

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #68-53 Building Date: c. 1928

Building Name: Bobbs Trading Co. (Pawn Shop)

Location: 3308 Rhode Island Avenue, Mt. Rainier, Maryland

Private/Commercial/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description

3308 Rhode Island Avenue is a two-story, three bay, commercial building with a rectangular plan and a terra cotta tiled parapet concealing a rear (north) sloping shed roof. The main (south) and rear (north) facades are stuccoed and painted white. The first story of the south facade has a center bay, recessed single metal clad glass entry door sheltered by a semicircular cloth awning. Flanking the entrance bay are 1/1 sash double-hung windows with iron security gates. Above the storefront entrance is a non-historic projecting sign. The second story has a centered pair of 1/1 sash double-hung windows flanked by single windows, similarly configured. The rear (north) facade has a single door entry to the east and a 1/1 sash window to the west at the first story. Evenly spaced across the second story are three 1/1 sash double-hung windows. With the exception of the entry door, awning and sign of the south facade, the building appears to retain an early 20th century configuration and a high degree of architectural integrity.

Significance

The commercial building at 3308 Rhode Island Avenue (Block 6, Lot 2, Roger's Second Addition to Mt. Rainier) is significant as an example of small scale early 20th century mixed-use construction. The building contains a storefront on the first story and an apartment on the second floor accessed by an entrance on the north (Perry Street) facade. The building, and its attached neighbor to the east make a noteworthy contribution to the architectural variety of the streetscape with their spanish-style facades which appear to be original. The building was apparently erected by 1928, when assessment records indicate an improvement valued at \$8,000 was made both on Lot 2 and the remaining east forty-one feet of Block 6. This would indicate that both 3308 and 3310 Rhode Island Avenue were built simultaneously. William Burton Spire and Clarence F. Schatz, two prominent local businessmen had purchased all of Block 6 from the trustees of the Mt. Rainier Branch of the International Order of Oddfellows in 1927. The block was ultimately divided into three building lots and Spire and Schatz erected buildings on the two eastern lots and left the western portion of the block unimproved.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Bobbs Trading Co. (Pawn Shop)

## 2. Location

street & number 3308 Rhode Island Avenue (U.S. Route 1)  not for publicationcity, 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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" 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	<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 checked="" 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 Robert L. and Lynda Haislip

street &amp; number 5A Queen Victoria Way telephone no.:

city, town Chester state and zip code Maryland 21619

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 5958

street &amp; number Main Street folio 169

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, M-NCPPC, CAB, Rm. 401

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

# 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.

3308 Rhode Island Avenue is a two-story, three bay, commercial building with a rectangular plan and a terra cotta tiled parapet concealing a rear (north) sloping shed roof (see Slides #14, 17). The main (south) and rear (north) facades are stuccoed and painted white. The first story of the south facade has a center bay, recessed single metal clad glass entry door sheltered by a semicircular cloth awning. Flanking the entrance bay are 1/1 sash double-hung windows with iron security gates. Above the storefront entrance is a non-historic projecting sign. The second story has a centered pair of 1/1 sash double-hung windows flanked by single windows, similarly configured. The rear (north) facade has a single door entry to the east and a 1/1 sash window to the west at the first story. Evenly spaced across the second story are three 1/1 sash double-hung windows. With the exception of the entry door, awning and sign of the south facade, the building appears to retain an early 20th century configuration and a high degree of architectural integrity.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. P.G.#68-53

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" 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 c. 1928 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 commercial building at 3308 Rhode Island Avenue (Block 6, Lot 2, Roger's Second Addition to Mt. Rainier) is significant as an example of small scale early 20th century mixed-use construction. The building contains a storefront on the first story and an apartment on the second floor accessed by an entrance on the north (Perry Street) facade. The building, and its attached neighbor to the east (see 3310 Rhode Island Avenue) make a noteworthy contribution to the architectural variety of the streetscape with their spanish-style facades which appear to be original.<sup>1</sup>

