that the top two floors be razed and not rebuilt. No nearby buildings were affected. After renovations, the site was occupied by People's Drug Store on the first floor, and offices on the second floor. Today the building is occupied by Proffitt Associates Architects.

North Market Street figured prominently in the Civil War. Besides the movement of troops through the city and the nearby camp

occupants visiting the city, there was the visit of Confederate General Jubal Early on July 9, 1864. He demanded a sum of \$200,000 from the city. The threat was to burn the city if payment was not made. About the same time other towns were threatened by the General: Middletown was able to pay its smaller ransom and was spared; however Chambersburg, Pa., was burned. Mayor Cole met with local bank officials who agreed to lend the money to the city to pay the demand. Frederick City was saved!

The last repayment to the banks was made in September 1951. Bills were submitted to Congress several times by former U.S. Senator Charles Mathias to reimburse the city for this wartime expense, but Congress never acted favorably.

#### Retail Center

North Market Street has seen a variety of retail stores through the years. Needless to say it is difficult to trace the history or ownership of all stores in our designated two block area, so a few of those with longevity or those well known in recent memory will be described. Of course there were retail stores on Patrick Street and South Market Street. But the majority of the dry goods, shoes and men's and women's clothing seemed to center in these two blocks of North Market.

A typical pattern for local ownership, especially 100 years ago, was for a young man, born on a farm or in a small town, to come to Frederick to seek employment. After a few years of clerking in an established business, he would open his own store, either in competition with his former employer, or occasionally buying out his employer. Often his place of business moved sev-

eral times during its lifetime, and several store owners bought the old stores and rebuilt more modern buildings.

Another important phenomenon was the coming to Frederick of a large number of Jewish families who moved here, usually from Baltimore. Rita and Paul Gordon, local historians and writers, have thoroughly researched and documented the Jewish population in Frederick County. Their book, "Jews Under the Clustered Spires," is an important addition to Frederick's history and lists many stores on Market Street and their owners.

Frederick citizens have long had a taste for fine imported wares. Jewelry stores have done a good business — names like William A. Simmons, Myer, Charles and H.O. Fox and Tylers are out of the past. Four stores were listed in the 1895 City Directory. More recently McCleery's was on North Market Street; it was bought out by Remsberg's (on West Patrick Street) in the late 1940s. Later Remsberg's was sold to an out-of-town firm, moved to the FSK Mall, and then closed. James Doll's store was on South Market Street until it was purchased by Joseph Elkins Sr. and Jr. and moved to East Patrick Street. It closed in 1988. Remaining downtown are Landis Jewelry Store (1893) which today is operated by the fifth family generation and Colonial Jewelers (1948), and several smaller jewelers.

Two stores which were on North Market Street carried housewares, china, glassware and gifts. F.B. Sappington's store was next to the Junior Fire Company and Market House. But in more recent memory was Eisenhauer's, where many brides registered for gifts — and had their houses furnished with tastefully selected items.

Confectioners and soda fountains were popular spots. McCardell's was next to City Hall, on the south side. There was Dutrow's, and later People's Drug Store and Williamson's (established in 1877) served refreshments as well as prescriptions.

The Potomac Edison Company had its office at 43 North Market Street until 1925 when it moved to West Patrick Street.

In 1858 the Evangelical and Reformed Church acquired the property on the southeast corner of Market and Church streets. It was named Kemp Hall, in honor of an active church member and generous donor. It was here that the Maryland State Legislature met in 1861 when the state did not secede from the Union. It contains stores and offices on the lower floors.

Another group of popular stores no longer in existence were the 5 and 10 cent stores, also known as Dime stores. Although not many items were priced that reasonably, the stores did carry a wide variety of merchandise, including school supplies, paper products, toys and games, sewing notions, ribbons, some clothing, cosmetics and perfumes, decorative items such as candles and artificial flowers, and candy. Since four of the five stores were in the first block of North Market Street, it was easy to comparison shop and find some real bargains.

It is uncertain which 5 and 10 appeared first, but all were thriving institu-



North Market Street today shows evidence of change through the years: Cultural Arts Center was formerly McCrory's (1926). The next door's dormers were typical of late 1700-early 1800 architecture. The three story buildings were more usual in the mid 1800's. In the distance is Town Clock (1810).

tions by the late 1920s. In 1926 McCrory's, which opened in 1923 on North Market Street, bought a building on West Patrick Street. With a lease arrangement with the Evangelical and Reformed Church, it was able to form an L-shaped building which gave it a large selling area also fronting on Market Street. The store closed in 1994; the building now houses the Cultural Arts Center.

In 1928 the SS Kresge Company signed a long-term lease for the Mullinix Building across the street. After it was closed in the 1970s it was first a French restaurant; it became DiFrancesco's restaurant, and is now Cacique, a Spanish and Mexican restaurant.

Woolworth's was next to the Fredericktown Bank on the east side. It moved to the Seventh Street

Shopping Center after that opened in 1957. Its downtown building as well as its next-door neighbor Newberry's were torn down when the bank rebuilt.

Two distant cousins conducted businesses on North Market Street a century ago. They were John Davis Byerly and Jacob Birely.

Jacob was born on a farm in Carroll County. He worked briefly on the farm, was later a miller and general merchandise store-keeper. He turned to the sale of musical instruments and in 1890 moved to Frederick where he established Birely's Palace of Music. He sold sheet music as well as instruments, and instruction in music was available. He died in 1914.

John Davis Byerly was born in Newville, Pa., and moved to Frederick in 1842 at the age of 3, with his father Jacob, who is credited with bringing photography to Frederick.

The first pictures were Daguerreotypes, a process invented in France. Jacob became well known for his work, but sadly few examples remain today.



Charles William Haller Keefer was photographed by Byerly photographer. Mr. Keefer was a brother of Mrs. Clarence (Nannie) Carty and was active in the Hardt and Keefer Lumber Yard located on East Patrick Street where the entrance to the parking deck is located today.

Byerly B

J. Davis Byerly continued his father's business, and photographed many of Frederick's notable citizens and their families, using glass plate negatives when they became available. Sometimes a sample of his work will be available at an antique shop or auction. The business was continued by his son Charles; a new building was erected in 1915 — it bears



Early 1900 architecture is evident in the Byerly Building (1915), Rosenour Building and Shipley Building, both about that same time.

the family name. The Young Men's Shop was later situated there, and is now occupied by Hunting Creek Outfitters (Orvis).

The Byerlys were generous with sharing their knowledge of photography. They advertised the teaching of their skill to others; some students later opened their own studios. These included John F. Kreh, W.C. Bell and Smith Brothers, whose photos are found in local family albums.

Two stores a block apart on North Market Street were operated by two men named Shipley. Both carried similar merchandise and were favorites with children. Some of their wares included toys, school supplies and housewares, and after the 1920s, radios.

"The Busy Corner," also known as Storm and Shipley, was the successor to Lewis R. Dertzbaugh, who began a business with F. Lester Smith in 1906. He had clerked for Shipley and Bopst, booksellers, before beginning this venture. The partnership was dissolved in 1909, and Mr. Dertzbaugh continued alone for some years.



The Shipley Building

By 1925 Leonard Storm and Robert Shipley acquired the business. In addition to other merchandise, they specialized in office supplies. The building was later occupied by Connie's, a ladies' dress shop, and today is home to Market Street Jewelry and Social Study, a youth and young adult clothing store.

Harry F. Shipley began his business career at a young age. At age 10 he was employed by D.H. Smith who operated Smith's Temple of Fancy, a well known Market Street store of 100 years ago. After 11 years there, Mr. Shipley and G.S.C. Bopst opened a stationery store in 1897. In 1909 Mr. Shipley bought out Mr. Bopst and operated the store alone until his sons Dorsey and Harry were old enough to work for him.



The Rosenour Building

Mr. Shipley rebuilt the store building in 1914, about the same time that the Rosenaur Building next door on the corner was erected.

After Mr. Shipley died in 1942 his son Dorsey bought the business. Upon his death in 1958 Earl Kolb, Clark Sheetenhelm, George Blumenauer and

Robert Marendt purchased the company. Mr. Marendt bought out his partners in 1969 and left downtown Frederick for the Frederick Towne Mall in 1972.

The building is now occupied by Firestone's Restaurant.

"Berger Book Mart and Gift Shop" was a mecca for readers. Ernest Berger was born in Philadelphia in 1910. He arrived in Frederick in 1932 and opened his shop in the Weinberg building. He was active in the community and was knowledgeable about his merchandise, advising customers about gifts for their friends and books to add to their personal library. He was an avid stamp collector, and was interested in local history. He closed his shop upon retiring to Florida.

By far the best remembered shopping on Market Street was for clothing and "dry goods." Many stores have come and gone through the years, with few remaining today from the past 25 years.

JC Penney was one of the earliest national chain stores to open in Frederick. It arrived in 1924, and was located in the McCardell Building, next to City Hall. Mr. James Cash Penney began his chain in Kemerer, Wyo., in 1902; the chain has spread around the country.

The local store remained downtown until 1972 when it moved to the Frederick Towne Mall. Social Services later moved into a remodeled building, which today houses the county Department of Public Works. Penney's store is now located in the FSK Mall on Route 85.

Other shops which are remembered by many include Hamburger's, Frederick Cloak & Suit Store — Oscar Hirsch; Rosenour's, later operated by Herman Weener; Gilbert's — Gilbert Lowenthal; New York Sample Shop — William Rovin; Henry's — Henry Serepca; Earle's Shoe Store — Jack Friedman.

Thomas Haller owned a dry goods and ladies' clothing store for many years. He was active in community affairs, helping to organize the hosiery, among other endeavors. He died in 1935, and his location was taken over by Henry's. A dim reminder of his enterprise was located on U.S. 40A near the ramp to I-70 East; a small barn was painted with an advertisement for Haller's store, over 60 years ago. Although much faded, in certain light the sign could still be deciphered, until it was blown over in a storm.

Bennett's was located across the street from City Hall. Begun by Oliver P. Bennett, it was continued by his son William Besant Bennett, and later for a

short time by grandsons "Bill" and "Jack," until they moved from Frederick. Besides items such as towels and sheets, it was known for its children's and baby's clothing, and for being the best place in town to buy fabric by the yard.

John D. Hendrickson — "The Model" — "Merchandise of Merit Only" — these words bring to mind one of Frederick's premier stores. When it closed in 1980, a six-generation tradition of storekeepers dating to the early 1800s came to an end.

Young John was born in Buckeystown district on a farm in 1855. His ambition brought him to Frederick while a youth, and he first clerked in the store owned by Washington Irving Parsons and his brother Simon, in the building which stood where the Shipley building is now located. After Simon left town and sold his interest in the business to his brother, John remained for five

years, and in 1877 bought the business.

In 1882 the store moved across the street to the McCardell building. In 1888 Col. Charles E. Trail who owned a real estate company had 44 North Market Street built as headquarters for the Mutual Insurance Company, on the property where Miss Annie Engelbrecht had lived. The insurance company had been founded in 1843. In 1888 this company occupied the north side of the building, Hendrickson's was on the south side, and *The News*, incorporated as the Great Southern Printing and Manufacturing Company that same year, were tenants for the upper floors.

When *The News* moved to its Court Street location in 1917, Hendrickson's expanded into the upper floors. In 1922 the insurance company moved a block



The home of the Frederick News-Post from 1888 until 1916, at 44 North Market Street. Sharing the building were Hendrickson's store and the Mutual Insurance Company.

north into the former Franklin Savings Bank building, and is now located on Gov. Thomas Johnson Drive. Hendrickson's rented from the insurance company until 1950 when it purchased the building. When the store was closed, the real estate was sold to University Publications of America. Greg and Sherry Burgee later purchased the building and operated 44 North restaurant. Today Isabella's is located there.

John Hendrickson died in 1921. His sons Ames and Carroll, Sr. formed a partnership, and in 1967 Carroll Jr. bought the store.

Well known through the years for its personal service, the store also featured home delivery, Irish linens, ladies' ready to wear and lingerie, girls' clothing, fur coat storage and remodeling, notions and accessories. The first local Girl Scout Equipment Shop was located here. Items could be taken home

on approval prior to purchase, alterations were free and personal checks were always accepted. There was a good rapport with customers, who were saddened when the decision was made to close the store.

Kemp's "On the Square" was the first store to be a true department store.

C. Thomas Kemp, a native of Frederick, was first in business with Mr. Renner across the street. When Mr. Kemp bought out Mr. Renner, he acquired the property at the Square Corner where S. Frank Thomas's Drug Store had been. He built a new building and opened for business in 1904. Later he bought the Rosenstock building next door and knocked out the walls to double the floor space.

Sam Maples, a native of Tennessee, was a lawyer working for the Treasury Department and came to Frederick to aid businesses having trouble with income taxes. He rented a room from "Aunt Hettie" Kreh, met Mr. Kemp's daughter Annie Brunner, and they were married in 1919. After being in Ohio on a call, he was called back to Frederick by Mr. Kemp. Mr. Maples later bought the business from his father-in-law. His son Sam Wynn Maples joined the firm in 1946.

C. Thomas Kemp died in 1930. In 1956 Sam Maples retired; he died in 1970.

In 1961 the building, real estate and inventory were sold to Allen Routzahn, who had opened an appliance store on East Patrick Street with the financial help from his father, who mortgaged his home to give this son a start. This business has moved to Md. 26 north of Frederick, selling furniture and appliances. Today Suntrust bank occupies part of the building.

Kemp's sold many diverse items. It was noted for piece goods, ladies' clothing, notions and findings when it was first opened. Later it clothed the entire family, sold shoes and hats, accessories, housewares, and appliances and radios. In the early days home deliveries were made by pony cart. The family was advised not to shop at the store on Saturdays as this was a busy day!

No discussion of Frederick's retail business would be complete without mentioning Parson's, next door to the busy corner of Second and Market streets.



North Market Street looking north from Second Street probably in the late 1890's. Note the hanging street light, and the tall Doll Brothers store on the left.

The first owner of the store was Ezra Doll, followed by his son, George Joseph Doll. George had two sons, Charles and Roger, who joined their father in business. When George retired in 1892 the brothers renamed the store Doll Brothers. A new building was erected in 1906 and was noted for its modern conveniences including

electricity, an elevator and pneumatic tubes between floors for sale transactions.

Charles was having health problems by 1930, and was distraught over the deaths of two merchant friends. It was a shock to the community when he shot himself in his office. The business was continued by Roger until 1932 when he sold it to the Parsons Company and the name was changed. Charles's daughter, Marianna, and her husband Alvin Crawford were active in the business after the sale.

The store was noted for friendly service, ladies' clothing, a children's department, and linens and accessories in its later years, and was missed by the community when it closed.

North Market Street was not all retail shops during its early years. A coppersmith operated at the northwest corner of Market and Church streets, and Bentz's Custom Harness Shop was upstairs. On the southwest corner was the office of The Examiner, a newspaper which served the community well, and later was Birely's Palace of Music.

William T. Delaplaine began his printing operation in 1880 on South Market Street in the MacGill building, moved to the corner of Patrick and Court streets, and occupied 4, 6, 8 and 10 North Market Street before moving to 44 North Market Street where the operation remained for almost 30 years. Next door at #2 North Market Street was Castle's Harness Shop; a large wooden horse was moved out and in of the store when it daily opened and closed.

Such was the variety of businesses on North Market Street — truly a busy mecca for shoppers and traders.

#### South Market Street

Although not quite the booming retail center as was North Market Street, there were solid businesses located on South Market Street. Henry S. Landis opened Landis Jewelry Store April 9, 1893; a mosaic tile clock is embedded in the sidewalk in front of the original store. The showroom next door was acquired in 1945 and remodeled. Harry and John Sr. succeeded Henry. Today the fourth and fifth generations are active in the business. John Jr. and his son-in-law David Bogush operate the store, which features clock and watch repairing and jewelry sales.

Another jewelry store was operated by James E. Doll, at 9 South Market St. After working for another store, he opened his business in 1898. It was sold to Joseph E. Elkins and his son Joseph Jr. in 1953; Joseph Jr. purchased his father's interest in 1963. Later it moved to East Patrick Street where it remained until it closed in 1988.

Other stores through the years included Dave's Men & Boys Wear (The Gordon Family), Kings Mens Wear, Seeger's Hardware Store, PL Hargett Hardware, Enterprise Printing Co. (Ernest Stephens) Kehne's Furniture Store, several 5 & 10's, Pearre's Drug Store – Modern Pharmacy; Jesse Michael, Paperhanger & Candy Store, Beckley's Candy Store, Abrecht's Meat Market



The former B&O Train Station on South Market Street was unique because trains needed to back into the station in order to pull out forward. This is where Abraham Lincoln arrived in Frederick following the Battle of Antietam and rode to the battleground in a carriage similar to the ones shown.

where the YMCA was located on the second floor.

The building of the B&O Railroad Station in 1858 must have given new life to that section of town. The U.S. Hotel was nearby, and other businesses opened as a result. Two other hotels – R.E. Lee & Nash Hotels – were nearby, as were several saloons.

A unique feature of the street is the bridge over Carroll Creek, which serves

the thoroughfare. Periodic flooding has taken its toll; the 100-year flood of Oct. 9, 1976 ravaged the area, from which it has not recovered.

Through the years other businesses have existed on the street, some along the banks of the creek. There was John Loats' Tannery, Hane & Hood Carriage Maker, Gomber Machine Works, Simpson's Livery Stable. In the 1940's & 50's Roland Harbaugh sold Hudson automobiles near the bridge.

An outstanding building is the Federated Charities Building, with the large black dog on the front porch.

It was the home of John H. Williams, built prior to 1858. He was a well-known lawyer and banker. He purchased the dog in 1858 for \$45 in New York – it cost \$5 to fasten it to the slab. It was said that the dog guarded the front door of the home so that visitors would use the steps instead of falling from the porch. John was born in 1814 in Emmitsburg and



The Federated Charities building on South Market Street was recently refurbished and is home to offices of several non-profit agencies. The dog on the front porch was placed there by the home's builder, Mr. Williams, to keep visitors from falling onto the sidewalk.

moved to Frederick when he was 18 years old. His descendants were Henry (died 1918) and Margaret Janet (died 1922). The home was willed to Federated Charities; many non-profit groups have headquarters here.

The city spread southward in "stringtown" formation. Some homes were located on the top of the hill, across from the Hessian Barracks, built in the 1770's. German (Hessian) prisoners were mercenaries for the British during the Revolution. They were allowed to mingle with local German-speaking res-

idents, since leaving the area would be impossible. Some families include these men in their genealogy because they remained here and became a part of the community. Maryland School for the Deaf was founded here in 1868. And just to the south of this area is Mount Olivet Cemetery, begun in 1854.

#### East Patrick Street

Here are two blocks that retain some of its past charm. People still live here – and work here – in houses that have changed little over the years. Today there are many antique shops, existing where other businesses thrived, or where residences existed beside them.

On the north side of the street, next to the corner store, is an example of an era of architecture not being copied today. It is the Rosenstock building. Look up at the roofline – few buildings can equal this grandeur. It first housed a men's and boy's store; it was built about 1903.



The Rosenstock Building on East Patrick St. housed a men's and boy's store 100 years ago. It was later taken over by Kemp's Department Store.



The Francis Scott Key Monument which greets visitors to Mt. Olivet Cemetery was erected in 1898. It was a nation-wide fund raising effort as school children were asked to donate dimes toward the monument. Most of the needed money was raised locally and in Maryland.

On down the street was the Snow White Grill where inexpensive food was offered for generations. Schroeder's Men's Wear catered to the businessmen and next was Elkins Jewelry Store which was preceded by A.E. Fisher Plumbing and Heating. Also located along here was Barbara Fritchie Room, a favorite with the

local populace, especially Hood College teachers, in the 1930's-40's. It was operated by Miss Siedling. Fox's Stove House was noted for three coffee pots as their outdoor sign.

Continuing on was Measell's Grocery Store – one of many small locally-owned stores serving nearby residents. The C&P Telephone Exchange, now Verizon has seen many changes since it was first constructed in 1908 and remodeled several times. It was here that Alexander Graham Bell and his wife visited briefly in 1915.

On the next far corner is the site of the first house built in Frederick – that of John Thomas Schley. When the present building was erected in 1856, part



This mile marker in front of 101 East Patrick Street was placed there to mark the mileage from Baltimore to the west. The building is on the site of John Thomas Schley's first house in Frederick which was torn down in

needed.

In order to secure enough land for the projected new building, one block long Carter Street parallel to East Street was declared unnecessary and was closed. The Pennsylvania Railroad Station was no longer used: it was demolished. The remainder of the block between the Post of the original basement was incorporated. Niedhardt's Bakery supplied residents with all sorts of baked goods, from breads to fancy desserts. It was well known at the turn of the last century. More recently it housed the Blue Ridge News Agency; and is now Chiffon, a gift shop. A mile marker for the road to Baltimore stands in front

The row of buildings stretching to the next corner were for years private residences. Today there are offices and stores, and Nido's Italian Restaurant is in the middle.

Beyond the two block limit which we had set is the Frederick Post Office. It was in 1917 that the U.S. government saw the need for a larger facility. After purchasing several residences which were demolished, a Greek Revival Post Office was built, which served the city until the 1970's when it was determined that a still larger facility was



This former Frederick Post Office picture was taken in 1982 just before being torn down to make space for the present parking lot. It was hoped to retain this Greek Revival building, built about 1922, but there was not enough interest to use it for other purposes.

Office and East Street, was demolished, including homes once belonging to the Hahn, Burgee and Birely families, the Kaufman Garage which sold Chevrolet and Oldsmobile automobiles and the Bowers Lumber Company, founded in 1856 which relocated to Woodsboro.

The new building was built with an area for loading and unloading trucks on the east. There was much discussion about saving the old Post Office because of its architectural importance. Notices were given for rental or sale of the facility. But with no interest shown, it was demolished for a parking lot.

From the Square Corner going east on the south side of the street there have been many businesses located through the years. Remsberg's Jewelry Store moved here from its former West Patrick Street location; now the Village Restaurant serves home-cooked meals and hosts the morning Coffee Club. Cline's Furniture Store and Undertaking business, the Rug Store, a People's

Drug Store, Obenderfer's Furniture Store, Hardt and Keefer Sash Factory, C.C. Carty Furniture Store and Undertakers, Pep Boys Auto Supplies, and many, many others through the years were found here. Quynn's Hardware Store, founded in 1797 was the oldest business in the city. It was sold to Bill and Kathy Anders in 1977. They moved the location one block east, and finally closed in 1999.

The Carty building houses the National Museum of Civil War Medicine.

The stores in this block often consisted of one or two show rooms, and a small outside door into a long hallway leading to family living quarters in the rear and upstairs.

The second block today is dominated by the C. Burr Artz Library and the Antique Emporium. The first store is interesting: the side of the building facing the adjacent alley shows the original stone façade with a brick third story added later. This addition might have occurred about 1850 when there was much building happening in the city. At one time Condon's Tobacco business was located here.

The library is situated largely where the Key Chevrolet Sales had been. There was also Moore's Creamery on the east, where the odors of souring milk being washed to the street permeated the air.

Antique Emporium occupies the building where Ideal Garage was located for many years, and where Buicks were sold and serviced by Elias Ramsburg and his company.

On the Carroll Street corner was Dave Zimmerman's Grocery Store. Young boys were sent there on errands, and one delight was being weighed on the scale outside the door. Later the building was rebuilt and Farnsworth's Restaurant was here and later Williams Typewriter Co., Electrolux, and Imagination.

Across Carroll Street is *The Frederick News Post* building, purchased in 1967 from the Potomac Edison Company. It was built in 1910 for Frederick Railway, which later became the H&F Railway. Trolley cars could be routed

through the building to Patrick Street. Both freight and passenger service was available here as was a Railway Express Agency.

The Eagle's parking lot and home are located where private residences had been. A former George K. Birely Tannery building can be seen from the street; it had access via a



Today's home of The Frederick News-Post was built as a trolley terminal in 1910. It served as a passenger station as well as a place to load freight, shown on the right.

small driveway between houses. Former private homes, now some shops and offices, line the block at the end of which was Hamilton's Market, which spe-

cialized in seafood.

#### West Patrick Street

These two blocks, stretch from the Square Corner to Bentztown, named for the intersecting street. Here, as in other streets, homes were often side by side with businesses of many kinds. The businesses in many cases catered to the teacher, the visitor,



West Patrick Street looking east from Court Street. The New City Hotel on the left occupies part of the site of Francis Scott Key Hotel. Buildings on the right were torn down to build 30 West Patrick Street office building.

trader and farmer taking his products to distant markets and returning with goods not otherwise accessible to local residents.

The former Francis Scott Key Hotel occupies a spot on which an inn had stood since 1790. City Hotel was first operated by Conrad Grosh, followed by his daughter Catherine Kimball who sold it to Joseph Talbott. This was the finest hotel in town, and many dignitaries spent a night or two from time to time. It was here that French General Marquis de Lafayette was feted in December 1824.



This photo shows the Francis Scott Key Hotel in its prime. Note the streamlined cars and the Liquor sign on the left after prohibition was repealed.

In the early 1920's a group of local businessmen saw the need for a more elegant hotel for Frederick. They formed a company, purchased the old hotel and adjacent buildings and had the Francis Scott Key Hotel erected. It is interesting to note that the planned top floor of the hotel was not built. Instead the bricks were used to build the office/store building across Court Street, which was dubbed the "Steal Building." The hotel served as a social center for residents where

service clubs met, receptions were held, and friends met for lunch or dinner. The hotel was not a big money maker, so in 1969 Loyola Federal Savings and Loan purchased the building and opened an office in the former hotel coffee shop. Loyola had come to Frederick in 1968 when it bought Frederick Federal Savings & Loan which had opened on North Market Street. Norman Todd pur-

chased the hotel in 1973; it was closed in 1975, after which Homewood established its retirement center. It is now being changed into offices and residential apartments.

Through the years other businesses located in the first block of West Patrick Street included Sheeley's Soda Fountain, Princeton Shoe Store, Fellow's photographer (a second floor studio), Hildebrand and Wachter Hat Shop, a People's Drug Store, Martha Washington Candy Shop, Remsberg's Jewelry Store, Buffalo Restaurant, Lewis A. Rice Wholesale (groceries), and beginning in 1938, Sears, Roebuck and Co. department store. Marino's fruits and vegetables (one of three locations 100 years ago), Colonial Jewelers which moved to the Square Corner in 1999, several saloons, Brish Brothers Toys and Gifts, McCrory's second entrance.





This Grand Opening occurred in February 1978 after the Flood of 1976 had invaded the downstairs and after volunteers had begun restoration work. The new Weinberg Center sign was not yet in place.

In 1926 a long awaited new movie theater was built and had its premier showing on December 23 - the Tivoli. The building was perhaps the most elegant in Frederick, and many delightful hours were spent in the darkened hall. At first only silent films were available, so a Mighty Wurlitzer organ was installed to accompany the action. When "talkies" became popular the organ was used infrequently. In 1929 the Tivoli was advertised as "the House of Talkies." During the 1930's admission was 25 cents matinee, 35 cents downstairs, 25 cents balcony in the evening, and 10 cents for children at all times. Shows were at 1p.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m., and 9 p.m.

Next to the theater was the Blue Ridge Bus Lines terminal. Buses had to maneuver through a twisted narrow passageway before discharging and taking on passengers at the waiting room and ticket center. Offices for the bus line and the Potomac Edison Company were located upstairs. This build-

ing, as well as other buildings in the block, were demolished to make way for the tall office building at 30 West Patrick Street, which opened in 1988. A narrow pedestrian walk leads to the adjacent parking deck.

The second block of West Patrick Street contained fewer businesses and many residences. The Black Horse Tavern was located here at what is now an office building. Prior to this the Frederick Motor Company selling and servicing Ford cars was located here beginning about 1917. The Hertz Rental Agency was next door briefly, and E.B. Shipley sold appliances and auto parts.

Farther up the street was the Gem Laundry, Jacob Engelbrecht the diarist lived in a house now torn down adjacent to Carroll Creek, which cuts across

Patrick Street here in Bentztown. He tells in his diary about the flood of 1868 when his home was inundated and his diary entries ceased for several months to await the drying out of his papers.

One interesting diary entry was in 1848 when Engelbrecht witnessed the erection of poles and wires through town for "Magnetic Telegraph" communication from Baltimore to the west. It had been invented by Samuel F.B. Morse in 1844.

Bentztown is the area which John Greenleaf Whittier made famous in his poem about heroine Barbara Fritchie. Traffic on Patrick Street was not always the slow parade of wagons and horses, and farmers coming and going to market. During the Civil War the city was alive with troops, both from the South and North, on many occasions. On the way to Antietam the Confederate soldiers wiped out mer-



Barbara Fritchie's house on West Patrick Street before the 1868 flood.

chants, as they were desperate for clothing, especially boots, and food. If they paid at all it was with worthless Confederate money. Dame Barbara was a staunch supporter of the North, and as the truth was told, chased Southern soldiers from her front doorstep with her cane after they refreshed themselves with water from Riehl's Spring, across Carroll Creek. Stonewall Jackson probably did not pass her house. Dame Barbara died in December 1862 at the ripe old age of 96. Her home was badly damaged in the flood of 1868 and was torn down and replaced.

In 1927 several local businessmen formed a group which bought this house and replaced it with a replica of the Fritchie home for a tourist attraction. Attention was drawn to this in 1943 when President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill paid a surprise visit. Churchill stood in front of the home and recited the entire poem.

Across the creek was Riehl's Spring (covered by a shelter) and located in a park. Over the years the spring dried up and the area became a place for undesirable activities. It was completely paved over as a consequence of the recent flood control project.

Other businesses located in the area included Riddlemoser's Butcher Shop, the Dansberger's Printing Shop, and Marken and Bielfeld. Families residing nearby through the years included the Hauers, several Brish families, Quynns and Folger McKinsey, who lived here while working at the *Frederick News-Post*. He adopted the name "Bentztown Bard" when he wrote for the *Baltimore Sun* in the early 1900's.

The south side of the street boasted several businesses between Court Street and Bentztown. There was a brewery on Court Street giving the street



West Patrick at Court Street, looking southwest. Several buildings have already been demolished (right) to make way for the new Court House.

the name of Brewer's Alley. Later, after a disastrous fire and after Prohibition was the law of the land, a gas station selling American gas and related products was on the corner. The Blue & Grey Beauty Shop was next followed by Frederick Underwriters Insurance Co. and John Fischer's Dutch Mill Battery works, McClellan's Veterinary Clinic and Delphey's Sports Store and a car dealership.

No child growing up during the 1930's and 40's could ever forget Delphey's, nor could the sports minded adult. One could find bicycles, bike repairs, motorcycles, small boats, fishing supplies, auto license services, and of course everyone visited the black bear caged in the rear. Julien Delphey, well-known proprietor at one time, later became an Annapolis Delegate to represent the district.

All of that has changed since the new Court House was built in the 1980's. A new parking garage is being erected in 2005.

When the County Commissioners were considering locating the new Court House on the Patrick and Court streets southwest corner, it was remembered that one of Frederick's lesser-recognized patriots had lived



This plaque located on a rebuilt house beside the Court House on West Patrick Street memorializes John Hanson who resided in a home which was torn down to make space for the court house in the 1980's.

in one of the houses, slated to be demolished. "Save the Hanson House" became the cry of preservationists.

So who was John Hanson? He was a local resident active in national politics who was elected to serve as the first President of the United States under the Articles of Confederation, under which the government was organized following the Declaration of Independence and prior to the adoption of the Constitution in 1787. He had moved to Frederick as a young man, having been born in Charles County, and was active in the independence movement here and nationally. He returned to Frederick following his federal service having purchased several properties on West Patrick Street. Several of his children also lived in Frederick.

A compromise was reached about the fate of the old house. It was torn down, but bricks were used to construct new buildings and a plaque was placed on a wall on Patrick Street.

The cornerstone for the new Court House was dedicated in 1981; the Frederick City Police Station was incorporated in the design, as well as the Sheriff's Office, courtrooms, Clerk of the Court's office and other facilities necessary for the operation of the Judicial System. It has been expanded from the original plan.

# The Square Corner

Marking the center of the city and dividing it into quadrants for house numbers is the Square Corner. East becomes west and north becomes south – important to find your way around the city.

It was a natural consequence that with so much traffic through the intersection, the buildings on the four corners would be prime locations for businesses. Frederick County National Bank (now BB&T Bank) has long been at I North Market Street. In very early days there was an inn on one corner. A drug store located at the northeast corner where "Kemp's on the Square" was later located. Price's Hardware and Farm Equipment occupied the fourth corner; catering to the rural customer's needs. Later two more banks joined Frederick County Bank to complete a solid square corner; Colonial Jewelers now occupies the southwest corner.

Traffic control on the intersecting streets was often a problem. The first control device was a kiosk where a city policeman controlled stop/go signals by hand. There is an anecdote that an officer caused a long cavalcade of cars to stop, only to find that President Franklin Roosevelt was being escorted through the city.

One officer who was on duty at the square was Officer Marshall Murray. After the installation of electric signal lights, he was able to turn off the electric control at the square and control traffic by blowing his whistle and using hand signals. Now that the signals are timed for a steady flow it seems much easier to drive through the square – and most of the city.



The laying of the trolley tracks on North Market Street provided "Sidewalk Superintendents" with a time together. Looking north from the Square Corner can be seen the horse in front of Castle's Harness Shop and further north the sign for "The News."

## **Transportation**

"Going Downtown" was easy for early town residents – they walked! Horse and wagon or cart was the only way for farmers to come to market for over 150 years. On market days Market and Patrick streets were lined with vehicles. Can you imagine the emission pollution on such days? Shopkeepers and residents cleaned the sidewalks daily, and street sweepers were a necessity!

How welcome was the advent of the trolley. This was a real improvement for those who were served by these lines. Begun in 1896, the trolley ceased serving downtown in 1937, and all passenger service to the city ended in 1957. How congested the streets must have been, with the trolley tracks in the center, parking on both sides, and two-way traffic. Today's parking problem is not new – in the late 1800's several merchants petitioned City Hall for relief.

The situation must have been chaotic when automobiles became more popular. The first car came to Frederick about 1904; and with the cars came service stations, garages and auto dealerships. In 1936 the city decreed "no more filling stations downtown". Soon to follow were smoother paved streets, more cars and fewer horses. Some auto dealerships on Patrick Street were Frederick Motor Co. (Fords), Key Chevrolet, Ideal Garage (Buicks) and Kaufman (Oldsmobiles). There were none on Market Street in the first blocks,



The Kaufman Motor Company was located on East Patrick Street near East Street. It was torn down to make room for the present U.S. Post Office.

but beyond Third Street were Weil Brothers (Dodge and De Soto), Roney Motors Co. (Plymouth).

Parking meters were seen as a measure to control parking and supply a new source of revenue for the city. The first ones were installed in the 1940's.

Next came one-way streets. In 1952 Market Street was made one-way north complemented by Bentz Street, one-way south. Patrick Street became one-way west, paralleled by South Street eastward in 1953.

And still the cars came downtown. In 1975 a parking deck was erected on East Church Street, a few doors east of North Market Street. A second one, behind 30 West Patrick Street, was built in 1984 and most recently the third was opened behind 48 East Patrick Street.

Beautification of downtown Frederick was begun with the burying of utility wires on South Market Street in 1975 and the planting of many Bradford Pear trees along the sidewalks on many downtown streets.

The first committee to consider downtown was about 1964-5, led by Gene Kefauver, John Cheatam and George Delaplaine Jr. The Potomac Edison Company authorized architect Fritz Bowers to help stores become more attractive, but there was no direction from the city.

In 1974 Operation Town Action was begun. Frederick Improvement Foundation Inc., was founded, and the city bought into the idea. Some of those active in the movement were Peggy Pilgram, Don Linton, David Bork, Richard Zimmerman, Kurt Bowen and Rita Gordon. The idea took off with grassroots activists, business people and the city government. Following the completion of the South Market Street underground wiring project, North Market Street was also completed.

Another active community group has been the Chamber of Commerce. The Frederick Board of Trade was formed in 1895. In 1912 a contingent of Frederick businessmen went to Washington to a convention when a national organization was formed. Frederick's application was the first to be received – it is still #1! The local chamber was renamed Chamber of Commerce in 1920. It is composed of many types of businesses, not just downtown merchants.

#### Food

A necessity of life - three meals a day.

There have been restaurants downtown since very early days when inns and saloons were operated, eager for the benefit of travelers. Residents raised their own food in backyard gardens, but patronized shops for necessities such as sugar, salt, flour (unless one went directly to the mill). Some of these shops were general merchandise shops which were supplied by traders who traveled through the town and often brought luxury goods as well as necessities from the eastern ports.

The choices for eating out as we know it today is a newer experience. There were restaurants, but more elegant fare was not usual – good home cooked meals were the norm. When the Francis Scott Key Hotel was opened, food service was elegant compared with competitors.

Now the choice restaurants are quite varied. But it is impossible to do weekly shopping in the downtown area. The food shopping habits of early residents were meager and food preservation was up to individual families. But after the opening of the Farmer's Market there was a good source of fresh foods in season – fruits and vegetables, as well as butter, milk, cheese, eggs, chickens and other meats.

Home delivery of many items was common in the 1920's until at least World War II. Dairies delivered milk on a regular basis as did bakeries. Harry Quinn delivered bread for Hershberger's bakery until he became a city policeman, in the 1930's.

Many neighborhood grocery stores were located near where people lived. They carried a wide variety of canned goods (after that method of food processing was invented) and other staples, and butcher shops provided fresh meats.

Chain groceries appeared on Market Street about 1920. The A&P was beside the American Store, both across from the City Hall and Market. And the A&P delivered phoned-in orders for several years. Both stores moved to larger locations away from downtown when the supermarket size store appeared.

A popular store was Cappello's on the northeast corner of Second and Market streets. Other fruit stores had been downtown – three Marino's stores run by three brothers were on the scene about 100 years ago.

Rosario Cappello was born in Italy in 1885, one of 15 children. He worked as a child in the olive fields and among the grapes. At age 12 he left for America, going first to New York and then to Annapolis where he was a kitchen boy at the Naval Academy. He then went to Baltimore and bought a fruit cart. While there he met nurse Gertrude Devereaux. Mr. Cappello moved to Frederick in 1915-16, married Gertrude in 1919 and then opened a store with his friend Mike Pissaro, locating near the Square Corner on Market Street. In 1937 Mr. Pissaro sold his interest to Mr. Cappello, who then bought the property at 200 North Market Street, which he renovated for his store.

The store was noted for its high quality fresh fruits and vegetables and a wide variety of meats and canned goods. A bakery was opened in 1946. This was a true forerunner of today's "carry everything" supermarket. The success of the store was also due to the friendliness to customers and pride of employees.

The store was managed by Charles Fogle after Mr. Cappello became too ill to be active. Fogle eventually took over the store, until it was sold.

Bakeries were thriving businesses, many located downtown. A well-known one 100 years ago was Niedhardt's on East Patrick Street.

Hershberger's Bakery at 213 North Market Street was owned and operated by John Hershberger. Bread was baked in Frederick and delivered all over the county by a fleet of trucks. After his death in 1938 the business was sold to other owners who continued the business for some years using the Hershberger name. Besides bread, the bakery was known for cakes, pies and buns. A soda fountain was also part of the business as was a restaurant on the second floor.



An undated parade is coming south on Market Street as it approaches the Square Corner. Notice the Castle Harness Bazaar and in the distance the Mutual Insurance Company building at 44 North Market Street. The electric wires and no trolley tracks would date this to about 1890.

Other establishments that were well patronized were soda fountains. Dutrow's and McCardell's on North Market Street were popular as was Sheeley's on West Patrick Street. People's Drug Store served not only ice cream concoctions but lunches as well. A popular Saturday afternoon for young people was a movie followed by a "dry chocolate" sundae, a 10-cent treat.

#### **Entertainment**

Yes – downtown has been the center of entertainment for many years.

In the early years celebrations were held at inns or out of doors. There were few gathering places for large crowds to meet, but greeting prominent visitors and holding political rallies were frequent occurrences. Besides George Washington, who often came to visit his friend Thomas Johnson or passed through the

city on Market Street, other presidents who were met and greeted included Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson, Martin van Buren, Abraham Lincoln, Rutherford B. Hayes, Ulysses Grant, Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, and more recently Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower, George Bush and Bill Clinton. George W. Bush has landed at the Frederick Airport in bad weather on his way to Camp David.

Frederick is noted for its parades. It is uncertain when the first parade marched down Market Street to the delight of spectators. When French General Lafayette visited Frederick in 1824 he was met at Jug Bridge east of the city and his entourage paraded into the town – a spectacular sight for the time.

A large parade was held to celebrate Independence Day in 1876. The celebration was held on June 28 with the parade beginning at 9a.m. and marching down Market Street to Church, then East Street to Patrick, as far as Telegraph Street (Jefferson Street), to South Street to South Market, eventually ending at the Court House for a formal ceremony.

The Maryland State Firemen's Association was formed in 1892 in Frederick. With its first convention here in Frederick the following year a large parade came through the city. Firefighting companies from many parts of the state took part, and large arches were erected and decorated along the parade route. Local fire companies provide recreation for their members.

There have been Hallowe'en parades – patriotic parades – celebration parades. The City of Frederick held a parade in September 1995 to celebrate its 250th birthday. Over 100 units took part, from fire engines to high school bands and floats from many organizations. This event was followed by another spectacular parade in September 1998 when the county celebrated its birthday in grand style.

The City Opera House provided a needed meeting place when it was built by the city in 1873. Political rallies were held here, as well as live entertainment, both local and traveling troupes passing through. About 100 years ago citizens looked forward to Merkel and Harder vaudeville during Fair Week.

John Philip Sousa, the March King, and his band were in Frederick twice, and gave concerts at the Opera House both times. The dates were Oct. 19, 1897, and September 1908. Besides being the composer of many memorable and patriotic marches, Sousa was instrumental in having the Star Spangled Banner adopted as our National Anthem in 1931.

Movies came to Frederick 100 years ago. The Opera House soon began showing silent films, to musical accompaniment. An organ was purchased in 1910. An agreement was made between the movie management and the city that a certain number of evenings per year would be set aside for the use of local groups. Woman's College had some of its cultural productions here. The American Legion had an annual Easter Monday talent show. Frederick High School performed annual operettas. This was the only movie theater which allowed the local black population to attend. The Opera House ceased to exist when the building was remodeled to give the mayor and other city officials

more space for running the city government, and to provide more parking.

Two other theaters were nearby. The Empire was located next door. It was managed by Mr. Decker about 1918-20. His son Harry resided in Frederick after a career with the Potomac Edison Company, and devoted much time to local historical research.

The Frederick Theater was situated about 5 doors south of the Opera House. The theater was a family-run business, with Mr. Fisher selling tickets and running the projector and Mrs. Fisher playing the piano for silent films. The family lived on the third floor. In later years there were still evidences in the building from theater days such as structural beams remaining, and a few theater seats in the basement. At one time the theater was jokingly called "The Mad House" because of audience vocal participation and the rolling of soft drink bottles down the aisle.

An annual event is held the first weekend of October. "In the Streets" began as a celebration of the completion of Market Street beautification and the placement of utility wires underground. Market Street is blocked to traffic from Seventh Street to the Square Corner. A foot race is run, decorations

are everywhere, and revelry continues all day. The first one was held in 1983.

#### Disasters

All news coming from downtown was not good. Through the years there have been robberies, store closings, untimely deaths of residents and shop-keepers, and other tragedies affecting the city and its residents. But perhaps the most spectacular events have been fires and floods.

The local volunteer fire companies have done heroic work in fire fighting, in putting out fires and containing them to preserve adjacent buildings. Jacob Engelbrecht in his Diary chronicled many such events. Although it is difficult to pinpoint locations as he described them, undoubtedly some had occurred on Patrick and Market streets. The files of the *News-Post* would contain many reports, if one knew the exact dates.

Some Market and Patrick fires which can be documented are:

June 8, 1928; People's Drug Store, corner of Market and Second



The United Fire company #3 is shown in an old photo. The building has been added to and has up to date firefighting equipment. The firemen were originally called "Johnny Swampers" because of the fire hall's location near Carroll Creek.

Feb. 26, 1929; Mountain City Garage, North Market Street March 15, 1932; JC Penney Store and McCardell Apartments January 9, 1933; People's Drug Store, East Patrick Street April 5, 1940; Silco Cut Rate Store, North Market Street

March 10, 1941; Central Trust Company, North Market and Church Street corner

January 1955; JC Penney Store, North Market Street

Frederick's fire companies have existed for a long time, and have had many prominent local citizens as members. The first to be organized was Independent Hose Company #1, in 1818. For many years it was located on West Church Street, one half block west of Market Street.

Junior Fire Company #2 was begun in 1839, in a building behind the Farmers & Mechanics Bank. Its hall was used for gatherings before City Hall was completed, and before it moved to the 500 block of North Market Street in 1846.

