

9503029

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: St. Paul's Baptist Church Survey Number: PG 69-6

Project: MD 450 @ CSX Crossing, Bladensburg, Maryland Agency: FHWA/SHA

Site visit by MHT Staff: no yes Name _____ Date _____

Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended

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

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

Based on the available information, St. Paul's Baptist Church, located at 4107 47th Street meets Criterion A and Criteria Consideration A and is eligible for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The building was originally constructed in 1818, but its current form and detailing date to a 1908 remodeling. The church is significant for its long association with a black Baptist congregation formed shortly after the Civil War by a freed slave (c. 1872 - 1973). The property is the only remaining resource associated with Bladensburg's African American history. A large and active African American community which existed in the Bladensburg/Riverdale/Hyattsville areas in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The growth of Bladensburg in the 20th century has resulted in the loss of most of its early building fabric. The church is one of only five remaining buildings in the area which predate the 20th century. Its associations in the Bladensburg area date back to its use by the Presbyterians in the early 19th century, although the 1818 building is buried within the present structure. Thus, the building is of great local importance as a reminder of the town's early history and heritage.

* This property was awarded an MHT Capital Grant in 1994 and will have an MHT preservation easement placed on it shortly.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project File, Grant File, and Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form #PG-69-6

Prepared by: Susan Pearl & Marina King (inventory form)

Elizabeth Hannold March 22, 1996
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: yes no not applicable
Peter R. King 3/22/96
Reviewer, NR program Date

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

- Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
- Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
- Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
- Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
- Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
- Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
- Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
- Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
- Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
- Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
- Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
- Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
- Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
- Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
- Unknown Period (prehistoric historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

- Subsistence
- Settlement
- Political
- Demographic
- Religion
- Technology
- Environmental Adaption

IV. Historic Period Themes:

- Agriculture
- Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
- Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
- Government/Law
- Military
- Religion
- Social/Educational/Cultural
- Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: building

Historic Environment: Village

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Religious structure

Known Design Source: na

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #69-6 Building Date: 1818, 1908

Building Name: St. Paul's Baptist Church

Location: 4107 47th Street, Bladensburg, Maryland

Private/Church/Occupied/Fair/Accessible

Description:

The St. Paul's Baptist Church is a one-story, cross-gable structure of red-painted brick. It has an "U" shaped plan, the result of two major additions, probably dating to 1908 and later. Its central entrance is surmounted by a low steeple and flanked by a projecting gable-roof bay on each side. The church is located on a small lot in Bladensburg, surrounded by warehouse and industrial buildings. The six-bay east (main) facade has central entry set in a porch tower. Brick pilasters flank the entrance and rise to the rectangular base of the tower. Centered above the entry way is a small circular stained glass window, deeply recessed into the brick wall. Above the cornice is the low octagonal tower with a pyramidal cap, set on a rectangular brick base. The entry bay is flanked by a projecting gable end to the north and south, giving the building its "U" shaped plan. The wider, more prominent north gable end contains the sanctuary, and is the original block of the building. It is marked by three symmetrically placed casement windows. The smaller, lower south gable end, of two-by-one bays, appears to have been added to the building, probably after 1908.

Significance:

St. Paul's Church in Bladensburg is significant for its long association with a black Baptist congregation formed shortly after the Civil War. It also is significant for its association with the early Presbyterian Church in Prince George's County. The form of the building and its modest Romanesque Revival details date to a remodeling in 1908. The older part of St. Paul's Church was built in 1818 to house the Presbyterian congregation of Bladensburg. This structure remained the home of the Presbyterian congregation of Bladensburg until 1874 when it was sold to a black Baptist congregation, and came to be known as St. Paul's Baptist Church. St. Paul's Baptist congregation was founded by Sarah Miranda Plummer, a former slave, in 1866. The building burned in 1908 and was restored with the addition of the entrance tower and south wing. The additions were laid in red brick and skillfully incorporated the original north block. The result is a well-balanced main facade with modest Romanesque Revival details, including the large round-arch window and small circular window on the main facade, the octagonal tower above the entrance door and the prominent cornices.

Acreage: 5,600 square feet

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic St. Paul's Baptist Church

and/or common Free Hope Baptist Church

2. Location

street & number 4107 47th Street ___ not for publication

city, town Bladensburg ___ vicinity of congressional district 5th

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 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 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 type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Free Hope Baptist Church

street & number 4107 47th Street telephone no.:

city, town Bladensburg state and zip code Maryland 20710

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number Main Street folio

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Historic Sites and Districts Plan

date July 1981 ___ federal state county local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Commission, Room 4010/CAB

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. _____
Pg. 69-6

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

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

The St. Paul's Baptist Church is a one-story, cross-gable structure of red-painted brick. It has an "U" shaped plan, the result of two major additions, probably dating to 1908 and later. Its central entrance is surmounted by a low steeple and flanked by a projecting gable- roof bay on each side. The church is located on a small lot in Bladensburg, surrounded by warehouse and industrial buildings.

The six-bay east (main) facade has central entry set in a porch tower. The entry way is surmounted by a flat-arch lintel composed of a header and a stretcher for each course. Brick pilasters flank the entrance and rise to the rectangular base of the tower. Centered above the entry way is a small circular stained glass window, deeply recessed into the brick wall, with a surround of a double row of headers. A wide molded cornice of stone or cement defines the roofline. Above the cornice is the low octagonal tower with a pyramidal cap, set on a rectangular brick base. The base has a narrow cornice echoing the form of the one at the roofline. There is a rectangular louvered opening in the east face of the octagonal tower, which is surmounted by a wide frieze and crown-molded cornice with deeply overhanging eaves.