The building was apparently erected by 1928, when assessment records indicate an improvement valued at \$8,000 was made both on Lot 2 and the remaining east forty-one feet of Block 6.<sup>2</sup> This would indicate that both 3308 and 3310 Rhode Island Avenue were built simultaneously. William Burton Spire and Clarence F. Schatz, two prominent local businessmen had purchased all of Block 6 from the trustees of the Mt. Rainier Branch of the International Order of Oddfellows in 1927.<sup>3</sup> The block was ultimately divided into three building lots and Spire and Schatz erected buildings on the two eastern lots and left the western portion of the block unimproved. Soon after construction was completed the easternmost building was sold. Spire and Schatz mortgaged the property at 3308 in 1930 and thereafter Spire retained ownership until 1934 (see Chain of Title).

## Notes

<sup>1</sup> See photograph p. 54, City of Mt. Rainier 75th Anniversary Book, 1985.

<sup>2</sup> Prince George's County Assessment Records, E.D. 17, 1927-1930, p. 308.

<sup>3</sup> Prince George's County Land Records, 289:171.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G.#68-53

See Notes, #8

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage 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 20772

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  
3308 Rhode Island Avenue  
P.G.#68-53

5958:169 16 August 1984 Deed	Robert L. Haislip to Robert L. and Lynda S. Haislip. Grantor conveys Lot 2 in Block 6, Roger's Second Addition to Mt. Rainier. Plat recorded BDS1:48. Same obtained from John F. Fontron, Jr., et. al., August 13, 1970, 3867:170.
3867:170 13 August 1970 Deed	John F. Fontron, et. al. to Robert L. and Barbara Haislip. Grantors convey Lot 2 in Block 6. Same obtained from Mabel Rewman and Guy C. Frary, April 1, 1959, 2321:69.
2321:69 1 April 1959 Warranty Deed	Mabel Rewman and Guy C. Frary to John F. Fontron, Jr., et. al. Grantors convey Lot 2 in Block 6. Same obtained from William Burton and Katherine E. Spire, August 21, 1934, 419:80.
419:80 21 August 1934 Deed	William Burton and Katherine E. Spire to Paul and Mabel Rewman. Grantors convey Lot 2 in Block 6. Same obtained from Robert I. Lyon, executor, May 14, 1930, 354:275.
354:275 14 May 1930 Deed	Robert I. Lyon, executor, mortgagors, to William Burton and Katherine E. Spire. Grantors convey Lot 2 in Block 6 by public sale through default of mortgage, February 1, 1928, 310:526.
310:526 1 February 1928 Mortgage	William Burton and Katherine E. Spire and Clarence F. and Goldie Schatz to Robert I. Lyon, executor. Grantors convey mortgage on Lot 2 in Block 6. Same obtained by deed from Elmer E. Lamphier, et. al., trustees, April 13, 1927, 289:171.
289:171 13 April 1927 Deed	Elmer E. Lamphier, et. al, trustees, Mt. Rainier Lodge No. 156, IOOF to William Burton Spire and Clarence F. Schatz. Grantors convey all of Block 6. Same obtained from James H. Dungan, November 12, 1921, 178:83.
178:83 12 November 1921 Deed	James H. Dungan to Wallace M. Chase, et. al., trustees, Mt. Rainier Lodge No. 156, IOOF. Grantor conveys all of Block 6. Same obtained from Millard and Edith R. Thorne, September 16, 1919, 148:449.
148:449 16 September 1919 Deed	Millard and Edith R. Thorne to James H. Dungan. Grantors convey all of Block 6. Same obtained from Edward A. Fuller, Treasurer, April 15, 1919, 138:447.