The United Steam Fire Engine Company #3 was an offspring of the former Washington Hose Company, which existed from 1837-1844. The company was formed in 1845 in response to the city setting up fire wards in town. Begun on All Saints Street, the company located on South Market Street in 1848.

Bucket brigades were the method of fire fighting in bygone days. In 1878 the United #3 Company purchased a steam engine – Lily of the Swamp – to assist in fighting fires. It now is housed in the Smithsonian Museum in Washington.

Floods, while less frequent, have devastated downtown on several occasions. Undoubtedly floods occurred in early days. An early one to be documented by Jacob Engelbrecht happened in 1848, when West Patrick Street bridge was destroyed. It was rebuilt in three months.



The flood of 1868 devastated Downtown, just as the 1976 flood would do.

In 1868, a so-called 100-year flood because of its severity occurred. Large parts of West Patrick Street were covered with rushing waters. Barbara Fritchie's home was so damaged that it was subsequently torn down and replaced. Jacob Engelbrecht's house across the street had water so deep that he was unable to continue his diary for six weeks, until the paper dried

out. Further east the Hardt and Keefer lumberyard had most of its lumber washed away.

On Saturday, Oct. 9, 1976 the most devastating flood occurred on Carroll

Creek, affecting a wide area downtown. Much rain had fallen during September and into the first week of October, causing swollen streams and soggy fields. Over a half inch of rain fell by Friday, and continued to be heavy Saturday morning. It was reported that 7.2 inches of rain had fallen in 16 hours, three inches in one hour on Saturday morning. Not only did Carroll Creek rise, but feeder streams into it and the Monocacy were out of bank. There was little place for the water to go except to spread out, and the Monocacy added to the flood by backing up into Carroll Creek.

The damage estimates to ruined businesses and inventories was tremendous. The Mighty Wurlitzer in the Tivoli was floating in a pool of water. Cars were washed downstream from parking lots and garages. Anything that could float did so. People were trapped in upper floors of apartments. The water reached into the Square Corner, flooded the Barbara Fritchie House, inundated parking lots, flooded basements, ruined musical instruments at Colonial Music Co. and Baker Park resembled a huge lake.

Fortunately, no lives were lost. Firemen and citizens were busy rescuing trapped residents. Rowboats from Delphey's were used in rescue operations, and fire engines were used to pump water from basements. And mud was everywhere. With lots of help, most of downtown has recovered.

Through the vision of Mayor Ron Young and the cooperation of the state government and the Army Corps of Engineers, a massive flood control project was undertaken, costing \$55 million.

Bridges were replaced, downtown properties were purchased and some demolished, Carroll Creek was completely re-engineered, never to look like the quiet natural stream it once was, but never to flood again!



The Professional Building on North Market Street now houses doctors, dentists and supporting services. It was built to be a family home.

The revitalization of Downtown Frederick goes on, under the guidance of the Historic District Commission. Although most of the old businesses have passed away, new businesses and new ideas are taking their places. Much still needs to be done, but sooner or later downtown will have a fresh look everywhere, and while linked to the past, a vision of the future will emerge.

Although not in this discussion area, an imposing building in the 200 block of North Market Street has an interesting story – the Professional Building.

Ezra and Catherine Bentz Houck resided at the farm "Bloomfield" where their five girls and four boys were born. They moved into Frederick into the "Old Home" location – a home of typical local architecture where another daughter was born.

In 1893 they decided to rebuild their home at the same location. They had the present handsome building erected slightly to the north, allowing for a beautiful garden to the south.

After the parents died, several sisters resided in this "Houck Mansion." In 1925 a group of physicians incorporated and purchased the property, remodeling it for medical purposes. They expanded the building in 1946. Today doctors and dentists have offices here, and off street parking is provided for patients. The property is noted for a large purple birch tree in the garden, and an ornamental brick wall.

In her reminisces of downtown Frederick printed in the *Frederick News-Post* in 1981, Ruth Carty Delaplaine, who was born and raised on East Patrick Street, described the town center as a bustling commercial center that she remembered as a child.

It seems as if this has always been there – from the horse and buggy days to the days of motorcars, from manufacturing enterprises and retail shops to business offices, restaurants and antique shops today. People come to Downtown Frederick. There is so much to see and remember, more than the businesses alone can offer. There have been many changes through the years, but the vitality of the entire county is still reflected in Market Street and Patrick Street.

# COUNTY ENJOYS ABUNDANCE OF PARKS

"Mommy, I want to go play on a playground," says 4-year-old daughter. "But I want to play hardball with my friends," says 9-year-old brother. "Daddy, can't we play some tennis, or go hiking?" says older sister. "I'll pack a picnic," says mother, and daddy starts to get the car ready.

But where will they go in Frederick County?

Fortunately for this family, and many others, Frederick city and county have numerous parks available for the use of citizens. Not all parks have every facility, but there is enough choice so that families do not have to go far from home to enjoy out of doors activities.

Who owns these parks?

There are three parks under the National Park Service, four state parks, 15 county parks, over 50 Frederick city parks, and many belonging to towns in the county.

Parks vary in size, from one acre to thousands of acres.

A sampling of parks will give an idea of the diversity of what is available to everyone to enjoy.

#### OLDEST PARKS

The park systems as we know them today were unheard of in the early days of Frederick city and county. Leisure time was at a premium and most families spent their time in earning a living, through farming, trades and trading, and a few in religion, medicine or politics. However, people were patriotic, and interested in how the "new country" and its leading citizens were doing.

## NATIONAL PARKS

# C&O Canal National Historic Park

One hundred forty three years after the first shovel full of dirt was dug in Georgetown, D.C., to begin the construction of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, the towpath was designated a National Historic Park. Frederick County is fortunate to have its entire border on the Potomac River as a part of this historic and beautiful area.

The canal was officially begun July 4, 1828, with President John Quincy Adams performing the ceremonial act. Coincidentally that was the same date that the cornerstone was laid by Charles Carroll



This tunnel on the C and O Canal was probably the most difficult part of the canal to build. It is near PawPaw West Virginia, on the Maryland side of the Potomac.

of Carrollton for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad near Baltimore. That latter enterprise was considered to be too risky, it being proven that many other canals in the eastern United States were operating successfully.

The canal construction was slow, mountains and rock formations were encountered, the canal needed to be excavated, and a towpath for mules who were to pull barges was necessary. Intake gates for water into the canal, lift locks, aqueducts and culverts were needed; the aqueduct over the Monocacy River was considered the most outstanding one in the Western Hemisphere. Laborers were imported from Italy and Ireland. There was much sickness and injury among the workers, and morale could be low.

One unforeseen problem arose at Point of Rocks. The ground between the river and the rocky "point" was too narrow to allow both the canal and railroad to pass, so the canal company sued the railroad company so that only the canal would pass through. However, an amicable solution was reached, the railroad company built a tunnel, and both projects proceeded to Cumberland. The canal reached there in 1850 — the railroad had been completed to that point eight years earlier, and continued to be built into Ohio.

After the canal was completed, the barges hauled coal, farm produce, grain, flour, cement and lumber. It was a slow trip at two miles per hour.

Weather was never kind to the canal. Flooding is still frequent, the most devastating ones being in 1889 and 1924. With declining use and the flood, the canal ceased operations in 1924. Subsequently, the property was sold to the B&O Railroad which in turn sold it to the U.S. government.

A plan was proposed to create a scenic parkway along the river. In 1954 Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas discovered the natural beauty of the area, and led several annual hikes along the towpath. In 1971 the National Park Service created the C&O Canal National Historic Park.

Today the continuous path for 184.5 miles stretches from Georgetown in D.C. to Cumberland. Along the route hikers and bikers can camp at "Hiker-Biker Overnighters" equipped with fresh water pumps, fireplaces, latrines and picnic tables. Many people



This is all that remains of Catoctin Furnace. It was a thriving major business when the Johnson Brothers operated it to make many iron objects, from household necessities to cannon balls.

prefer day hikes, and the route is well marked with mile posts. And amateur naturalists can find all sorts of specimens relating to their hobby.

#### Catoctin Mountain Park

Looking west from Frederick can be seen the Catoctin Mountains. Where the ridge lies to the north, the terrain is more rugged and wooded, but there is a long history of man in the mountains. Here, near Thurmont, is Catoctin Mountain Park. In 1776 the Johnson brothers, Thomas, Baker and James, established an iron furnace nearby at the present day settlement of Catoctin Furnace. Wood from trees in the nearby mountains was used to produce charcoal, fuel for the furnace, and iron ore for manufacturing consumer products was nearby. Among the goods made here reportedly included cannons and cannonballs for George Washington's troops, household pots and utensils, 100 tons of shells used at Yorktown and plates for James Rumsey's first steamboat. The furnace ceased operation in 1903. The furnace was dismantled and moved to another location.

The land in the mountains had been heavily used. In 1935 the federal government began securing options for the development of the Catoctin Recreational Area, a demonstration area for the better use of land resources. About 160 deeds were recorded, transferring property to the government. About 10,000 acres comprised the area to be developed.

Development began Jan. 2, 1936, and foot trails, fire breaks, roads and a maintenance unit were constructed. The first of three vacation camps were begun about Aug. 1, 1936, and Camp Misty Mount was opened for the summer in 1937. A camp for crippled children under the direction of the Maryland League for Crippled Children was begun there with 72 children and a staff of 16 physicians, nurses and recre-



This cabin is typical of the camping facilities at Camp Misty Mount, in the Catoctin mountains. The area was developed by the CCC workers in the late 1930's.

ational leaders accompanying the group.

The following year two additional camps, Greentop and Hi-Catoctin were completed. The camp for crippled children moved for the summers to Greentop, and for a number of years, sixth-grade Frederick County students enjoyed a week of outdoor school there. Misty Mount has been used for Girl Scout camps, individual rental cabins for families, and other group uses.

Hi-Catoctin has a different history. It was built on the same plan as its sister camps, and local Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts held week-long camps there in 1940 and 1941. It is remembered that a lodge-type house was situated nearby. There existed an air of mystery about the house — important people were rumored to have met there. It was not too much later that Hi-Catoctin was no longer available to the public, as President Franklin D. Roosevelt had discovered "Shangri-La" there, and later President Dwight Eisenhower further developed the property and renamed it Camp David in honor of his grandson. Our presidents still use the camp for short getaways.

In 1954 the Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area was divided — the

land south and east of Md. 77 was deeded to the State of Maryland for the development of Cunningham Falls State Park.

During the 1970s a program for youth was developed, the YCC (Youth Conservation Corps). Lodging and programs were held at Round Meadow, and the participants engaged in outdoor work such as building trails and bridges and clearing overgrown areas. Several Boy Scout Troops have been engaged in similar work in the park.

Two international peace conferences were held at Camp David, in an attempt to settle the Mideast situation. The first, under President Jimmy Carter, was held in 1978.

More recently in 2000 President Bill Clinton sponsored another meeting.

Today the park has many hiking trails, picnic areas, primitive camping areas and two group camps.

The Visitor's Center at the corner of Md. 77 and Park Central Road is a good place to learn about the area, including the seasonal changes in nature.

The Catoctin Park area is a demonstration of man's use of the land from ruin to reclamation.



This marker on Araby Road south of Frederick was one of the first to memorialize troops in the Battle of Monocacy. It was erected in the early 1900's.

# Monocacy National Military Park

The most recently developed local park in the National Park Service lies south of Frederick around the Monocacy River bridge. It was here that a small but decisive battle was fought during the Civil War, on July 9, 1864.

Gen. Jubal Early's troops had been marching from the South toward the Capitol in Washington. As he passed through towns, he demanded a ransom to replenish his treasury, with a threat of burning the town. Middletown and Frederick, on July 9, 1864, were able to raise the money. Through the cooperation of Mayor Cole and banks of Frederick, \$200,000 was paid and the city saved.

Gen. Early led his troops southward toward Washington hoping to capture the city and make it safe to invade the north. However, Union Gen.

Lew Wallace discovered the troops moving south and warned Gen. Grant of the impending plan.

Washington at that time was fortified by a ring of 53 widely separated forts and a force of at least 40,000 trained troops was deemed necessary. However, Gen. Grant had persuaded President Lincoln that the majority of troops was needed for the siege of Petersburg, Va., in the hope of capturing Richmond. The forts were manned by poorly trained government workers,

with the assurance by Gen. Grant that necessary troops could be sent north with a day's notice.

Gen. Wallace and his troops had been stationed in Baltimore, and when it was learned that Gen. Early was marching up the Shenandoah Valley with orders to proceed toward Washington, Wallace was directed to move toward Washington. He set up headquarters south of Frederick.

Early and his troops arrived at the battlefield around 3 p.m. on July 9. A fierce but brief battle ensued, with Early the victor. However, this cost him a day's march. Many casualties from the battle are buried in Mount Olivet Cemetery.

When Early approached Washington he discovered that Union troops had arrived and the city was well defended. He decided it would be unwise to pursue a major battle, so he turned his troops south and entered Virginia by way of Poolesville.

This battle has been a neglected part of Civil War history, but it's importance is described as "The Battle that Saved Washington."

Most of the battle was fought on privately-owned farms. Monuments were erected by New Jersey on July 11, 1907, Pennsylvania on Nov. 24, 1908, and later others were situated along roads. The Monocacy National Military Park was established in 1934 but park service officials did not ask for funds to acquire land because it was assumed that landowners would donate their properties, the habitual way of getting land for national parks.

It was in 1976 that the park service made its first purchase of 1,000 acres under legislation sponsored by then U.S. Representative Goodloe Byron. He and later his wife, Rep. Beverly Byron, were advocates for developing the park. Gradually land has been added to the park, and its development has occurred. In 1990 the first park ranger was hired and dedication of the park was on July 13-14, 1991 with the opening of the Visitor's Center in the basement of the Gambrill Mill, which stood during the battle.

Today's visitors can enjoy hiking trails and learning about this important battle. Civil War buffs, particularly, are interested in this little-known battle during a crucial time in history.

# Civilian Conservation Corps

Civilian Conservation Corps was a significant force in developing parks in Frederick County, as well as throughout the United States. It was one of many "alphabet soup" programs devised by the U.S. government under President Franklin Roosevelt to help men (and women in some agencies) become gainfully employed in the years of the Great Depression, the 1930s. Others included the WPA, PWA, and some writer and artist groups, for example.

Locally the CCC was housed in a government-owned camp near the Frederick City Watershed and Reservoir on Fishing Creek near Mountaindale. That property is still owned by the government and has been used for other purposes.

Many of Frederick County's popular parks exist today because of the labor provided by the men of the CCC. Land was cleared, roads built, picnic tables and shelters erected, many of which are maintained and used today. Among these are Catoctin Mountain Park and its many areas, Gambrill State Park, Fishing Creek Reservoir City Park and now — forgotten Yellow Springs City Park.

# STATE PARKS Washington Monument State Park

Washington Monument State Park, which lies in both Frederick and Washington counties, is perhaps the oldest park in this part of Maryland.



Washington Monument State Park boasts of being the first monument built to remember George Washington. It is located on the Frederick County-Washington County line and was built using native stone in 1827 by men from both counties.

On July 4, 1827, men from both Boonsboro and Frederick County met at a natural rock fall to erect the first monument in the country to our first president. It is very visible from the west — its distinctive shape is recognizable. A white marble slab states "Erected to the memory of George Washington, July 4, 1827, by citizens of Boonsborough."

The workmen used their day off to erect the monument on a foundation that had been laid the day before. At first the monument was fifteen feet high; this was later added to and is now 30 feet high. Light refreshments were served and it was reported that some of the men were more interested in eating than working.

The monument was first erected with no cement, so it was natural that it would not survive intact. In 1882 the Odd Fellows Lodge of Boonsboro sponsored the monument's restoration and it was reactivated.

In 1934 the monument was rebuilt by the CCC and rededicated in 1936, and repairs to facilities were again made in 1992.

The land in the park was at first one acre, which was purchased by the Washington County Historical Society in 1920. It was deeded to the state for a state park in 1934. Forty acres were added, and later the park was expanded to 108 acres.

Today the park contains a picnic area, a playground, a nature museum and camping areas. The Appalachian Trail runs in front of the monument on its way between Maine and Georgia. The view to the west is one of the most beautiful in the area.

### Gathland State Park

Mountainous areas are favorite sites for parks, and the western part of Frederick County has several.

At Crampton's Gap west of Burkittsville on the Frederick-Washington County Line is Gathland State Park. In this area was fought a battle during the Civil War that preceded the battle of Antietam, the Battle of South Mountain.

The park is named for George Alfred Townsend, whose pen name was Gath. He was born Jan. 30, 1841, in Delaware and grew up in Philadelphia. He began his newspaper career with the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. He covered early battles of the Civil War for the *New York Herald* in 1861 when he caught "chickahominy fever." He spent time in Europe lecturing and recuperating, and later returned to Washington, D.C., to write. He was a highly successful columnist, novelist, poet, historian, lecturer, Bible student, philosopher and dreamer. He was married and had two children.

Gath visited the Crampton's Gap area following the Civil War and fell in love with the area. He purchased the 112 acre property and began building his estate in 1884 as a weekend retreat. He entertained lavishly for literary, political and financial giants of the day. He eventually spent more and more time there and commuted by train to Washington. The estate consisted of twenty buildings at its peak.

The imposing structure at the gap is an unusually shaped monument dedicated to 157 war correspondents and artists from both sides of the Civil War. It was first dedicated in 1896.

Gath's wife died in 1906 and his health deteriorated. He left the area in 1911 and died in 1914. His tomb on the property inscribed with his pen name Gath was never used; both he and his wife are buried in Philadelphia.

His children were not interested in the estate and his belongings were auctioned. The property was owned by a series of owners and the buildings were left to looters and nature. The arch was given to the War Department in 1904. It was later given to the National Park Service who today maintains the small area around the memorial. This is the only known memorial to newspapermen and women.

In 1946 the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce helped the state purchase the property for a park, and the area was rededicated in October of that



The War Correspondent's Memorial Arch was erected by George Alfred Townsend and is the only known memorial to newspaper correspondents. It is at Gathland State Park west of Burkittsville on the Frederick-Washington County line. It is owned and maintained by the U.S. Government.

year to World War II correspondents. The park hired a ranger, opened a museum and opened the park in 1956.

The monument was rededicated in 1974 by the Maryland Chapter of Sigma Delta Chi, Society of Professional Journalists. At that time plans were proposed to create a museum dedicated to journalists but this never happened.

Another rededication occurred Oct. 12, 1996; the monument's centennial. Descendants of Gath were present as well as local and state dignitaries and well known journalists.

Today there is a dedicated group of Friends of Gathland formed in 1993 who oversee the remaining house and museum. The group recently adopted a larger area to oversee and is now known as Friends of South Mountain State Battlefield, the only state battlefield in Maryland. The Appalachian Trail passes through the property; there are picnic facilities and hiking paths, but only foundations of most of the original buildings remain on the property.

#### Gambrill State Park

Overlooking both Frederick city and Middletown Valley is a knob of mountain — High Knob — which is Gambrill State Park. It is the closest State Park to Frederick city, so through the years it has been very popular with hikers and picnickers, or those who want a short drive to cool off on hot summer days.

In 1934, 450 acres of land atop High Knob were given by a group of public spirited citizens to Frederick city for a public park to be known as Gambrill Park in honor of James H. Gambrill Jr., one of Frederick's leading citizens. The land was transferred to the State of Maryland in 1935, to be maintained by the State Board of Forestry as a state park. A total of 1,000 acres was to be included. The highest point in the park is 1,531 feet above sea level.

Considerable work was done in 1937 with cleanup and improvement of roads. The park is connected by a road to the watershed property of Frederick city and the picnic grounds below the Fishing Creek Reservoir providing a scenic mountain drive as well as allowing for better fire prevention and opening the tract for recreational use. In 1939 Governor Herbert O'Conor accepted formally Gambrill Park on behalf of the state at a dedicating ceremony held in the ballroom of the Francis Scott Key Hotel.

Development was done by members of the Civilian Conservation Corps. Three overlooks were constructed as well as picnic tables and shelters for group use. The tearoom was built in 1936 and restored in 1990. Other improvements and restorations were begun in 1984. The pond and camping area below the knob were started in 1957. There is a small nature center in a rustic cabin on the mountain top road.

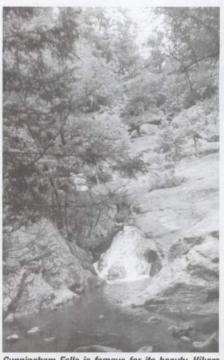
With its proximity to Frederick and Middletown it is natural that this park is a popular place to relax and enjoy being close to nature.

# Cunningham Falls State Park

The park bearing the name of the falls it contains is almost two parks in one — two distinct areas with separate access and different features. One, called the Manor Area, has easy access from U.S. 15 south of Thurmont. The other is reached from Catoctin Hollow Road off of Md. 77 just past the Visitor's Center for Catoctin Mountain Park. This access has been designated for the handicapped and the falls can be reached by hiking trail from Houck Lake.

The land for the park was deeded from the National Park Service to the State of Maryland in 1954 for the creation of the new park. The falls for which the park is named has long been known to visitors in the area and is a seasonally changing delight to observe.

The two areas are part of the large tract of land utilized for raw materials for the Catoctin Iron



Cunningham Falls is famous for its beauty. Hikers can reach the falls from Houck Lake, about 1/2 mile over woodland terrain.

Works at Catoctin Furnace, and other manufacturing enterprises in the Thurmont area. It serves as a demonstration on how forests can be revived after so much usage and for so long a time.

The Manor Area derives its name from the Manor House which was the residence of the owner of the iron works. It includes the remains of the furnace across U.S. 15 from the main part of the park and is connected by a foot bridge over the highway. There are many amenities in the park, including hiking, picnicking and camping. Today it is difficult to imagine a booming industry in this remote area, but the village of Catoctin Furnace with its almost identical stone company-built houses can help remind us of our country's past.

The park area containing the falls has more varied features. The falls are located quite close to Md. 77, but access has been altered because of inadequate and dangerous parking along this main road. Today only handicap-accessibility is available on Route 77, and a hiking trail extends from Houck Lake to the falls. Two hiking trails connect the falls to the main part of the park—one reaches the bottom of the falls and the other goes to the top. Cunningham Falls was named for a Mr. Cunningham, a photographer who popularized the area through his photography, used in art works, post cards



Houck Lake in the Cunningham Falls area of Catoctin Mountain Park provides swimming and boating as well as picnicking and hiking. It was formed when Big Hunting Creek was dammed to collect the water.

and travel folders. In 1968 there was a movement to rename the falls after the McAfee family, early settlers in the area. This proved to be unpopular, so the former name was revived.

The lake area was planned beginning in 1965

after hearings and a court case; and opened in 1974. The 50 acre lake was constructed by damming Big Hunting Creek, and provides boating and swimming from a sandy beach. It is named for William M. Houck, a resident of the area who had a career in public service including being a state policeman, a member of the Town Council of Thurmont and a trial magistrate. He served with distinction in the Maryland House of Delegates in several important and influential positions until just before his death in 1974.

Several seasonal activities are featured by park rangers during the year. In addition to hiking, camping, picnics, boating and swimming in the summer, there are periodic nature walks, cross country winter skiing, and spring maple syrup demonstrations.

## COUNTY PARKS

In the spring of 2001 a brochure was sent in the mail to county residents describing the many parks, programs and other recreational opportunities available through the Frederick County Department of Parks and Recreation. It states that "the Department — operates a variety of parks that include features such as athletic fields, picnic shelters, hiking trails, fishing areas, tennis and basketball courts, historic sites and more." A few of these fifteen parks will be described here.

# Buckeystown Park

...is located on Michael's Mill Road east of the town just before the intersection with Md. 80. It is next to the Monocacy River and adjacent to the Md. 80 bridge.

Md. 80 was relocated several years ago and the new cement bridge built. A former iron bridge carried Michael's Mill Road (then Md. 80) over the river. According to Folger and McKinsey's "History of Frederick County" a "people's bridge" was constructed in 1839, presumably a bridge prior to the iron bridge, and probably of stone. On Aug. 16, the completion of the project was celebrat-

ed by a banquet on the bridge. "Four hundred persons sat down to the feast and after enjoying it and drinking the proper number of toasts the company listened to an address by the Hon. William Cost Johnson."

Michael's Mill is still standing, though it has not operated as a mill for many years. During the Civil War it was operated by Theodore Crist Delaplaine, father of the founder of *The News*, William T. Delaplaine. Theodore endured many hardships including floods, fires, and raids by Confederate Troops during the hostilities. William. was born in the house on the hill across from the mill.

#### Fountain Rock Park

...has recently been developed as a historic site and nature center. Lime kilns were located there and operated from 1872 until 1955. Powdered burnt lime for agricultural use and crushed stone for road surfacing were produced. During World War II German prisoners of war were used to help provide labor. The property was owned by John W. Quynn from 1946 to 1963.



County school students often visit the Fountain Rock nature center county park to learn about the area and its natural features and history.

Today a self-guided walking tour takes the visitor past the crusher rooms, the boiler house where steam power was created to operate the crushers and the 25-foot deep quarry. Pumps were needed to keep the quarry dry during operations.

Today there is a nature center where school groups are frequent visitors, and a small fishing pond.

# Loy's Station Park and covered bridge

No one knows why covered bridges were built or when. Probably it was to protect the roads from freezing to make travel safer. The date may be around 1850 when many wooden bridges crossed smaller streams in the county.

Loy's Station Bridge is the largest of the three remaining



Loy's Station covered bridge north of Frederick is the longest of the three county covered bridges. A park is located around it where some sports are available as well as a picnic shelter.

covered bridges in the county and is near where the railroad crosses Old Frederick Road and south of Md. 77. Owens Creek flows through the park.

About 1969 the Frederick Woman's Civic Club undertook the creation of a park beside the bridge. In cooperation with the county, flowers were planted and the area generally cleared and beautified. However, the area is subject to periodic flooding so most of that work has disappeared. In 1991 the bridge was burned by arson. It has been rebuilt, and the park around it is expanded to include picnic spots and sports areas.

## Rose Hill Manor Park

The home of Maryland's first governor after the Revolution is Rose Hill Manor. The property of 225 acres named Rose Hill was given by Thomas Johnson to his second child and oldest daughter Ann when she married John Colin Grahame in 1788. They lived in a log cabin on the property while building the mansion we know today as Rose Hill Manor.

Thomas Johnson had a long and distinguished career in business, industry and other government service in addition to his being governor. He was a personal friend of George Washington. Following his retirement from public life and following the death of his wife in 1794, he lived at Rose Hill with his daughter and family. He lived to a ripe old age, and, although weak physically, he was clear of mind to the end. He died in 1819.

The house passed through a succession of owners until acquired by the county. Land was sold at various times including to the Board of Education for Thomas Johnson High School, which opened in 1966. The present museum is set up to demonstrate old ways of living, especially for children who are given the opportunity to play with old toys, dress in period clothing, card wool, weave, and manipulate kitchen gadgets. On the grounds are a log cabin, the carriage museum, herb garden, demonstration barn and picnic tables.

A more complete history of Rose Hill Manor is contained in chapter 10.

# Other County Parks

There are other developed county parks which provide varying facilities at different parts. Most popular are ball fields, tennis courts, picnic tables, shelters and grills and play equipment.

These parks are: Ballenger Creek, Catoctin Creek (undeveloped), Creagerstown, Deer Crossing Recreation Center, Kemptown, Libertytown, Middletown, Pinecliff, Point of Rocks, Roddy Road (covered bridge), and Urbana.

Newly developed is Old National Pike District Park making the total of county parks 22. In addition, the county provides a number of special event opportunities, youth and teen/adult programs and specialty camps. Some of these are seasonal, and some are ongoing. They are conducted at 26 locations, many at schools.

#### CITY PARKS

Frederick city should be known as "The City of Parks." According to Roelkey Myers, Parks and Recreation Director for the city, there are fifty parks in the responsibilities of his department. They range in size from the smallest—City Hall Park, Schley Park, Jug Bridge Park, Bonita Maas Park on West Second Street and Seventh Street Fountain Park—to Baker Park, which stretches through the city westward past Fairview Avenue for over a mile, containing 62 acres.

— City Hall Park in front of City Hall has a bit of history. It was possibly the earliest park in the city, developed and maintained by the county when the second county Court House was built here in 1785, and the present building erected in 1862 following the fire that destroyed the previous one.



The Jug which stood beside the bridge over the Monocacy on Route 40 east of Frederick has been moved to a small park on East Patrick Street. The photo shows workmen busy with erecting the statue.

In 1818 Col. John McPherson began installing iron railings, which were manufactured at Catoctin Furnace, around the Court House to prevent animals from roaming on his property across the street. He succeeded in angering many of the townspeople and the fence was finally removed in 1888. Through the generosity of public spirited Gen. James C. Clarke, a public fountain was erected in the park after the railing was removed.

A similar fountain is located at the corner of Seventh Street and North Market Street.

- Jug Bridge Park was created when the stone jug that had been a part of the stone bridge over the Monocacy River east of Frederick on Route 40 was removed to this new location. The bridge had collapsed in 1942. There is also a plaque located there commemorating Lafayette's visit to Frederick in 1824 placed by the SAR in 1926. The descriptive plaque was installed in 1994.
- Bonita Maas Park on West Second Street was created following the fire at the former Elks Club building. Bonita Maas, whose business was next door, purchased the lot and gave it to the city for a small restful park space. It was dedicated April 27, 1975, and has had several cleanups.

# Baker Park

Baker Park has been central in the life of Frederick residents as long as most of us can remember. Many additions and improvements have been made through the years, and many memorable events have been held there, often drawing thousands of enthusiastic participants.

Bentz Street had been the western limit of Frederick city for many years. A most noticeable change is in architectural style of houses between West

Third Street and its continuation as Rockwell Terrace, with its homes dating from 1905. Along Bentz Street there had been some industry. Calvary Methodist Church was built on a former lumber yard property. The Zentz (or Bentz) Mill was near Carroll Creek, and farm land stretched to the west. The old National Guard Armory, now the William R. Talley Recreation Center, was built in 1913, and Memorial Park across Second Street had been a cemetery until remains were removed and that park developed in 1924.

The city's western area was changing, and in 1926 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dill Baker purchased the Reifsnyder and Wertheimer farms across from Church Street on June 30, 1926, and donated the land to Frederick city for a park. By coincidence the city-owned Zentz Mill burned on June 24 of that year.



The Swinging Bridge was originally a pedestrian bridge beside a ford over Carroll Creek on Bentz Street. It is now located behind the swimming pool in Baker Park where it was placed in 1927.

Bentz Street south of Church Street was more like a country road than a main thoroughfare, although it was the route through town taken by Gen. Stonewall Jackson. bypassing Barbara Fritchie's home, on his Antietam. wav to Vehicles and animals.

especially horses, forded Carroll Creek, and there was a swinging iron bridge for pedestrians. This had been erected in 1875 at a cost of \$400. It was moved to its present site behind the swimming pool in the park in 1927.

The year 1927 was a busy one in that part of the city. The initial development of the park was done, Carroll Creek was rechanneled and new bridges built on Bentz and Patrick streets. The nearby house that had replaced Barbara Fritchie's original home after the flood of 1868 was purchased and torn down by a group of businessmen in 1926. It was rebuilt using original plans and opened as a tourist attraction in 1927. Baker Park was dedicated June 27, 1927, and another parcel of land was then donated by Mr. and Mrs. Baker.

The park contained many facilities for recreation from the beginning. At the Church Street entrance was a fountain and a stone gateway. Several ball fields and tennis courts were early additions, and a small bandstand is located on West Second Street. The swimming pool was also opened in 1927. It was a cement oval with a



The original gateway into Baker Park has been changed and the park added to since this picture was taken about 1928. West Church Street stops here but Bentz Street is a busy thoroughfare in front of the entrance.

sandy "beach" sloping to a deep center where diving was permitted from a platform. Admission-10 cents for children. The pool and bathhouse were completely rebuilt in 1984, and it was dedicated to two active citizens-the bathhouse to Helma Hann Bowers, who served as park director for 40 years as well as teaching and coaching many Frederick High School girls in team and individual sports, and the pool to Edward P. Thomas who served Frederick County with distinction in the State Senate. Some money for the work had come from state funds. A western addition for the park was purchased in 1938 from the Board of Education, which had purchased the Kidwiler farm on West College Terrace for the erection of a new Frederick High School. The school opened for classes in



The Frederick city swimming pool is dedicated to the memory of Helma Hann Bowers and Edward P. Thomas, both supporters of youth activities. The pool was rebuilt in the 1980's, the first one having been constructed in 1927 when Baker Park was first developed.

the fall of 1940, although the Class of 1940 had held graduation exercises there in June.



Culler Lake, dedicated in 1940, is a memorial to former Mayor Lloyd Culler who served seven terms as mayor. The area was originally a swamp which was deepened. The lake is open for fishing for children.

The new city land was across Carroll Creek and bordering on West Second Street. It was known as Anderson's Pond, a very marshy area. So it was a "natural" to create a lake, for winter skating and summer boating and children's fishing. A skater's shelter is on the eastern end, a fountain in the center, and a path for strolling surrounds the lake. The dedication

ceremony was held January 7, 1940, and named for Mayor Lloyd C. Culler, the mayor who served the city for the longest time in that position. He contributed much to the life of the city including being responsible for the building of many of Frederick's outstanding public buildings and private homes through his contracting business.

Joseph Dill Baker died October 6, 1938. A group of his friends met and formed a committee in 1939 to select a suitable memorial to this outstanding citizen. The erection of a carillon was decided on, money was raised, and ground was broken in April 1941. November 30, 1941, was the date for the dedication of the project. Fourteen bells of varying sizes were installed; these



The Carillon in Baker Park is a monument to Joseph Dill Baker, known as Frederick's First Citizen, for his many civic acts for the

were played by being struck, activated by levers and pulleys inside the tower.

In 1966 there were some renovations made, including adding nine more bells, and a keyboard for easier playing. Carillonneurs were Henry Wade, the Hood College organist, followed by H. David Hagan, local musician. Today's musician is John Widmann.

A major overhauling of the bells and tower was undertaken in 1995. Money was raised through private contributions and business donations. Friends of Baker Park had been formed several years earlier and they spearheaded the project. Bells were sent to Verdin Co., Cincinnati, Ohio, for cleaning and tuning. The tower was cleaned inside and out and the structure was bird-proofed. A double set of circular stairs was given by Miscellaneous Metals, Inc. More bells were added making a grand total of 49, creating the largest musical instrument in Maryland. Rededication was held September 10, 1995.

Regular carillon concerts are held weekly, with special music by visiting musicians during the summer. These, plus the quarter hour clock chimes, can be heard all over downtown Frederick.

Near the carillon is the band shell and amphitheater. In 1935 the stage was built, and park benches provided audience seating. Many types of ceremonies, entertainment and religious services have been held there. The first small band shell had been built in 1927.

In 1989 it was proposed that the facility be rebuilt, due to its poor condition. During the 1990 reconstruction took place, and no activities, including summer Sunday concerts, were held.

Following World War II another addition of land was made west of Culler Lake. The Mercer farm meadow was purchased. Fairview Avenue was extended, a pedestrian covered bridge was erected in 1965, and a Little League diamond laid out. Because of milder winters and the lack of thickness of ice needed for safe skating on Culler Lake, a portion of this area is flooded during cold winters for the enjoyment of skaters.

Flooding of the park has been a periodic problem when heavy rains deluged the area. The worst in memory was October 9, 1976. This devastated downtown Frederick as well as impacting parts of Baker Park. After much planning and consulting with the Corps of Engineers, ground was broken in 1985 for a complete flood control project through the city. The western terminus is a large cement pool in the southeast corner of Baker Park. This has changed the looks on that end of the park, but the entire system of conduits seems to work, to keep flood waters contained.

Other enhancements to the park in recent years have included

- 1996 new playground equipment was installed adjacent to the swimming pool, and a large picnic area has been developed.
- October 15, 1996 the Rhoades Memorial Garden, a pathway leading from the Church Street park entrance to the carillon was dedicated to the Rhoades family by the children of Clinton and Mary Jane Rhoades, both of whom were active in the life of Frederick. Clinton was a grandson of former Mayor Culler.



Most of Frederick city parks have installed new playground equipment for children. This is located in Staley Park, on Motter Avenue in North Frederick.

• 1998 — new playground equipment for all ages was installed next to the William R. Talley Recreation Center.

Celebrations of all kinds sponsored by many civic organizations are annual events. The Fourth of July fireworks are not to be missed. An all day celebration was held July 4, 1976 for the country's Bicentennial, and special activities were held in connection with the celebration of the city's 250th birthday in 1995. A spectacular light show was the evening's culmination.

Baker Park is a park of which to be proud. It was recognized in 1987 by the Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped for an Award of Merit for accessibility to the disabled and for its barrier-free design. Yes, everyone can enjoy Baker Park.

## Carroll Creek Linear Park

Following the devastating flood of Oct. 9, 1976, it was realized that something needed to be done to prevent such an occurrence in the future. Obviously rains could not be prevented or held back, so controlling the flow of water was the alternative.

State and federal money amounted to millions of dollars for the project, and the Corps of Engineers were responsible for the design which consists of huge pipes underground to carry the water eventually to the Monocacy River. A linear park has been developed along the creek banks from Baker Park to Highland Street.

Work on the project began in 1985, and it took about 10 years to be completed. In 1991 a contest was held to name various sections: Bentztown,

Spring Park, Swampers Market, Tannery Row, Trestle Walk, Union Mill Run, Wayside and Fair Meadows.

Although commercial development is slow in developing the area, the creekside paths are enjoyed by hikers and bikers. The annual June Festival of the Arts celebration has been a showcase for artisans of all sorts to show and sell their wares, and musicians to lend a festive air. The Community Bridge carrying South Carroll Street over Carroll Creek is a tourist attraction—a unique addition to the area.

# **Playgrounds**

With so many parks available today, it seems impossible to believe that there were no public playgrounds or playground programs available in Frederick city 75 years ago.

On June 26, 1923, a meeting was held to discuss the establishment of playgrounds in the city. A committee was appointed for this purpose by the Chamber of Commerce. In the history of the Frederick Woman's Civic Club it states that club members were instrumental in beginning this project in 1924.

The Parks and Recreation Department was organized in 1927 upon the dedication of the new Baker Park. Helma Hann Bowers was named director, and she fulfilled her duties for 40 years in addition to being a physical education instructor for girls at Frederick High School. She was succeeded by William Talley for whom the Recreation Center in the former National Guard Armory at Bentz and Second streets is named. The present director is Roelkey Myers.

In 1928 there were seven parks in the city: Schley Park, Hospital Park, Memorial Park, Baker Park, Carroll Park, Mullinix Park and Harmon Field playground. Today the Parks and Recreation Department oversees activities in over 50 city parks. The demand for ball fields is increasing yearly.

# Laboring Sons Memorial Garden

...is located on Chapel Alley between Fifth and Sixth streets.

In 1837 a group of black residents formed an unofficial organization called the Beneficial Society of the Laboring Sons of Frederick City. They bought about one acre of land from Ezra Houck to create a cemetery in 1851. The group incorporated in 1867.

By 1948 the area was overgrown and generally in bad shape. There had been no caretakers for the cemetery since 1927. Nearby



Laboring Sons Memorial Ground was a cemetery for many years. In the 1940's the city created a playground which covered over many graves and memorial stones. About 2000 the true history of the plot became known and it has been returned to a more respectful restful park.

residents did not know a cemetery existed there, and the city decided to make the area a park.

During the construction the workmen removed some bodies for reburial but left others. Headstones marking graves were buried and covered with 18 inches to two feet of dirt. Officials could not guess how many graves had been there since there were no available records. Playground equipment was installed and the park used for years.

By the year 1997 the park was again in disrepair. It was decided to remove the hockey court, basketball and volleyball courts, replace them and fence the park. By February 2000, 132 names of the deceased were located. It was decided to create a memorial park and place a monument containing the names of those known. In December 2000 the playground equipment and asphalt were removed.

Today the area is a peaceful park. The gateway announces "Laboring Sons Memorial Garden" and pathways lead to a fitting memorial tablet listing names of those who are known to have been buried here.



The original monument in the center of Memorial Park on the corner of Bentz and Second streets remembers those who served in the Armed Forces during World War I. Since then veteran's groups have dedicated other areas in the park to veterans of other wars.

## Memorial Park

Following the Armistice in 1918 marking the end of hostilities of World War I there was a movement to create a memorial for those who served in the Armed Forces during the conflict. On April 1, 1921, the Frederick County Memorial Association was formed with Judge Hammond Urner as president. They thought a proper location would be Court House Park.

On May 8, 1804, John Brenner had conveyed a lot on Bentz Street to the Elders of the High Dutch Reformed Church for use as a cemetery. Barbara Fritchie and her husband were buried there, among many others, who were moved to Mount Olivet Cemetery about 1920.

On Oct. 23, 1924, the church (then called Evangelical and Reformed Church) deeded the ground to the Commissioners of Frederick County and the mayor and aldermen of Frederick City for the specific purpose of converting it to a memorial ground. Many cemetery bodies had been removed for burial elsewhere, but those

who remain are remembered on a bronze tablet in the park.

In 1923 Guiseppe Moretti, a Pittsburgh sculptor, was hired for designing and producing the memorial to Frederick County's servicemen.

In 1925 the Memorial Park Commission accepted the plans of Thomas W. Sears, a landscape architect from Philadelphia.

The original memorial still stands in the center of the park. It has been joined by memorials to servicemen and women from all subsequent wars.

Following renovations to the park by veterans, it was rededicated Nov. 6, 1998 in an impressive ceremony that included a fly-over of Air Force planes.

### East Third Street Park

With cooperation between Frederick city workmen and a group of neighbors who are "Friends of East Third Street Park" the park of that name has been renovated.

The park land was used for many years by Biser's Coal Yard, which went out of business in 1936, and the property put up for sale. Roelkey Myers tells the story that Ed Myers wanted to buy the property and establish a junk yard. However, his father, George, who lived at 301 E. Third St., did not want to look at a junk yard so he bought the property for the city to establish a public park there. It was landscaped in 1937.

As with other small parks, the area deteriorated with time and was used by undesirable guests. In June 2000, the Friends of the Park and Marilyn Henry, one of the founders, began fund raising by selling bricks engraved with donors' names to be used in a path through the park.

Today the playground area is complete with new equipment and landscaping.

#### Max Kehne Park

To see the ball fields, picnic areas and lush grass today on West Seventh Street and Fairview Avenue it is hard to imagine that the property once contained two reservoirs, part of the Frederick city water system.

The early settlers in the county relied on springs, wells or groundwater for their necessary water supplies. Although water distribution systems have been found in ancient ruins in Europe and Asia, it was not until 1825 that a company was organized in Frederick to provide a water works. Water was brought from a spring two and a half miles northwest of town through wooden pipes to a reservoir about a mile from the city and distributed to customers. However, the supply was inadequate and the system was abandoned before 1840.

In 1839 the city government became involved and raised money through a lottery and borrowed additional funds for construction. The system was completed by November 1845 at a cost of \$90,000. A reservoir was located a mile west of town, and it was suggested that a park be created.

In a few years it was evident that the supply was not adequate. Several trials were made with artesian wells and water was supplied from Little Tuscarora Creek. A second reservoir was built beside the first. These reservoirs were abandoned after a more plentiful supply was made available from Fishing Creek, Linganore Creek and the Monocacy River.

About 1970 it was decided to level the reservoirs and create a park on the

land. (The reservoirs had tall embankments that contained the water.) It was named for Max Kehne.

Mr. Kehne was an outstanding softball player who is listed in the state Hall of Fame in Baltimore. He was elected alderman in 1970 but died in a tragic auto accident on April 19, 1973. It is appropriate that the park emphasizes sports with areas for football, softball, Little League ball, two tennis courts, a half-basketball court as well as a playground area and picnic facilities. A bronze marker on West Seventh Street memorializes Mr. Kehne.

### Mullinix Park

Following the addition and development of Baker Park in 1927 other parks have been developed in the city for the enjoyment of residents.

In 1928 Joseph Dill Baker expressed a desire to have a city park for black citizens. Lorenzo Mullinix, a Frederick alderman from 1919 to 1928, proposed the site near All Saints and Bentz streets. Mr. Baker bought the land and gave it to the city. In 1928 the Board of Aldermen passed a resolution to name the park for Mr. Mullinix to recognize his valuable service to the city. Mayor Culler was in office at that time and he was interested in city development.

Mr. Mullinix was a successful businessman in Frederick. He operated a dry goods and notions store at 10 S. Market St. His motto was "A house that sells good goods at bottom prices and by fair dealing is bound to win." In the first edition of *The News* on Oct. 15, 1883, there was a full page advertisement for Mr. Mullinix's store on page 4 — (there being four pages total in the paper.) A side comment — Mr. Mullinix's daughter Ruth married Robert, the oldest son of William T. Delaplaine, founder of *The News*.

Mr. Mullinix died in 1930, but was able to see the beginning of the park that bears his name. He had served as president of the Board of Aldermen from 1922 to 1928.

