

Capsule Summary  
SM-837  
37545 Paul Ellis Road  
Avenue  
Private

circa 1914

Located on the south side of the narrow rural road, the house at 37545 Paul Ellis Road is a two story, single pile, frame dwelling constructed circa 1914. Situated just west of the crossroads community of Avenue, Maryland the house represents a once common building type that is increasingly becoming rare. Nestled along a wooded series of parcels owned by African-Americans, the house is the last that retains architectural integrity. This important tie to early twentieth century African-American life, should be further researched and documented.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. SM-837

## 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other 37545 Paul Ellis Road

## 2. Location

street and number 37545 Paul Ellis Road \_\_ not for publication

city, town Avenue x\_ vicinity

county St. Mary's

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

name Cora M. Dyson

street and number 37545 Paul Ellis Road telephone N/a

city, town Avenue state Md zip code 20609

## 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse tax map and parcel TM-46, P-215

city, town Leonardtown liber 157 folio 125

## 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	1	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	_____	_____
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	1	_____
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
				<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b>	
				0	

---

## 7. Description

Inventory No. SM-837

---

### Condition

excellent       deteriorated  
 good             ruins  
 fair               altered

---

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

The house at 37545 Paul Ellis Road is situated on the south side of the road near the rural crossroads community of Avenue, Maryland. Consisting of three acres, the parcel is distinguished by its wooded location although the yard immediately to the north of the house is relatively clear. Oriented on a north/south axis, the house stands only about fifty feet from the road. The property is bounded to the east by a residential lot, to the south and west by wooded parcels, and to the north by Paul Ellis Road.

The dwelling at 37545 Paul Ellis Road is a circa 1914, two-story, two bay, single pile plan house with a gable roof and a one-story wing. The exterior walls are clad with faux brick asbestos shingles and the roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles. One interior end chimney flue is visible in the main block.

The first floor of the primary or north elevation is probably pierced on the first floor by a door and window. Unfortunately, a screened-in porch obscures this view. Two, two-over-two, double-hung sash windows, however, pierce the second floor. The wing's fenestration consists of a two-over-two window and a door.

No other elevations were observed at the time of the visit.

# 8. Significance

Inventory No. SM-837

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**Specific dates**

**Architect/Builder**

**Construction dates**

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Located on the south side of the narrow rural road, the house at 37545 Paul Ellis Road is a two story, single pile, frame dwelling constructed circa 1914. Situated just west of the crossroads community of Avenue, Maryland the house represents a once common building type that is increasingly becoming rare. Nestled along a wooded series of parcels owned by African-Americans, the house is the last that retains architectural integrity. This important tie to early twentieth century African-American life, should be further researched and documented.

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. SM-837

---

Hammett, Regina Combs. History of St. Mary's County, Maryland: 1634-1990. Ridge, Md: Self-published, 1994.

---

## 10. Geographical Data

---

Acreage of surveyed property 3 acres  
Acreage of historical setting same  
Quadrangle name Rock Point Quadrangle scale: 1:24 000

---

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The property is bounded to the east by a residential lot, to the south and west by wooded parcels, and to the north by Paul Ellis Road. A more specific description of the properties boundaries can be found in St. Mary's County Land Records Liber 157, Folio 125.

