

Name/Address: House, 1428 Railroad Avenue
Construction Date: ca. 1877-1898
Town/Vicinity: Lutherville
County: Baltimore County
Access: Private

Summary Description:

The house at 1428 Railroad Avenue is a modest two-story frame house built between 1877 and 1898. It is one of several houses in a small historically African-American community located directly across the Northern Central Railroad tracks from Lutherville. Number 1428 Railroad Avenue is a two-story, two-bay-wide, frame, side-gabled house on a solid rubblestone foundation. The house is clad in aluminum siding and has an asphalt shingled roof. There is an interior end chimney of brick on the northeast elevation of the house. The house has a replacement single-leaf door and 2/2 wood sash windows. There is a one-story, one-bay, shed-roofed porch. The one-story shed addition to rear has an exterior side chimney on the northeast elevation.

Statement of Significance:

Map evidence shows two houses on Railroad Avenue northeast of this house ca. 1877. This modest house appears to date to the last quarter of the nineteenth century. By 1898, all of the houses on this street appear on the Bromley Atlas (1898), indicating that this house was constructed by that time. The houses along Railroad Avenue historically belonged to members of a small African-American community located directly across the Northern Central Railroad tracks from Lutherville. Lutherville was founded as a suburb of Baltimore in 1852. It was centered around the Female Seminary and the Lutheran church, hence the name. Most of the high-style mid-nineteenth century architecture of Lutherville constitutes the Lutherville National Register Historic District (MHT BA-2211); however, these modest houses are excluded from the district boundaries. Little information has come to light about the relationship of this African-American community to the larger community of Lutherville. More than half of the houses that once stood along Railroad Avenue have been destroyed, and all extant houses have been altered in the twentieth century. This house is not known to have been associated with people or events significant to local, state, or national history, nor is it a well-preserved or intact example of its type or period; Therefore, 1428 Railroad Avenue does not appear to satisfy the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. BA-2883

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic House, 1428 Railroad Avenue, Lutherville

and/or common same

2. Location

street & number 1428 Railroad Avenue

not for publication

city, town Lutherville

vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland

county Baltimore

3. Classification

Category

- district
 building(s)
 structure
 site
 object

Ownership

- public
 private
 both

Public Acquisition

- in process
 being considered
 not applicable

Status

- occupied
 unoccupied
 work in progress

Accessible

- yes: restricted
 yes: unrestricted
 no

Present Use

- agriculture
 commercial
 educational
 entertainment
 government
 industrial
 military

- museum
 park
 private residence
 religious
 scientific
 transportation
 other:

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

name Ronald Alessi

street & number 30 Oakway Road

telephone no.:

city, town Lutherville

state and zip code MD 21093-4239

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Maryland Department of Real Estate and Taxation

liber

street & number accessed online at <[http:// www.DAT.state.md.us](http://www.DAT.state.md.us)>

folio

city, town

state

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Cultural Resources Investigations for Proposed Construction of Double Track, North Half, Central Light Rail, Baltimore & Baltimore Co., MD

date 1999

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

federal state county local

city, town Crownsville

state MD

7. Description

Survey No. BA-2883

Condition

- excellent
 good
 fair

- deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

- unaltered
 altered

Check one

- original site
 moved date of move

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

Summary

The house at 1428 Railroad Avenue is a modest two-story frame house built between 1877 and 1898. It is one of several houses in a small historically African-American community located directly across the Northern Central Railroad tracks from Lutherville. Little information has come to light about the relationship of this African-American community to the larger community of Lutherville.

General Description

Number 1428 Railroad Avenue is a two-story, two-bay-wide, frame, side-gabled house on a solid rubblestone foundation. The house is clad in aluminum siding and has an asphalt shingled roof. There is an interior end chimney of brick on the northeast elevation of the house. The house has a replacement single-leaf door and 2/2 wood sash windows. There is a one-story, one-bay, shed-roofed porch. The one-story shed addition to rear has an exterior side chimney on the northeast elevation.

Map evidence shows two houses on Railroad Avenue northeast of this house ca. 1877. This modest house appears to date to the last quarter of the nineteenth century. By 1898, all of the houses on this street appear on the Bromley Atlas (1898), indicating that this house was constructed by that time.

