

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Allegany
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS.

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Washington Street Historic District

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Washington Street Historic District

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
East bank of Wills Creek to Mid-600 block Washington Street and Prospect Square

CITY OR TOWN:  
Cumberland

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
Sixth

STATE:  
Maryland

CODE:  
24

COUNTY:  
Allegany

CODE:  
001

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offices	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Library	

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Multiple private and public owners

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Washington Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Cumberland

STATE:  
Maryland

CODE:  
24

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Allegany County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Washington Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Cumberland

STATE:  
Maryland

CODE:  
24

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Maryland Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY: 1972

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER:  
2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
Annapolis

STATE:  
Maryland

CODE:  
24

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Allegany

ENTRY NUMBER:

DATE:

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Washington Street Historic District in Cumberland, Maryland, begins at the western property line of 630 Washington Street and extends east to the east bank of Wills Creek. It extends north and south to include the rear property lines along Washington Street, Prospect Square, the block of Baltimore Street east of Wills Creek, and 8-18 Green Street.

The Washington Historic District is located on a ridge west of Wills Creek in Cumberland. The street itself rises sharply from the creek and undulates westward in a series of steep hills; the topography drops abruptly to the north and south of the street. The eastern section of the district contains county institutions--the courthouse, Board of Education, and library--and four churches. From the 200 block west, residential structures (a few of which have been adapted to non-residential uses) line the street. Prospect Square which encircles the library and the courthouse has mixed uses: offices for lawyers and local government as well as residences.

The architectural character of the district reinforces its sharp geographic definition. The structures maintain a uniformity of architectural quality and period (last half of the 19th century) that is tied together by the tree shaded street. The building styles span American architectural history from the Federal style through Georgian Revival.

The Federal buildings are located at the eastern end of the street and on Prospect Square. Late examples of the style often include some transitional Greek Revival elements. The Perry House at 104 Washington Street is a two and one half story brick structure erected in 1840. The elongated large pane windows, the rectangular transom and side lights, the double wall at each gable end and the pair of dormer windows all indicate the Federal style. The Greek Revival element occurs in the large pedimented demi-portico, supported by brackets and two Doric columns set in antis. This entrance treatment is an important example of Greek Revival elements adapted to an earlier style. Two double houses on Prospect Square (27-29 and especially 15-17) and also 201 and 112 Washington Street follow the Greek Revival town house plan being three bays long with the doorway on one side. They have simple Greek Revival trim, proportioned windows and decorative iron work, either as railings or window grills. The Allegany County Public Library

(see continuation sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian
- 15th Century
- 16th Century
- 17th Century
- 18th Century
- 19th Century
- 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering               | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion-Phi-<br>losophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)<br><u>Local history</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                  | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                | _____   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape<br>Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Human-<br>itarian | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature                | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                  | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation           | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                     |   | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |  |   | _____   |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Washington Street in Cumberland, Maryland, is architecturally and historically significant. The institutional and domestic buildings express a uniformity in quality and scale that ties the six blocks together into an important urban street scape. Good examples of several major nineteenth century architectural styles exist along the street that singly would merit separate consideration. This includes transitional Federal-Greek Revival houses at 104 and 201 Washington Street and the pair of double houses at 29-31 and 15-17 Prospect Square; the Greek Revival Allegany County Library; Second Empire Revival houses at 508, 514 and 403 Washington Street as well as the Board of Education Building; and Georgian Revival structures at 518 and 519 Washington Street. Three buildings are known works of major architects. John Notman, major contributor to the early American Gothic Revival and to the foundation of the American Institute of Architects, designed Emmanuel Church. The parish continued the high architectural standard by hiring Bruce Price to design Emmanuel House. A native of Cumberland, Price practiced in Baltimore before establishing his reputation in New York. The Allegany County Courthouse which dominates the Cumberland skyline was the first major commission of Wright Butler. His debut as an architect is a virtuoso performance, most probably based on the works of Henry Hobson Richardson.

