

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Property Name: 5 - 7 South Main Street Inventory Number: WA-II-768

Address: 5 - 7 South Main Street, Boonsboro, Maryland

Owner: Beth Lowry

Tax Parcel Number: 798 Tax Map Number: 601

Project: Boonsboro Streetscape - WA960A21 Agency: Maryland State Highway Administration

Site visit by: John Milner Associates, Inc. Staff: no  yes

Name: Kerri Culhane and Rachel Mancini Date: June 1999

Eligibility recommended  Eligibility not recommended

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

Is property located within a historic district?  no  yes Name of district: Town of Boonsboro

Is district listed?  no  yes

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Boonsboro Streetscape, Alternate US 40: MD 68 to East of Mousetown Road, Washington County, Maryland, SHA Report 215 (JMA 1999) and Final Report: Architectural and Cultural Survey of Boonsboro and Clear Spring, MD (Mueller 1992).

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

This two-story, one-bay, frame, commercial building is sheathed in cast-iron paneling. The first-floor incorporates two single-leaf, half-glass doors flanking a polygonal plate-glass show window. The second floor features an oriel window with 1/1 wood sash windows centered on the facade. Behind the bracketed cornice is a shed roof. The cast iron fabricator's marks are partially obscured by modern concrete steps, but what is visible reads: "Geo. L. Mesker & Co./Ironworks/Evansville". This building has the appearance of an late-nineteenth or early-twentieth-century commercial building. It is a contributing resource in the Town of Boonsboro Historic District.

Prepared by: Kerri Culhane, John Milner Associates, Inc., VA

<b>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW</b>	
Eligibility recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: _____	
_____ Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>4/20/99</u> Date
_____ Reviewer, NR program	<u>10/12/00</u> Date

37147

**PRESERVATION VISION 2000; THE MARYLAND PLAN  
STATEWIDE HISTORIC CONTEXTS**

**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:**

- 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. Historic Period Themes:**

