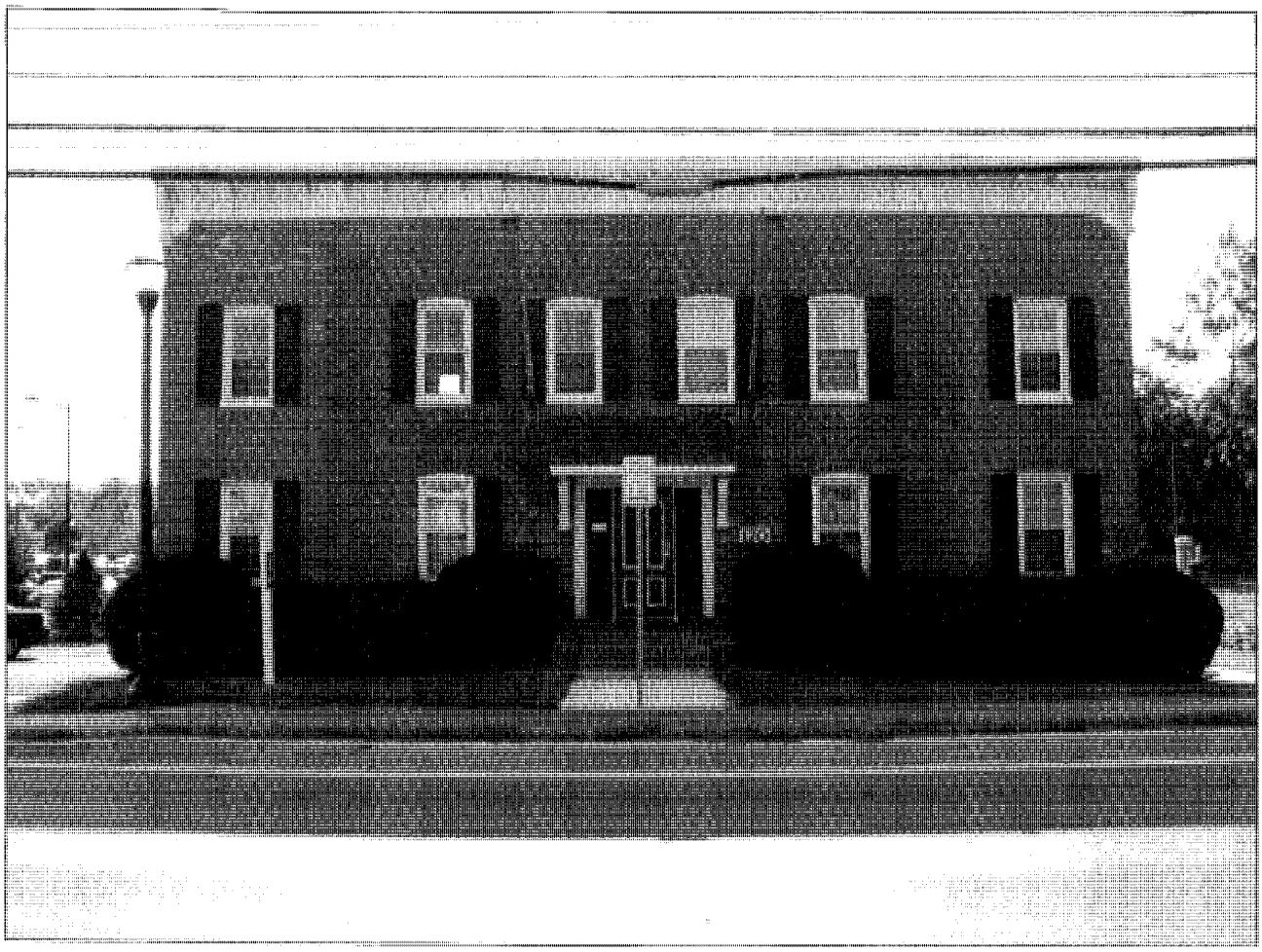
Laurel Historic District Project
Prince Georges County, MD
MIHP Forms and Addendum Forms

MIHP Number	Name	Address	Type of Documentation
PG:LAU-1-10	Thomas L. Fairall Property	120 Second St.	Addendum
PG:LAU-1-15	Little Tavern Hamburgers Property	115 Washington Blvd.	Addendum
PG:LAU-1-17	Eastern Main Street Historic District	Main St. between Lafayette Ave. and Fourth St.	MIHP
PG:LAU-1-17-1	Fred Frederick Motors	43 Washington Blvd.	MIHP
PG:LAU-1-17-2	Citizens National Bank	388-390 Main St.	MIHP
PG:LAU-1-18	Central Main Street Historic District	Main St. between Fourth and Seventh Sts.	MIHP
PG:LAU-1-19	Western Main Street Historic District	Main St. between Seventh St. and western City boundary	MIHP
PG:LAU-1-20	Avondale Mill Historic District	A, B, C and Avondale Sts. between Main St. and the Patuxent River	MIHP
PG:LAU-1-21	Montgomery Street Historic District	Montgomery St. and Prince Georges St.	MIHP
PG:LAU-1-21-2	Phelps and Shaffer	900 Montgomery St.	MIHP
PG:LAU-1-22	Fairall Foundry	First St.	MIHP
PG:LAU-2	St. Mark's Methodist Episcopal Church	601 Eighth St.	Addendum
PG:LAU-8	Gude House	13910 Laurel Lakes Ave.	Addendum
PG:LAU-16	Free Quill Building	126 Washington Blvd.	Addendum
PG:LAU-23	Richard S. Hill Property	7401 Old Sandy Spring Rd.	Addendum
PG:LAU-25	Laurel Wreath Lodge	207 Washington St.	MIHP
PG:LAU-26	Laurel Colored School	803 West St.	MIHP
PG:LAU-27	Laurel Cotton Mill Dam Ruins	Riverside Park, beyond Ninth and Main Sts.	MIHP
PG:LAU-28	Phelps House	1110 Montgomery St.	MIHP
PG:LAU-60-14	Morris and Julia Quill Property	7300 Old Sandy Spring Rd.	Addendum

