

BA- 354

BUNKER HILL COVERED BRIDGE (SITE) - 1880 - Bunker Hill Road, over Gunpowder Falls, 1.1 mile northwest of Hereford. Timber bridge, 107 feet long, built in 1880 and refurbished in 1947. Destroyed by fire in 1961 and rebuilt by Baltimore County Department of Public Works using old methods. Destroyed again by vandals in August 1971 and not scheduled for replacement.

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BA 357
Bunker Hill Covered
Bridge.

Maryland Historical Society
Board votes (I believe on 8/11 ??) in support
of reconstruction (according to Matilda
Lacey); Balti' County Hist. Soc. Pres (1971)
John McGrain is also writing Albert B.
Kaltenbach (BA Director of Public Works)
in support of reconstruction. ...

Alice Martin (Mrs. Clyde)

11.26.71

the route impractical for heavy wagons until the builders of the turnpike tamed the grades and built bridges at the river crossings.

Early Travel

It is difficult for us today to imagine the amount and type of traffic that went up and down the roads of yesteryear. Rags for the making of paper were brought north from Baltimore and the finished product was returned. Flour from the grist mills went down to the city; stocks of imported food such as coffee, molasses and dried fruits were brought out from the port, as were imported household furnishings. In 1802 William Hutchins and others from the My Lady's Manor vicinity, in asking for better roads stated that corn, buckwheat flour, rye and other produce went down to the markets in Baltimore on a regular basis. The first carriers were pack mules and horses; later came the wagons, described as being so big that only the top of a man's head was visible when he stood in the wagon bed. There were some wealthy travelers with coaches of their own and a public stage coach, but in the Eighteenth and early Nineteenth Centuries the average man rode horseback.

The abandoned road to York is not the only road in this area that now appears as only a faint trail in the woods or a double line of old trees striking off through a field. The close observer can often see traces of where a road went many years ago. However, it must also be admitted that many of our roads still follow ancient trails, some of them probably made by a herd of cows! Often the turns and twists can be figured out by inspecting the border lines of old land grants. One such road is Wesley Chapel Road on My Lady's Manor whose angles conform to the boundary lines of lots drawn on the 1797 plat of the manor.

Bridges

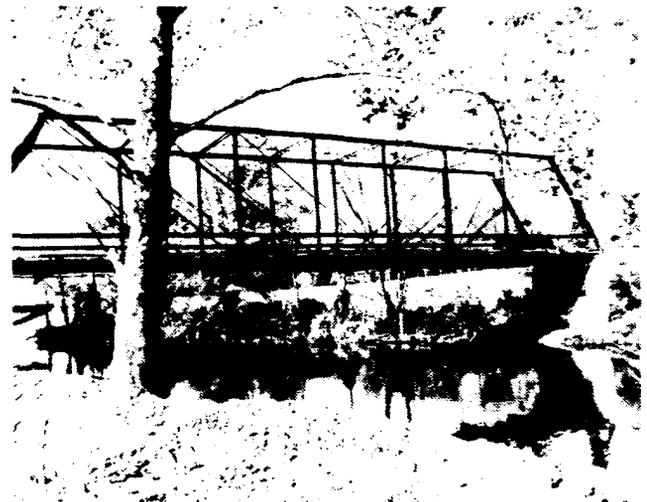
Mention has been made of the fords along the Gunpowder Falls. Few, if any, bridges were built prior to 1800, and the wagons and horses needed a shallow, rock-free spot at which to cross a river or stream. Despite our sentimental memories of the old covered bridges, these quaint structures were apparently not the first bridges built. The first bridge at Miller's Ford on Bunker Hill Road was an open one, constructed about 1850. It was not until this bridge weakened and allowed a four-horse team and a load of cordwood to fall into the Gunpowder that the first covered bridge was built. This was around 1875.

Clemens, S.B. and C.E. Clemens

1983 (Revised Ed.) From Marble Hill to Maryland Line: an informal History of Northern Baltimore County.

