

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G.# 72-9-29 Building Date: 1946

Building Name: World War II Monument

Location: Corner of 59th Avenue and 59th Place, Fairmount Heights, Md.

Public/Park Monument/---/Good /Accessible

Description:

The World War II Monument is a tall slim monument, constructed of blocks of gray granite and orange sandstone, in random arrangement. The principal section of the monument is a slim pyramid, rising from a square base of the same random stone construction. The base rests on a single wide course of granite; a similar course of granite forms a line of demarcation between the base and the pyramid, and two more courses form horizontal lines of decoration in the pyramid itself. The monument is surmounted by a single block of granite in the form of a pyramid itself. On each face of the square base is a projecting rectangular panel, and to each panel is attached an inscribed copper plate.

The triangular lot has been made into a small park with shrubs and benches, enclosed by chain link fence. At the south entrance to this small park area is a curved section of brick wall which serves as an entryway to the park; centered in this wall is a concrete slab in which is inscribed

"FAIRMOUNT HEIGHTS
TOWN OF".

Significance:

The World War II Monument is an important landmark in the community. It was erected in November 1946 to honor the citizens of Fairmount Heights who had served in the armed forces during World War II. It stands on the lot where, in 1909, had stood the dwelling of Reverend Joshua Barnes in which early Methodist services were held. After the death of Reverend Barnes, Grace Methodist Church was built at its present location a short distance northwest on 59th Avenue (Fairmount Avenue). The monument, together with the curved wall and grassy park area, serves as a handsome entryway into the town from Eastern Avenue. Like the similar monument at one of the entrances to the town of Seat Pleasant, this World War II monument is a noticeable landmark in the town of Fairmount Heights.

Acreage: 3,640 square feet

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic World War II Monument

and/or common

2. Location

street & number corner of 59th Ave & 59th Place not for publication

city, town Fairmount Heights vicinity of congressional district 5

state MD 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"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input checked="" 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 Mayor & Council of Fairmount Heights

street & number 717 60th Place telephone no.:

city, town Fairmount Heights state and zip code MD 20743

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number 14735 Main Street folio

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<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 World War II Monument stands inside the corner of 59th Avenue and 59th Place (originally Fairmount Avenue and Belmont Avenue). It was erected in 1946 on Lot 31 of Block E of the Fairmount Heights subdivision, which was platted in 1900.

This is a tall slim monument, constructed of blocks of gray granite and orange sandstone, in random arrangement. The principal section of the monument is a slim pyramid, rising from a square base of the same random stone construction. The base rests on a single wide course of granite; a similar course of granite forms a line of demarcation between the base and the pyramid, and two more courses form horizontal lines of decoration in the pyramid itself. The monument is surmounted by a single block of granite in the form of a pyramid itself.

On each face of the square base is a projecting rectangular panel, and to each panel is attached an inscribed copper plate (the east plate is missing). On the south (principal) plate is inscribed

"In honor of the men and women of
Fairmount Heights who served in World
War II"

"Erected in November 1946 by the
Monument Memorial Committee"

Officials of the town are listed in this principal text; these names include Mr. and Mrs. Malkiah Charity, James Campbell, Mayor, and Doswell Brooks, member of Town Council.

The triangular lot has been made into a small park with shrubs and benches, enclosed by chain link fence. At the south entrance to this small park area is a curved section of brick wall which serves as an entryway to the park; centered in this wall is a concrete slab in which is inscribed

"FAIRMOUNT HEIGHTS
TOWN OF".

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 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 1946 **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.

The World War II Monument is an important landmark in the community. It was erected on a very visible lot in the Fairmount Heights subdivision.

The Town of Fairmount Heights is located just outside the easternmost point of the District of Columbia in Prince George's County, Maryland; it is composed of a group of early twentieth-century subdivisions that form one of the earliest planned communities for blacks in the Washington, D. C., area. The community began with the Fairmount Heights subdivision in 1900, followed by five adjoining subdivisions, the last being Sylvan Vista platted in 1923. The Town was incorporated in 1935, and grew steadily through the years before World War II.

