

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #81B-3 Building Date: 1884  
Building Name: Thrift Schoolhouse  
Location: 11810 Tippet Road, Clinton, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description:

The Thrift schoolhouse is a one-story frame gable-roofed structure, a typical one-room schoolhouse of the late nineteenth century. The principal front is the south, with the entrance centered in the south gable end. The sides of the building are two bays long with 6/6 windows. The building is covered with German siding, painted white; cornerposts, cornices, and door and window surrounds are painted dark green, as is the metal roof. There is a central brick chimney at the ridge; the foundations are brick piers. The original interior consisted of an entry vestibule on the south, with one large classroom taking up the remainder of the space. Modern partitions now divide the vestibule into three sections, in parts of which the old wainscoting survives. The original classroom has been divided into four rooms, and a door has been cut into the north bay of the west facade.

Significance:

The Thrift schoolhouse is one of the oldest surviving schoolhouses in Prince George's County, and, although altered to serve as a dwelling, still retains much of its original appearance. It was built by J.B. Townshend in 1884, and replaced the first schoolhouse (1868) on the same site, a one-acre parcel which had been taken by the Board of School Commissioners from the large Bryan farm. Thrift School was closed in 1909, and sold by the Commissioners; in 1928 it was purchased by Rebecca Berger, and in 1962, the Berger heirs sold ca. 500 acres, including the school lot, to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, to become the Clinton Regional Park. The schoolhouse, soon after its closing, was converted into a dwelling. In spite of these alternations, it still retains the exterior appearance of a typical late nineteenth century schoolhouse. With the exception of the Bladensburg schoolhouse (1873), which no longer retains its schoolhouse appearance, the Thrift school is probably the oldest surviving schoolhouse in Prince George's County.

Acreeage: 1.12 acres

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic School #2, Ninth District

and/or common Thrift School House

## 2. Location

street & number 11810 Tippet Road  not for publication

city, town Clinton  vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county P.G.

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input 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 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 Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (tenant: Wilbur Johnson)

street & number 6600 Kenilworth Avenue telephone no.:

city, town Riverdale, state and zip code Md. 20737

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. P.G. County Courthouse liber 323

street & number Main Street folio 462

city, town Upper Marlboro, state Md.

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title P.G. County Inventory of Historic Sites

date 1974  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records History Division, MNCPPC

city, town Riverdale, state Md.

# 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	X <input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	X <input 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 Thrift schoolhouse is a one-story frame gable-roofed structure, a typical one-room schoolhouse of the late nineteenth century. The principal front is the south, with the entrance (a replacement door) centered in the south gable end. The sides of the building are two bays long with 6/6 windows. The building is covered with German siding, painted white; corneposts, cornices, and door and window surrounds are painted dark green, as is the metal roof. There is a central brick chimney at the ridge; the foundations are brick piers.

The original interior consisted of an entry vestibule on the south, with one large classroom taking up the remainder of the space. After the closing of the school in 1909, it was converted into a residence. Modern partitions now divide the vestibule into three sections, in parts of which the old wainscoting survives. The original classroom has been divided into four rooms, and a door has been cut into the north bay of the west facade.

# 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 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) local history
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1884 **Builder/Architect** J.B. Townshend

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 Thrift schoolhouse is one of the oldest surviving schoolhouses in Prince George's County, and although altered to serve as a dwelling, still retains much of its original appearance. The first school on its site was begun in 1868, and was designated School house #2 (for white students) in Surratts District #9. It was constructed on an acre of the Bryan family property, condemned for the purpose of a school site. Susannah Bryan received \$50 in damages in 1872, although the schoolhouse had been completed by February of 1869.<sup>1</sup>

Thrift schoolhouse was rebuilt in 1884. A contract for rebuilding the schoolhouse was awarded to J.B. Townshend; at the end of October 1884, Townshend was paid the \$495 which he charged for building the school. It is Townshend's school structure which, with some alterations, stands today.<sup>2</sup>

