

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes no

Property Name: Parkville School Inventory Number: BA-3203

Address: 8601 Harford Road (MD 147) Historic district: yes no

City: Parkville Zip Code: 21234 County: Baltimore County

USGS Quadrangle(s): Towson

Property Owner: Baltimore County Maryland Tax Account ID Number: 1402058646

Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 585 Tax Map Number: 71

Project: MD-147 Parkville Streetscape Project Agency: SHA

Agency Prepared By: EHT Tracerics, Inc.

Preparer's Name: Patricia Altman Date Prepared: 5/1/2006

Documentation is presented in: _____

Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:

Name of the District/Property: _____

Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: yes no Listed: yes no

Site visit by MHT Staff yes no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Constructed in 1925, the Parkville School served as the principal school for the area at a time when suburbanization, population increase, and school consolidation in Baltimore County was resulting in a rapidly increasing student population. In response to continued overcrowding, the original school building was expanded in 1929, with two wings that doubled its size. Prominently located on Harford Road, the Parkville School represents the development of the Parkville area in the decades following the expansion of the Harford Road streetcar line through the town in 1918. Therefore, the property qualifies for eligibility under Criterion A. The property is not associated with any person or group of persons of outstanding importance to the community, state, or nation. Therefore, the property is not eligible under Criterion B. The main school building, including the original 1925 section and 1929 wings, is a good example of Gothic-Revival style academic architecture at a time of intensified school construction in Baltimore County. Therefore, the property also qualifies for eligibility under Criterion C. The property was not evaluated under Criterion D. The recommended period of significance, 1925-1929, is confined to the construction dates of the main school building, comprised only of the original structure and early wings, which represents the portion of the building program significant for the above associations. The 1962 and 1973 additions are, therefore, outside the period of significance.

The Parkville School was constructed in 1925 as an elementary school and enlarged in 1929 by 12 classrooms. A multipurpose room was added in 1962 and a recreation addition and alteration was completed in 1973. The school was closed in 1977.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

MHT Comments: *1925-29 building is a good representative example of its type and period*

John Tanzi
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

7/11/06
Date

[Signature]
Reviewer, National Register Program

7/11/06
Date

The Gothic Revival-style main school building is a two-story-and-basement, seven-bay, flat-roof structure of red brick laid in five-course American bond on a raised foundation of random-rubble stone. It is comprised of the original brick and stone school structure fronting northeast on Hiss Avenue, with two lateral wings. Cast-concrete details include a belt course above the second story windows, a water table above the stone foundation, door surrounds, window sills, and simple corner markings. Throughout the building, the windows are generally grouped into bands of five or six double-hung metal units with soldier lintels, cast-concrete sills, and capped mullions. Doors are metal.

Parkville Elementary School was constructed at a time of rapid population growth and intensified school construction as Baltimore County moved from a system of small rural schools to one of larger, consolidated schools. Consolidation of the rural public schools began in the first part of the twentieth century. School attendance became mandatory in 1912 which contributed, along with suburbanization, to the number of pupils in the system. Consolidation was a part of the County's effort to provide modern schools for its students to replace small rural schools, crowded classrooms and schools housed in unsuitable rented quarters. With consolidation came the need to provide transportation to more distant schools. The Board of Education provided free transportation, first by horse-drawn vehicles and then by motorized buses.

The Baltimore County public school system faced a new challenge in 1919 when the city of Baltimore annexed parts of Baltimore County including many of the county's most-recently built schools. It lost half its school population, half its teachers and much of its tax base.[1] Compensation for those schools was not adequate to fund the school construction necessitated by a rapidly growing school population in newly suburbanized areas and inadequate, often outdated, existing facilities.

The Parkville School was one of many schools constructed in Baltimore County in the 1920s. A long-standing unwillingness to borrow funds for public school construction was overcome in 1922 when the Maryland Legislature authorized a Baltimore County bond issue of \$1 million for school construction, followed by a \$1.5 million issue in 1924 and another \$2 million issue in 1929. These bond issues enabled the County to undertake a major school construction program. In the four year period from 1920 through 1923, the County built six schools. In 1924, it built five schools and one addition. In 1925, it built Parkville and nine other schools, including two high schools. Eight more schools were constructed in the next three years, as well as two additions.[2]

Consolidation continued in this period, reaching its peak in the 1920-1940s in rural communities. During this period, under the direction of Superintendent Clarence G. Cooper, the consolidation efforts provided modern school buildings and adequate transportation. Brick or stone buildings with eight, ten or twelve classrooms, set on several-acre plots providing playground space, were typical of this period as one, two or three-teacher schools were eliminated.