In 1948 the children of Joseph D. Baker, Holmes and Charlotte Baker King, were responsible for the construction of the swimming pool which was dedicated to the memory of William Diggs, a resident of East Fifth Street, who had been employed by the Baker family for 50 years.

In June 1989, the pool was rededicated following the refurbishing of the bathhouse.

# McCurdy Field

On the sports page of *The News* of May 18, 1925, it was stated that the Blue Ridge (baseball) League opened its circuit for the ninth season. Although not stated, this probably occurred at today's McCurdy Field.

The first use of Athletic Field, as it was originally known, was for a race-track for bicyclists.

In 1936 it was reported that Athletic Field with a grandstand on Jefferson Street consisting of 5 1/4 acres was to be acquired by the city. It was formerly owned by the Frederick County Athletic Field Association and was known

as McCurdy Field. The original cost was \$20,304 and the city bought it for \$5,000. The mayor and aldermen voted to act on this the next month.

The field is named for Dr. Ira McCurdy, a prominent doctor in Frederick. Although not a baseball player himself, he was intensely interested in the sport and was an active supporter of local teams.

McCurdy Field has been most often used by semi-pro ball teams, including the Hustlers and Dr. Pepper teams.

The Philadelphia Athletics used the field for spring training for several years and Little League games have taken place here.

# Rosedale Park, also known as Kidwiler Park



Kidwiler Park on Schley Avenue is a popular place for neighbors to gather. It was set aside when the area was developed as requested by Mr. Kidwiler, former owner of the property.

In the 1938 News-Post Yearbook an advertisement appeared for "Rosedale — Building Lots in Frederick's newest subdivision — \$59.00 - \$79.00 - \$99.00 — The Best Buy for a Long Pull — Gilmore R. Flautt, Realtor, 109 North Market Street."

By the time some lots were sold and building houses could begin, World

War II interfered and it was the late 1940s before the development took off.

The land had belonged to Mr. Kidwiler who had also sold his farm and home to the Board of Education for the site of Frederick High School. He said he wanted the new development to have a park for residents of the area.

The park was dedicated on May 18, 1951. A field house was constructed after the Rosedale Civic Association raised \$2,000. It is named for Mr. Oden who helped with the construction.

The neighbors have held many events there through the years. One former resident remembers that as a child, she took many kinds of art classes there during the summers.

# South End Park

Behind McCurdy Field on Burck Street is South End Park. It contains basketball courts, a large picnic shelter and playground equipment.

The community building on Burck Street was built by the South End Community Association in 1957. It has served as a location for many community activities. At one time the Department of Motor Vehicles conducted driver's license tests in and around the building. Today it is used as the Frederick City Youth Center and an active after-school program is conducted there. The city acquired the building from the Community Association.

# Staley Park

Staley Park is unique in its development and ownership by the North End Civic Association Inc., in conjunction with the city. The association has been in existence since 1946.

It was that year that the property was being considered for low rental residential development. Seeing the need in the area for a park, Charles P. Staley, a resident of West 13th Street, purchased the land and donated it to the Civic Association for the park.

The association continues to be active in the management of the park. The community building was built and dedicated to Mr. Staley in 1946. The park boasts "the best basketball court," a picnic pavilion that is rented for group use, ball fields, and a kiddie park dedicated in honor of Charles Main. The city takes care of grass mowing and maintenance, and installs equipment that the Civic Association purchases with fees collected for rental of park facilities. A beautiful fir tree was planted in memory of Mr. Staley by his son and daughter.

The association is active during the year with social gatherings among neighbors and seasonal activities for children. As many as 125 children have attended annual Christmas parties and egg hunts.

Mr. Staley was interested in all of Frederick city. He served with distinction on the Board of Aldermen from 1943 to 1946 and again in 1954-1958.

# The Reservoir at Fishing Creek

A city park in the county is at the Fishing Creek Reservoir near Mountaindale.

An adequate water supply is necessary for a vital city. When Lloyd C. Culler became mayor of Frederick in 1922 he had many plans for the improvement of the city. He was a builder/contractor by trade, and because of the many public and private buildings he had erected, he had intimate knowledge of the needs as well as assets of the city. Water was one of the needs.

In 1923 it was determined that Fishing Creek could supply Frederick's water needs by building a dam and piping water to the city. The dam was dedicated that year, and the spillway was raised in 1932 to create an increased supply. The early 1930s were very dry years, and this reservoir was not adequate to be the only supply for the city. Other sources now used are the Monocacy River and Linganore Creek, with water from the Potomac River a possibility in the future.

A picnic park below the spillway was developed by the CCC in the late 1930s. The CCC camp was located downstream from the park; the land and buildings there are still owned and operated by the federal government. Also located at the park is a cabin, formerly used by a rod and gun club, which can be leased from the city for group activities.

# Other Frederick City Parks

AMBER MEADOWS PARK - Amber Drive off Opossumtown Pike

APPLE AVENUE PARK - Apple Avenue (undeveloped)

BAUGHMAN'S BABEE PARK - Madison & Burck Street

CARROLLTON PARK - Center Street and Prospect Boulevard

CATOCTIN PARK - Catoctin Avenue (between Columbus Avenue and Valley Street)

CITY HALL PARK - North Court Street

COBBLESTONE PARK - Cobblestone Court off Independence Street at Whittier

COLLEGE ESTATES - Wilson Place and Taney Avenue

DAVID LANE PARK - David Lane and McCain Drive

FOUNTAIN PARK - North Market and West Seventh streets

FREDERICKTOWNE VILLAGE PARK - Schifferstadt Boulevard

GOLFVIEW PARK - Hunting Horn Lane off Hillcrest Drive

GROVE PARK - Hamilton Avenue

HARMON PARK - Winchester Street

HILLCREST PARK - Hillcrest Drive at Butterfly Lane

HILLCREST ORCHARD PARK - off Peachtree Court (undeveloped)

HILL STREET PARK

HOSPITAL PARK - West Seventh Street between Trail Avenue at FMH

LINDEN HILLS - Linden Hills at Poplar Street -public access 1 1/2 blocks past private property

LINEAR PARK - off Baughman's Lane (undeveloped)

LOATS PARK - New Design Road

MARYVALE PARK - Mary Street

JIMMY McGEE MEMORIAL PARK - Old Farm Drive

MONOCACY VILLAGE PARK - Pontiac Avenue in Monocacy Village



Schley Park west of Rockwell Terrace is one of the city's smallest parks. It is named for Frederick's founder, John Thomas Schley.

OLD CAMP PARK - Old Camp Road (Stonegate) OVERLOOK PARK -Himes Avenue RIVERSIDE PARK ROCK CREEK PARK -Baughman's Lane SCHLEY PARK -Intersection of North and South College Parkway STONEGATE PARK -

Andover Lane

TASKER'S CHANCE PARK - Key Parkway

VALLEY STREET PARK - Valley Street

WATERFORD PARK - Baughman's Lane (undeveloped)

WETHERBURNE PARK - Wetherburne Way at Whittier

WHITTIER LAKE PARK - Whittier Drive

WHITTIER BASEBALL PARK - Independence Street

WILLOWBROOK PARK

WILLOWCREST PARK - Willowdale Drive (undeveloped)

#### PRIVATE PARKS

# Sugarloaf Mountain

An imposing mountain of stone overlooks the Monocacy Valley in the southeast part of Frederick County. It is a popular place for picnickers, hikers and rock climbers, with a beautiful view of the southern part of Frederick Valley. It is privately owned, but open for all to enjoy.

The first map of the area was drawn by Franz-Louis Michel, a Swiss explorer supposedly seeking land and possible silver mines. He made several trips to the area beginning in 1702 and described the country in manuscripts stored in the library of Berne, Switzerland and the British Library in London. His 1707 map charted one of his journeys.

Prior to Michel's travels, a series of American Indian tribes inhabited the area near the mouth of the Monocacy River flowing into the Potomac. Mentioned as early settlers were tribes of Conoys, Piscataways, and Tuscaroras. All eventually moved from the area, especially the Tuscaroras who joined Senecas in New York State to form the Six Nations.

On a return trip to Europe, in 1708, Michel met Baron Christoph von Graffenried, a native of Berne, Switzerland. Due to the religious wars in Europe, many Swiss and Germans were driven from their homes, and a Swiss colonization scheme was planned for North Carolina. Von Graffenried eventually came with the group in 1710, but due to financial reverses was forced to leave. He and Michel traveled north to the Monocacy region where they met French trader Martin Charetier from Canada and his Indian wife.

Von Graffenried, Charetier and local Indians climbed Sugarloaf. They never found silver, but discovered the beautiful view. His 1712 map of the area survives.

An article appeared in the *News-Post* on April 6, 1972, written by local amateur archeologist Nicholas Yinger, who described some of his observations and discoveries in the area of Sugarloaf and the Monocacy. He gave credit to von Graffenried for naming the mountain. He claimed to have excavated Charetier's trading post near the present C&O Canal, as well as burial grounds suggesting that Piscataway Indians had lived in the area for 1,000 years. Also excavations between the canal and the Potomac showed that a

large, earlier Indian village had existed there. He discovered many European artifacts, both French and English.

There is no doubt that Indians had been in the area, and had lived on Heater's Island as well as near the shores of the two rivers.

Little is known of what happened during the next two centuries. Gradually white traders appeared; Charles Carroll the Settler purchased a license to take up his tract of land in the fork of Potomac and Monocacy in the 1700s. The town of Point of Rocks to the north was settled, and many farms were established in the fertile valley.

In 1902 Mr. Gordon Strong (1869-1954), a wealthy Chicago businessman, discovered the beauty of the area and bought up tracts of land for a retreat. He built a substantial home there and eventually opened his land to day visitors.

He apparently knew architect Frank Lloyd Wright in Chicago. The two met during the summer of 1924 and discussed possible schemes for developing Sugarloaf Mountain. Strong wanted to erect "a structure on the summit of Sugarloaf" that would "serve as an objective for short motor trips" from Washington and Baltimore. He wanted a building that would enhance the enjoyment of views and would be striking and impressive as well as enduring.

Sketches of a building were made that included a minimum of destruction of the site with adequate parking, a spiral building and a dance hall at the top center, later replaced by a theater or a planetarium. None of this was ever built, but the plans were included in a Library of Congress exhibition of Wright's work in 1996.

After Gordon Strong's death in 1954 a trust was established under his will to maintain the property for public use. William Theodore Delaplaine Jr., son of the founder of *The News* was one of the original trustees.

Mr. Strong's desire that anyone could visit and enjoy the view and surrounding nature is still being carried on, with many visitors enjoying the mountain every year.

# National Little League Park

Nestled among well kept houses and gardens behind East 13th Street is National Little League Park, with its stadium and field house.

Little League baseball has been a big sport for young boys in Frederick for many years. Playoff games had been played at McCurdy Field, but it was decided by local sponsors to build a home field.



This headquarters for Frederick's Little League ball teams was built as a memorial to former Mayor Donald Rice who was interested in furthering sports for Frederick youth. The ball field is in memory of young Robert Staley, a former player and a supporter.

The Robert B. Staley stadium was built, devoted entirely to Little League games. It is named for young Staley, son of former alderman Charles P. Staley, who died at the age of 17 in 1951. He had played Little League ball, and was an enthusiastic supporter of the sport.

The brick field house was built in memory of the late Donald B. Rice, a former mayor of Frederick and a supporter of sports and youth.

# **More County Parks**

It seems as if every town and village in Frederick County sees the need for at least one park for the enjoyment of its citizens. According to the road atlas of the county, the following town parks are shown:

Thurmont

Rocky Ridge

Wolfsville Ruritan

Woodsboro Regional

Myersville Community

Walkersville Community

Walkersville Heritage

Libertytown Community

Brunswick City

Brunswick Heights

Braddock Heights Community Association

In addition there are ball fields used at many schools for adults as well as youth, and leagues schedule games far in advance.

# FORGOTTEN PARKS

At least four parks in Frederick city and county no longer exist as parks. Each has a unique history, and served a unique purpose for people of bygone ages.

# Carroll Park

The oldest is being remembered by name in the development of the Carroll Creek Park, a part of the Carroll Creek flood control project.

First mention of public interest in the area of West Patrick and Bentz streets was made in the early days of Frederick city. On March 20, 1778, John Hanson Jr. deeded land next to Carroll Creek that contained an overflowing spring of pure water to George Schneider, a German. He was a carpenter by trade and small in stature. (Carpenter in German is Zimmerman; Zergel is diminutive form for George, meaning "little George," as Mr. Schneider was generally called.) Previous to 1820 the spring was known as Zimmerzergel's Spring.

Following his death the property passed to his daughter, Elizabeth Riehl, and the spring was known as Riehl's Spring. Elizabeth acquired the property on May 5, 1812.

The spring passed down to Elizabeth's heirs, who subsequently sold the property to Arabelle Fauble, October 31, 1901. It then passed to Georgianna

Simmons on August 31, 1907. On the same day she sold it to the city for \$5.00, stipulating that the spring and its one acre would be known as Carroll Park.

By 1937 the Riehl home nearby had been razed, the ground filled in, a brick wall erected, and steps led down to the water, which by this time was supplied by the city.

More recently the park had been frequented by less desirable people and the area fell into ruins. It was completely cemented over during the recent flood control project construction and only the name remains in that part of town.

The spring had been a source of water for residents of that area of the city before public water became widely available. the first city supply was begun in 1825 but abandoned before 1840. A new system was begun about that time and completed by November 22, 1845.

An interesting theory is told about Barbara Fritchie and some Confederate soldiers who were marched through town. Being hot and dusty from the long march that September (1862), the soldiers stopped at Riehl's Spring for a drink, and sat on Dame Barbara's front step. Being a very loyal Union sympathizer, she had little use for the Confederates and chased them from her step with her cane.

# Yellow Springs Park

A city park in the county was found west of Yellow Springs on Hamburg Road. It is uncertain when the park was first set aside, but it was on city watershed property and connected with the city water supply.

Picnic tables, a "facilities" building and trails were constructed during the late 1930s by the CCC. It was a popular place for family picnics, with easy terrain and a cool refreshing stream flowing through.

The first Frederick Girl Scout Day Camp was held here in 1939 and in 1940. It was the first "camping" experience for city girls and a good introduction to the out-of-doors. Day camps are still being held every summer, but at many other locations in the county.

The park was closed some years ago. Neighbors complained because of undesirable activities occurring there which disrupted the calm community. The building was torn down and access barred. Driving along Hamburg Road today one can look into the former park to see a few picnic tables upturned and the area returning to nature.

# Braddock Heights Park

Situated atop a mountain west of Frederick was Braddock Heights Amusement Park.

After the development of the electric trolley westward and the opening of Braddock Heights as a summer resort in 1901, the amusement park was constructed, to sell more electricity.

The name of the area came from General Edward Braddock, who led his British troops westward in 1755, hoping to capture Fort Duquesne, now modern day Pittsburgh, prior to the French and Indian War. His troops were reported to have rested, camped, and found fresh water along the trail at "Braddock Spring," part of the way down the gap in the mountain to the east. General Braddock died in western Pennsylvania during this march, before reaching his destination.

The amusement park was a popular spot for family outings, school and church picnics with easy transportation from Frederick or Middletown. The heydays of the park and trolley were during the 1920s. After the wider availability of the family car, the trolleys suffered, and in 1947 the last passenger run was made to Braddock. The park was sold to investors and most buildings torn down in the late 1960s.



The observation tower which stood at the highest point in the Braddock Heights Park was chosen as the logo for the recently formed Braddock Heights Historical Society. From the top one could see four states and views of both Frederick and Middletown valleys.

Activities in the park included merry-go-round, pony rides, swimming pool, giant slide, tennis courts, summer theater, dance pavilion, observation tower, ferris wheel, miniature train, and a skating rink and bowling alley. This latter building survived as a popular pastime until destroyed by arson in August 1998.

### Tot Lot

At the corner of Bentz Street and Carroll Parkway is a small city-owned plot of land.

In the 1930s and 1940s a miniature golf course was located there. For twenty-five cents a young (or older) person could test his skills at putting a ball through a maze of traps, tunnels, greens and hills. How impressive to one's date if a low score was added up.

At a later time the land was turned into a playground for young children. A securely fenced area was just what young mothers wanted, along with safe play equipment.

The demise of the park happened because the area was needed so that pipes and conduits related to the flood control project could be placed underneath, causing necessary excavation.

With the refurbishing of the playground area adjacent to the City Recreation Center, equipment for all ages is now found there, along with equipment for older children.

According to Roelkey Myers, Parks and Recreation director, there are no plans in place for the use of the former Tot Lot, but the land is not forgotten—only the former uses.

### **Future Parks**

This is not a complete listing of parks in Frederick city and county. There are some parks under construction and some with dedicated land and dreams for the future.

Biking and hiking trail plans are being made, some jointly with cooperation between Frederick city and county.

Some trails now exist, but in some places there are dangerous road connections.

The county has owned 139 acres on Sumantown road north of Jefferson since 1973. Several groups have inquired about developing Catoctin Creek Park jointly with the county, but currently the county alone is working on a master plan for the park that may be a "special use park" and be developed as a nature center.

With the rate of growth in Frederick County it seems as if additional parks will be welcomed to add to the wide variety of parks now available.

# EVERYDAY LIFE IN FREDERICK... from 1745 to 1860



John Thomas Schley was the founder of Frederick when he brought 100 German settlers to the area in 1745. The town had been laid out by Daniel Dulany on a part of Tasker's Chance.

### I. Introduction

Frederick city, Maryland dates its formal history to the year 1745 when John Thomas Schley, a native of Mörzheim, Germany arrived with 100 settlers to found a new town which had been laid out by an Englishman, Daniel Dulany, on land patented in 1725 by Benjamin Tasker. These men were Frederick's first land speculators.

These were not the first white men to explore what is now Frederick County. Records exist that Franz-Louis Michel traveled the area looking for silver in 1702. He was followed by Christoph Graffenried in 1712. Maps exist showing their routes and geographical features.

Written records of exploration and plans for settlements are to be found in archival records in Europe, some in Berne, Switzerland.

## II. Earliest U.S. Settlement

The explorations of Christopher Columbus beginning in 1492 and Amerigo Vespucci in 1497 opened up new worlds to conquer. Settlement began in South America in the early 1500's, the Spanish were in Florida, founding St. Augustine in 1565, and the French, Dutch and English soon followed. The first permanent settlement of English at Jamestown in 1607 was followed in 1620 in Massachusetts. Maryland itself was first settled in 1634.

The first settlements were located along waterways, with access to the ocean for ties to Europe. The need for land was easily satisfied. Native Americans were sometimes friendly, helping the newcomers learn how to exist in a strange environment, but sometimes warlike.

Life was hard at best, and for many years passage across the ocean began by testing the newcomers with sickness, famine, lack of space, crowded conditions and many deaths at sea. Upon reaching the land, conditions were probably not much better.

# III. A Settler's Life How did the earliest Americans survive?

The basic necessities of life were food supplies, a minimum of clothing, guns – things that could be carried; water and shelter. There needed to be much spirit of community cooperation among the newcomers to supply basic needs.

The first buildings were built using materials at hand – logs, mud, stones and rocks. Depending on the season of the year food was either plentiful for gathering and hunting, or scarce. Survival was a hard lesson to learn, but colonies did survive.

# IV. Conditions in Europe

The civilizations which were left behind were advanced in some respects but difficult in other ways.

Society was sharply divided between the haves and have-nots. The wealthy enjoyed comfortable housing, fine food, beautiful clothing, architecture, art, music – all well beyond the reach of the average family whose existence was not much better than the new world settlers.

War, also, was a frequent fact of life. In parts of Germany, for example, warring princes' soldiers decimated the land and there was much migration of people to and from other nearby countries.

But the new world did offer opportunity and hope for a better life. Settlement was encouraged to relieve overcrowding, overpopulation and hope for new trading markets.

# V. Early Life in Frederick before the Revolution

There were people who had settled in today's Frederick County before John Thomas Schley arrived.

Pennsylvania had been settled in the late 1600's – William Penn had recruited settlers from Germany, and Philadelphia and Lancaster, and later York, were well-established. In fact, the available land there was becoming crowded, and it was a welcome event when about 1709-10 Gov. Dinwiddie of Virginia declared western lands to be opened for settlement.

The migration of people from Pennsylvania to Virginia came through Maryland and many stopped and stayed in the area of today's Frederick County. So many were here by 1748 that new "Frederick County" was created from Prince George's County. A family that settled north of Frederick city prior to 1742 was Susannah Beatty and her children. They had come from New York State and built a house on today's Md. 26.

The house (see photo on page 7) is an architectural gem, now under the supervision of Frederick County Landmarks. The Beatty sons and grandsons played important parts in early Frederick history.

The English, too, were here. Annapolis had become the capital of Maryland in 1694 and English men of means had moved inland and settled on large tracts of land. They transplanted their culture – imported fine furnishings, built large homes and brought slaves to work the lands.

They were in the government, also, from the lowest clerks to the highest judges and the governor. The Germans, by contrast, were the hard-working poor, but they, too, were ambitious.

So John Thomas Schley's settlers did not move into a completely new wilderness in 1745. He is credited with building the first stone house in Frederick in 1746 which was torn down in 1856. The foundation remains at 101 East Patrick Street.

The second house was possibly the brick one at 54 East Patrick Street. In 1765 the property was willed to the widow of Joseph Hardman, a mason. The speculation is that he built the house of bricks made on the property.

The new Frederick Town grew quickly, houses were built, and three churches were built – the German Reformed, Lutheran (also German) and Anglican (now Episcopalian). Businesses were established and trading developed. Frederick became a bustling town.



The brick house at 54 East Patrick Street has been said to be the oldest brick house in Frederick City. It has been in the Carty family since 1892 but is much older than that.

Many of the businesses supplied farmers with tools and equipment for their work. Trade was begun when farm produce was offered in payment, and merchants began selling to local residents. There was also trade of farm products to cities in the east in return for manufactured goods from England.

### Businesses

When Daniel Dulany planned Frederick Town, he envisioned a center for trade and industry. Those who settled brought their skills, and it was not long before families no longer needed to be completely self sufficient. Many were farmers who had surplus crops to trade.

Others knew occupations that created goods useful to others: buckets, barrels, tools, wagons and wheels. There were blacksmiths, carpenters, builders, with both wood and bricks or stone, tanners, and textile workers.

The first businesses seemed to be inns or taverns; 27 were shown in a list of 1747. They catered to farmers bringing their produce to market as well as people passing through.



The Old Stone Tavern was located across Telegraph Street (Jefferson Street) from the Steiner House. It was built by Stephen Steiner who lived across the street; the tavern catered to many travelers in its day. This picture shows trolley tracks and electric wires so it was taken after 1895.

Builders were kept busy, and shopkeepers sold not only local products and produce which they received in payment for goods, but also carried imported goods from England through businesses in Baltimore and Annapolis.

There was trade also between the colonies which were older and had established manufacturing businesses. One early colonial purchase was by the German Reformed Church in 1770 – a pipe organ made in Lititz, Pa., by David Tanneberger.

Purchase price (according to church records) was \$193.37. This served the congregation until 1840. Undoubtedly as Frederick grew and prospered families were able to trade and buy luxuries they were not able to produce themselves.

Everyday life, however, was still not easy, or much different in town from that of people on the farm. Vegetable gardens were common in town, as were animals such as cows, chickens and pigs. Horses were depended upon for transportation and livery stables were scattered throughout the town.

Families were still close to being self-sufficient, creating their own clothing, feeding themselves, making candles for light, spinning and weaving.

Cooking and heating were done in an open hearth fireplace (see Chapter 7). Today's campers have probably used campfires in the same manner. Cooks were accomplished in providing meals for families, using kettles suspended from hooks, skillets or pots on legs which sat in the coals, toasters sitting near the fire using reflected heat.

Meat could be roasted on a spit. Often there was a built-in oven or a separate one outside for baking breads, cakes or pies. Heavy cast iron helped to control heat, and long handled spoons, ladles and forks were necessary.

Religion played a large part in town life, and in fact freedom to worship had been another big reason for immigrants to leave their former homes. Education was important and was provided by churches as well as private tutors or small private schools.

Frederick Town grew quickly and solidly. A few early substantial homes in and near the city can be seen today - Schifferstadt (1756) - 54 E. Patrick

Schifferstadt was a farmhouse on the outskirts of Frederick for many years and is now in the city and open as a museum. It dates to about 1756, the date which appears on a stove in the house.

Street – the Beatty Cramer House east of Frederick on Md. 26 (1742).

Three churches date their organization: Evangelical Lutheran (1738) – United Church of Christ (1745) – All Saints Episcopal (1742). Church records exist from these dates and record visitors to the congregations who have left letters describing what they found here as well as records of baptisms, weddings, etc.

One such letter praised schoolmaster John Thomas Schley as being the best teacher the writer had met during his travels through Pennsylvania and Maryland.

The French and Indian War officially was declared in 1756. However in 1754-5 there were clashes between English and French-Indian



John Thomas Schley, founder of Frederick, was school teacher and organist at the Reformed Church. Three of his song books are to be found at the Historical Society. He decorated the pages to make the music more interesting.

troops. Town and county residents were affected as young men were called into service.

Gen. Edward Braddock came here in May, 1755 to begin his campaign to capture Fort Duquesne (today's Pittsburgh, Pa.). He made heavy demands for wagons, provisions, and men to assist his British troops. Benjamin Franklin came to Frederick and assisted in procuring supplies. George Washington came



The DAR marked the site of the spring which refreshed General Edward Braddock's troops when they were on their march toward Fort Duquesne in 1755.

to Frederick and assisted Braddock during the campaign. Washington and Franklin missed meeting each other by one day.

Building in the town was practically stopped; most noteworthy was the Lutheran Church on East Church Street which had begun a new building. Construction was halted between 1752 and 1762, for lack of wagons and men.

During the years leading up to the Revolutionary War, there was much activity and sentiment pro and con about English rule. Local county officials were all loyal to the crown. One byproduct of this situation was the clash between languages.

Today's genealogists often have problems as the English could not spell German names for legal records, and a phonetic spelling has often changed a family name forever.

The local act of Repudiation of the English Stamp Act in November 1765 is said to be the first act of defiance in any colony against the rulers.

However, how the local people lived day by day was probably not affected to any great extent during the Revolution, even after the arrival of German mercenaries, prisoners taken in New Jersey and Yorktown who were housed at the barracks on South Market Street.

Some of these Germans remained in Frederick following the Revolutionary War, married local girls, and their descendants have contributed much to the quality of life in Frederick city and county.



Boys are enjoying snow in front of the building said to be where the "Twelve Immortal Judges" repudiated the Stamp Act in November, 1765. It was torn down and replaced by residences about 100 years ago.

Typical family life depended on in-town gardens and livestock, hearths for cooking and heating, candles for light, occasional new clothing which was made locally, poor sanitation, and streets and roads which were rocky and muddy at best.

There were many original log houses in town, although the more substantial brick or stone homes were owned by more affluent residents.

Patriotic fervor remained high as English "Tories" were returned to England and their land was confiscated. Local patriots took part in the early formation of the United States of America, including Thomas Johnson, John Hanson, Michael Cresap, Col. Charles Beatty, William Beatty, Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Sgt. Lawrence Everhart, Dr. John Tyler and Dr. William Tyler.

George Washington was a personal friend of Thomas Johnson and Washington visited here on five or six occasions. Many men served in battles during the Revolutionary War, and descendants now belong to the Sons of the American Revolution or Daughters of the American Revolution.

## VI. Between the wars - 1776-1815

The period following the Revolution found Frederick city and county growing and developing. Many houses and other buildings were constructed of brick and stone, larger than older homes, and more comfortable.

Several of these homes are:

 Rose Hill Manor on North Market Street built about 1792-3 by Ann Jennings Johnson Grahame and her husband John Colin Grahame on land given them by her father Thomas Johnson upon their wedding.

Johnson lived with them following his retirement from public life and after his wife died until his death in 1819.

Rose Hill Manor is now owned by Frederick County and is a museum open daily (see Chapter 10).

• All Saints Church Rectory was the home of Dr. John Tyler, (1763-1841) local physician who performed the first operations for cataracts of the eye. The house was built about 1797. (He began his medical practice in 1786.)



The Roger Brooke Taney home on South Bentz Street which Taney owned until he moved to Baltimore in 1822 is a museum. An attached kitchen and slave quarters behind the home are features not often found in local houses.

• Steiner House – 368 W. Patrick St., home of Stephen Steiner, a local architect and builder. The back half of the house was built in 1807, with low ceilings, narrow staircases, and a large open fireplace (see Chapter 11).

By 1817, he apparently had more resources, and an addition of a double parlor, formal entry and beautiful hall and staircase with bedrooms upstairs was added to the property. The home was constructed by bricks which were made on the property.

Steiner was a noted local architect and was responsible for building Trinity Chapel's steeple on West Church Street in 1807.

 Roger Brooke Taney's home on South Bentz Street – built about 1792.
 Occasionally this home is open on museum tours. It contains Taney memorabilia as well as artifacts from his brother-in-law Francis Scott Key.

The rooms are in the configuration of the original building. There is some debate whether Taney lived on Bentz Street; he sold it in 1823 when he moved away. Corner fireplaces in the two main rooms are back-to-back,

and were used for heat. The kitchen is a room outside, with a covered patio connecting it to the main house. The large fireplace for cooking is intact, and many old kitchen tools are displayed.

Connecting to the rear of the kitchen is a series of rooms, several of which were probably slave quarters, others store rooms. Taney owned slaves from 1805. He freed seven of them in 1818, two belonging to his father, and another in 1821.

Life had improved for some families, and luxuries were enjoyed. In 1772 Thomas Johnson and his family were portrayed in a portrait painted by Charles Willson Peale. The portrait was willed to Frederick by descendants, to remain here. It had been displayed in the C. Burr Artz Library building



This silver pitcher inscribed GDK dates to the 1790's according to research by the owner. That was the approximate date when George an Deborah Krebs, ancestors of the Birely families in Frederick county, were married.

on Record Street, and in 1962 was moved to the new library building on East Patrick street.

However, in 1988 the library trustees, upon the advice of art conservators, gave it to the Baltimore Museum of Art, supposedly because the local library could not care for it properly. A poor copy was made, which is stored in today's library.

Some furniture and decorative items survive this period. One known piece, handed down in a local family, is a small silver pitcher with entwined initials: G D K for George and Deborah Krebs.

Because of the silversmith's marking underneath it can be traced to Thomas Shields who was a silversmith in Philadelphia in 1785-95. It was undoubtedly a wedding gift, as the Krebs' wedding took place about 1790 in Baltimore.

In 1784, a glass factory was established in Southern Frederick County by George Frederick Amelung, an immigrant from Germany who brought craftsmen with him.

Although the business was bankrupt by 1795 following a disastrous fire, some pieces of his work exist in museums and private collections.

Another glass factory had existed prior to this. Its output was window glass, so useful in new homes, as well as fine useful and decorative glassware.

Kitchenware was much in demand. Iron furnaces were encouraged early in Frederick's history, one being at Hampton Valley about 1760 that was not successful. The most well known is at Catoctin Furnace, which began production about 1776.

It reportedly supplied cannonballs for the battle at Yorktown, Va., but also cast iron pans and kettles and fireplace backs and stove plates were made. It was begun by Thomas Johnson and his brothers. After a succession of owners, it ceased operation in 1907. It is now preserved as a state park.

Kitchen gardens still supplied much of the food, but trips to the Market House on North Market Street must have been frequent. The first market house was built in Frederick in 1768.

It is surprising that many of the more well-to-do families had slaves even in the city. Usually the men did outside and heavy work while women were "inside" helpers.

The Industrial Revolution had begun in England and other countries. Inventions and new industries were a result of long, gradual development.

- · Benjamin Franklin invented the Franklin Stove in 1744.
- · James Watts invented the steam engine in 1765.
- · Wrought iron was made from pig iron in 1784.
- A power loom using steam was invented in 1785.
- Coal was more commonly used for fuel in the late 1700's.

- Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin in 1793.
- James Rumsey ran his steamboat on the Potomac River in 1786 at Shepherdstown (now West) Virginia; both Johnson and Washington were among his backers.
- Robert Fulton demonstrated his steamboat on the Hudson River in 1807.

Industry remained a cottage-centered business for local markets. There was a water-powered cotton mill in



Near Buckeystown and next to the Monocacy River is this mill, now owned by members of the Michael family. During the Civil War it was owned by Theodore C. Delaplaine; Confederates carried off his grain supply.

1810 on Fishing Creek and fulling mill in 1820. Seven woolen mills and two cotton mills were located in the county in the early 1800's. Grist mills supplied wheat flour and corn meal in many areas of the county.

# VII. A Time of Peace - 1820-1860

Following the War of 1812 there was a time of relative calm in Frederick city and county in the early to mid-1800's. The young United States was settling and maturing into a great country, but most state and federal actions did not directly affect here.

Frederick did supply four state governors, two during this period:

- Thomas Johnson, 1777-1779
- · Thomas Sim Lee, 1779-1782 and 1792-1794
- Francis Thomas, 1841-1844
- Enoch Louis Lowe, 1851-1854

Frederick regularly sent legislators to Annapolis, and local city and county governments were active.

There was an interest in the arts, and luxuries such as family portraits were popular, as well as marble fireplaces and chandeliers. Artists came to Frederick seeking clients, and other influenced painters. One was Benjamin West who studied in Italy and became established in London by 1763. He died in 1820.

Charles Willson Peale, born 1741, studied under West and in 1769 moved to Annapolis. He painted the Johnson family in 1772. Of his 17 children, many became artists, including son Rembrandt Peale.

An early local artist was George Schley, born August 21, 1795. He was a grandson of John Thomas Schley. At the age of 25, unmarried George was sent by his father to study under Rembrandt Peale, George having shown some artistic talent.

In 1820 Rembrandt sent a letter to George's father stating that "George was not sufficiently fond of painting." George returned to Frederick and never gave up painting in watercolors and oils. His paintings were not great; there were family portraits as well as scenes that show Frederick in the early 1800's.

Many of his works were sold by the Schley family to the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts in Winston-Salem, N.C.

George later became an editor for the *Frederick Examiner*, a weekly newspaper. He died Feb. 14, 1846, and his interest in the newspaper was sold to Frederick Schley.

Another Frederick artist was John Jacob Markell, born June 17, 1821. He, too, painted Frederick scenes and landscapes. His family members were successful merchants in Frederick and the family descendants are remembered.

John died Dec. 2, 1844. Some of his work is at the Historical Society of Frederick County. A young artist contest named for him is held annually for high school students, the requirements include using Frederick history as subjects.

Business flourished during this period. Banks were established, whose roots have grown and are still prominent today.

- 1817 Farmers and Mechanics Bank, now a part of Mercantile Bankshares Corp.
  - 1818 Frederick County Bank, now owned by BB&T from out of state
  - 1828 Fredericktown Bank and Trust Company now a part of



The Mutual Insurance Company is still doing business from their location on Governor Thomas Johnson Drive. It was founded in 1843.

Mercantile Bank in Baltimore. These offices were closed when Farmers and Mechanics became a part of Mercantile.

A business with a long history is the Mutual Insurance Company, founded in 1843. It still insures many homes and businesses in Frederick.

Many small shops

existed, which carried small inventories or catered to specific people, such as farmers. One long-existing business was Quynn's Hardware Store, formerly located in the first block of East Patrick Street. It was begun in 1796, and was in business for almost 200 years when it was sold and finally ceased operations.

Education had been available and stressed before and during this period. Mt. St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg was founded in 1808. Many people were literate and were interested in national and international events.

Several weekly newspapers were begun during this time, but have not survived to today.

One writer, diarist Jacob Engelbrecht, kept notes on life in Frederick from 1818 until his death in 1878. Much historical information is available, and genealogists find it invaluable, as he wrote of local births, deaths, and



Mt. St. Mary's University was founded in 1808 as a college for men and a seminary for Roman Catholic priests. The college is now co-ed after St. Joseph's College nearby was closed.

marriages as well as local events and often national and international happenings.

Jacob was born Dec. 11, 1797 and died Feb. 22, 1878. He was the son of a former German Hessian prisoner who married local Margaret Haux, whose father was a schoolteacher and a native of Germany. Jacob's career was varied and included being a tailor, and eventually becoming mayor of Frederick following the Civil War.

His diaries have been edited and reprinted by the Historical Society of Frederick County (2002) and are very useful to researchers.

Other interesting events happened that impacted daily life in Frederick:

- $\bullet$  1820 24 E. Church St., was built by Dr. Baltzell. Later it was purchased by John Loats, a local tanner. Upon his death he willed it to the Lutheran Church to be used as an orphanage for girls. Since 1960 it has been the home of the Historical Society of Frederick County.
  - · 1822 Ice cream was first served in Frederick.



24 East Church Street was built by Dr. Baltzell about 1820. Later it was owned by local tanner John Loats who willed it to the Evangelical Lutheran Church to be used as an orphanage for girls. It now belongs to the Historical Society of Frederick County as its headquarters.

- 1825 Frederick's first water works was constructed; it was a poor system and later abandoned. Prior to this residents used private wells or traveled to city springs.
- 1825 Jacob Weller of Thurmont produced the first "Lucifer" matches in the U.S. They had been invented in France.
- 1825 Stephenson's locomotive was invented in England.

- 1828 July 4 the C&O Canal was begun in Washington.
- 1828 July 4 the B&O Railroad cornerstone was laid near Baltimore and tracks were laid towards the west.
- 1830 Nov. 16 Riehl's Spring repairs were completed. It was located along Carroll Creek across from Barbara Fritchie's home and supplied water for many residents of that part of town. It had later dried up, and is now buried under cement of today's Carroll Creek project.
- 1831 Dec. 1 The first railroad train arrived in Frederick, consisting of five cars. Although it was horse-drawn, it was not long before a steam engine was used on regular runs. The passengers were greeted with the ringing of bells, and a joyous celebration and a dinner were held.
- 1832 Samuel F.B. Morse invented the telegraph. This led to improvements in communications all over the country.
- 1832 Lights were first placed in the streets of Frederick. By a city ordinance there were 36 street lamps. Formerly people wishing to travel at night used lanterns unless there was bright moonlight.
- 1833 October 26 Jacob Engelbrecht reported he "put up the room stove today." This was a common fall event, the small heating stove having been removed for the summer.



1852 – Mt. Olivet Cemetery was opened on South Market Street. Although not the first burial, this monument to Col. Edward Schley is said to be the first monument erected in the new cemetery. He died in 1857.

- 1836 English became the official language of Pennsylvania.
- 1836 March 21 Lamplighters John H. Hoff and John Finch were elected by the Corporation of Frederick along with John Fessler, clock winder; Solomon Stinkel, weigher of hay; Clement Hilton, market master; Christopher Myers, messenger, and others, according to Jacob Engelbrecht.
- 1839 Frederick city government raised money through a lottery for a water system.
- 1845 A reservoir for Frederick city, one mile from town, was built and residents were urged to make use of the "splendid water supply." It was years later before a reliable and adequate supply was available.
- 1849 October 17 Gas pipes were laid in the central city and public streets, distributing gas throughout the city.
- 1853 January An ordinance was passed to erect 35 iron lamp posts.

During this period Frederick was described as having cobblestone streets and wooden sidewalks. Transportation was by horseback or horse and carriage; people became more fashion-conscious, men wearing tall hats, and ladies wearing ruffles and lace. Of course, everyday wear was much simpler.

An interesting booklet exists, "Short Stories of Life in Frederick in 1830." It was written probably in the 1890's by Mrs. C. Sue Markell of Birmingham, Ala., and published by Attic Treasures of the Historical Society of Frederick County in March 1948.

Although some dates are not historically accurate, the subject matter ranges from "Early Settlers in Frederick County," "Old Families," to "Barbara Fritchie," "Flitting Shadows" and "A Grim Visitant."

Catherine Susan Thomas was born in Buckeystown in 1828. On Nov. 26, 1857 she married Fred Markell, a Frederick merchant. They had four children, Francis Thomas who died in infancy, Eugenia Rogan who died at age 2, Charles born in October 1855, and Willie, born December 1856.

Catherine led a carefree life, leaving manual tasks to slaves. She "spent her days socializing, supporting the church and improving the community through volunteer efforts."

This was the life of well-to-do women of her time. She often brought her sons along on social visits and to events at the Reformed Church.

The Markells were outspoken supporters of the Southern cause. During the Civil War, Fred Markell sold his business and moved the family to Alexandria, Va.

Son Charles became a lawyer and was nominated by President Harrison to be secretary of the U.S. Legation at Rio de Janiero, Brazil, and in 1877 had a tour of Europe.

Three downtown churches were constructed

His mother visited Brazil, and traveled widely. Catherine kept diaries; copies of some are in the Historical Society. She died about 1900.

Some interesting descriptions in her book included a detailed description of a home on West Second Street where she spent her childhood. It included a description of a "ponderous 'tin' plate" stove, manufactured by McPherson and Brien – which was removed every spring and replaced every autumn, requiring the services of four stout men.

It was used for cooking as well as heating. She also described several log homes on Second Street, which long ago were torn down.

Three downtown churches were constructed during the building boom in the 1850's...



...Evangelical and Reformed United Church of Christ in 1848-1850...



...Evangelical Lutheran Church in 1854...



...and All Saints Episcopal Church in 1855.

Two were used as hospitals during the Civil War after the battle at Antietam, but the Reformed Church was used by all churches for services.

By the 1850's there was a building boom in Frederick. Three large churches, still in use today, and other buildings were constructed:

1845 – East wing of Winchester Hall, East Church Street.

1848-1850 – Reformed Church now known as Evangelical and Reformed United Church of Christ, on West Church Street.

1854 – Evangelical Lutheran Church on East Church Street

1855 – All Saints Episcopal Church, West Church Street

1855 – Home on East Church Street built by Charles Edward Trail, now the Keeney and Basford Funeral Home.

#### Other events:

1846 – Elias Howe invented the sewing machine which after improvements were made eventually speeded the making of clothing which previously had been hand-sewed.

1859 - J. Whitehill of Frederick patented a hot air furnace

1860 – Natural or coal gas began being used for cooking

"Bridge in Time," the 1850 census of Frederick County, has been published by Dern and Hitselberger. There is much detailed information enumerated – heads of households, spouses, children, slaves, farm and business products.

The population of Frederick County was just under 41,000. Also listed were various agricultural products, and operating mills.

In 1859 "Frederick Directory, City Guide and Business Mirror" was published by C.S. Williams, who was in the business of publishing directories for Southern and Western states.

He listed names and addresses for city residents, but even more interesting is a listing of businesses. Some of these, which reflect the lives and habits of the residents include:

Food: 13 bakers, 1 candy, 4 restaurants, 10 confectioners, 5 flour dealers, 32 grocers, 1 meat store.

Clothing: 7 clothing, 2 dressmakers, 11 boots and shoes, 22 dry goods (probably also sold linens etc.), 4 hats and caps, 4 mantua makers, 7 millinery.

Housewares and needs: 4 cabinet manufacturers, 2 china, glass and Queensware, 1 paperhanger, 4 potteries, 2 upholsterers, 6 stoves, tin and hollow ware.

Extras – to make life more pleasant: 2 books and stationery, 3 fancy goods, 2 jewelry, 1 music teacher, 3 newspapers, 3 photographers, 5 watches, clocks and jewelry.

Health: 4 drugs and medicine, 12 physicians

Household necessities: 2 coal dealers, 8 carpenters and builders, 9 blacksmiths

Transportation: 2 carriage manufacturers, 2 livery stables, 4 saddles, harness, etc., 3 wagon manufacturers, 5 tanneries



Barbara Fritchie is known for her patriotism and loyalty to the North during the Civil War. Her home on West Patrick Street is a reproduction which contains a museum.

There were also 4 barbers and 3 boarding houses.

An interesting description of everyday life in 1860 was about Barbara Fritchie. Although she is remembered for her (supposed) heroism in 1862, life had not changed for her during her lifetime. She lived to be 96 years old, and was very patriotic all her life.

In the book "Life of Whittier's Heroine Barbara Fritchie" by her next-door neighbor Henry M. Nixdorff, the following is written – "In her dress she was remarkable for plainness...about the house her costume was usually that of plain Quaker colored calico, and when she went to the store, or when she visited neighbors or attended church, ... she would be clad in a black cashmere or alpaca dress, though she had a handsome plum colored silk and other costly dresses." – and "she was fond of cultivating flowers."

"Between the front house and the back building there was a small triangular parcel of ground. This "she had planted with beautiful flowers and very often you might find her at work in this little flower garden" – and – "I was conversing recently with a neighbor of mine – who was a neighbor of Mrs. Fritchie's. – When he was a boy he was sent to Mrs. Fritchie's every day for milk, for she kept a cow for many years." – and – "During the days of slavery, Mr. and Mrs. Fritchie were the owners of slaves. Fritchie's 'Harry' and 'Aunt Nellie' were known quite well. 'Harry' used to work in the skin dressing department (Fritchie manufactured gloves) and 'Old Aunt Nellie' at the household duties. They were treated with great kindness."