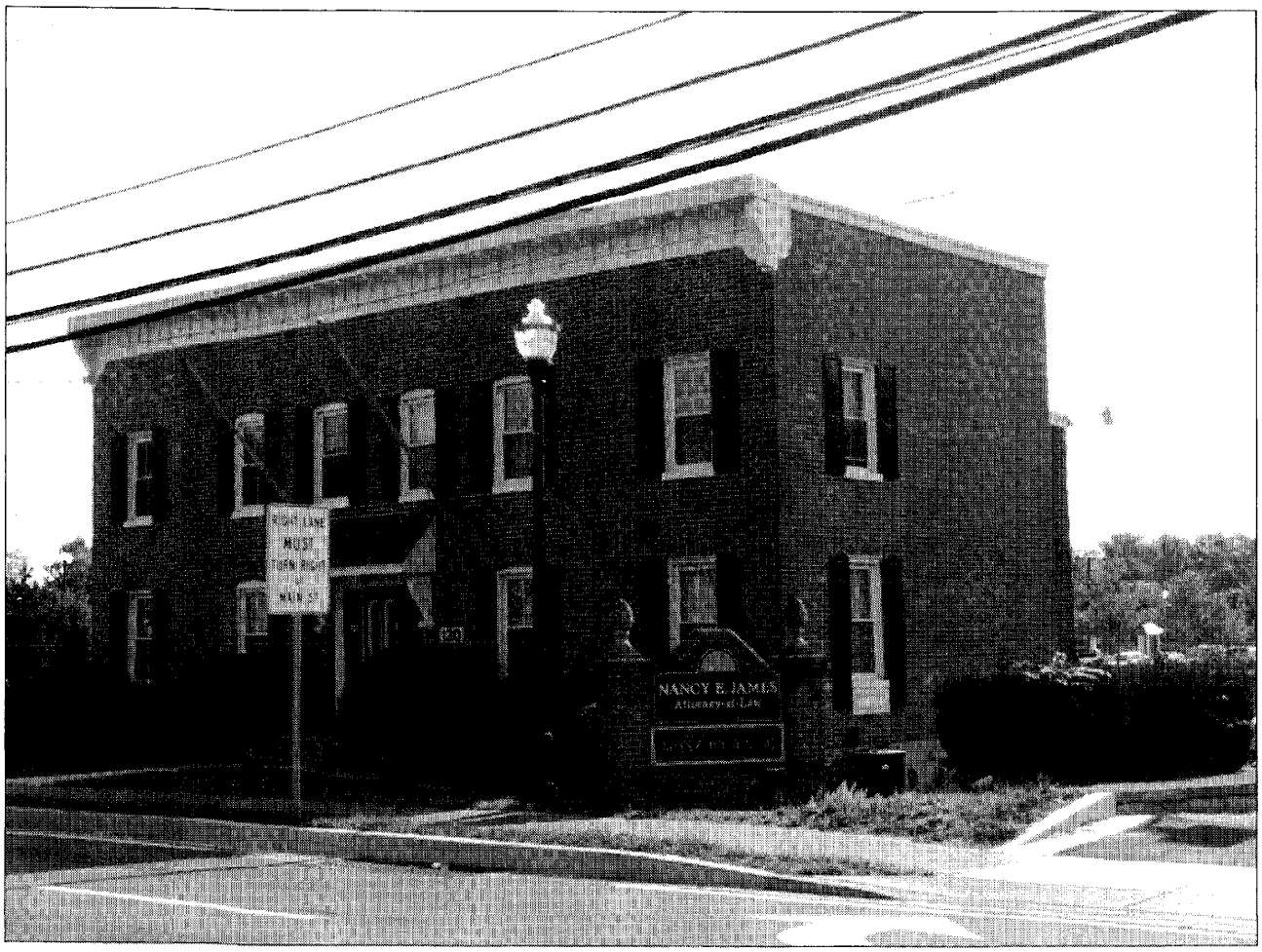
Name of Property: Thomas Fairall Property
MIHP Number: PG:LAU-1-10
Location: 120 Second Street
Surveyed by: Alison J. Ross
Date: July 2008

Addendum

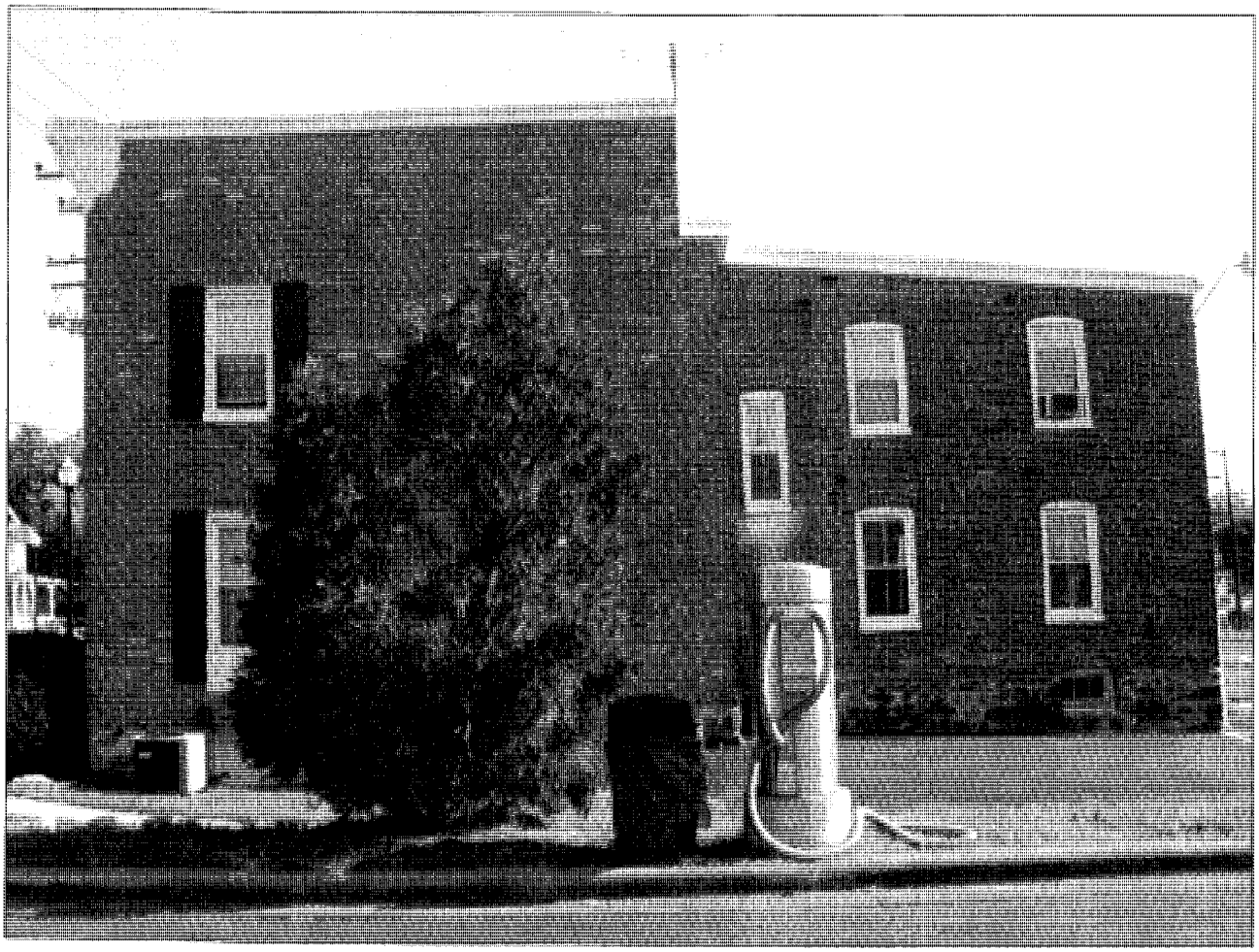
Photographs



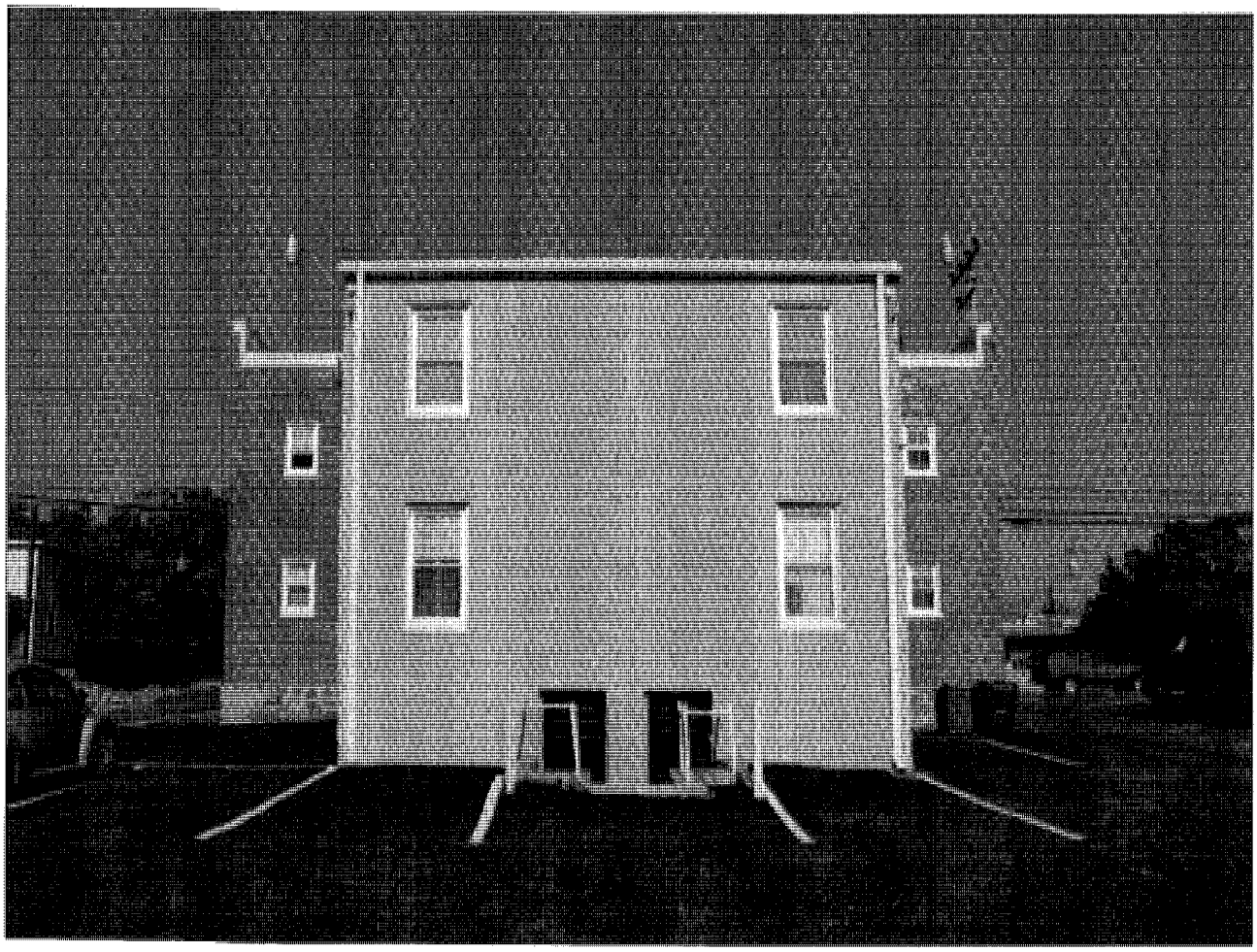
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-10
Thomas Fairall Property, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front elevation, facing SE
Photo #1 of 5