In the early 1920s Parkville was one of many Baltimore County communities suffering a severe shortage of classrooms. In 1924, its principal school building, a wood frame structure located on the site that now serves as the Hiss church parking lot, was surrounded by four portable classrooms. Two more portables had been constructed on what is now the site of the Parkville School, three classes were conducted in the Fireman's Hall, and one in the Lutheran Sunday School.[3]

The architect for the Parkville Elementary School was Wilson L. Smith (1878-1931) of the Baltimore firm of Smith & May. Smith was born in Baltimore County and attended Johns Hopkins University. He studied architecture at Columbia University and in Europe. He formed a partnership with Howard May in 1907. The firm's work included a number of banks and the 1929 Baltimore Trust Company Building (in association with the firm Taylor & Fisher), considered one of Baltimore's first skyscrapers. Smith & May served as Consultants to the State Board of Architecture in 1921.[4]

Smith & May became the architect for the Baltimore County Board of Education in the 1920s as the Board undertook a major

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

building program to modernize and expand its facilities and eliminate many of its small rural schools. Smith worked on numerous schools simultaneously. The Board minutes for December 2, 1924 note that, "The architect, Mr. Wilson L. Smith, conferred with the board in regard to the plans for the Bare Hills School, and the board urged Mr. Smith to hasten his work on these plans and also on plans for Parkville, Dundalk, Essex and Randallstown."[5]

Construction on the Parkville Elementary School began in mid-1925 and was completed in January 1926. The builder was Consolidated Engineering Co. There were a total of twelve classrooms on the first and second floors and additional spaces, including a playroom, in the basement.

At the time Parkville School was built, Maryland schools had seven grades of elementary education before high school. For three academic years (fall 1926 - spring 1929), Parkville Elementary also housed the first year of high school. Parkville-area students went on to the Towson high school.

Parkville, like other areas of Baltimore County close to the city limits, continued to experience rapid suburbanization and population growth in the 1920s, leading to overcrowding even in newly constructed schools. In Parkville, the elementary school enrollment in the academic year 1922-1923 had been 392 pupils. By 1927-1928, it was 731 with an additional 61 high school students. In July 1928 the Baltimore County School Superintendent submitted a five-year school building program to the Board of Education which included both new schools and numerous additions. The Board approved the program which included an addition to Parkville Elementary School.[6]

Wilson L. Smith of Smith & May was the architect of the additions to Parkville. He presented his sketches of the Parkville addition to the Board of Education in March 1929, along with sketches of two new schools and additions to five other schools.[7]

The Parkville School addition of twelve classrooms essentially doubled the size of the school, just four years after it had been built. A one-bay addition was constructed on the west end in 1929 and a two-bay addition on the east end was built shortly thereafter. The playroom was converted to a cafeteria.

The school population continued to grow over the next decades. By 1946, there were 1,112 students with 26 teachers at Parkville Elementary.[8] However, the school was not enlarged until 1961 when the Board of Education approved \$309,500 in new construction and alterations. A multipurpose room and office suite were added, and the alterations included a new cafeteria and kitchen, library, two special classrooms, and health and faculty rooms.[9]

A refenestration project was completed in 1972, replacing the original windows with metal ones. In 1973, there was an addition and alteration of recreation space.

Despite the investments in the Parkville Elementary School in the 1960s and 1970s, the school was considered outmoded and inadequate by the mid-1970s. Furthermore, in the 1970s, Parkville, along with neighboring schools, experienced a decline in enrollment. Parkville's enrollment of 824 in the year 1972-1973 had dropped to 642 by 1975-1976 and the projected enrollment for 1978-1979 was 498.[10] In 1976 the Baltimore County Public Schools Superintendent described Parkville Elementary as "a substandard building on a substandard site in a poor location." [11] The Parkville Elementary School was closed at the end of the 1976-1977 academic year.

Early in the 1980s, the Board of Education turned the building over to the County and it became a community center and a senior center. Subsequent modifications have included a new entrance to the senior center on the south elevation and an elevator housed in an exterior shaft, also on the south elevation.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

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Date

- [1] Amy C. Crewe, No Backward Step was Taken: Highlights in the History of the Public Elementary Schools of Baltimore County, Teachers Association of Baltimore County, Maryland, Inc., 1949, p. 85.
- [2] Ibid, p. 91-92.
- [3] "The First Schools in Parkville," Parkville School News, v. 7, no. 6 (March 1946).
- [4] Henry F. Withey and Elsie Rathburn Withey, Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased), Los Angeles: Hennessey & Ingalls, Inc., 1970, s.v. Smith, Wilson L.
- [5] Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education of Baltimore County, December 2, 1924. Minutes, Board of Education August 1923-August 1930, Office of the Superintendent, The Baltimore County Public Schools, 6901 Charles Street, Towson, Maryland.
- [6] Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education of Baltimore County, July 30, 1928. Minutes, Board of Education August 1923-August 1930, Office of the Superintendent, The Baltimore County Public Schools, 6901 Charles Street, Towson, Maryland.
- [7] Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education of Baltimore County, March 5, 1929. Minutes, Board of Education August 1923-August 1930, Office of the Superintendent, The Baltimore County Public Schools, 6901 Charles Street, Towson, Maryland.
- [8] "Parkville School Today," Parkville School News, v. 7, no. 6 (March 1946).
- [9] Memorandum to Joshua R. Wheeler, Superintendent, on Board of Education of Baltimore County letterhead, July 1961. Parkville School file, Office of the Superintendent, The Baltimore County Public Schools, 6901 Charles Street, Towson, Maryland.
- [10] Proposed Parkville Elementary School Feasibility Study, July 23, 1976, . Parkville School file, Office of the Superintendent, The Baltimore County Public Schools, 6901 Charles Street, Towson, Maryland.
- [11] Joshua R. Wheeler, Superintendent, to Mona-Lee Bretall, P.T.A., February 12, 1976. Parkville School file, Office of the Superintendent, The Baltimore County Public Schools, 6901 Charles Street, Towson, Maryland.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