During subsequent years, improvements and repairs to Thrift schoolhouse were documented in the School Commissioners journals. In September 1892, Thrift School received \$10 for its library, to match a similar amount already raised. Repairs to the wood house and the schoolhouse itself were ordered in 1903. In 1905, the school trustees were authorized to construct a water closet, and in the same year, a typewriter was purchased for the school, both significant innovations.<sup>3</sup>

By early 1909, however, consideration was given to the construction of a new school building in another location. A site was chosen on the road between Surrattsville and Piscataway, which was more accessible to the local population, and Thrift school was closed. The schoolhouse and 1.12 acres were sold by the School Commissioners in January 1911 to William Marbury. In 1928, Marbury sold the school lot to Rebecca Berger, who had earlier purchased Bryan Hall, the 769 acre adjoining tract from which the school lot had been taken more than a half century before. All of this land, including the school lot, was conveyed to Mrs. Berger's heirs; they in 1962 conveyed ca. 500 acres of the Berger farm, formerly known as Bryan Hall, to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, to be known as Clinton Regional Park.<sup>4</sup>

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. 81B-3

See notes, Item 8  
and chain of title

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1.12 acres, part of 474 acre tract

Quadrangle name Piscataway, Section B

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"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

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 Shirley Baltz/Susan Pearl, Research Historians

organization	<u>Historic Preservation Commission</u>	date	<u>December 1984</u>
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street & number	<u>c/o County Planning, MNCPPC</u>	telephone	<u>952-3521</u>
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city or town	<u>Upper Marlboro,</u>	state	<u>Md.</u>
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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

## 8. Continued

The schoolhouse itself, soon after its closing, was converted into a residence, and has for nearly 60 years been the home of a family which worked on the Berger farm. In spite of the alterations which have made it a livable dwelling, it still retains the appearance of a typical late nineteenth century schoolhouse. With the exception of the Bladensburg schoolhouse (1873), which no longer retains its schoolhouse appearance, the Thrift school is probably the oldest surviving schoolhouse in Prince George's County.

## Notes:

- 1 Journal of the Board of County School Commissioners, Vol. I, p. 12-34
- 2 Ibid pp. 195-204
- 3 Ibid pp. 310, 406, 496; and Vol II
- 4 Journal Vol. II pp. 140-147, p. 176; P.G. County Deed #69:404,  
#323:462

1703544904  
P.A. 81B-3

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:

AND/OR HISTORIC: School House on Thrift Road

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Thrift Road and Tippet Road

CITY OR TOWN: Clinton

STATE: Maryland COUNTY: Prince George's

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring STATE: Maryland

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: None

DATE OF SURVEY:

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  Federal  State  County  Local

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
	(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 building is an A-roofed frame structure with the entrance in the gable ends. There are two windows on each sidewall. The chimney is centrally positioned.

It is now a residence.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian
- 15th Century
- 16th Century
- 17th Century
- 18th Century
- 19th Century
- 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |                                       |   |  |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input type="checkbox"/> Education    | <input type="checkbox"/> Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering  | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry     | losophy                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention    | <input type="checkbox"/> Science        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature   | itarian                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military     | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   | <input type="checkbox"/> Music        | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

[Empty space for Statement of Significance]

SEE INST )UCTIONS

**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	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

**Acreage Justification:**

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: M-NCPPC      DATE: 1 Aug 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