Slavery was common in those days, both in the country and in town. T.J.C. Williams and Folger McKinsey in their "History of Frederick County Maryland" describe the population in 1790 as 3,641 slaves and 213 free Negroes. The number increased until 1820 after which free Negroes increased faster than slaves, probably due in part to the growing tendency in Pennsylvania toward concealment of fugitives, and also the freeing of slaves.

By 1840 the number of slaves had fallen from 6,685 in 1820 to 4,445, also due to manumission, and in 1860 it was 3,243. Free Negroes in the county increased from 213 in 1790 to 4,967 in 1860.

Another factor was the creation of the American Colonization Society, which sent slaves to Liberia, beginning in 1831. Williams and McKinsey's History devotes 3 pages to describing the conditions under which slaves lived, some of the actions of slave holders, and laws that controlled slavery until the Civil War. It should be stated that some slaves were treated kindly, but they did not enjoy freedom.

Frederick was a busy town, as were other towns in the county, and life seemed good.

But by 1860 the United States – and Frederick County – were poised for a conflict which would change the life of everyone drastically.

# FREDERICK LIFE 1880s - 1980s

# The latest inventions begin to be part of the local scene

The year was 1888. The place was Frederick, Maryland. *The News* had been published daily (except Sunday and holidays) since 1883. On October 9 a baby boy was born to William Theodore Delaplaine, publisher of *The News*, and his wife, the former Fannie Birely, their second son. They named him "George Birely".

Shortly before "Mr. George" died in 1977, he remarked, at least once, that the number of changes which had occurred during his lifetime was hard to believe — from horse and buggy transportation to a man on the moon.

It was about 1890 that an official of the U.S. Patent Office recommended that the Patent Office be closed. "Everything has already been invented," he said.

It is true that many inventions had been made prior to that time that impacted life, including:

- On July 4, 1828, both the C&O Canal along the Potomac River and the B&O Railroad were started.
- In 1831, the first railway train arrived in Frederick.
- In 1839, daguerreotypes, the prelude to photography, were invented by Louis Daguerre.
- In 1844, Samuel F.B. Morse sent a telegraph message from Baltimore to Washington, D.C.
- In 1846, Elias Howe patented the sewing machine.
- Between 1847 and 1931, Thomas Alva Edison, the Wizard of Menlo Park, was a most prolific inventor, holding 1,100 patents.
- In 1854, Abraham Gesner refined crude oil into coal oil (kerosene).
- On Aug. 27, 1859, L.E. Drake struck oil near Titusville, Pa.
- In 1868, the first practical typewriter was unveiled, later improved by Edison in 1874.
- In 1876, Alexander Graham Bell demonstrated the telephone.
- In 1877, Edison's phonograph and gas engine were unveiled.



This style telephone was in use for many years especially in rural areas. Dial service began in the 1950's and made this phone obsolete.

- In 1878, the "Boneshaker" bicycle was on the scene.
- In 1878-1879, the electric light bulb was developed.
- · In 1878, the first telephone was installed in Frederick.
- · In 1884, fountain pens were available.
- In 1888, Kodak put out the "snapshot" camera.
- . In 1896, the first Ford car.
- · In 1897, the first cold cereals.
- In 1890, rubber tires were used on bicycles.
- · In 1899, the magnetic tape recorder.
- · In 1899, McClintock Young created a machine to make brushes.
- · In the late 1800s, coal fired furnaces used.

Although some of these inventions were not sophisticated by our standards, they were innovations for their time, and were forerunners of so many "necessities" of today's life.

# Every day 1870 - 1900

The everyday citizen in Frederick lived in a small town. True, there were roads leading in all directions from here, and although many roads and streets were muddy or cobblestones, a few major routes that were well traveled were "turnpikes" or toll roads.

Macadam had been invented before 1836 by John McAdam and presumably used here by the late 1800s on highly traveled roads.

At home, life was simple. Many residents had backyard gardens and even a few farm animals might be residing here. Food was easily obtained. There were independent grocery stores located in neighborhoods; as well as butchers, bakers, fruit and vegetable shops.

The last downtown fruit and vegetable store was Cappello's on the corner of Market and Second streets. Additionally, there was the City Market downtown, behind City Hall on North Market Street. The original market had been built in 1769. It was rebuilt between 1873 and 1874 and continued in operation until the 1970s.

Cooking was done on cast iron ranges fueled by wood or coal. They were wonderful heat producers in winter, but not as desirable in summer. The ranges were also used for a hot water supply. Some had built-in tanks which were much more convenient to empty than large kettles on top of the stove.

Heating in homes, other than the kitchen, was still by fireplaces in many cases, but also by smaller room heating stoves.

By the late 1800s coal-fired furnaces were coming into use. Modern houses built around 1903 had pipeless furnaces. A huge register above the furnace was centrally located, and registers between the first and second floors warmed most of the house. Hot water in summer was provided by a small



Electricity was first demonstrated in the office of "The News" at 44 North Market Street in 1888. It was not long after that the city decided to illuminate the city streets with electric lights and a light plant was built in 1892 on the corner of East Second and North East Streets.

coal-fired stove in the basement. Steam and hot water heat via radiators was introduced about that time.

Indoor lighting had improved; gas had been introduced in Frederick for street lighting about 1855.

By the late 1800s houses were illuminated with gas jets or kerosene lamps. The gas jets protruded from the wall and burned openly. A family story is told about

a grandfather who lived with his son's family. He frequently smoked cigars, and always wore a derby, even indoors. One day he came downstairs and reported to his daughter-in-law, "Fan! Fan! The house is on fire! I smell smoke!" Taking one look at Grandpa, Fan replied, "your hat is on fire!" Burning gas jets and brimmed hats don't mix.

The first electric light was demonstrated in the office of *The News* in 1888. It was soon after that when electric city street lights were installed, and the Middletown and Frederick Railway's electrically driven trolley followed in 1896. Home lighting by electricity became more common in the next decade. A Frederick City light plant was built to supply the early needs in 1892.

Telephones, although not extremely common, were used more in business. An early telephone exchange was located at 31 E. Patrick St. which has been remodeled several times through the years. It served the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company for many years, and is still used by Verizon today.

Shopping was available "downtown" in many specialty stores. In addition to food stores, there were stores for clothing, shoes, jewelry, musical instruments and photographers.



The office of the C and P Telephone Company was located where the Verizon office is today on East Patrick Street. The house next door has been demolished and the building enlarged.

In the last quarter of the 19th Century the primary transportation was either by foot or by horseback or horse carriage.

In the 1880s bicycles became safer than these first inventions and their popularity rose among young people as well as adults. *The News* sold Rambler bicycles, and it is said that the wife of the publisher was an avid rider. The bicycle was most popular from about 1889 until the early 1900s.

Frederick County was predominately an agricultural area until recently.

Businesses supplying farmers were plentiful. Hardware stores were numerous not only in Frederick, but in rural areas. Farm products ranged from wheat and corn to cattle and dairy products.



Crowds on North Market Street are not new. This picture taken in the 1890's was possibly of an approaching parade, but it is not impossible to imagine that the buggies were waiting for the Farmer's Market to open.

Truck farmers raised a variety of vegetables, fruits, and many families came by horse and buggy to City Market behind City Hall on North Market Street.

As many as 70 wagons could be seen parked nearby on market day. Local

LANDS

Landis Jewelry Store has been located on South Market Street since its founding in 1893. This tile mosaic is still to be found in the sidewalk in front of the original store building; today's store is next door, with the 5th generation of the family active in the business.

housewives had their favorite farmers to deal with for fresh dairy products, eggs, chickens, and of course seasonable vegetables and fruits, or baked goods. Milk and bread were delivered door-to-door by horse and buggy.

Clothes shopping was easy in downtown. Market Street, both North and South, boasted many clothing and dry goods stores. Ready to wear clothing was available, as well as supplies for home sewing and commercial seamstresses and tailors.

The late 1800s saw many new proprietors and entrepreneurs doing a good business.

Some merchants remained in the business for only a short time, while others prospered for many years.

Today, Landis Jewelry Store on South Market Street, opened in 1893, is still familyowned, the fifth generation being active in the business. Rosebud Perfume Company in Woodsboro was started by G.F. Smith, a druggist there in 1895, and still family owned.

Other establishments with long histories, but no longer in business, are remembered by older residents:

- Quynn's Hardware began in 1796, sold about 1986;
- · Parson's, formerly Doll Brothers;
- C.C. Carty Furniture Store (East Patrick Street) 1868 to 1978 (three generations of owners);
- J.D. Hendrickson 1877-1980 (six generations from early 1800s);
- C. Thomas Kemp 1904-1961, sold to Routzahn's which is now located on Md. 26, north of Frederick;
- Bennett's, began by Oliver P. Bennett, then owned by son William B. Bennett; later owned by sons William Jr. and Jack until they moved out of town.

In the late 1800s Frederick's Jewish population increased, most coming from the Baltimore area. Although not as active in retail business today, and many have been forgotten, they were active in the business community of the late 1800s. Some families' descendants are still to be found here. Some merchants were Rosenstock, Rosenour, Lowenstein, Landauer, Wertheimer, Weinberg, Kessler, Jacobson, Gordon and Sclar.

Manufacturing businesses opened in the mid to late 1800s and through the years employed many local workers, including women. Still in business today are:

- W.D. Bowers Lumber Company, now located near Woodsboro. It began in 1868 as Routzahn and Bowers on East Patrick Street on the land east of today's Post Office. It is still family owned.
- The Telephone Company, the first exchange opened at 31 E. Patrick St. 1878.
- In Frederick The News began in 1883 by William T. Delaplaine and incorporated in 1888 as the Great Southern Printing and Manufacturing Company. Now known as The Frederick News-Post it continues daily operation by the Randall Family LLC. The Job Shop was begun in 1880.
- Frederick Brickworks incorporated in 1891 and is still located on East South Street.

Other businesses had a long history in Frederick. Most were sold to outof-town larger concerns and eventually closed because they did not prove economically viable.

1887 — Union Manufacturing Company, maker of woman's hosiery, the first company to manufacture nylon stockings in cooperation with the du Pont Company in 1937. The local plant employed many women in its mill.

1890 — Ox Fibre Brush Company. McClintock Young invented a process of making brushes mechanically. Many types of brushes were produced and



Fannie Birely was elegantly dressed when she posed for her portrait in 1885. This was about the time of her marriage to William T. Delaplaine, founder of the "Frederick News-Post."

they were sold internationally as well as all over the United States.

1890 — Frederick Iron and Steel Company produced many iron products.

Banking has been a vital part of life in Frederick since the early 1800s. With the sale of Farmers and Mechanics Bank to Mercantile Bankshares, locally owned and operated banks with a long history in Frederick City are a thing of the past. However several county banks are still locally owned as is the newly organized Frederick County Bank.

Farmers and Mechanics National Bank — 1817

Frederick County National Bank — 1818 Fredericktown Bank and Trust Company - 1828

Other banks existed during the 1800s but they did not survive as long as the above men-

tioned three. When the early banks were founded, many men prominent in the history of the city and county were instrumental in banking activities.

Styles of clothing during the last part of the 19th Century went through changes, especially for girls and women. The crinoline petticoats and full skirts popular during and after the Civil War gave way to the bustle, and later to leg-o-mutton sleeves of the Gibson Girls.

Women were handicapped by tightly laced undergarments, and how they survived Frederick's summer weather with long sleeves and high necks is a wonder. Black was the popular color.

Young girls were dressed in frills, laces and ribbons. Young boys wore dresses until about age 2, and then wore short pants or knickers until teen age.

Many fashions for those who could afford them were copied from the latest Paris fashions. But everyday wear of long full skirted dresses, long sleeves and aprons, probably did not change through the years.

Men's clothing probably evolved more slowly, partly because high fashions did not hold the attractions for men. The wearing of hats was a necessity, as were shirt collars of stiff celluloid.

The family home was the center of life in the late 1800s. Family parties and outings were common and visiting friends and neighbors were a time of formality — of leaving calling cards on the hall table, of not overstaying one's time, of serving dainty refreshments, and of learning the latest town gossip.

Fire departments played a necessary part in city life. Men were required

to fight fires from the earliest times, and it was hard work being a part of a bucket brigade. The members found that firehouses were perfect places to socialize with their friends.

The Maryland State Firemen were organized in 1893 and the first convention was held in Frederick in June of that year. There were parades and contests. The city was heavily decorated and even children got into the festive mood with boys decorating bicycles and girls dressed in red, white and blue dresses. Other conventions have been held here, but it is doubtful that the spirit was as high as in the "old days."

There were other outlets for amusements also. The city Opera House, built as part of City Hall, held many plays, both locally produced and from out of town. City Hall was built in 1769 and rebuilt in 1872 and the Opera House continued to be a vital part of Frederick's cultural life.



The Junior Fire Company had moved to the present location near 6th Street when this picture was taken. Horses were used to pull the fire "engine."

A highlight in 1897 was when John Philip Sousa and his 66-piece orchestra appeared in Frederick on October 19. Even though the day was the open-

The state of the s

John Philip Sousa, known as "The March King," brought his band to Frederick and performed in the Opera House to enthusiastic audiences. Besides conducting he composed marches which are still played today. He also helped to promote the adoption of "The Star Spangled Banner" as our National Anthem in 1931.

ing of the Great Frederick Fair, the Opera House was packed, and Sousa and his popular band compositions were received well by the enthusiastic audience. He and his band returned to Frederick several years later.

Churches also played a big part in a family's life. Multiple services were held at many churches and often a family would attend several times on Sunday.

Social activities also provided times of fellowship and fun. Sundays saw almost everything closed, and many families observed the Sabbath quietly with no gaiety or frolicking allowed. Games, of course, were taboo, from cards, to ball games, to dancing or singing (except hymns).

The late 1800s saw changes in education. What had been available for many years became even more accessible to the young people. Girls' High School opened in 1888. A new building was built in 1889 and was used by them until 1922.



This building on North Market Street near 6th street corner was an early site for Boys' High School, It later moved to Elm Street before it merged with Girls' High School to form Frederick High School in 1922. The building is still owned by the county and has housed several county agencies.

Many early teachers in Frederick County schools and many wellknown local women were graduates of the school. Boys' High School began in 1894 and was being held on North Market Street by 1904.

It was an honor to be a graduate and many Frederick businessmen were alumni. Hood College, first called Woman's College, was founded by men of the Evangelical and Reformed Church in 1893. It held classes in the Frederick Female Seminary buildings, Winchester Hall, for over 20 years and housed some students there until 1930.

The late 1800s were also a time of organizations. The Frederick County Historical Society began in 1888. The Frederick Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, was started locally in 1892.

The Francis Scott Key Monument Association was begun in 1888. After raising money for years, the monument to Francis Scott Key in Mt. Olivet Cemetery was dedicated on Aug. 9, 1898 and rededicated 100 years later.

Masonic Lodges were active in Frederick County from shortly after the Revolutionary War. Lynch Lodge No. 163 was organized in 1873. Other Lodges were located in Thurmont, New Market, Point of Rocks, Emmitsburg, and Brunswick.

Frederick Art Club formed in 1897. Independent Order of Odd Fellows was organized locally January 11, 1898. Knights of Pythias was reborn locally in 1898. The Frederick County Medical Society was formed in 1898. The Record Street Home, formerly known as "Home for the Aged" opened in 1892.

Other events of the last decade of the century included:

- 1890, Berlin was renamed Brunswick:
- B&O trains ran frequently and a new brick round house was built and first used in 1891.
- 1894, Mechanicstown was renamed Thurmont.
- 1898, the first steps were taken to form Grace Reformed Church.
- 1896, the first trip of the Frederick and Middletown Railroad to Braddock Heights occurred on August 18. The line extended to Middletown in October. Later riders could reach Myersville and ultimately Hagerstown.
- Jan. 21, 1894, Helen Smith, who became Frederick's well known artist and woman entrepreneur, was born.

Yes, the last half of the 19th Century when "Mr. George" and his brothers were growing up had become quite different from earlier in the century.

# The turn of the century-1900 to World War I

A new age was dawning, and change came rapidly to the residents of Frederick County during the next years. By 1904 the population of Frederick City had grown to 11,000.

The practice of medicine, although having changed through the years, was still not an exact science. Doctors had lived here and practiced their skill from at least 1797. Important changes had occurred during the Civil War to improve patient care and the local Medical Society had been formed in 1898.

There were many "patent medicines" on the market to treat



The John Tyler House on West Church Street next to All Saints Church and now its Rectory was built in 1797 and lived in by Dr. John Tyler, an early physician in Frederick. He performed the first operation for cataracts of the eye.

all sorts of ailments for which there was no real cure. Advertisements in newspapers and other periodicals touted the excellent results others had achieved for curing asthma, alcohol dependency, smoking, indigestion, hay fever, female weakness, liver trouble and lack of hair growth. Fourteen pages in the Sears, Roebuck catalog of 1900 are devoted to such remedies.

Locally, Dr. Henry P. Fahrney was manufacturing Victor remedies. His laboratories were on East Church Street and East Street at various times.

The Medical Society was concerned with sanitation problems in the city. They addressed problems resulting from hog pens, slaughter shops, tanneries, canneries, cesspools, and privies. But they had no cure for diphtheria, which

Montevue Home was built to house homeless and the "insane." It was torn down and the property now houses other county agencies such as Citizen's Nursing Home, the Health Department, Animal Control Center, truck and bus maintenance areas to name some.

annually caused many childhood deaths.

Montevue Hospital for the Insane had been built in 1870, and an emergency hospital was located on the corner of South Market and South streets, opened in November, 1903.

"The Frederick

City Hospital Association" was founded on March 26, 1897 by a group of prominent local ladies. The chairman was Emma J. Smith, who personally donated much money as well as property on which a hospital was to be built. A cornerstone was laid July 11, 1901, and the hospital was dedicated May 1, 1902.

However, friendly relations did not exist between the new hospital and the Medical Society members. The emergency hospital was opened in 1903 by doctors as a result of the controversy since the doctors believed that management of a medical facility should be in the hands of the medical profession.

The controversy raged in the community for several years, and finally in 1906 plans were set forth which resolved the dispute, but the Lady Board of Managers remained officially in charge for many years.

A building boom was happening in Frederick City. The old Roman Catholic Novitiate on East Second Street across from St. John Roman Catholic Church was torn down, the residents previously having been moved to other locations.

Many building materials were available for re-use, and provided materials for expanding housing as well as for new businesses. New houses were erected on the vacant lots.

Take a look at West Third Street at Bentz Street looking east. On both sides of the street are closely constructed, mostly brick, row houses, built mostly in the 1800s. Bentz Street was the western boundary of the city from when early maps were originally drawn.



The houses on Rockwell Terrace, built after 1905, are completely different in architecture from the ones on West Third Street, across Bentz Street in the city.

Now look west and you'll see a complete change of architecture. A plaque in the sidewalk states that Rockwell Terrace was begun in 1905. The street was dedicated to Elihu Rockwell, an active Fredericktonian from previous years. Thus began the westward expansion of Frederick's residential area.

Other areas in the city were also developed. Horace Zacharias, who lived at 100 E. Third St., built houses in his block, four of them being identical row houses, and across the street from his home. Mr. Zacharias also owned horses which were stabled behind his residence on Middle Alley where garages are located today.

#### Other construction:

The former Masonic Temple building on West Church Street was dedicated on Dec. 12, 1902.

The YMCA laid a counterstone on West Church Street next to the Masonic Temple on May 16, 1907, dedicated Jan. 1, 1908. The facilities were a much needed improvement over the previous quarters which were on South Market Street, above a store.

The Citizens Bank at the Square Corner decided to rebuild and enlarge its facilities. The large red brick building built in 1885 was torn down as well as several adjacent buildings and a new headquarters was built in 1908–1909.

The bank had been organized in 1886 with Joseph D. Baker as president and many promi-

This building which housed the Citizens Bank was torn down, as was the white building next to it, and replaced by the present building in 1909-10. The Citizens Bank dates to 1885.

were used to erect several houses on Rockwell Terrace.

In 1910, several editors and other employees of *The News* joined with a group of local businessmen to start a new newspaper.

nent local citizens and businessmen were directors. The new building was built without any wood in its construction. Bricks from the original building

A building specifically designed to be used as a newspaper plant was erected on North Court Street. The first edition, an evening paper, was launched on Dec. 10, 1910 as *The Frederick Post*.

The evening edition did not thrive, so it was changed to a morning paper. The company was sold to The Great Southern Printing and Manufacturing Company in 1916 and both editions were continued. The printing operations were then consolidated on Court Street.

More building was going on throughout the county. An entire new community was envisioned for Braddock Heights, five miles west of Frederick on top of Braddock Mountain.



Crowds of people enjoyed the Braddock Heights Park.

The founders of the Frederick and Middle-town Railroad Company had big plans for the mountain top, then bare farmland. An observation tower to view both the Frederick and Middletown Valleys was built in 1894 and plans were made to erect an

amusement park, to encourage passengers to ride the trolley.

The group of men then became land developers, and in 1899 formed Braddock Heights Improvement Company to develop the land they had purchased. The railway brought electricity to the new area, a real plus for new residents.

The area became a popular resort area. Homes for summer residents were built; some of the first ones using lumber from the former novitiate which was being torn down.

Most of the homes were built to be summer residences, but a few families stayed all year. The area became popular not only with Frederick citizens, but tourists from Washington and Baltimore who enjoyed cool mountain breezes.

Building began about 1901 and a few of the earliest homes are still standing. Many of the larger homes were boarding houses with rooms and meals available weekly or monthly and a large hotel, Hotel Braddock, was constructed on Maryland Avenue.

Several small general stores were also located in the area and Braddock Heights with its conveniences and amusements was a popular place to visit.

The year was 1903. The place was Kitty Hawk, N.C. The players were Orville and Wilbur Wright, bicycle dealers from Dayton, Ohio. Their object was to fly.

Men had been trying to imitate the birds for centuries. Balloon ascensions were often featured at fairs and gliders had been tried. So there was excitement when it was learned that the brothers had successfully flown a gas powered plane and remained in the air for a short flight.

The first plane to arrive in Frederick was on Aug. 21, 1911. Capt. Charles deF. Chandler and Lt. Harry H. Arnold few 40 air miles from College Park to the D. Columbus Kemp Farm west of Frederick.

The military saw possibilities for these machines for war and training, and although "barnstorming" pilots visited Frederick now and then, it was many years before airplanes had any real impact on life here.

The people worked hard but they played, too. When movies arrived in Frederick they were an immediate hit. It is said that the first movies where shown at Hull and Reich Bookstore on North Market Street.

In a newspaper of 1906 the ad for the Opera House advertised the Carroll Comedy Company and a repertoire of popular plays. A small line at the bottom read "Mr. Green (a specialty between acts) has been engaged to produce "The Edison Moving Pictures." A later advertisement in the *The News* in 1907 stated "Bi Jou Family Theater" (formerly Junior Hall) "Life motion pictures."

Other early movie houses included the Marvel, Star or Fisher's "Mad House" (aptly named because of the behavior of the patrons), Maryland and Frederick; these theaters at different times were all located in the same building, with a change of owners.

In 1919, Walter Decker arrived in Frederick to manage the Empire Theater, which was a successor to the Bi Jou. Later when the Opera House

became primarily a movie theater Mr. Decker also managed this. The city, owners of the Opera House, reserved several dates per year for local talent.

America's love affair with the automobile did not escape Frederick. First mention of automobiles was in news items from other places. Henry Ford and his car were known by reputation, as were other cars such as the Stanley Steamer and electric cars.



An early car in Frederick is shown on Patrick Street about 1907. It was owned by James Solt, a bicycle dealer who opened a garage and serviced cars.

A picture of an early automobile in Frederick was of James Solt in 1907. He was a bicycle dealer on East Patrick Street and developed a car dealership and garage for repairs and service. He sold the business to Amos Rudy in 1925. A few autos were here by 1904.

Further research has revealed that in 1906 Harry H. Hoke sold autos from his shop between Fourth and Fifth Streets. He was the agent for Franklin, Cadillac and Packard.

There were many brands of cars available in the early years, and probably a variety were driven through the streets of Frederick.

At first, cars were regarded as recreation vehicles, but by the mid-teens, C.C. Carty Funeral Home was reported to have used the first motor-driven hearse in the city. Gradually, other businesses recognized the advantages of motor trucks.

Several auto dealers of today can trace their beginnings to the early day of cars in Frederick. Ideal Buick was begun about 1910, at a location on East Patrick Street, and Frederick Motor Company was started in 1917 to sell Fords. The popularity of Ford cars was and is attributed to their dependability and affordable price. Henry Ford was an entrepreneur in his day and besides producing cars for the every day family, was also an innovator in labor relations.

As evidence that cars had become very popular by 1915 was the holding of auto shows in Frederick. They were held for many years.

Another important phase of life in Frederick was photography. From the time that Jacob Byerly and his family moved to Frederick there was much popularity with having friends and family pictures taken.

Jacob was a pioneer in photography, beginning with daguerreotype and progressing to more modern methods of picture taking. Three generations of Byerly photographers served Frederick.

They also taught photography methods; some of his pupils opened their own studios: Bell's Photography Gallery, W.A. Burger, J.R. Marken and John F. Kreh.



The laying of the cornerstone of Alumnae Hall at Hood college on the new campus on Rosemont Avenue was attended by an interested group of people. Many of the women might have been local graduates.

Other significant events during the early days of the 20th century include:

1903 — Electricity for homes and businesses was becoming more popular. However there were those who had reservations about adopting such a new utility.

The Board of Trustees of Woman's College in 1903 held a spirited debate about

adding electricity to Woman's College (the future Hood College then located in Winchester Hall on East Church Street.) The concern raised was that "the unknown metal wires carrying electricity in the walls could be a fire hazard causing a great liability for the Trustees." Obviously Winchester Hall was eventually electrified.

- 1911 Federated Charities Incorporated;
- 1911 A drinking fountain was placed on West Church street to honor Marie Diehl, who organized Frederick's SPCA. It served people, horses and dogs.
  - 1911 The Frederick Woman's Civic Club was founded.
  - 1912 Frederick Chamber of Commerce received Charter #1
- 1913 Washington's Headquarters on West All Saints Street was torn down.
  - 1913 Hitching Posts were removed from Patrick and Market Streets.
- 1913 Graves were removed from the Reformed Church graveyard at the corner of Bentz and Second Streets. Other churches followed and all remains were re-interred at Mount Olivet Cemetery.
- 1913 Margaret E.S. Hood, benefactor of Hood College died. The name of Woman's College was changed to honor Margaret's husband.
- 1914 The cornerstone of Alumnae Hall, Hood College, was laid on the new campus on Rosemont Avenue. The college began to move to the new campus the following year.
- 1917 The U.S. declared war and joined allies in World War I. Many prominent young men from Frederick served their country.
  - 1918 Nov. 11 The Armistice was declared.
  - 1918 The Spanish Flu spread to Frederick. Many families lost loved ones.

## The Roaring Twenties

Following World War I was a time of optimism and growth. Frederick's western boundaries were pushed well past Bentz Street and new streets laid out, especially near Hood College.

Prohibition (of alcohol) was the law of the land, and women's clothing styles became shorter and more comfortable. Women were given the right to vote in 1920, and 4,000 signed up during the first registration on Sept. 28.

Education was changing. Girls' High School and Boys' High School became Frederick High School in 1922, with classes held at the school on Park Avenue near Elm Street. The same year Lincoln High School was built in Frederick's South End.

1920- Radio stations KDKA (Pittsburgh) and WWJ (Detroit) began their first regular broadcasts.

In 1907 Lee DeForest invented the triode vacuum tube making radio transmission and reception practical. Other inventions had preceded and followed this, and short distance communication had been used by the military before and during World War I.

Guglielmo Marconi's first transmission overseas to England evolved into today's radio.

Excitement grew as radio stations spread across the United States. Simply constructed receivers could be made by anyone, and it was great fun to compare notes with friends and neighbors to see who heard from the most distant city.

The first permanent station hookups occurred in 1923 and became the National Broadcasting Company in 1926.

Ham Radio became a popular hobby, beginning shortly after Marconi sent his first wireless message in 1903.

A new era in entertainment began on Dec. 23, 1926 when the Tivoli theater opened on West Patrick Street. It was an awesome building, typical of the "Palaces" of that era.

Perhaps the most significant event for Frederick residents was the creation of Baker Park. The area west of and adjacent to Bentz Street at Church Street was farmland and wet and swampy. Carroll Creek ran through the property and a swinging pedestrian bridge was parallel to Bentz Street. The Zentz (Bentz or City) Mill was located there; this was destroyed by fire June 24, 1926.

Joseph D. Baker purchased the properties and donated them to the city for a park. The course of Carroll Creek was changed; a cement bridge was built over the creek and the swinging bridge was moved to a new western location.

The park was dedicated June 23, 1927 and named for Mr. Baker by the city in August of that year. As a part of the park a swimming pool was constructed on Fleming Avenue.

1929 — On July 29, Frederick City purchased 92 acres of land in the western part of the city between 4th and 7th streets for an airport, and immediately leased it to the U.S. government for an emergency landing field.

The events of Black Monday when Wall Street had its largest collapse in October 1929 had a great negative effect on Frederick business, especially the banking community. This heralded the Great Depression of the next decade.

Other Frederick events during the 1920s included:

- August 12, 1920, the Frederick Rotary Club was founded.
- · December 20, 1920, the last toll gate in Maryland ceased operations.
- January 8, 1923, the Francis Scott Key Hotel opened.
- 1923, the A & P Grocery Store opened on North Market Street.
- 1923, the Everedy Company was founded by the Lebherz Brothers to make bottle cappers for home brewers.
- 1923, The Beth Shalom Synagogue was dedicated on September 2.
- 1924, the Reformed Church deeded its former cemetery on West Second and Bentz Streets to Frederick City to be used as a memorial to service men and women of World War I. The park was dedicated Nov. 11 of that year. A statue of Victory sits on top of the monument; below are plaques which contain the names of those who served. It was placed in the center of the park.
- 1925, the Odd Fellows home on North Market Street was dedicated on July 26.
- 1926, on June 29, the Gulf Refining Company purchased the historic Old Stone Tavern for a filling station.
- 1927, on July 4, the replica of Barbara Fritchie's home on West Patrick Street was dedicated. The flood of 1868 had severely damaged the original which had been torn down and replaced by another house.
- 1928, on May 12, "Mullinix Park" for "colored people," a gift from Joseph D. Baker, was dedicated.
- 1929, the Tivoli Theater advertised "Talkies are here in Frederick."
- 1929, on May 2, a strong tornado hit Frederick County. Among homes

badly damaged was "Richfield," north of Frederick, where Gov. Thomas Johnson had lived and Admiral Winfield Scott Schley was born.

 1929, on August 12, the Hotel Braddock was destroyed by fire.



In August, 1929, the Braddock Hotel caught fire accidentally and burned to the ground, never to be rebuilt. Homes now occupy the site on Maryland Avenue.

### The Great Depression Years, 1930s

The collapse of Wall Street in October, 1929, had a great effect on the economy of the entire United States. Frederick was no exception.

The Central Trust Company located on the northeast corner of North Market and East Church Streets closed in 1931, ruining the savings of many families, and amid much scandal. There were minimal payouts in future years, but no one received his full value.

A general banking holiday was declared on March 6, 1933, to give banks a chance to consolidate and relieve a banking crisis. The Banking Act of 1933 was passed late that year, which created the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

The bad economy caused many people to lose their jobs and homelessness was a problem, as was hunger. "Hobos" often went door to door begging for food. This frightened children of the neighborhood.

President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal had an impact on Frederick city and county. In the late 1930s, crews of WPA and PWA workers made improvements in roads, bridges and public works.

The CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) had camps in the county. These young men helped to construct shelters and picnic facilities at Gambrill State Park, Yellow Springs City Park, Fishing Creek Reservoir and most notably the recreation area at Catoctin Mountain park. Three group camps were constructed here: Misty Mount, Green Top, and Hi-Catoctin. This latter park became Camp David, a Presidential retreat.

A significant improvement in Frederick City's health and safety took place when the sanitary sewer system was completed. It took many months for the huge digging equipment to excavate every street in Frederick, and for homes to be connected to the main pipes.

Open trenches provided a novel way for youth of the city to travel through neighborhoods. There was something exciting about traveling through the trenches. Work was completed in 1937.

The radio craze of the 1920s was satisfied when WFMD went on the air on January 1, 1936. Mr. George and his brothers spent time that day at a family dinner listening to the initial broadcasts and wondering if *The Frederick News-Post* would suffer dire consequences from this new competition.

Family life often revolved around listening to radio broadcasts. Lunchtime background programs included "The Farm Hour," which preceded 15 minutes of band music appreciated by all in the family. Children's programs were aired in the pre-dinner hour followed by newscasts. Later evening comedy programs were great favorites.

Other events during the 1930s included:

 1930, on April 15, Taney's home on South Bentz Street was opened as a museum.

- 1930, on August 1, Frederick County leased Winchester Hall for office spaces.
- 1931, on January 18, Helen Keller, famous deaf-blind woman, visited Frederick and spoke to a crowd at the Reformed Church.
- 1931, on March 3, the "Star Spangled Banner" officially became America's National Anthem by an act of Congress.
- 1931, on July 25, Victorine Artz died in Chicago. She was the daughter
  of Christian Burr Artz and his wife Catherine Thomas Artz, a Frederick
  native. In his will, money was left to Frederick for a public library; his
  will was activated on the death of his daughter, who never married.
- 1931, the Frederick City airport became a training field for the annual encampment of the 104th Area Squadron of the Maryland National Guard. It was named "Detrick Field" in honor of Dr. Frederick L. Detrick who served as flight sergeant for the unit.
- 1932, on March 7, the largest blizzard to hit the Frederick area paralyzed everything. The Frederick Post missed its publishing date, the only time in its history, but The News was printed by dedicated employees and with the assistance of the Frederick City Light Plant.

"We have never missed a single regularly scheduled issue" still holds true.

- 1933, on April 15, with the end of Prohibition, legal beer returned to Frederick.
- 1934, on September 11, land was given at High Knob to Frederick City for Gambrill Park. It was later deeded to the state.
- 1936, Biser's Coal Yard on East Third Street was deeded to Frederick City for a park. The demise of the retail coal industry was caused by the more popular use of fuel oil and electricity for heat, light and cooking.
- 1936, on January 8, a city ordinance decreed "no more filling stations downtown."

 1936, on April 20, it was decided to demolish the old Frederick Academy on Second Street to erect a new library. The building had been built in the

1790s and served as a boys' private academy for many years. It was an elementary school for some years also until Parkway School was opened in the fall of 1930, and then served as a library.

 1936, on July 10, the highest temperature of 109 degrees was recorded.



The former home of the C. Burr Artz Library on Record Street was built in 1937-8 and named by its benefactor, Mrs. Artz. The plan of the building is based on Stratford Hall in Virginia, the birthplace of Robert E. Lee, which was built about 1702.

- · 1937, passenger train service between Frederick and Baltimore was closed.
- 1937, on July 31, downtown trolleys were abandoned and bus service was begun. This lasted only a few months.
- 1938, a group of Frederick women began Girl Scout Troops for all girls ages 7 to 18, in connection with the 25th anniversary of the founding of Girl Scouting in the U.S. in 1912.
- 1938, on January 19, the C. Burr Artz Library opened.
- 1938, on March 23, the Community Chest began, forerunner of the United Way.
- 1939, on April 23, the New York World's Fair opened. This was only one
  of many such fairs produced in the U.S. through the years. It ran for two
  summers and was visited by many Frederick residents who were awed
  by a look at the future and how new inventions and products would
  impact everyday living.
- 1939, in the summer, the Mountain Theater summer playhouse at Braddock Heights opened. It hired many players from Broadway during the years it was in operation.
- 1938-1939, many new homes were constructed in the west areas of Frederick City, some constructed of "Frederick Reds," from the Frederick Brick Works.
- 1939, on September 1, German armies invaded Poland, after overtaking a majority of European countries. France and England declared war on Germany several days later.

## The decade of 1940-1950

The beginning of 1940 was marked by a threat of war. Isolation from world affairs was often expressed, but there was universal concern.

The years started in high spirits with the dedication of Culler Lake, an extension of Baker Park.

The board of education had purchased the Kidwiler farm for the location of a new Frederick High School. Some of the land was swampy, and some was

across Carroll Creek and not needed for the school. The lake was created along Second Street and provided winter ice skating and summer fishing for children. The lake was named in honor of Mayor Lloyd C. Culler, who served seven terms as mayor of



Frederick High School was built in 1939-1940. Its auditorium has been used for many community events such as musical performances and plays.

Frederick and whose construction company was responsible for many houses, churches and other buildings in the Frederick area. On a cold winter Sunday, the lake was dedicated on January 8, 1940.

Frederick High School's new building was dedicated May 31, 1940. The class of 1940 held its graduation exercises in the beautiful new auditorium even though it had not attended classes there.

In 1941, war seemed more imminent.

On February 4, Frederick units of the Maryland National Guard were mustered into federal service.

Other events included:

February 7 — National Defense Training classes began.

April 8 — The city and the American Legion Post formulated plans for a home defense program.

June 13 — The 104th Observation Squadron moved to Detrick Field.

July I — A second Selective Service registration was held. Some men had already been drafted.

July 21 — A countywide collection of discarded aluminum was held.

July 25 — A State Guard unit was formed since the National Guard had been called up for federal service.

War broke out after the December 7, 1941 Japanese raid on the U.S. base at Pearl Harbor.

Life changed for everyone. Many young men were drafted, disrupting families as well as employers. A community rationing board was set up as sugar, meat, tires, gasoline, coffee, fuel oil, leather boots were rationed or in short supply.

No new cars were sold (some were stored in a building of the Frederick Fairgrounds, as the annual fair was cancelled).

Transportation was curtailed and only essential cars could obtain gasoline or tires. Industries converted to war work. Some residents commuted to Hagerstown or Baltimore for jobs in defense industries.

Air raid drills were held; most buildings and homes installed blackout curtains in case of an air raid. News from the war front from both Japan and in Europe was bad, and Frederick received news of its first casualties. Firemen First Class Ray Jacob Stambaugh, USN, of Thurmont was the first reported Frederick County casualty.

War bonds were being sold and price ceilings were imposed on many products.

A hush-hush activity was occurring at Frederick's Detrick Field from October 9, 1940 when the U.S. government leased the field for a military reservation and airport. This paved the way for the gradual purchase of the land by the government and Camp Detrick was established in 1943. Eventually more land was added.

Frederick residents were kept in the dark as to the use of the camp. Men stationed there did come into the city, especially to socialize at the USO facility which was established in the All Saints Episcopal Church Parish Hall.

When the secret was unfolded following the war, residents were surprised at the intent and scope of the biological warfare efforts.

Effects of the establishment of the army post included creation of jobs for local workers, an impact of highly educated scientists and an increase in population, but also a housing shortage which spurred a housing boom following the war.

The events of D-Day on June 6, 1944, held much local interest because many soldiers from Frederick who had been stationed in England took part in the invasion of Europe from that day until the end of the war. As the tide of war was changing, there was much optimism, and of course much rejoicing on VE Day in April 1945 and VJ Day in August. The end of hostilities with Japan followed the devastation of Hiroshima on August 6, 1945 by the Atom Bomb, and three days later the bombing of Nagasaki.

It took time for the country, and Frederick, to return to "normal," as many changes had taken place and it took time for factories to re-establish manufacturing of civilian goods and services.

Family changes occurred as soldiers returned home, often with war-time brides, both U.S. and foreign born. A baby boom was here, by those who had delayed families and those who were newly of age. Frederick seemed to be the same—or was it?

Other events of the time seem not as significant, but there are a few:

October 14, 1940 — City parking meters were installed in downtown Frederick.

November 30, 1941 — The carillon in Baker Park was dedicated to Mr. Baker.

March 3, 1942 — One of the stone arches of Jug Bridge east of Frederick collapsed just after a car passed over it. This being a critical part of the eastwest transportation route, it was said that it was probably the major road construction project during the war, when a replacement was built downstream.



One section of Jug Bridge over the Monocacy east of Frederick collapsed in March, 1943. One car narrowly escaped being a part of the action. Traffic was rerouted until a temporary bridge was built.

The old jug, a landmark, was removed after the remaining part of the bridge was dynamited. It now rests in a small park off of East Patrick Street.

April 5, 1942 — President Franklin Roosevelt chose Hi Catoctin Camp near Thurmont for Shangri La as a presidential retreat. It is now known as Camp David.

May 17, 1943 — Roosevelt and Winston Churchill visited the Barbara Fritchie home. Mr. Churchill was able to recite Whittier's poem about the heroine of 1862.

1947 — End of the trolley route to Braddock Heights and Middletown.

June 29, 1948 — Diggs swimming pool in Mullinix Park was dedicated, a gift from the Baker family.

August 14, 1948 — The last passenger train ran to Frederick from York, PA. Service had begun in 1871.

March 13, 1948 — The B&O Station was closed, but service continued on the line.

May 1, 1949 — Frederick Municipal Airport was dedicated, located near East Patrick Street.

Late 1940s — Commercial television channels were established and soon sets were purchased for home entertainment. It was reported that Dr. Flory, a dentist in Thurmont, purchased the first TV set there.

# The decade of 1950-1960

Life seemed to be calm and settled in the decade beginning in 1950, in spite of the war in Korea. There was not the upheaval in families because of this. Republican Theodore McKeldin served as governor.

Family life centered on home, church and community. Television became common as a home amusement, and entertainment often included friends invited in for an evening of Canasta or other games, plus watching favorite TV shows.

Drive-in movies were popular recreation spots. Three were located near Frederick. Traffic on downtown streets had been relieved by one-way street designations, but downtown remained the same until...

1957 — The Seventh Street Shopping Center opened. Woolworth's 5 and 10 moved from downtown, as well as People's Drug Store. Other smaller shops and a grocery store were added. The almost limitless parking helped to draw many customers away from downtown.

1957 — September 16, the first students were enrolled in Frederick Community College which held classes at Frederick High School. It later met at the old North Market Street School before moving to its present campus on Opossumtown Pike.

1952 — Frederick City's hospital changed its name to Frederick Memorial Hospital.

About that time the lady managers re-organized into the Frederick Memorial Hospital Ladies Auxiliary which provides many non-nursing support services to the hospital and raises funds yearly for "extras" such as equipment and building additions. Air conditioning was added to operating rooms in 1953.

Air conditioning in stores, public buildings and the Tivoli Theater came into use beginning about this time.

1952 — March 17, Charles V. Main began his tenure as chief of police for Frederick City. Following a career in the Maryland State Police, he brought fresh ideas and good organizational skills to the city.

1953 — March 1, Most Frederick telephone exchanges



A souvenir ticket for the final passenger trip from Frederick to Thurmont is all that remains to remind us of the Hagerstown and Frederick Railway which was a transportation link both to the north and to the west in the first half of the 20th century.

were converted to dial service. Before the switch, one Frederick man called all of his friends on his phone because, he said, "I'm afraid I won't get the hang (of dial phones) for quite some time." An open house at the C&P Telephone Company building was held in April.

1953 saw some changes in transportation.

January 27 — the first section of the new Washington Expressway opened, to replace Route 240. This later became Interstate 270.

April 17 — a house on Jefferson Street was torn down to enable the city to connect West South Street to Patrick Street.

May 1 — The East Street expansion northward was begun.

June — The one way street system in downtown Frederick was started.

June 5 — A city wide bicycle inspection was held and was continued by the police department for several years.

December 15 — The last steam train left Brunswick, replaced by diesel engines.

1954 — On January 20, the last trolley ran to Thurmont. It had hauled freight as well as passengers and supplied a link between the B&O and Pennsylvania Railroads in Frederick with the Western Maryland Railroad.

Other events of the decade include:

1953 — On April 3, the Frederick City water supply was fluoridated.

1955 - Frederick County's last one room school was closed.

1956 - On July 15, Dr. Ulysses G. Bourne, beloved Frederick physician,

MAN SHTRANCE FORT DETRICK PERSONAL SE

The main gate to Fort Detrick is shown here soon after the installation became a permanent army base. Formerly a "camp," the facility was begun as a research facility in 1943.

died. He and Dr. Charles Brooks had founded a 15-bed hospital in 1919 at 173 W. All Saints St. for black patients.

1956 — Camp Detrick became Fort Detrick, a permanent Army post for research and development.

1958 — In September, the first black high school students, formerly attending Lincoln High School, began studies at Frederick High School. This followed the 1954 Supreme Court case which ended segregation in schools. 1959 — The Historical Society of Frederick County purchased the former Loats Orphan Home on East Church Street, after the will of John Loats was challenged in court. It has become the Society's headquarters.

# The decade of 1960-1970

Amazing events occurred in the 1960s that challenged the minds of Fredericktonians. First and foremost was space exploration.

On May 5, 1961, the first U.S. satellite orbited the earth. This followed the Russians' "Sputnik" of 1959. It was followed by:

July 20, 1969 — The first man walked on the moon. How amazing that travel had advanced so far in 70 years, from horse and buggy on muddy roads to a trip to outer space.

Local events during the decade include:

1960 — On January 6, Lloyd C. Culler died. He was born June 1, 1869, in Jefferson and had a long career as an outstanding building contractor and a seven-term mayor of Frederick.