The historical significance of Washington Street begins in the 1750's with the construction of Fort Cumberland, a frontier outpost during the French and Indian War. The stockade encompassed the eastern end of what is now Washington Street at Prospect Square. Emmanuel Church, the Allegany County Library and Courthouse, and 104 Washington Street were all originally within the fort. A small log cabin now located in Riverside Park supposedly served as the headquarters

(see continuation sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Graybill, Samuel Jr. "Bruce Price, American Architect 1845-1903" dissertation. Yale University, New Have, Connecticut, 1957.

Hamlin, Talbot. Greek Revival Architecture in America: . . . . reprint. New York: Dover, 1944.

Hansrote, Hazel Groves. Allegany County Inventory. Research notes. Files of the Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Maryland. (cont'd)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	39	39	10	78	46	41	0	.	.
NE	39	39	03	78	45	51	0	.	.
SE	39	39	01	78	45	51	0	.	.
SW	39	39	07	78	46	42	0	.	.

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 265 APPROX. 35 ACRES

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Nancy Miller, Historian, William Morgan, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: Dec. 12, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:  
2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name Orlando Ridout  
Orlando Ridout, IV

Title State Liaison Officer for Maryland

Date December 13, 1972

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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WASHINGTON STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

#7 Description (continued)

(1850) originally the Allegany Academy, directly follows a Greek temple form. The two story brick building has a portico along the street facade inspired by the Theseum in Athens, with six Doric columns which support a blank architrave and freeze of trygliphs below a blank pediment. Brick pilasters separate the elongated heavily corniced windows. The Christian Science Building on the south side of the street has a columned form portico.

In a manner reminiscent of Ithiel Town<sup>1</sup>, 110 Washington Street denotes a transition from Greek to Italian. The flat roof, the heavily bracketed cornice and the cupola indicate the Italianate style while the trim, the door placement in the end bay and the "eye brow" windows (actually brick indentations) with carved wooden grills, show the Greek Revival elements of the house.

The cottage style, in the manner of A. J. Downing and A. J. Davis, is represented in the facade of 31 Prospect Square. The central pediment has a round topped window and two sets of carved barge boards. This wooden trim is repeated at 223 and 515 Washington Street.

Emmanuel Church (1850-51) at the eastern end of Washington Street is one of Maryland's most outstanding examples of early Gothic Revival. Designed by John Notman, the church follows the ecclesiological principles that governed ecclesiastical architecture, especially in the Episcopal church, in the second quarter of the nineteenth century. Phoebe Stanton's book The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture An Episode in Taste 1840-1856 aptly describes Emmanuel and its significance<sup>2</sup>. Although constructed two decades later, the first Presbyterian Church on Washington Street follows the Gothic Revival precedent set by Emmanuel.

The Second Empire Revival style of the third quarter of the nineteenth century is well represented in Cumberland. The Board of Education Building at 106-108 Washington Street prominently displays the mansard roof which

(continued)

1 of 5 continuation sheets.

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WASHINGTON STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

#7 Description (continued)

identifies the style. Typically, the house has round headed windows and dormers in the mansard roof, heavy brackets which support the cornice, and a shelf-like porch over the central door, and tall proportions.

A specific house design which falls into the Second Empire Revival style is repeated several times on Washington Street. The eastern most example is Bruce Price's Emmanuel House, the parish house for Emmanuel Church. Price was a native of Cumberland and may have designed the structure before he gained a national reputation through his practice in New York City.<sup>3</sup> Emmanuel House consists of two perpendicularly placed rectangular forms with a three story tower placed at the juncture of the sections. A one story porch runs along the longest section. A bay window at the first story projects from the shorter of the two sections. Several houses on the street repeat this format although the peaked hip roof of Emmanuel House may be replaced with a mansard. These other examples are located at 208, 508, 514, 522 and 527 Washington Street.

