

CAPSULE SUMMARY
BA-0461
Wheeler School
4931 Trenton Mill Road
Upperco, Baltimore County
1860 ca.
Private

Constructed circa 1860 near the village of Trenton, the Wheeler School is representative of the vernacular stone schoolhouses constructed throughout Baltimore County in the 19th century. The building dates to the height of settlement in Trenton. The 1850 county atlas shows only one building on this property, and it is labeled as a schoolhouse. Exterior architectural analysis cannot confirm whether or not the depicted building is the extant schoolhouse or the nearby dwelling (BA-0460). The 1877 atlas presents the same dilemma. Again, only a schoolhouse is depicted on this property. By 1915, the property appears to have been converted to a farm. Over this hundred-year period, the Wheeler family maintained possession of the land. In 1912, they sold it to Chester Martin, who retained ownership until 1962, when it passed to the Mickle family.

The Wheeler School is a one-and-a-half-story, two-bay-square building and features random rubble stone construction, a front gable roof clad in standing seam metal, and one interior end brick chimney. A square, wood frame bell tower rises from the front of the roof ridge. The gable peak and sides of the small tower are clad in flush horizontal board siding, and the sides are pierced by quarter moon-shaped openings. One flush vertical board single-leaf wood door and one 6/6 window, both of which feature square-edged wood surrounds and a full-width square-edged wood lintel, pierce the façade, or east elevation. A four-light casement with a square-edged wood surround pierces the gable peak. The school is banked into a hillside, and its exposed foundation wall features a basement-level random rubble stone addition with a shed roof. A one-story wood frame addition clad in German siding extends from the rear elevation. The schoolhouse is one of three historic resources located on the property. To the north is a circa 1824 stone house (BA-0460) of two-and-a-half-stories with a Gothic Revival style frame addition that dates to circa 1860. Sited across Trenton Mill Road is a circa 1910 drive-through corncrib. Additionally, a circa 1990 garage and shed have been constructed.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-0461

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Wheeler School

other

2. Location

street and number 4931 Trenton Mill Road __ not for publication

city, town Upperco __ vicinity

county Baltimore County

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

name Grace Katherine Devereux

street and number 4931 Trenton Mill Road telephone Not Available

city, town Upperco state MD zip code 21155

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 5323 folio 261

city, town Towson tax map 19 tax parcel 86 tax ID number 1600009595

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		
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	3	2
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	_____	_____
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	3	2
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	_____	_____
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory 2	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-0461

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

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

Constructed circa 1860, the Wheeler School is a one-and-a-half-story, two-bay-square building and features random rubble stone construction, a front gable roof clad in standing seam metal, and one interior end brick chimney. A square, wood frame bell tower rises from the front of the roof ridge. The gable peak and sides of the small tower are clad in flush horizontal board siding, and the sides are pierced by quarter moon-shaped openings. One flush vertical board single-leaf wood door and one 6/6 window, both of which feature square-edged wood surrounds and a full-width square-edged wood lintel, pierce the façade, or east elevation. A four-light casement with a square-edged wood surround pierces the gable peak. The school is banked into a hillside, and its exposed foundation wall features a basement-level random rubble stone addition with a shed roof. A one-story wood frame addition clad in German siding extends from the rear elevation

The schoolhouse is one of three historic resources located on the property. To the north is a circa 1824 stone house (BA-0460) of two-and-a-half-stories with a Gothic Revival style frame addition that dates to circa 1860. Sited across Trenton Mill Road is a circa 1910 drive-through corncrib. Additionally, a circa 1990 garage and shed have been constructed.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-0461

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" 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 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 1860 ca.-present **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates 1860 ca.

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 circa 1860 near the village of Trenton, the Wheeler School is representative of the vernacular stone schoolhouses constructed throughout Baltimore County in the 19th century. The building dates to the height of settlement in Trenton. The 1850 county atlas shows only one building on this property, and it is labeled as a schoolhouse.¹ Exterior architectural analysis cannot confirm whether or not the depicted building is the extant schoolhouse or the nearby dwelling (BA-0460). The 1877 atlas presents the same dilemma. Again, only a schoolhouse is depicted on this property.² By 1915, the property appears to have been converted to a farm.³ Over this hundred-year period, the Wheeler family maintained possession of the land. In 1912, they sold it to Chester Martin, who retained ownership until 1962, when it passed to the Mickle family.⁴

As late as 1850, the village of Zoucksville included only a gristmill, sawmill, and store, all of which were operated by John C. and George Zouck.⁵ Additionally, William Brooks had a residence to the north of the mill along Piney Run.⁶ Between 1850 and 1877, the name of the village had changed from Zoucksville to Trenton and Trenton Road, the main route through the community, had been extensively developed with residences, barns, and other buildings needed for the survival of a small milling town.⁷ By 1881, Trenton's population had reached 75, and the village included a public school, Methodist Episcopal Church, United Brethren Church, and a Lutheran Church. The Independent Order of Mechanics also established a lodge in the village.⁸ The village continued to maintain only these few buildings and did not grow significantly through the early 20th century.

¹ J.C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).

² *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).

³ *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).

⁴ Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

⁵ Neal A. Brooks and Eric G. Rockel, *A History of Baltimore County* (Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979), p. 187.

⁶ J.C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).

⁷ *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).

⁸ J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men* (Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA), p. 869.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-0461

Name Wheeler School, 4931 Trenton Mill Road, Upperco, Baltimore County
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

The 1915 county atlas indicates confirms this lack of growth.⁹ Trenton has retained its late 19th century character into the 21st century.