8. Significance

Survey No. BA-2883

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"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1999	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	

Specific dates: 1877-1898

Builder/Architect: Unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
 and/or
 Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

 Level of Significance: national state local

Statement of Significance

Map evidence shows two houses on Railroad Avenue northeast of this house ca. 1877. This modest house appears to date to the last quarter of the nineteenth century. By 1898, all of the houses on this street appear on the Bromley Atlas (1898), indicating that this house was constructed by that time. The houses along Railroad Avenue historically belonged to members of a small African-American community located directly across the Northern Central Railroad tracks from Lutherville. Lutherville was founded as a suburb of Baltimore in 1852. It was centered around the Female Seminary and the Lutheran church, hence the name. Most of the high-style mid-nineteenth century architecture of Lutherville constitutes the Lutherville National Register Historic District (MHT BA-2211); however, these modest houses are excluded from the district boundaries. Little information has come to light about the relationship of this African-American community to the larger community of Lutherville. More than half of the houses that once stood along Railroad Avenue have been destroyed, and all extant houses have been altered in the twentieth century. This house is not known to have been associated with people or events significant to local, state, or national history, nor is it a well-preserved or intact example of its type or period; Therefore, 1428 Railroad Avenue does not appear to satisfy the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

History

Drs. John Gottlieb Morris and Benjamin Kurtze, Lutheran clergymen, and Charles Augustus Morris, founded Lutherville in 1852. The village was named for Martin Luther; development was focused east of the Northern Central Railway tracks, where the residential plan was centered on the Lutheran Church. In 1853 the Female Seminary was founded on the hill overlooking the Northern Central tracks. The railroad enabled the development of this mid-nineteenth-century suburban community into a popular summer retreat and eventually a year round community. Only after the Civil War is there evidence of the presence African-Americans living freely in the area. Though there were free blacks in Baltimore County prior to the Civil War, no information was located about this particular community. What appears to have been a traditionally African-American community developed along Railroad Avenue on the southwest side of the railroad tracks just southwest of the center of Lutherville.

The 1877 Hopkins Atlas depicts two houses located along the railroad tracks just south of Seminary Avenue. The property owner is noted as Samuel Appold, who owned a triangular shaped parcel bounded by the tracks, Seminary Avenue, and the land of John T. Vinson. The two houses may correspond to BA-2885 and BA-2886. By 1898, a row of five house was in place along the tracks, and by 1915, ten houses were depicted fronting the railroad south of Seminary Avenue. The property was located northeast of the coal yard of W.W. Boyce.

8. Significance (continuation)

Survey No. BA-2883

Most of the high-style mid-nineteenth century architecture of Lutherville constitutes the Lutherville National Register Historic District (MHT BA-2211); however, these modest houses are excluded from the district boundaries. They were built after the initial development of Lutherville, and represent a small but homogenous community at the fringes of a larger and equally homogenous community. Little information has come to light about the relationship of this African-American community to the larger community of Lutherville. More than half of the houses that once stood along Railroad Avenue have been destroyed, and those that are left have been altered in the mid- and late twentieth century. The neighborhood has remained African American, though only five houses of the ten depicted in 1915 are still standing.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: A B C D

Considerations: A B C D E F G None

Comments: _____

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, NR Program

Date

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. BA-2883

- Bromley, G.W. & Company
1898 *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland*. G.W. Bromley & Co., Philadelphia. Copy on File, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, MD.
- 1915 *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland*. G.W. Bromley & Co., Philadelphia. Copy on File, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, MD.
- Hopkins, G.M.
1877 *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland*. Philadelphia. Copy on File, Baltimore County Historical Society, Cockeysville, MD.
- Maryland Historical Trust (MHT)
n.d. Lutherville National Register Historic District (BA-2211). MIHP forms and National Register nomination on file, MHT, Crownsville, MD.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property: less than one acre

Quadrangle name Cockeysville 7.5'

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM Reference do NOT complete UTM references

zone easting northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries conform to the legal boundaries of the parcel associated with the house. Map 60, Grid 23, Parcel 222.

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kerri Culhane/Project Architectural Historian

organization John Milner Associates, Inc.

date 10/1999

street & number 5250 Cherokee Avenue, Suite 410

telephone 703/354-9737

city or town Alexandria

state Virginia

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCP/DHCD
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032

**PRESERVATION VISION 2000; THE MARYLAND PLAN
STATEWIDE HISTORIC CONTEXTS**

I. Geographic Region:

- Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
 Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
 Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
 Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
 Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
 Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
 Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
 Unknown Period (prehistoric; historic)

III. Historic Period Themes:

- Agriculture
 Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
 Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
 Government/Law
 Military
 Religion
 Social/Educational/Cultural
 Transportation