The Allegany County Courthouse (1893) on the south side of Prospect Square introduces Richardsonian Romanesque to Washington Street. The exterior of the Courthouse in its detail and massing of forms resembles Richardson's Alleghany County Courthouse in Pittsburgh, (1886-1888). The polychrome effect produced by the contrast of the brick walls with the stone trim may indicate another source possibly, the mid-nineteenth century English architect, William Butterfield. The Cumberland courthouse is a massive three story structure with a steep, high hip roof. A taller tower buttressed with round columns rises above the main block and also has a steep, hip roof.

The Queen Anne style, noted for its rounded towers, irregularity of plan, mixture of building materials and multiple roof forms, occurs frequently on Washington Street. Typically, these solid houses have a two story brick base which supports a shingle gable. A rounded tower turns the corner of the structure and usually has a rounded or bell shaped roof. A one story porch crosses the street facade and continues around one side. The hip roof is slate and often has a decorative band of fish scale shingles. Examples of this form exist at 211, 213, 217, 311, 501, 505, 507 and 617 Washington Street. Two houses

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WASHINGTON STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

#7 Description (continued)

(411 and 418) expanded the emphasis on a cross gable facing the street with a huge gable which dominates the entire facade, almost reminiscent of a mid-twentieth century A-frames.

Several houses on Washington Street repeat the two story brick solidity of the Queen Anne examples. However, a change in details associates the structure with Georgian Revival. The introduction of a Palladian window, a symmetrically arranged facade (usually a pair of windows flanking a central door), and broken pediment trim indicates a "Colonial" treatment (217, 407, 511, 616 thru 630 Washington Street). One house at 516 Washington Street was built in Flemish bond with each header a darker brick color. Two large houses at 528 and 519 Washington Street, complete with white columned porticoes, embody the "southern plantation" myth of the mid-twentieth century.

#7 Footnotes

<sup>1</sup>See Talbot Hamlin, Greek Revival Architecture in America... reprint, (New York: 1940) Plate XLIV facing 169.

<sup>2</sup>Baltimore: 1968, 280-282, 284.

<sup>3</sup>Samuel Graybill's dissertation on Bruce Price (Yale University, 1957) designates Price as the architect. However, Graybill assigned 1903, the year of the architect's death, for the date of the house which appears stylistically too late for the building.

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WASHINGTON STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

#8 Significance (continued)

for George Washington on his visits to Fort Cumberland. In the 1780's when Thomas Beall laid out the town of Cumberland the fort site was a focal point of his plan. The only remaining trace of the fort is a series of tunnels which are entered from the grounds of Emmanuel Church.

Allegany County's first school, the Allegany County Academy (founded in 1799), chose a site of Washington Street for its first permanent building. The Greek Revival building which replaced an early county clerk's office was used as a school until 1920's when it became the nucleus of the Allegany County Library.

Throughout the nineteenth century Washington Street was the address of Cumberland's leading citizens. Three Sixth District Congressmen, Lloyd Lowndes, William Walsh and Thomas Perry lived on the street. Lowndes who became Governor of Maryland in 1895 had a house at 27 Washington Street. In 1876 his neighbor, William Walsh (106-108 Washington Street) defeated him in a bid for re-election. Walsh, a prominent lawyer, served two terms. His grandson Bishop James Edward Walsh, who was imprisoned by the Chinese for ten years, was born at 106-108 Washington Street, now the headquarters of the Board of Education. The third Congressman Thomas Perry (104 Washington Street) represented western Maryland for two terms in the late 1840's. Subsequently he served in the Maryland legislature and on the state and federal bench.

Joseph Shriver, an engineer on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal and the National Road and a bank president, built the house at 300 Washington Street. When the eleventh Indiana Zouaves occupied Cumberland during the Civil War, Shriver advanced the soldiers their pay that was not forthcoming from the federal government.

Josiah Gordon, a state legislator and President of the C & O Canal, built the house at 218 Washington Street, which is now the headquarters of the Allegany County Historical Society.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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WASHINGTON STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

#9 Major Bibliographical References.

Martinet, Simon J. Martinet's Map of Maryland. 1865 and 1884 editions. Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

Maryland, State of. Department of Assessments and Taxation. Allegany County - Cumberland Tax Maps 32, 33 and 34. Revised 1972. Allegany County Courthouse, Cumberland, Maryland.