The entry bay is flanked by a projecting gable end to the north and south, giving the building its "U" shaped plan. The wider, more prominent north gable end contains the sanctuary, and is the original block of the building. It is marked by three symmetrically placed casement windows. The central window is a high double casement window with a round-arch head. The lintel is composed of a row of headers. Two smaller, rectangular windows with flat-arch lintels flank the central window, as do two brick buttresses with corbelled caps. There is a boxed aluminum cornice, returned in the gable end. Beneath the aluminum there are three rows of brick corbelling along the cornice line, on the north and south sides of this block of the building. The brick is laid in common bond, five rows of stretchers to one row of header bricks.

The smaller, lower south gable end, of two-by-one bays, appears to have been added to the building, probably after 1908. There are two rectangular stained glass windows with brick sills and flat arch lintels at first floor level. A smaller window is centered in the upper gable. The flat wooden cornice is returned, as on the north gable end. The brick is laid in common bond with six rows of stretchers to one row of headers.

The church is constructed of red-painted brick which is weathered and deteriorated in some areas. The roof is covered with grey shingle. The lintels and cornices are painted white. The gable roofed southwest block of the building appears to be of poured concrete.

The three-bay north facade of the sanctuary is lighted by three casement windows with flat-arch lintels. The central window is flanked by two corbelled, parged brick buttresses. The three-bay west or rear of the building has a north cross-gable. There are two parged stepped buttresses in the gable, flanking a central stained glass window. The south two bays are in a later block of the building which appears to be constructed of poured concrete. The block contains a window lighting the rector's study and an entry door to a small kitchen. A small ceramic tile chimney rises just north of the central window.

The four-bay south elevation is surmounted by the broad gable end of the southwest block. The wall surface is also poured cement, and the bays are marked by four rectangular 2/2-sash windows. Projecting from the east end is the unfenestrated wall of the projecting gable addition on the main facade.

Entrance is into a small vestibule. A double door to the right leads into the sanctuary. Directly opposite the entry door is an entry into the other large room in the building, a general purpose room. The word "silence" is boldly painted on the wall above this entry way.

The sanctuary is oriented toward the west. It is a simple rectangular room with a tudor-arch ceiling. The central aisle is flanked by wooden bench pews. The wood flooring is old, of regular-width, narrow boards. A rectangular stained-glass window is centered in the west wall above the altar-stage. It has a design of red and yellow diamond-shaped panes, with a central circular pane depicting a crown and a cross. The north wall is marked by three evenly spaced rectangular casement windows covered with a patterned adhesive paper to resemble stained glass. The west wall has a high central window composed of a lower double casement surmounted by a second double casement with a round-arch transom. The upper windows contain stained glass. The double casement depicts two churches. The transom depicts a dove. The lower portion of the central window and the two flanking windows are covered with the patterned adhesive paper.

A wood cornice runs down the north and south sides of the room. A marble plaque affixed to the north wall by large ornamental metal screws is inscribed:

The St. Paul Baptist Church in Memory of Reverend John Brackenridge who established a Presbyterian Church on this Foundation A.D. 1809 and for 40 years the Minister.

He favored the Emancipation of our Race. This Church was purchased from Presbyterians in 1873 and a new building erected. This Baptist Association was organized October 19, 1866 by Sarah Miranda Plummer.

The south wall contains an entry to the rector's study in the southwest corner. It is a five-panel door surmounted by a transom. The door surround is banded molding with bulls-eye corner blocks. Centered on the south wall is a bank of seven doors, each with an upper and lower rectangular panel and surmounted by a transom of four-lights. -

The south room has few surviving original architectural details. Two entry doors in the west wall of the room have banded molding with bulls-eye corner blocks. These enter two small west rooms, a rector's office and a kitchen. In the east wall of the room are two entries to the men's and women's restrooms. These are each lighted by a rectangular stained-glassed window that faces the east (front) of the building.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input checked="" 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	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input 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 1818, 1908 **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.

St. Paul's Church in Bladensburg is significant for its long association with a black Baptist congregation formed shortly after the Civil War. It also is significant for its association with the early Presbyterian Church in Prince George's County.

The form of the building and its modest Romanesque Revival details date to a remodeling in 1908.

The older part of St. Paul's Church was built in 1818 to house the Presbyterian congregation of Bladensburg.¹ This was the third Presbyterian church building in the Bladensburg area; the first meeting house was built in 1718 at the forks of the Eastern Branch, and the second after 1725 on the site of the present Evergreen Cemetery south of Bladensburg.² The Eastern Branch congregation was an offshoot of the first Presbyterian Church established in Upper Marlboro before 1700. The second Eastern Branch meeting house was taken down in 1818, and the bricks were reused to build older (north) section of the present building. This structure remained the home of the Presbyterian congregation of Bladensburg until 1874 when it was sold to a black Baptist congregation,³ and came to be known as St. Paul's Baptist Church.

St. Paul's Baptist congregation was founded by Sarah Miranda Plummer, a former slave, in 1866.⁴ Sarah Plummer was the daughter of Emily and Adam Plummer, slaves for the Calvert family at Riverdale and for the Hilleary family at Three Sisters Plantation in Lanham. Sarah Miranda Plummer was born at Three Sisters Plantation in 1842.⁵ Members of the family were sold and transferred around the region in the years before the Civil War, resulting in constant separations of parents and children. Sarah Plummer was sold to an owner in New Orleans in 1860. The family was literate and their history is documented by their letters during years of separation, and Adam Plummer's diary. In 1866, Henry Vinton Plummer traveled to New Orleans to bring his sister back to Maryland.⁶ She had converted to the Baptist religion while in New Orleans and founded what became St. Paul's Baptist Church upon her return to her family.⁷

For three years church members met in the Plummer home in the Bladensburg area. In 1869 the church moved to a log building in Bladensburg. The congregation purchased the old Presbyterian church on 47th Street in Bladensburg in 1872 and remained there through 1973 when they purchased a building at 1608 Arcadia Street in Boulevard Heights.⁸ St. Paul's is now occupied by the Free Hope Baptist Congregation.

