

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes  no

Property Name: Matthews House Inventory Number: PG:62-17

Address: 7700 Old Muirkirk Road City: Beltsville Zip Code: 20705

County: Prince Georges USGS Topographic Map: Beltsville

Owner: Elizabeth G. Day Is the property being evaluated a district?  yes  no

Tax Parcel Number: 56 Tax Map Number: 14 Tax Account ID Number: 10 1029347

Project: US 1 MD 201 Corridor Study Agency: FHWA/SHA

Site visit by MHT staff:  no  yes Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Is the property is located within a historic district?  yes  no

*If the property is within a district* District Inventory Number: PG: 62-23

NR-listed district  yes Eligible district  yes Name of District: ROSSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource  yes  no Non-contributing but eligible in another context  yes

*If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)* Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible  yes  no

Criteria:  A  B  C  D Considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:  
Project Review and Compliance Files

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The Matthews House is a contributing resources to the Rossville Historic District and as such is eligible under criteria A and C. Criteria B and D were not investigated. See Rossville Survey District DOE, PG:62-23, dated 8/26/02.

Prepared by: Anne E. Bruder, SHA Arch. Hist. Date Prepared: 08/26/2002

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

Eligibility recommended  Eligibility not recommended

Criteria:  A  B  C  D Considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  None

MHT Comments

Andrew Lewis  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

3/27/03  
Date

[Signature]  
Reviewer, NR Program

3/17/03  
Date

P. G. #62-17

Thomas Matthews House  
7700 Old Muirkirk Road, Beltsville, Md.  
Priv/Occ/Res/Good

1888

The Matthews house is a two-story frame house presently covered with yellow stucco. The original house was a gable-roofed frame house, three bays wide with entrance in the central bay of the main west facade, with a cross-gabled kitchen section attached at the center rear of the house. The main block was one-room deep, with one parlor on each side of a central staircase.

The stucco was added in the 1920's, and in more recent years, a pantry and a sun-room have been added on the north and south of the kitchen.

The Matthews house is the most substantial of the original houses built in Rossville in 1888. This community was subdivided into twelve lots in 1886. Thomas Matthews purchased a two-acre lot, and by 1889, with the help of other members of the new community, had completed this two-story gable-roofed frame house. The community of Rossville, which centered around the Queen's Chapel (Methodist) and Abraham Hall, was made up largely of families of Blacks who were employed at the near-by Muirkirk Iron Furnace.

The Matthews house is a significant example of substantial home building by an upwardly progressing Black laborer in a new community of his peers.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Thomas Matthews House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 7700 Old Muirkirk Road \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Beltsville \_\_\_ vicinity of Muirkirk congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input 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"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Mrs. William Day

street & number 7700 Old Muirkirk Road telephone no.: 776-5381

city, town Beltsville state and zip code Maryland

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. P. G. County Courthouse liber 397

street & number Main Street folio 337

city, town Upper Marlboro state Md.

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title N O N E

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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

The Matthews house is a 2-story frame house presently covered with yellow stucco. The original house was a gable-roofed frame house, three bays wide with entrance in the central bay of the main west facade, with a cross-gabled kitchen section attached at the center rear of the house. The main block was one-room deep, with one parlor on each side of a central stair case. The stucco was added in the 1920's, and in more recent years, a pantry and a sun-room addition have been added on the north and south of the kitchen.



# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. #62-1

P.G. Co. Deeds: 397:337; 397:315; 48:26; 47:61; 62-17  
 JWB #40:744; JWB #10:763; JWB #9:208  
 P.G. Co. Equity Case #2725; #1588  
 P.G. Co. Tax Assessments 1888-1909; Interviews with Mrs. Wm. Day and Philip Gibson

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A              
 Zone Easting Northing

B              
 Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan G. Pearl

organization History Division - M-NCPPC date Feb. 1983

street & number 4811 Riverdale Road telephone 779-2011

city or town Riverdale, state Maryland

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 infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
 Shaw House  
 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 269-2438