CAPSULE SUMMARY
BA-3203
Parkville School
8601 Harford Road
Parkville, Baltimore County
1925
Public

Constructed in 1925, the Parkville School served as the principal school for the area at a time when suburbanization, population increase, and school consolidation in Baltimore County was resulting in a rapidly increasing student population. In response to continued overcrowding, the original school building was expanded in 1929, with two wings that doubled its size. The building was further enlarged with two additions in 1962 and 1973, before inadequacies of the facility and declining enrollment prompted its closure in 1977. Prominently located on Harford Road, the Parkville School represents the development of the Parkville area in the decades following the expansion of the Harford Road streetcar line through the town in 1918.

The Gothic Revival-style main school building is a two-story-and-basement, seven-bay, flat-roof structure of red brick laid in five-course American bond on a raised foundation of random-rubble stone. It is comprised of the original brick and stone school structure fronting northeast on Hiss Avenue, with two lateral wings. Cast-concrete details include a belt course above the second story windows, a water table above the stone foundation, door surrounds, window sills, and simple corner markings. Throughout the building, the windows are generally grouped into bands of five or six double-hung metal units with soldier lintels, cast-concrete sills, and capped mullions. Doors are metal.

The one-story and one-and-a-half-story brick additions extending from the rear elevation create the L-shaped plan of the building today, with the main entrance located at the canted southeast elevation of the one-story addition. It is currently being used as the Parkville Senior Center.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-3203

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Parkville School (preferred)
 other Parkville Senior Center (current)

2. Location

street and number 8601 Harford Road ___ not for publication
 city, town Parkville ___ vicinity
 county Baltimore County

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

name Baltimore County Maryland
 street and number 26-SP—14-075 Courthouse telephone
 city, town Baltimore state Maryland zip code 21204

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 6345 folio 464
 city, town Towson tax map 71 tax parcel 585 tax ID number 1402058646

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ___ Contributing Resource in National Register District
- ___ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- ___ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ___ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ___ Recorded by HABS/HAER
- ___ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- ___ Other: _____

6. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Current Function | Resource Count | | |
|---|--|--------------------|--|--|-----------------|
| ___ district | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public | ___ agriculture | ___ landscape | Contributing | Noncontributing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | ___ private | ___ commerce/trade | ___ recreation/culture | 1 | ___ buildings |
| ___ structure | ___ both | ___ defense | ___ religion | ___ | ___ sites |
| ___ site | | ___ domestic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social | ___ | ___ structures |
| ___ object | | ___ education | ___ transportation | ___ | ___ objects |
| | | ___ funerary | ___ work in progress | 1 | ___ Total |
| | | ___ government | ___ unknown | | |
| | | ___ health care | ___ vacant/not in use | | |
| | | ___ industry | ___ other: | | |
| | | | | Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory | |
| | | | | _____ | |

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-3203

Condition

| | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> altered |

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

The former Parkville School (now the Parkville Senior Center) is an L-shaped, flat-roof, masonry building comprised of the original 1925 brick and stone school structure fronting northeast on Hiss Avenue, with two lateral wings constructed in 1929, and two additions building in 1962 and 1973 extending from the rear elevation southwest along Harford Road. The building is set back from Harford Road on a southward sloping lot that has a grassy strip along the northwest elevation and a paved parking lot, basketball court, and playground, all surrounded by a chain-link fence, to the southeast of the building. The main entrance to the building is now located on the rear of the building, facing the parking lot.

The Gothic Revival-style main school building is a two-story-and-basement, flat-roof structure of red brick laid in five-course American bond on a raised foundation of random-rubble stone. Cast-concrete details include a belt course above the second story windows, a water table above the stone foundation, door surrounds, window sills, and simple corner markings. Throughout the building, the windows are generally grouped into bands of five or six double-hung metal units with soldier lintels, cast-concrete sills, and capped mullions. Doors are metal.

The seven-bay façade consists of a central three-bay section, the original school façade, flanked by slightly recessed wings, two bays to the southeast and one bay to the northwest. The original façade contains a two-story center entrance bay of cast concrete laid in coursed ashlar with cornices, pilasters, and crest and ribbon details. The double-leaf metal entry door, with ten-light sidelights and tripartite fixed transom, is set in a pointed arch opening and flanked by vertical four-light fixed windows. At the second story is a large, square window opening filled with a 12-light fixed window flanked by vertical two-light fixed windows. Flanking the entrance bay, the façade is pierced at the first and second stories by openings filled with bands of five windows and then a single window. Each bay of the wings is pierced at the first and second story by a band of six windows; the second-story windows are 1/1 topped with a fixed panel and the first-story windows are 2/2 topped with a fixed panel. The basement level is gradually more exposed as the site slopes to the south, with areaways that allow for window openings which are filled with 1/1 or 2/2 units or louvers, as well as a ramp to an entrance door. A stacked brick chimney, set flush with the face of the building, rises above the roofline.