Stanton, Phoebe. The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture An Episode in Taste 1840-1856. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1968.

Thomas, James W. and T.J.C. Williams. History of Allegany County, Maryland - two volumes. reprint Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1969.

Wiffen, Marcus. American Architecture Since 1780 A Guide to the Styles. Cambridge, Massachusetts: MIT Press, 1969.

5 of 5 continuation sheets.

AL-IV-A-026

CUMBERLAND QUADRANGLE  
USGS 7.5 minute map  
scale: 1: 24 000  
1949

# CUMBERLAND

## WASHINGTON STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

	lat.		long.	
NW	39° 39' 10"	78° 46' 41"		
SW	39° 39' 03"	78° 45' 51"		
SE	39° 39' 01"	78° 45' 51"		
SW	39° 39' 07"	78° 46' 42"		

FLINTSTONE 12 MI  
HANCOCK 37 MI

420 000 FEET  
(W. VA.)

4391

430 000m N

SPRING GAP 6.5 MI.  
CLDTOWN 14 MI.

110 000 FEET  
(PA.)

39°37'30"

78°45'

INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WASHINGTON D.C. 1987

SHORT GAP 6.2 MI.  
FORT ASHBY 11 MI

### ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Heavy-duty
- Medium-duty
- Light-duty
- Unimproved dirt
- U. S. Route
- State Route



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

## CUMBERLAND, MD.-PA.-W.VA.

NE/4 FROSTBURG 15 QUADRANGLE  
N3337.5-W7845/7.5  
1949  
AMS 5263 III NE-SERIES V633

PATERSONS CREEK  
5013 II SW

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Washington Street Historic District  
Allegany County  
Maryland

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Section 3, Classification

number of resources within property

contributing		noncontributing
<u>100</u>	buildings	<u>5</u>
<u>0</u>	sites	<u>2</u>
<u>0</u>	structures	<u>0</u>
<u>0</u>	objects	<u>0</u>
<u>100</u>	total	<u>0</u>

number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 64

Section 7, Description

Description Summary

The Washington Street Historic District is an approximately <sup>35</sup>~~265~~ acre area to the west of downtown Cumberland which is primarily residential in nature. It consists primarily of six blocks of Washington Street as it undulates up from Wills Creek, the short block of Baltimore Street just west of the creek, and a small section of Greet Street which parallels the creek along the foot of the hill that sharply rises with the beginning of Washington Street. Washington Street is lined generally with large scale nineteenth and twentieth century houses representing most of the major architectural styles prominent in the Mid-Atlantic region up to the start of World War II. Included here are examples of Greek Revival, Italianate, Gothic, Queen Anne, Romanesque, Colonial Revival, and bungalow. Near the eastern end of the district are two prominent county institutions, the 1890s Romanesque courthouse and the 1850s Greek Revival academy building which now forms the nucleus of the library. Smaller houses and small commercial buildings traditionally have characterized Green Street. The small block of Baltimore Street included is commercial in nature with a heavy residential tone historically. Here stands the Algonquin Hotel, built in 1926 as a residential hotel but converted to a more commercial hotel use in the late 1930s. Although the courthouse and the hotel structures are volumetrically greater than most of the houses, their heights are made less noticeable by their positions in the undulating streetscape. Non-contributing resources consist primarily of buildings constructed after the period of significance or non-historic open spaces such as parking lots.

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National Park Service

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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Washington Street Historic District  
Allegany County  
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General Description:

note: Most of the houses described in the last paragraph of the description section of the original form are twentieth century structures.

Generally the nineteenth century buildings are vertical in nature with Second Empire and Queen Anne towers adding to the height. Verticality also characterizes most of the twentieth century houses built in the first ten years of the century. Some of these houses, such as the ones at 610 and 611 Washington Street include towers in their designs. By the 1920s, the trend was to horizontality, the most notable examples being at 531 and 532 Washington Street. The bungalow at 23 Washington Street is also very horizontal but with the length projected perpendicular to the street in contrast to the houses at 531 and 532.