There is no exact record of the number of covered bridges in our area. There was one at Corbett Road still in use around 1940, and one at the town of Phoenix around the early part of this century. The covered bridge at Bunker Hill was destroyed by vandals and rebuilt by the county road department in 1961. A few years ago the restored bridge was again vandalized. Now there is no bridge at Miller's Ford. Alas; automobiles cannot ford rivers with the ease of ancient wagons!

North Baltimore Countians have proved to be quite adamant about their old bridges. In recent years the iron bridge with a plank road bed that spanned the Gunpowder at Monkton has been replaced with a sleek modern concrete span. It had been weakened in two floods and damaged in an automobile crash. The passing of the old bridge was mourned by area residents who actually opposed the construction of the new bridge. In Glencoe a similar bridge was slated for replacement and the local people fought the move. When a flood in 1975 accomplished what the county could not do . . . took away the old bridge, the people then demanded and got a simple, narrow Baily bridge to replace it! Residents of the Belfast Road area near Butler are also resisting the county's proposal for a new wider bridge over Western Run.



Monkton Bridge Before Removal, 1975

As to the conditions of the old roads north of Cockeysville many years ago, they were quite miserable, especially after the spring rains. One has only to read the community notes in the newspapers of those days to hear the complaints of past generations. In 1904 only ten percent of the highway system in

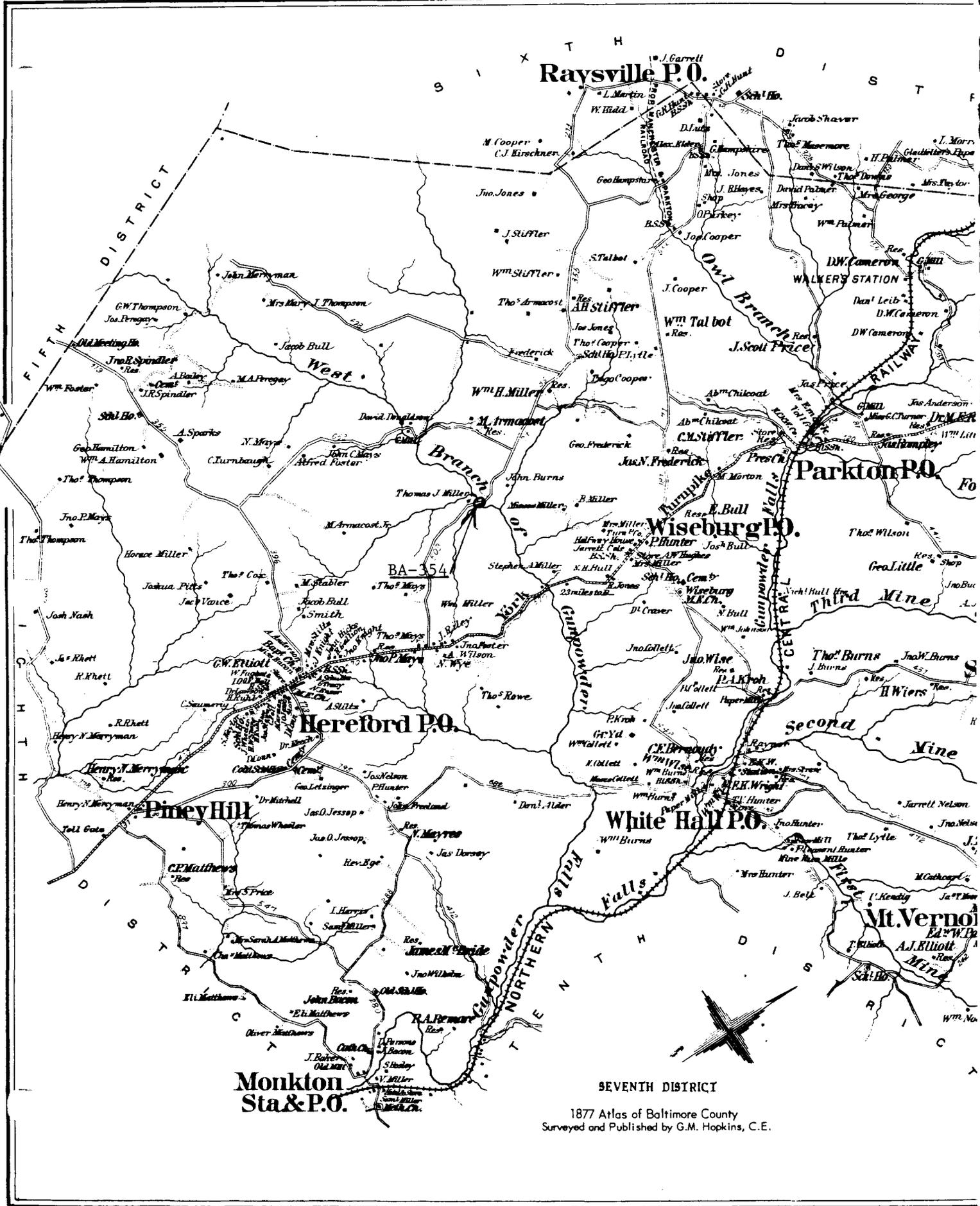
- 66 BLACK ROCK BAPTIST CHURCH - 1828 - Falls Road, Butler. A simple graystone church was built on an acre of ground donated by Richard Johns, costing \$600. This was said to be "the birthplace of the hard-shelled Baptists," organized March 29, 1828. Burial ground donated by Evan Davis, 1882. The church has been renovated.
- 67 BUNKER HILL COVERED BRIDGE - 1880 - Bunker Hill Road, west of Old York Road in Hereford. Wooden, board and batten type structure built originally in 1880 and restored in 1947; destroyed by fire in 1961 and rebuilt in 1963. Located in scenic surroundings, it measures 107 feet and is the largest serviceable covered bridge in Maryland.

