WA-V-206

Hornbaker Property

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

Last Updated: 03-21-2013
This two-story, frame structure served as a “Colored” school for the black children of the vicinity of Indian Springs from 1899, when Ann E. Williams sold the property to the Washington County School Board and the school was built, to 1914 when the school was closed and the property was sold at public auction. This land is associated with Nathan Williams, a black farmer, who owned Fort Frederick a historically significant stone walled fort important during the French and Indian War of the 18th century. The new owners in 1914 turned the school into a residence, thus hiding many of the schoolhouse features from the outside, but surprisingly much of the historic fabric on the inside remains intact. The State of Maryland bought the property in 1973 for inclusion into Fort Frederick State Park and it became a rental property shortly thereafter. Recently the property has been taken out of the State Forest and Parks rental house program and the status of the structure is still being decided.
1. **Name of Property**  
   (indicate preferred name)  
   - historic: Ft. Frederick "Colored" Schoolhouse  
   - other: Hornbaker Property

2. **Location**  
   street and number: 11100 Fort Frederick Road (house is just east of the State Park entrance)  
   city, town: Indian Springs  
   county: Washington

3. **Owner of Property**  
   (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)  
   name: Maryland Department of Natural Resources  
   street and number: Tawes State Office Bldg., 580 Taylor Ave.  
   telephone: (410) 260-8192  
   city, town: Annapolis  
   state: Maryland  
   zip code: 21401

4. **Location of Legal Description**  
   courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: Washington County Courthouse  
   tax map and parcel:  
   city, town: Hagerstown  
   liber: 562  
   folio: 616

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  
   - x Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
   - Other:  

6. **Classification**

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<tr>
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</table>

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory: 1
7. Description

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 Hornbaker Property is located off of Fort Frederick Road (MD route 56), within the vicinity of Indian Springs, Washington County, Maryland. The property is owned by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and is located within the boundaries of Fort Frederick State Park. The overall plan is “T”-shaped with a one-story section towards the east side of the house and a two-story section towards the west side of the house. This structure was once a schoolhouse that was later converted into a residence.

The north façade, which is the front entrance, faces Maryland route 56 and is about 25 feet from the road. There is a front porch that used to be open, but has recently been enclosed with floor to ceiling modern screens. The porch supports have been covered over from the outside, but from the inside the Victorian trim brackets and posts are clearly visible. Lath on the ceiling has been painted white and has not been plastered over. Two windows with 6/6 sash are situated between a paneled door with a large glass window set in the middle of the door. A transom window sits above this main door. A screened door covering the front door appears to be original fabric of the structure. Another door located on the west side of the porch accesses the two-story addition, and is identical in style and construction to the front door. Trim, including the architraves around all the doors and windows, is beaded and dates from the late 19th century.

The west facade faces a gravel road that leads to a vehicle turnaround and the maintenance shop of the State Park. This façade is part of the one-story original section of the house. Fenestration includes screen windows that are part of the front porch, two adjacent 1/1 wood sash windows, and then two French doors on the rear porch addition. A 1/1 wooden window is located in the gable end that is the attic storage space. The roofline follows a shed roof on the front porch, a pitched gable on the center section, and a gently sloping shed-roof on the rear addition. A wide overhang is exposed on this side of the house, however the overhang on the other side of this center section has been absorbed into later additions.

The south façade, which is the rear of the structure, has the porch addition with two adjacent wood windows including nine panes of glass for each window, a back door with a screen, and then another window similar to the other two. On the inside of the porch, what was once the outside façade, are three windows with 6/6 sash and a wooden paneled door that are identical to the ones on the front façade. On the western side is a modern door that leads into the kitchen area. Continuing on the outside of the façade from the first floor there is another 1/1 wood sash window, a window on the second floor above this, and a basement entrance on the western end near foundation level.

The western façade faces a wooded lot and encompasses the section of the house two-stories tall. On the first floor there are two windows, a small 1/1 sash on the south side of the façade, and then closer to the front is a larger 1/1 sash. On the second floor there are two small windows with 1/1 sash. All of these windows are wooden, with their trim painted hunter green like the rest of the house trim. An exterior brick flue bisects the façade and extends well above the pitch of the roof. A metal heating oil tank is nestled close to the façade wall.

The entire structure has been covered over with white metal siding, however the inside of the porches reveal wide wood clapboard siding which probably was the original siding material. The foundation, that which is visible, is a combination of stone covered over with concrete. Roofing material consists of asphalt shingles.