The twentieth century buildings are constructed primarily of brick although stuccoed was used for facing of several prominent houses (531, 532, and 23 Washington Street as examples.) Most are two and a half stories on the street elevations. As Washington Street generally rides the crest of a hill, many of the houses drop two or three additional stories on the rear sides. This is particularly true in the 500 block. The predominant historic roofing material is slate although asphalt was used in some places, particularly in the house at 531 Washington Street in which case the edges are rolled over the edges of the roof in imitation of thatching.

The buildings along Green Street, most of which were erected in the nineteenth century, stand in row abutting the sidewalk and each other. Some of these buildings historically are identified as law offices, particularly at the intersection of Baltimore Street. Similar structures are shown on turn of the century insurance maps as standing at the foot of the Emmanuel Church property at Washington and Green streets. The Lewis house, erected circa 1905, at 18 Green Street is faced with concrete block with Georgian Revival detailing.

The Algonquin Hotel, on the northeast corner of Baltimore and Cumberland streets, was built about 1926 as an apartment hotel for affluent residents. It was converted into traditional hotel rooms in the late 1930s. Erected with brick facing with restrained classical detailing, particularly in the interior spaces, the building is similar in volume to the courthouse which stands a block to the west up the hill.

The twentieth century houses along Washington Street generally reflect the same spacing and landscaping features that characterizes the nineteenth century buildings.

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National Park Service

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Washington Street Historic District  
Allegany County  
Maryland

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The non-contributing structures are buildings erected after the period of significance, which ends with the start of World War II. These are primarily a jail complex to the south of the courthouse, an office building on Prospect Square at Johnson Street, a wing to the county library, and a church and a house on Washington Street.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

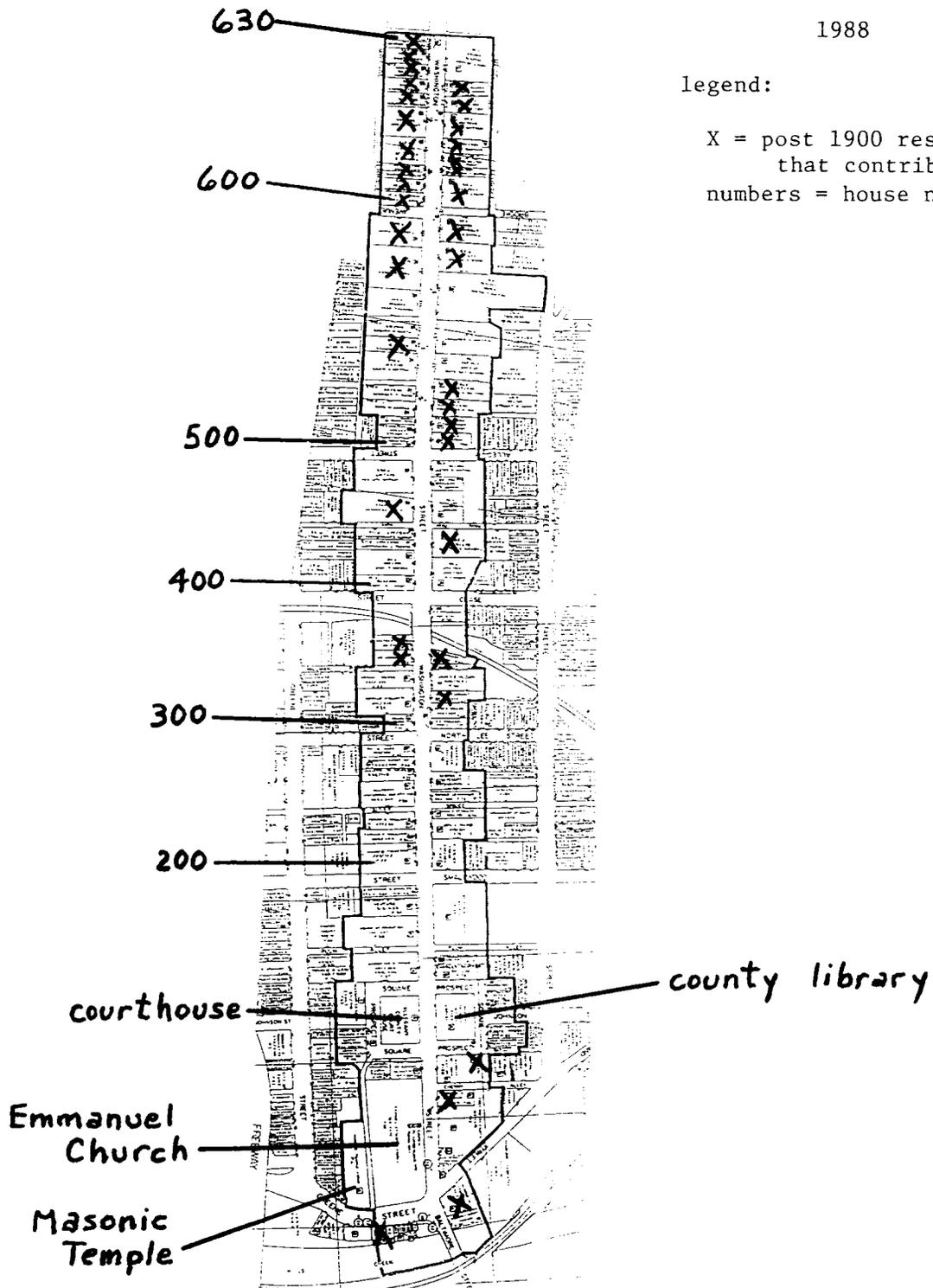
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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Washington Street Historic District  
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Maryland

