

NATIONAL HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY M: 36-20

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Montgomery Hills Junior High School

AND/OR COMMON

The Hebrew Academy of Greater Washington

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

2010 Linden Lane

CITY, TOWN

Silver Spring

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC <i>leased</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Montgomery County

Telephone #:

217-2500

STREET & NUMBER

101 Monroe Street

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

VICINITY OF

MD

20850

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Department of Assessments and Taxation

Liber #: 4813

Folio #: 289

STREET & NUMBER

51 Monroe Street, 3rd Floor

CITY, TOWN

Rockville, Maryland 20850

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

M:36-20

CONDITION

EXCELLENT

DETERIORATED

GOOD

FAIR

RUINS

UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED

ALTERED

interior

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED

DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

One of the most prominent buildings on the campus of what was once Montgomery Hills Junior High School is the large Georgian style edifice facing Brookville Road. It was once the main building on campus. In general, the edifice resembles its original character. However, this building is not in good physical condition. It is in need of restoration. At this time, it has boarded windows, a destroyed front entry and is overrun by vegetation (in the front). Fortunately, modern additions have not obstructed the front (northwest) and side (southwest) elevations and have only partially obstructed view of the rear (southeast) and other side (northeast).

This building is a two-story classical Georgian structure with attic and basement. Its perfect symmetry is most pronounced from the front (the northwest facade facing Brookville). This edifice is comprised of a tripart composition of three building blocks: two identical parallel two-story buildings (roughly rectangular, 11 bays long, designed as classroom wings) flanking a set-back center edifice (10 bays long). Together, they create the traditional and symmetric H-plan. The structure built in red brick with flat walls, white trim (wood cornice, dormers, window frames, etc.), articulated brick quoins, glazed oculi at the attic level of the gable ends, high Georgian style slate roof, dormer windows on the center block, and Georgian style chimney stacks terminating the two flanking buildings at each end. The gable ends facing Brookville are decorated with brick panels with an animated header pattern.

The center building (two-stories to the rear with one-story entry block facing Brookville Road), surmounted by a cupola, is oriented toward the public view. The main entrance facade is a tripart with center entry. The entrance itself (which slightly projects) is also a tripart composition with three perfectly symmetric portals of light-hued stone (probably limestone) surmounted by a dominant stone projecting ledge (separating the three doors from three small windows). Above is a stone panel incised with the name of the school.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

SIGNIFICANCE

M:36-20

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES **1947-8** BUILDER/ARCHITECT **attributed to F. Proctor**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building, designed for Montgomery Hill's Junior High School, is a late example of the Georgian Revival. Significantly, it was designed to complement the existing Georgian building, designed by Howard Cutler and completed in 1936-7. Together, these two edifices gave Montgomery Hills Junior High School the character of an academic campus. This achievement was largely due to the architectural unity of the Georgian structures. In so doing, Montgomery Hills related architecturally, and by association, psychologically to other academic institutions (national, regional and local), including Montgomery Blair High School, Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School and the campus of the University of Maryland.

This school is also the product of the phenomenal growth of the Washington, D.C. suburbs in Montgomery County, Maryland, during the mid-20th century. The dramatic increase in student enrollment necessitated the erected of new buildings.

This Georgian style edifice represents the persistence of the classical tradition during the first half of the 20th century, a period when traditionalism and modernism came head to head. During the 1930s, architect Howard Cutler defined the academic image of Montgomery County's public schools along traditional lines. He often relied upon references to classical architecture. Cutler was concerned with the great traditions and symbolic potential of architecture.

The Georgian is the name given to the English Baroque, a classical 17th and 18th century style. The English Baroque is known for its symmetry, dignity and

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

M:36-20

Montgomery County Historical Society;
Central Records, Montgomery County Public Schools;
See K. Alexis' manuscript on the architectural history
of Montgomery County Public Schools, first half of the
20th century (1988) (Montgomery County Historic
Preservation and Maryland Historic Trust)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY

only building Not Site

22,610 f

8.67 Ac.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Brookville Road, Woodlin Elementary, Linden Lane,
Wood Road and Luzerne Road;

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

KARIN M.E. ALEXIS, PH.D. ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

ORGANIZATION

DATE

JUNE 1988

STREET & NUMBER

2449 Villanova Drive

TELEPHONE

280-1107

CITY OR TOWN

Vienna

Virginia

22180

STATE

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 infringe-
ment of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (CONTINUED)

academicism, and for being more restrained than continental Baroque styles. A variation of the Georgian was transplanted to the English colonies in North America, including Virginia and Maryland. Both Williamsburg, Virginia, and Annapolis, Maryland, are known for their Georgian Colonial architecture. Georgian architecture was rejected by Americans after the American Revolution because the style was associated with English rule. The revived classicism of the American Renaissance during the late 19th and early 20th century fostered a Georgian Revival.