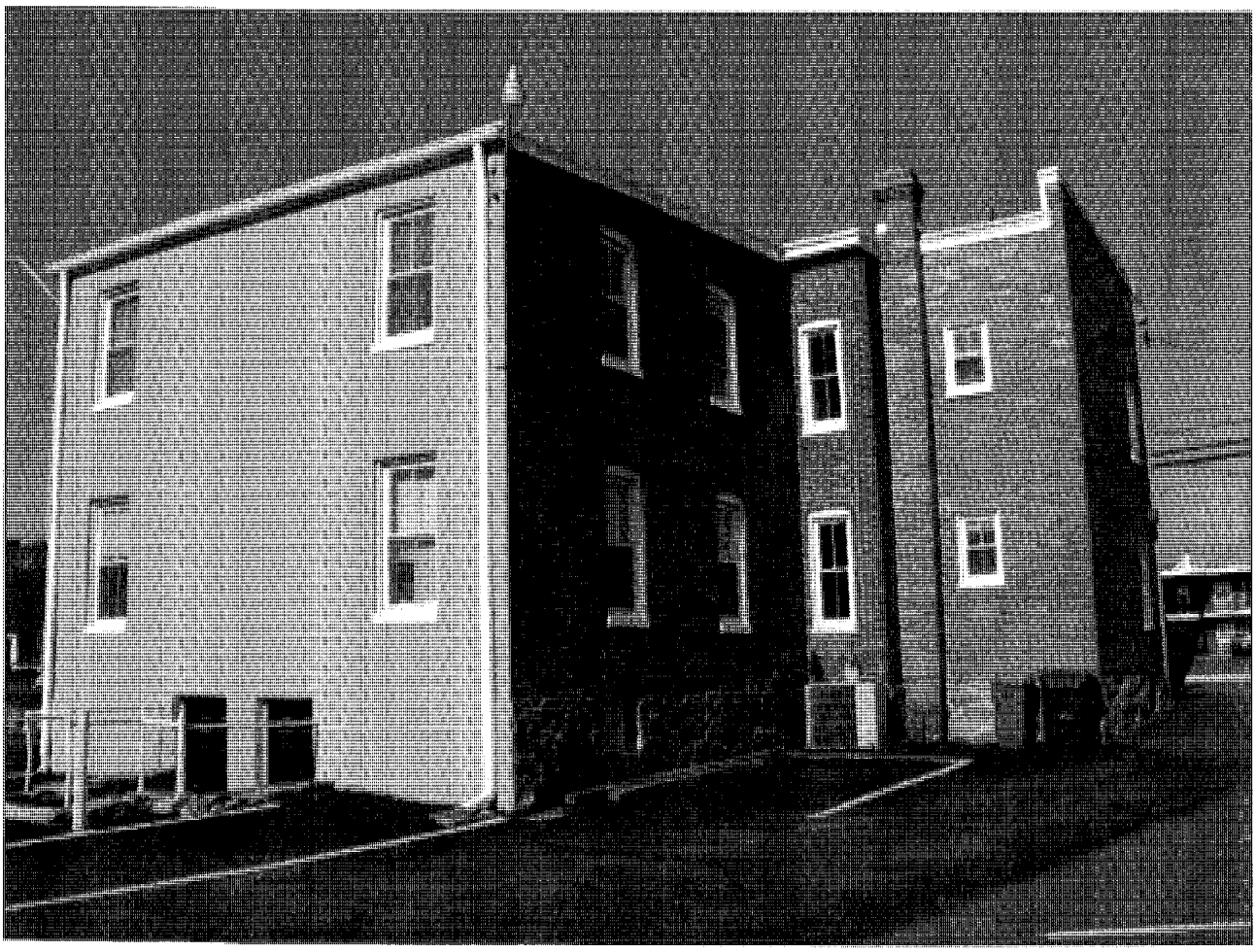
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-10
Thomas Fairall Property, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front and side elevations, facing E
Photo #2 of 5



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-10
Thomas Fairall Property, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing NE
Photo #3 of 5



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-10
Thomas Fairall Property, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of rear elevation, facing NW
Photo #4 of 5