1962 — The Frederick Woman's Civic Club purchased Steiner House on West Patrick Street for its headquarters.

The Frederick County Historical Society had owned the home from 1945, and the women were able to save the house from demolition which was scheduled to make room for a fourth filling station on the corner.

1964 — State Farm Insurance Company headquarters moved to Frederick. With many other employers moving to the area, a housing shortage developed.

1965 — On April 9, the Ox Fibre Brush Company was sold. It closed in 1967.

1966 — In the fall, Gov. Thomas Johnson High and Middle Schools opened, the second city high school which relieved overcrowding at Frederick High School.

1967 — The old main building at the Maryland School for the Deaf was demolished to make way for more modern facilities. The oldest building, one of the 1770s barracks where the school had been founded in 1868, was retained as a museum.

1968 — On April 4, civil rights leader Martin Luther King's assassination set off riots all over the country.

1968 — On September 30, *The Frederick News-Post* completed the moving of its offices and printing plant from North Court Street to 200 East Patrick Street. A new "offset" press was installed.

1969 — On February 14, Frederick County purchased Rose Hill Manor, former home of Gov. Thomas Johnson, and began development of a historical and recreational park.

1969 — On November 25, President Richard Nixon announced the termination of biological warfare research at Fort Detrick. The property has been developed as a multiple-government facility for many research endeavors.

## The decade of 1970-1980

"Mr. George" died June 22, 1977. Although he did not quite reach the age of 90, he remained active and alert until the day he died. He had worked at *The Frederick News-Post* as usual that day and had his daily bicycle ride around town before an overnight heart attack claimed his life.

Local events of the 1970s which he did witness include:

January 19, 1970 — The Mountain Theater of the former Braddock Heights amusement park was demolished. It served first as an assembly hall for summer conferences and meetings, and as a summer playhouse. It was the last remaining building in the mountain park except for the skating rink.

1972 — Fredericktown Mall on West Patrick Street opened. J.C. Penney and Montgomery Ward stores left the downtown area.



Claude Delauter was a well known and well respected citizen of Frederick. He began his career teaching in a small all-black school and after integration moved into Frederick to continue his career. After retirement he became Frederick's first black Alderman and served two terms.

1973 — Elizabeth Burket was elected first woman Frederick City alderman.

1973 — Claude Delauter was elected to the first of two terms as Frederick city's first black alderman after having a long career in education. In his second term he was president pro-tem of the board.

1973 — June — Donald Grossnickle was the first male to graduate from Hood College.

1973 - End of the draft.

1975 — Frederick's first parking deck was built on East Church Street.

1975 — Dr. Martha Church became the first woman president of Hood College. She served for 20 years.



Carroll Creek has often flooded during large rainfalls, not just the biggest flood of 1976. Upper Baker Park was often flooded, inundating a ball field near Fairview Avenue.

October 9, 1976 — Carroll Creek over-flowed its banks into much of downtown Frederick on Mr. George's birthday. He remembered that he had never seen so much water coming from the creek.

Yes, Mr. George did not see the end of the decade when Mayor Ronald Young began the flood control project, nor the re-opening of the Tivoli as the newly renamed Weinberg Center, nor the opening of the Francis Scott Key Mall in 1978. He did not see the ensuing growth in the Md. 85 corridor nor the move of the Independent Hose Company #1 from downtown Frederick to Baughman's Lane, to better serve that residential and commercial section of the city.

Yes, Mr. Delaplaine and those of his generation would indeed be awed by life today, not only by results of developments during their lifetimes, but by inventions and developments up until today—widespread use of computers, e-mail, the internet, CB radio, cell phones—and last, but not least, the phenomenal growth in Frederick County during the last 25 years.

If all of this happened so recently, what will the future hold for the next generations?

## FOOD — HOW IT HAS CHANGED!

"Mom! What's for supper?"

This call from children through the ages has not changed over the years — but Mom's response certainly has. Food that was served when the new residents of Frederick City and County arrived to make their homes here has vastly changed, as well as methods of preparation. Who, in those early years, could have imagined the variety and quality of meals one enjoys today, any day of the year.

Early settlement in the eastern (present) United States began in Jamestown (1607), Plymouth in Massachusetts (1620) and Maryland (1634). All of these settlements were accessible by water, as this was the most efficient method of travel. Expansion of colonies took place on rivers or other waterways.

In Pennsylvania, the Swedes established the first permanent colony in 1643. This was captured by Dutch troops in 1655, and was seized in 1664 by the British Duke of York. William Penn introduced the second period of colonization beginning in 1681 when land was granted to Sir William Penn, father of the leader of the many Quakers and other settlers, in payment of a debt by King Charles II. Following a treaty with Indians for land toward the west, settlers moved inland. Penn recruited settlers from Europe, many from Germany.

The first explorers to visit Frederick County were Christoph von Graffenried in 1712 and Franz-Louis Michel (1702). By the 1720s, settlers were moving into the area; by 1725 patents or tracts of land were received, one being "Tasker's Chance" on land now part of Frederick City.

# Early food preparation

The first consideration for migrating families was bringing enough food, along with all of the other necessities, for existing in the new wilderness. What could be carried without spoiling? What might be available along the way? And how could everyone's appetite be satisfied?

A look at today's primitive societies and their cooking methods gives a clue as to how traveling families and also newly established residents might cope. Open fires along the trail were undoubtedly used. Wood was generally plentiful in the eastern U.S. colonies; fire was carried using a metal box, or started by spark from flint stones. (Matches were first made in this country by Jacob Weller of Thurmont in 1825.) Today, Girl and Boy Scouts often practice outdoor cooking similar to that which the pioneers did daily:

- roasting on sticks held over fire
- a makeshift spit erected over fire
- pot (iron or clay, or frying pan supported by rocks)
- flat rocks used for frying surfaces

- heated rocks around pots for long slow cooking
- coals piled around pots

Clay pots were originally used. They were fragile and not replaceable while traveling. Iron pots were often available, and some were made at Catoctin Furnace.

A large stream of settlers arrived from the north (Pennsylvania) along the Monocacy Road, an Indian trail approximately along present Md. 194. Mostly German, they brought their religion, hardwork ethic and ways of life as they settled in the area. Originally they had been enticed to move to Virginia when land there had been opened up by the governor. Many remained here, since the land and nearby mountains reminded them of the homes they left behind.



The cast iron Dutch Oven was a necessity for open hearth cooking with its three legs and a tight lid. This is a smaller version, a family piece.

Around the same time families were moving into the southern part of Frederick County. These were mainly British, who secured large tracts of land. Slaves were acquired to cultivate the land and make it possible to live here.

Therefore there was a marked difference in the ways of living between these larger landowners and the small farmer-Germans who depended on their own labor.

When the early settlers created permanent settlements their way of life became a bit more constant, but not necessarily easier. Land was cleared, gardens planted, log cabins built and daily routines established.

Very early homes were built with fireplaces but no chimneys. It became apparent that a chimney was essential. Cooking was done on the open hearth. Depending on the foods available as well as the utensils such as pots or skillets, the family menu could be somewhat varied. The Indians shared their methods of cooking and introduced their new neighbors to native foods.

### Open hearth cooking

Cooking in an open fireplace can be a long process and techniques needed to be mastered. The main difference in cooking between well-off families and less affluent ones was that the well off had either slaves (kitchen slaves) or possibly indentured servants to do the work.

A typical day could be for the cook to rise early, build a large fire and collect ingredients for cooking. Usually cooking occurred only in the morning, and leftovers were served the rest of the day.

The fire was allowed to burn down to coals, which create a more even heat. Iron pots are surrounded by the coals, or are hung over the fire on a metal arm, which can be swung in or out, nearer or farther from the fire. Shooks were used to raise or lower pots to control heat. A skillet, known as a



Open hearths for cooking and heating were the norm for homes in Frederick from the time of its settlement until the mid-1800's. It seems amazing to us that very nutritious and delicious meals could be prepared daily using primitive (to us) methods.

spider, had three legs, and could be placed directly over the coals. Baking could be done in a "Dutch Oven" — a large covered pot with a smaller pan placed inside. Reflector ovens could be used for baking.

There was often a separate oven built either beside the fire-place or outside of the building. The "Beehive" oven out of doors was a popular model, other models were Squirrel tail and Quebec. The method of heating an oven was the same — a fire was built inside the brick oven

and allowed to burn long enough to heat the bricks to a usable temperature.

The cook would determine the temperature by placing her hand inside to feel the heat. Often several items would be baked the same day, those requiring a hotter temperature would go in first, be taken out and replaced by what needed a lower temperature, as the oven cooled. Another method might be to place long — baking items in first, followed by quickly baked items last, to be removed first.

Heat from the fireplace would warm an entire cabin, and could be very uncomfortable in the summer. It was a fortunate family who could afford a "summer kitchen" — a separate building.

Early settlers in the area were very self-sufficient. Even in towns they planted gardens and harvested vegetables. Everyone had fruit trees, especially apple trees. Horses of course were for transportation, but cows provided milk and milk products. Chickens and pigs were very common, even in the city; laws were passed outlawing city pigs when trading with farmers became the rule.

Frederick's City Market was first opened in 1769 in the rear of City Hall, on Market Street. This was replaced by a newer and larger City Hall and Opera House also with a market in the rear, in 1874. The City Opera House was a popular place for entertainment, eventually becoming a movie theater.



City Hall on Market Street is now known as "Brewer's Alley," a restaurant as well as a brewery. The building contained city offices, the police department, and in the rear, a farmer's market. Next door was Junior Hall and the F & M Bank on the corner.

Certain days were "market days" when farmers would come to town in their horse-drawn carriages bringing whatever produce they had. As recently as 50 years ago some farmers would travel the residential areas with their fruits and vegetables, and sometimes eggs.

By the late 1700s in towns, even smaller ones in the county, had



Fox's Stove Store on East Patrick Street sold items other than stoves. Pots and pans were in the inventory as well as coffee pots.

"Mom and Pop" grocery stores. Some in the county were true "general stores", selling all types of merchandise as well, from clothing and household wares to hardware and tools, toys and games, and grain, feed and seeds. They often acted as gathering places for men and women to gather to talk to friends and neighbors.

In Frederick the stores were more specialized, beginning at least in the 1800s. In 1941 there were 68 corner grocery stores scattered around the city. Quynn's Hardware Store on East Patrick Street sold nuts and bolts, tools, seeds in the spring, and even kitchen pots and utensils beginning in 1796. There were shoe stores, dry goods stores, candy stores, hat shops, variety stores selling many diverse small items such as toys or school supplies, and clothing and jewelry stores, and Wilson's and Fox's Stove stores.

By 1923 the A&P (Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company) had come to town. The A&P was founded in 1859. This was the first large chain store to open, but was quickly followed by the ACME, which had several locations in Frederick by the 1940's.

Today, the large food chain stores dominate the market carrying thousands of items, including many non-food products. Some few smaller towns have locally-owned convenience stores for their neighbors.

#### 1800s

The 1800s were interesting years through which to live. So many inventions were made, the Industrial Revolution changed the way many businesses were operated, the westward movement in the United States added new dimension to many facets of life; the development of large cities and the influx of many immigrants helped to change the face of America.

Many changes affected the ways in which people raised food and, how it was prepared and eaten. It is said that by the late 1800's the menus of many

people were very close to what is enjoyed today.

Some of the new things which changed the way people ate include:

## Early 1800s

1802 - Macaroni was first served by President Jefferson

1803 - the home icebox was patented

1810 - oysters became popular

1820 – tomatoes were accepted as food after a man ate a basket of them with no ill effects. They had been thought to be poisonous.

1820 - Underwood deviled ham

1835 - Lea and Perrin Worcestershire sauce

1830's to 1850's - corn was eaten (on the cob) instead of being ground

1820's - limited variety of foods canned

1846 - hand-churned ice cream

1853 - Saratoga chips (first potato chips)

1856 - Borden's Condensed milk



Civil War reenactors demonstrate cooking methods used by soldiers in the field. Soldiers were divided into small groups for meals but often the groups were combined to make meal preparation more efficient.

The Civil War was a time of great change, especially in the east near the great battlefields. There were periodic scarcities of food when armies moved through an area. Mills were sacked and burned; stores were looted (and not just for food); farms were raided and barns and storehouses were emptied.

The servicemen of the era were not much better off. Supplying them with food was a problem, especially in the South, and to far-flung battlefields. It was said that one reason for the defeat of the Confederates was the lack of a good system for providing supplies to the troops.

Food for the army could be of poor quality and monotonous. The men at the front lines were often given rations, but

were expected to cook for themselves on an open fire. Lucky were those units who had small groups of men who banded together and shared chores and meals. Officers were better off, only because they had someone else to cook for them. Some men brought recipe books from home, and occasionally packages of food.

#### Later 1800s

Following the war, although the economy had many ups and downs, inventors and innovators were busy. Many of their products are still well known today. These included:

1859 - The Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company founded

1861 - Van Camp's Pork and Beans

1866 - Milk pasteurized; first glass milk bottle

1868 - The McIlhenry and Co. Tabasco Sauce

1869 - Margarine, made from skim milk and beef tallow, patented

1870 – Baking Powder sold commercially – Star Yeast Powder; Brown Paper bag invented

1871 - Thomas Adams introduced chewing gum

1872 – Amanda Jones developed a vacuum pressure process for canning food

1873 - Dover eggbeaters patented

1874 - Ice cream soda was introduced

1876 - Heinz began selling ketchup

1878 - Chase and Sanborn sold coffee in cans, followed by Maxwell House; nutcracker and nut pick invented

1880 - Hot dogs sold, first in St. Louis

1887 – Log Cabin syrup sold in tins shaped like log cabins

Late 1890's - Kellogg's Corn Flakes



Glass bottles have come in many sizes and shapes. Coca Cola, first produced 100 years ago, had a distinctive "Wasp Waist" shape. Glass milk bottles were first used for home delivery as well as store sales in 1866.

By the end of the 1800s food was widely available in Frederick City. In the 1860 City directory there were 18 bakers, 32 grocers and meat stores listed. Some canned food was available as was instant coffee and rudimentary refrigerators.

City directories from 1887, 1892, and 1895 listed eight butter and cheese factories.

The Hygeia Ice Company was manufacturing and delivering ice.

8 meat markets and butchers

5 fruit and vegetable merchants

6 bakeries

3 fish and oyster dealers

6 milk dealers

6 ice cream dealers

76 grocery stores

Home gardens, even in town, were kept to supply fresh summer produce. Jacob Engelbrecht reported in his "Diary" that he was raising potatoes, beans, squash, pumpkin, tomatoes and cabbage. He preferred purchasing cabbage grown in Baltimore at 7 cents and 12 cents per head.



Typical of fruit stands in Frederick about 100 years ago, this one was possibly one of several operated by the Marino brothers.



Who hasn't eaten Heinz Ketchup (1876), canned tuna (1907), or used condensed milk (1856)? Sanka decaf was first produced in 1903 and instant coffee was made by several manufacturers in 1901.

## The Twentieth Century

There was an air of optimism as the new century dawned. In the late 1890s one man remarked "everything possible has been invented!"

Early in the century all sorts of inventions were coming into common use, such as the telephone, automobile, airplane and especially electricity in homes. This led to electric refrigerators, electric stoves and toasters and the many appliances today.

Food was still sold through "mom and pop" stores, individual bakers and butchers, and local canneries were supplying cans of local produce. Some notable "firsts" are:

Early 1900's Coca-Cola invented

1901 - Instant coffee

1903 - Sanka decaf coffee

1904 - tea bags

1906 - freeze-dried food

1907 - canned tuna fish

1909 - electric toaster (not the pop-up kind)

1911 - Crisco vegetable shortening

1912 - Oreo and Lorna Doone cookies; Hellman's mayonnaise

1913 - first home refrigerator

1915 - Pyrex glass; Kraft process cheese

1912-1918 World War I — life on the home front was impacted by some shortages of food, but with much still grown locally, this was probably not too severe.

1917 – Clarence Birdseye discovered a method to quick-freeze food. He was working in Labrador and observed Inuit catching fish through holes in the ice. When caught, they froze immediately. Later, when thawed and cooked, they tasted fresh. Speed was the answer. He perfected a method of flash freezing, and formed a company in 1924 to freeze seafood. This was the birth of the frozen

food industry.

1920 – Harry J. and Robert W. Lebherz invented an easy-to-use home bottle capper. Among other uses, homemade root beer was made. It was easy to store and was a popular hotweather drink. Some families preferred the drink for a Christmas time beverage.

Later, the brothers branched out into manufacturing chrome-plated skillets and other cookware. They sold the business in 1958. Today the



Clarence Birdseye invented the method of quick freezing foods in 1917 and formed a company in 1924 — the beginning of the frozen food industry.

location of their factory is known as "Everedy Square" and is a popular shopping area on East Street.

- 1920's Rice Krispies and Mounds Bars; Betty Crocker; Peter Pan peanut butter
- 1921 Eskimo Pie ice cream bars
- 1922 Wise Potato Chips
- 1923 an A & P Grocery store was located on North Market Street
- 1924 Wheaties
- 1927 Gerber Baby Food; Wonder Bread; homogenized milk
- 1928 Vitamin C discovered; other vitamins discovered later
- 1931 "The Joy of Cooking" first published
- 1932 Frito's Corn Chips
- 1933 Ritz Crackers; 7-up
- 1937 Spam; first supermarket cart
- 1942 Dannon Yogurt; Raisin Bran



Cookbooks are necessary additions to anyone's shelf, for ideas and reference. "The Joy of Cooking" by Irma S. Rombauer was first published in 1931 and has gone through revisions and updates and is still in print. "The Early American Cookbook," also in print today, is a collection of old recipes from the kitchens of historical persons, the famous and not so famous, during the past centuries.

With the declaration of war in December, 1941, life was changed for everyone. The country was mobilized toward winning the war. Factories were altered to war work and durable goods including stoves and refrigerators were no longer produced. The best foods were sent to the Armed Forces. Rationing of meat, sugar, butter and coffee was a way of life and substitutes had to be found when possible.

Following the end of the war, consumer goods became more plentiful and housewives were relieved that rationing was over. For a short time in 1946 meat was in short supply and only an early trip to the butcher or grocery store insured that the best cuts of meat could be served for supper. Invention was a way of life. Creative uses of hot dogs and ground beef were often the norm.

Inventions continued, including:

- 1945 Microwave oven patented
- 1948 a McDonald's restaurant opened in California
- 1950 Minute Rice
- 1952 lo-cal Ginger Ale
- 1953 Swanson TV Dinners
- 1954 Ray Kroc bought out McDonald's and began selling hamburgers in Illinois.
- 1955 Kentucky Fried Chicken
- 1956 Teflon non-stick cookware
- 1963 Weight Watchers International Incorporated
- 1965 Nutra Sweet
- 1967 Amana sold first compact microwave oven

In the late 1900s the food industry began an explosive expansion. Not only are restaurants much more common, but there is a large market for home-use kitchen gadgets. If a cook owned most of what is advertised in cook's catalogs there would be little space for food!

A few unusual gadgets would include:
Portable indoor grill
Grind and brew coffee maker
Cool-touch deep fryer
Electric drink mixer
Electric egg cooker
Espresso-cappuccino machine
Aero latté frother
Cordless teakettle
Electric food slicer
Hands-free stirrer
Yogurt maker
Mezzaluna
Electric smoker
Popcorn maker, a small replica of an old fashion wagon

#### Stoves

Benjamin Franklin invented the Franklin Stove in 1742. This was an improvement for heating rooms, but not designed for cooking. Modifications of his stove were used in homes for more than 100 years. They were designed

to burn either wood or coal, and usually inserted in

the fireplace.

# Iron ranges - coal or wood fired

Open hearth cooking continued to be used generally until after the Civil War. An iron "range" was

invented by John Conant in 1819 but these did not become popular until the 1870's when they were extensively advertised.

The range offered several advantages. It supplied a more even and dependable heat. It was cleaner, although wood was often used for fuel, as well as coal. It was safer, since the fire was contained inside the stove. A supply of hot water was often available in a tank connected to the range. Other things could be heated on the stove, such as flat irons to press clothing, linens etc.

for hot water.

Jacob Englebrecht in his diary reported on Nov. 11, 1842 that he had "purchased a stove for the kitchen with boiler at the end for \$12.50 from David B. McDevitt." He had earlier purchased a small

The cast iron range was a feature in many homes in the late 1800's. It was cleaner and more efficient to use than the open hearth and offered features not available previously, such as a reservoir for hot water.

stove for \$9.25 at a sale. It had been cast at "Joanna Furnace" in Chester County, Pa.

President Millard Fillmore had an iron range installed in the White House in 1850 but the cook would not use it.

#### Gas stoves

Manufactured gas was piped through the streets of Frederick beginning in the 1850s. At first the gas was used to illuminate the city streets, and later gas "jets" were used to light houses and other buildings. These protruded from the walls, and supplied better light than candles, or even kerosene lamps. Gas-fired cooking stoves were available in the late 1800s.

Today, many people still cook with gas. If a natural gas line is not available, propane is available, to be stored in tanks outside the house.



A very modern way of cooking in the 1920's was this "Chambers Range." It featured gas fuel which was piped into the home and a dome which could be lowered over a burner to "cook with the gas turned off." Later models had a well as one of the burners.

#### Electric stoves

Electricity was first demonstrated in Frederick in 1888 in the office of *The News*, then located at 44 N. Market St., on the second floor. It was observed by a number of local businessmen and city officials.

It wasn't long before it was decided to build a plant to manufacture electricity to light the streets of Frederick City. The light plant was built in 1892, on the northeast corner of East and East Second streets.

Electricity was used to power the trolley that climbed the mountain to Braddock Heights and continued soon to Middletown in 1896. This endeavor later became the Potomac Edison Company, now known as Allegheny Power.

Electric stoves were available in the early 1900s. And who doesn't have at least one electric appliance in the kitchen of today?

## Preserving food

There have been many improvements in the use of electricity, especially in the kitchen. Another invention we take for granted is the refrigerator.

In colonial days there was a great risk of food spoilage. Some homes were built over a stream or spring, supplying constant cold running water to cool milk, butter, etc. On the farm there was often an ice pond, where in winter large chunks of ice were cut and stored in a separate ice house.

It is well known that George Washington enjoyed ice cream at Mount Vernon, and had an ice house on the property.

In the 1800s there were numerous ice houses in Frederick. Jacob Engelbrecht reported almost yearly on the "plenty of ice" available on ponds,



The ice box was a step forward during the 1800's for preserving food. Home delivered ice blocks were a real convenience for housewives.

to be stored for warmer weather. However, in 1876 the winter was warm, and ice was imported from Maine, which doubled the cost.

Eventually in towns an "ice plant" was constructed, which supplied customers with large chunks of ice, to be placed in an "ice box" or chest. The iceman made his rounds on a regular route, and a customer would place a sign in the window to tell the deliveryman how much ice to leave. The sign was a square cardboard with larger numerals, such as 25 or 50, to be turned so that the correct order was visible. And some houses had special small doors where ice could be

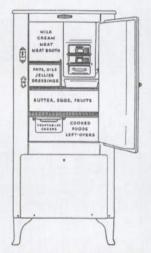
placed inside, as well as milk, eggs, bread etc. which were delivered. A drip pan

needed to be emptied frequently in the home ice box.

The condensation system of refrigeration, used in most of today's home refrigerators was developed by Joseph Perkins of Massachusetts in 1834. The liquid-gas cycle of cooling both refrigerators and freezers has made food preservation so easy today.

Preservation of foods was done in early days by smoking, salting or frying. Not all foods can be processed by these methods, and the diets of many people during the long winters were not too varied.

Some staple foods could be used during the cold seasons. Settlers brought seeds from homelands but found that corn was easier to grow than wheat. Potatoes and apples could be stored for long periods. Cabbage became sauerkraut; many vegetables could be pickled in cider vinegar and



In a cookbook supplied with the purchase of a 1929 Frigidaire electric refrigerator was a diagram of suggested ways to preserve foods. This was a real convenience after using an ice box.

vegetables could be pickled in cider vinegar and salt. Sweetening was with honey or maple syrup; sugar was imported.

### Grist mills

One of the earliest commercial enterprises was the milling of grains. Gristmills were built using waterpower on many small streams. There were as many as 80 mills in Frederick County; most have disappeared, but a few buildings can be found today along with stone foundations of others. There was a danger of fire at a mill; the dust was very flammable and heat was generated in the milling process.

Theodore C. Delaplaine of near Buckeystown suffered two disastrous fires in 1855 and 1858. The City Mill in Frederick, also known as the Zentz Mill, was destroyed by fire in 1926.

The miller was one of the best known men of an area. Farmers brought their grain to the mill, it was ground to flour or meal, and the miller retained a part of the output as his pay, to be sold to those who did not grow grain.

The fall season was a time for butchering pigs and hogs, and a few butcherings are held in the county today. Many products are delivered from the animals; we think of ham and pork, but less known products are sausage, scrapple, lard, ponhaus, and head cheese.

In December, 1830 Jacob Engelbrecht purchased two hogs from Dr. Duvall; Jacob Haller and Frederick Hawman were the butchers. This was probably a common practice for those who did not raise their own animals.

# Frederick County's canning industry

For about 100 years Frederick County was a leader in the canning industry of fruits and vegetables. With the variety of canned foods available today, it is hard to imagine the world without canned goods to rely upon.

The process of canning was invented in France by Nicholas Appert in 1809. Using only boiling water to process the food, there was danger of spoiling. Salt was added to raise the boiling point. Soon the "autoclave" was invented (a pressure retort), and by the time of the Civil War, tin cans were used instead of glass. These cans were often sealed with lead solder, which could cause lead poisoning.

By 1825 canning was done in Boston, and later Thomas Kensett was canning fruits and vegetables in New York. One of the workers, Lewis McMurray, came to Baltimore to can oysters.

He moved to Frederick in 1869 and established a cannery on West All Saints Street across Bentz Street from today's Taney House Museum. McMurray lived in the home.

McMurray was an inventor and innovator. He made improvements in the canning operations and purchased farmland to grow crops for his business. Mr. McMurray died in 1888.

Other canneries soon opened their doors. These were

- Frederick City Packing Company, 1891, owned by Samuel Rosenstock
- 1898 Monocacy Valley Canning Company, in 1905 located in both Frederick and Walkersville – started by Charles W. Ross, Jr. and Charles B. Staley. The Walkersville plant closed in 1948 and the Frederick plant closed in 1950.
- 1900 Conrad Ruland was located on West Patrick Street. He also sold groceries and smoked hams.
- 1903–04 Colt and Dixon Packing and Manufacturing Company; Obenderfer and Dixon, located on East Street, closed by 1957.

- 1904 Adamstown Packing Company; J. Fenton and Samuel C. Thomas closed in 1955.
- 1905 The Middletown Valley Register reported "Canning factories are going up everywhere. Why not one in Middletown?"
- 1923 Thomas and Company opened at 35 E. South St.
- 1925 Francis X. Staley who had been with Monocacy Valley Company for 22 years opened a cannery.
- 1926 Emmitsburg Canning Company taken over by Meredith Staub.
- 1928 Thurmont Canning Company purchased by Samuel Rosenstock and became Western Maryland Canning Company. Both sold in 1946.
- 1931 Staley Canning Company closed in 1931 due to crop failure during the severe drought.
- 1946 Frederick City Packing Company sold to O'Neil Jenkins; Western Maryland Canning Company bought by Mr. Jenkins
- 1950 Buckeystown Canning Company
- 1955 Mr. Jenkins owned the Thurmont plant
- 1965 Mr. Jenkins made Thomas plant a subsidiary
- 1972 Mr. Jenkins consolidated his holdings as "Jenkins Food Corporation"
- 1977 Jenkins Food Corporation closed all Frederick County operations.

The Frederick canning companies at their peak were employers of many seasonal workers. High school and college students of the '30s and '40s tell of their experiences, and that wagons and trucks were lined up for blocks waiting to unload their corn. The scent of cooking corn permeated the eastern end of the city, and doubtless in county towns also.

The companies produced their goods under various labels. At least one company attempted to grade corn, several qualities under different labels — under different brand names.

The factories closed largely because of expensive improvements to the industry and the inability to compete successfully with big business.

### How to cook - cookbooks

There have been cookbooks for many years. The invention of the printing press made them more accessible, but most of the early settlers in Frederick County probably did not own them.

Young girls learned cooking from their mothers. If anything was written down it was only a list of ingredients. Every young lady learned the methods used to prepare any number of delicious dishes. Even when cookbooks became available, very few gave complete instructions.

The early cookbooks used in the 1700s came from England or other European countries. They contained nothing about preparing typical American foods — corn, squash, pumpkin, beans, etc. One of these books was "The Frugal Housewife" published about 1742 in England.

The first truly American cookbook was written by Amelia Simmons, orphan. "American Cookery" was published in 1796 and provided instructions for making many distinctive American dishes — pudding and cakes from cornmeal sweetened with maple sugar, stewed pumpkin, cranberry sauces, local fish and meats.

Very little is known about Amelia. She probably was hired by several families from whom she learned. The book was reprinted in 1984 and copies may be available in museum shops.

Another early standard American cookbook is "The American Frugal Housewife" by Mrs. Child, published in 1833 and reprinted in 1971. American in the title was used to differentiate her book from the earlier English version. Mrs. Child was a prolific writer on many subjects, a newspaperwoman and champion for many civil rights including those of women.

Some modern cookbooks containing recipes from colonial days include:

"Williamsburg Cookbook"

"Mt. Vernon Cookbook"

"1776-The Complete American Housewife; 1976"

"The Early American Cookbook" — authentic recipes for the modern kitchen-contains recipes from kitchens in the homes of many 18th and 19th century famous persons, presidents, generals, politicians, Indian chiefs and slaves.

Through the years housewives have, and still do, collect recipes from many sources. Hand-written family recipe books are handed down through generations — the author has seen one in the C. Burr Artz Maryland Room which was kept by Margaret Catherine Thomas Artz, wife of C. Burr Artz after whom the Frederick library is named; the date of 1871 appears in the book. Recipes were collected by Mrs. C. Birely (Charles) in 1896; her daughter Lillian E. Birely used the same book by turning it upside down and writing her recipes beginning in the back, in 1930.

Mrs. William (Fannie Birely) Delaplaine's handscribed recipes are written in a school-type notebook, as are those of her daughter-in-law, Mrs. George (Ruth Carty) Delaplaine. This notebook is also stuffed full of clippings, and a box about a 10-inch cube is also full!

Families also rely on standard works, each with its own favorite. "The Joy of Cooking" by Irma Rombauer first pub-



Cookbooks from around the world are available in bookstores, but are most treasured from countries where cooks have traveled and sampled foods. Shown are from Turkey, Germany, Brazil, Ireland, Greece and the Orient.

lished in 1931 is still being printed and revised today. Other favorites have been "The Boston Cooking School Cookbook", "Fanny Farmer Cookbook" and "Betty Crocker's Cookbook." Special cookbooks often are distributed with newly purchased appliances, such as stoves, refrigerators, blenders, microwaves and freezers.

An interesting cookbook was published by the "New York Herald Tribune" Home Institute, 1937-1942 called "America's Cook Book." It was a comprehensive cookbook with many hints on meal planning and cooking methods.

The edition of 1942 contained a Wartime Supplement taking into account shortages and rationing of the time. Substitutes for rationed sugar, coffee, meats and fats were listed as well as suggestions on cooking lesser-known meats such as rabbit, venison, frankfurters, and ways to incorporate cold cuts in cooking.

The interest today in diets and ethnic cooking has inspired many new cookbook authors. Travelers often return home with books from their adventures. Even non-travelers can visit local bookstores to find a large assortment from many regions and countries.

Here are a few recipes to try:

#### 1700s

### Martha Washington's Corn Bread

3/4 cup corn meal

1 cup of flour

1/3-cup sugar

3 teaspoons baking powder

1 teaspoon salt

1 cup milk

1 egg, well beaten

2 tablespoons melted shortening (butter, margarine or oil)

Preheat oven to 425 degrees F. Sift the dry ingredients into a bowl: cornmeal, flour, sugar, baking powder and salt. Add milk, egg and shortening. Mix together. Pour into greased, shallow baking dish. Bake for 20 minutes until golden brown. Cut into wedges and serve warm with butter, honey or jam. Serves 8.

Note: Recipe was distributed at the George Washington Grist Mill near Mt. Vernon, where corn meal was purchased.

# From "American Cookery 1796" by Amelia Simmons, Orphan To preserve peaches

Put your peaches in boiling water, just to give them a scald, but don't let them boil, take them out, and put them in cold water, then dry them in a sieve, and put them in long wide mouthed bottles: to half or dozen peaches, take a quarter pound of sugar, clarify it, pour it over your peaches, and fill the bottles with brandy, stop them close and keep them in a close place.

### Schnitz und knepp

3 lbs. ham

1 qt. dried apples

Dumpling batter

Boil ham for 3 hours

Clean apples; soak in water to cover

After 3 hours add apples and water, soak 1 hour then boil 1 hour (May add 2T brown sugar)

Dumplings:

2 cups flour

1 egg

4 teaspoons baking powder

3 teaspoons melted shortening

1 teaspoon pepper

1 cup milk

1 teaspoon salt

Sift dry ingredients and mix with beaten egg, milk and shortening. Drop batter into boiling ham liquor, cover and cook 15 minutes.

Note: This recipe is found in many cookbooks.

#### 1800s

### Rivel soup

2 cups unsifted flour

1 teaspoon salt

1 egg, well beaten

4 quarts chicken broth

2 cups corn (optional)

Combine flour, salt and beaten egg. Mix together with fingers until mixture is crumbly. Drop these rivels into the broth. Add corn. Simmer 10 to 15 minutes.

- From a family friend's grandmother

### Kinklings

This was a specialty of Ruth Carty Delaplaine. Traditionally they are made on Shrove Tuesday. The recipe is a German one, probably handed down through generations. Similar to Fasnachts (see Chapter 8).

### Hard Tack (Civil War)

Mix 5 cups flour to 1 cup water containing 1/8-teaspoon salt, knead; flatten dough to 1/8" thickness. Cut into 3" squares and pierce each with a fork or ice pick several times. Bake in 400 degrees over 30 minutes or until slightly brown.

— This was a staple issued to soldiers during the Civil War. Almost any other food was preferred to this, especially "soft bread".

#### **Ambrosia**

Grate the coconut and peel and slice oranges one layer of oranges well sugared, one layer of coconut. Serve on small dessert plates. Have wine and cake to eat with the same for dessert.

— From Margaret (Catherine) Artz's hand written "Day Book", mostly recipes from 1871. She was the wife of Christian Burr Artz for whom the Frederick library is named.

#### 1900s

### Cc's Oatmeal Chocolate Chip Cookies

- a variety of the popular "Chocolate Chip Cookie".

1 cup soft shortening

1 cup brown sugar

1 cup granulated sugar

1 egg

1/2 cup water

1 teaspoon vanilla

1 cup flour

1 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon baking soda

3 cups mother's oats, raw (quick cooking oats work OK)

Place first 6 ingredients in mixing bowl, and beat thoroughly. Sift -together flour, salt and baking soda; add to shortening mixture, mixing well.

Blend in oats

Drop by teaspoon onto greased cookie sheet.

Bake in moderate oven 350 degrees for 12-15 minutes

Makes 5 dozen cookies

For variety: add chopped nuts, chocolate chips, raisins or coconut to the dough.

From Cecilia U. Randall's copious supply of recipes.

#### **Lemon Tarts**

One half pound granulated sugar One grated lemon (whole lemon, remove seeds)

A small piece of butter

2 eggs

Mix first 3 ingredients, let come to a boil, when cool, add the beaten eggs, not separated. Put into unbaked tart shells. Bake at 400 degrees, 15 to 20 minutes. Makes 1 dozen.

- Another recipe from Ruth Carty



Tart irons were among many shapes and sizes of cast iron cooking utensils. These were passed down through the family and were used to make Lemon Tarts (see recipe), and could be used to make muffins, cupcakes, etc.

Delaplaine. "Tart shells" were pastry placed in cast iron "Tart Irons," also handed down in the family. Can be baked in muffin tins. Don't forget the pastry liners!

### **Sloppy Joes**

There are many varieties of this recipe, all equally good. Can be spicy or mild to the taste.

1 pound ground beef (hamburger meat)

1 large onion

1 can tomato soup

salt and pepper to taste

Brown onion in butter in a skillet, add beef and brown. Add soup, salt and pepper. Simmer 1 hour or longer. (An electric skillet, covered, is often used.) Serve between halves of hamburger buns.

A family picnic favorite, often made by Ruth Carty Delaplaine.

#### 2000s

Today's recipes are so varied it is difficult to make a choice. Each family has its own favorites, some old and some new, some local, some ethnic in origin. Local restaurants have helped to make varied menus popular, as many types of cooking have been adapted for home use.

What's for dinner today?

Does "typical American cooking" exist today? There are hundreds of cookbooks on the market today catering to anyone's taste. Regional U.S. cookbooks are popular — southern cooking, seafood cooking, southwest cuisine, and Maryland specialties. Local cookbooks are popular ways to raise funds — churches, clubs, schools, historical societies have all added to the supply.

Choices seem limitless — enjoy your dinner!

# A BIT OF DETECTIVE WORK — KINKLINGS

Shrove Tuesday—the day before the beginning of the Christian Lent on Ash Wednesday—is not quite the same for me as it was years ago.

When I was a child, and some time after that, my mother would make kinklings. Beginning the night before, she would mix the dough and allow it to rise overnight. The next morning would be frying day, and the process might last well into the day. Usually for breakfast these once-a-year treats would be ready to sample, smothered in powdered sugar—a hearty breakfast.

The day continued with kinklings delivered to friends, neighbors and relatives, and ended in the afternoon with a kinkling sale and tea at All Saints Church.

As I grew up I met other families whose traditions included kinklings; some called them Fasnachts; others added mashed potatoes to their dough!

I often wondered—where did the recipe come from? And what is the root of the words Kinkling and Fasnacht? When I studied German in college I could find no words that resembled or sounded like these mysterious words. The closest I could come was Kuchen, meaning cake, but that was not quite right.

And Kinklings—where did the recipe come from? I was relatively sure that Germany was the place of origin. After all many of my ancestors, both on my mother's and father's sides, came from there. Most of them had arrived in



Several churches around the county still make Kinklings on Shrove Tuesday. It is usually a group project as well as a festive time to get together.

America by the time of the American Revolution, and many generations were born and lived in Frederick. Traditionally recipes have been handed down from mother to daughter.

My mother's lines back to the 1700s provide me with these grandmothers:

Mother Ruth Carty (Delaplaine) born 1892

Ann Catherine Keefer (Carty) born 1856

Margaret Ann Catherine Haller (Keefer) born 1832

Ann M. Gelwicks (Haller) born 1810

Mary M. (unknown maiden name) (Gelwicks) born 1788 (possibly born in or near Hagerstown)

It took our Frederick Sister Cities connections to provide a plausible solution to my mystery.

In October, 2002, my daughters and I visited Mörzheim and Schifferstadt where we renewed friendships in both cities. Kinklings were the farthest things from my mind.

Our host for the day in Schifferstadt, Bernard Kukatzki, who visited Frederick previously, is an author of many books about people and places connected with the Pfalz (Rhineland Palatinate) and the history of the region. He presented me with two of his most recent publications, one of interesting old photographs of people and places in the Pfalz, the other entitled "Pudding für den Sultan." This latter book is a collection of fifty anecdotes and short stories telling of various people and places. One chapter contains two recipes, one being the source of the book's title with a recipe from Turkey brought to Germany by traveling workmen. The other is titled "Schwer zu machen, aber sehr gut" (hard to make but very good), subtitled "Ein Rezept für Fasnachtskiechle von 1858."

So here it is-our Fasnacht-and Kiechle (kinkling)!

I did manage to translate this recipe with my poor German and the help of a dictionary not meant to translate recipes, and—the recipe from Frau Bergner in 1858 is almost identical to my mother's recipe!

Mystery solved!

Here's my mother's recipe:

1 pint milk 1T salt

1 C sugar 1/3 C shortening

1 egg Flour, not as stiff as bread dough,

1 yeast cake about 10 C

Make a sponge of heated milk, sugar, shortening and salt. Dissolve yeast in water, add to sponge when cool. Add a little flour. Add beaten eggs, then more flour. Let rise overnight. Roll out, cut in squares, cut through middle, fry in deep fat (lard).

Makes about 3 dozen.

I have been making kinklings on Shrove Tuesday almost every year. Stop by for a taste of Old Germany!

# CHILD'S PLAY — LOOKING BACK 100 YEARS

If a child of today could be transported to the Frederick of 100 years ago, there would be much that would be strange and unfamiliar. So much has happened to impact people's lives, and many things which are taken for granted

today were completely unknown then.

Mr. George B. Delaplaine Sr., born in 1888, marveled near the end of his life about the many inventions and developments which had occurred during his lifetime. The telephone had been invented by Alexander Graham Bell in 1876 and had become more common by 1900. The usefulness of electricity evolved over many years and by many inventors during the 1800s; the first electric light bulb in Frederick was demonstrated in the office of *The News* in 1888 and soon street lighting, electric lights in homes, and the trolley became realities. The automobile, invented in the 1890's, first came to Frederick about 1904,



This old building housed a bicycle shop, probably in the 1890's. It was in the first block of East Patrick Street. Bicycles were popular with both adults and children at that time.

demanding smoother streets and new businesses — tires, gasoline, batteries and tune-up shops. Horses disappeared from Frederick streets in the 1920s.

New transportation — the airplane — invented by Orville and Wilbur Wright first flew at Kitty Hawk, N.C., in 1903 — was awe inspiring, and generated much public interest when it first came to Frederick in 1911. And the later developments of radio, television and space exploration in the 1960s and the astronauts' walk on the moon in 1969 were almost unbelievable to the minds of those born around 1900.

Radio and two-way communication made profound changes in the ways people were entertained beginning in the 1920s. The first commercial radio broadcast came over the air from station KDKA in Pittsburgh, Pa., in 1920. Other stations followed, and it became popular for listeners to discover how many distant stations could be "picked up" on home sets.

After World War II television again changed how people were entertained, developing from small black and white sets in the late 1940s to large color sets today. An expansion in reception came more recently with cable and satellite capabilities.

Movies and movie theaters have had a great appeal. The first movie theater opened in Pennsylvania in 1902, and movies came to Frederick several years later. There is along history of live stage shows being performed locally, as well as popular "Magic Lantern" shows to amuse the citizens.

Music has been important in peoples' lives for many years. Thomas Alva Edison is credited with inventing the first reliable phonograph, among his many other inventions. His first machine utilized wax cylinders; these were replaced by discs, rotating at 78 RPM with sound picked up using a needle and mechanically amplified. The wind-up Victrola was a staple in many homes before the advent of 33 1/3 rpm records, tape players, and more recent Compact Discs. The sounds of old and new music are easily accessible to everyone today.

### Toys

Play — by children, youths and adults, can be defined as forms of self expression: motor play, sensory play, and intellectual play. Playing results in healthy attitudes, ability to get along with others, personality growth, and the ability to lose gracefully. Types of playing can be classified into these categories; a few can be defined in more than one. Toys are useful for sparking inspiration and developing creativity.

Children's play, toys and games, have been enjoyed for centuries. Many which could be today's toys have been discovered in archeological digs in ancient Rome, Greece or Egypt, and among Native American tribes.

Among these toys are included marbles, balls, tops, hoops, drums and other musical instruments, blocks, dolls, and puppets. Ancient people also had their active games using balls and sticks or set rules.

Toys often imitate adult behavior — war games, Cowboys and Indians, girls' tea parties or dress-up, and amateur theatricals. And new toys appear to mirror these new inventions — cars and trucks, airplanes, space ship toys, electronic gadgets, computer games, electrically driven mechanical toys, and dolls' clothing.

## The Years 1900-1915

Children growing up in the first decade or so of the 20th Century did not have an easy life. But they did have opportunities for play, and chances to be with other children at times other than at school.

Frederick was a small town. It was formally bounded on the west by Bentz Street, on the south by South Street, on the east by East Street, and the north by Seventh Street. Each of these boundaries did have scattered homes beyond, particularly east and west on Patrick Street because of U.S. 40, the main route east and west to and from Baltimore, and some to the north and south on Market Street. Other streets led to roads to outlying towns, but the boundaries defined for children were rather limited.

The main method of transportation was "Shank's Mare," for going to school, shopping, play and family or friends visiting. Horse and buggy (or wagon) travel was common, but only for farmers bringing crops to town, business purposes, or well-to-do persons who sometimes owned their own horse and rig, or rented from local stables. Transportation did not limit opportunities for young people.

Children were expected to help with household chores. Boys assisted in bringing in wood or coal for the range, fireplaces or room stoves, removing ashes, help in gardening, or occasional trips to the corner store for groceries or other items. Occasionally a boy was called on to go uptown for a pint of "sots" for daddy, or some tool, nails or screws for home repairs. Two favorite grocery stores on East Patrick Street were Dave Zimmerman's on the corner of Patrick and Carroll streets, and Measell's in the middle of the first block on East Patrick Street. Hardware stores would be Quynn's on East Patrick Street or Seeger's or Community Hardware on South or North Market streets.