⁹ *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-0461

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.* Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.
Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.
-

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property .50 Acre
Acreage of historical setting Unknown
Quadrangle name Hampstead Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction circa 1860, the Wheeler School has been associated with the 7.08 acres known as tax parcel 86 of map 19 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

11. Form Prepared by

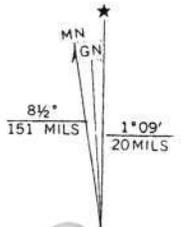
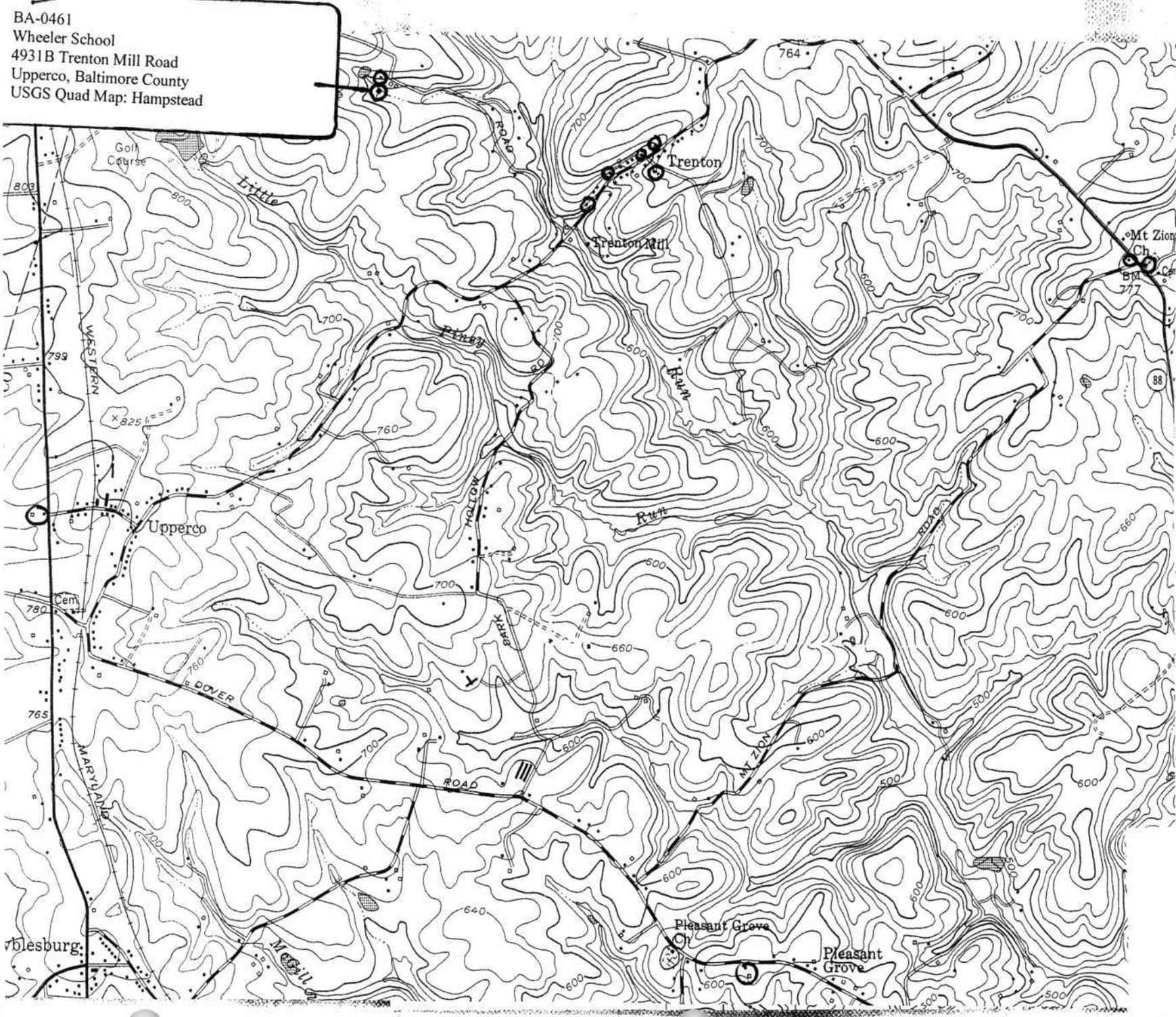
name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	May 8, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

BA-0461
Wheeler School
4931B Trenton Mill Road
Upperco, Baltimore County
USGS Quad Map: Hampstead



UTM GRID AND
DECLINATION 74 MAGNETIC NORTH
CENTER OF SHEET



BA-0461

4931 TRENTON MILL ROAD

UPPERLO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACELIES

4/2001

MD-SHPD

E CORNER

10 F 3



BA-0461
4931 TRENTON MILL ROAD
UPPER CO
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRAILERES
4/2001
MD-SHPD
S CORNER
2 of 3



BA-0461

4931 TRENTON MILLROAD

UPPERLO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILERIES

4/2001

MD-SHPD

NW ELEVATION

3 of 3

BA-461

WHEELER SCHOOL - 1860 - South side of Trenton Mill Road, 0.6 mile northwest of Trenton Village. Also called Trenton School. Small stone school house, 2 bays by 2 bays, with belfry and chimney, located just southwest of the large Victorian (Miekle) house at 4931 Trenton Mill Road. Built by Augustus M. Wheeler, land owner and teacher; known as Wheeler's School. A square was shown here in 1877 atlas but was not identified as a school. Gable roof, functional style. Owner: Grace K. Devereaux.