During the 1930s, John D. Rockefeller's restoration of Williamsburg, Virginia, resulted in another Georgian Revival. By this time, the public's perception of Georgian architecture was positive. As a classical style, the Georgian represented tradition, civility, and stability. Most importantly, it was associated with the roots of American culture, and perceived of as an American style. The Georgian was self-consciously viewed as a style that linked American culture to European civilization.

The choice of the Georgian style for schools in Montgomery County was more logical than one might initially think. By selecting the Georgian, architects made reference to Maryland's early history and to early American educational traditions. Harvard College, Massachusetts, and William & Mary College, Williamsburg, Virginia, were the two oldest colleges in America. Their early buildings were rendered in the Georgian style.

Montgomery Hills Junior High School expanded to include modern structures which did not continue the architectural unity of campus. In 1944-5, Woodlin Elementary School, which respected the academic architectural tradition of Montgomery Hills, was built across the playing field.

The decline in the enrollment of students culminated in the closing of Montgomery Hills in 1976. Since then, Montgomery County has leased the campus to the Hebrew Academy of Greater Washington.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

M: 36-20

1 NAME

HISTORIC **Montgomery Hills Junior High School**

AND/OR COMMON

The Hebrew Academy of Greater Washington

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER **2010 Linden Lane**

CITY, TOWN

Silver Spring — VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC <i>leased</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH <i>leased</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME **Montgomery County**

Telephone #: **217-2500**

STREET & NUMBER

101 Monroe Street

CITY, TOWN

Rockville — VICINITY OF

MD 20580

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Department of Assessments and

Liber #: **4813**

Folio #: **269** **Taxations**

STREET & NUMBER

51 Monroe Street, 3rd Floor

CITY, TOWN

Rockville, MD 20580

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

UNALTERED
 ALTERED
interior

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The first building erected for Montgomery Hills Junior High School in 1936-7 closely resembles its original character. However, modern building campaigns have obstructed the view of its front, rear and part of one side elevations; renovations have altered its interior.

Designed by Howard Wright Cutler, the building is a two-story classical Georgian structure with attic (designed to house classrooms) and full basement. It is built in red brick with flat walls, white trim (wood cornice, dormers, window frames, etc.), articulated brick quoins, high Georgian style slate roof with dormer windows and Georgian style chimney stacks terminating the building at each end. It is a roughly rectangular block, 12 bays long. Originally, the Georgian style roof had 6 dormer windows. Today, the dormer windows have been altered and enlarged by connecting dormers to create larger grouped window openings.

Originally, the building's most outstanding feature was its main entry (destroyed), once located on the gable end facing Linden Lane. The original entry was a refined and elegant circular classical portico with classical columns, all raised by steps on a platform. A modern corridor addition resulted in the destruction of this beautiful feature. This facade is still striking largely due to the existing second story Palladian window motif with a larger central window flanked by two smaller windows and topped with arched fanlight window. Above the Palladian window is a stone panel incised with the name of the school and its construction date. The vertical directional force of the articulated skyline created by the double Georgian chimney stacks gives this facade a grand and monumental character. The perfect symmetry of this Georgian edifice is most pronounced on this elevation. Here, the traditional tripartite (three-part) composition orders the elevation horizontally (three divisions expressed by fenestration) and vertically (articulated by the center chimney stacks).

The horizontal extension of the building belies its interior symmetry planned around a central hall extending the full length of the building. Originally, each floor had four similar classrooms. Fenestration helps to externally express classrooms, bathrooms and stairhalls.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
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<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES **1936-7** BUILDER/ARCHITECT **Howard Wright Cutler**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Montgomery Hills Junior High School (1936) is an important architectural landmark in the history of Montgomery County and its public schools. This school and Park Street Elementary School are the prime examples of a two-story Georgian school building-type which helped define the academic image sought in Montgomery County between the wars. In addition, Montgomery Hills Junior High Schools represents the development and maturation of the public school system. During this period, junior high schools were established as a vital part of the 12 year graded system. This building has continuously served as a school for over half a century.