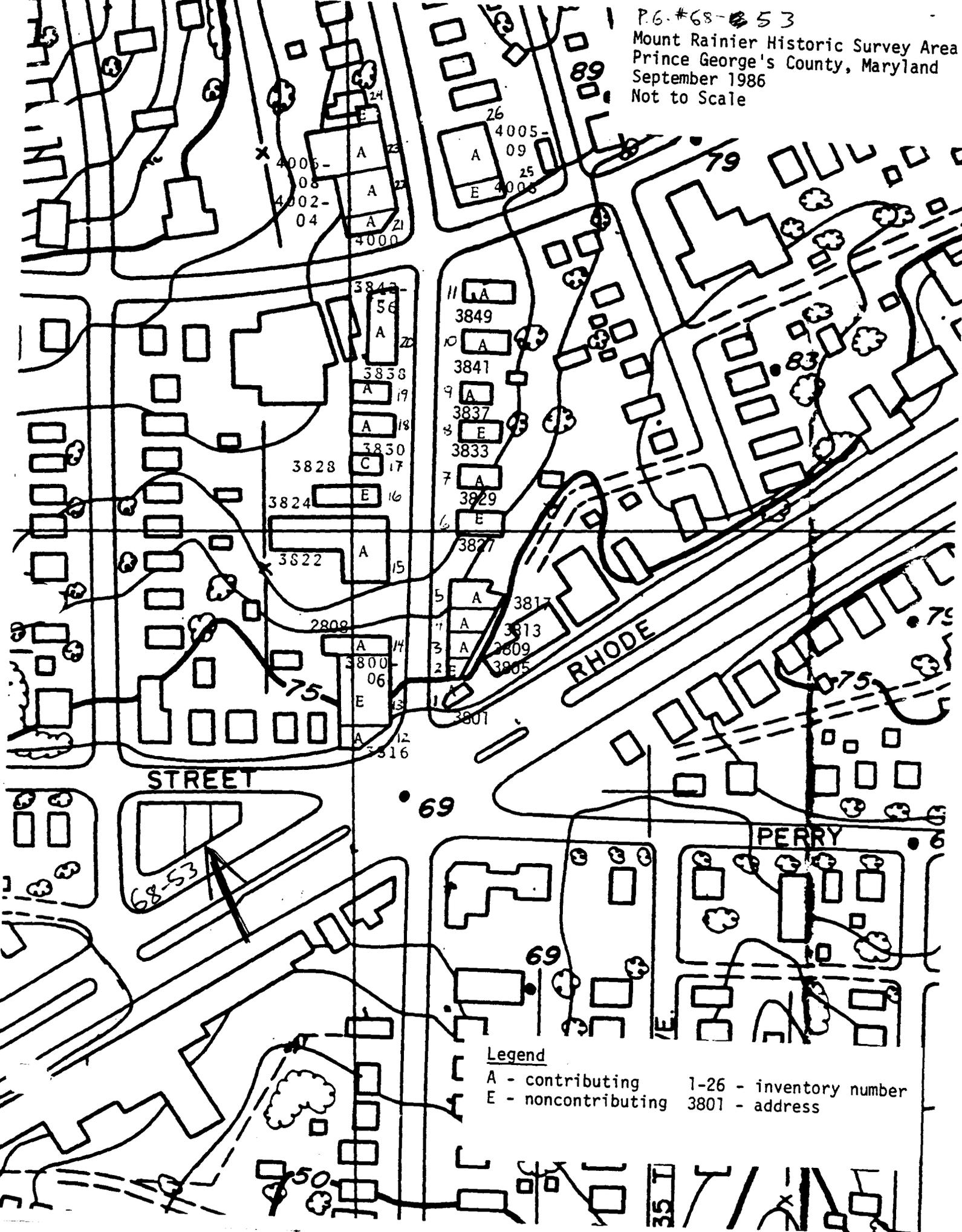
- 2 -

138:447  
15 April 1919  
Deed

Edward A. Fuller, Treasurer, Prince George's County to Millard and Edith R. Thorne. Grantor conveys all of Block 6, purchased at tax sale of property assessed to Annie C. Green, September 23, 1918. Same obtained from American Security and Trust Company October 21, 1908; 47:572.