The northwest elevation of the main building has a double-leaf metal door topped with a fifteen-light transom at the fully raised basement level and a 2/2 window topped with a fixed panel between the first and second stories. Smooth red brick laid in vertical and horizontal lines provide a subtle geometric decoration to the first and second stories. The southeast elevation is nearly identical to the northwest, except that the door is recessed and topped with a ten-light transom. The southeast elevation of the main building is six bays wide and two stories with a fully raised basement. Each bay is pierced at the first and second stories by a band of six windows filled with 1/1 units topped with fixed panels at the second story and 2/2 units topped with fixed panels at the first story. A three-story, shed-roof, stuccoed elevator tower projects from the third bay.

A one-story addition, constructed in 1962, extends from the rear (southwest) elevation at the first four bays of the basement level. A one-and-a-half-story addition, built in 1973, extends from the southwest elevation of the first addition. Taken together, on the northeast elevation, the one-story section is pierced by a band of eight metal frame windows set in an opening with a continuous concrete lintel and a pair of door openings filled with metal and glass, double-leaf doors with a single side light and four-light transom. The northeast elevation of the one-and-a-half-story section is pieced by a curtain wall of metal frame windows. Slightly recessed on the one-and-a-half-story southwest elevation is a double-leaf flush metal door above which is a four-light metal window. On the southeast elevation, the canted wall of the one-story section is the current main entrance to the building, with metal and glass sliding doors and metal frame windows set under a metal-clad shed roof. The southeast elevation of the one-and-a-half-story section only has a 2/2 window.

The interior of the building was not accessible at the time of the survey.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-3203

| Period | Areas of Significance | Check and justify below | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine | <input type="checkbox"/> performing arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2000- | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> social history |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning | | <input type="checkbox"/> maritime history | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____ |

Specific dates 1925-1929 **Architect/Builder** Wilson L. Smith (1878-1931)

Construction dates 1925, 1929, 1962, 1973

Evaluation for:

National Register Maryland Register not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Constructed in 1925, the Parkville School served as the principal school for the area at a time when suburbanization, population increase, and school consolidation in Baltimore County was resulting in a rapidly increasing student population. In response to continued overcrowding, the original school building was expanded in 1929, with two wings that doubled its size. Prominently located on Harford Road, the Parkville School represents the development of the Parkville area in the decades following the expansion of the Harford Road streetcar line through the town in 1918. Therefore, **the property qualifies for eligibility under Criterion A.** The property is not associated with any person or group of persons of outstanding importance to the community, state, or nation. Therefore, the property is not eligible under Criterion B. The main school building, including the original 1925 section and 1929 wings, is a good example of Gothic-Revival style academic architecture at a time of intensified school construction in Baltimore County. Therefore, **the property also qualifies for eligibility under Criterion C.** The property was not evaluated under Criterion D. The recommended period of significance, 1925-1929, is confined to the construction dates of the main school building, comprised only of the original structure and early wings, which represents the portion of the building program significant for the above associations. The 1962 and 1973 additions are, therefore, outside the period of significance.

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Parkville Elementary School was constructed at a time of rapid population growth and intensified school construction as Baltimore County moved from a system of small rural schools to one of larger, consolidated schools. Consolidation of the rural public schools began in the first part of the twentieth century. School attendance became mandatory in 1912 which contributed, along with suburbanization, to the number of pupils in the system. Consolidation was a part of the County's effort to provide modern schools for its students to replace small rural schools, crowded classrooms and schools housed in unsuitable rented quarters. With consolidation came the need to provide transportation to more distant schools. The Board of Education provided free transportation, first by horse-drawn vehicles and then by motorized buses.

The Baltimore County public school system faced a new challenge in 1919 when the city of Baltimore annexed parts of Baltimore County including many of the county's most-recently built schools. It lost half its school population, half its teachers and much of its tax base.¹ Compensation for those schools was not adequate to fund the school construction necessitated by a rapidly growing school population in newly suburbanized areas and inadequate, often outdated, existing facilities.

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¹ Amy C. Crewe, *No Backward Step was Taken: Highlights in the History of the Public Elementary Schools of Baltimore County*, Teachers Association of Baltimore County, Maryland, Inc., 1949, p. 85.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-3203

Name Parkville School
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

the County built six schools. In 1924, it built five schools and one addition. In 1925, it built Parkville and nine other schools, including two high schools. Eight more schools were constructed in the next three years, as well as two additions.²

Consolidation continued in this period, reaching its peak in the 1920-1940s in rural communities. During this period, under the direction of Superintendent Clarence G. Cooper, the consolidation efforts provided modern school buildings and adequate transportation. Brick or stone buildings with eight, ten or twelve classrooms, set on several-acre plots providing playground space, were typical of this period as one, two or three-teacher schools were eliminated.