IV. Resource Type:

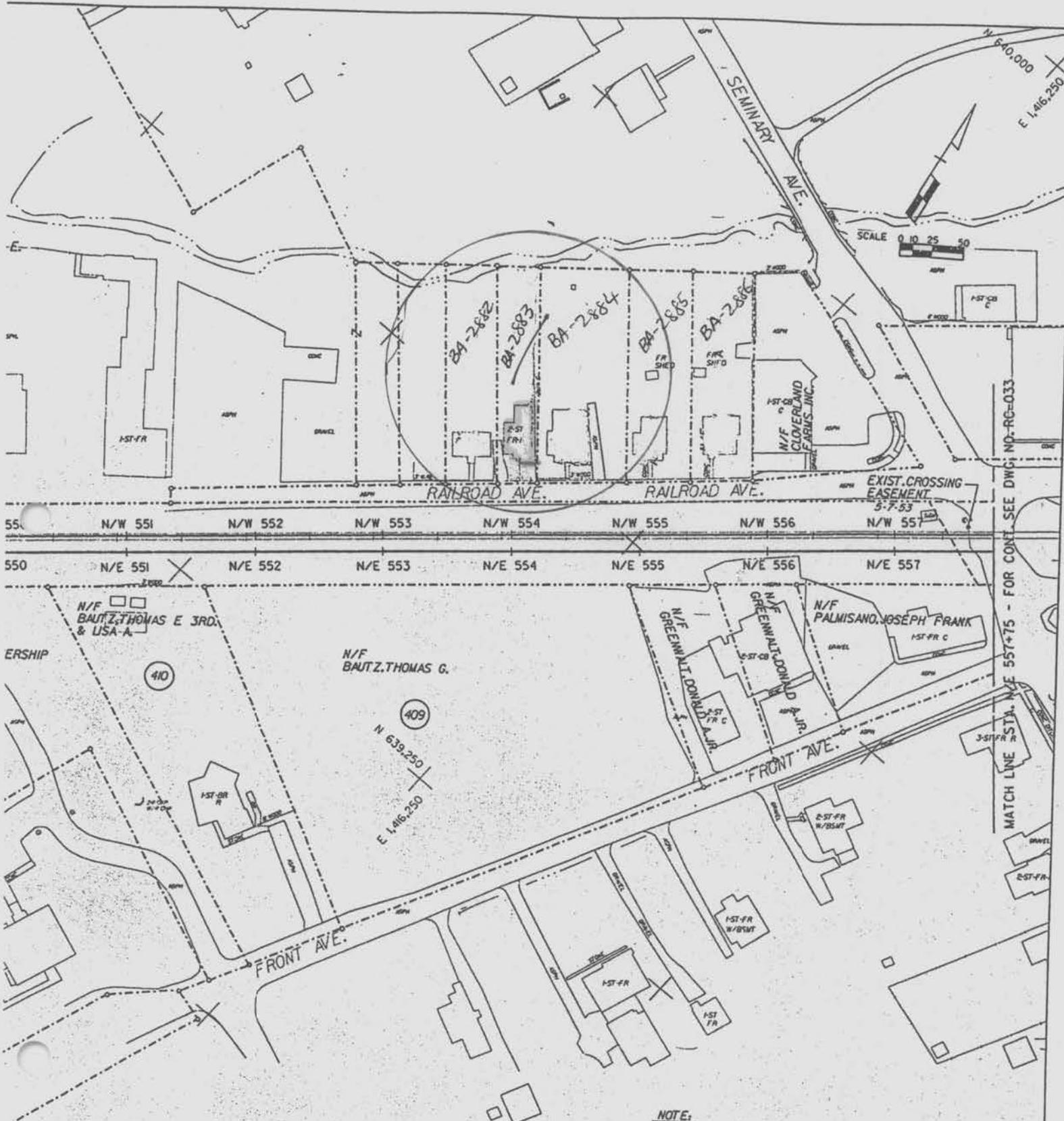
Category: Building

Historic Environment: Village

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Known Design Source: none

BA-2883



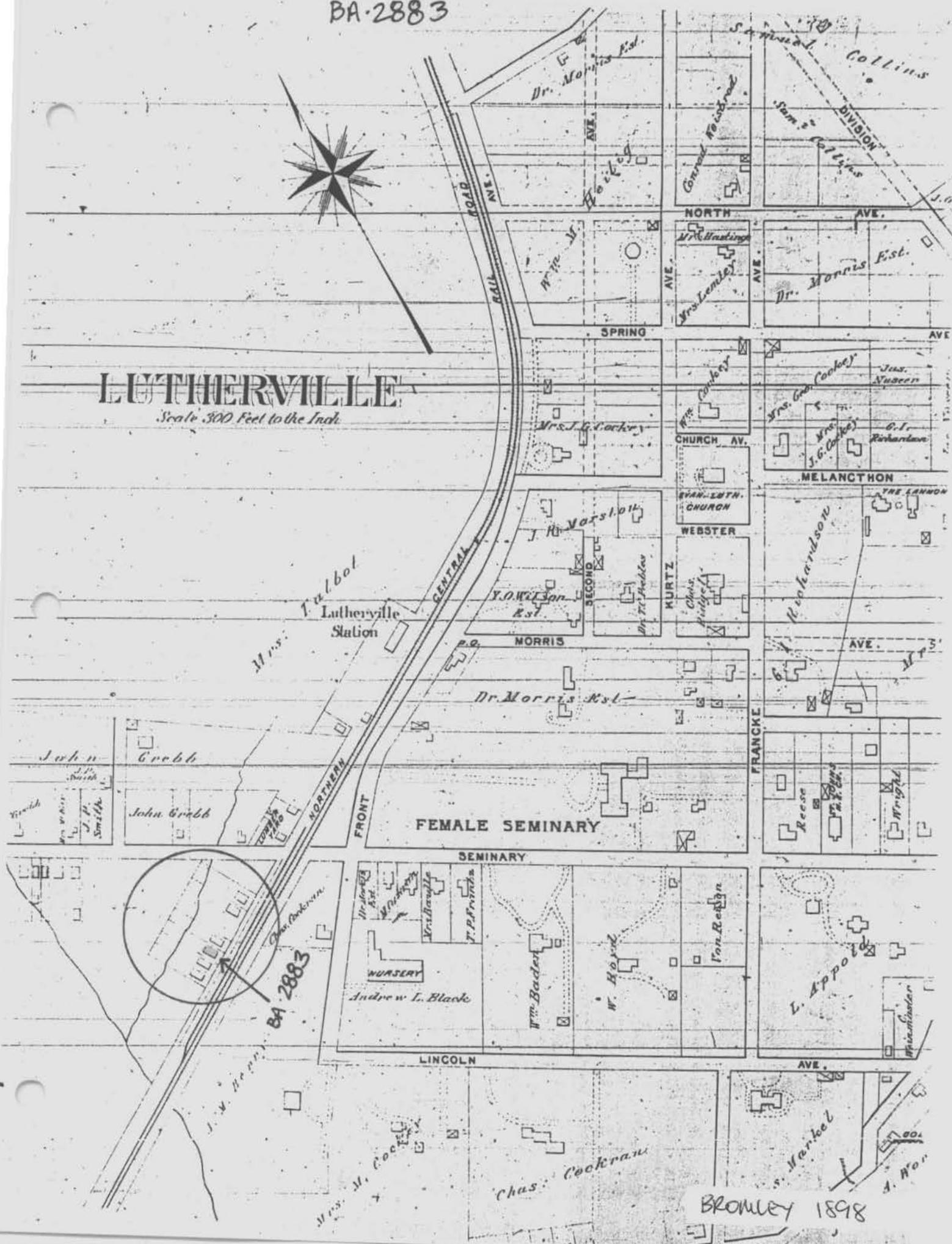
NOTE:
1) ALL PROPERTY LINES ARE GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATIONS FROM PUBLIC RECORDS UNLESS INDICATED OTHERWISE.
2) FRAME SHED OF ALESSI ENCROACHES INTO RAILROAD RIGHT OF WAY.

BA-2883



LUTHERVILLE

Scale 300 Feet to the Inch



Mrs. Talbot
Lutherville Station

FEMALE SEMINARY

SEMINARY

NURSERY
Andrew L. Blacke

LINCOLN

MELANCTHON

NORTH AVE.

SPRING AVE.

CHURCH AV.

WEBSTER

KURTZ

MORRIS

FRONT

FRANCKE

AVE.