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Washington Street Historic District  
Allegany County  
Maryland

Section number 8 Page E

revisions, 1989

Period of Significance: 1750s-1941

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person: N/A

Architect/Builder: various

### Significance Summary

The Washington Street Historic District in Cumberland, Maryland is historically and architecturally significant. Historically, the area derives importance from an early period with the construction of Fort Cumberland in the 1750s (a frontier outpost during the French and Indian War), as a political and educational center with the county courthouse and the first permanent school (now the nucleus of the county library complex on Prospect Square), and as the residence of Cumberland's leading citizens through the nineteenth century and into the twentieth century. Here resided social, political, commercial, and industrial leaders of the city which by the close of the nineteenth century was the second largest city in Maryland in terms of manufacturing as well as physically the second largest in size and population, positions held by Cumberland into the twentieth century. Cumberland also was major transportation center in the state. Here can be found some of the best examples of the major architectural styles popular in the Mid-Atlantic region during the nineteenth and twentieth century in Cumberland. Influences represented include Greek Revival, Italianate, Gothic, Queen Anne, Romanesque, Colonial Revival and its various forms, and bungalow. Major national and local architects whose work is found in the district are John Notman, Bruce Price, Wright Butler, George Sansbury, and Robert Holt Hitchens.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetWashington Street Historic District  
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MarylandSection number 8 Page F

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The Washington Street Historic District was home to Cumberland's entrepreneurial and managerial class as well as many of the city's and county's political and social leaders. Prominent among the occupations listed in the city directories for the residents of the area are attorneys; doctors; and owners, managers, and officers of most of the major industries, banks, real estate and insurance agencies, department stores and shops, and other commercial establishments of the area. Also included are Albert A. Doub (403 Washington Street), a circuit court judge; Walter S. Powell (620 Washington Street), an orphans court judge; Robert R. Henderson (519 Washington Street), also a circuit court judge; Andrew Hunter Boyd (403 Washington Street), a state judge; and David J. Lewis (18 Green Street), a member of the U. S. House of Representatives who was instrumental in establishing the parcel post system.