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The architect for the Parkville Elementary School was Wilson L. Smith (1878-1931) of the Baltimore firm of Smith & May. Smith was born in Baltimore County and attended Johns Hopkins University. He studied architecture at Columbia University and in Europe. He formed a partnership with Howard May in 1907. The firm's work included a number of banks and the 1929 Baltimore Trust Company Building (in association with the firm Taylor & Fisher), considered one of Baltimore's first skyscrapers. Smith & May served as Consultants to the State Board of Architecture in 1921.⁴

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Parkville, like other areas of Baltimore County close to the city limits, continued to experience rapid suburbanization and population growth in the 1920s, leading to overcrowding even in newly constructed schools. In Parkville, the elementary school enrollment in the academic year 1922-1923 had been 392 pupils. By 1927-1928, it was 731 with an additional 61 high school students. In July 1928 the Baltimore County School Superintendent submitted a five-year school building program to the Board of Education which included both new schools and numerous additions. The Board approved the program which included an addition to Parkville Elementary School⁶

² *Ibid.*, p. 91-92.

³ "The First Schools in Parkville," *Parkville School News*, v. 7, no. 6 (March 1946).

⁴ Henry F. Withey and Elsie Rathburn Withey, *Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased)*, Los Angeles: Hennessey & Ingalls, Inc., 1970, s.v. Smith, Wilson L.

⁵ Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education of Baltimore County, December 2, 1924. Minutes, Board of Education August 1923-August 1930, Office of the Superintendent, The Baltimore County Public Schools, 6901 Charles Street, Towson, Maryland.

⁶ Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education of Baltimore County, July 30, 1928. Minutes, Board of Education August 1923-August 1930, Office of the Superintendent, The Baltimore County Public Schools, 6901 Charles Street, Towson, Maryland.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-3203

Name Parkville School
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

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Despite the investments in the Parkville Elementary School in the 1960s and 1970s, the school was considered outmoded and inadequate by the mid-1970s. Furthermore, in the 1970s, Parkville, along with neighboring schools, experienced a decline in enrollment. Parkville's enrollment of 824 in the year 1972-1973 had dropped to 642 by 1975-1976 and the projected enrollment for 1978-1979 was 498.¹⁰ In 1976 the Baltimore County Public Schools Superintendent described Parkville Elementary as "a substandard building on a substandard site in a poor location."¹¹ The Parkville Elementary School was closed at the end of the 1976-1977 academic year.

Early in the 1980s, the Board of Education turned the building over to the County and it became a community center and a senior center. Subsequent modifications have included a new entrance to the senior center on the south elevation and an elevator housed in an exterior shaft, also on the south elevation.

⁷ Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Education of Baltimore County, March 5, 1929. Minutes, Board of Education August 1923-August 1930, Office of the Superintendent, The Baltimore County Public Schools, 6901 Charles Street, Towson, Maryland.

⁸ "Parkville School Today," *Parkville School News*, v. 7, no. 6 (March 1946).

⁹ Memorandum to Joshua R. Wheeler, Superintendent, on Board of Education of Baltimore County letterhead, July 1961. Parkville School file, Office of the Superintendent, The Baltimore County Public Schools, 6901 Charles Street, Towson, Maryland.

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¹¹ Joshua R. Wheeler, Superintendent, to Mona-Lee Bretall, P.T.A., February 12, 1976. Parkville School file, Office of the Superintendent, The Baltimore County Public Schools, 6901 Charles Street, Towson, Maryland.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-3203

Crewe, Amy C. *No Backward Step was Taken: Highlights in the History of the Public Elementary Schools of Baltimore County*. Teachers Association of Baltimore County, Maryland, Inc., 1949.

Parkville School News, v. 7, no. 6 (March 1946). Vertical File: Baltimore History – Parkville History, Parkville Carney Library, Parkville, Maryland.

Withey, Henry F. and Elsie Rathburn Withey. *Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased)*. Los Angeles: Hennessey & Ingalls, Inc., 1970.

10. Geographical Data

Acree of surveyed property 3.5 acres

Acree of historical setting _____

Quadrangle name Towson

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The recommended National Register boundary for the Parkville School is tax parcel 585, illustrated on tax map 71, with which the school building has historically been associated. The boundary encompasses the 1925 school building with the two 1929 wings, as well as the 1962 and 1973 additions and the play areas and parking lot. Although outside the period of significance, the 1962 and 1973 additions are **physically attached** to the original building. In addition, they read clearly as non-original construction and, given their siting, do not detract from the appearance of the historic school building or its ability to convey its significance. Therefore, despite the presence of non-contributing, attached additions, the entire bounded parcel represents the **historic Parkville School site** on which Baltimore County constructed and expanded the school in response to the growth of the Parkville community.