Offutt, E. Frances
 1971
 Baltimore County Landmarks. Board of Library Trustees for Baltimore County, Maryland.



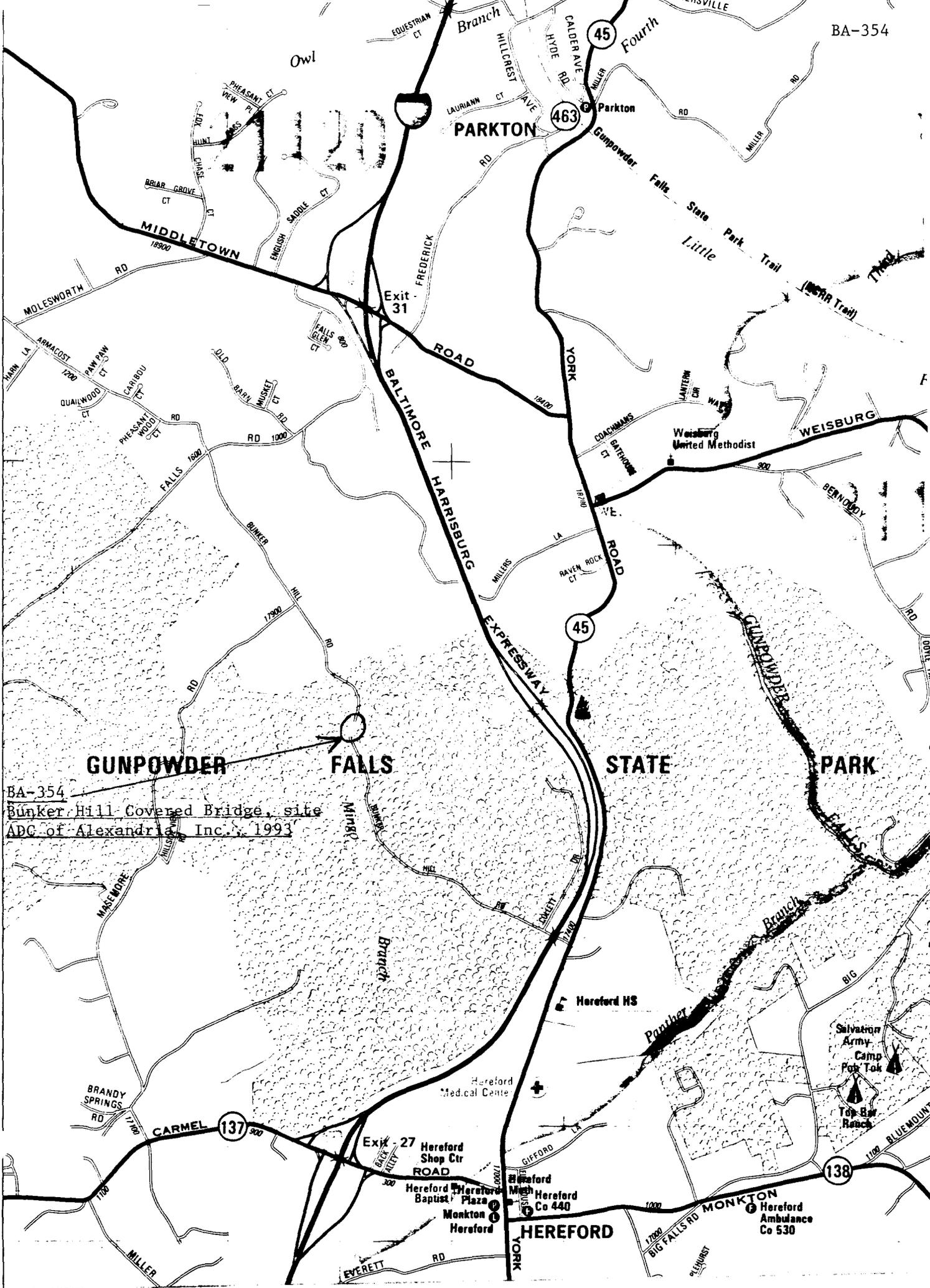
WEISBURG INN

BA-354
 Bunker Hill Covered Bridge, site



SEVENTH DISTRICT

1877 Atlas of Baltimore County
 Surveyed and Published by G.M. Hopkins, C.E.



BA-354
 Bunker Hill Covered Bridge, site
 ADC of Alexandria, Inc., 1993

GUNPOWDER FALLS STATE PARK

PARKTON

HEREFORD

Hereford Shop Ctr
 Hereford Baptist Church
 Hereford Plaza
 Monkton Hereford

138

137

45

463

45

Exit 31

Exit 27

1700

BRANDY SPRINGS RD

CARMEL

MAKE MORE

FALLS

MIDDLETOWN

BALTIMORE ROAD

HARRISBURG EXPRESSWAY

YORK ROAD

LAKE ROAD

POWDER MILL

BRANCH

POWDER MILL

EVERETT RD

YORK

FOURTH

PARKTON

GUNPOWDER FALLS

YORK

LAKE

Weisberg United Methodist

WEISBURG

BERNOLLY

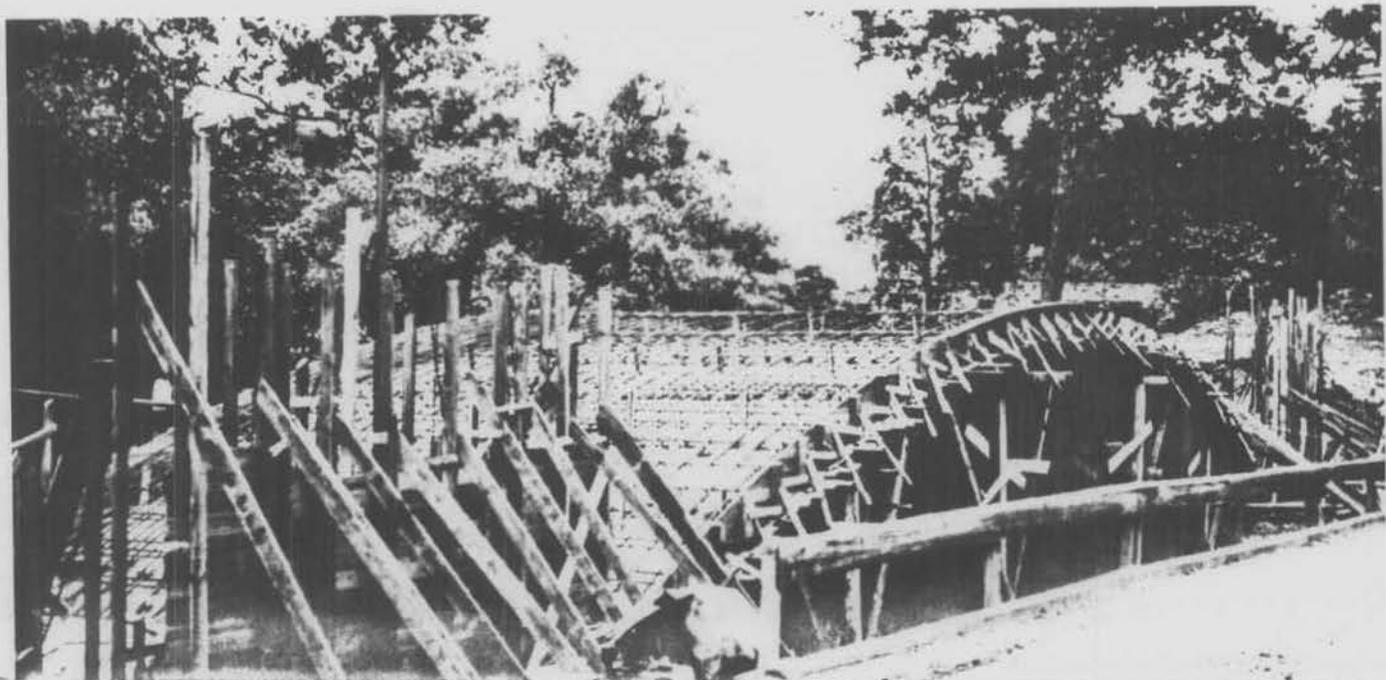
Salvation Army Camp

Top Bar Ranch

Hereford Ambulance Co 530