The original block of the building is the north section. This burned in 1908 and was restored with the addition of the entrance tower and south wing. The additions were laid in red brick and skillfully incorporated the original north block. The result is a well-balanced main facade with modest Romanesque Revival details, including the large round-arch window and small circular window on the main facade, the octagonal tower above the entrance door and the prominent cornices. The building stands in need of repair and is now completely surrounded by heavy commercial and industrial development.

Notes

- 1 "The Reminder," published by the Brotherhood of Andrew and Phillip of the Hyattsville Presbyterian Church, Vol. 1, No. 7, November 1899.
- 2 Louise Joyner Hinton, Prince George's Heritage, Chapter 6.
- 3 Hopkins Atlas, 1878, "Historical Sketch" pg. 8.
- 4 Prince George's Journal, 17 October 1986, "Slavery Survivor and her Church."
- 5 Bible, Book and Voting Booth: Early Black Institutions and Political History, 1870-1920, Final Report for Fiscal Year 1984-85, Bionca Patrice Floyd, Project Manager, Black History, Maryland - National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Prince George's County. Section 5, pg. 7.
- 6 Ibid. Section 5, Pg. 16
- 7 Prince George's Journal, op. cit.
- 8 Ibid.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. PG 69-6

See Notes, #8

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 5,600

Tax Map 50
Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Quadrangle name Washington East E

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 Marina King, Architectural Historian, Susan Pearl Research Historian

organization Historic Preservation Commission date June 1988

street & number 14740 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive telephone 301-952-4609

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

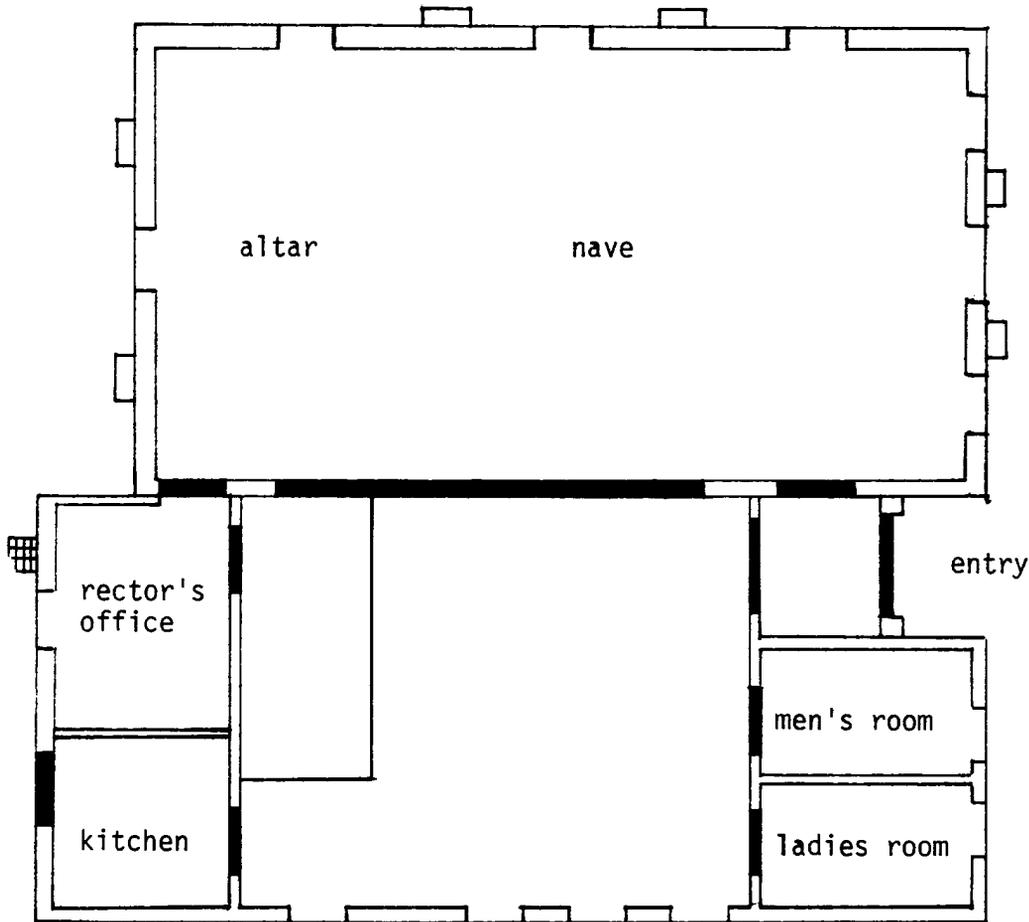
P.G.#76A-13

P.G.#69-6

St. Paul's Baptist Church

Plan not to scale

Spring 1988



(7-4)

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITES SUMMARY SHEET

P.G. County Survey # 69-6 Date 1818, late 19th century
Building Name St. Paul's Church, Free Hope Baptist Church
Location 4107 47th Street, Bladensburg
Open to Public yes no restricted

St. Paul's is a brick church built on a stone foundation; it consists of two gable-roofed sections with a porch tower between. The larger (north) section is the sanctuary; the south section is a later addition. Pilasters flank the entrance into the central tower, and rise to meet the parapet. Above the parapet rises an octagonal drum with its roof in the form of an octagonal pyramid.

