

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

Addendum

MIHP Number: CT-1257

Property Name: Wallville School
Property Address: 2575 Lloyd Bowen Road
St. Leonard, Maryland

The Old Wallville School building was dismantled and moved to Calvert County Public Schools property (1450 Dares Beach Road in Prince Frederick) prior to June 22, 2006. In June of 2006 Calvert County Department of Planning and Zoning described the building as follows:

“The Old Wallville School, CT-1257 on the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, is a one-story, wood frame building, approximately 15’X16’. It stood near the intersection of J Lloyd Bowen and Mackall Roads in Calvert County until it was relocated to private property on J. Lloyd Bowen Road in the 1930s, when it was replaced by another one-room building. Since that time it has served as a storage shed and has been neglected. Except for the principal gable end façade, the building is entirely clad in board and batten siding, save for clapboards in the rear gable end. The entire front façade was replaced, possibly during the 1930s move, with butted boards placed horizontally. The interior framing is oriented to suggest that the board and batten framing is original. An interior chimney stood near the rear wall, slightly left of the center ridge. One possible original window survives – a 6\6 true divided light double hung window. The others have been variously and eclectically replaced. A door opening has been added to one side of the building. Reliable sources claim that there was originally one door, on the principal façade, which otherwise had no openings (comparable to the Drayden School, in St. Mary’s County). The building has been recently dismantled and moved again to a site on Calvert County Public Schools property where it will be reconstructed and serve as an important site for public education about African-American history and the history of education. Much of the original fabric does not survive and much that has survived cannot be reused.”

JES
7/13/06

CT- 1257

WALLVILLE SCHOOL (OLD AFRICAN AMERICAN)

(c. 1880)

Wallville

Private

Available evidence indicates that this is the oldest extant African American school in Calvert County. Community residents plan to restore the building.

This wood-framed, board and batten building is among the small schoolhouses in the county. It is one bay wide and two bays deep and fenestrated with six over six, double hung windows.

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE STATE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Wallville School (Old African American) (CT-V) ¹²⁵⁷

a) Historical Period Theme: Social/Education/Cultural

b) Geographic Organization: Western Shore

c) Chronological/Developmental Period:

Industrial/Urban Dominance, A.D. 1870-1930

d) Resource Type:

Category: building

Historic Environment: rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): school

Known Design Source: none

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. CT- 1257

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

1. Name

historic Wallville School (Old African American)

and/or common

2. Location

street & number in front of 2575 Lloyd Bowen Road ___not for publication

city, town St. Leonard X vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Calvert

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" 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: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Carolyn D. & Pennard D. Parker

street & number 2575 Lloyd Bowen Road telephone no.: 410-586-8950

city, town St. Leonard state and zip code MD 20685

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Circuit Court Clerk's Office liber ABE 801

street & number 175 Main Street folio 538

city, town Prince Frederick state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___federal ___state ___county ___local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. CT- 1257

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved

date of move 1930s

The Old African American Wallville School is situated in the front yard of 2575 Lloyd Bowen Road. A post-World War II raised ranch house is located at the rear of the lot. Its site is a flat, largely open lot on the northwest side of Lloyd Bowen Road in the southern part of Calvert County.

The building itself is a wood-framed, single-story, gable-roofed block, rectangular in plan and smaller than most other surviving one room schoolhouses in Calvert County. The principal facade, which faces southeast, is pierced by a central door opening, presently missing a door. Side walls are pierced by two windows, while the rear wall is pierced by a central window. These windows appear to have originally been six over six, double hung in configuration, although some have been replaced by one over one sashes. The front wall of the building is sheathed in clapboards, as is the rear gable peak, while the remaining walls are sheathed in board and batten. The roof junction has exposed rafter tails, while the roof is sheathed in tar paper.

The building is in poor condition. Stabilization and restoration is needed to preserve it.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance--Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistory	<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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input 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: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Although the building has not been precisely dated, it may be the oldest extant African American one-room schoolhouse in Calvert County. Local residents have begun a campaign to preserve the building and restore it to depict its historic significance in nineteenth and twentieth century Calvert County education.

Retired schoolteacher Elizabeth Gross recalled that this was the original school in Wallville and was moved when the second African American school in Wallville was moved there from St. Leonard. She noted that the school is "as old as Methuselah - but it's still there" (Goddard 1995). The school is illustrated in Richlyn Goddard's history of African American education in Calvert County.

Available information indicates that this school was used to educate African American students from sometime in the nineteenth century until the 1930s. Long-time Wallville resident Edith Gray attended school in the 1910s and remembered that long benches lined the walls of the building, and a pot-bellied stove provided heat. The last principal of the school was Regina Brown who served from 1931 to 1935.

Miss Brown described the school in a bicentennial publication of the Calvert County Retired Teachers Association:

This was a segregated school of thirty-five black pupils in grades one through seven. I was principal, teacher, secretary, custodian, and trouble-shooter.

The room was about fifteen by fifteen feet with space for only a dozen double desks for pupils. The smaller children sat three in a desk. On days of good attendance the overflow sat on the floor in the aisle and used flat-topped logs for desk tops. Our supplies consisted of textbooks, a register, one box of white chalk, a water pail and dipper, and one corn broom. The customary airtight stove was the only source of heat (CRTA 1975).

In the 1930s, the school was replaced by a larger, more substantial school, also surveyed. This latter school is presently the David S. and Mary E. Washington House at 2490 Lloyd Bowen Road.

Wallville School (AA)
(old)
Wallville
Broomes Island quad
CT-1257





CT- 1257

Wallville School (AA) (old)

Calvert, Maryland

Douglas C. McVarish

March 1998

Maryland SHPO

SE facade, toward NW

1/2



CF 1257

Wallville School (AD) (old)

Calvert, Maryland

Douglas C. McVortin

March 1988

Maryland SHPO

NE & NW elevation, toward SE

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