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

**IV. Resource Type:**

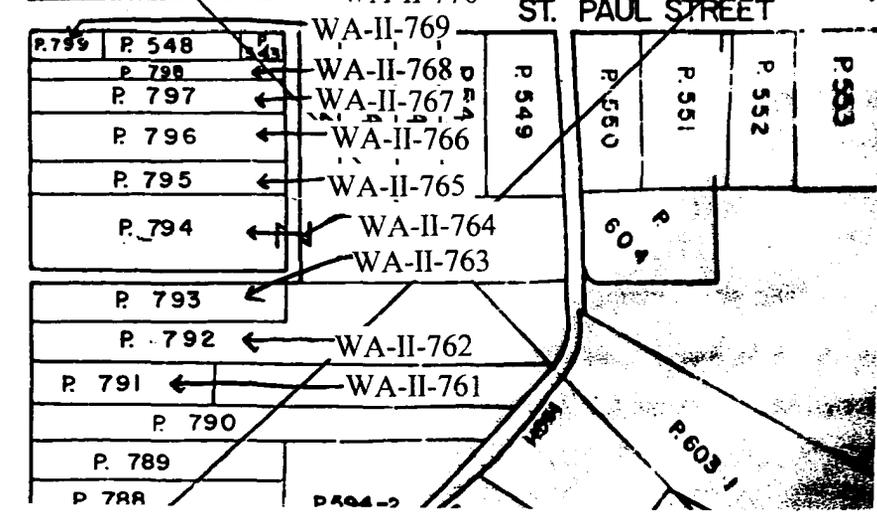
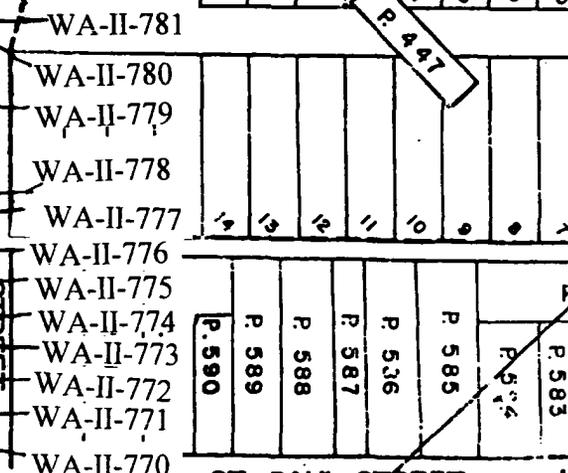
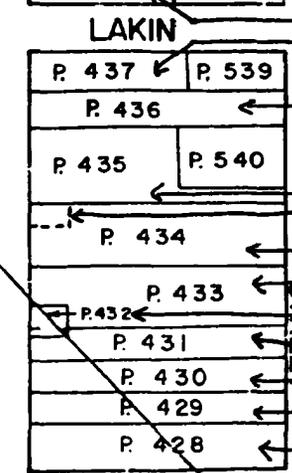
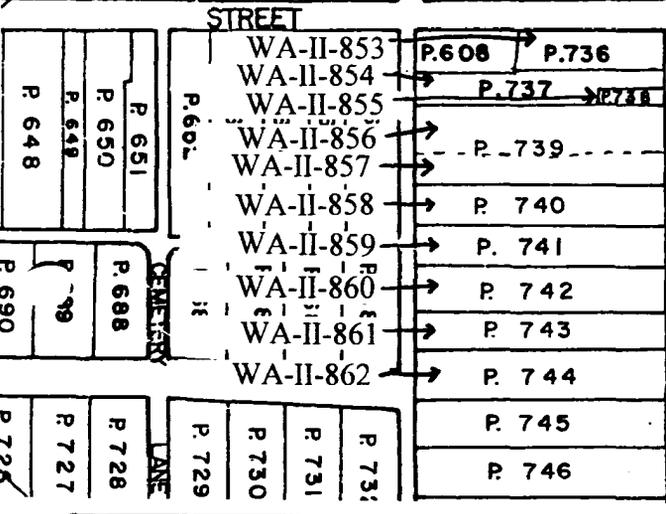
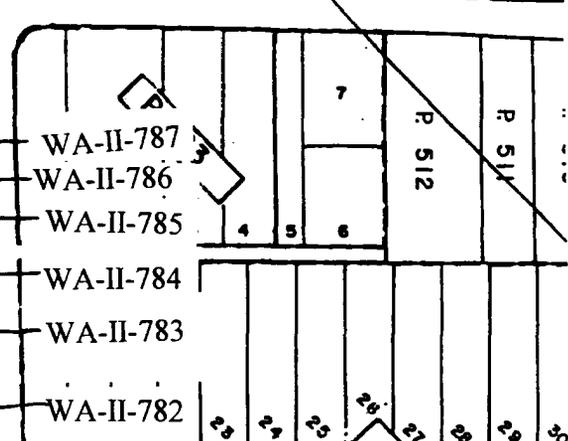
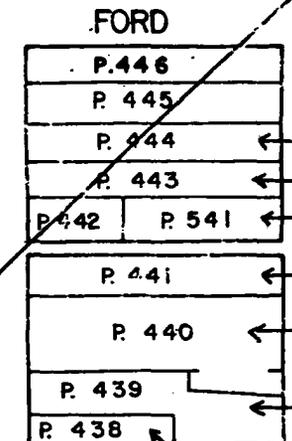
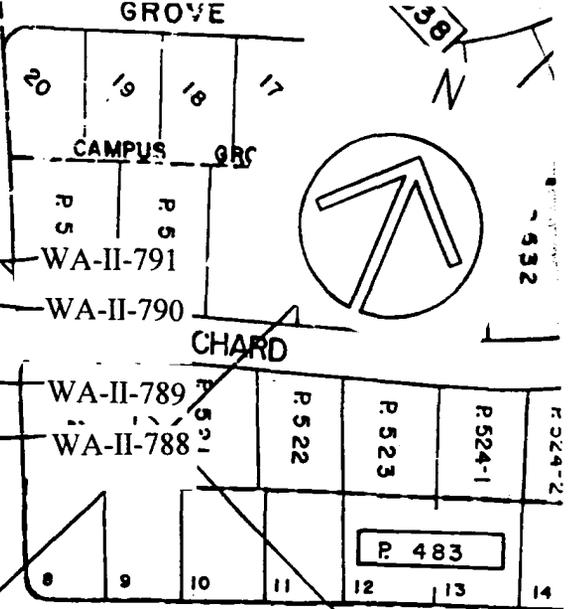
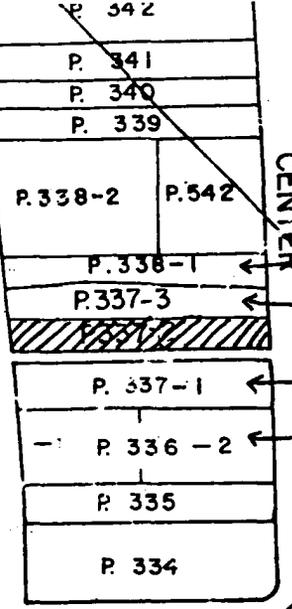
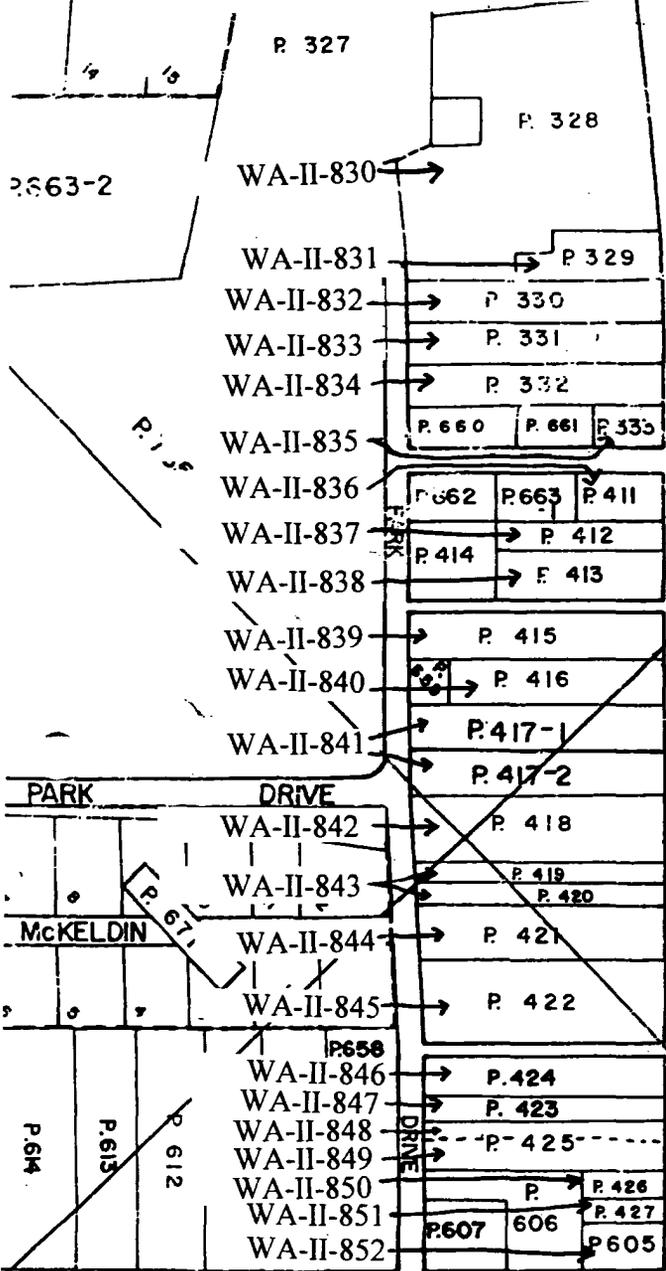
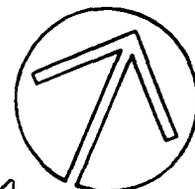
Category: Building  
Historic Environment: Village  
Historic Function(s) and Use(s): COMMERCE/TRADE/department store  
Known Design Source: none