Chain of Title

Thrift Schoolhouse  
P.G. #81B-3

#2854:160 19 July 1963 Deed	Olive B. Berger, widow of Andrew Berger, by her attorney, and W.M. Miller and G.B. Berger, Jr., trustees, to M-NCPPC; 250 acres, Parcel B, part of 769-acre tract conveyed to Rebecca B. Berger by #98:463 and including 1.12 acres, Thrift School Lot, conveyed to Rebecca B. Berger by #323:462.
#2348:154 24 June 1959 Deed	Margaret B. Berger, widow of George B. Berger, to Willis M. Miller and George B. Berger, Jr.; conveyance to set up trust for her heirs; her undivided 1/2 half interest in 769 acres acquired by Rebecca B. Berger by #98:463 and 1.12 acres R.B. Berger acquired by #323:462.
#391:188 30 Dec. 1932 Deed	Rebecca B. Berger of Pittsburgh to Andrew B. Berger and Olive, his wife, and George B. Berger and Margaret, his wife; 769 acres known as Bryan Hall and 1.12 acres, the Thrift School Lot; same which grantor acquired by #98:463 and #323:462.
#323:462 19 June 1928 Deed	William L. Marbury and his wife to Rebecca B. Berger; Thrift School Lot containing 1.12 acres; same as grantors acquired by #69:404.
#69:404 31 Jan 1911 Deed	County School Commissioners of Prince George's County to William L. Marbury of Baltimore; 1.12 acres, Thrift School Lot; same which grantors acquired by Writ of Condemnation.
Writ of Condemnation 21 Mar 1872	County School Commissioners of Prince George's County condemned 1 acre out of the real estate of William Bryan of Richard, left to his widow, Susannah Bryan; "the ground on a part of which stands School House No. 2 in the 9th Election District."
Journal of Proceedings (1865-1903) 1/3/1870	Secretary authorized to institute legal proceedings in regard to a school house site near Fendall Marbury's in 9th Election District.

ED 9  
ED 5

WARD  
0341

PAR. 'A  
7956

O-S

MAP 125-P.110

8512

OUT-  
LOT

R-S

R-A

PG 81B-3

ROAD

THRIFT

THRIFT

29 A  
P 62

18

R-A

8631

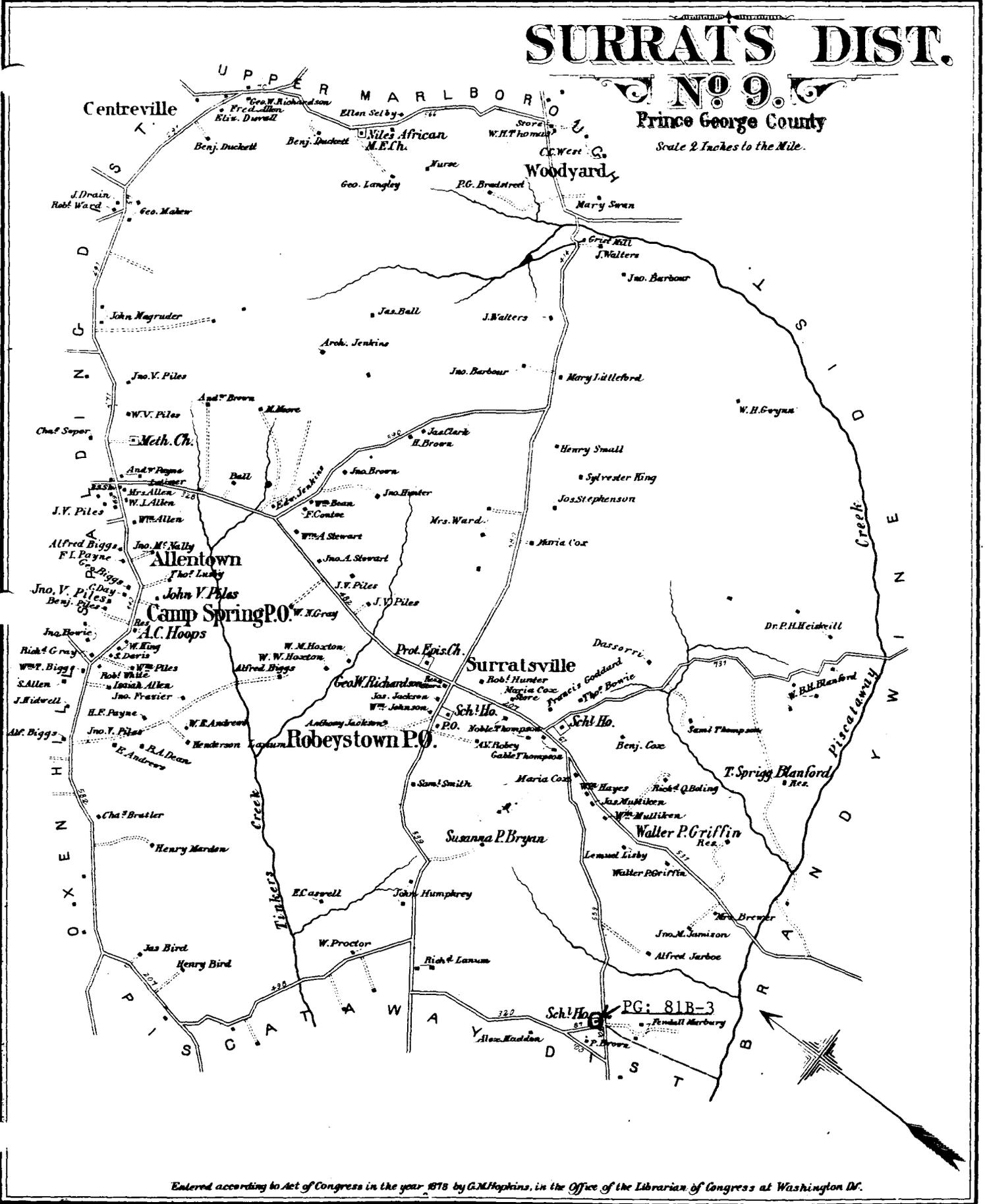
GERALD T. DUNPHY  
4900 367  
50 00A  
P 68