This school is also the product of the phenomenal growth of the Washington, D.C. suburbs in Montgomery County, Maryland, during the World War II period. In particular, there was a great increase in the number of young school children in the suburbs nearest Washington, D.C. Between 1920 and 1940 the number of students attending public school rose from 6,195 to 15,096. During the same period, the county's expenditures on schools dramatically increased, reaching \$2,437,770.83 in 1945.

The architect was Howard Wright Cutler (- 1948) who shaped and define the educational architecture in Montgomery County during the 1920s and 1930s. Cutler was

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (CONTINUED)

not a nationally known architect, but he was a professional. Selecting Howard Cutler as the principal designer of Montgomery County public schools reveals the county's desire to project an image of professionalism and modernity, and to create a new academic image.

Howard Cutler came to Washington from New York State with a professional training. In New York, he worked in the architectural offices of J. Foster Warner for one year and Gordon & Madden for seven years. Cutler was a member of the Central New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) before he was elected to the national organization of the AIA in 1915. At this time, he had been in practice with his own firm, Hutchinson & Cutler, for five years.²

As an architect, Cutler well represented the spirit of early 20th century America ----- its preoccupation with tradition and the American Renaissance (late 19th and early 20th century), as well as its devotion to new and modern approaches. At the same time, Cutler was a practical architect who seems to have given thought to economical and practical modern design. As Cutler brought standards of professionalism and an academic vision to his work, he transformed county school architecture.

This Georgian style edifice represents the persistence of the classical tradition during the first half of the 20th century, a period when traditionalism and modernism came head to head. During the 1930s, architect Howard Cutler defined the academic image of Montgomery County's public schools along traditional lines. He often relied upon references to classical architecture. Cutler was concerned with the great traditions and symbolic potential of architecture. In 1934, Cutler used the Georgian style for Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School and Montgomery Blair High School.

The Georgian is the name given to the English Baroque, a classical 17th and 18th century style. The English Baroque is known for its symmetry, dignity and academicism, and for being more restrained than continental Baroque styles. A variation of the Georgian was transplanted to the English colonies in North America, including Virginia and Maryland. Both Williamsburg, Virginia, and Annapolis, Maryland, are known for their Georgian Colonial architecture. Georgian architecture was rejected by Americans after the American Revolution because the style was associated

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (CONTINUED)

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Montgomery Hills Junior High School expanded to include another Georgian style edifice and several modern style structures. In 1944-5, Woodlin Elementary School was built across the playing field. The decline in the enrollment of students culminated in the closing of Montgomery Hills in 1976. Since then, Montgomery County has leased the campus to the Hebrew Academy of Greater Washington.

NOTES

- 1. See Appendix, E. Guy Jewell, From One Room to Open Space: A History of Montgomery County Schools From 1732 to 1965, Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Public Schools, 1976, 320-1.
- 2. Karin M.E. Alexis's manuscript (1988) on the architectural history of educational institutions in Montgomery County, 1900-1945 (Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission and Maryland Historic Trust) includes a summary of Howard Cutler's architectural career and his work for the Montgomery County Board of Education. Some valuable information on Cutler was found in the Archives of the American Institute of Architects (RG 803 Box 221, Folder 71).

REPOSITORIES AND SOURCES

Central Records, Montgomery County Public Schools;
Construction Division, Montgomery County;
Archives, The American Institute of Architects;

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

M:36-20

see attached

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY building itself (not campus)
building (including some ground): roughly 122' x 58'
entire site: 8.67 AC

F-08.1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Brookville Road, Woodlin Elementary School, Linden Lane,
Wood Road and Luzerne Avenue;

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE KARIN M.E. ALEXIS, PH.D., ARCHITECTURAL & ART HISTORY

ORGANIZATION DATE JUNE 1988

STREET & NUMBER 2449 Villanova Drive TELEPHONE 280-1107

CITY OR TOWN Vienna STATE VA - 22180

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.

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