The land which was to become Fairmount Heights consisted, during the late nineteenth century, principally of parts of the small farms of John H. Wilson, John and Caroline Silence, Samuel Hoover, Mosby Brown and John Wiessner, all clustered around the east corner of the District of Columbia. In the early years of the twentieth century, these farms were bought up and subdivided by land speculators, who then began to sell individual lots to black families, most of whom worked in the District of Columbia.

The first section of Fairmount Heights was subdivided in 1900 by Robinson White and Allen Clark (both white men) out of parts of several small farms which they had purchased from the Wilson, Godfrey, Belt and Lee families. Robinson White was a lawyer and developer who resided in the District of Columbia; Allen C. Clark was a lawyer and manager of the Equitable Life Insurance Company of Washington, D. C. White and Clark had approximately fifty acres surveyed by County Surveyor Edward L. Latimer, and laid out in lots and streets radiating

from the northeast boundary of the District of Columbia. The deep, narrow lots were generally 25 by 125 feet; two of the streets were named for these first two developers. Sale of lots began almost immediately, and within a few years, dwellings were constructed and a community began to form.

From the beginning, blacks were encouraged to buy lots and settle in the new community. White and Clark sold the lots at relatively low prices, making home ownership finally attainable for black families. Most of the earliest purchasers of lots worked for government agencies; many built their own houses, or relied on friends and family to help with construction. Many families were quick to seize the opportunity to move out of the city, determined to progress, by hard work and amid healthful surroundings, toward a better life. By the time of incorporation in 1935, Fairmount Heights was a growing and active community.

The subject monument was erected in November 1946 to honor the citizens of Fairmount Heights who had served in the armed forces during World War II. It stands on the lot where, in 1909, had stood the dwelling of Reverend Joshua Barnes in which early Methodist services were held. After the death of Reverend Barnes, Grace Methodist Church was built at its present location a short distance northwest on 59th Avenue (Fairmount Avenue).

The monument, together with the curved wall and grassy park area, serves as a handsome entryway into the town from Eastern Avenue. Like the similar monument at one of the entrances to the town of Seat Pleasant, this World War II monument is a noticeable landmark in the town of Fairmount Heights.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. PG#72-9-29

- Interview with Margaret Brooks (Councilwoman)

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property 3640 sq ft

Quadrangle name Washington East

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

TM 65, FH Blk E, lot 31

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 Susan G. Pearl, Research/Architectural Historian