11. Form Prepared by

| | | | |
|-----------------|--|-----------|--------------|
| name/title | Patricia Altman, Architectural Historian, and Andrea Schoenfeld, Historian | | |
| organization | EHT Traceries, Inc. | date | May 2, 2006 |
| street & number | 1121 Fifth Street, NW | telephone | 202.393.1199 |
| city or town | Washington | state | DC |

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-3203

Name Parkville School
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

Bibliography (continued)

Unpublished Documents

Baltimore County Legacy Web. Baltimore County Public Library. <http://external.bcpl.lib.md.us>.

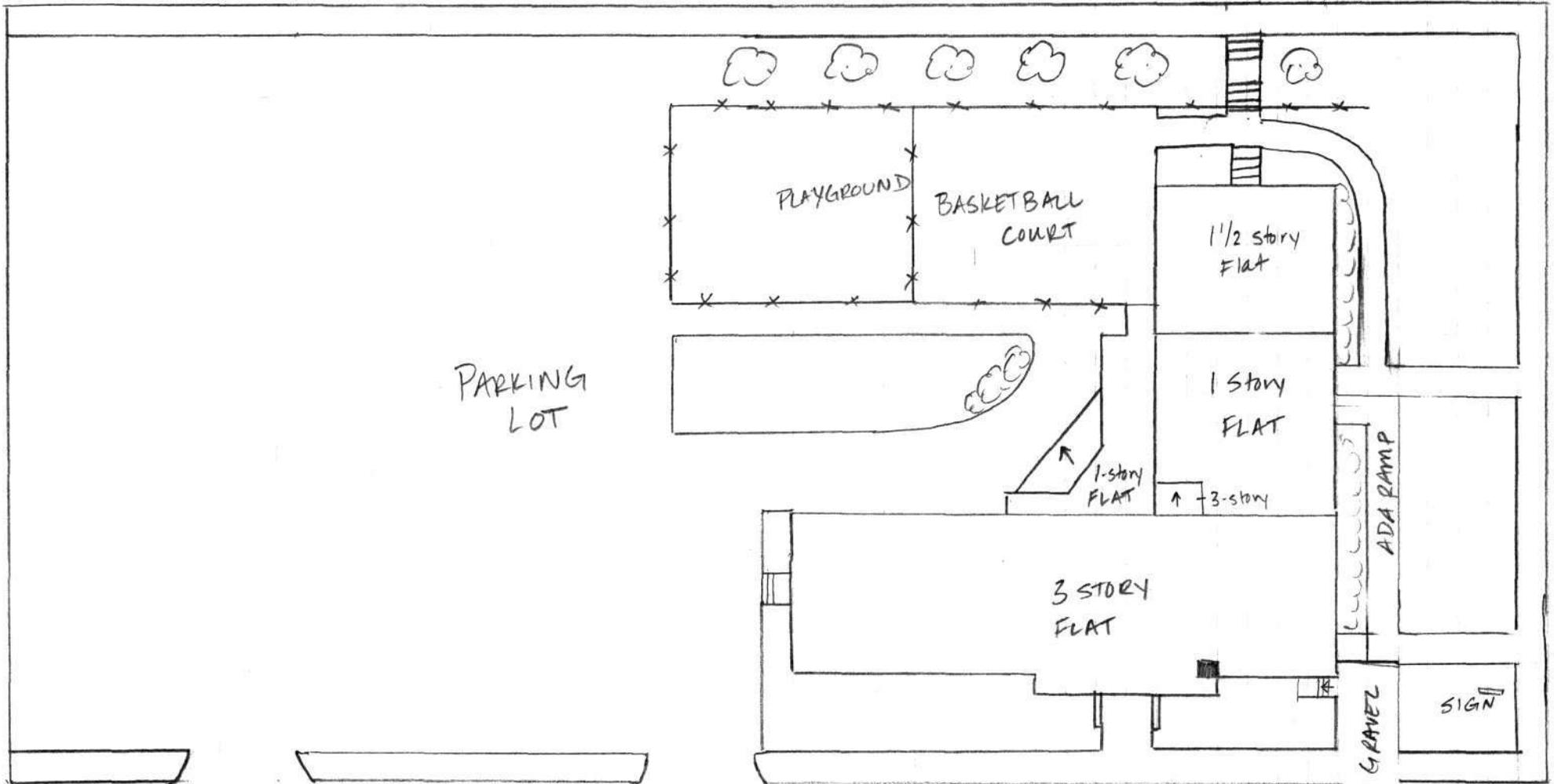
E.H.T. Tracerics. Baltimore County Architectural Survey: Phase I, Final Report, 2001, rev. 2003. Prepared for the Baltimore County Office of Planning and the Landmarks Preservation Commission. E.H.T. Tracerics, Inc. Washington, D.C.

McGrain, John W. "Parkville Background," 2006. Baltimore County Office of Planning, Towson, Maryland

Minutes, Board of Education August 1923-August 1930. Office of the Superintendent, The Baltimore County Public Schools, Towson, Maryland.