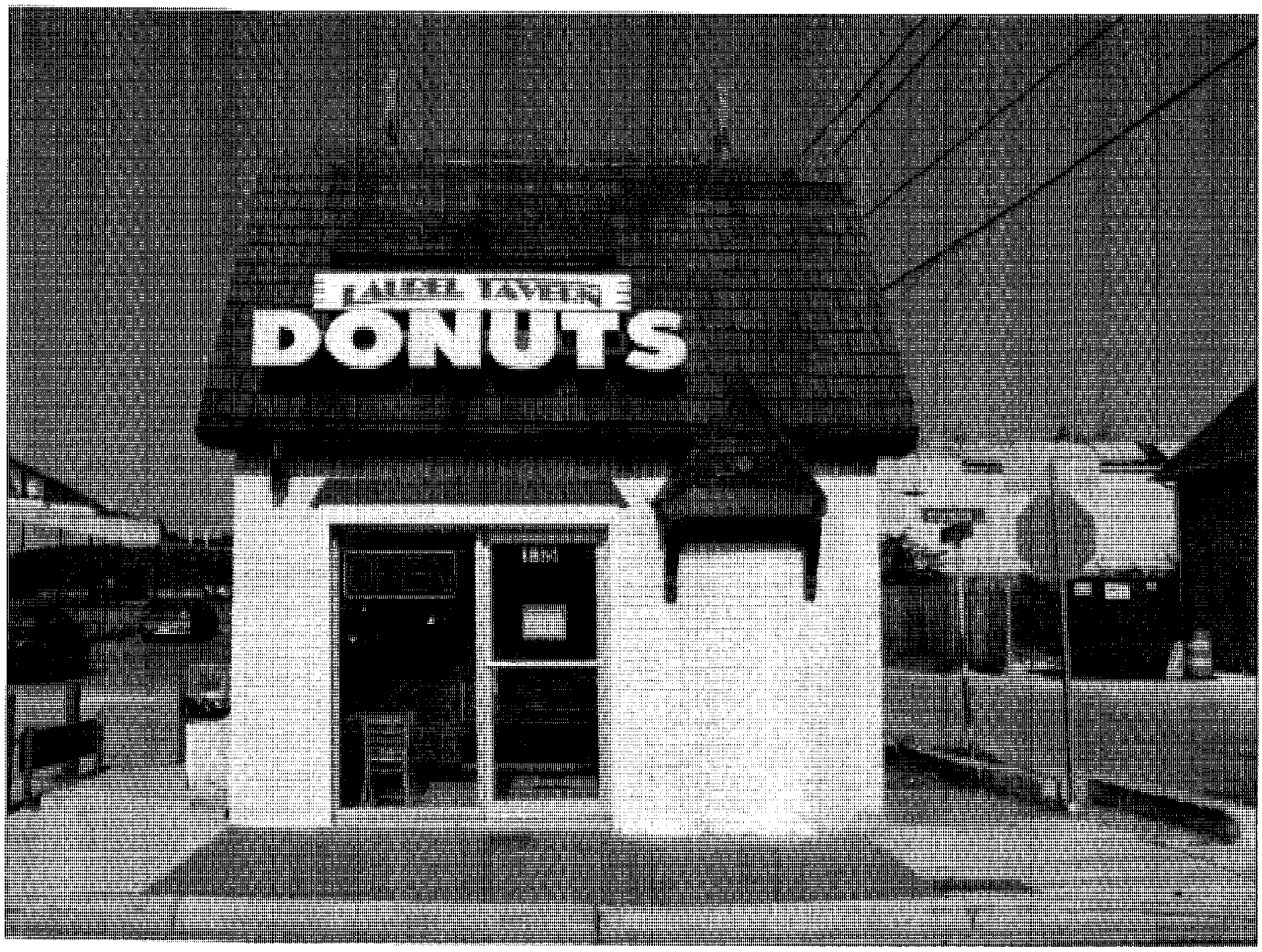


MIHP # PG:LAU-1-10
Thomas Fairall Property, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of rear and side elevations, facing W
Photo #5 of 5

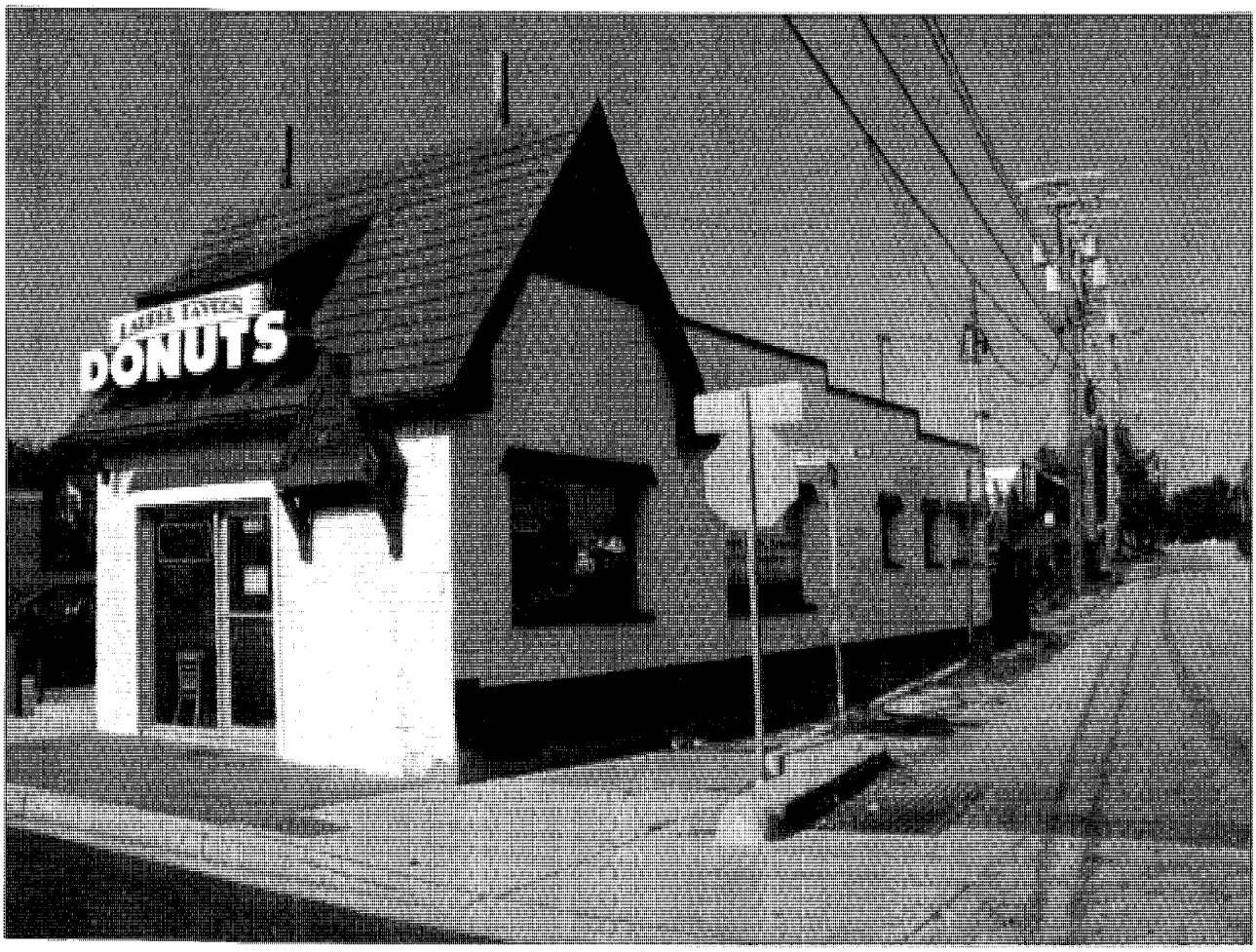
Name of Property: Little Tavern Hamburgers Property
MIHP Number: PG:LAU-1-15
Location: 115 Washington Boulevard
Surveyed by: Alison J. Ross
Date: July 2008