Prince George's County

organization Historic Preservation Commission date June 1991

street & number c/o M-NCPPC, 4th floor CAB telephone 301-952-3521

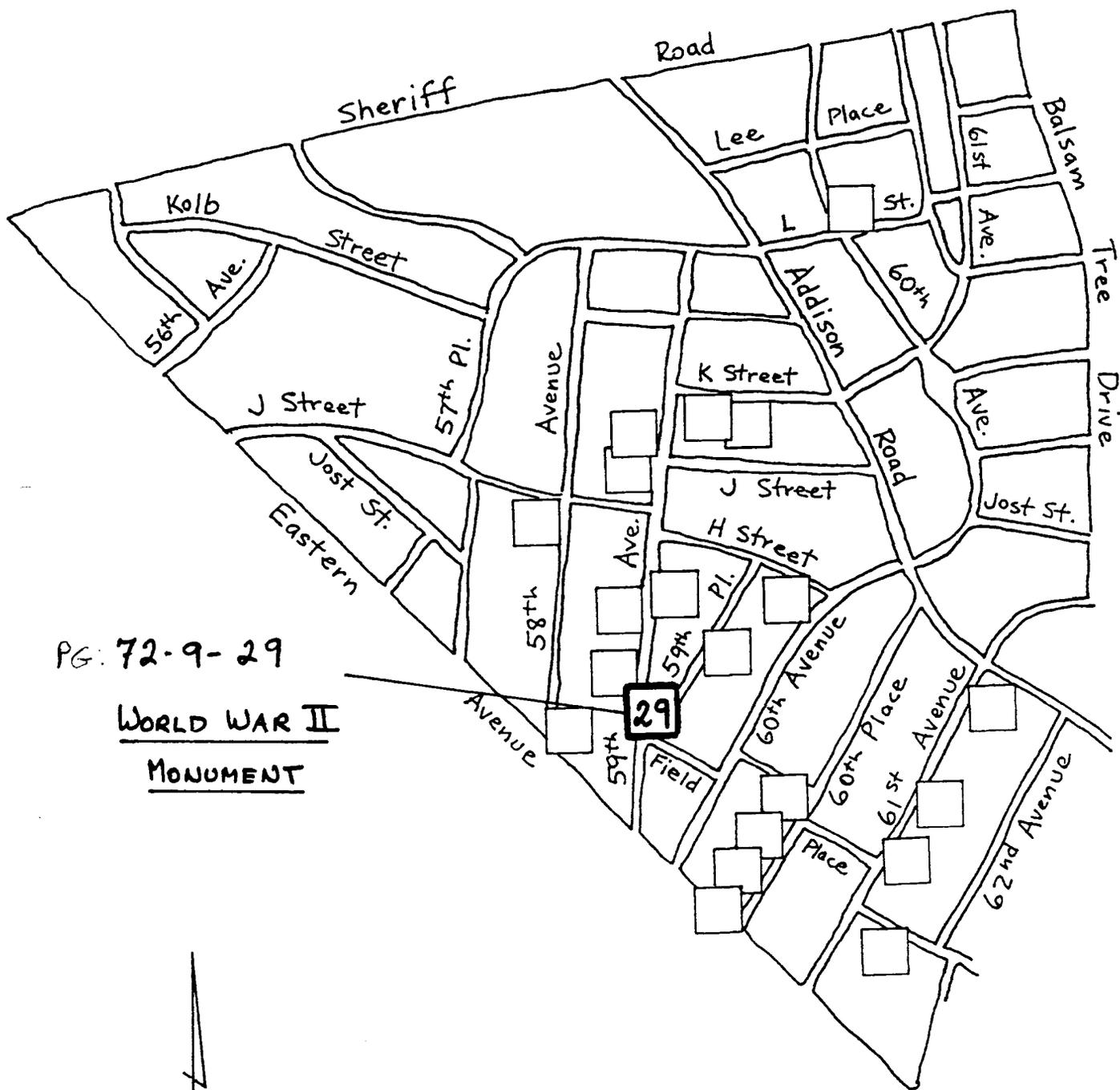
city or town Upper Marlboro state MD 20772

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

Town of Fairmount Heights



PG: 72-9-29

WORLD WAR II
MONUMENT





DISTRICT HEIGHTS 2.3 MI
UPPER MARLBORO 11 MI

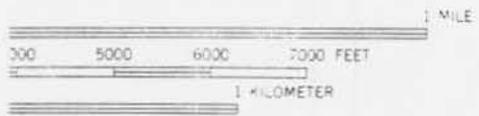
55'

334

335000m E

INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WASHINGTON D.C. - 1971

76



PG: 72-9-29
72-9-29

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

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

0 FEET
LEVEL
ATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
DATE: 1971



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

WASHINGTON EAST, MD. - D. C.
N3852.5 - W7652.5/7.5

ACCURACY STANDARDS
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
MBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

1965
PHOTOREVISED 1971
AMS 5661 IV NW - SERIES V833



World War II Monument

(FA E.31)

Shermont Heights
Prince Georges County, MD

Susan H. Pearl

February 1991

Southwest view

Ref: MH 7