Girls were expected to help with household chores or visit a nearby bakery or candy store. They might also accompany mother to shop for clothing, household linens or fabric. They were taught cooking, sewing and fancy needlework.

But there was plenty of time to play. School pals lived nearby, as did cousins and other relatives. Boys could explore Carroll Creek and fish there. One family of four boys whose father had died young were fortunate to have bachelor uncles who often took the boys to the Monocacy to fish. And many were the boys who learned to swim in the old swimming hole!

Girls had their toys — dolls, toy dishes for tea parties, old clothes for dress up make believe. They imitated mothers and grandmothers with needlework or baking, or learned to draw and paint. Both sexes enjoyed card and board games such as checkers, Parcheesi, Old Maids, Rook or Flinch.

Bicycles were popular with both adults and children, but not always available to all. *The News* sold bicycles around 1895.

Child labor laws had been enacted in the 1800s during the Industrial Revolution. But children, especially boys, were expected to earn spending money at least, or help with family expenses during hard times. Fortunate were the boys whose families owned businesses. There were after school menial jobs — floor sweeping, merchandise organization, assisting customers. Some boys were "news boys" — home delivery,



Adults as well as children were avid cyclists when bicycles were popular in the 1890's. Here Charles Howard and a friend are shown on a ride on July 4, 1895.

sometimes by bicycle. One young lad earned his first money as a pin boy in a local bowling alley.

As soon as a boy graduated from high school he was expected to go to work, unless he was one of the privileged who could afford college. The family business could provide work and experience, but there were also jobs in factories or stores.

Girls were not as fortunate to find after school jobs, but many quit school

at a young age to be mother's helpers, household workers, or factory workers.

One factory hiring women was the Union Manufacturing Company (hosiery) on East Patrick Street. One humorous incident occurred after girls living about two blocks from the factory overheard workers passing their house commenting on the girls' frequency in playing games. So the four young sisters arranged themselves to be playing cards beside the front window when the workers went to work in the morning, walked home for lunch, went back for afternoon work, and returned home in the evening. What comments they did hear that day!

There were a few office jobs available. However, one young lady with a small child lost her husband at a young age. She was encouraged by her father to go to Washington, D.C., for better opportunities to seek a job, which she did. She remarried, had another daughter, and resided in Washington, D.C., the rest of her life. She retained close ties with family in Frederick.

## Life During the '20s and '30s - Boom and Bust

The years between World War I and World War II were times of contrast. Life seemed good for most people during the '20s and the populations of both city and county were growing. The "suburbs" were expanding, especially to the west of the city. Education was changing for children by the consolidation of many smaller schools, and the transporting of once-isolated children into larger buildings and exposing them to new and more urban environments.

Whereas rural children were formerly centered in their home farm life, with many chores expected of them, they soon found that the simple pleasures and activities they had known were now not enough. Made available to them in the playground as well as in the schoolroom were more varied activ-



Christmas morning was an exciting time for children in the 1930's as it continues to be today. These children were surprised to find many toys and books under their tree, and enjoyable hours were spent with the electric train running around the tracks on its temporary platform.

ities. This consolidation occurred gradually in the 1920's and was almost complete in the mid-1930's.

Toys and games for all children became more plentiful and sometimes were more sophisticated. Many toys were imported from Germany and other European countries, especially dolls and some model cars and trucks. Many large toy manufacturers in the U.S. did not appear until after World War II.

The Great Depression of the 1930's affected children in that there was less money to purchase new

toys. Games were often impromptu after-school activities whenever a small group of neighbors got together. Sandlot baseball was popular as were roller skating on nearby sidewalks, tennis or catch in the middle of paved streets with little or no traffic, and bike riding all over town.

One father took his children, from a young age, on Saturday or Sunday afternoon bicycle excursions on dirt roads surrounding the city. Neighbor children were always welcome and would share snacks of raisins along the way. The destination was not important-it was the joy of riding and seeing new sights. beautiful farms, country meadows and streams and small settlements. An occasional stop at a country store for "pop" or at a farmer's pump for a cool drink from the tin cup



Bicycles were popular modes of transportation in Frederick after they were first introduced in the 1890's. These riders were ready for a Jaunt around dirt roads in Frederick County on a sunny Saturday afternoon in the 1930's. Rides were often called "bike hikes" because hilly roads were difficult to maneuver with single speed bicycles.

Many students rode their bikes to school, ran family errands, visited friends and just had fun rides around traffic-less streets and roads.

hanging nearby were welcome respites. The father always seemed to know the proprietor or farmer, so it was a friendly time.

Indoor pastimes were plentiful. Radios changed how entertainment and news reports were enjoyed—now at home! Music, drama, comedy—and commercials!—could be heard. Families had their favorite programs and sometimes life revolved around the timing of the favorites. Boys, especially, became interested in electronics and often had their own space at home for tinkering with wires and tubes, speakers and microphones. For some of the more ded-



Playing "house" with real dishes and solid furniture could occupy many hours of fun for girls, especially if a doll family was added in.

icated older boys a ham radio license opened up new vistas, and it was of great interest when two-way contact was made with someone in a new state or distant country. A crystal set was all that was necessary.

Many children played at imitating life. Girls had their dolls and make-believe houses complete with dishes, cleaning supplies and dress-up clothing. Many boys constructed model airplanes or cars and involved them in dramas of getting there or perhaps fighting a war.

Electric train sets became more popular after an elaborate set up was viewed at the "Century of Progress" in Chicago in 1933-34.

Toy wind-up trains were always popular during the 1800s after the first tracks were laid and regular passenger and freight service was



Boys always like things that move. Trucks, wagons and airplanes are popular at all ages.

initiated. Electric train sets were popular at Christmas time. Wooden platforms were constructed as bases for Christmas trees, and a village complete with houses, trees, animals, scenery and people appeared to make the setting complete. It was a sad day when the set was

packed away until next year, as space was at a premium in many homes. Today's adult model railroad enthusiasts undoubtedly got their start on the family's living room floor!

Dolls for girls became more realistic. Tiny Tears was popular as was Betsy Wetsy. About 1934 when Shirley Temple was a child movie idol, a line of dolls of several sizes resembling her was produced. Today these are collectors' treasures.

Boys enjoyed Erector Sets and Lincoln Logs, as well as cars, trucks and airplane models. Chemistry sets, magnets and small sized tools were popular also.

Organized sports were primarily restricted to schools. There were intramural and intermural games, and especially in high schools there was school spirit and space for spectators, if not a team for everyone.

Going to the movies was a popular pastime. Early movies were silent—accompanied by sound effects and "mood" music on organ or piano. There were four movie theaters at one time in Frederick, and stars



Shirley Temple was a hit when the real child actress appeared in many movies. The doll appeared in time for the 1934 Christmas season.

such as Laurel and Hardy, Harold Lloyd, the Marx Brothers and Charlie Chaplin vied with western stars such at Tom Mix, Gene Autrey or Roy Rogers for Saturday matinee popularity. These were more realistic in the 1930s after "talkies" were invented—introduced in 1927 by Al Jolson in "The Jazz Singer." And older children, especially girls, swooned over "matinee idols." The first animated full length color production was "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" in 1937.

Also Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts were popular activities. These national youth organizations were open to all, and the YMCA offered programs for youth.

### The War Years - 1940-1950

Children growing up during World War II and the years following were presented with many challenges. Life for them had changed, as it was for everyone.

Rare was the family which was not touched by someone who was away serving our country, and often there was the loss of a father, brother, uncle or cousin on the battlefield, in the air or on the sea. The manpower shortage was evident in local business, and not just in war plants. Women often filled former all-male occupations—"Rosie the Riveter" could be found anywhere.

Shortages were common and life was governed by ration stamps for sugar, meat, gasoline, tires. Automobile factories were turned into munitions plants, and new cars were not produced until 1946. Rubber was used in the war effort and "retreads"\* were a way of life. Aluminum, iron and steel were recycled, occasionally through large and well advertised city and county collection drives.

So it was natural that toys for children were not priorities. Many games and toys were handed down to younger children, and the by-word was to mend and repair rather than buy new. And of course nothing was imported.

Children were encouraged to assist in Red Cross drives and Savings Bonds sales, the latter encouraged by buying savings stamps with a full book traded in for a bond. Activities in the home and neighborhood were encouraged—babysitting and mothers' helpers for girls, lawn mowing and other chores for boys.

Transportation was curtailed. Few were the families who were able to take Sunday afternoon drives, as gasoline was in short supply and rationed to be used for farm activities or other business. The trolley was popular, and places reached by a ride such as to the Braddock Heights Park had a short revival period. Frederick was small enough that walking and bicycle riding could get young people all around town, in little traffic.

Other shortages existed, since no electrical appliances were manufactured, and houses were not being constructed. When businesses were revived after 1945, consumer goods became plentiful. It is no wonder that the economy enjoyed boom years.

New toys were still in demand. Substitute materials were often used, and such things as wooden cars and trucks just didn't hold up under a boy's continued use. Even after the war, things we take for granted today were slow appearing in retail stores.

But after the war, the United States encouraged peacetime manufacturing in former enemy countries. Imports includ-



Popular today for boys are remote control cars. Now old fashioned push toys are not for the growing boys!

ing toys became fairly common, and "Made in Occupied Japan," for example, is today considered a mark to look for by collectors. Even in the early 1950s toys from Japan were fairly common.

One example was a Santa Claus on wheels with a friction motor—pull it back and it went forward. When the wheel mechanism fell out, a look inside revealed the toy had been made from a Schlitz beer can!

## A 50-Year Survey

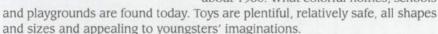
A description of recent changes that have taken place in how children grow up in today's world is a difficult task. So many factors have influenced changes in the world, and in children's lives.

A large factor is the number of children in today's society. Following World War II the children were called the Baby Boomers. So many returning servicemen and women had deferred raising families, the economy was good, and peacetime was an encouraging time for families and the development of

strong family values.

More recently this generation, and the Hippie generation of the '60s, as well as recent immigrants from many countries, are adding to the population. What a great market for toys and games of all types!

There are several trends which have greatly influenced children. First is the use of plastics, which were introduced for toys about 1950. What colorful homes, schools



With the population explosion came an enlarged market, and big toy manufacturers with a nationwide distribution system. Mattel began in the late 1940s, followed by Hasbro, Playskool and Tiny Tykes.

A giant nationwide system of chain toy stores has developed. What mall is without its toy store, or what town is without Toys R Us. Add to these are shelves in drugstores, variety stores, and department stores and yes—grocery stores. Toys are available everywhere, it seems.

Lego has become more sophisticated and more complex projects can be built that

when it was first introduced.

New toys are always being introduced, some lasting only a season or two such as Cabbage Patch dolls. Power Rangers, Ninja Turtles and Star Wars, but others are popular forever. Barbie was first introduced in 1958. She and her



Barbie and her friends have been popular with girls for many years. Clothing was always up to the minute and many hours can be spent in imaginative play.

family and friends, her clothes and accessories are still staples in a young girl's toy chest.

Boys have not been forgotten. GI Joe was a popular outgrowth of the war years, and as space exploration became a reality and science-fiction was popularized, other characters were introduced into the world of play. Space ships, rockets, airplanes were available. Match Box cars were introduced in 1953.

The introduction of television and affordable sets has caused a major change in the way of life. At first shows were extensions of radio shows. Children were entertained by re-runs of old movie cartoons, which were soon replaced by live or taped shows such as Mickey Mouse Club and Howdy Doody, and Romper Room enjoyed a long run. Later Sesame Street and Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood enjoyed great success. What wonderful audiences to receive ads for new and exciting toys and games! Another toy explosion was born.

But television shows are not all wholesome. Some cartoons for example are reflecting not only the good aspects of life, but the negative aspects including violence as well. It is the wise parent who can control their children and determine what appears on their alluring TV screen.

Movies have been popular entertainment for many years. Drive-in movies were popular in the 1950s-60s. Many movies reflect life as it is today, and parents need to use guidelines for approving what their children are exposed to. The invention of the VCR and availability of movies on tapes adds to the variety of amusement for all in the home.

The invention of transistors enabled the popularization of transistor portable radios and inexpensive watches.

Computers have revolutionized everyone's life. Many youngsters have become knowledgeable about their inner workings, and often assist parents when a problem arises. Schools are more and more using computers in education and for sheer fun there are many computer games available. Today's youngsters often own small hand-held games, freeing the large screens for parents' use.



Now a child's toy box is not complete without at least one Game Boy. Its small size and intricate electronic circuitry appeals to many for its versatility.

Fads in games come and go. Where *many for its versatility.*are the Hula Hoops and Cabbage Patch Dolls of yesterday or Ninja Turtles or Star Wars or Power Rangers?

Was the Pokemon craze more than a passing fancy? Will Beanie Babies survive?

Schools are having an increasing emphasis in their curriculum on reading. There are so many books available for pleasure reading that this popularity should last, competing with the computer.



Little League baseball is only one of many sports played today by county youth. The 2005 team from Middletown was happy to become Maryland Champions.

Sports teams have developed into a major activity for children. School teams are not enough-after-school practice, evenings, Saturdays and even Sundays are utilized for practices and inter-team games. Ballfields are much in demand, and parents become very involved with their offspring. Swim teams.

also, are popular for many, as are basketball and lacrosse.

These are but a few of the many options for play and recreation available for today's children. It might seem surprising then that many old toys are still around and are present in today's child's toy chest—stuffed animals, balls of all sizes, puzzles, board games, building blocks. drums and whistles, art supplies, toy tea party sets, dolls and cars, trucks and airplanes.

The toy explosion will undoubtedly continue and change as the population increases, and as technology unknown today is applied to kid-friendly activities, a child's mind will undoubtedly expand also, and the world will be better for it.

## Special Events

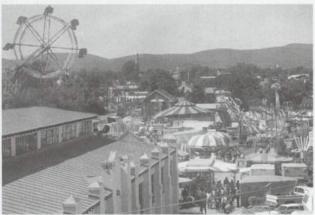
Some popular activities for recreation are not held continuously.

In September of each year the Great Frederick Fair is held at the fair-

grounds on East Patrick Street.

In 1821 a group of farmers met and formed an agricultural group whose aim was to foster modern farming methods. A cattle show and fair was held near the Monocacy River east of Frederick in 1822.

The group did not survive long. In



The Great Frederick Fair has been a popular diversion when it is held annually at the grounds on East Patrick Street. Originally an agricultural fair, today it has amusements and recreational activities for many people, adults and children.



Firemen enjoy parades and in past days decorated lavish structures to call attention to their activities. Arches over streets near headquarters were often constructed.

1849 another meeting of farmers was held and an Agricultural Society was formed. In 1853 the group began annual fairs, held at the Hessian Barracks.

This lasted until 1860 when the Civil War interrupted. in 1867 the present grounds were purchased and fairs have been held except during times of war. Often other groups rent the grounds for special events during the year.

Today the Fair is held by the Frederick County Agricultural Society whose members are mostly farmers. Memberships are often passed down through generations and are highly prized.

Parades are held infrequently for special occasions. Firemen have held parades to coincide with annual meetings of the Maryland State Firemen's Convention. The first one was held in 1893 when the organization was found-

ed. Fire trucks are always popular in all parades.

Other parades have been held through the years, many on Hallowe'en. Most recently remembered were the colorful ones for Frederick City's celebration of 250 years in 1995, followed by the county's celebration in 1998. Many organizations participated with their highly decorated floats.



Parades are always popular affairs in Frederick. This one was in honor of Frederick City's 250th anniversary in 1995.

## **Definitions**

Baby Boomers — Children born in the decade following World War II.

Century of Progress — World's Fair held in Chicago 1933-34.

Crystal set — A simple radio utilizing a quartz crystal for reception.

**Ham radio** — An amateur radio hobbyist with his own sending and receiving radio set.

"Made in Occupied Japan" was printed underneath all consumer goods produced in Japan following World War II.

**Magic Lantern** — A device using a light, colored pictures and a set of lenses which could project pictures on a wall or screen.

**Pin setter** — Often a boy employed in a bowling alley to re-set pins for the next bowler.

Pop — A common word for sodas—Cokes, etc. and many flavors.

Range — Large iron kitchen cook and heating stove

**Retreads** — Used tires which were repaired using large strips of rubber. They are often used on large trucks today.

**Rosie the Riveter** — During the war years, women were hired to replace men, often in factories, in typical men's jobs. A popular poster depicted this activity.

**Sandlot** — The popular name for any vacant lot, usually used for baseball or other ball games.

Shank's Mare — Walking.

Sots — Popular male drink—beer on draft.

Victrola — Trade name for a wind-up record player, often a handsome piece of living room furniture.

**Wireless** — Early name for radio communication, opposed to telephone and telegraph wires.

# 10

# ROSE HILL MANOR AND GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON

I.

Frederick has many buildings which date back to early years in the city. Among these still existing include – Prospect Hall (1732), rear of the Evangelical Lutheran Church (1762), Schifferstadt (1756), 54 East Patrick Street, 23 East Fifth Street (1770), rectory of All Saints Church (1797), Trinity Chapel (1807) and Rose Hill Manor (1793).

#### II.

To set the stage, here is a look at Frederick City at the time that Rose Hill Manor was built. Following its founding in the wilderness in 1745, the city developed into a bustling center of agriculture and trade. For years it was a frontier town, a jumping off place for families moving westward, and a source of supplies. Farm products and raw materials were shipped to ports to the east, and manufactured goods were sent west.

Highways leading out of town, as well as city streets, were primitive by our standards. Travel was by foot or horseback with horses or oxen pulling wagons full of equipment or merchandise. Cattle and sheep were taken to market "on the hoof", creating noise as well as dangers under foot. Even 50 years later local diarist Jacob Engelbrecht described such a scene on West Patrick Street as traffic was heavy going past his house even then.

The major streets of Frederick were eventually improved with cobblestones or crushed rock. My mother recalled the smooth paving of East Church Street when she was a child, during the early 1900's. What an improvement for bicycle riders, as well as horses and carriages, and essential for the new horseless carriages just appearing on city streets then. Unpaved streets were muddy in wet weather and dusty when dry.

The city was not built all at the same time. Some very old buildings are found near to much newer ones. An example is Court Square. The east side was developed by a great uncle of Arthur Potts in the early 1800's. The corner home was designed by Robert Mills, the first educated architect in the United States who was designing houses from Philadelphia to South Carolina. He was a friend of Mr. Murdoch of Frederick. Other buildings in the block were built as offices. It was not until 1854 that All Saints Church was built, City Hall in 1862, and the homes behind City Hall are much later than that.

#### III.

Into this early setting came the Johnson brothers from Calvert County, following the French and Indian War, about 1765. James Johnson and Launcelot Jacques were instrumental in constructing iron furnaces in the region. The

Johnsons and Jacques, a French Huguenot, had become acquainted and bought large tracts of land with an eye to using the raw materials of the land. Ultimately four of the Johnson brothers settled permanently in Frederick County, by 1774. Their partnership with Jacques was dissolved in 1776.

Thomas Johnson was the fifth of 12 children of Thomas and Dorcas Sedgwick Johnson who had been married in 1725. They were descended from English settlers in St. Leonard, Calvert County, where Thomas was born November 4, 1732.

The career of Thomas Johnson spanned the days prior to the Revolution through the early days of the Republic. He was a businessman, a lawyer, and served his state and the new nation in all three branches of government, in the legislature as a delegate and Congressman, in the executive branch as Maryland's first governor, and the judicial as Chief Judge of the General Court of Maryland appointed by Governor Howard in 1790, and for two years as an Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals, appointed by President George Washington.

A listing of Thomas's accomplishments is long. It was said by Judge Edward S. Delaplaine, Johnson's biographer, that Johnson has never been given proper recognition by historians for the influence he exerted on Maryland and the other colonies during the time of the founding of our country. An important fact in the life of Johnson was his lifelong and deep friendship with George Washington. Time and again the lives of the two men crossed. Washington visited Johnson here in Frederick on several occasions. Both men sought the other's assistance during their careers, and they engaged in business together.

To name a few highlights of Johnson's career:

He studied law with Stephen Bordley in Annapolis and was admitted to the Bar in Anne Arundel County at age 21 in 1753.

He worked for a time with Mr. Jennings of Annapolis, and married his daughter Ann February 16, 1766; they had 8 children, 3 of whom died young.

He was admitted to the Frederick County Bar in 1760.

He was elected to the Provincial Assembly from Anne Arundel County at the age of 29.

He was a delegate to the Continental Congress 1774; he voted for the Declaration of Independence but was not present to sign; he was either visiting an ill relative or recruiting troops.

He operated Catoctin Furnace with his three brothers. They produced household goods, and also cannon and balls to supply troops during the Revolutionary War; it is said cannon balls from here were used to defeat Cornwallis at Yorktown.

He nominated George Washington as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army; this act of a Marylander on behalf of a Virginian is hailed as significant in the development of cooperation and trust among colonies.

He served as Brigadier General for the Maryland State Militia and led troops and took supplies to General Washington during the desperate days at Valley Forge, and in New Jersey.

He served three 1-year terms as Maryland's first governor.

He served in the Maryland delegation to Congress.

He was appointed Chief Judge of the General Court of Maryland by Governor Howard in 1790.

He was appointed by President Washington as Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals August 5, 1791.

He was part of a project with George Washington and others to make the Potomac Wiver navigable as far west as possible to tap the resources of western Virginia

and Maryland.

Charles Willson Peale painted this portrait of the Governor Thomas Johnson family. It was given to the C. Burr Artz Library to be kept there. However, the trustees gave it to the Baltimore Museum of Art for safekeeping.

He served on the committee which was appointed to lay out the National Capital City, which he named "City of Washington".

He resigned his duties because of ill health in 1793 and returned to Frederick County to stay.

He was helpful to the young Roger Brooke Taney who began practicing law in Frederick in 1801.

After Johnson retired as Governor, he was sent an "address" or thank you from the Maryland Legislature for his service. This is an almost unheard of occurrence. During negotiations with British officials just prior to the writing of the Declaration of Independence there was a rumor that the British were going to hire Hessian mercenaries to fight on American soil. The British were evasive when asked the direct question, to which Johnson replied: "The first Hessian soldier who puts his foot on American soil will absolve me from all allegiance to Great Britain."

Thomas Johnson had extensive land holdings in Frederick County as well as elsewhere. Among these holdings were the tract known as "Richfields" north of Frederick and "Rose Garden". He first built a home at "Richfields" intending to retire there in 1779. There are two historical markers along Route 15, one telling of Washington's visits with Johnson, and the other telling of the birth-place of Admiral Winfield Scott Schley in 1839. The house does not resemble its original appearance, as through the years it was damaged by fire, and later a tornado, and has been extensively remodeled. Johnson lived there until after the death of his wife in 1794 when his daughter Ann Jennings Johnson Grahame invited him to reside with her and her family at Rose Hill Manor.

Johnson spent the last 25 years of his life there in seclusion. His last public appearance was in 1800 at a funeral procession in Frederick in honor of his friend George Washington. He died October 26, 1819, and was buried in All Saints Episcopal Graveyard. The DAR marked his grave as a patriot in 1894 – their first act. His descendent Ann Grahame Ross was regent of the chapter. His grave was removed to Mt. Olivet Cemetery in 1913 and the present marker was erected by some of his descendants. A memorial bust of Johnson was erected in the present City Hall park and dedicated July 4, 1929.

#### IV.

Rose Hill Manor is one of the most beautiful examples of rural Georgian architecture in Frederick County. The property has had a long and colorful history – the house is now over 200 years old!



Rose Hill Manor is the home where Governor Thomas Johnson spent his last years. Located off of North Market Street in north Frederick City, it was built in the early 1790's and has had several additions and modifications over the years. It is owned by Frederick County and is part of the county park system.

The property upon which the house is located was a part of the original Taskers Chance, patented by Benjamin Tasker in 1725, which also comprises most of the land now in Frederick City and surrounding areas. "Rose Garden" as it was originally known, compromised 225 acres deeded to Hans Peter Hoffman in 1746, before Frederick County was formed. He probably built and lived in a small German-type farmhouse of logs or frame, and slowly cleared land for farming. He died in 1749, and after his widow remarried the land was rented to others. Another Peter Hoffman, probably the original owner's son, sold the land to Thomas Johnson by 1778. This Peter Hoffman became a successful merchant in Baltimore.

Thomas Johnson probably rented the property to others to farm, since he and his wife had established their residence several miles away at "Richfields".

When their eldest daughter Ann was married to John Colin Grahame in 1788, the Johnsons gave the property, renamed "Rose Hill" to the couple. It was they who had the mansion house built while they lived in the log house nearby.

There is some confusion as to the date the house was built, the dates ranging from 1790 to 1798. In all probability it took more than one year to complete, and it seems reasonable to assume that most of the major work was complete by the time Thomas came to live with the family following the death of his wife in 1794. It can also be assumed that additions were made to the home from time to time. Archeologists who examined the property in 1971 believe the portico and columns over the front entry were in place by 1820. However it is known that the owners in 1845 also did considerable changing and made a great impact on the architecture.

John Colin Grahame was born in Lower Marlboro, Calvert County, in 1760. He was a lawyer and businessman, and served as president of the Frederick County National Bank from 1818 until his death. He served in various positions in government, both elective and appointive, served in the military as a young man, and was a vestryman at All Saints Church. He had considerable wealth, but suffered severe financial reverses later in life, necessitating the selling of slaves and land, and the mortgaging of Rose Hill Manor.

Major Grahame, as he was known, died in 1833 and Ann Johnson Grahame sold Rose Hill Manor to pay off the bills. She died in 1835, survived by one son; a daughter had died at age 18.

Rose Hill Manor was purchased by Capt. John McPherson in 1833, and he sold it in 1837 to William Slater of Baltimore; William was joined in ownership in 1843 by his brother George.

The Slaters were wealthy Irishmen from Baltimore. William had built a railroad, and George was a merchant. They were attracted to the beauty of Frederick and desired to be a part of the social scene here. However they were disappointed in their reception by Frederick folks. It seems there was a mixup in names, the Fredericktonians believing the Slaters were the same family as the Slatters, who were notorious slave traders. There is a record of there having been a large Whig party barbecue at Rose Hill Manor in 1844.

The Slaters sold Rose Hill to John J. Wilson from Montgomery County in 1845. According to a report on file at the Historical Society, Mr. Wilson eloped with a Frederick girl. He had hoped to make Rose Hill Manor their home, and had a great impact on the architecture by changing many things. He purchased beautiful furniture, but his bride didn't want to live in the home. After the sale of the property, he stored furniture in a local warehouse.

The next owner was David Thomas, who purchased the property in 1853. During the Civil War troops passing through the area camped on the property and made off with crops or whatever else they needed because of the proximity to the main road between Frederick and Gettysburg.

In 1864 a deed was recorded stating that Frederick Wilson sold his farm for 40 acres, a part of the Grahame farm. Wilson had previously purchased this from a Mr. Fout; it was probably some of the land sold by Major Grahame years before when Grahame was suffering his financial reverses.

Mr. Thomas died in 1876. The property passed to Margaret Catherine Thomas Myer, wife of John Jacob Myer, in 1893. Following her death in 1905 the property was put up for sale by real estate agent Noah E. Cramer, who purchased it himself in 1906. It remained in the possession of the Cramer family until acquired by the county.

Noah E. Cramer, being a businessman and not a farmer, rented Rose Hill Manor to tenant farmers. He was joined by his son James H. Cramer to form the firm of Noah E. Cramer and Son, Real Estate and Insurance. Their office was located at 114 North Court Street, one block from the family home on Record Street. Noah Cramer died in 1930 and the business and ownership of Rose Hill Manor passed to his son James. He and his wife Catherine (called Kitty) and daughter Alice lived on Record Street with the elder Mrs. Cramer until her death in 1944.

Kitty Cramer seemed to be a very outgoing and social person. It was probably she who was responsible for having Rose Hill Manor included in a Historical Maryland Building Survey in 1936. In the files at Rose Hill today is an undated tourist guide for Frederick in which Rose Hill Manor is advertised as having accommodations for motorists, and a restaurant with southern cooking. From other businesses listed it could be from the 1930's.

Several local older residents remember attending parties and visiting overnight when they were young. There was at least one large gathering of Girl Scouts on the lawn of Rose Hill Manor, probably 1939-40. Mrs. Cramer is also remembered for furnishing a pony-drawn cart for the spring fairs at Parkway School when daughter Alice was a student there.

James Cramer died in 1957, and Mrs. Cramer held at least two large social events after that time. Daughter Alice Catherine was married at Rose Hill Manor on July 24, 1959 to Bruce Gustav Bowman. It was a large affair, according to society reports of the time. They no longer live in the Frederick area. On June 1, 1960 the Wine Queen from Germany was honored at a reception at Rose Hill Manor. This was reported in German newspapers as well as the local press. A luncheon was given in her honor by Mr. and Mrs. Goodloe Byron, and a dinner was held at the Francis Scott Key hotel. Events were attended by local noted citizens.

There are several tales of ghosts at Rose Hill Manor, as told by Alyce Weinberg in her "Spirits of Frederick" book. She says that many in the county "consider it a hard luck house where crops failed, marriages fell apart and unhappiness prevailed."

There is the story of the blue dog, said to lurk in the shadows at night, who can lead you to buried treasure. Another more recent tale concerns a young lady who knew much about Rose Hill Manor joining a candlelight tour group, then mysteriously disappearing. And there is the patch of white on the lawn where no grass will grow. It is reported that long ago a young girl with the vapors for her missing-in-action soldier boy killed herself by jumping out of a window. Another version says it was an unhappy bride on her wedding night.

Today Rose Hill Manor is a beehive of activity, as a part of the Frederick County Parks and Recreation Commission. The county first purchased a portion of the land in 1961 and erected Governor Thomas Johnson High School. This opened in 1966, and is a focal point for many community activities.

An option was placed on the remaining property by the county in 1968 and a down payment of \$5,000 was made. Funds for the purchase were provided in 1970 with a state grant of \$125,000, the rest of the \$401,400 coming from the county.

In 1970-71 a professional archeological survey was conducted by Contract Archeology, Inc. of Alexandria, VA. The late Peter Klein prepared "A Master Plan for the Development and Restoration of Rose Hill Manor" as a terminal project for his degree of Bachelor of Landscape Architecture at the University of Georgia. His plan for the touch and smell typical colonial garden was implemented as part of the restoration of the grounds, and it was dedicated April 20, 1975. Much of the work during these early years was done by a volunteer committee headed by chairman Tom Summers and assisted by Pat Sanner. Volunteer guides are on hand for tours, with Ann Lebherz and Betty Willson being two who have been involved for a long time.

The house today is open for tours much of the year. The first floor is laid out as a museum for children, with a playroom in the parlor where toys of bygone days can be handled, a weaving room, and a colonial kitchen with wonderful old-time cooking gadgets. The upstairs is furnished with antiques, and a visitor is startled to meet "George" – life-size manikin preparing to teach the day's lessons to the family's children.

The grounds are also a part of the museum tour. Included are a carriage museum, farm museum, icehouse, spring and a log cabin brought from near Walkersville in 1977.

When the house was first acquired by the county there was a large boat (skipjack) being constructed in the front hall. This was easily removed through the wide front door.

Architectural features of note include a wide entrance hall with original doors leading into adjoining rooms. The parlor door had been removed – but saved – and a portion of wall removed to create a columned entry. This is now restored. Original mantels are gone, but all save one were replaced with almost correct period ones. A single candle chandelier in the front hall has been confirmed as being pre-1810. Fan windows are famous in Frederick; there are 4 here, but only 3 are installed. All are different – were they each made by a different Hessian soldier? The fireback in the fireplace in the parlor is clearly marked "Blackford Thornburgh Catoctin Furnace". Blackford and Thornburgh rented and operated Catoctin Furnace from 1801. An identical fire back is located in the fireplace at Auburn, the mansion near Catoctin Furnace.

Besides daily tours, every year special events are scheduled. What was once a family home can now be enjoyed by all, and a significant landmark is being preserved for future generations. The home is owned and operated by the Frederick County Department of Parks and Recreation as a county park.

Based on an address by this author at a meeting of the Historical Society of Frederick County, MD, September 1, 1992.



The Governor Thomas Johnson High School is of course named for our first governor under the Constitution. It is located on North Market Street on part of the original Rose Hill Manor.

# 11

# A GIFT TO FREDERICK: STEPHEN STEINER'S HOUSE

The late Octavia G. Zimmerman and Eleanor E. Harper collaborated in this article in 1984 with Frances A. Randall

#### **PREFACE**

The Frederick Woman's Civic Club, Inc. has owned "Steiner House" since 1962. Since that time, it has enjoyed meeting there, and has welcomed guests for tours, parties, and other meetings.

There have been repairs and restoration work done from time to time, and the club has been attempting to keep its necessary work within the scope of historic preservation, to maintain the house as close to original condition as possible.

Stephen Steiner left a legacy of a well-built house. Subsequent owners have preserved it for today, and the Frederick Woman's Civic Club is continuing this gift.



Steiner House on West Patrick Street as it appears today—the home of the Frederick Woman's Civic Club. The rear portion of the house was built in 1807. Its architecture is definitely more primitive than the front section, built ten years later.

#### MIDDLE AGES

In 1896, Lewis H. Steiner and Bernard C. Steiner, Ph.D., in tracing the history of the Steiner family, established that a Diploma of Nobility was confirmed by Emperor Sigismund in 1397. The family appeared for the first time in one of the archives of the Reichskammer of the Elector of Saxony dated "Regensburg 22nd of August in the year of our Saviour 1340."

Members of the family are found scattered throughout the Middle Ages. Some were knights and active in the military life of the times. Others were prominent in academic affairs, especially medicine, and a few turned to the church.

#### SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

From 1680 to 1685 there lived a large number of Steiner families scattered about the Rhine Palatinate, at Worms, along the Neckar River and in Hesse. The horrible devastations by the French during the many religious wars drove thousands of families away, and the Steiner family scattered.

In 1896, most of the family seemed to be descended from Frederick Theodor Von Steiner, who died in Vienna in 1468.

#### **EARLY AMERICAN STEINERS**

Early Steiner settlers in America who may have been related to Jacob (Stephen's grandfather) came to this country and settled in Lancaster County, Pa.

Jacob Steiner, born in 1713 and died in 1748, arrived by ship in Philadelphia on September 11, 1731 and settled in Frederick County before 1736.

Whom and when he married in not known, but he had three sons, John, Henry and Benedict.

John was a Miller, and had his mill north of Frederick where Worman's Mill was later located, near the intersection of Routes 26 and 355. He was an active member of the German Reformed Church (now the Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ, on West Church Street).

He married Catherine Elizabeth Ramsburg (1739-1792) and they had eleven children. The fifth child was Stephen, who was born in 1767.

## STEPHEN STEINER 1767-1829

Stephen Steiner was born and raised in Frederick. During the Revolutionary War, he was too young to volunteer. However, he was large and strong for his age, and at 14, he enrolled as one of the guards over the Hessian prisoners in the South Market Street barracks, as most of the able-bodied men were absent in the fighting.

Stephen was married twice. His first wife was Barbara Ramsburg (May 28, 1777-March 9, 1820), whom he married October 11, 1795. They had three children:

George, who never married, was baptized in 1799 and died in Frederick;

Charlotte (August 13, 1797-January 13, 1824) who married Lewis Ramsburg on May 1, 1821. They had no children.

Daniel (August 18, 1801-1850) who married a widow, Julia A. (Birely) Larkin on September 27, 1832. They lived in Cumberland, Md., but he died in Pittsburgh, Pa. They had two sons.

Stephen's second wife was the widow Elizabeth (Byerly) Bausman (1788-1866), whom he married in 1821. She was the daughter of Frederick Ludwick Birely (1752-1806) and Elizabeth Motter. Frederick was born in Lancaster, Pa. and moved to Frederick about the time of the Revolutionary War. He had nine children, two of whom, Valentine and Lewis, became tanners and operated neighboring tanneries on East Patrick Street along Carroll Creek in Frederick in the mid-1800's.

Elizabeth had first married Benjamin Bausman on January 17, 1807 and they had two daughters, Elizabeth (also called Eliza) and Sophia.

Stephen Steiner and his second wife had one child, Frederick Byerly Steiner, who was born May 28, 1822 and died after 1896. He married Catherine Munder (who died February 22, 1876) on May 12, 1850. They had two children:

Charles, born October 24, 1854, died August 16, 1876, who never married; Emma, who was born February 26, 1856 and died in 1890. She was a

musical directress in New York City.

Frederick Byerly Steiner was engaged for many years in the fruit importing business in the firm of Dix and Steiner in Baltimore. He was obviously very prosperous, since he was able to maintain a summer home in Anne Arundel County, as well as a winter residence in Baltimore City.

Stephen Steiner was a very prominent citizen of Frederick. He was a leader of society and many balls and parties were held in his home. He was a contemporary of Francis Scott Key and Roger Brooke Taney.

Stephen was involved also in the business and civic affairs of the community. Besides being an architect of note and responsible for other homes in the city (in addition to Steiner House) he raised the first company of volunteers in Western Maryland in 1814. He was attached with his company to the 16th Militia Regiment, Col. Ragan's. At the defeat of Bladensburg, Col. Ragan was wounded and taken prisoner; Col. Steiner then took command of the regiment. He was present with the troops at the battle of North Point, but was not brought into action.

In 1818 he was one of the organizers and a first director of Frederick County National Bank. In 1825, he helped organize a water company for Frederick.

Stephen Steiner died September 5, 1829 without a will, leaving his widow Elizabeth and two children, Daniel and Frederick B. as his heirs-at-law, Frederick being a child under the age of 21. By proceedings of the

Equity Court, a trustee was appointed and Stephen's extensive real estate holdings were sold. Elizabeth purchased the house on West Patrick Street from the estate.

#### STEINER HOUSE

Land records show that George and Catherine Ramsburg, on April 24, 1799 conveyed to Stephen Steiner for £ 650 (pounds), current money, two lots of ground lying in Bentztown in Frederick County, described as part of a tract called "Long Acre" which was part of the tract known as "Tasker's Chance."

This section, now well inside the Frederick City limits, became known as "Battletown." Jacob Engelbrecht (local diarist) recorded in his diary on Monday, June 13, 1825:

"Battletown — the addition to Frederick Town. West end of Patrick Street. Laid out by Col. Stephen Steiner and Mr. Stephen Remsburg. — Derives its name from a small encounter between Col. Steiner and Stephen Klein, the first resident of the addition. The people first called it "Stephensburg" from the three Stephens who were first concerned — after that, they called it Ratsville from, I suppose, a number of Rats that were seen there — but now it appears to be firmly fixed as "Battletown." I merely mention this for the information of Posterity, to know from what it Derived its name — the above are facts and can be relied on having myself particularly enquired, its origin to insert in this Diary."

It was here that Stephen Steiner built the lovely home he designed in 1807 and added to by 1817. This is known as "The Steiner House." (He also built the Old Stone Tavern nearby, which has since been torn down.)

After Stephen's death, his widow Elizabeth sold the house to Horatio Wilcoxen Dec. 27, 1837 for a consideration of \$2,600. When Horatio died in 1848, the property was again sold, this time to John Lipps for \$1,600.

The house remained in the Lipps family for almost 100 years. It was during this time that the roof was built over the rear doors and a small separate cottage was erected. The latter was apparently used for many purposes over the years, possibly as a summer kitchen, a bakery and a house for Mr. Lipps's business endeavors. At one time, the Lipps sisters were seamstresses and fashioned clothing for prominent ladies of Frederick.

Through the generosity of Mrs. William Bradley Tyler Belt of Omaha, Neb. the Historical Society of Frederick was able to acquire Steiner House circa 1942 for its headquarters. Mrs. Belt also presented to the Society a handsome collection of heirlooms in memory of her late husband, formerly of Frederick, and his sister Catherine Dulaney Belt.

The dedication of the Society headquarters was a part of the Bicentennial celebration of the founding of Frederick City in 1945. The Society maintained the house as a museum, library and a meeting place for almost 20 years, when it purchased the former Loats home on East Church Street.

The Frederick Woman's Civic Club acquired Steiner House from the



The Frederick Woman's Civic Club began its annual Mardi Gras Ball, held annually the Saturday before Ash Wednesday, in 1962 to raise money to purchase Steiner House. Shown here are recent princesses who met at the house to choose the annual Queen of the Ball from among the group members.

Historical Society in June 1962 and has been able to maintain the property through proceeds from its annual Mardi Gras Ball.

At the time of the acquisition of the house. Mr. Frank Hennessy spoke to the club and gave a history of the house, including a description of the life of Frederick City and the "passing parade" on West Patrick Street.

Club members who were instrumental in securing the house for the club included Mrs. Edward Storm, president in 1962, Mrs. George B. Delaplaine Sr., Mrs. Glenn A. Main Jr. and Mrs. Harry Radcliff. A "Memorial Room" is maintained on the second floor to honor all past presidents and those responsible for the purchase. The home is a "working" museum, where the club holds its regular meetings (and makes it possible for other groups to meet) in addition to conducting tours through the facility.

Steiner House has been written about in many architectural reviews as one of the most outstanding examples of its design still existing in America.

The bricks (which were made on the premises) are laid in rows having both end and side bricks. This style is known as Flemish Bond and the brick work on the house is a notable illustration of this work.

The seven-foot elliptical heading over the doorway is very unusual. The beautiful fan glass has delicate lead tracery of flowers and tiny pineapples denoting hospitality. In front are the original marble steps.

Walking into the gracious colonial hallway, one sees a lofty, fluted white arch above and a graceful mahogany and maple staircase leading to the second and third floors.

To the left of the entrance hall is a double parlor divided by ten-foot paneled doors. The floors have their original boards. Behind the parlors are the dining room and kitchen, believed to be the original two rooms of the house. There are fireplaces in every room.

The house is furnished in part with period antiques, some given by club members and some inherited from the DeLashmutt estate. Through the generosity of Mr. Grayson Grove, whose wife was Ruth Steiner (one of the last of the Steiner family), the club was given a desk owned for many years by the Steiners, as well as a violin played for many family gatherings.

The patio and garden area at the rear of the house were designed by The Garden Club of Frederick. Located



Today Marie Diehl rests in the Steiner House garden. She was founder of the Frederick chapter of the SPCA, now the Humane Society, which she founded in 1901.



The original location of the Marie Diehl statue was on the corner of West Church and North Court Streets. It is a copy of a statue of Greek Goddess Hebe, handmaiden of the Gods by sculptor Thorval. Another like statue is found at "Riversdale Mansion" in College Park, now being restored. This home was owned by Benedict Calvert and his wife Rosalie Stier Calvert and the statue was possibly sent from Belgium when the house was being decorated.

in the garden is a small statue of a lady with a pitcher. This was formerly on West Church Street, across from the old Court House and in front of the Law Building. It was a part of a trough used for watering horses and was erected in 1911 by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, in memory of Miss Marie Diehl. The statue was restored in 1970 by Mr. David Mantell, when it was placed in the garden of Steiner House.

#### TRINITY STEEPLE

Perhaps Stephen Steiner's best known architectural work, in addition to his house, is the steeple on Trinity Chapel on West Church Street. The chapel had been constructed in 1763 and 1764, and in 1807 the steeple was remodeled and the beautiful woodwork and spire that now rests upon the original stone shaft was constructed by Stephen Steiner, architect and contractor. New bells were added at this time, as well as the town clock, which was built by Frederick Heisley.

According to an historic sketch of the Evangelical and Reformed church, written in 1894 by Dr. Eschbach, contributions for the clock came largely from church people. The original works of the clock were removed from the steeple and placed in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. in 1932. At one time, the clock was maintained by the city.

When Trinity Chapel was remodeled in 1881, the steeple and town clock remained unchanged.

# OTHER LOCAL STEINERS, FROM "WILLIAMS" AND "SCHARF" HISTORIES

Captain John Steiner was an extensive landowner in Frederick County, where his ancestors were among the first pioneers. He won his title in the wars with the Indians, and in the Revolutionary War. He was a member of the Committee of Observation, and captain of the militia in the home guards.

- 1756 Rev. John Conrad Steiner was pastor of the Reformed Church in Frederick.
- 1786 Jacob Steiner was a Trustee of the Poor and was opposed to the emission of paper money by the State of Maryland.
- War of 1812 Capt. Henry Steiner had a company of artillery. Capt. Stephen Steiner had a company of infantry, the first company of volunteers in Western Maryland. He later became commander of the regiment.
- 1818 Stephen Steiner and Henry Steiner were among the first directors of the Frederick County National Bank.
- 1824 Christian Steiner organized the former D.C. Winebrener Company, which for many years was one of Frederick's outstanding businesses.
- Dec. 29, 1824 A Colonel Steiner conducted procession welcoming Lafayette to Frederick.
- 1825 Stephen Steiner participated in meeting at Talbott's Hotel to organize a water company for Frederick.
- 1831 David Steiner served as secretary of Fredericktown Savings Institution.
- Sept. 12, 1832 Jacob Steiner, a Judge of the Orphans Court, died of cholera which was of epidemic proportions in the county.