The first covered bridge at Bunker Hill Road over the Gunpowder Falls, 1.1 miles north-west of Hereford, was built in 1880 and survived until 1961, when it was destroyed by fire. Rebuilt by the Baltimore County Department of Public Works using the old methods, it was destroyed again by vandals in August 1971 and was not replaced. The view here dates from the 1920s.



Brooks, Neal A. and Richard Parsons
1988 Baltimore County Panorama. Norfolk/Virginia Beach:
The Donning Company, p. 167.

BA-354
Bunker Hill Covered Bridge, site

Maryland State Police Headquarters, in Pikesville, was built as an arsenal shortly after the War of 1812, and later was used as a home for Maryland Confederate Veterans of the Civil War. Now, although thoroughly modernized and serving as headquarters of the Maryland State Police, the physical countenance of the building has been maintained so that the structure remains historically appealing.



Social Security Building, the fifth largest Federal office building in the United States, located on Security Boulevard (off Beltway Exit 17) in Woodlawn, is the national administrative and record-keeping headquarters for the world's largest social insurance system. For those interested in learning how their social security system operates, guided tours are conducted Mondays through Fridays and can be arranged by calling 944-5000, Extension 2984.



Bunker Hill Covered Bridge, located in scenic splendor and quiet, natural beauty just west of Old York Road, on Bunker Hill Road, in Hereford. The original bridge was constructed in 1880 and restored in 1947. It was destroyed by fire in 1961 and reconstructed by Baltimore County's Department of Public Works in 1963. The new bridge, dedicated June 23, 1963, is as nearly as possible an exact replica of the old bridge. It measures 107 feet and is the largest serviceable one of its kind in the State.

Anderson, Dale, Baltimore County Executive
1970 Baltimore County at a Glance.