# SURRATS DIST.

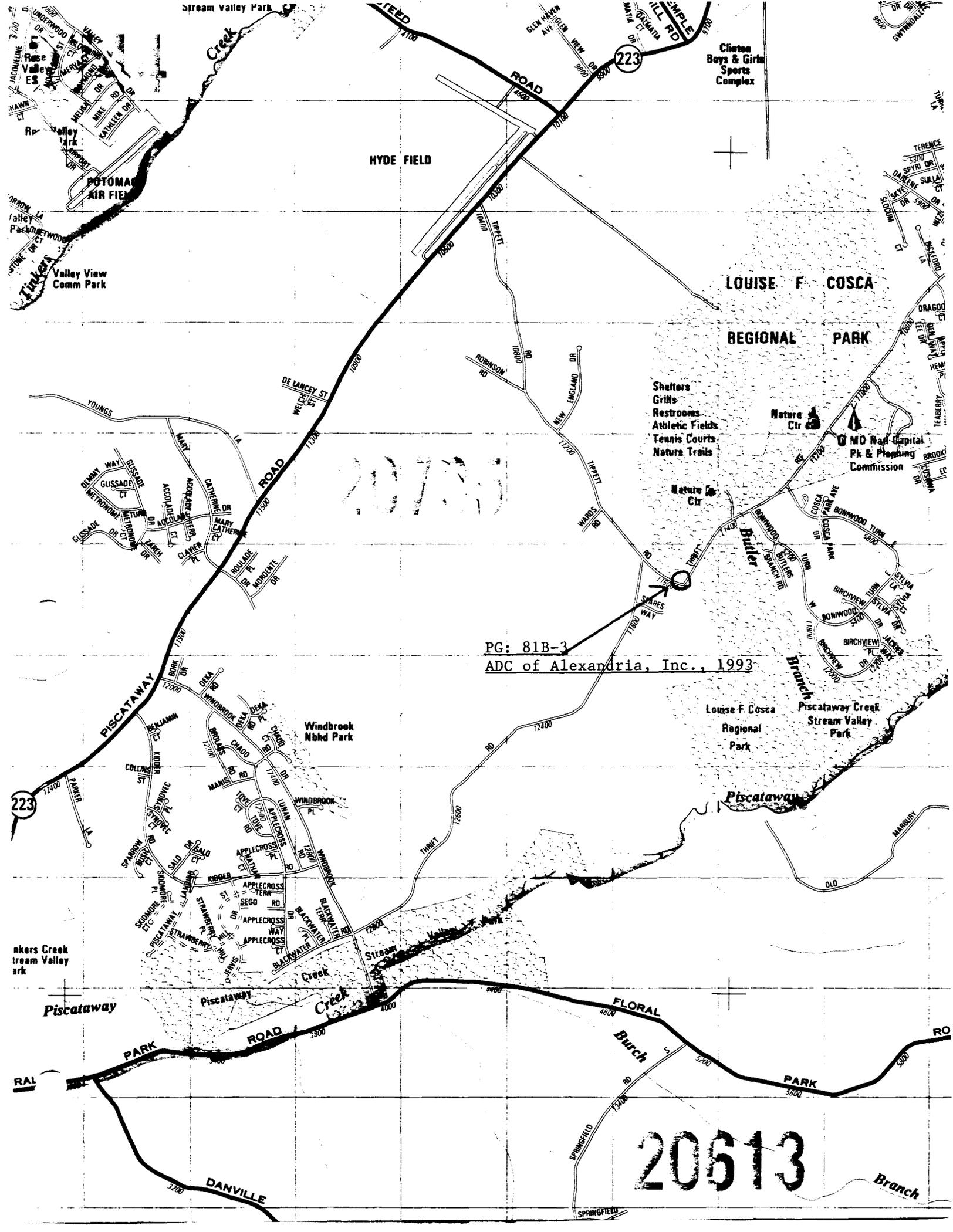
## No. 9.