Addendum

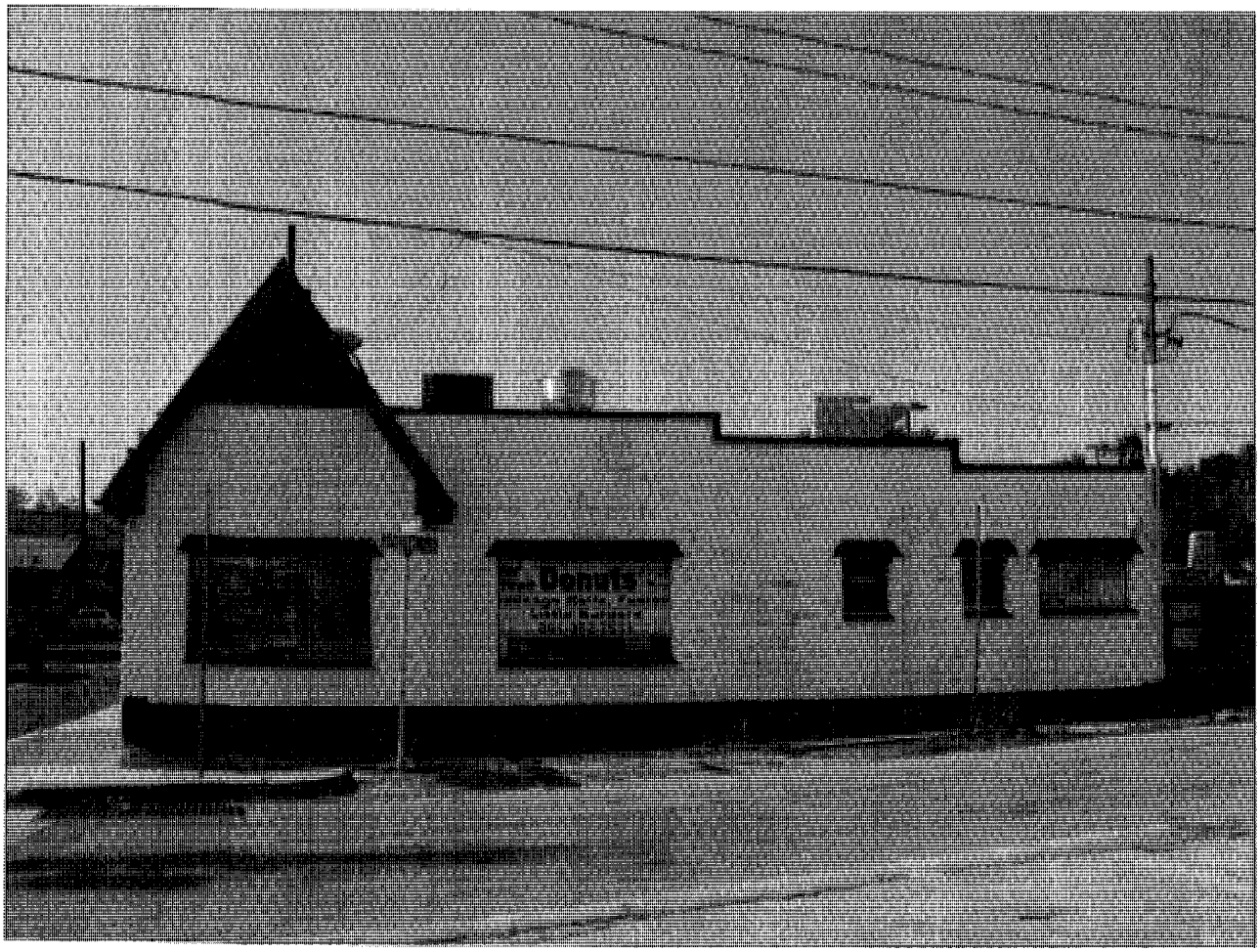
Photographs



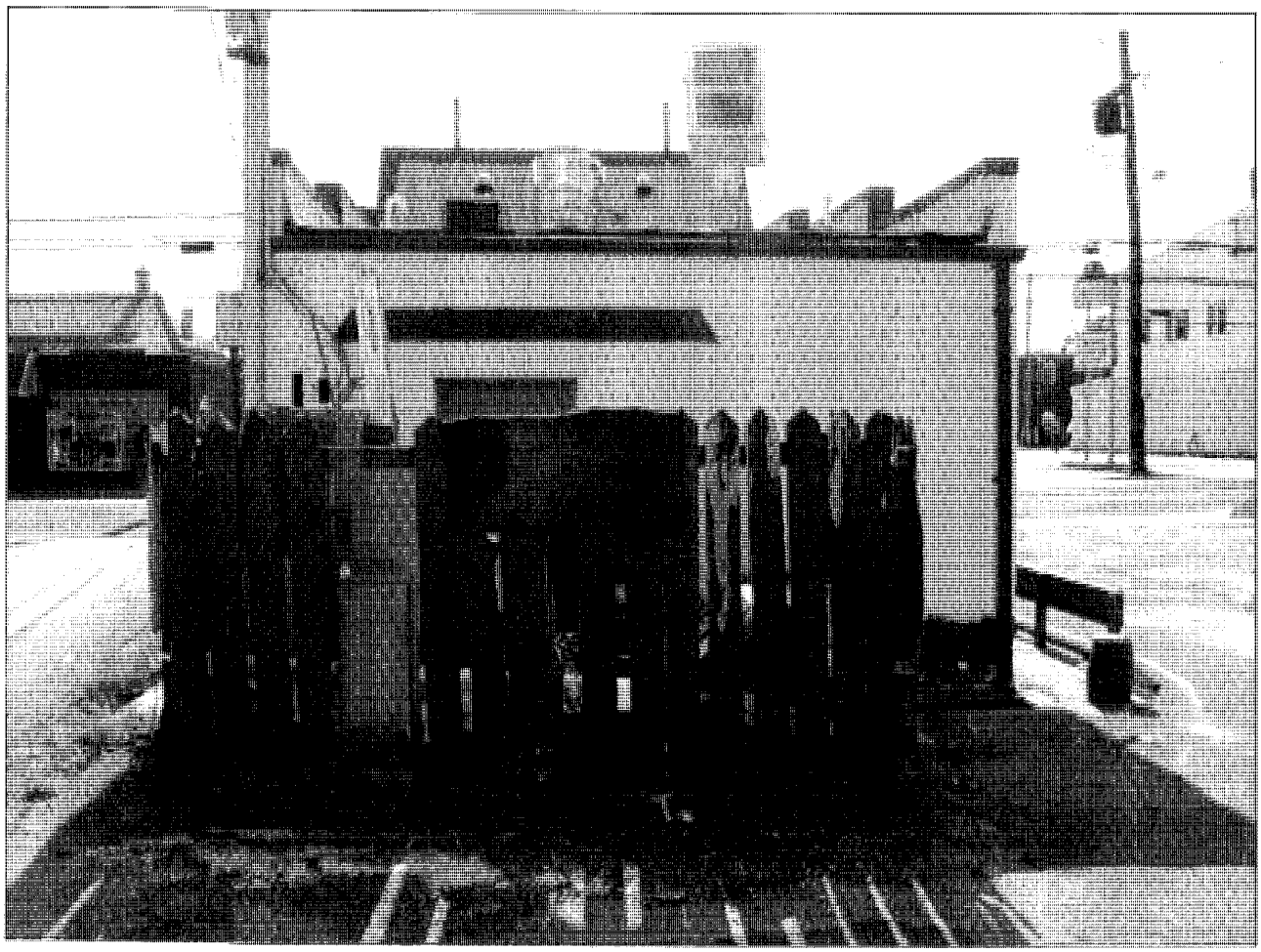
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-15
Little Tavern Hamburgers, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front elevation, facing NW
Photo #1 of 5



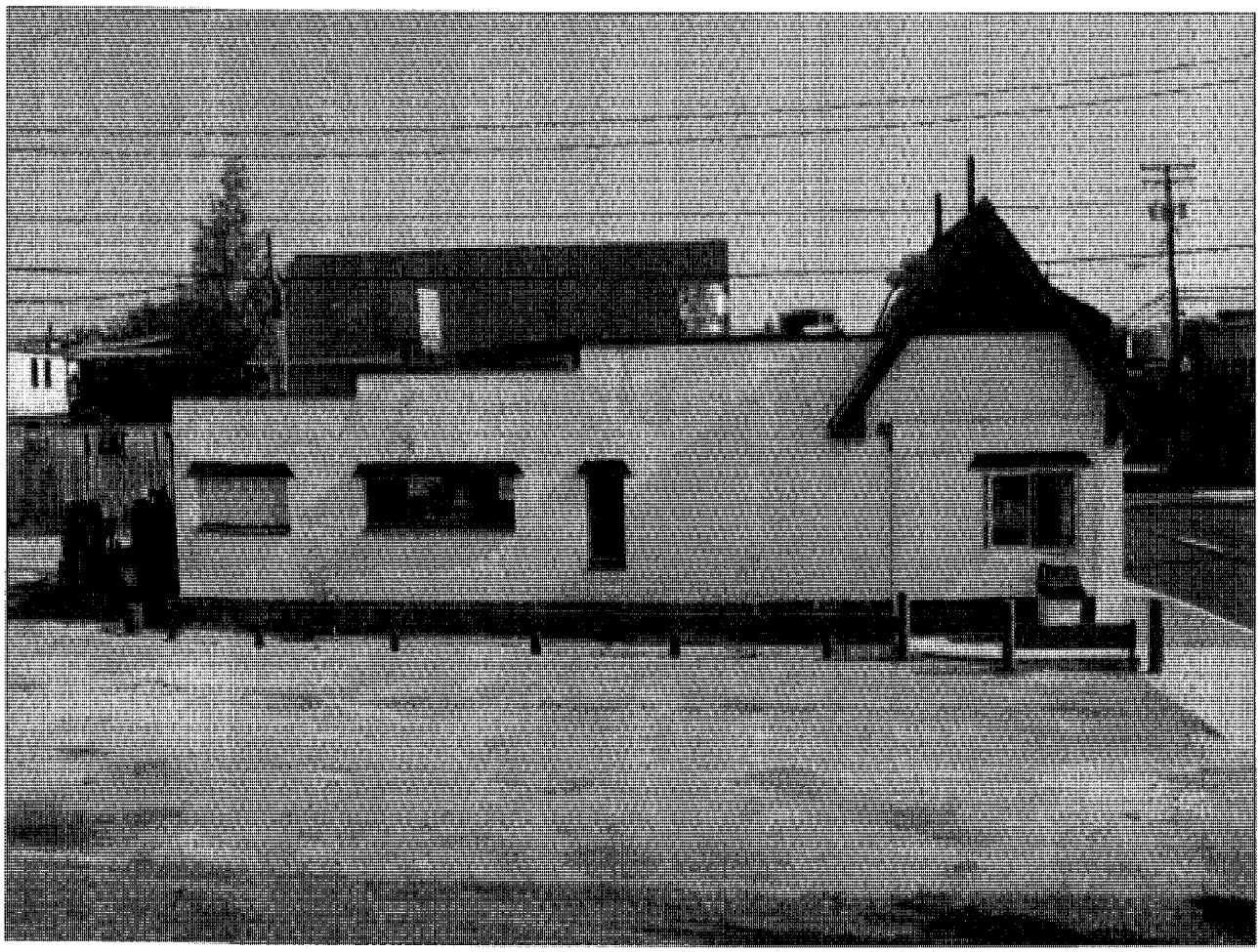
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-15
Little Tavern Hamburgers, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Laurel, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front and side elevations, facing W
Photo #2 of 5