Architecturally, the Georgian Revival style remained popular in the twentieth century with several of the best examples in Cumberland standing in the 500 and 600 blocks of the Washington Street. One of the most elaborate bungalows in the city, and the only one along Washington Street, stands at number 23. Most of the twentieth century houses were architect designed with Cumberland architects Wright Butler, George Sansbury (who resided at 604 Washington Street), and Robert Holt Hitchens identified in building permits as the authors. The house at 532 Washington Street is based on Colonial Design No. 920, published E. S. Child, a New York architect, about 1910. This design features decorative elements from houses in Philadelphia and Annapolis. The doorway is very similar to the one on the Chase Lloyd House on Maryland Avenue in Annapolis,

By the start of World War II in 1941, the Washington Street area began a period of decline as a posh residential area. Most of the area was built-up by the second quarter of the century. The more suburban areas such as The Dingle were more attractive with larger lots and houses with modern amenities. Although some scions of the old families continued to live along Washington Street, most preferred other areas. Many of the houses were divided into apartments and several fell into disrepair from neglect. The Algonquin Hotel on Baltimore Street at the intersection of Washington, Green, and Cumberland streets was converted from an apartment hotel into a regular commercial hotel.

In the original form, the wrong building is attributed to the architect Bruce Price. The correct building is the parish hall at Emmanuel Church. The parish hall is the stone Gothic building, erected about 1900, which stands to the south of the church. In the original form, the present parish house on Washington Street is identified as the Price building.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Washington Street Historic District  
Allegany County  
Maryland

Section number 9 & 11 Page G

revisions, 1989

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### Major Bibliographical References

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (Allegany County, various properties),  
Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Maryland.

Cumberland Building Permits, City Hall, Cumberland, Maryland.

Walsh, Richard and William Lloyd Fox. Maryland: A History 1632-1974. Baltimore:  
published for the Maryland Historical Society.

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Washington Street Historic District AL-IV-026  
Allegany County, Maryland

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UTM References

A	<u>17</u>	<u>691860</u>	<u>4391280</u>	B	<u>17</u>	<u>691830</u>	<u>4391080</u>
C	<u>17</u>	<u>690610</u>	<u>4391200</u>	D	<u>17</u>	<u>690660</u>	<u>4391390</u>

Approximate acreage: 35



1. WASHINGTON ST. HISTORIC DISTRICT
2. CUMBERLAND, ALLEGANY CO. MD.
3. PHOTOGRAPHER: PAULA S. REED  
PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
HAGERSTOWN, MD.
4. 7/1988
5. LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
205 S. POTOMAC ST.  
HAGERSTOWN, MD. 21740
6. 600-602 WASHINGTON ST. S.W. VIEW
7. PHOTO # 1



1. WASHINGTON STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT
2. CUMBERLAND, ALLEGANY CO., MARYLAND
3. PHOTOGRAPHER: PAULA S. REED  
PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
HAGERSTOWN, MD.
4. 7/1988
5. LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
205 S. POTOMAC ST.  
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740
6. 532 WASHINGTON ST. S.E. VIEW.
7. PHOTO #2



1. WASHINGTON ST. HISTORIC DISTRICT
2. CUMBERLAND, ALLEGANY CO. MARYLAND
3. PHOTOGRAPHER.: PAULA S. REED  
PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
HAGERSTOWN, MD
4. 7/1988
5. LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
205 S. POTOMAC ST  
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740
6. 611 WASHINGTON ST. N. VIEW
7. PHOTO # 3



1. WASHINGTON ST. HISTORIC DISTRICT
2. CUMBERLAND, ALLEGANY CO., MARYLAND
3. PHOTOGRAPHER, PAULA S. REED  
PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
HAGERSTOWN, MD

4. 7/1988

5. LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
205 S. POTOMAC ST.  
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740

6. 616 - 618 WASHINGTON ST. S.W. VIEW

7. PHOTO # 4



1. WASHINGTON ST. HISTORIC DISTRICT
2. CUMBERLAND, ALLEGANY CO., MARYLAND
3. PHOTOGRAPHER: PAULA S. REED  
PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
HAGERSTOWN, MD
4. 7/1988
5. LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
205 S. POTOMAC  
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740
6. 519 WASHINGTON ST. N.W. VIEW.
7. PHOTO #5