Prince George County

Scale 2 Inches to the Mile.



Entered according to Act of Congress in the year 1878 by G.M. Hopkins, in the Office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington D.C.



Clinton Boys & Girls Sports Complex

HYDE FIELD

LOUISE F. COSCA

REGIONAL PARK

Shelters  
Grills  
Restrooms  
Athletic Fields  
Tennis Courts  
Nature Trails

MD Nat'l Capital  
Pk & Planning  
Commission

PG: 81B-3  
ADC of Alexandria, Inc., 1993

20700

20613

POTOMAC AIR FIELD

Valley View Comm Park

Windbrook Nbd Park

Louise F. Cosca Regional Park

Piscataway Creek Stream Valley Park

Inkers Creek Stream Valley Park

Piscataway

PARK

ROAD

Creek

FLORAL

Burch

PARK

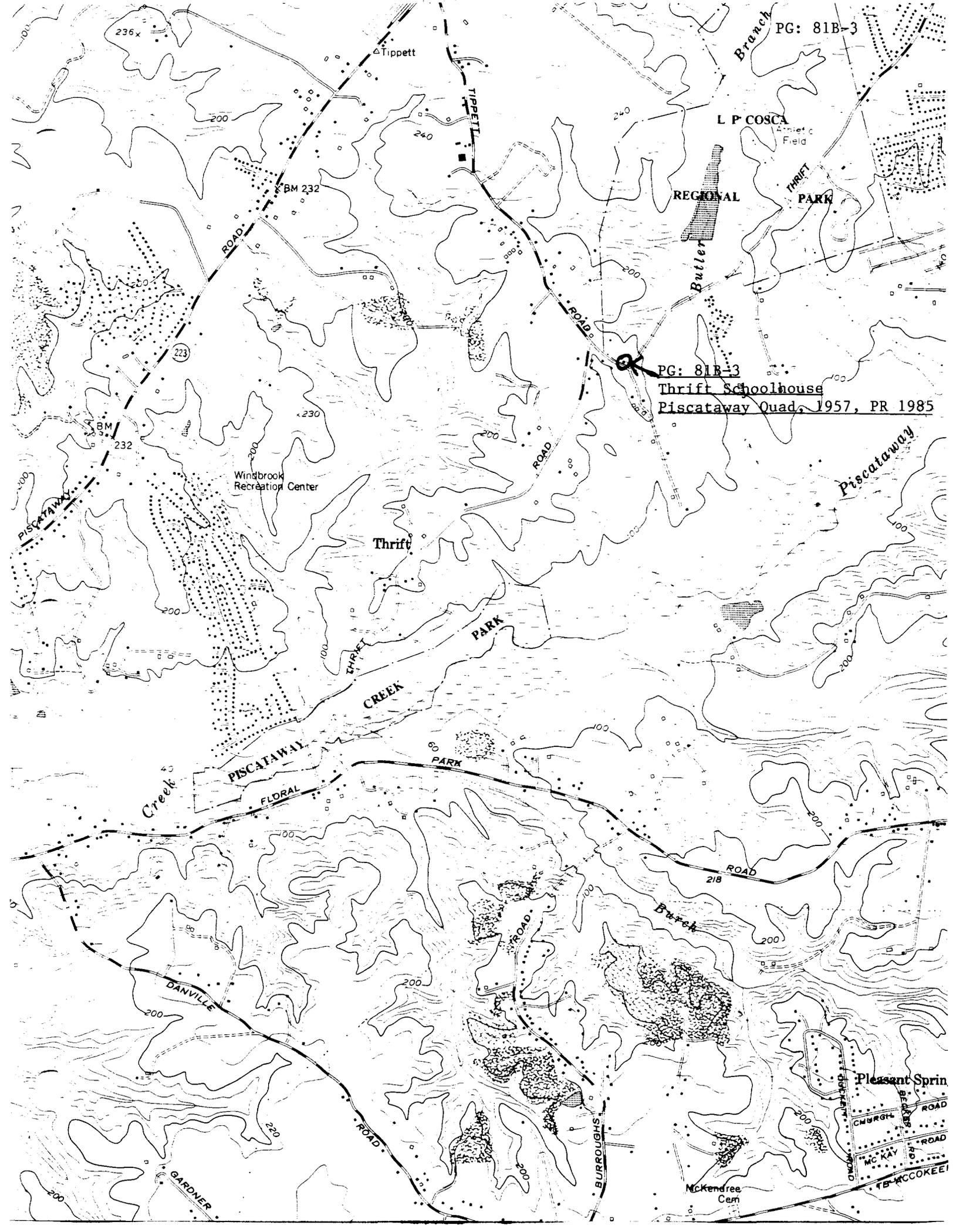
Branch

RAL

DANVILLE

SPRINGFIELD

SPRINGFIELD



PG: 81B-3

L P COSCA  
Thrift Field

REGIONAL  
THRIFT PARK

Butler

PG: 81B-3  
Thrift Schoolhouse  
Piscataway Quad, 1957, PR 1985

Piscataway

Thrift

PARK

CREEK

PISCATAWAY  
FLORAL

PARK

ROAD  
218

Burck

DANVILLE

GARDNER

Pleasant Spring

McKendree  
Cem

BURCK  
ROAD  
ROAD  
MC KAY  
TB MCCOKEE



NAME SCHOOL HOUSE (MNCAPC) # 81B-3  
LOCATION TIPPETT + THRIFT Rds. CLINTON, MD  
FACADE S  
PHOTO TAKEN 8/1/74 MDWYER



P.G. #81B-3

Thrift Schoolhouse

Prince George's County, MD.

Susan G. Pearl

December 1984

Southeast 3/4 elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G.#81B-3

Thrift Schoolhouse

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

December 1984

Southwest 3/4 elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G.#81B-3

Thrift Schoolhouse

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

December 1984

Northeast 3/4 elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD