

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #68-13-4 Building Date: 1912, 1920

Building Name: Unsworth-Park Building

Location: 3807-3811 34th Street, Mt. Rainier

Private/Commercial/Occupied/Good/Accessible

Description

3807-3809-3811 34th Street is a two-story, three-bay rectangular plan frame commercial building with an east (rear) sloping shed roof. It is the first building in a grouping of three attached shed-roof commercial buildings stepping up the slope of 34th street. The main (west) facade is sheathed with asbestos shingles and the horizontal parapet is surmounted by a painted wood or metal dentilled, crown-molded cornice with corner brackets. The center bay of the first story contains three single door entrances. The middle entry leads to a second story apartment. The north and south entries lead to separate storefronts, and are flanked by large, plate glass show windows that are old but probably not original. The show windows are shaded by aluminum awnings. The second story is fenestrated with three 1/1 double-hung sash windows spaced evenly across the facade that are shaded by aluminum awnings.

Significance:

The two-story commercial building at 3807-3809-3811 34th Street is significant as an example of mixed-use construction that contributes to the early 20th century character of the Mt. Rainier. It is architecturally significant as the first in a grouping of three attached early 20th century commercial structures arranged in stair step fashion on the slope of 34th street. Lot 20 was improved by 1912, with two small one-story storefronts. These early improvements were probably made by Thomas H. Unsworth who had purchased the lot in May of 1912. The building's present two-story structure represents either an expansion of the early improvements or its replacement with a larger building, sometime after 1920. The historic commercial use of the two first story storefronts is not known at this time.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Unsworth-Park Building

and/or common 3807 - 3809 - 3811 34th Street,

## 2. Location

street & number 3807 - 3809 - 3811 34th Street  not for publication

city, town Mt. Rainier  vicinity of 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Je Bom & Mee Yong Park

street & number 3809 34th Street telephone no.:

city, town Mt. Rainier state and zip code Maryland 20712

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 6119

street & number Main Street folio 770

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Historic Sites and Districts Plan

date 1981  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Commission, Room 4010, C.A.B.

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

# 7. Description

Survey No. P.G. #68-13-4

**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

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

3807-3809-3811 34th Street is a two-story, three-bay rectangular plan frame commercial building with an east (rear) sloping shed roof (see Slide #45). It is the first building in a grouping of three attached shed-roof commercial buildings stepping up the slope of 34th street. The main (west) facade is sheathed with asbestos shingles and the horizontal parapet is surmounted by a painted wood or metal dentilled, crown-molded cornice with corner brackets. The center bay of the first story contains three single door entrances. The middle entry leads to a second story apartment. The north and south entries lead to separate storefronts, and are flanked by large, plate glass show windows that are old but probably not original. The show windows are shaded by aluminum awnings. The second story is fenestrated with three 1/1 double-hung sash windows spaced evenly across the facade that are shaded by aluminum awnings.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. P.G.#68-13-4

Period	Area 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 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 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 checked="" 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

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
 and/or  
 Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  
 Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

### CONTRIBUTING

The two-story commercial building at 3807-3809-3811 34th Street (Block 1, Lot 20, Rhode Island Avenue Addition to Mt. Rainier) is significant as an example of mixed-use construction that contributes to the early 20th century character of the Mt. Rainier downtown area. It is architecturally significant as the first building in a grouping of three attached early 20th century commercial structures arranged in stair step fashion on the slope of 34th street.

Lot 20 was improved by 1912, when assessment records indicate construction valued at \$500.<sup>1</sup> This early improvement was probably made by Thomas H. Unsworth who had purchased the lot from J. Harris Rogers, et. al. in May of 1912 (see Chain of Title). This early improvement was most likely the two small, one-story storefronts that appear on an early fire insurance map.<sup>2</sup>

The building's present two-story structure represents either an expansion of the early improvement or its replacement with a larger building, sometime after the January 1921 of the fire insurance map. For the years 1920-1923, Lot 20 continued to be assessed to Thomas Unsworth, although he sold the property to Pardo Iarrusso in December of 1921 (see Chain of Title). By 1920, the Unsworth assessment had risen to \$1,400 which may date the present building to those years.<sup>3</sup> The historic commercial use of the two first story storefronts is not known at this time.

### Notes

- 1 Prince George's County Assessment Records; 1912-1915, p. 137.
- 2 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map; 1921, p. 6.
- 3 Prince George's County Assessment Records; 1920-1923, p. 196.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G.#68-13-4

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name Washington East

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

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Howard S. Berger, Consultant

organization Historic Preservation Commission

date March 1988

street & number 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive

telephone 952-4609

city or town Upper Marlboro

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

Chain of Title  
3807-3809-3811 34th Street  
P.G.#68-13-4

6119:770  
13 June 1985  
Deed  
Cheng and Julie Wang to J. B. and M. Y. Park. Grantors convey Lot 20 in Block 1, Rhode Island Avenue Addition to Mt. Rainier. Plat recorded JWB 5:695 or A:6. Same obtained from Antonio J. and Loretta C. Lombardi, 10 October 1980, 5327:101.