The layout of the interior, coming from the front porch centered doorway, consists of one large room (that which was the main schoolroom) and to the east there are two small side rooms with entrance doorways located off of the main room. Wainscoting extends around the whole perimeter of the large entrance room, however it is absent in the smaller rooms. A bracketed shelf, original fabric, still remains next to the front door. Continuing straight on through the main room is the rear porch addition. The two-story section of the house is accessible either from an outside door from the front porch, from a doorway in the main schoolroom, or from a doorway from the rear porch addition. If a person is entering the house from the side door on the front porch immediately in front of them is a bathroom, and then to the side are the stairs that lead up to a second floor consisting of two bedrooms and an attic crawl space. Continuing on the first floor, down the hallway from the side porch door entrance there is a storage space under the stairs, across from this is an open storage space, and then a doorway leading to the kitchen.
Judging from the trim and layout it is obvious that the original section of the house was once used as a schoolroom. This schoolroom would have included the front porch and the center room with the two side rooms. Also appearing to be original fabric is the western side of the structure including what is now the bathroom, and the stairway closets. The rear porch is an addition since the interior wall shows original fenestration and modern building materials were used in its construction. The kitchen, stairway and upper bedrooms may also be later additions.
8. Significance

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<th>Period</th>
<th>Areas of Significance</th>
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Specific dates: 1899 to 1914

Construction dates: 1899

Architect/Builder: unknown

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.)

The Hornbaker Property, a former rental house by the Department of Natural Resources, used to be known as the Fort Frederick "Colored" school. This school operated during the late Nineteenth Century and early Twentieth Century and was important for its role of educating black children in the Big Pool area, during a time when schools were racially segregated.

Ann E. Williams conveyed this land to the Washington County School Board on September 8, 1899 for construction of a school, and it consisted of ¼ an acre. This was the second location of the schoolhouse, however the original school location is uncertain. "On October 15, 1899, a contract was awarded to H.L. Powers to erect a new building at a cost of $218.75, but it was noted on Nov. 26 that the bond of Powers Bros. was not accepted because of no clear deed to the land. On Sept 22, 1899 the secretary was ordered to get from Alex Armstrong the release of the mortgage on the Williams lot at Fort Frederick. Commissioner Lesher was empowered to secure from H.L. Powers the bid to erect the new building. The examiner was ordered to send to John Myers the Williams Deed and ask him to incorporate the omitted name. Screens were ordered in Nov. 1899 and in December, a visit was made for inspection. When accepted the treasurer was to settle in full" (Article by Mrs. Ethel Bachtell).

Nathan Williams and his family, who were black farmers, owned Fort Frederick in the mid 19th century, however this Fort dates from the 18th century and is an important site of Maryland military history. During the French and Indian War the Governor, Horatio Sharpe, built the fort to protect the settlers living in the western parts of the State. This period was marked by intense fighting by the French and their Indian allies that resulted in many raids on settlers farmsteads. The Fort was constructed of stone with walls 17 feet tall, 4 feet thick at the base, and 2 feet thick at the top. During the uprising of Chief Pontiac and the western tribes the settlers in the area sought protection in the Fort. It began a new usage as a farm when the Maryland General Assembly sold it at public auction to Robert Johnson in 1791. The last time the Fort was used for military service was in the Civil War when in 1861 the First Maryland Regiment U.S.A. took up residence there and protected the Potomac River boundary. (McLaughin)

Some of the members of the Williams family were teachers at this "Colored" school, both at its original location, and after the new school was built. In the Annual Report of the Washington County Colored School Statistics-Attendance for the Year Ending July 31, 1890 the teacher for the Fort Frederick "Colored" School, listed as Number 11 in Election District 15, is Bettie Williams. "Charles Williams was the teacher until 1902 when Sadie B. Frame was appointed" (Article by Mrs. Ethel Bachtell). The school was ordered closed on a number of occasions during the early part of the Twentieth Century, "On April 16, 1907 the school was ordered closed because of low attendance....In Sept. 8, 1908 it re-opened but closed again April 1909. On Nov. 1, 1910, Lesher (Commissioner) was instructed to investigate expediency of transporting some black children near Big Pool to Williamsport or Clear Spring. On Nov. 18, 1913, the superintendent was ordered to have Attty A.C. Strite investigate the title and if found to belong outright to the county have the same advertised and sold at public auction. In Feb. 1914 Supt. Huyett was ordered to ratify the sale of same" (Article by Mrs. Ethel Bachtell).

O. Scott Snook and Catherine, his wife, bought the land from the Washington County School Board on March 24, 1914 and the structure was turned into a residence. In 1920 the State of Maryland bought Fort Frederick and 190 acres in order to create a State
Park. In 1973 the Hornbaker Property was bought by the State and the ¼ an acre of land was added to the park boundaries. Currently this structure has been taken out of the State Forest and Park Services rental house program, and its future status is pending.

This structure is important as an example of late 19th century architecture, however much of its historical importance lies in the fact that it was originally used as a “Colored” schoolroom in Washington County. Its association with the Williams family that owned Fort Frederick in the 19th Century only heightens its significance. The transformation of the schoolhouse in the early 20th century into a residence has hidden many of schoolhouse features from the outside, but surprisingly much of the historic fabric on the inside remain intact, such as the shelf and the wainscoting in the main room. All efforts should be undertaken to preserve this example of Washington County history.
Chain of Title

The State of Maryland bought the property from the Hornbakers for addition to Fort Frederick State Park on June 22, 1973. Liber 562/Folio 616.

