

AA-965

1920's

Laundry Building

Public

Crownsville Hospital Center

Crownsville

Located in the shadows of "A" Building, the Laundry Building is a one-story, common bond brick structure. The flat roof building is one of the earlier structures on the Crownsville property. However, its architectural features are distinctive from patient buildings. This different appearance helped to distinguish the building as a non-patient building.

Survey No. AA-965

Magi No. 0209654739

DOE  yes  no

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Laundry Building

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number Crownsville Hospital Center  not for publication

city, town Crownsville  vicinity of congressional district 4

state Maryland county Anne Arundel

## 3. Classification

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

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

name Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

street & number 201 West Preston Street telephone no.: 301-225-6816

city, town Baltimore state and zip code Maryland 21201

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anne Arundel County Courthouse liber

street & number Church Circle folio

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

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

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

The Laundry Building is a one-story, common bond brick structure which stands in the shadows of the southern wing of the "A" Building. The two buildings are connected by a shorter one story, enclosed corridor that attaches to the east wall of the Laundry Building. The shape of the building is an unproportional L plan with basic measurements of five bays wide and four bays deep. Though difficult to distinguish, the main facade faces north.

The building displays limited ornamentation. The terra cotta cornice is the most noticeable feature as it caps the wall and draws attention to the flat roof. Brick sills detail the steel projecting windows. The single sash pattern is seven panes by nine panes with the central panes that open. Bricks form pilasters which separate the windows as well as quions that decorate the corners. Two wooden doors appear on the north face. One is original while the second has been fashioned out of an original window.

# 8. Significance

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

**Specific dates**

**Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or

Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

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

The Laundry Building is one of the early buildings on the Crownsville Hospital Center complex. Considering the architectural features and research documentation, a construction date between 1917-1922 is indicated. Though located in the shadow of "A" Building, the Laundry Building is architecturally distinct from the original hospital complex. Its flat roof, terra cotta cornice, and other subtle details provide the building with a distinctive appearance which contributes to the building's significance. The construction materials enhance the design and both of these components have been maintained.

The laundry facility served a two fold purpose. The state mental hospitals tried to maintain a level of self-sufficiency by providing their own support functions rather than seeking outside help. The laundry service was a key example because the hospital generated a large capacity of dirty linen so that it was more economical for the hospital to operate its own facility. The second benefit of the laundry operation centered on the patients. Eligible patients were encouraged to work in the facility as an adjunct to their therapy. While administrators stressed the therapeutic value of the work program, it also benefitted the hospital economically.





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Laundry Building

Crownsville Hospital Center

Crownsville, Maryland

Don Jewell, 9/86

Negatives at MHT

West