STOUFFER AVE.

Portion of Washington Co., MD Tax Map 601 showing the location of WA-II-768 (Parcel 798), 5-7 South Main Street, Boonsboro, MD

GROVE

387





WA-11-768

5-7 S. Main St.

Boonsboro, Washington Co, MD

Kerri Culhane

6/1999

neg: MD SHPO

west elevation, main building



WA-11-768

5.7 S. Main St.

Boonsboro, Washington Co., MD

Kerri Culhane

6/1999

neg: MD SHPO

looking SE, main building



WA-11-768

5-7 S. Main St.

Boonsboro, Washington Co. MD

Kerri Culhane

6/1999

neg. MD S&P

East elevation, main house

SITE NUMBER: WA-II-768  
ADDRESS: 5-7 South Main Street, Boonsboro, MD  
OWNER/LOT NUMBER/ACCESS: Victory Baptist Church  
BUILDING DATE: mid 19th century, pre-1877

5-7 South Main Street is a west-facing, vertically massed, two-story, two-bay, frame, attached, commercial structure. The building, which is set directly at the public-right-of-way, has an ornamental cast iron facade. One pilaster is marked "GEO.L.MESKER & CO. IRON-WORK EVENVIL." The remaining letters are obscured by a railing. The ornamental iron patterns are similar to ones found in the porticos of other houses in Boonsboro. The side elevations are faced with brick and the front is covered with stucco in those areas where there is no cast iron. The first floor has two recessed doors that flank a projecting bay show window. The doors have large panes of glass above two horizontal raised and recessed panels. Each door is topped by a single-light transom. The second floor has a large octagonal oriel window with double-hung panes. A bracketed cornice crowns the composition.

According to Doug Bast, this building rests on original lot 32 that was purchased by John Bronton in 1793 (Liber H, Folio 157). A building of similar configuration is noted on the 1877 map of the town on a property that was owned by G.W. Hoffman. The atlas notes that Hoffman was a "Dealer in Pure Drugs, Chemicals, Medicines, Dye Stuffs, Perfumery, Toilet Soaps, Paints, Oils, Varnishes, Lamps and Chimneys, Coal Oil, Fine Family Groceries, Writing Paper, Pens, Ink, Pencils, &c." The 1897 and 1904 Sanborns number the building as 333 Main Street and notes that a tailor occupied the structure. The 1910 Sanborn has the post office occupying the structure. The 1924 and 1940 Sanborns indicate that the structure was occupied by

a store. Two historic photographs from the 1910s indicate that the cast iron facade was applied during that decade. The earlier photograph shows the building prior to the remodeling. At that time it was covered with weatherboarding and had a roofline that was lower than 1 S. Main, its neighbor to the north. The second photograph shows the remodeled structure with Galor's Meat Market being the tenant.

The building is within the Western Maryland Geographic Organization, the probable Development Period of Industrial/Urban Dominance, and falls within the Historic Period Themes of Economic; and Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning.

Prepared by Julianne Mueller, July 1992





WA - II - 768

5-7 S. MAIN ST. BOONSBORO, WASH. CO.

12/91

JULIE MUELLER

LOOKING E