The older part of the church was built in 1818 to house the Presbyterian congregation of Bladensburg. This was the third Presbyterian church building in the Bladensburg area; the first meeting house was built in 1718 at the forks of the Eastern Branch, and the second after 1725 on the site of the present Evergreen Cemetery south of Bladensburg. The Eastern Branch congregation was an offshoot of the first Presbyterian Church established in Upper Marlboro before 1700. The second Eastern Branch meeting house was taken down in 1818, and the bricks were reused to build the older (north) section of the present building. This structure remained the home of the Presbyterian congregation of Bladensburg until 1874 when it was sold to a black Baptist congregation, and came to be known as St. Paul's Baptist Church. It is now known as the Free Hope Baptist Church.

This historic church building is now completely surrounded by heavy commercial and industrial development.

(Priv/Occ/Relig/Good)

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

P.G. #69-6

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

St. Paul's Church

AND/OR COMMON

Free Hope Baptist Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

4107 47th Street

CITY, TOWN

Bladensburg

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5th

STATE

Md.

COUNTY

P.G.

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

- YES RESTRICTED
- YES UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Free Hope Baptist Church

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

4107 47th Street

CITY, TOWN

Bladensburg

— VICINITY OF

Md.

STATE zip code

20710

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of Historic Sites

DATE

1974

—FEDERAL —STATE COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Calvert Mansion, 4811 Riverdale Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Riverdale

Md. STATE 20840

7 DESCRIPTION

PG:69-6

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
X <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	X <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

 DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Paul's is a brick church built on a stone foundation; it consists of two gable-roofed sections with a porch tower between. The larger (north) section is the sanctuary; the south section is a later addition. Pilasters flank the entrance into the central tower, and rise to meet the parapet. Above the parapet rises an octagonal drum with its roof in the form of an octagonal pyramid.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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 1818

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The older part of St. Paul's Church was built in 1818 to house the Presbyterian congregation of Bladensburg,¹ This was the third Presbyterian church building in the Bladensburg area; the first meeting house was built in 1718 at the forks of the Eastern Branch, and the second after 1725 on the site of the present Evergreen Cemetery south of Bladensburg.² The Eastern Branch congregation was an offshoot of the first Presbyterian Church established in Upper Marlboro before 1700. The second Eastern Branch meeting house was taken down in 1818, and the bricks were reused to build the older (north) section of the present building. This structure remained the home of the Presbyterian congregation of Bladensburg until 1874 when it was sold to a black Baptist congregation, and came to be known as St. Paul's Baptist Church. It is now known as the Free Hope Baptist Church.

This historic church building is now completely surrounded by heavy commercial and industrial development.

1. "The Reminder", Vol. 1, No. 7, Nov. 1899
2. Hienton, L.J. Prince George's Heritage, Chapter 6 passim
Hopkins Atlas 1878, "Historical Sketch ..." p. 8

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hopkins Atlas 1878, "Historical Sketch of Prince George's County"
 "The Reminder", published by the Hyattsville Presbyterian Church
 Vol. I, no. 1-no. 10 (June 1899 - Feb. 1900)

Prince George's Heritage by L.J. Hinton, Ch. 6 "Presbyterian Beginnings
 in County"

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Susan G. Pearl

ORGANIZATION

Historical & Cultural Trust

DATE

April 1980

STREET & NUMBER

4811 Riverdale Road

TELEPHONE

779-2011

CITY OR TOWN

Riverdale

STATE

Md.

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
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

P.F. 69-6e
P. 480

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON: St. Paul's Baptist Church				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Bladensburg				
STATE: Maryland		COUNTY: Prince George's		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC				
Yes:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted				
<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted				
<input type="checkbox"/> No				
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:				
Prince George's County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic Sites in the Bi-County Region				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission				
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue				
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring			STATE: Maryland	

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The church is a brick structure, built on a stone foundation. It consists of two brick, A-roofed sections with a porch tower between. The (larger) north gabled section is the sanctuary; it appears to be the oldest section. The tower was originally along the south side wall of this section. The south gabled section is a later addition.

The tower has pilasters flanking the entrance and running to the parapet; the cornice breaks out to form the capitals of the pilasters. An octagonal drum rises above the parapet; the roof is a bell-cast octagonal pyramid.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 . "	0 . "		0 . "	0 . "	
NE	0 . "	0 . "		0 . "	0 . "	
SE	0 . "	0 . "		0 . "	0 . "	
SW	0 . "	0 . "		0 . "	0 . "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

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

STATE:	COUNTY:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: M-NCPPC DATE: 11 Mar 74

STREET AND NUMBER:
8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring STATE: Maryland