---

## 11. Form Prepared by

---

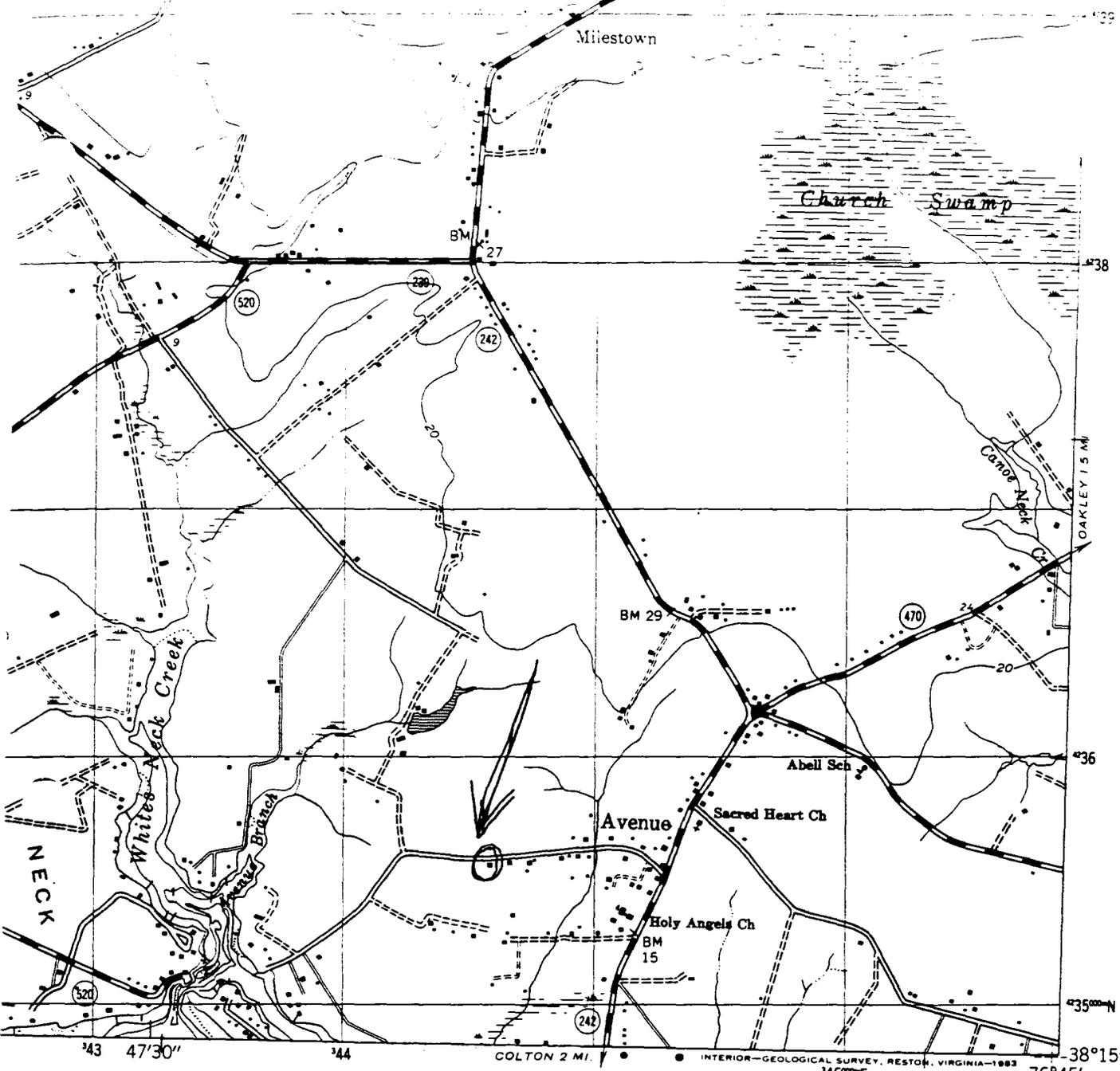
name/title	Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	St. Mary's County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	August, 2000
street & number	22740 Washington Street	telephone	301-475-4662
city or town	Leonardtown	state	Maryland

---

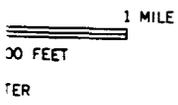
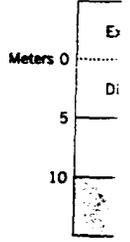
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

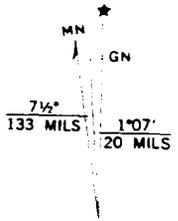
return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600



To curve multiply  
To curve multiply



**ROAD CLASSIFICATION**  
 Medium-duty ————— Light-duty —————  
 Unimproved dirt = = = = =  
 ○ State Route



**ROCK POINT, MD.**  
 38076-C7-TB-024

1943  
 PHOTOREVISED 1974

SM-837  
 37545 Paul Ellis Road  
 Avenue  
 St. Mary's County  
 Rock Point Quad

UTM GRID AND 1974 MAGNETIC NORTH-DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

VIRGINIA 22092  
 WEST

ST. CLEMENTS ISLAND  
 5680' N.W.



SM-837

37545 Paul Ellis Rd

St. Mary's County

Kirk Ranzetta

Sept/00

Md SHPO

Looking S

1 of 1