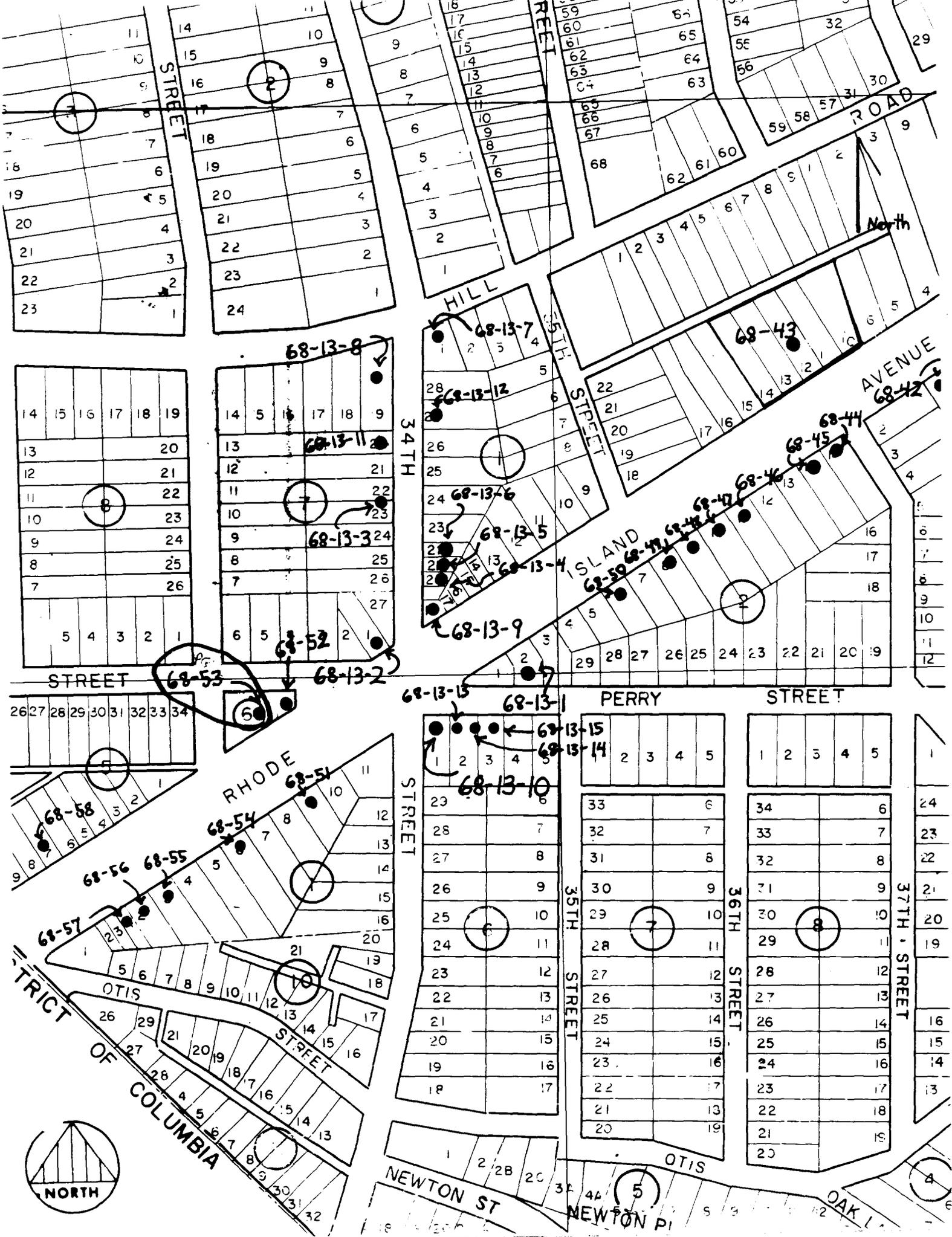
47:572  
21 October 1908  
Deed

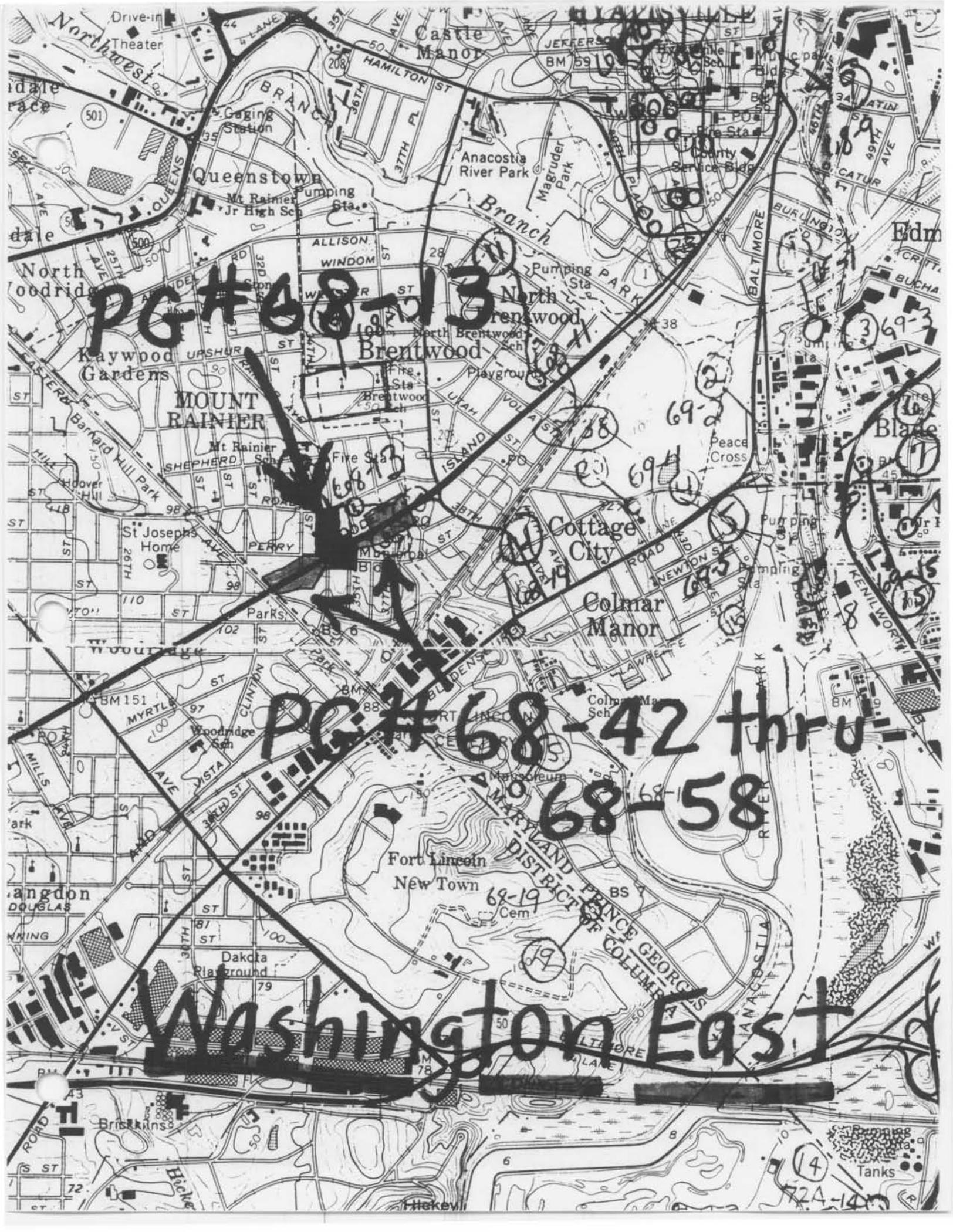
American Security and Trust Company to Annie C. Green. Grantor conveys all of Block 6. To clear title, this deed is made.



Legend

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





PG# 68-13

PG# 68-42 thru 68-58

Washington East



69-2  
69-1  
69-3  
69-4  
69-5

69-19

14  
424-14



PG:68-53

PG#6853

Bobs Trading Co.  
2308 Rhode Island Ave.

Prince Georges Co., MD

Howard Berger

Oct. 1987

Neg. MD Historical Inscr  
Annapolis, MD