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:
 National State Local

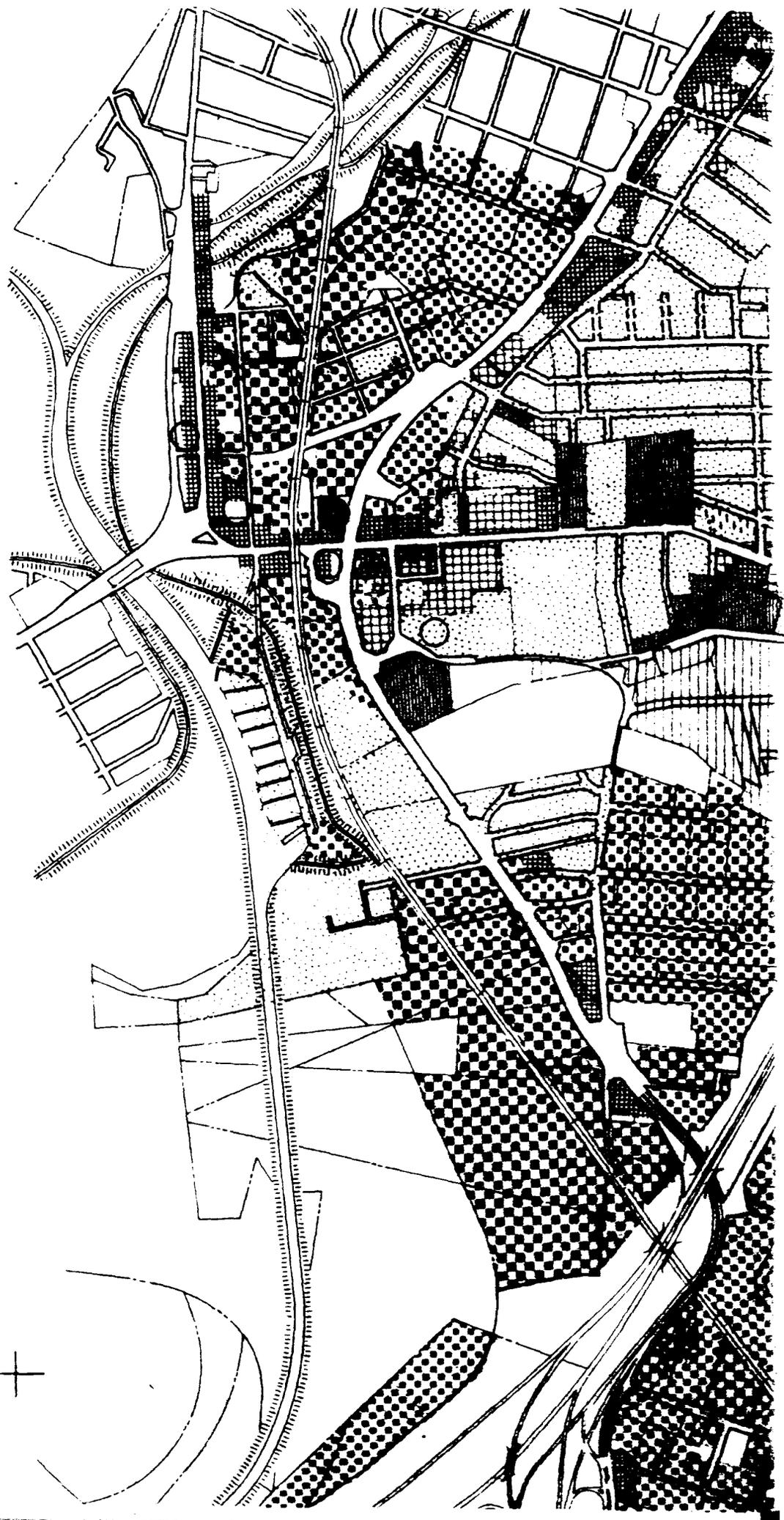
Signature _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

PG:69-6

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

(69-6)





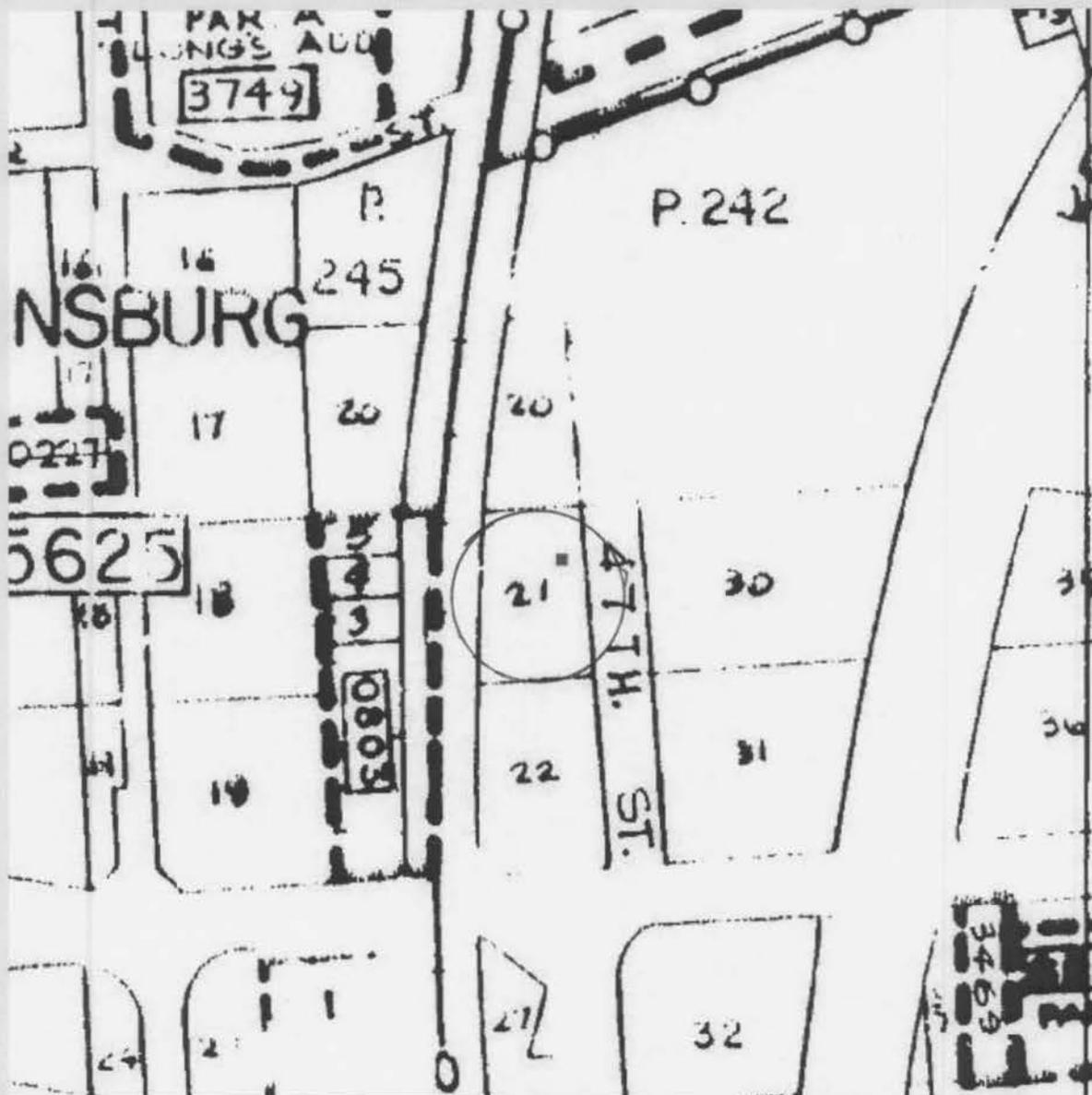
Real Property Information

Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation
Real Property System

[Go Back]