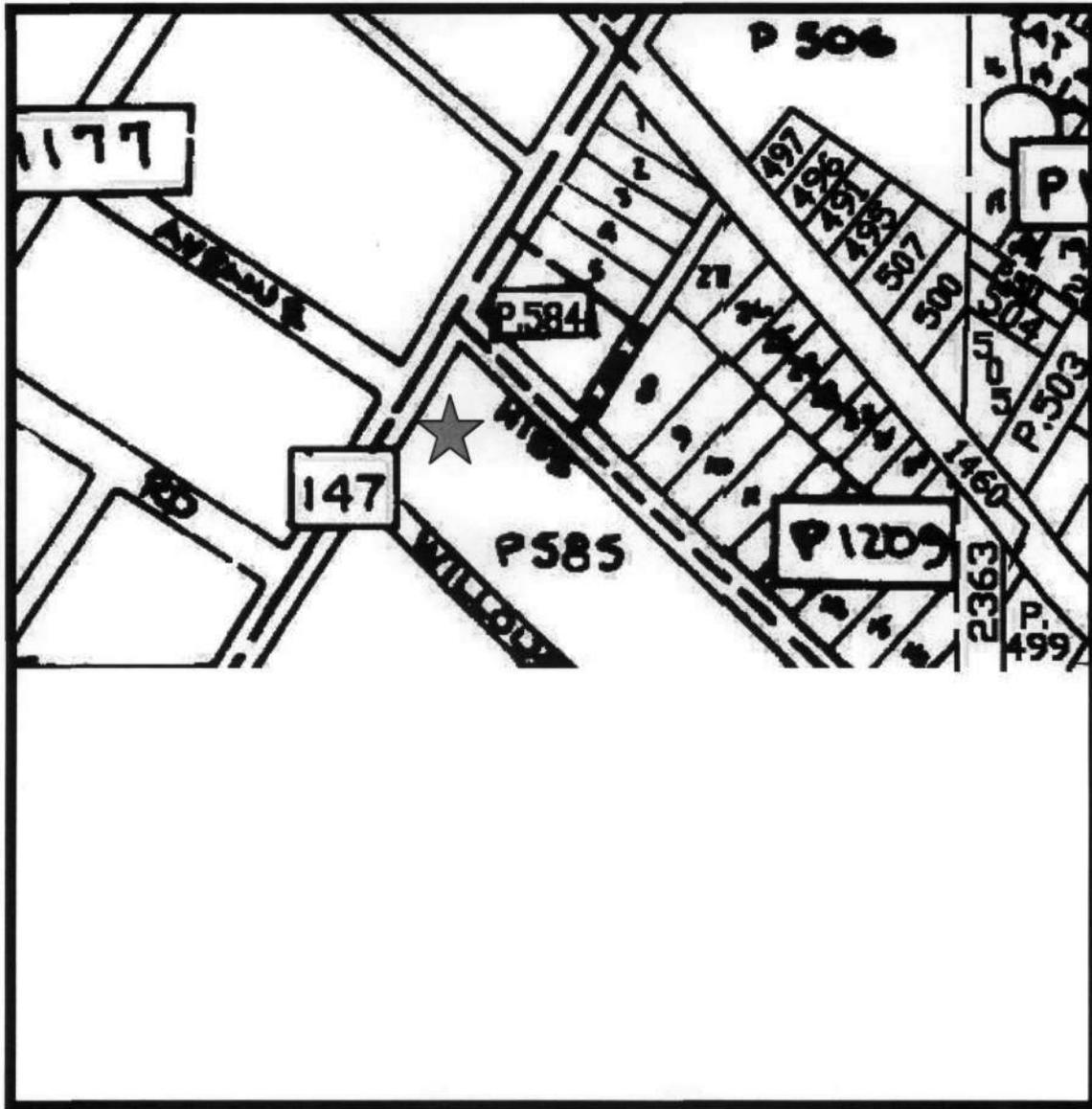
Parkville School file. Office of the Superintendent, The Baltimore County Public Schools, Towson, Maryland.