5327:101  
10 October 1980  
Deed  
Antonio J. and Loretta C. Lombardi to Cheng and Julie Wang. Grantors convey Lot 20 in Block 1. Same obtained from Ronald R. Holden, agent, 26 June 1980, 5312:306.

5312:306  
26 June 1980  
Deed  
Ronald R. Holden, agent, to Antonio J. and Loretta C. Lombardi. Grantor conveys Lot 20 in Block 1. Same obtained from Dean T. Lindsay, et al, 1 February 1978, 4885:552.

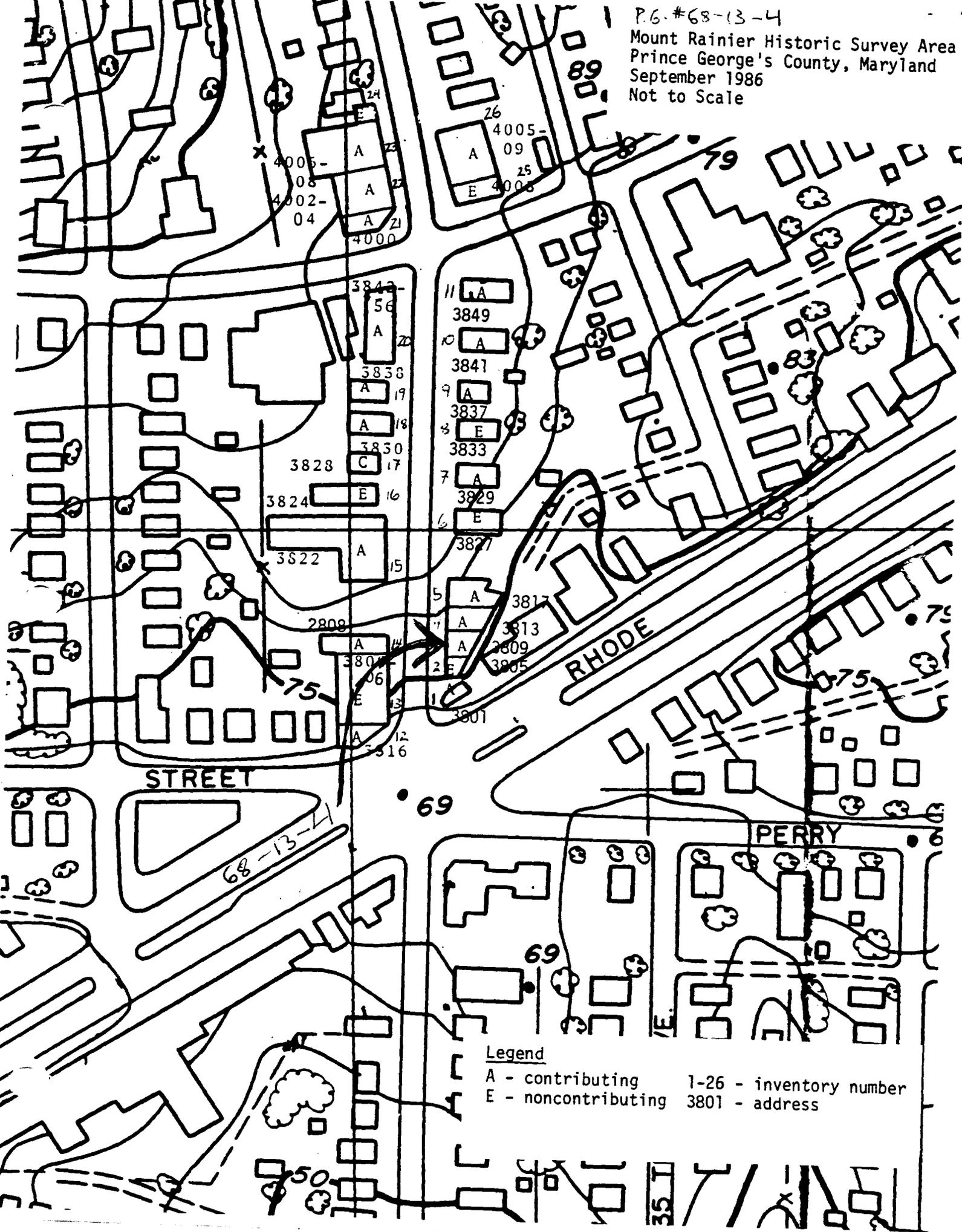
4885:552  
1 February 1978  
Deed  
Antonio J. and Loretta C. Lombardi to Dean T. Lindsay, grantee, and Dominion Enterprises, Inc. Grantors convey Lot 20 in Block 1. Same obtained from Cristofero and Maria Litteri, 9 November 1936, 464:301.

464:301  
9 November 1936  
Deed  
Cristofero and Maria Litteri to Antonio J. and Loretta C. Lombardi. Grantors convey Lot 20 in Block 1. Same obtained from Richard C. Zantzinger, et al, trustees, 25 September 1936, 453:289.