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-15
Little Tavern Hamburgers, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing SW
Photo #3 of 5



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-15
Little Tavern Hamburgers, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of rear elevation, facing SE
Photo #4 of 5



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-15
Little Tavern Hamburgers, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick, Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing NE
Photo #5 of 5

Capsule Summary

Name of Property: Eastern Main Street Historic District
MIHP number: PG:LAU-1-17
Location: Main Street
Laurel, Prince Georges County, Maryland 20707

Date of Construction: various
Access: public

Property Description: The Eastern Main Street Historic District is one of three designated linear districts along Main Street in Laurel, Maryland. The district is at the southeastern end of Main Street and is the city's historic commercial center. The majority of the buildings along both the northeastern and the southwestern sides of Main Street house retail businesses and services that, like their predecessors, serve the residents of the surrounding community of Laurel. A number of buildings contain several retail stores and businesses under one roof, while other buildings contain individual stores. Construction dates of the buildings in this district range from 1861 to 2006, with many architectural styles represented in the collection. Aligned building setbacks, building fronts, awnings, and rooflines lend continuity to the rows of buildings on both sides of the street.

Summary Paragraph on History: The area of Main Street contained in the Eastern Main Street Historic District has served as the commercial center of Laurel from the middle of the 19th century to today. As the only industrial area in rural Prince Georges County from the 1830s, the town of Laurel Factory originated as a mill town, centered on the Patuxent Manufacturing Company's cotton mill, complete with millworkers' housing, schools, social halls, stores, and churches. A second mill community grew around the Avondale Mill, and another area developed at the southeastern end of Main Street near the existing turnpike and the Baltimore and Ohio railroad tracks and depot. By the last quarter of the 19th century the improvements and development along Main Street had filled in and were continuous from the Laurel Mill area to the railroad tracks. The section between Washington Boulevard and Fourth Street contained in the Eastern Main Street Historic District has continued to thrive as a commercial center into the 21st century and has experienced a recent revitalization.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-17

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic	Historic District No. 1
other	Eastern Main Street Historic District (preferred)

2. Location

street and number	Both sides of Main Street from Lafayette Avenue to Fourth Street	__ not for publication
city, town	Laurel	__ vicinity
county	Prince Georges	

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

name	Multiple owners		
street and number			telephone
city, town		state	zip code

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Tax Department website		liber	Multiple	folio Multiple
city, town	Laurel	tax map A-0848	tax parcel		tax ID number

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

_____ Contributing Resource in National Register District
_____ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
__X__ 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
__X__district
_____building(s)
_____structure
_____site
_____object

Ownership
_____public
_____private
__X__both

Current Function
_____agriculture
__X__commerce/trade
_____defense
__X__domestic
_____education
_____funerary
_____government
_____health care
__X__industry
_____landscape
_____recreation/culture
_____religion
__X__social
_____transportation
_____work in progress
_____unknown
_____vacant/not in use
_____other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
45	8	buildings
	3	sites
		structures
		objects
45	11	Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

_____

7. Description

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-17

Condition

___ excellent ___ deteriorated
_X_ good ___ ruins
_X_ fair _X_ altered

Paragraph Summary

The Eastern Main Street Historic District is one of three designated linear districts along Main Street in Laurel, Maryland. The district is at the southeastern end of Main Street and is the historic commercial center of the town. The majority of the buildings along both the northeastern and the southwestern sides of Main Street consist of retail businesses and services that, like their predecessors, serve the residents of the surrounding community of Laurel. Most of the buildings on both sides of the street are attached to each other, forming continuous rows of buildings.

Comprehensive Description of Resource

The Eastern Main Street Historic District is a cohesive, intact example of a commercial center whose 19th-century development resulted from one industry on the Patuxent River. The district extends from the railroad station at the southeastern end of First Street to Fourth Street and includes properties on both sides of Main Street. The town is bordered by the Patuxent River on the north and by urban and suburban residential and commercial development on its other sides. The construction dates of the district's buildings range from the mid 1850s to the 1990s. The most prevalent architectural styles include Italianate, Queen Anne, 1930s Commercial, Art Deco, and Colonial Revival. The majority of the buildings range in size from 1 to 3 stories, with the business or retail store occupying the first story and residential units above. Particularly prevalent, especially in the district's southeastern end, are 1-story stores with flat facades and stepped parapet roofs, characteristic of 1930s commercial buildings. There are 56 buildings within the district boundaries, of which 45 are contributing and 11 are non-contributing. The non-contributing buildings have been constructed after 1960.

At the southeastern-most end of the district between Lafayette Street and Washington Boulevard, the density of buildings has been decreased because of block-long demolition that has occurred on the southwestern side between First and Second Street for the construction of a large commuter parking lot for the rail station and also between Second Street and Washington Boulevard for the construction of a parking lot for residential townhouse units set back from the street. Another large area of demolition is the northeastern side of Main Street on the 200 block, where most of the block has been demolished and sits vacant.

Notable buildings in the district include the 1884 Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Station at First and Main Streets, listed in the National Register of Historic Places; the building at 309 Main Street, which housed the Ashby-Harrison Feed Store; 357 Main Street, the 1938 News Leader Building; 377 Main Street, which contained a Union Army Hospital during the Civil War and later Block's Department Store; 383 Main Street, which contained Hance's Store, Laurel's first grocery store; and Citizen's Bank, the 1890 bank designed by Ellis and Nichols.

For the most part, from Washington Boulevard northwestward to Fourth Street, the district contains a continuous-appearing row of buildings on both sides of the street, forming a cohesive collection of buildings. Not all of the buildings are attached; however, their similar setbacks from the road, aligned front awnings and storefront windows, similar roof heights, and continuous rooflines provide visual continuity when looking down the street. Most of the buildings house retail stores, such as gift shops, furniture stores, and medical supplies, and others contain businesses such as insurance agencies, salons or tax consultant businesses. The street's southwestern side contains several banks, as well as a post office and women's club, all of which complete the collection of retail stores, businesses, and services available to the city's residents, many of whom live in adjacent residential neighborhoods.

While each store or business has a separate address, there are a number of buildings that house several businesses with separate entrances, signage displays, and glass storefront windows under one roof. For example, one building might contain three addresses and three separate retail stores and storefront windows, such as 352, 352 ½, and 354 Main Street. There are several 19th-century Queen Anne-style and Italianate-style residential dwellings, such as 353, 353A, and 355, that have been converted into retail stores, with additions or conversions of the first story into retail space with glass storefronts and residential or office spaces on the second stories. Other buildings were originally constructed for use as a retail store, such as 304, 308, and 310 Main Street.