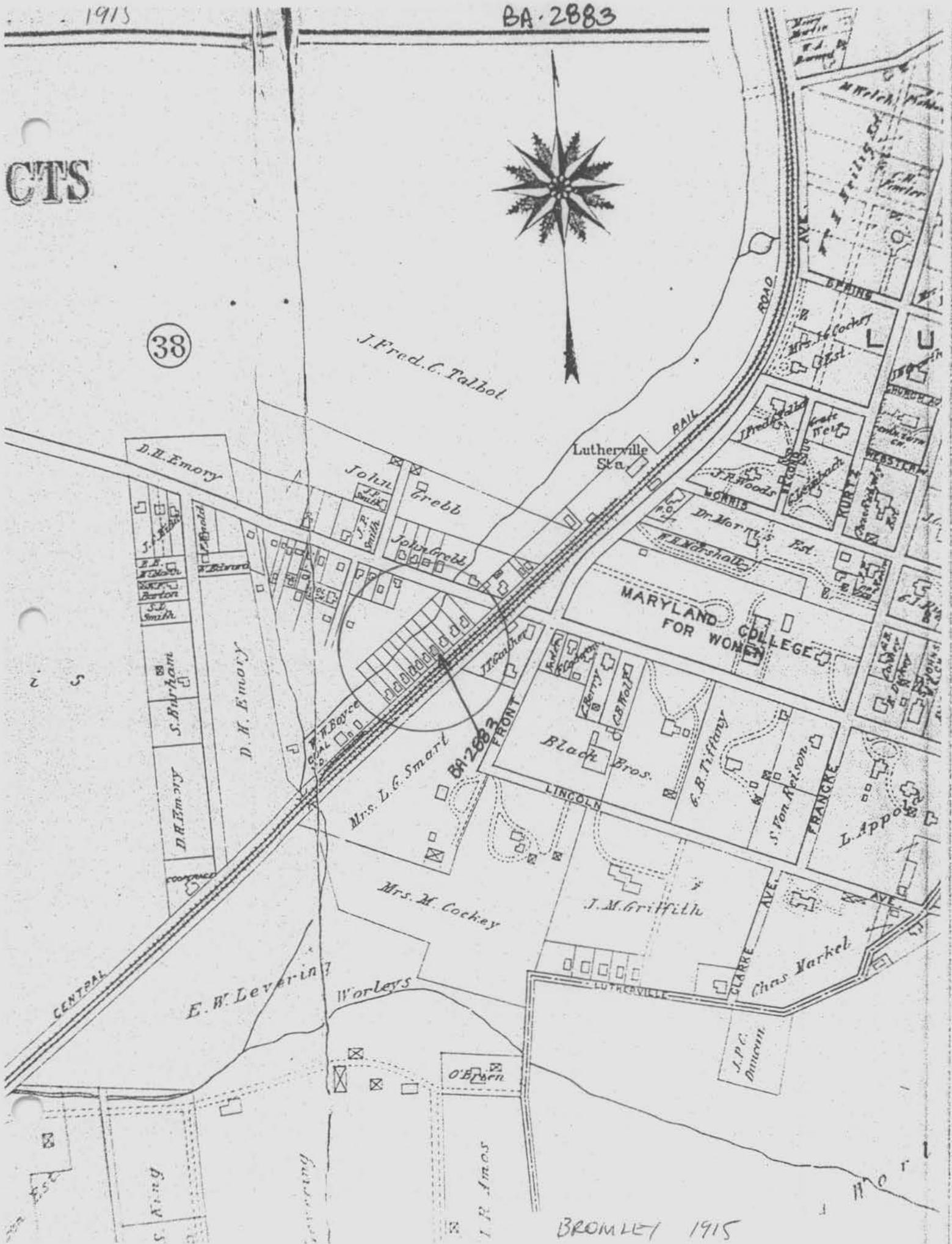
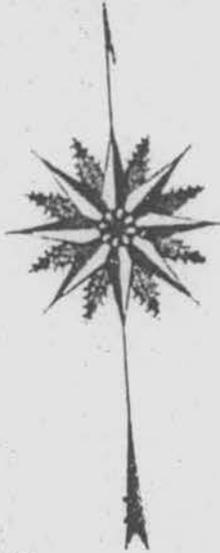
BROMLEY 1898

1915

BA-2883

CTS

38



J. Fred. C. Talbot

Lutherville Sta.

MARYLAND COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

Black Bros.

Mrs. L. G. Smart

Mrs. M. Cockey

E. W. Levering

Worleys

J. M. Griffith

Chas. Market

O'Brien

I. R. Amos

J. P. C. Duncan

BROMLEY 1915



BA 2883

House, 1428 Railroad Ave, Lutherville
Baltimore Co., MD.

K. Culhane

8/1999

MDSHPD

3/4 view of S and facade (e) elevations view to N/NW



BA-2883

House, 1428 Railroad Ave. Lutherville

Baltimore Co., MD

K. CULLANE

8/1999

NDSHPD

Facade (e) elevation. View to west



BA-2883

House, 1428 Railroad Ave, Lutherville

Baltimore Co., MD

K. CULLANE

8/1999

MD SHPD

3/4 view of rear (W/NW) view to SE.