RESOURCE SKETCH
MAP



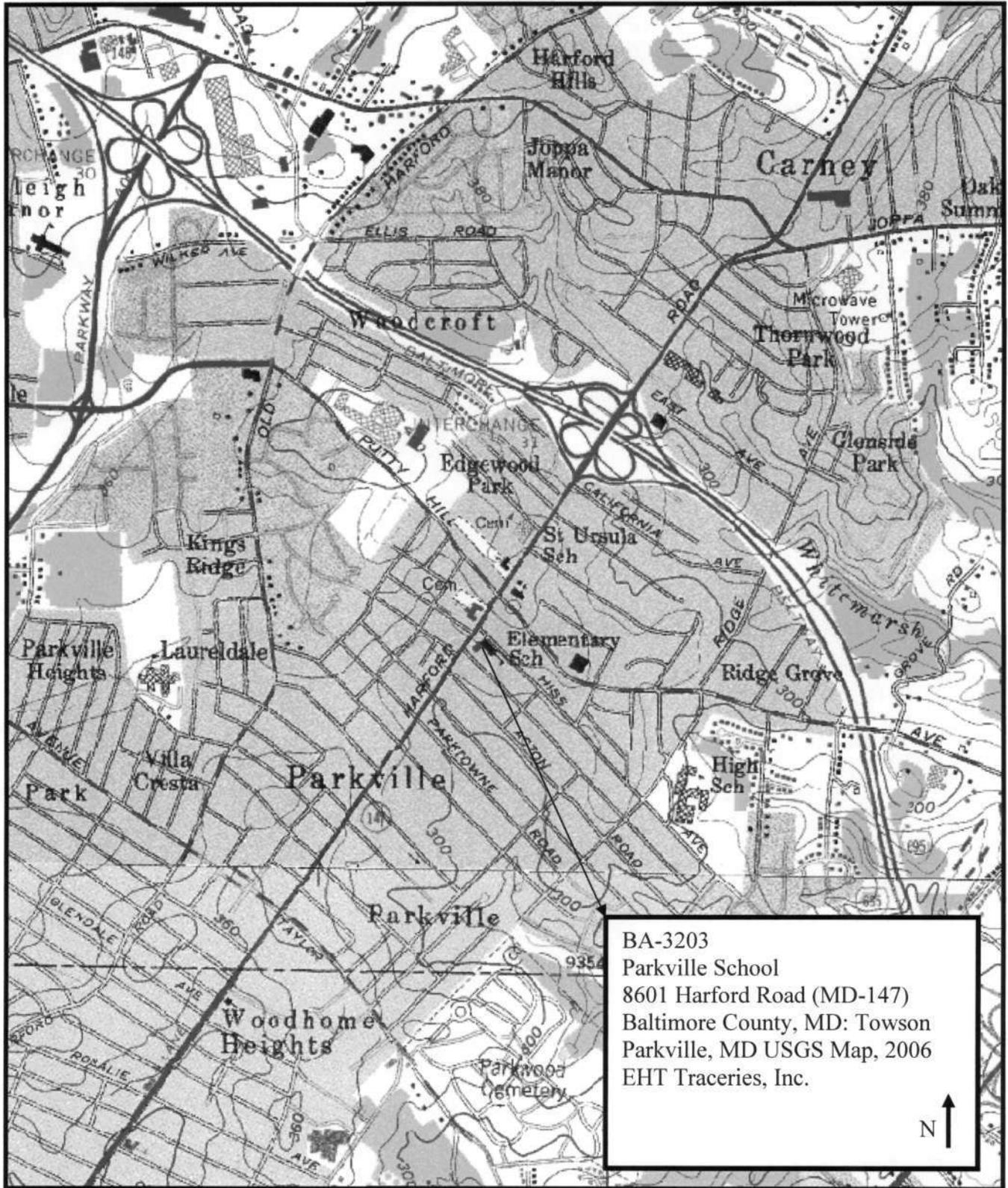
HARFORD ROAD

BA-3203
PARKVILLE SCHOOL
PARKVILLE, MD
BALTIMORE COUNTY
NOT DRAWN TO SCALE



BA-3203
 Parkville School
 8601 Harford Road (MD 147)
 Baltimore County, MD: Towson
 Parkville, Tax Parcel Map
 Map 71, Parcel 585
 EHT Tracerics, Inc. 2006





BA-3203
Parkville School (Parkville Senior Center)
8601 Harford Road (MD 147), Parkville
Microsoft Virtual Earth image, 2007, facing north



Microsoft Virtual Earth image, 2007, facing south





BA-3203 (10F7)

PARKVILLE SCHOOL

8601 HARFORD ROAD

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

EHT TRACERIES

APRIL 2006

MD SHPO

NORTH ELEVATION, LOOKING SOUTH



BA-3203 (2 of 7)

PARKVILLE SCHOOL

86001 HARFORD ROAD

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

EHT TRACERIES

APRIL 2006

MD SHPO

EAST ELEVATION, LOOKING WEST



BA-3203 (3 of 7)

PARKVILLE SCHOOL

8601 HARFORD ROAD

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

EHT TRACERIES

APRIL 2006

MD SHPO

NORTHEAST ELEVATION, LOOKING SOUTH



BA-3203 (4 of 7)

PARKVILLE SCHOOL

8601 HARFORD ROAD

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

EHT TRACERIES

APRIL 2006

MD SHPO

NORTHWEST ELEVATION, LOOKING EAST



BA-3203 (5 of 7)

PARKVILLE SCHOOL

8601 HARFORD ROAD

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

EHT TRACERIES

APRIL 2006

MD SHPO

WEST ELEVATION OF REAR ADDITION,
LOOKING EAST



BA-3203 (6 of 7)

PARKVILLE SCHOOL
8601 HARFORD ROAD
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
EHT TRACERIES

APRIL 2006

MD SHPO

SOUTH ELEVATION, LOOKING NORTH



BA-3203 (7 of 7)

PARKVILLE SCHOOL

8601 HARFORD ROAD

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

EHT TRACERIES

APRIL 2006

MD SHPO

SOUTHEAST ELEVATION, LOOKING NORTHWEST