Most, if not all, of the historic buildings have had some type of alteration. Some of the buildings have been converted from mid-19th-century residential dwellings to retail stores or businesses, including Queen Anne- and Italianate-style houses. Their conversions have included the construction of 1-story additions with glass storefronts and bulkheads to the front and sides of the houses. Other stores might have received new facades with updated material over the original or new entrances and windows.

Despite the alterations, the buildings are still an integral part of the town's commercial center and are contributing elements of the historic district. Following is a list of resources on both sides of Main Street, with their addresses, building type, construction date, brief description, and whether or not the buildings contribute to the historic district. Stores or businesses that are combined in one building are indicated.

Northeastern side of Main Street

Address	Building Type/ Use	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Noncontributing (C or NC
19 Main Street	Unknown	Unknown	2-story, brick, flat roof, storefront, altered	NC
21 Main Street	Unknown	Unknown	1-story, front-gabled, brick	NC
99-101Main Street	Fuel Co. and offices	Unknown	1, 2-story. Brick covers older building, altered	NC
105 Main Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1920	2-story, 3-bay, Colonial revival	C
109 Main Street	Dwelling (car rental)	Ca. 1870	2-story, 3-bay, gable and wing	C
201 Main Street	Dwelling (retail-florist)	Ca. 1890	2-story, 3-bay, Queen-Anne style	C
211 Main Street	Not there			
211A Main Street	Not there			
217 Main Street	Bank (retail-video)	Ca. 1920	2-story, storefront, Beaux-Arts-style, brick	C
307 Main Street	Retail-leather	1932	2-story, false front, wood batten boards, altered	C
311 Main Street	Retail	Ca. 1920	1-story, glass storefront, yellow brick, flat roof	C
313-315 Main Street	Retail	1900	2-story, 1-story, glass storefronts with bulkheads, yellow brick, flat roof	C
317 Main Street	Office-business	Ca. 1880	2-story, 3-bay, added porch, brick with corbelling	C
319 Main Street	Retail, residential	2006	Retail first story, residential upper stories	NC
325 Main Street	Retail-workshop	Unknown	1-story, 3-bay, corrug. metal siding, flat roof, garage door	NC
329 Main Street	Retail-glass & mirror	1920s	1-story, parapet roof, dec. brick, storefront window	C
329 ½ -331 Main Street	Taxes/ optician	Unknown	1-story, front and corner entrance, glass storefront, side-gabled, brick veneer	C
335 -337 Main Street	Retail-printing	Unknown	2-story, glass storefront, altered	C
339 -341Main Street	Salon/insurance	Ca. 1850	2-story, 5-bay, storefront window,	C

Address	Building Type/ Use	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Noncontributing (C or NC
			aluminum over wood	
343 – 345 Main Street	Dwelling (Retail, retail)	Ca. 1850	343: 2-story, 2-bay, front-gabled roof, alum. over wood; 345: 2-story, 2-bay, enclosed porch, flat roof	C
347 Main Street	Retail-food market	unknown	1-story, corner entrance, large storefront window, brick veneer, altered	C
349 – 351 Main Street	Dwelling (Retail-Consignment / locks	Ca. 1870	2-story, 3-bay, porch, orig. brackets and cornice, Italianate, aluminum over wood / 2-story, glass storefront, aluminum over wood, orig. cornice and brackets	C
353A -353 – 355 Main Street	Dwelling (Retail, clothing, clothing, pro & trophy shop)	Ca. 1880	353: 2-story converted Queen-Anne-style house, front gabled with fishscale shingles, projecting front wing, cross-gabled roof, vinyl over wood, retail with storefront window on 1st. .353A: 1-story addition, shed roof, glass storefront. 355: glass storefront	C
357 Main Street	Insurance, residential	1938	3-story, 7-bay, brick with dec.soldier courses, limestone lintels, original windows, Colonial revival	C
359 Main Street	Retail-auto parts	Ca. 1880	2-story, 3-bay, glass storefront, vinyl over wood, orig. cornice and brackets, orig. windows, separate building, Italianate	C
365 Main Street	Retail-comic books	Ca. 1880	1-story, w/ covered 2nd story, glass storefront	C
367-371 Main Street	Office / retail-vacuums	Ca. 1880	2-story, 4-bay, vinyl over wood, orig. cornice and brackets, orig. windows, glass storefront, Italianate	C
373A – 377 Main Street	Office	Ca. 1861	2-story, 6-bay, vinyl over wood, large glass storefront	C
379 Main Street	Office	Ca. 1960s		NC
381 Main Street	Dwelling (law offices)	Ca 1870	2-story, 4-bay, brick, glass storefront, orig. windows, orig. cornice & brackets, arched brick lintels, Italianate	C
383 Main Street	Dwelling (Retail-travel)	1900	2-story, 3-bay, glass storefront, Queen Anne.	C
385 Main Street	Dwelling (Retail -vacant	Ca. 1930	2-story, 3-bay, false front over front-gabled house, orig. cornice & brackets, vinyl over wood	C
389	Retail- furniture consignment	Ca. 1920	2-story, 3-bay, formed concrete block w/ tin cornice 7 trim, glass storefront, large picture window on 2nd story. Adjacent building to east is 1-story, front gabled covered w/ stucco, glass storefront- additional showrooms for	C

Address	Building Type/ Use	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Noncontributing (C or NC
			consignment shop.	

Southwestern side of Main Street

Address	Building Type/ Use	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Noncontributing (C or NC)
First and Main Streets	Railroad station	1884	Queen Anne-style station designed by Francis Baldwin for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company	C
100 Main Street	Parking lot		Block-long demolition of buildings	NC
204 Main Street	Residential	Ca. 1880	2-story, 5-bay converted to apartment, brick/vinyl	NC
206 Main Street	Parking lot		Parking lot in front of townhouses	NC
210 Main Street	Parking lot		Parking lot in front of townhouses	NC
216 Main Street	Retail salon	Date unknown	2-story, 2-bay, glass storefront, flat roof, aluminum siding	C
302 Main Street	Retail-jewelry	Ca. 1900	2-story, 4-bay, brick w/ glass storefront	C
304 Main Street	Retail-carpet	Ca. 1930	1-story, 3-bay, false front, stepped parapet roof, brick w/ glass storefront	C
308 Main Street	Retail food	Ca. 1890	2-story, 3-bay, false front, glass storefront, original cornice w/ bracket	C
310 Main Street	Retail -food	Ca. 1930	1-story, 3-bay, stepped parapet roof, brick	C
312 Main Street	Movie theater	Ca. 1930	2-story, 6-bay, false front, stucco on brick, altered	C
320 Main Street	Studio – martial arts	Ca. 1940	1-story, 2-bay, flat roof, brick, colonial revival.	C
322 Main Street	Retail-art supply	Date unknown	1-story, brick w/ glass storefront, flat roof, altered	C
324 Main Street	Post office	Ca. 1950	1-story, multiple bays, colonial revival	C
338-338 ½ -340 Main Street	Retail	Ca. 1890	1-story, 6-bay, brick façade, glass storefront, flat roof	NC
342 Main Street	Retail-tuxedos	Ca. 1920	2-story, 3-bay, flat roof , brick with decorative soldier courses	C
344 Main Street	Retail –art gallery	Ca. 1930	2-story, 3-bay, flat roof , brick with dec. soldier courses	C
352- 352 ½ - 354 Main Street	Insurance agency	Ca. 1930	2-story, 3-bay, brick w/ dec.soldier courses, flat roof, glass storefront,	C
356-358 Main Street	Retail-florist, salon	Ca. 1930	1-story, 3-bay brick w/ dec. soldier courses, glass storefront, colonial-rev. entrance	C
360 Main Street	Retail -furniture	Ca. 1940	2-story, 1 large bay, large storefront window, yellow brick on concrete block, 1950s sign and lettering	C
368 Main Street	Retail -salon	Ca. 1930	2-story, 4-bay, brick w/ corbelling, flat	C

			roof, soldier course at sills, glass storefront	
370-374 Main Street	Retail-medical	Ca. 1950	2-story, 4-bay, brick, flat roof, columns,colonial revival, altered	C
380 Main Street	Bank	Ca. 1950	2-story, 4-bay, brick with limestone trim at windows and entrance	C
382	House – Women's Club	Ca. 1940	1-story, 1-bay, side-gable and front – gabled front wing, vinyl	C
390	Bank	1890	2-story Victorian, corner building with 2-story, 6-bay colonial-revival addition, brick w/ corbelling, terra cotta trim, brick sills, granite lintels	C