1. WASHINGTON ST. HISTORIC DISTRICT
2. CUMBERLAND, ALLEGANY CO., MARYLAND
3. PHOTOGRAPHER: PAULA S. REED  
PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
HAGERSTOWN, MD
4. 7/1988
5. LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: PRESERVATION ASSOC., INC.  
205 S. POTOMAC  
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740
6. 528 WASHINGTON ST., S.W. VIEW
7. PHOTO # 6



AL-IV-026

1. WASHINGTON ST. HISTORIC DISTRICT
2. CUMBERLAND, ALLEGANY CO., MARYLAND
3. PHOTOGRAPHER: PAULA S. REED  
PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
HAGERSTOWN, MD
4. 7/1988
5. LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
205 S. POTOMAC  
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740
6. 507 WASHINGTON ST., NE. VIEW.
7. PHOTO # 7



AL-IV-026

1. WASHINGTON ST. HISTORIC DISTRICT
2. CUMBERLAND, ALLEGANY CO., MARYLAND
3. PHOTOGRAPHER: PAULA S. REED  
PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
HAGERSTOWN, MD
4. 7/1988
5. LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
205 S. POTOMAC  
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740
6. 11. PROSPECT SQUARE, E. VIEW.
7. PHOTO # 8



1. WASHINGTON STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT
2. CLUMBERLAND, ALLEGANY CO., MARYLAND
3. PHOTOGRAPHER: PAULA S. REED  
PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
HAQERSTOWN., MD
4. 7/1988
5. LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: PRESERVATION ASSOC., INC.  
205 S. POTOMAC  
HAQERSTOWN, MD 21740
6. STREETScape, CORNER GREEN & WASHINGTON STS., NE. VIEW.
7. PHOTO # 11



AL-IV-026

1. WASHINGTON ST. HISTORIC DISTRICT
2. CUMBERLAND, ALLEGANY CO. MD
3. PHOTOGRAPHER: PAULA S. REED  
PRESERVATION ASSOC., INC.  
HAGERSTOWN., MD.
4. 7/1988
5. LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
205 S. POTOMAC  
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740
6. STREETSCAPE, 19<sup>th</sup> BLOCK WASHINGTON ST. N.W. VIEW.
7. PHOTO# 12



AL-IV-026

1. WASHINGTON ST. HISTORIC DISTRICT
2. CUMBERLAND, ALLEGANY CO., MARYLAND
3. PHOTOGRAPHER: PAULA S. REED  
PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
HAGERSTOWN, MD

4. 7/1988

5. LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
205 S. POTOMAC  
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740

6. 23 WASHINGTON ST. N.W. VIEW.

7. PHOTO # 9

ALGONQUIN MOTOR INN



1. WASHINGTON ST. HISTORIC DISTRICT
2. CUMBERLAND, ALLEGANY CO. MARYLAND
3. PHOTOGRAPHER: PALLA S. REED  
207 S. POTOMAC  
HAGERSTOWN, MD
4. 7/1988
5. LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
207 S. POTOMAC  
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740
6. ALGONQUIN, WASHINGTON & GREEN STS. N.W. VIEW.
7. PHOTO # 10



1. WASHINGTON ST. HISTORIC DISTRICT
2. CUMBERLAND, ALLEGANY CO. MARYLAND
3. PHOTOGRAPHER: PAULA S. REED  
PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
HAGERSTOWN, MD

4. 7/1988

5. LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
205 S. POTOMAC  
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740

6. STREETScape, 1<sup>ST</sup> BLOCK GREEN ST., N. VIEW.

7. PHOTO # 13



1. WASHINGTON ST. HISTORIC DISTRICT
2. CUMBERLAND, ALLEGANY CO., MARYLAND
3. PHOTOGRAPHER: PAULA S. REED  
PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
HAGERSTOWN, MD
4. 7/88
5. LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: PRESERVATION ASSOC. INC.  
205 S. POTOMAC  
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740
6. MASONIC TEMPLE, 1ST BLOCK GREEN ST., W. VIEW.
7. PHOTO # 14