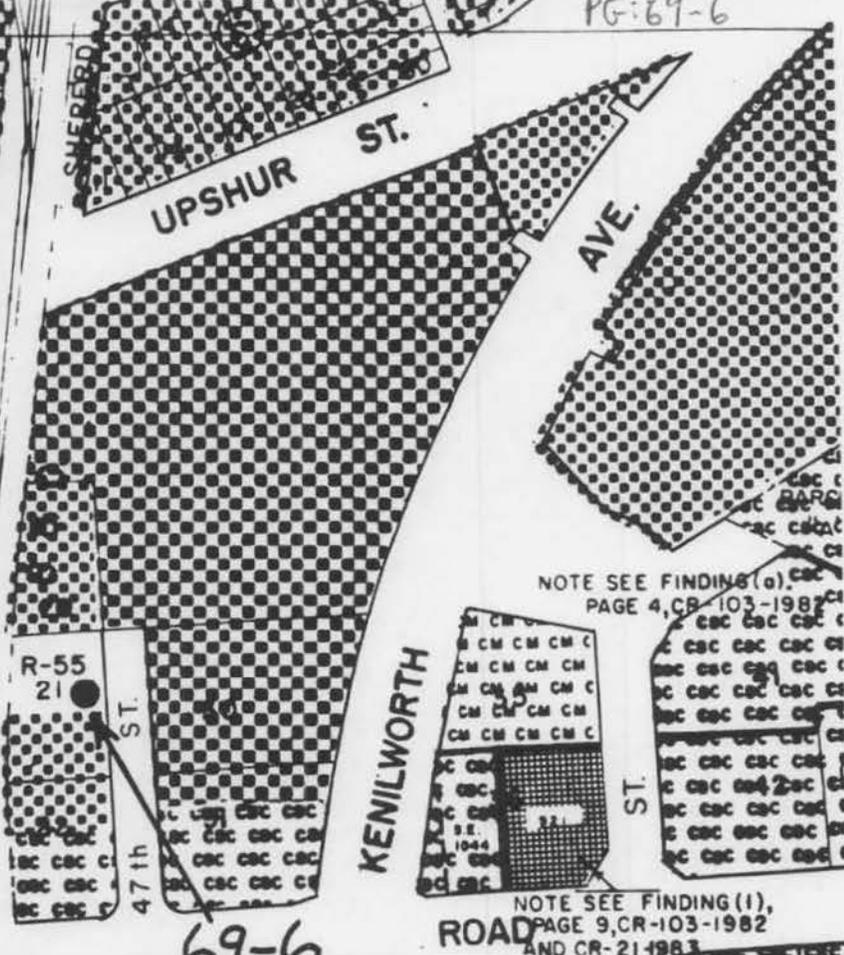
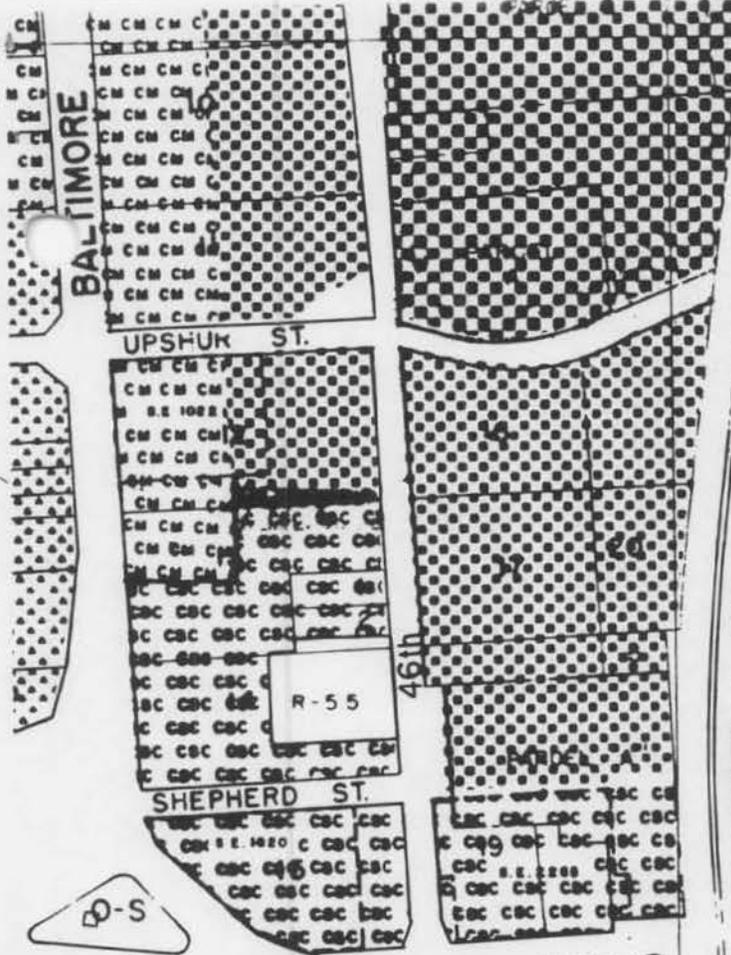
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[Zoom In]