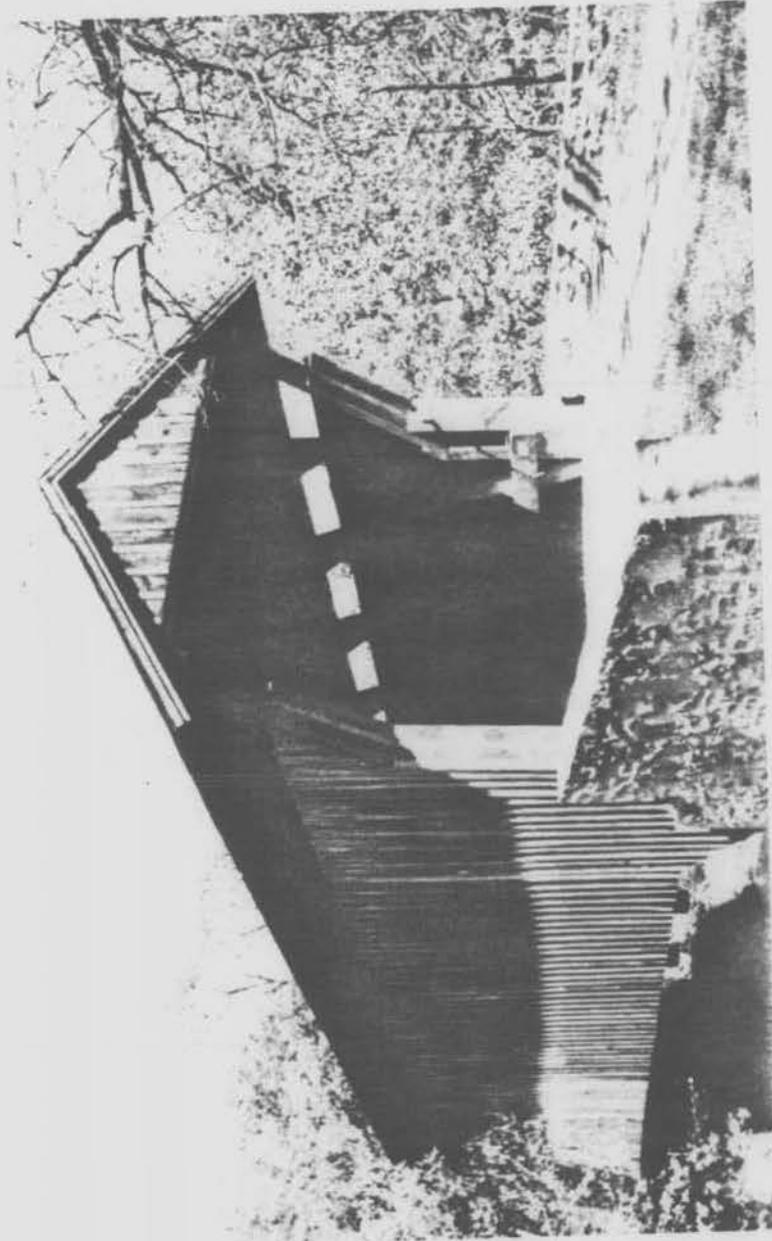


Hampton House, on Hampton Lane, east of Dulaney Valley Road, in Towson, is a "must" for those interested in the charm and elegance typical of the late Georgian style of architecture. One of the great post-Revolution mansions of America, Hampton was built during the period 1783 - 1790. There are guided tours of the mansion and the grounds Tuesdays through Saturdays, from 11 a. m. to 5 p. m., and on Sunday from 1 p. m. to 5 p. m. The visitor can make purchases in the antique shop and refreshments are served in the tearoom.



Loch Raven, Pretty Boy and Liberty Reservoirs, near Towson, Parkton and Reisterstown respectively, are all sources of water supply for Baltimore City and Baltimore County's Metropolitan District. All three offer the sight-seer the beauty of wilderness and natural splendor as well as the amenities of good roads, picnicking, hiking and fishing. There are boats for rent at Loch Raven Reservoir.





BUNKER HILL COVERED BRIDGE

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Baltimore County, Maryland.