Oct. 4, 1852 — John A. Steiner was among a number of citizens who formed Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Jan. 22, 1853 — The "Agricultural Club of Frederick County" was formed with Christian Steiner as one of the organizers. This group was the forerunner of the present Frederick County Agricultural Society who annually stages the Great Frederick Fair.

Civil War — Dr. Lewis H. Steiner, inspector under the Sanitary Commission, forerunner of the Public Health Service. Dr. Steiner was born in Frederick May 4, 1827, graduated from Marshall College, Mercersburg, Pa. He studied medicine with Dr. William Tyler in Frederick and later graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1849. Began practice in Frederick in 1850 and in 1852 moved to Baltimore.

Began career as educator in 1853 at Columbia College, Washington, D.C. After distinguished career he returned to Frederick in 1861. He was elected to State Senate in 1875 and 1879, serving 12 consecutive years.

In 1884 he was elected librarian at Enoch Pratt Library in Baltimore. He died February 18, 1892 and is buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Frederick.

Dr. Steiner was succeeded as librarian by his son, Dr. Bernard Steiner, also a native of Frederick.

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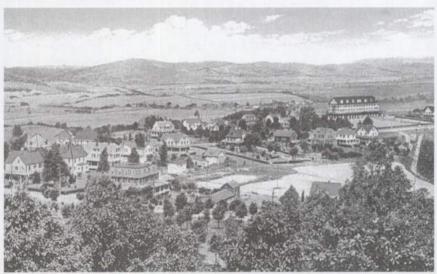
# THE GROVE OF THE GOLDEN STARS

Few residents of Braddock Heights today can remember the amusement park on the hill, and even fewer can recall the "Grove of the Golden Stars" or its significance.

About 100 years ago, Braddock Heights was begun as a summer resort, and in the beginning, there were few year-round residents in the area. Following the establishment of the electric trolley line in 1896, which came from Frederick through Braddock to Middletown, the Braddock Development Company was formed. It was not long after that summer cottages started to spring up everywhere on the mountain. The cooling breezes in summer were very desirable for Frederick residents to enjoy and people from Washington and Baltimore eventually found "The Heights" and started spending days and weeks there also.

The first cottages were both private residences and summer boarding houses. In its heyday (the 1920s), there were several stores, a post office, the Braddock Hotel (which burned in 1929), and the amusement park.

The park was built and owned for many years by the Frederick and Middletown Railway and its successors, the Hagerstown and Frederick Railway and then the Potomac Edison Company. The community built itself around the amusement park which became a very popular spot for families to gather, and a place for many churches, schools, and youth groups to enjoy a day away from the hot city.



This aerial view of Braddock Heights was taken prior to 1929. Features visible are the Braddock Hotel which burned down in 1929, many houses on Maryland Avenue, on the right center the trolley tracks and in the foreground the lush growth of the Grove of the Golden Stars.



Shortly after the trees were planted for the memorial grove the Braddock Heights amusement park structures formed a backdrop. From the left are the first observation tower, the red-roofed merry-go-round, the caretaker's home and the skating rink. Only the house remains today and it is fast decaying.

Some of the amusements in the park included the skating rink and bowling alley, merry-go-round, miniature train, a large sliding board, observation tower, dance hall, theater, ferris wheel, swings for both children and adults, pony rides, tennis courts, many picnic sites and of course the "Grove of the Golden Stars."

In the beginning the park entrance was located next to a large field; around 1919 (according to some sources) many Norway Maple trees were planted near the entrance. Following World War I each tree was marked with a plaque containing the name of a serviceman who lost his life during the war. Most of these men had served in the Army; however, along with those were 3 sailors and 1 Marine. According to other sources, the Potomac Edison Company, successor owner of the trolley and predecessor of today's Allegheny Power Company (owners of the park) had the trees planted and later added the plaques. As the trees grew they provided a welcome shade under which to enjoy refreshments in the park and also was probably one of the earliest tributes to deceased servicemen following the war.

The front page of the *Frederick Post* newspaper dated May 30, 1921, showed a picture of the trees with a description, "Park of 92 trees to be dedicated at Braddock Heights this afternoon by the Hagerstown and Frederick Railway in memory of Frederick County men who lost their lives in the European War." An accompanying article read, "At 1:15 p.m. members of the Francis Scott Key American Legion Post will meet at the Armory (in Frederick) where accompanied by Company A, the local National Guard Unit, along with the First Regiment Band will march into Mt. Olivet Cemetery. There they will decorate the graves of their dead comrades buried in the cemetery. A speak-

er will be present for the ceremony. After ceremonies at the cemetery the members of the Legion Post, the Band, and Company A will board the trolley cars at the corner of South and Market Streets and will proceed to Braddock Heights for the ceremonies in connection with the dedication of The Grove of the Golden Stars.

The Frederick Post of May 30, 1921 reported Thomas W. Miller, federal alien property custodian, was the orator of the day. His message was filled with patriotism, love of country, and with a great feeling of reverence for those who had lost their lives in the "Great Conflict." Mr. Miller also dedicated the "Grove of the Golden Stars" to the memory of the fallen heroes of the county at Braddock Heights in the afternoon. A very large crowd attended, including the relatives of the deceased soldiers. Also there was a most interesting program of exercises. (There followed in the article a description of the speech.)

The Frederick City Memorial Park at the corner of West Second and Bentz streets was constructed and dedicated about 1925, after a countywide fund raising drive. The park, formerly a graveyard for the local Reformed Church, was deeded to the city and county for a memorial park. The central monument in the park lists the names of all Frederick County servicemen during World War I. Other monuments to those who served in other conflicts have been added more recently.

The last trolley to Braddock Heights ran in 1947. Its demise was brought about because it just could not compete with the private automobile. The park was sold in 1956 but continued operation until the mid-1960s. The plaques for the servicemen were removed prior to the park's closing and were stored in the skating rink. In approximately 1988 the trees were removed; some dying of disease, some of old age, and some were moved to make room for the new shopping center building. By this time most of the buildings in the park had deteriorated and were torn down. The last remaining building, the skating rink, burned due to arsonists in August 1998.



James Cassell, Braddock Heights resident, displays several of the remaining plaques which were placed in the Grove of the Golden Stars. There were a total of 93 trees and plaques in the grove of trees.

Local former Fire Chief and businessman, James Cassell, grew up and now lives near the old park grounds. He has in his possession some of the plaques that were placed at the trees in the "Grove of the Golden Stars." His interest was aroused about the history of these plagues and of the men they honored. He has received permission from the present owners of the shopping center, where the post office is located, to erect a large plaque listing the names of the 93 (which seems to be the correct number) deceased servicemen. Funding assistance from Veterans groups and individuals will

complete the project in the hope that the memories of these men, as well as this park, will not be forgotten and can be honored for many generations to come.

It is expected that the plaque will be erected in the fall of 2005.

Those honored were:

William Shuff Hooper, Pvt., Army-K, 28 years, nine months, Oct. 1, 1918 Roy Carlton Huffer, Mec., Army-D, Aug. 23, 1888, Oct. 2, 1918 Charles Winfield Jacobs, Cpl., Army-D, Dec. 11, 1892, March 5, 1919 George H. Johnson, Pvt., Army-D, May 24, 1897, Oct. 13, 1918 Alvey Dayton Keenan, Cpl., Army-K, July 14, 1895, Sept. 29, 1918 Roy Otterbein Kelbaugh, Pfc., Army-K, July 30, 1889, Nov. 8, 1918 William Christian King, Pvt., Army-K, Jan. 30, 1893, April 8, 1918 David Franklin Koogle, Cpl., Army-D, May 21, 1897, Oct. 2, 1918 Lewis Lambright, Pvt., Army-O, May 15, 1889, Dec. 1, 1918 Gaither Leon Lewis, Pvt., Army-D, Aug. 6, 1893, Oct. 1, 1918 Henry W. Lowery, Pvt., Army-D, Jan. 13, 1898, Dec. 19, 1918 Martin Luther Lutz, Pvt., Army-D, April 1, 1887, Sept. 17, 1918 Ralph Daniel Lyles, Pvt., Army-D, June 16, 1893, Sept. 27, 1918 Roland Wordsworth Martin, Pvt., Marine-D, Sept. 27, 1894, Oct. 15, 1918 Frank T. McNally Jacob E. Mercer, Pvt., Army-D, Aug. 24, 1896, Oct. 15, 1918 Walter A. Monath George Sleeder Morningstar, Pvt., USMC-W, July 3, 1897, June 7, 1918 Walter Thomas Myers Vernon Ross Ohler, Pvt., Army-D, July 1, 1895, Oct. 10, 1918 Charles Paul Ernest Peugnet, Maj., Army-D, Jan. 28, 1873, Feb. 22, 1918 Andrew James Ponton, Pvt., Army-K, Oct. 3, 1886, Oct. 12, 1918 Jesse M. Pryor, Pvt., Army-D, Sept. 23, 1895, Aug. 7, 1918 Leonard Melville Quinn Benjamin Ray Reed, Pfc., Army-D, 23 years, 1 month, Oct. 28, 1918 Robert Bruce Reifsnider, Pvt., Army-D, Aug. 22, 1897, Oct. 4, 1918 William Patrick Reilly, Sgt., Army-W, March 27, 1896, Sept. 28, 1918 William Ricketts, Pvt., Army-W, 22 years, 11 months, Oct. 9, 1918 George M. Roeder, 1st Sgt., Army-D, 1895, Nov. 3, 1918 Francis Edward Rowe, HM2C, Navv-D, April 28, 1897, Sept. 23, 1918 George Grover Sanders, Pvt., Army-D, Aug. 18, 1893, Sept. 27,1918

John Reading Schley, 1st Lt., Army-O, Oct. 12, 1894, Oct. 22, 1918
Leslie Franklin Selby, Pvt., Army-D, Jan. 24, 1892, Oct. 18, 1918
Daniel Austin Shankle, Pvt., Army-D, Jan. 30, 1893, Oct. 8, 1918
George Samuel Shaw, Pvt., Army-D, July 27, 1896, Oct. 9, 1918
Carl Shaw Simpson, Pvt., Army-K, Feb. 27, 1893, Sept. 26, 1918
Guy Austin Smith, Pvt., Army-D, March 28, 1894, Oct. 3, 1918
Harry Beachley Smith, Pvt., Army-D, Nov. 15, 1889, Oct. 13, 1918
Herman Exavius Smith, MM2C, Navy-D, 20 years, 4 months, March 23, 1918
Fayette Ball Souders, Pvt., Army-D, 23 years, Oct. 8, 1918
Franklin Luther Staley, Pvt., Army-D, Oct. 25, 1891, Oct. 6, 1918
Harold W.W. Steadman, Cpl., Army-W, Nov. 22, 1898, Oct. 14, 1918
Clifford M. Stitely, Pvt., Army-W, Aug. 3, 1894, Nov. 6, 1918
Charles Streams

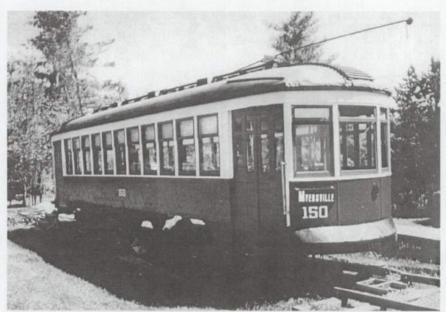
Raymond Leon Stull, Pfc., Army-K, 18 years, 4 months, Oct. 9, 1918 Stanley M. Toms; Wag., Army-W, May 18, 1889, Oct. 21, 1918 Charles F. Walker, Cpl., Army-K, 22 years, nine months, Oct. 11, 1918 James Somerset Waters

Russell John Watkins, Pvt., Army-D, Oct. 12, 1896, Oct. 7, 1918
John Renner Webb, Pfc., Army-K, April 2, 1897, Oct. 24, 1918
Nevel Edward Wheeler, Pvt., Army-D, July 21, 1891, March 21, 1918
James Edward Wilhide, Army, 22 years, September 1918
George J. Williams, Pvt., Army-D, 19 years, March 14, 1918
Alvie Ellis Wise, Pvt., Army-D, Jan. 6, 1900, Sept. 21, 1918

K=Killed; W-Died of Wounds; D=Died of Disease; O=?????



The last remaining trees from the Grove of the Golden Stars is a sad reminder of the once-memorial to deceased veterans of World War I in Braddock Heights. Sadly, these trees also have recently disappeared, but a new permanent memorial has been planned.



This trolley, which once ran through Braddock Heights to Myersville, is being preserved by Donald Easterday. Each October a Trolley Festival is held near Myersville to commemorate the former trolley service in the area.

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## WOMEN WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE

History books are full of names of men who were explorers, settlers, and molders of society as we know it today. But where were the women?

The world was a different and difficult place 250 years ago, in the early days of Frederick County. Except for the earliest days of explorers, hunters, trappers and traders, women were here, too, moving into the virgin land with their husbands, working in the fields, raising children, tending gardens, and maintaining a lifestyle, which although foreign to us, helped to bring some of their European culture to the back woods.

Imagine the frontier of those days — no roads — just paths through the woods. Walking beside wagons which carried whatever household or farm goods they owned. Setting up a home in a crude log cabin using native materials. Clearing land for gardens. Feeding their families — and all the while on the alert for attacks by Native Americans or not-so-honest neighbors.

Frederick Town and County became a crossroads for the new nation, and remained a frontier for many years. Settlements were typical of many in their new country, but the area was traveled by many, famous or not-so-famous, traveling in all directions.

And women helped to make it all possible.

# Maria Margaretha Wintz Schley (1712-1787)



The church in Appenhofen, Germany, was the site of the marriage of John Thomas Schley and Margaretha Wintz. He served as schoolmaster there before coming to America with his wife and founding Frederick.

Frederick Town's founding father, who brought a band of 100 settlers from Germany in 1745, was John Thomas Schley. Much is known about him, and about his descendants. But little mention is made of his wife.

She was born near the small town of Appenhofen, Germany. Her father died soon after her birth, so her childhood must have been a poor one.

John Thomas was born in Mörzheim, where he became a schoolmaster. Seeking further opportunity, he moved to Appenhofen to become schoolmaster there. He met Maria Margaretha, they were married about 1735, and had six children before 1745.

It is not clear how they heard of opportunities that existed for settling across the Atlantic in a wilderness, and in a new community. Nor is it certain how they traveled to Maryland, and to what was to become Frederick.

But they came with their friends and five children, and built the first house in what was to become Frederick Town, in 1746.

Maria Margaretha has the distinction of being the mother of the first child born in Frederick, in 1746 — Maria Barbara. She was baptized Oct. 31, 1746 in the Lutheran church. Not all of the other children who were born in Germany came with their parents. In addition, two other children were born to the Schleys, in Frederick.

Some of the children remained in Frederick after they were grown. Some descendants of these children included Frederick Schley, a noted local lawyer; Admiral Winfield Scott Schley, famous in the Spanish American War a hundred years ago; and Col. Edward Schley who fathered 13 children, some of whose descendants reside in Frederick today — the families of the late Wilson Schley Jr., the late Donald Schley, Tom and Robert Frank, and the Delaplaines, Randalls and Luttrells.

So Maria and her husband Thomas left more of a heritage to Frederick than through his occupations of schoolmaster, church leader, innkeeper, and civic minded citizen.

## Susanna Ashfordby Beatty (about 1670-1740)

Even before Frederick Town was founded settlers were moving into present Frederick County. Benjamin Tasker patented his Taskers Chance land in 1725 and opened it for settlement. He and Daniel Dulany were land speculators — so that is nothing new today.

Many settlers in the early years were Germans, on their way to western Virginia from Pennsylvania, where new land had become scarce and expensive. Many liked the land here in Frederick County and set up homes, legally or illegally.

But not all of these early settlers were Germans. One of these was Susanna Beatty who was the daughter of a well-to-do family named Ashfordby who lived in present-day Ulster County, New York. Her birth and death dates are uncertain (possibly 1675–1745); but it is known that she married John Beatty in 1691 and they had 10 children.

It is not known why they left New York, or when, but she and her children arrived here around 1728-33, coming from New York via New Jersey. Her husband John had died in 1720. Susanna acquired 1,000 acres of land five miles east of present Frederick City near the Monocacy River from Daniel Dulany in 1732 and later added another 900 acres. Her house, now being stabilized and recently acquired for preservation, was built about 1734 and is of unusual construction.

Susanna's 10 children were Robert, William, Charles, Agnes, John, Thomas, Edward, Martha, James and Henry. Thomas was one of the Twelve Immortal Judges who signed the Repudiation of the Stamp Act in November 1765. This was the first act of defiance in the colonies against England prior to the Revolution.

Susanna, by deed of gift, for "five shillings current money and love and affection;" she gave lots to her children. The farm house was given to son James in 1739. Nearby was built the stone home known as "Meadow Brook Farm," lived in by Col. William Beatty, a grandson, who played a prominent part in the Revolutionary War.

Col. William had at least one daughter, Sophia, who lived from Jan. 25, 1768, to 1845. On April 20, 1788, she married bank president and successful businessman Nathaniel Rochester, from Hagerstown. They essentially reversed her great-grandmother's journey in 1810 and moved north with nine children to found Rochester, New York.

### Catherine Grosh Kimball (1751-1831)

As the Frederick area grew, there developed markets for farm products, and needs for tools, household goods, wagons and many other items. Business and commerce grew, and so did trade with markets in other areas. Transportation was critical, and many taverns and inns were built to service travelers.

Frederick, being a crossroads, boasted about 14 inns in the late 1700's.

Notable in the town was the Sign of the Golden Fleece. Conrad Grosh was its first innholder and property owner; the inn was located on West Patrick Street. He began the inn about 1751, the same year his daughter Catherine was born. It is said that Thomas Jefferson was entertained here in 1776.

Catherine was an early female entrepreneur. She took over proprietorship of the inn prior to her father's death, and purchased it from her father's estate in 1793. She ran the inn successfully — it was said to be one of the finest in Maryland. Innkeeping was one occupation open to women in those early years.

A few years before her death in 1831 she sold the inn to Joseph Talbott. It was here that French General Lafayette was entertained in 1824 during his visit to Frederick.

Catherine's legacy of innkeeping on West Patrick Street continued into the 20th century. The inn was later known as City Hotel, and a hotel was continued on the same property, including the Francis Scott Key Hotel which was built in 1922.

### Ann Jennings Johnson Grahame (1759-1835)

Life was becoming somewhat easier and more refined by the end of the 1700's, especially in county towns and Frederick Town. Some of the larger homes we know about today were constructed in this era.

We all know about Rose Hill Manor, but not too much about its first mistress.

Ann Jennings Johnson, the second oldest of Governor Thomas Johnson's eight children, was born at Richfield, off of present U.S. 15, in 1759. She met and married young businessman John Colin Grahame (1760-1833) and they



This log house on the grounds of Rose Hill Manor is probably smaller than the one lived in by Ann Jennings Johnson and her husband John Colin Grahame after their marriage in 1788 while the Manor house was being built.

were given the acreage known as Rose Garden by her father. There they lived in a log cabin while their home, Rose Hill Manor, was being built. It was truly elegant by the standards of its day, around 1793.

Mr. Grahame, often known as Major because of military service in his younger years, managed the farm, and was active in the life of Frederick Town, in politics, as a vestryman at All Saints Church in 1801, and as first president of Frederick County National Bank

from 1818 until his death in 1833.

Besides raising eight children, Ann took care of her father after her mother's death, from about 1793 until he died in 1819.

When her husband died, Ann found herself in dire financial straits. Due to financial reverses, slaves and some land were sold and Rose Hill Manor was mortgaged. She was subsequently forced to sell the home to pay bills.

Living in comfortable surroundings most of her life was not a guarantee of an easy old age.

### Saint Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton (1774-1821)

America's first native-born saint of the Roman Catholic Church spent most of her years in church service in Frederick County, near Emmitsburg. She is Ste. Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton.

Elizabeth Ann Bayley was born in New York City in 1774. Her father was a medical doctor, and her mother died when she was three.

In 1794 she married William Magee Seton, a prosperous businessman with connections in Europe. They had five children.

In 1803 on a trip to Leghorn, Italy, Mr. Seton, who had become ill, died, leaving Elizabeth and one daughter there. She was befriended by one of her husband's business contacts. It was here that she was converted to the Roman Catholic faith in 1805, when she found answers to many of her questions.

She returned to the United States, and after considering moving to Canada, decided to come to Baltimore, seeking a convent,



Saint Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton is remembered in Emmitsburg for her many acts of mercy and kindness while living and working there. The old house where she ran a school is still in its original location.

where in 1808 she was offered the charge of a school to be formed as a boarding school for young ladies, daughters of Roman Catholic parents. Here she organized Sisters of Charity, the group first appearing in religious costume on June 2, 1809.

At the suggestion of Mr. Samuel Cooper, a generous donor, the group decided to go to Emmitsburg "far from the hustle and dissipation of the city — in a healthy atmosphere." From here the religious order has extended throughout the United States. Their mission was to render charity to the poor and to educate the youth. St. Joseph's Academy, the first parochial school in the United States, was founded by her.

The group first lived in the Stone House, which probably was built about 1770, while the White House was being completed, in 1810.

Elizabeth had first met Father DuBois, the founder of Mount St. Mary's College, in 1808. He and his small school assisted the new group of women in many ways, and encouraged their work.

Many stories are told of how the Sisters of Charity would journey by foot to the Grotto, on the nearby mountain, for spiritual refreshment, often being waylaid by inclement weather.

Following her death in 1821, the Sisters of Charity flourished. A college was established, and in 1962 work began on a chapel in memory of her, dedicated in 1965.

In 1963, "Mother" Seton was beatified by Pope John XXIII; she was canonized in 1975. "She is the first daughter of the United States to be glorified with this incomparable attribute," said Pope Paul VI.

Today the Provincial House for the Sisters of Charity, and its Seton Shrine Chapel, stands beside the many works still being carried on by the Sisters as a tribute to this famous and inspiring woman.

### THE CIVIL WAR YEARS 1861-1865

### Barbara Hauer Fritchie (1766-1862) Mary Elizabeth Birely (1832-1890)

We are all familiar with the story of Barbara Fritchie, our local well-known heroine of the Civil War. Yes, she was a real person who lived on West Patrick Street next to Carroll Creek, where her rebuilt home and museum is now located.

Her life and the events of those dark days of September 1862 were published in a small book which was written by her next door neighbor, Henry M. Nixdorff, and published by W.T. Delaplaine & Co. in 1887. Today this book is a collector's item.

The incidents described by John Greenleaf Whittier in his famous poem did not happen exactly as the poet told it. But it is a fact that even at age 96 Dame Barbara was extremely loyal to the Union, as were other women of

whom we know — Mrs. Mary Quantrell who resided on West Patrick Street just west of Mrs. Fritchie and Nancy Crouse, a patriot in Middletown. Both of these women were also involved in flag waving incidents, also during September, 1862.

Mrs. Fritchie died in December 1862, so she did not live long enough to see her beloved country restored to unity.

The event which followed the march of Confederate Troops through Frederick Town, and later the Union Troops, was the battle of Antietam.

There were countless other heroines in Frederick County at this time. Churches and other large buildings were opened as hospitals to treat the wounded, and local young ladies volunteered as nurses, forming a Ladies' Aid Society. Seven committees were appointed at each hospital, guaranteeing care every day throughout the week.

One such volunteer was Mary Elizabeth Birely, daughter of tanner Lewis Birely and his wife Deborah Krebs. She nursed soldiers at the Hessian Barracks when Captain David Hamilton was a patient. They met — they fell in love — and were married in Frederick in 1863. Following the wedding they moved to Waterbury, Conn., his home town, where they established their residence.

They had two sons and a daughter, Katherine, who kept in touch through the years with her local first cousin, Fannie Birely Delaplaine. Both cousins were in their 90s when they died.

### Margaret Elizabeth Scholl Hood (1822-1913)

A contemporary of Mary Elizabeth Birely was Margaret Elizabeth Scholl. Part of her younger years is known to us through her diaries, published prior to the Hood College Centennial in 1993.

She was the daughter of Daniel and Maria Susan Thomas Scholl.

She led a privileged life, as she was an only child and her family was well off and could give her advantages. She was well educated in several private schools here and in Carroll County, and graduated from Frederick Female Seminary in 1849. She resided with her parents at "Manchester Farm" on New Design Road, continuing to live there after her marriage to James Mifflin Hood in 1873, following the death of her parents.



Margaret Scholl Hood is known for many charitable acts during her lifetime, particularly to the hospital in its early years and Hood College which is named in memory of her husband, James Mifflin Hood.

Mr. Hood was a well-known carriage maker husband, James Mittin Hood. in Frederick who was originally from Baltimore. He had three children by a previous marriage, to whom Margaret was devoted.

Following Mr. Hood's death in 1894, Margaret, always interested in the community, contributed to causes in Frederick. She donated to the library which was endowed by the will of her aunt, Mrs. C. Burr Artz, and gave money toward two wings at the Frederick Hospital. She believed in responsible stewardship, and lived out her life with this principle, donating also to the Evangelical and Reformed (now United Church of Christ) Church and Home for the Aged. She was a member of the Art Club and the Historical Society.

She was a friend of Dr. Joseph Henry Apple, president of Woman's College, and in her later years lived in Winchester Hall, then the college's home. Students at that time recalled how Mrs. Hood would leave the building to be driven regularly in a carriage for a ride around town.

Mrs. Hood was generous to the college, and left substantial money and land to the institution provided the name be changed to Hood College. She also gave money to establish an endowment. She died in January 1913. The students graduating that year insisted on having "Hood College" printed on their diplomas.

### A NEW ERA

Toward the end of the 19th century it seems as if a new era had arrived. Women were becoming more aware of their potentials, and more opportunities opened up to them as seen in several events which occurred in the years of 1890 to 1920.

The Woman's Suffrage movement as well as the abolition of slavery traces roots to a meeting held in Seneca Falls, N.Y., in 1848. However there seemed to be no evidence that this had any direct affect on women's lives in Frederick.

Catalysts for women to become more active in civic endeavors were the invention of labor saving devices for the home such as the sewing machine, gas lighting in homes, indoor plumbing, and the telephone.

There was also an availability of household help, to lighten the load in more well-to-do homes for housework, cooking, and child rearing. And undoubtedly an improved education system and interest in "higher education" produced better education for all, but especially women.

So it is not surprising that women with more free time began to organize. Several institutions extant today were founded around that time by active women.

And a few other women were able to pursue careers formerly not open to them, either by choice or necessity. Women at first were employed most often as school teachers or factory workers, but later were able to choose other types of jobs such as telephone operators, secretaries, or store clerks, formerly held only by men.

### Miss Emma Gittinger (1850-1927)

Miss Emma Gittinger did not fit into a mold. In 1888 she was employed as a writer and reporter for *The News* published by W.T. Delaplaine. She unknow-

ingly made history as being one of the first female newspaper reporters.

A native of Frederick, she became a popular columnist, with a weekly column called "Girl About Town" and sometimes "Saturday Chat." Writing under the pen name of "Mary Jane," she commented on the social life in Frederick and nearby areas. She also wrote news stories and features, continuing for almost 40 years until her death in 1927 at the age of 76.

The News employed a few other women in its early years, one being Miss Jenny Bennett, sister of head pressman William Bennett. She performed duties other than writing, and usually part time, such as pasting together "Peerless Paper Meat Sacks."

### Miss Florence W. Doub (1851-1932) Frederick Art Club

Frederick County artists today may not be aware of the past interest in the practice of art. Miss Florence Doub, who helped begin the Frederick Art Club in 1897, would be proud of the many artists who are active here today, but especially of the Frederick Art Club members who are still meeting and fostering art in the community.

Miss Floy, as she was called, was a lifelong Frederick resident who could trace her ancestry to the Kemp and Doub families, prominent residents of the Frederick area in the 1700s. She was interested in art all her life, and shared her interest and knowledge freely.

When Woman's College opened in 1893, Miss Floy was the first head of the Art Department. It was during this time that the Frederick Art Club was founded, to encourage the practice of art as contrasted with the study of art history. Meetings were often held in members' homes, and the intention was to go on sketching parties and hold discussions on art and art methods.

Miss Floy also taught for a time at Maryland School for the Deaf, and remained active until her death in 1932.

### Emma Josephine Smith (1844-1916) Frederick Memorial Hospital

Emma Josephine Smith was just one of a number of Frederick women who saw a need in the community and helped to found an organization to fill that need.

Miss Emma was born in Frederick, lived her life here and is buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

She and a group of ladies, most not connected to the medical profession, formed an organization to build a hospital to care for the sick in the growing population. At the March 26, 1897, organizational meeting Miss Emma was elected president. However only men could form corporations by state law, so fourteen men were selected to accomplish this, including five non-medical men.



The first sections of Frederick City Hospital were built with funds raised by women and the hospital was managed by them for many years. New more modern structures now occupy the site, on Trail Avenue and Park Avenue.

Fund raising was done by the women. Many familiar names in the community who are remembered today were active with the group, and with generous contributions from the community, a charter to build and operate a hospital was received. After seeking a building site, one was donated by Miss Emma on West Seventh Street, where today's hospital stands. The original three-story building was opened in 1902, and a school of nursing was established.

Immediately controversy arose between this new hospital and the Frederick County Medical Society. The doctors did not believe that women should run a hospital, so in 1899 they incorporated into their bylaws to erect, maintain and operate a hospital on the corner of South Market and South streets to be known as the Emergency Hospital.

A controversy escalated to the point that the governor tried to mediate between both hospitals. Finally after three unsuccessful years the Emergency Hospital closed, and doctors supported City Hospital.

Frederick City Hospital continued to thrive, and Mrs. Margaret Hood gave money in 1904-5 for the erection of a wing, on the south, and in 1906-7, for a second wing, on the north.

Thanks to the foresight of Emma J. Smith and her friends, the hospital was built on a solid base. In 1952 the name was changed to Frederick Memorial Hospital, to better reflect the service given county-wide and to recognize the many generous donors through the years.

### Mrs. S. Lewis Motter (1884-1929) Miss Bertha Trail (1864-1940) The Frederick Woman's Civic Club, Inc.

It was in 1911 when a group of civic-minded women met in Frederick, and formally organized what is now the Frederick Woman's Civic Club. They recognized the need for volunteer workers to improve the life of city residents. The organizational meeting occurred April 1911; they joined the Federation of Women's Clubs a year later.

The first officers of the club were Mrs. S. Lewis Motter, president, and Miss Bertha Trail, first vice president. Other familiar names included Mrs. J. D. Hendrickson, Mrs. Charles Conley, Miss Lillian Motter, and Miss Ella Johnson.

Mrs. Motter was born in Harrisburg, Pa., as Janett Rogers Watts. Her husband was active in the business community of Frederick, in Motter Bros. &

Co., and a director of Frederick Railway Co. He was one of Frederick's businessmen who attended a presidential business conference in Washington in 1912 which resulted in the formation of Frederick Chamber of Commerce. Charter #1

### Miss Bertha Trail

Another founding member of the Frederick Woman's Civic Club was Miss Bertha Trail. Her family has long been involved in the Frederick community, through both businesses and civic improvements. And Miss Trail was no exception. Among her other accomplishments, she helped to found St. Timothy's Episcopal Church on Franklin Street, first as a Sunday School, and later as a mission of All Saints church. The present stone church was erected in 1924, and it became a mission of the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland in 1961.

The first activity of the Civic Club in 1911 was holding a rummage sale. Later activities included sponsoring a municipal cleanup day, providing rubbish cans for the city, a collection of flies by children, sponsoring the covering of garbage cans and wagons, and the establishment of playgrounds and a

Today's club boasts two meeting sections, and a membership of about 100 very active women.

Mrs. John Ritchie (Betty Harrison Maulsby) 1829-1898 National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution and Frederick Chapter

Betty Harrison Maulsby was born in Westminster and was married to Judge John Ritchie of Frederick. They lived at first at Prospect Hall where their oldest daughter, Emily Nelson Ritchie, was born in 1859. Later they moved to West Church Street in Frederick, in the large white house later known as the Lane House. There eighteen children were raised — to have so many children in a socially active and prominent family was an anomaly even at that time.

Mrs. Ritchie was active in the community, as was her husband. She was an active member of All Saints Church, was active with the committee erecting the monument of Francis Scott Key in Mt. Olivet Cemetery in 1898, and served on the Maryland Commission for the Chicago World's Fair in 1893.

The logo for the Daughters of the American Revolution shows a distaff and spinning wheel. The society was formed in 1890.

She is best known for helping to found and become a charter member of the Frederick Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and serving as its first Regent, 1892-4 and 1896-8.

The National Society was founded in Washington in 1890 by a group of prominent women, several of whom were wives of presidents, and all who could claim Revolutionary War ancestors.

The Frederick Chapter was the second to be formed in Maryland, when fourteen local ladies met at the home of Mrs. Ritchie with Miss Eugenia Washington, Registrar General, and one of four founding members of the National Society. It was said that the group could have been called the "Court House Square Chapter," as most of the fourteen lived within a short radius of Frederick's Court House. Three of Mrs. Ritchie's daughters were also charter members, and a daughter Willie Ritchie served as Regent twice. In all, seven of her daughters became members. Early work of the chapter was to seek and re-inter graves of Revolutionary War soldiers and patriots, and in 1904 to erect a bronze tablet in the Court House in honor of the Twelve Immortal Judges who repudiated the Stamp Act in 1765.

Mrs. Ritchie's eldest daughters became well known locally and nationally. Mrs. Donald (Emily Nelson Ritchie) McLean was born at Prospect Hall in 1859. She graduated from Frederick Female Seminary and attended finishing schools in Baltimore, specializing in language, history and music. Upon her marriage to Donald McLean, a wealthy and prominent lawyer in New York in 1883, she moved to New York City. The couple had three daughters.

Emily was active in the social life of the city, and was a founding member and first Regent in 1890 of the New York City DAR Chapter. She was proud of her ancestors, a family of judges. It is said "her inheritance and rearing made her capable, ambitious, gracious, and just."

She became active in the National Society, and during several elections, she ran as a "grassroots" candidate, challenging the "dowagers composed of wives of prominent Washingtonians" who dominated the Society. She was elected in 1906 as President General.

Her work included much travel throughout the United States furthering the work of the society. She considered Frederick her home and returned often, speaking at the dedication of the Francis Scott Key monument in 1898, and the unveiling of the 1904 plaque. Her term of President General was distinguished by the erection of a Memorial Building on Jamestown Island, Va., and nearly completing Constitution Hall in Washington.

She died in 1916; her grave in Mount Olivet Cemetery was marked by the local DAR Chapter in 1972.

### Mrs. A. G. McKinney Miss Elizabeth Thompson Frederick County Homemakers

The year was 1918. The Maryland Legislature passed an act creating the Extension Service, to improve the life of farm families, and disseminate help for better agriculture.

As part of this new service, each county or region had assigned to it a home demonstration agent. Elizabeth Thompson was Frederick County's first agent, and she was instrumental in setting up women's clubs in towns throughout the county.

The clubs fostered pride in farm women, especially those displaying leadership qualities. The Frederick County Federation of Women's Clubs was first organized in 1922, and Mrs. A. G. McKinney of Walkersville was selected as the first president. During over 76 years of its existence, annual meetings have been held, and several name changes have occurred. The first project of the group was basket making, and the women were encouraged when they received award money at the Frederick County Fair.

Today's Frederick County Homemakers are still active, and still pursuing the aims of helping rural women learn new ways to develop strong families through education and shared experiences.



Local artist Helen L. Smith is remembered for her prolific drawings and paintings. She restored the mural in City Hall in 1984 which she had originally painted for the Court House in 1924.

### Helen L. Smith (1894-1997)

Needing no introduction to Frederick County residents is Helen Leona Smith, who died at the age of 103. Who in Frederick does not own at least one piece of her art work? She was prolific, skilled, multi-faceted, and loved by all.

She was born on a farm, oldest of nine children, south of Frederick near Ballenger Creek and received her education locally through high school. Her father considered her interest in art as "foolishness," but an uncle encouraged her and she pursued her art studies at Maryland Institute of Art in Baltimore.

Returning to Frederick in 1916 she taught art at Hood College, and in 1925 opened her own art studio and shop. She was a true entrepreneur, and was able to support herself all of

her life with her own work. She moved her shop twice, the last time to Old Braddock west of Frederick into a home once lived in by Barbara Fritchie and her husband John.

Miss Helen was a well rounded person. She had numerous friends — she enjoyed travel — she loved her flower and vegetable gardens — she helped found a garden club and the Zonta Club, in both of which she remained active all her life.

Her reputation was widespread, and she counted as customers people not only in Frederick County, but all through the east. A book about her life was published in 1998. Several shows of her art have been held locally, borrowing her work from many private collections.

### Frances Elizabeth Browne (1905-1997)

A well known teacher in Lincoln Elementary School was Elizabeth Brown. She began teaching first grade in 1929 and soon realized many of her students lagged behind in their readiness for school. She was instrumental in forming the Esther Grinage Kindergarten Association and opened the school for African American students in 1937. It was named for Esther Grinage, who taught fourth grade in the Lincoln Elementary School in 1949. The school closed in 1973 when public schools offered desegregated kindergartens.

At one time the school received funds from the United Givers Fund for equipment and supplies.

Elizabeth retired in 1969 after 40 years of teaching. Today there is an Esther Grinage Scholarship Fund.

### Charlotte Elizabeth Pyles Burket (1910-1992)

A more recent outstanding woman who definitely added a new dimension in opportunities for women was Elizabeth Burket.

She was born in 1910, daughter of a local dentist, Dr. Thomas Pyles, and his wife Charlotte. After attending local schools, she received a bachelor's

degree in English and later a master's degree from the University of Maryland.

Her teaching career was in biology. Since there were already many English teachers in the local school system she changed her subject. She taught 10 years at Frederick High School until she married Foster Kline Burket, and moved to his home town in Ohio.

Following her husband's death she returned to Frederick and became active in the volunteer community, in the Cancer Society which gave her an award for her work, in the local chapter of AARP, and in her church, All Saints Episcopal.

But her lasting legacy is in politics. She began by attending aldermen and other city meetings at City Hall. She was elected as the first female alderman, serving one term in 1974-78, and again in 1985-86 to fill an unexpired term.



Elizabeth Burket was the first woman to be elected as a Frederick City Alderman. She was an observer and outspoken critic of city politics before her election.

She was outspoken and had definite ideas and opinions on city growth and expansion, and about the airport, on which committee she served as alderman.

Her service opened the way for more women to enter politics. Mary Williams became the first female county commissioner. Ilona Hogan later was a county commissioner, and Anita Stup, Louise Snodgrass and Sue Hecht served in the Maryland House of Delegates. Beverly Byron served in Congress following her husband's death. Recent city aldermen have been Meta Nash, Donna Kuzemchak Ramsburg and Marcia Hall.



Claire McCardell

### Claire McCardell (1905-1958)

Claire McCardell is a name many of us remember. She was born in Frederick in 1905, graduated from Frederick High School, attended Hood College for two years, then transferred to Parsons School of Design in New York City.

Her career was in designing women's fashions. She was noted for starting the casual American look, dedicated to the idea that "clothes should be made to be worn in comfort — functional, simple, and clean of line." Her designs were popular, and she turned the fashion world around — she was mourned by many when she died at age 53 in 1958.

### Dr. Blanche Bourne Tyree (1917-

...was a Frederick native who did not have her career here but has returned to her native city to be involved in its life.

Blanche was born in 1917. Her parents were Dr. and Mrs. Ulysses Bourne who resided on West All Saints Street. They later moved to West South Street but maintained his office with his son, Dr. Ulysses Bourne, Jr. Dr. Bourne was a well respected doctor in Frederick who listed many local residents as patients.

Blanche liked to travel around with her father when he made house calls. She recalls being asked "Little girl, what are you going to do when you grow

up," to which she answered, "I'm going to be a doctor." She was laughed at – but from then on she knew she would be a doctor.

She attended Morgan College and received her medical degree from Howard University in 1941 – Frederick's first woman to receive a medical degree!

Her professional career was spent in the Washington, D.C. area where she was a pediatrician and public health administrator.

After her retirement she returned to Frederick with her husband, Chris Tyree, and became involved in volunteer activities, serving on the Community Foundation Board of Directors, the Delaplaine Visual Arts Center, and others.



Dr. Blanche Bourne Tyree

### Martha E. Church (1930-

Frederick women today are active in the community and contributing as well to the nation and the world. One of whom we are proud is Dr. Martha Church.

The profession of teaching has been open to women for many years. And women have become school principals and supervisors in the public schools, as well as being college faculty members.

But Dr. Martha Church is unique. She became the first woman president of Hood College, and served in this capacity for 20 years. She recognized the uniqueness of an all-girl environment for training young women, and has been nationally recognized for her leadership in this area, as well as being efficient and successful in her role as president.



Dr. Martha Church was president of Hood College for 20 years, the first woman to be president there. It was during her administration that Hood celebrated its Centennial in 1993 and built the new Hodson Library.

Dr. Church, a native of Pittsburgh, Pa., came to Hood in 1975 after a career as teacher of geography, as a college dean, and as administrator in a college-related organization. Her accomplishments at Hood are widespread, and include fund raising, increasing enrollment, increasing diversity among students, all the while serving as a positive role model for young women.

Since her retirement in 1995, she maintains her residence in Frederick and keeps contacts in the Frederick business community. Meanwhile she travels, serves on a higher education national board, is a member of the National Geographic Society, and continues her education contacts internationally, especially in China and India.

These women are representative of the thousands of women who have made Frederick County their home, and made contributions to the life of the larger community.

Undoubtedly other women will be remembered — as homemakers, as community leaders, or as family and friends. It takes many active women through the years to make Frederick County what it is today. We especially salute all volunteer workers, in many health organizations, in youth groups, and sports. And many "retired" senior citizens are still contributing significantly to the quality of life in Frederick County.

## The News-Post 1936 YEAR BOOK FREDERICK, MARYLAND



Artist Helen Smith designed this cover for the "News-Post Year Book" for 1936. A talented and prolific artist, she designed most of the Year Book covers which were published from 1921 through 1943.

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### LOOKING BACK THROUGH OLD NEWSPAPERS

The discovery of old newspapers, or even scraps of some, hold a fascination for many.

Herein lies a window into the past - events that happened in bygone days, what was important to people in those days, or a comparison to events of today.

Several of these newly-found "oldies" have come to the attention of this writer, including a bound volume of *The Key - 1798* loaned by James McSherry, and a copy of *Ulster County Gazette* of January 4, 1800. Recently found between layers in a framed picture which was being cleaned and restored was located one sheet of *The News* (Frederick) of August 4, 1897. Some scraps from the *Baltimore News-American* of October 19, 1969 were found stuffed in a wall in a room being renovated, and the existence of old sheets which wrapped some stored "Grandmother's" china.

### Brief History of Newspapers

Probably the first "newspaper" was the *Tsong Pao*, a court report from Peking dating to about 500 A.D. and lasting until 1935. It was printed from carved wooden blocks, the technique of which was hundreds of years old when the paper began.

The Romans used scribes to produce hand-written newsletters sent to businessmen and politicians in distant cities. Such newsletter services continued to be sent from European capitals until the 1700s. The Romans also began to post bulletins in the Forum about 60 B.C.

Johannes Gutenberg (1395?-1468?) In Mainz, Germany, invented a type mold which made printing from movable metallic type practical. The molds assured an adequate supply of letters which were equal in size and shape. Gutenberg and his associates produced mainly books during the mid 1400s. His first book to be printed was the Bible.

Following Gutenberg's invention there were occasional news pamphlets printed and distributed especially in Germany. But only a few people could read at that time.

The first "newspaper" printed on a regular basis was done in Germany in the early 1600s. This was followed in England in 1621 by *The Courant or Weekly News*. This was a small size at first, but was made larger in 1665. The first daily, the *Daily Courant*, was begun in 1700s by a woman.

In America, Benjamin Harris began a newspaper in New England in 1690. However it was suppressed after the first issue. It seems he arrived in the new country with an undesirable reputation!

In 1704 John Campbell in Boston began the *News Letter*. This was followed by others, including James Franklin in 1721, who employed his brother Benjamin. Benjamin later came to Philadelphia, bought a press in 1730 and printed the *Pennsylvania Gazette*. This was later reorganized and became the well-known *Saturday Evening Post*.

Benjamin was a man of many talents including science, politics, diplomacy, writing and philosophy. He is known to have visited in Frederick.

### Newspapers in Frederick

The first locally printed newspaper and first in Western Maryland was *The Maryland Chronicle* which appeared in 1786, published by Mathias Bartgis. It was printed in both English and German. The name was changed in 1792 to *Maryland Gazette or Frederick County Advertiser*. Two years later it became *Federal Gazette* and in 1801 was renamed *Republican Gazette*. There was also a job printing office used by businessmen and which also printed newspapers for others. The paper was sold several times and ceased publication in 1825.