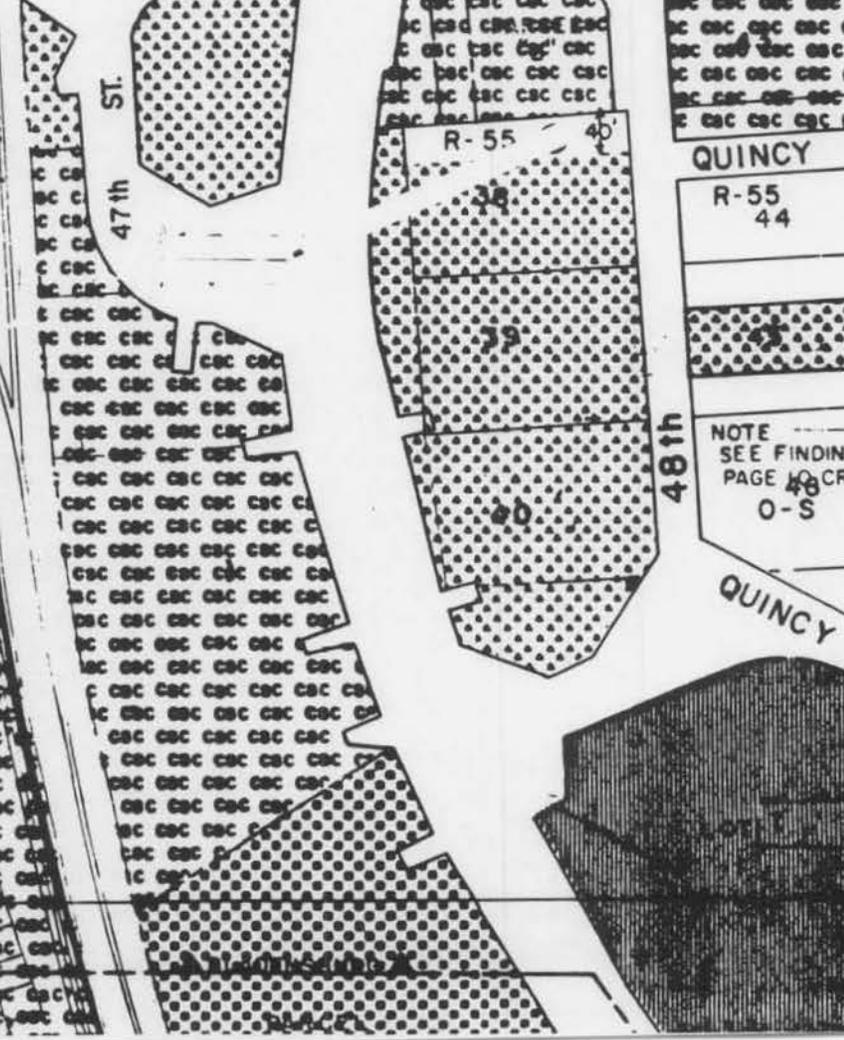
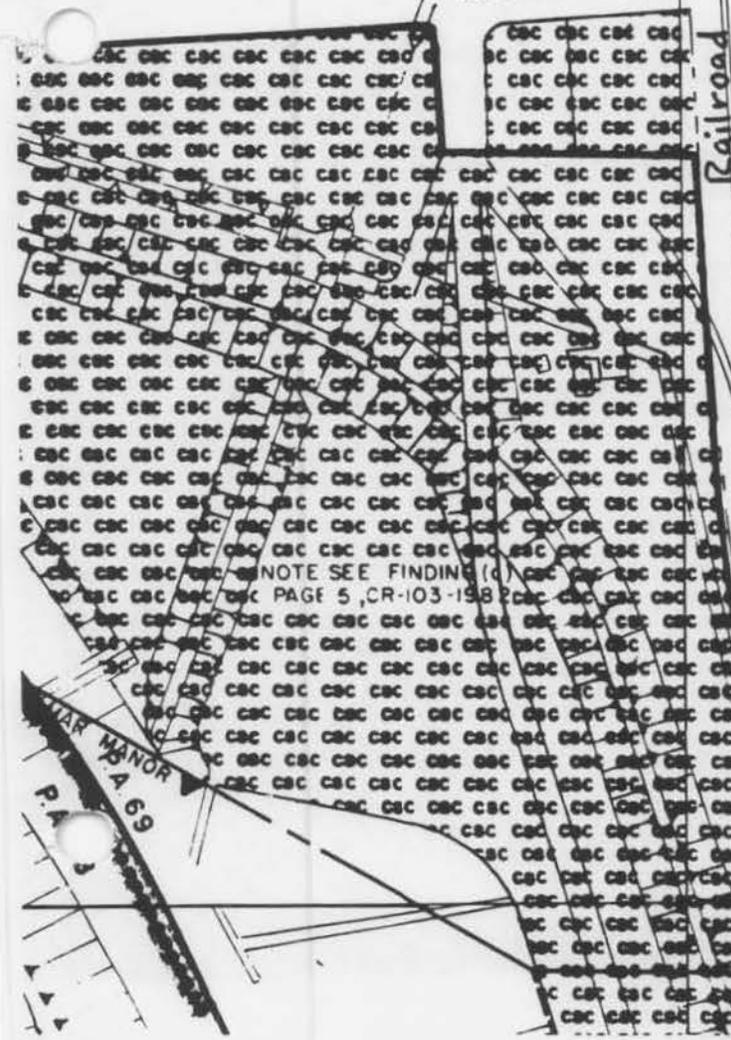
Property maps provided courtesy of the Maryland Department of Planning © 2000.