453:289  
25 September 1936  
Deed  
Richard C. Zantzinger, Antonio Mistretta, trustees, Pardo and Bertha Iarusso (Errasso), to Cristofero Litteri. Grantors convey Lot 20 in Block 1. Same obtained from Thomas H. and Minnie L. Unsworth, 19 December 1921, 178:273.

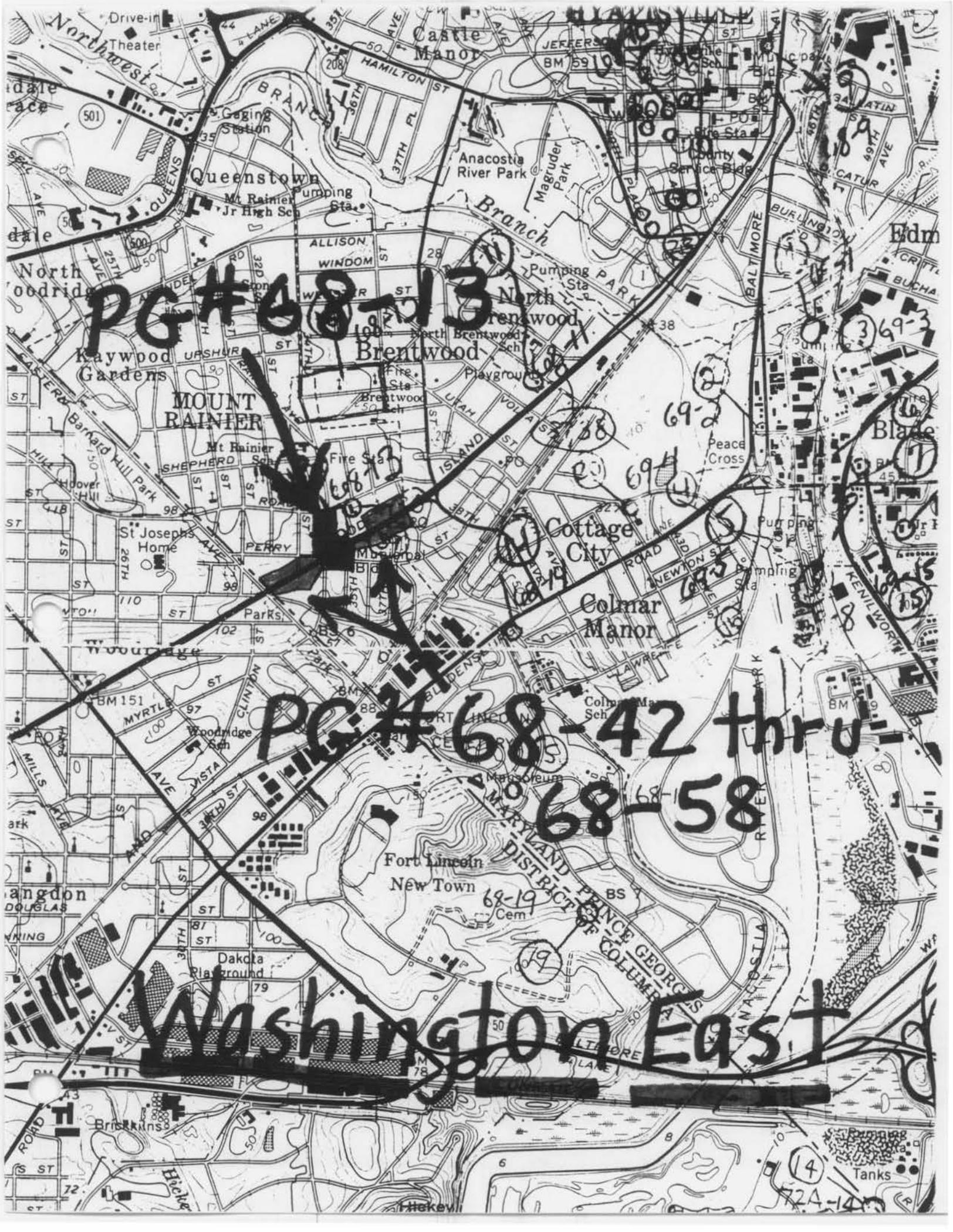
178:273  
19 December 1921  
Deed  
Thomas H. and Minnie L. Unsworth to Pardo and Bertha Iarusso (Errasso). Grantors convey Lot 20 in Block 1. Same obtained from J. Harris Rogers, et al, 24 May 1912, 82:316.

82:316  
24 May 1912  
Deed  
J. Harris Rogers, James C. and Blanche R. Rogers to Thomas H. Unsworth. Grantors convey Lot 20 in Block 1. To clear title, this deed is made.



**Legend**  
 A - contributing      1-26 - inventory number  
 E - noncontributing      3801 - address





PG# 68-13

PG# 68-42 thru 68-58

Washington East