The property, called “Johnson’s Lot”, was conveyed to Floyd N. and Gladys J. Hornbaker by the Sine’s on April 6, 1950. Liber 256/Folio 273.

Odis and Betty Sine bought the property on March 30, 1948 from the Hussong’s. Liber 246/Folio 274.

The Hussong’s, Russell J., and Olive M. (wife), bought the property from Omer T. Kaylor, an assignee for foreclosure, on November 10, 1947. Liber 244/Folio 373. They bought the property from Orville G. Shank and Catherine I. Shank (wife) who defaulted on their mortgage. The property was sold at public auction on October 14, 1947 and recorded in Liber 240/Folio 56.

Orville G. Shank and Catherine I. Shank bought the property from the Snook’s on May 3, 1946. Liber 235/Folio 470.

Norman J. Snook and Eva V. (wife) bought the property from the Mann’s on August 20, 1932. Liber 191/Folio 675.

Cleveland Mann and Fannie Mann (wife) bought the property from O. Scott Snook and Catherine V. Snook (wife) on March 26, 1920. Liber 158/Folio 181.

The Snooks bought the property from the Board of County School Commissioners of Washington County by deed dated March 24, 1914. Liber 157/Folio 184.

Ann E. Williams sold the property, consisting of ¼ acre of land, to the Washington County School Board on September 8, 1899. Liber 111/Folio 430.

Nathan Williams bought the land from John G. Stine on August 13, 1860. Liber 15/Folio 210.
9. Major Bibliographical References

- *Fort Frederick “Colored” School.* Article by Mrs. Ethel Bachtell. Source and date of article unknown.
- *Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form for the State Historic Sites Survey completed for the Hornbaker Property by Paula Stoner in 1979.*

10. Geographical Data

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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Quadrangle scale:</td>
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**Verbal boundary description and justification**

This property is bounded by Maryland Route 56 (Ft. Frederick Road) to the north, with about an approximately 25 foot front yard. About 25 feet from the east façade of the house is a gravel road and then a wooded lot. The southern property line extends to a fence that surrounds the maintenance shop of Ft. Frederick State Park. To the west of the house is a thickly wooded lot, that is also property of the State Park.

11. Form Prepared by

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>name/title</th>
<th>Charlie Mazurek, Park Service Associate</th>
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<td>Maryland Department of Natural Resources</td>
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<td>date</td>
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<td>street &amp; number</td>
<td>Tawes State Office Bldg., 580 Taylor Ave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>telephone</td>
<td>(410) 260-8192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Annapolis</td>
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<td>state</td>
<td>Maryland</td>
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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
410-514-7800
- Metal siding, covering wood frame
- Stone foundation, covered with concrete

WA-V-206

Hornbacker Property
Washington Co., Fort Frederick State Park

July 31, 2000

3/32 Scale

Route 56

Gravel Road

NORTH
WA-I-206
HORNBAKER PROP.
WASHINGTON CO., MD
C. MAZUREK
7/2006
MD Dept. of Natural Resources
Front Door, Front Porch, North Facade
2 of 4
WA-IV-206
HORNBAKER PROP.
WASHINGTON CO., MD
C. MAZUREK
7/2000
MD. DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
NW FACADES
3 OF 4
WA-1-206
HORNBAKER PROP.
WASHINGTON CO., MD
C. MAZUREK
7/2000
MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SE FACADES
4 OF 4
**1 NAME**

HISTORIC AND/OR COMMON: Hornbaker property

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER: along south side of Md. rte 56, Fort Frederick St. PK

CITY, TOWN: Indian Springs vic

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: & 6

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Washington

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

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**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME: Maryland Department of Natural Resources

STREET & NUMBER: Tawes State Office Building

CITY, TOWN: Annapolis

STATE, zip code: Md. 21401

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Washington County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER: West Washington St.

CITY, TOWN: Hagerstown

STATE: Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN: STATE
This structure known to the Department of Natural Resources as the Hornbaker property for its former owner, is located just east of the entrance to Fort Frederick State Park south of Maryland Route 56. It is a two part frame house with a one story, three bay section, the older, and a two story addition, also of frame construction. The entire building has been aluminum sided. The one story section retains six over six windows and a central entrance. A shed roofed porch from the early 20th century extends across the front or north elevation of the house and is supported by square posts on cast concrete bases.

Windows in the two story addition have single pane, double hung sashes with flat topped architraves. This section would appear to date from the early 20th century.

The older one story part of the structure probably dates from the late 19th century and is said to have been a school for colored children. There were several black families living in the Fort Frederick area during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The building appears to be in good to excellent condition.
This building is primarily significant for its supposed use as a school house. According to park rangers, there was a school bell on top of the roof, but it has been removed. Especially as a colored school, it is important for its contribution to the area's black history.

The house also has significance as an example of late 19th and early 20th century vernacular balloon frame construction.
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
WA-V-206
Ft. Frederick St., PL
"Hancock Property"
S. View-
Dec. 1978

Patricia Stoner
Preservation Associates