A list of other local newspapers from early times can be found in *History of Frederick County* by T.J.C. Williams and Folger McKinsey. The list includes: 1790 - *Rights of Man* by John Winter, a printer and school teacher; 1798-1800 - *The Key* by John D. Cary and printed by the *Maryland Gazette*; 1802-1861 - *Fredericktowne Herald* begun by John P. Thompson from Carlisle, Pa.

After 30 years it was sold, and after several other owners was forced to close because of its politics at the beginning of the Civil War.

Early newspapers printed proceedings from Congress, foreign news and, later on, partisan editorials. Printers often received subscription payments in barter, and relied on subscribers to bring in news items as there were no reporters. These early newspapers were published weekly, and there were other newspapers printed in towns in the county.

### The Key - 1798-1800

The late James McSherry, a local attorney, shared a small bound volume entitled *The Key* with the date "1798" embossed on the spine of the book. It was named for General John Ross Key, father of Francis Scott Key. This volume has belonged in his family for many years.

Although classified as a newspaper, the size is quite small, being 7 1/2 inches by 5 inches by almost 1 inch thick. There seems to be little of what we know as "news" in the issues, which were printed weekly between Saturday, January 13, 1798, and Saturday, July 14, 1798. According to Williams and McKinsey in *History of Frederick County*, the publication lasted for three years.

In the last issue of this bound volume it was stated, "From some existing and highly probable circumstances, the publisher is induced to discontinue the publication of *The Key* for the present. In the course of two months we will resume it in the form of a monthly magazine, if 500 subscribers can be procured."

"To the Patrons of *The Key*, he offers his sincere and heart-felt thanks; and wishes them Virtue, Health and Happiness."

The transition to a magazine format was probably not too difficult, as the content the six months of its publication leans toward poetry and prose, much lifted from other newspapers. Subjects included On Fashion - On Happiness - Old Gregory - Soliloquy over a Dead Horse - The Power of Beauty - Description of a good wife - The Story of Miss Braddock (sister of General Braddock) who lost her fortune by gambling and then committed suicide at the age of 23 years.

A few advertisements did appear; Charles Peale Polk inserted a notice that he had resumed the profession of portrait painter; the price of a subscription of \$2 per year; there was an ad for an active smart lad as apprentice to the Printing Business.

There appeared a three-part series describing Frederick County, a bit of history, population statistics, agricultural products, churches and manufacturing pursuits. The 1791 Census reported 30,791 persons of which 3,541 were slaves.

The Key was printed weekly by John D. Cary, at the office of the Federal Gazette, on Market Street. The pages were continuously numbered, and the last issue in the bound volume

contained an index.

### **Ulster County Gazette**

Published at Kingston (Ulster Co., N.Y.) by Samuel Freer & Son. VOL II, January 4, 1800 Num.88

The travels of this newspaper from New York State to Frederick are largely unknown. It was discovered among some family papers in an old desk which arrived in Frederick from Philadelphia recently. As far as is known, no ancestors from the family ever lived in New York.

The front page measures 18" long by 13" wide; it contains four pages. The content of the newspaper seems typical of newspapers of that era, consisting of an address to the House of Representatives by

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This copy of "Ulster County Gazette" dated January 4, 1800 was actually reprinted 100 years later. It is full of items about George Washington's death, in December, 1799.

President John Adams, and his address to the Senate. Foreign news came from London and from dispatchers about the war in Europe.

Page four contains a listing of Sheriff's sales, ads for lost cows, and items for sale such as a sleigh, dry goods and groceries, writing and wrapping paper, and a saw mill.

The inside is the most interesting part of this issue. Besides many columns of government and foreign news, there is an announcement of George Washington's death, and a detailed account of the funeral procession and entombment of the former President, with full military honors. A poem entitled "On the Death of George Washington" by a Young Lady (no identification) is found on page three. All inside page columns are edged in black.

This was probably not an original. The author was told that this issue of the *Gazette* was reprinted and widely distributed upon the 100th anniversary of George Washington's death in 1899. This copy was passed down through the author's family.

### THE NEWS Saturday, August 14, 1897 (Frederick)

A more recent piece of a (Frederick) *News* dated Saturday, August 14, 1897 was found behind an old framed picture which was being restored. The paper is in poor condition, but still easily read.

The front page contains several advertisements as well as international news from India, Korea, London and Madrid as well as small articles of national news. The back page contains quotes from the livestock market and a column entitled "Our Market Group" which reported on that morning's market. It listed fresh vegetables which were available, as well as fresh eggs, dairy products and meats, all at unbelievable (today) prices. There was also a mention of the Braddock Picnic. This was reached by trolley, for sure.

The News was begun October 15, 1883, as a daily and its publication continued six days a week. It has never missed a regularly scheduled issue in 122 years. The Frederick Post was begun in 1910 as competition to The News. It



"The News" was first printed at this location on North Market Street, near the Square Corner, It moved to 44 North Market Street in 1888.

was purchased by *The News* in 1916 and continued as a morning paper.

The evening News and morning Frederick News-Post continued as a daily newspaper until the editions were combined as The Frederick News-Post on March 30, 2002. The Sunday edition began October 13, 2002, making the

paper a true daily, 365 days a year. *The Frederick News-Post* was purchased on March 13, 2001 by Randall Family LLC.

Local newspapers are now to be found on microfilm. The C. Burr Artz Library has, besides *The News* and *Frederick Post* from 1883: Bartgis *Federal Gazette*, June 12, 1799; *Fredericktowne Herald* - many; Bartgis *General Staatsbothe*, Jan. 17, 1793- Dec. 21, 1793; *News* and *The Frederick Post*, all copies of each.

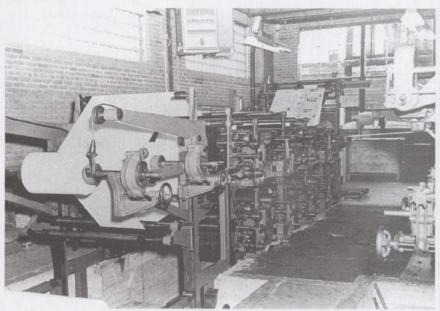
In the Maryland Room of



The home of the "Frederick News-Post" on North Court Street was built in 1910 by "The Frederick Post." "The News" and "The Post" combined operations after "The News" bought "The Frederick Post" in 1916.

the library can be found Bartgis \*\*News" bought "The Frederick Post" in 1916.

Federal Gazette or The Frederick County Weekly Advertiser, five issues, 1799-1800 (in the vault); Federal Republican and Commercial Gazette, Vol. # No 225 June 25, 1810; Fredericktowne Herald, Nov. 12, 1808 and Sept. 7, 1811; The Key, Jan. 20, 1798 - June 2, 1798 (incomplete); Listing of 1887 Newspapers in the Frederick City and County Directory, P. 296, 297 & 298, of which a reprint can be found in a folder.



This rotary press was used by "The News" and "The Frederick Post" after 1922. The two newspapers merged and "The News" moved from 44 North Market Street after 1916 to North Court Street.



Two historic front pages were printed by "The News" in 1941 and 1945. Both were of much interest to the readers. News such as this arrived by AP (Associated Press) wire service.

At the Historical Society of Frederick County there is a scholarly paper written in 1961 by Dorothy MacKay Quynn about Bartgis' Lost Newspaper.

These microfilm newspapers are interesting to read, and are a gold mine of information for historical researchers.

But of course they can't be recycled. Nor can they be used as fish wrappers, traction assists in the snow, as Girl Scout sit-upons or fire starters, as insulation in cracks in houses, or as drawer or box liners or packing material for storage or shipping.

Whole old newspapers are a rare find. They do take up space; often clippings of important happenings can do just as well.

The Frederick News-Post is continuing its modernization and all issues can be subscribed to on the Internet.

### 15

# FREDERICK'S HISTORY— How and where to find information BIBLIOGRAPHY

Frederick County's history is all around us. From the Potomac River in the south to the Mason-Dixon Line in the north; the hills of Parr's Ridge in the east to the Catoctin Mountains in the west — it seems that every mile, every town, every person you meet has something unique to offer about bygone days.

The interest in local history and lore seems to have mushroomed in recent years. Whether interest is in historical events or famous residents and visitors or interesting architecture, a person has resources everywhere. See where history was made — read history for recreation — and research interest on a particular topic.

Newer enthusiasts are being created every day. The *Frederick News-Post* History Bee, held yearly near Maryland Day, March 25, has third, fourth and fifth grader enthusiastically learning about early settlers, long-ago ways of life in the county, and development of today's world.

Excitement is contagious as parents and teachers aid and encourage young students. Newcomers to the county are impressed with what they find, and become involved in learning and interpreting the past.

Here is presented an overview of the many sources of information available. Much research on many topics has already been done. Books are readily available as are numerous pamphlets and booklets on limited subjects. No attempt has been made to list everything. There is too much — it takes a library to do that. The most popular and most recent offerings are included, as well as some old standbys.

### Sources

A good place to begin learning history is to seek original sources. A visit to any of the following places proves useful not just to the neophyte but the serious researcher as well.

- The Historical Society of Frederick County, 24 E. Church St., has a research library with much information on computer, family histories, permanent and temporary exhibits and vertical file.
- The Maryland Room, C. Burr Artz Library, 110 E. Patrick St., has a wealth of information on general history, city directories for many years, Frederick telephone books, genealogy, pictures, old maps, city and county statistics, church histories, newspaper abstracts and *The News, The Frederick Post*, now *The Frederick News-Post* on microfilm (1883-present) and "News-Post Yearbooks," printed from 1921-1943 are a few subjects available for study.
- The clerk's office in the Frederick County Court House, 100 W. Patrick St., has

marriage licenses and deeds of property transfer from 1748 to the present.

- The Register of Wills Office has probated wills.
- City and county churches have records of baptisms, marriages and funerals available, and graveyards in smaller towns can be fascinating. Many churches have also published histories of their congregations.
- Historic Sites Consortium and Tourism Council of Frederick County, 19 E. Church St., has walking tours, guided or self-directed, of Frederick City which are popular. Information is available on the many museums and historic sites in the county. Special open house days are held at the museums, usually in the spring and fall.
- Hood College's Hodson Library, 401 Rosemont Ave., has historic records, especially about the college and its relationship with Frederick.
- The Middletown Historical Society, West Main Street, Middletown, has history books and genealogical records, especially on western Frederick County and the Battle of South Mountain.
- The Thurmont Historical Society, 11 N. Church St., Thurmont, has material on the northern part of the county.
- The Catoctin Center for Regional Studies, Frederick Community College, 7932 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick, is a study group fostering research. It holds a fall regional history conference and publishes an occasional periodical.
- At Diversions Publications, 6 N. East St., Frederick, Tom Gorsline, publisher, is interested in Frederick and has published nine books by Frederick authors, as well as occasional history articles and pictures in the monthly "Frederick Magazine."
- The Marshall Etchison Bookstore adjoining the Historical Society of Frederick County on East Church Street carries a good selection of in-print county history books as well as other books on related historical topics. Several of the classic histories have recently been reprinted. It is worth a visit with a view to expanding personal libraries.
- Central Maryland Heritage League, 200 W. Main St., Middletown. Interest here is in the Middletown Valley, especially South Mountain during the Civil War.

### Older histories

Four books published prior to 1910 are interesting in themselves as well as supplying information from long ago.

1. "History of Maryland," 1849 by Judge James McSherry.

Judge James McSherry (1818-1869) stated in his preface that he wrote his history with a view to educating children about Maryland's history. As a resident of Frederick, he includes some little known facts about the city and county in the early days of the 1800's. The book has served as a basis for subsequent historic research.

Judge McSherry, of Irish descent, is one of a line of "James McSherrys." Frederick's James McSherry, recently deceased, is the great-grandson of the author. The McSherry family has produced many lawyers and judges as well as legislators, through the years.

- 2. "The Diary of Jacob Engelbrecht" by Jacob Engelbrecht (1797-1878).

This is perhaps the premier source of information on the life of Fredericktonians, and also glimpses of state, national and international incidents during the mid-1800's. He kept his diary from 1818 until just before his death.

He was born in Frederick to Conrad Engelbrecht and his wife, Margaret Houx, whose father was born in Germany, and lived his entire life here. Jacob's father was a German mercenary fighting for the British and was among those captured at Yorktown who were brought to Frederick where he was probably confined to the "Hessian" Barracks. He decided to remain in Frederick where he felt at home among so many German families.

Jacob learned the tailor trade from his father. He was later a shopkeeper and mayor of Frederick from 1865-68. He lived on West Patrick Street across from Barbara Fritchie during the Civil War.

Although not a detailed everyday record of his life, his diary records births, marriages, illnesses and deaths of friends and neighbors, results of local politics as well as national news that interested him.

The diary has been reprinted by the Historical Society of Frederick County as two volumes and is also available on a CD-ROM.

 3. "History of Western Maryland," by J. Thomas Scharff (1882) reprinted 1968 (2 volumes).

John Thomas Scharff was born in Baltimore, May 1, 1843. After his schooling, he worked for his father's clearing house at age 16.

A southern sympathizer, he enlisted in the Confederate Army and saw action in several battles and was captured in Maryland while on his way to Canada.

After the war he was engaged in the mercantile business and later was a journalist. He was admitted to the bar in 1874 and served in the Maryland legislature.

He was very interested in history and collected information and wrote histories of many mid-Atlantic areas. Besides his "History of Western Maryland," published in 1882, he wrote also on Baltimore, "History of Maryland" in three volumes, Philadelphia, West Chester County, N.Y. and several books on Civil War history. A collection of his works is housed at the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore.

He died in 1898.

His History of Western Maryland forms the basis for the first half of T.J.C. Williams's & Folger McKinsey's History of Frederick County.

 4. "History of Frederick County, Maryland," 1910, T.J.C. Williams and Folger McKinsey (reprinted 1967 — two volumes)

This is a very comprehensive and detailed history of the county. It begins with the early settlement of the area, and contains also a chapter on local Native Americans. It describes the development of towns in the county, as well as Frederick City, in great detail and includes many lists of names of those active in politics and wars.

Volume two is especially interesting for genealogists. In the process of producing the book, many prominent local residents were contacted to supply family histories to be printed (for a fee).

Thomas John Chew Williams was a native of Hagerstown, born Aug. 6, 1851, the youngest of five sons. As a child, the family was beset by tragedy. Nevertheless, young Tom was instilled with the love of books and history. Because of his age, he did not see the horrors of the Civil War.

His informal education ceased when he entered Columbian College in Washington in September 1866 for one year. He became a teacher and began the study of law and was admitted to the Calvert County bar in 1870, and later admitted to the bar in Washington County.

In 1874 he was married to Cora Martin Maddox and entered the field of journalism, later becoming first owner of *The Hagerstown Mail*. He later moved to Baltimore and was associated with the *Baltimore Sun*. During his career he was a historian, a public servant, a churchman and a juvenile judge and was acquainted with publishers, prelates, governors and presidents.

Mr. Williams' first major work "History of Washington County," was published in 1906. His publisher then urged him to produce "History of Frederick County," which was completed in 1910. He was responsible for the history up to the Civil War.

He continued his career as a judge, and died Dec. 11, 1929.

Folger McKinsey, co-author of "History of Frederick County," was born in Elkton in 1866, and had his schooling there until his family moved to Philadelphia in 1879.

He began his journalism career in 1885 as editor of the *Shore Gazette* in Ocean Beach, N.J. In 1886 William T. Delaplaine hired him as editor of *The News* and *Weekly News* in Frederick. He moved to Baltimore in 1898 to work at *The Baltimore News*, later to Washington for a position at *The Washington Post*, returning to Baltimore in 1906 to become associated with *The Baltimore Sun*.

While in Frederick he and his family resided in "Bentztown," the area around the intersection of West Patrick and Bentz streets. He adopted the pen name "Bentztown Bard" for his columns and poems for *The Sun*, drawing often on his experiences and knowledge of Frederick. He served as secretary of the Francis Scott Key Monument Association which was responsible for the monument to Key in Mount Olivet Cemetery, erected in 1898.

Mr. McKinsey was approached to write the history of Frederick County

from 1861 to 1910 by Mr. Williams. That period of history included the creation of many businesses and growth in the area.

Mr. McKinsey died in 1950. He was known as Maryland's "genius poet" for his prolific poetry and prose.

### Early Frederick County History

 "Pioneers of Old Monocacy, The early settlement of Frederick County, Maryland 1721-1743," by Grace L. Tracey and John P. Dern

There has not been much detailed history written about the very early days of Frederick County, largely because source material is scarce. Few records of the time exist. With moving settlers and unsecure living conditions there was neither the time nor the inclination to leave records behind.

In the early 1930's Dr. Arthur G. Tracey of Hampstead began a painstaking search and examination of early land grants and surveys. The early records of Maryland's Land Office were in disarray and it became a labor of love to search through letters, envelopes and folders for information.

After Dr. Tracey's death in 1960, his daughter, Dr. Grace L. Tracey, continued his work. This book was published by the Historical Society of Carroll County in 1987. It contains not only locations of properties, but also a description of early explorers and traders in the Frederick County area and sketch maps showing locations of original patents.

- "New Facts and Old Families" from Records of Frederick County, MD published in 1976
- "This Was the Life," 1748-1765 Judgment records, published in 1979, both by Millard Milburn Rice.

Mr. Rice was born in Jefferson on Sept. 19, 1894 and received his education at the Jefferson School and Boys' High School, graduating in 1912. He was first employed by Citizens National Bank until he enlisted in the U.S. Air Service.

He lived in Colorado for 15 years for his health and while there he wrote articles on business, economics and politics.

He returned east in 1935, working first in Washington, and later in banks in Carroll County and Frederick. He retired in 1967 after serving the Walkersville branch, Farmers and Mechanics Bank as director and cashier.

He spent much of his retirement studying history.

Two additional works are found in the Maryland Room:

- "William Rice of Frederick County, Maryland and Some Descendants" (1979)
- "Pioneer Frederick County Doctors," (1983) manuscript
   Mr. Rice died Dec. 27, 1995 at the age of 101.
- "In and Out of Frederick Town," Colonial Occupations, 1985 Amy Lee H.
   Reed and Marie L. Burns

A wealth of information about life in Frederick, from farming to town liv-

ing, is contained in this book. A list of mills, country trades and land owners in Tasker's Chance begin the book, which continues with a map of Frederick town as laid out by Daniel Dulany in 1744-1745 and lot owners in the town with their occupations. Innkeeping was popular as was storekeeping; there were doctors, lawyers, schoolmasters and some manufacturing. Unfortunately, the book is out of print.

- "The Border Romance" the Mason-Dixon Line, 1965 Earl Schenck Miers
- "Walkin' the Line," 2000 William Ecenbarger. A journey from past to present along the Mason Dixon Line.
- "Maryland and the French and Indian War," 1998 Allen Powell.
- "Forgotten Heroes of the Old Maryland Frontier," 2000 Allen Powell.
- "Germans on the Maryland Frontier," 2004 Elizabeth Augusta Kassel. A social history of Frederick County, Maryland 1730-1800 (two volumes) a PhD. thesis.
- "Braddock's Campaign and Potomac Route to the West," 1989 Ross Netherton.
- "The Braddock Expedition and Fox's Gap in Maryland," 2000 Curtis L. Older.
- "The Brunners of Scheverstadt," 1984 Frederick Weiser.
- "Braddock Road Chronicles of 1753," 1999 Andrew J. Wahill.
- "Such Bandeity You Never See Collected," 1999 Andrew Krug.
- Frederick Town and the American Revolution (pamphlet)
- "Dear Papa, Dear Charley," 2001 Ronald Hoffman, editor, three volumes of correspondence of Charles Carroll of Carrollton.

### General histories

Many authors and historians are interested in only specific subjects, eras or places. However, a broader view of Frederick County can be found in other books.

- "Frederick, A Pictorial History," 1981 Nancy F. Whitmore and Timothy L. Cannon.
- "Pictorial History of Frederick Maryland" The first 250 years 1745-1995 Timothy L. Cannon, Tom Gorsline and Nancy Whitmore.

These volumes with their myriad of pictures are good introductions to Frederick's history, brought to life through photographs. Although not detailed in written comment, the books portray well what Frederick City looked like, and some hint how people lived.

- "The Jews Beneath the Clustered Spires," 1971 Paul and Rita Gordon.
- "A Textbook History of Frederick County," 1975 Paul and Rita Gordon.

Mrs. Gordon began her research on the Jewish population in Frederick City and County and was joined by her husband, Paul, as the work progressed.

The reader will be impressed with the many contributions by these people to the cultural and business life of Frederick.

Mrs. Gordon says there was so much information available that she could not use in the book that she accepted the suggestion of Miss English of the C. Burr Artz Library that a general history of Frederick written for children was needed. The Board of Education accepted the idea with the plan to have a copy of the book in every classroom.

The Gordons are not only historians but have been active in the community. Mrs. Gordon was a member of the Frederick County School Board for 10 years, from 1975-85. Mr. Gordon was mayor of Frederick from 1990 to 1994. Both have taken part in *The Frederick News-Post* History Bee, Mrs. Gordon as judge and Mr. Gordon as proctor.

The Gordons have donated much of their original source material to the library of the Historical Society of Frederick County.

— "... And All Our Yesterdays," 1997 — John Walker Ashbury.

John W. Ashbury has given us a unique look at Frederick's History. Day by day he has chronicled events which happened on that day, but it is all these—the lives of citizens, important events—and an excellent index makes it easy to find anything the reader wants to know, during 250 years of history.

Born in Dinwiddie, Va., Mr. Ashbury moved to Frederick in 1952 when his father, the Rev. Maurice Ashbury, became rector of All Saints Episcopal Church. His mother taught English for many years and was a member of the Frederick County School Board for 10 years. She was president for four of these years.

After John Ashbury graduated from Emory and Henry College, he began a career in journalism at *The Frederick News-Post*. He has been associated with several other newspapers as writer, editor and columnist.

He is looking forward to writing more about history after he retires from business.

- "Mirror on Frederick," 1998 - Frances A. Randall

Frances Randall began writing about Frederick's history in 1988 to be printed in the yearly supplement of *The Frederick News-Post*, "Hello Frederick." This was conceived as a publication to introduce newcomers to the variety of life found in the city and county, but also serves the long-time residents, too.

"Mirror on Frederick" is a series of chapters on different facets of life in Frederick. From the early beginning of the county to interesting people, from schools and transportation, to monuments and leisure activities, many little known facts are presented for the reader.

Mrs. Randall was inspired to delve into history by her uncle, the late Judge Edward Schley Delaplaine, who was a meticulous researcher and articulate writer.

— "Maryland in Law and History" 1964 — Edward Schley Delaplaine.

Judge Delaplaine enjoyed learning about and writing about Frederick County's notable people and outstanding events through the years. This book spotlights Thomas Jefferson, Francis Scott Key and Roger Brooke Taney and includes his speech given at the bicentennial celebration of Frederick County's founding in 1948.

Born in Frederick in 1893, Judge Delaplaine was the son of William Theodore Delaplaine, founder of The News, and Fannie Birely Delaplaine. He graduated from Boys' High School and Washington and Lee University. He was admitted to the Maryland Bar and practiced law in Frederick before being appointed Judge in the Maryland Court of Appeals in 1938.

Besides his interest in Frederick history and historically important citizens, he researched several branches of family genealogy back to the 17th and 18th centuries.

- "An Economic History of Frederick County, Maryland to 1860," 1938 George Anthony Douglas, a PhD. thesis, Johns Hopkins University.
- "Origins of Banking in Frederick," 1745-1863 1979 C Richard Miller Jr. Thesis for master of arts in Human Services, Hood College.

### Frederick County towns

The Bicentennial of the United States in 1976 spurred an interest in history for many people. Celebrations were held, research was done and many local towns created their own history books. Most of these are out of print, but available in libraries.

Among the larger towns describing local history include:

- "A Look Backward," 1974 Anne Hooper (Braddock Heights) (reprinted)
- "Gateway to the Mountains," 1969 George Wireman (Thurmont)
- "Faith in the Furnace," 1988 Elizabeth Y. Anderson (Catoctin Furnace)
- "The Early History of Middletown," 1989 George C. Rhoderick
- "Buckeystown" Four books by Nancy Bodmer
- "The History of Middletown Valley's Electric Railway," 1973 Central Maryland Heritage League
- "Barry-Berlin Brunswick," 1964 & 1970 Dorothy U. Strathern
- "Walkersville," 1977 (Committee)
- "Wever of the B&O Railroad," 1996 Peter Maynard
- "History of Carrollton Manor," 1928 William Jarboe Grove
- Town histories, most out of print and many in booklet or pamphlets size:
   Brunswick
   Damascus
   Emmitsburg
   Harmony Grove
   Ijamsville

Jefferson
Johnsville
Kemptown
Lewistown
Monrovia
Mount Airy
Union Bridge
Urbana
Wolfsville & Catoctin District
Woodsboro

### Frederick County Historical and Geographical Sites

The county is full of interesting places to visit, most with some connection to history and all with stories of their own. Museums, of course, head the list, and each can supply information particular to its own site.

- "Cutting Edge," (Fort Detrick 1943-1993) Norman M. Covert
- "Camp David," 1986 Quandt, Brookings Institute
- "The Old South Mountain Inn," 1990 Williams
- "Claggett Center," (Buckeystown) 1974
- "This Green Oasis," 2003 Richard Lebherz

A history of the development of Baker Park, Frederick jewel, over 75 years. It was named for Joseph D. Baker, a prominent citizen who donated the first land to the city.

- "Houses of Worship in Frederick, Maryland 1745-1995" a project of the Frederick Jaycees for the city's 250th Anniversary under the leadership of Herb Wolfe III.
- "The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal," 2003 Mary H. Rubin
- "Discovering C&O Canal & Adjacent Potomac River," 2003 Mark Sabatke
- "I Drove a Mule on the C&O Canal" 1969 Hooper Wolfe
- "The C&O Canal," an illustrated history 1981 Thomas F. Hahn
- "Life on the C&O Canal," (1859) 1975 Ellen E. Clark & T.F. Hahn
- "Sugarloaf," 2003 Melanie Choukar-Bradley
- "The Old Pike," 1971 Thomas B. Searight
- "The National Road," 1975 Norris F. Schneider
- "Indian Trails to Super Highways," 1967 William H. Shant

There have been centennial celebrations by Frederick County businesses and organizations in the past few years. Some have compiled their histories and had booklets printed. A few of these are:

"A Walking Tour of Downtown Frederick at the Turn of the Century" 1981
 Ruth Carty Delaplaine as told to Marge Mills

- "Frederick Brick Works," 1991 Frances A. Randall
- "Centennial Celebration" Record Street Home, 1992 Anne B. Hooper
- "The First Hundred Years" Frederick Chapter DAR, 1992 Margaret R. Miller
- "The Union Manufacturing Company" 1996 Melissa Conroy and Joseph Ford
- "Independent Hose Company #1", oldest volunteer fire company in Maryland, founded 1818
- "150th Anniversary of the Junior Fire Company #2" 1838-1988 Lewis Fagan
- "United Steam Fire Engine Company No. 3" 1995, Paul and Rita Gordon, 150 years of service by the Swampers
- "Guardian Hose Company 1887-1987" Thurmont
- "Middletown Volunteer Fire Company" 1984-1994 100 years of continued service
- "Frederick's Finest" 1745-1941 Paul and Rita Gordon, A history of the Frederick, Maryland Police Department
- "Listening to Deafness" 2004 David Denton, A history of deaf education in Frederick

### Black History in Frederick

There were slaves in Frederick County for many years before the Civil War, but also free black people. They were first brought to Frederick County to work on large farms, many entering through the Port of Annapolis. They lived primarily in the south of the county where English landowners established their estates. The early days are difficult to document; here are some recent books:

- "Bill Lee Remembers" Black Life in Frederick in the 20th Century 2004 William O. Lee
- "Memories of Frederick" Over on the other side, 1995 Joy Hall Onley
- "Dear Old Faithful Lincoln" 1999 Joy Hall Onley
- "Frederick Branch NAACP" 2000 Freedom Fund Banquet This is a souvenir program containing some history and biographical information which might prove useful to the researcher.

### The Civil War —Frederick County

Much continues to be written on the many aspects of the Civil War. Frederick City and County figured prominently at several times as Lee and the Confederate Army attempted to penetrate north of the Mason-Dixon Line.

An excellent place to begin is the National Museum of Civil War Medicine on East Patrick Street. Although the primary focus is on medicine and casualties, other information is available in their library and new books are always appearing in the bookstore. The development of medicine at that time forms the basis of modern medical practices. Books include:

- "One Vast Hospital," 2002 Civil War Hospital Sites after Antietam by Terry Reimer, director of Research/Public Relations Coordinator, National Museum of Civil War Medicine
- "The Battle of Monocacy," 1927, Judge Glenn H. Worthington
- "The Reno Memorial," 1889 reprinted 1989 by Middletown Historical Society
- "Never the Like Again," 1995 Paul P. and Rita S. Gordon
- "Playground of the Civil War," 1994, Paul P. and Rita S. Gordon
- "September Echoes"
- "Antietam Echoes," 1971
- "Four Days in October," 1978
- "Antietam Hospitals," 1987
- "Drums Along the Monocacy," 1991
- "The Ninth Corps at Antietam," 1998
- "The Long Line of Splendor 1742-1992"
- "Genealogy of a Regiment, 116th Infantry, The Stonewall Brigade"
- "Presidential Visits to Antietam"

These books and pamphlets are by John Schildt.

The Rev. John Schildt, who has served as minister at Bethel Methodist Church in Chewsville for 37 years, is a dedicated historian, especially on the Civil War and a prolific writer, numbering 13 books on the Civil War.

He credits his first grade teacher in Walkersville where he was born and grew up for creating his interest in history. On Lincoln's birthday, she gave shiny copper Lincoln head pennies to her class and spoke on Lincoln's life and deeds. Later the Rev. Schildt was inspired by Judge Delaplaine who presented him with one of his books.

He is a graduate of Shepherd College and received a Distinguished Graduate honor for his research on the Civil War.

He has conducted four tours to Normandy in France and has written about D-Day.

He was honored by the Civil War Round Table and serves on the Board of Directors of the National Museum of Civil War Medicine.

### Genealogy resources

Genealogy has become a popular family pastime. Hunting for one's ancestors in Frederick County can be a rewarding but sometimes frustrating experience.

Fortunately, many resources are available. A good place to start is the Historical Society of Frederick County. Many family histories have been written, and other files are available.

The Maryland Room of the C. Burr Artz Library is also excellent. Besides family stories, there are obituaries from local newspapers on file. These were

begun by the late Jacob Mehrling Holdcraft and continued by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Linton who donated the files to the library.

The Frederick County Court House supplies marriage records & land records and the Register of Wills books are open public records. And of course, individual church records can supply much information, as do cemeteries.

Some books of interest are:

- "Bridge in Time" Complete Frederick County Census 1850. Also contains many statistics about county life at that time. Mary Fitzhugh Hitselberger and John Philip Dern
- The 1790 census is available the first federal census
- "Monocacy and Catoctin" 3 volumes 1985-1989-1994 Calvin E.
   Schildknecht

Dr. Calvin E. Schildknecht, PhD., a Frederick native, had an inquisitive mind and a need to find every fact he could on a subject.

He held a PhD. in chemistry from The Johns Hopkins University, worked for the duPont Company in polymer research and taught at Gettysburg College for many years.

Even before his retirement he was a common figure in the Frederick County Court House, Historical Society of Frederick County and the C. Burr Artz Library Maryland Room. He tracked down family history and included many in his three volumes, which also include information about the county's German heritage. His wide interests also includes the study of butterflies. He contributed many articles to *The Frederick News-Post*.

- "Frederick's Other City," 2002 150 year history of Mount Olivet Cemetery, Frederick
- "Names in Stone," 1968 Jacob Mehrling Holdcraft
   Three volumes of tombstone inscriptions from graveyards, both public and small family ones, in Frederick County. Volume 3 (1972) includes cemeteries in nearby counties.

Jacob Mehrling Holdcraft (1898-1989) was born in Frederick, one of nine children. He spent most of his life in Baltimore and had a varied career including military service during World War I. He spent most of his later years in various jobs in production at *The (Baltimore) Sun* and became well trained in all facets of production.

He became interested in the genealogy of his family which had been begun by a brother. This led to research in the field, and in 1930 he began clipping obituaries from *The Frederick News-Post*. These form the basis of his books, "Names In Stone."

Mr. Holdcraft gave his files to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Linton with the understanding that they be donated to the C. Burr Artz Library when space became available. These records, along with the Lintons continuation of the project, are available to researchers there.

### **Biographies**

- "Life of Thomas Johnson," 1927 Edward S. Delaplaine (has been reprinted)
- "Francis Scott Key Life and Times," 1937 Edward S. Delaplaine
- "John Frederick Amelung," 1971 Maryland Glassmaker Edward S.
   Delaplaine
- "John Philip Sousa and the National Anthem," 1983 Edward S. Delaplaine Sousa's life was an interesting one with several Frederick connections.

Edward Schley Delaplaine was acknowledged as Frederick's history authority. He became a lawyer and was a judge on the Maryland Court of Appeals. After his retirement he spent long hours researching Frederick history. He bequeathed the majority of his files to the Historical Society of Frederick County.

He was a careful and thorough researcher and an accurate and logical thinker and writer. He was to receive an honorary degree from Mount St. Mary's College on the day of his death in May, 1989 at the age of 96.

- "Claire McCardell," 1998 Kohle Yohannan and Nancy Nolf

Claire McCardell, a Frederick native, became a famous designer of women's clothing in the 1940's. Her styles influenced American design for many years.

- "Forty-five Years Under the Flag," 1904 Adm. Winfield Scott Schley.

An autobiography of the hero of the Battle of Santiago, Cuba in 1898. Born in Frederick, he grew up here and graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy. He had a distinguished Naval career. Besides serving in the Spanish American War, he was also involved in the rescue of Lieut. A.W. Greely and 6 survivors of the ill-fated Arctic Expedition of 1881-1884.

- "Memoirs of R.B. Taney, LLD," 1876 Tyler
- "Taney," 1922 Bernard Steiner

### Memories

We all have fond memories of growing up, places we have visited or specific historic events. Some local authors have published theirs, in some cases as diaries, sometimes in interviews.

- "Growing Up in Frederick," 1994 William M. Brish

Mr. Brish, born and raised in Frederick, taught history at Frederick High School before becoming superintendent of schools in Washington County. His home was on West Patrick Street just north of Bentz Street.

 "Frederick's Main Street," 2002 Charles Victor Main dictated to Gwen McEntire

Mr. Main served in law enforcement most of his career. He was a Maryland State Trooper and later Chief of Police for Frederick City. Through his work he met many interesting people and had unusual experiences to relate.

- "Can Tommy Come Out to Play?" 2000 - Thomas H. Shade

Through his career as an educator in Frederick County schools, he observed the growing up of many students. He relates amusing experiences in his book, written after he retired as principal at New Market Middle School.

- "My Sentimental Journey," 2001 - JoEllen Adams Gluschevich

Mrs. Gluschevich is a columnist for *The Frederick News-Post* where she relates memories of Frederick in the 1950's-60's.

- "The Frederick I Knew and How It Grew," 1977 Elaine Grove Fogle
- "Diaries of Margaret Scholl Hood," 1851-1860-1992, Edited by Ann Lebherz and Rose Barquist

Mrs. Hood, a Frederick native, was a philanthropist who donated to many charities of her time. In her will she bequeathed a farm in Western Frederick City where Hood College, named for her husband, is located today.

"So Many Mornings," 1996 — Yvonne Fay Wiles Georg

Mrs. Georg recorded memories of Middletown Valley farm life in the early 1900's as recalled by her mother.

- "Windows on Frederick," 2001 - Richard Lebherz

Richard Lebherz, a native of Frederick, was a citizen of the world, and a well respected friend and neighbor to all. He was first of all a writer, and his accomplishments range from histories, to interviews with famous people he met, to journalism and as author of novels.

"Windows on Frederick" contains previously published interviews with many of his acquaintances and shedding light on various periods in the author's life.

- "Memories of Katharine Elizabeth Shaw" 2001 edited by Ann Lebherz

Katharine Shaw was well known in downtown Frederick where she worked for the Eisenhauer Gift Shop.

### Video tapes

Chris Haugh has done a great job in recording Frederick County history. His video tapes depict many facets of the county's background, beginning from pre-historic times.

Chris's interest in history began when he was seven years old and his family moved from Delaware to Yellow Springs. He found arrowheads in his neighborhood, resulting in his learning about local Indians.

After graduating from local schools, and then the University of Delaware in 1989, he was employed as production services manager for Frederick Cablevision/GS Communications.

He began researching local history for the 250th Anniversary of Frederick City in 1995. His explorations led him deeper into the local past, resulting in a total of four videos.

- "Frederick Town," 1995
- "Up from the Meadows," 1997 a history of Black Americans in Frederick County, Maryland
- "Monocacy," 1999 the pre-history of Frederick County, MD
- "Sugarloaf," 2000 the Quest for Riches and Redemption of the Monocacy Valley

Chris is currently serving as Area Local Origination Manager for Adelphia cablevision in Maryland and Virginia. He is a member of the board of directors of the Historical Society of Frederick County, member of the local Archeological Society and Frederick Lions Club. He has taught courses at Hood College and Frederick Community College.

- "The Blue Ridge Trolley" Carroll James

An interesting look at this part of Frederick County history through reproduced old photographs plus commentary.

### Miscellaneous short resources

- "Doyle and Coppini and the Francis Scott Key Monument," 1987
   Edward S. Delaplaine (pamphlet)
- "Agnes the Flood of 1972" Al Rogers (pamphlet)
- "The 1976 Flood of Frederick" The Frederick News-Post

Downtown Frederick was devastated by the rising waters of Carroll Creek after days of heavy rainfall. The Carroll Creek Flood Control Project was designed and completed to control future flooding and to serve as a catalyst in the recovery of that part of town.

- "Souvenir of the Ancient Barracks" Maryland School for the Deaf 1931
- "A Gift to Frederick Stephen Steiner's House" 1984 Frances Randall, Octavia Zimmerman and Eleanor Harper (See chapter 11)

Stephen Steiner was a popular citizen of Frederick in the early 1800's. He built his home at 368 W. Patrick St. in 1807, adding larger and more elegant rooms in 1817. He built many houses in Frederick, and is chiefly known as the architect who designed and built Trinity Chapel's Steeple.

 "Pre-1800 Houses of Frederick County," 1996-1999-2002 Ann Lebherz, Mary Margrabe and (3rd volume with) Sarah Drenning

Three volumes, containing county homes by districts, is illustrated by photographs and construction descriptions.

Ann Lebherz is a native of New York and a graduate of Hood College. She became interested in local history when she and her family moved into the Kemp-Slemmer home near Braddock. Mrs. Slemmer had been secretary of the Historical Society of Frederick County, so Ann was chosen to be the next librarian-secretary. She helped to move the Society from Steiner House to its present location and became intimately knowledgeable about the Society's possessions.

Ann's contributions to preserving Frederick County's history go far beyond the books she has been involved with. She helped to found the Frederick County Landmarks Foundation and was involved in efforts to buy Schifferstadt. She acts as a spur to encourage smaller county historical groups, most recently to help form the Braddock Heights Historical Society.

- "Frederick County Trivia," 1998 Al Weinberg
- "Titus Atlas of Frederick County" 1873 (has been reprinted)

This book shows not only Frederick County and its roads by election district, but also Frederick City "Wards" of that time, and locations and names of families throughout the county.

- "Frederick's Legacy The Art of Helen Smith," 1998 Book & Studio Committee
- "Profiles by Helen Smith," 2003 Ann Lebherz and the Frederick Art Club

Helen Smith was an entrepreneur when she opened her art studio in 1925 after teaching at Hood College. She earned her living with her art and was active until her death at 103 in 1997.

"Historic American Building Survey — Loats Orphanage," 1959 prepared for Mrs. Hahn

- "Blue Ridge Trolley," 1970 Herbert Harwood
- "The End of An Era," 2000 Harry L. Decker
- "Firefighting in Frederick," 2004 Clarence "Chip" Jewell
- Two books on the Hagerstown & Frederick Railway.
- "Into the Battle... Peacefully," 2001 Peter Maynard, editor journal of Jonathan Knight, B&O Railroad engineer.
- "A History of the Orphan House and Episcopal Free School Society of All Saints Church. 1838-1915" Eleanor Murdoch Johnson

Two girls' orphanages were situated across an alley from each other, and there was some rivalry between girls from the homes.

The Loats home, to be an orphanage for girls, was begun under the will of John Loats, who left the property to the Evangelical Lutheran Church who administered the home.

The Episcopal Orphanage was set up by a group of women from All Saints Church. Both homes met a need to care for girls from broken homes in the late 1800's and early 1900's. Changes in the theory of child raising and the establishment of County Social Services caused the homes to cease during the 1950's. The Loats home is today the headquarters for the Historical Society of Frederick County. The Episcopal home became an apartment house.

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Frances Ann (Delaplaine) Randall, a native of Frederick and currently a resident of Braddock Heights, grew up in Frederick, graduated from Frederick High School, Hood College and the Johns Hopkins University with a Master's Degree in chemistry. She and her late husband, Myron, Sr., lived for sixteen years in Baltimore County before returning to Frederick in 1965.

Since that time she has contributed to life in the county through volunteer activities. She has been a Girl Scout for over fifty-five years, working with and for girls in the county through the county th



Frances Ann Randall

in many capacities. Her church work has been varied also. As a member of the Church of the Transfiguration in Braddock Heights, she has served several terms on the Vestry and as Senior Warden, and as choir director. She has served the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland in several capacities. Other volunteer activities include the Frederick Woman's Civic Club, Community Foundation of Frederick County, Hood College Alumnae Association and Board of Trustees, Braddock Heights Historical Society and Board of Directors of the Historical Society of Frederick County, and local chapter of the DAR.

Currently she is Chairman of the Board of the Randall Family LLC, publishers of *The Frederick News-Post*, Mirame Interactive and The Job Shop. She occasionally writes for *The Frederick News-Post* on history or travel. The annual history articles in the "Hello Frederick" annual edition in *The Frederick News-Post* were collected in her previous book, "Mirror on Frederick."

This present book is a collection of further articles and a few other miscellaneous history articles.

She gives credit to her uncle, the late Judge Edward S. Delaplaine; her mother, the late Ruth Carty Delaplaine, for inspiring her to continue probing into Frederick's past; and her late son, George Elliott Randall, for encouraging her to begin her history writing.

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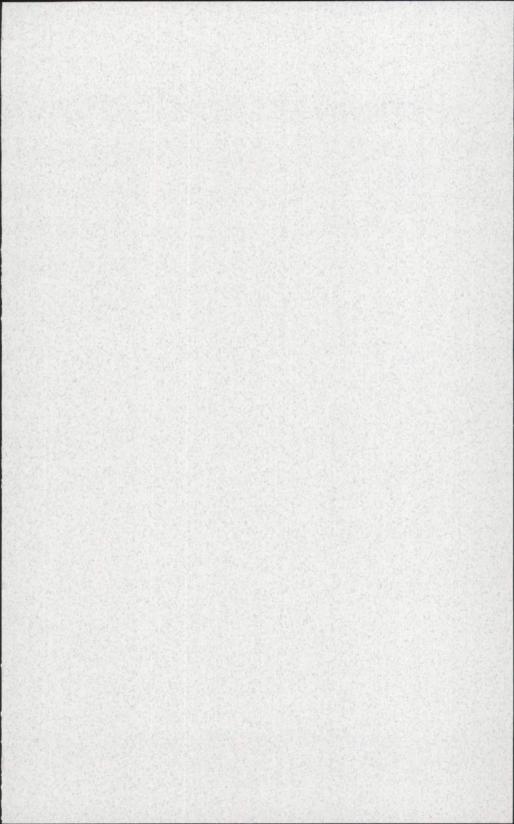
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## IACOB ENGELBRECHT

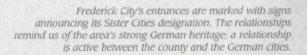
Jacob was born in Frederick in 1797, lived his entire life here, and kept a diary from 1818 until his death in 1878. His diary has been made available through the Historical Society of Frederick County who received it as a gift from the family. It is useful to historians for the many descriptions of life in Frederick in the 1800's.

#### TRINITY STEEPLE

The Trinity Chapel on West Church Street is a part of the Evangelical and Reformed United Church of Christ, which dates to the founding of Frederick in 1745.

The chapel had been built in 1763 and was remodeled and the spire added in 1807; Stephen Steiner ws the architect. The town clock was maintained by the city at one time; the works were built by clockmaker Frederick Heisley. They were replaced in 1932 and donated to the Smithsonian Institution.

The chimes were placed in the steeple in 1893 and have been restored and added to recently.



### UTICA COVERED BRIDGE

The covered span over Fishing Creek was part of a bridge over the Monocacy River, originally built about 1850. After the bridge was destroyed in the flood of 1889 the neighbors used the timbers to construct the present bridge.

Other bridges are at Loy's Station and Roddy Road.