For more information on electronic mapping applications, visit the Maryland Department of Planning web site at www.mdp.state.md.us.



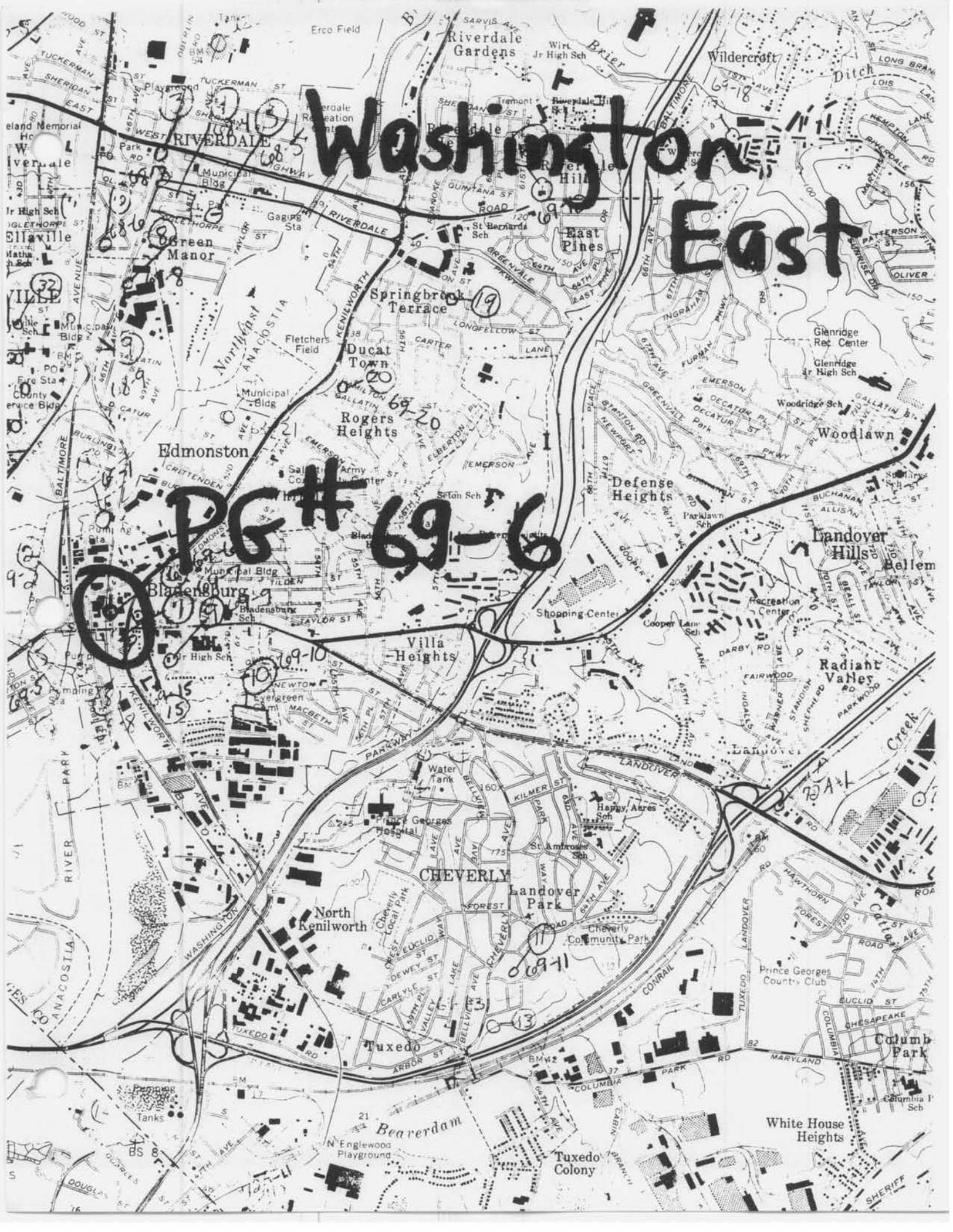
ANNAPOLIS

69-6



Washington East

PG# 69-6





CHURCH OF CHRIST
LOVE

NAME ST. PAULS BAPTIST CHURCH

PG:69-6

LOCATION 47th St., Bladensburg, Md.

FACADE E

PHOTO TAKEN 3/11/74



P.G.# 69-6

St. Paul's Baptist Church
Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

April 1988

E

Neg. MD Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



P.G. #69-6

St. Paul's Baptist Church
Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

April 1988

E, window detail

Neg: MD Historical Trust

Annapolis, MD



P.G # 69-6

St. Paul's Baptist Church
Prince George's County, MD
Marina King
April 1988

E, four

Now: MD Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



P.G.# 69-6

St. Paul's Baptist Church
Prince George's County, MD
Marina King

April 1988

Nave, looking E

Neg: MD Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



P.G # 69-6

St. Paul's Baptist Church

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

April 1988

Nave, looking W

Neg: MD Historical Trust

Annapolis, MD

THE ST. PAUL BAPTIST CHURCH
IN MEMORY OF

REV. JOHN BRACKENRIDGE

WHO ESTABLISHED A PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ON THIS FOUNDATION A. D. 1809 AND FOR 40
YEARS THE MINISTER.

HE FAVORED THE EMANCIPATION OF OUR RACE
THIS CHURCH WAS PURCHASED FROM PRESBY-
TERIANS IN 1873 AND A NEW BUILDING ERECTED

THIS BAPTIST CHURCH ASSOCIATION

WAS ORGANIZED OCT. 19, 1866
BY SARAH MIRANDA PLUMMER.

P.G.#69-6

St. Paul's Baptist Church

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

April 1988

plaque, N wall of nave

Neg: MD Historical Trust

Annapolis, MD