8. Significance

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-17

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

Specific dates **Architect/Builder** Various

Construction dates 1850s - 1960

Evaluation for:

_____ National Register _____Maryland Register ___X___not evaluated

Narrative Discussion of History of Resource

Main Street has served as the commercial center of Laurel from the middle of the 19th century as the town flourished from its beginnings as a company town centered around the cotton mill complex on the Patuxent River. The western end of Main Street was the first to develop, followed by eastward expansion toward the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike and, later, the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

Regional History

The area surrounding the present-day City of Laurel in Prince George's County, Maryland, was first settled by members of the Snowden family, one of the founding families of Maryland, during the latter half of the 17th century and early 18th century. Laurel is on land that was originally patented to Richard Snowden in 1715 as "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" in Prince George's County. At the time, Snowden's estate already was approximately 3,000 acres in size, extending from Old Columbia Pike to the present city of Laurel and from south of Greencastle and Van Dusen Roads to north of Sandy Spring Road. The 1715 patent increased the already substantial Snowden land holdings, and by 1743 the estate had grown to 9,265 acres.

Although the Laurel area was first an agricultural region, it became a location for manufacturing as early as the first half of the 18th century, distinguishing it from the rest of rural Prince George's County. Manufacturing activity on the Patuxent River dates back to 1736 when the Snowden family established the Patuxent River Iron Works. Almost a century later in 1811, descendent Nicholas Snowden constructed a stone grist mill building on the banks of the Patuxent River, as well as a dam across the river at the location of what is now Ninth Street in Laurel. In 1824, Nicholas Snowden leased the mill for a period of 12 years to Mr. Johnson (origin unknown), who transformed the grist mill into a factory for spinning cotton yarn, known as the Cotton Manufacturing Motive of Laurel. The mill was successful and at one time reportedly employed 100 adults. Some time prior to 1835 another local businessman, Robert Pilsen, installed the first loom in the mill, which enabled the weaving of cotton cloth in the factory.

Nicholas Snowden died in 1831, and his estate, Montpelier, was subdivided among his children. His daughter, Eliza, received what was called the Bank Quarter, which contained the bank of iron ore. A leftover undivided portion along the Patuxent River, contained approximately 100 acres, the Snowdens' stone mansion, the mill buildings, several log houses, and a well-used farm where successive crops of tobacco and corn had been cultivated. The parcel's location was invaluable because of the exceptional water power provided by the river.

The 1835 completion of the Baltimore and Ohio (B & O) Railroad Company's new railroad line through Laurel, located just over one mile east of the mill, contributed to the attractiveness of the mill location. The railroad, which was to connect Baltimore with Washington D.C., promised easier access to new markets, both for raw materials and finished products. Access to other markets was previously gained by travel from the mill eastward via Main Street to the Washington-Baltimore Turnpike, which was chartered by the state of Maryland in 1812.

The location and easy access to the railroad and the turnpike were not lost on Snowden's heirs, which included son-in-law Horace Capron, Louisa's husband and a member of the Capron family of Attleboro, Massachusetts. Snowden had previously worked at a mill at Savage, Maryland, prior to turning his attentions to the lands of the former New Birmingham Manor. On

January 28, 1836, Horace Capron joined other Snowden family members in a new business venture. Capron, along with Dr. Theodore Jenkins (brother-in-law of Capron and neighbor of the Snowdens at New Birmingham Manor), Elizabeth Snowden (Capron's mother-in-law), Osmond C. Tiffany (Capron's first cousin from another Attleboro, Massachusetts, family) A.E. Hall, and W.C. Shaw incorporated a new company, the Patuxent Company, for the purpose of manufacturing and selling cotton, iron, and other articles at the site of the mill and farm. The Snowden children's land holdings were combined and transferred when Horace Capron and his wife, Charles Hill and his wife, and Dr. Theodore Jenkins and his wife, conveyed their inherited lands to the Patuxent Company. Deeds for property and stock also were transferred by Osmond Tiffany, Comfort Tiffany, and several Capron cousins, who also were involved in mill activities elsewhere.

Shortly after its incorporation in 1835, the Patuxent Company constructed housing for its mill workers in the vicinity of the mill. Merchants established stores and businesses to support the employees and their families, and the town, known as Laurel Factory, started to grow. Churches, schools, and social halls were established as well, first in the western end near the mill, then in locations east of the mill as the town crept eastward along Main Street toward the turnpike and newly constructed railroad through town.

Laurel Factory, as it was called in the beginning, grew quickly in the middle of the 19th century as businesses, churches, a social hall, and schools were established to meet the needs of the fledgling community. Located in the western end of the town near the mill, the first churches included a Protestant Episcopal, a Methodist, and a Catholic Church. A schoolhouse and an assembly hall were built south of the mill building. According to Thomson's Mercantile and Professional Directory, Laurel Factory had its own post office by 1851. By that date, businesses reportedly included four dealers in dry goods, groceries, and hardware; two physicians; one hotelkeeper; and one factory.

According to the 1861 Martenet atlas, Laurel Factory property owners from established and prominent Maryland families living in neighboring counties included William M. Warfield and Thomas J. Talbott. Other early property owners indicated on the atlas of Laurel included J.W. Whiteside, D.D. and W.W. Heath, K. Phelps, J. Carter, Boswell, George H. Hall, Susan Coale, Peter Bogert, Jesse Duvall, Thomas N. Young, and R. Collier. Main Street businesses indicated on the atlas include Jesse Duvall's store and post office, George Wheeler's Avondale Grist Mill, J. P. Tiffany's store, S. Heath's Machine Shop, J. Watson's blacksmith shop, H. Harrison's hotel, and William H. Warfield's store.

History of Resource

Before 1850 the land on both sides of Main Street in the Eastern Main Street Historic District was part of the original Snowden estate "New Birmingham Manor." After Nicholas Snowden's death in 1831, a large tract (size unknown) known as Lot No. 8 and located between the Baltimore and Washington Turnpike and the Snowden's mill to the west and between Main Street on the north to an unknown point south of it, was inherited by Nicholas' daughter, Eliza Snowden. Richard Snowden and his wife, Elizabeth, acquired it and subsequently conveyed a large tract to Horace Capron on August 29, 1839 (DB AB 12, P. 367). The land included both sides of Main Street and contained a mill operation, the Avondale Mill, on the northern side and a 610-acre farm, believed to have been Capron's farm and home, on the southeastern side of the tract. Main Street was first paved, or "macadamized", in 1845 by Peter Gorman, father of future Laurel land speculator and U.S. Senator, Arthur Pue Gorman.

The Avondale Manufacturing Company, run by Horace Capron, operated the Avondale Mill on the Patuxent River. Prior to Horace Capron applying to the State of Maryland for Insolvency (bankruptcy) on May 21, 1850, he sold off portions of his property to several landowners. On December 17, 1849, a large parcel (size unknown) adjacent to the river and lying between the Laurel factory and the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike was sold to James and Jesse Duvall (DB JBB 6, P. 230), who operated a store and post office nearby on Main Street, according to the 1861 Martenet map. James conveyed his interest to Jesse on February 20, 1866 (DB FS 3, P. 571), and five years later, Jesse Duvall sold 17 acres of the parcel to William Eden on July 13, 1871, for $9,500.00 (DB HB 4, P. 846). The land to the west of the Avondale Mill property on Main Street was sold by Capron to James Arthur on October 22, 1849 (DB JBB 6, P. 340).

During his ownership, William Eden had a survey and plat made and subdivided the land into smaller parcels. According to deed records, Eden and his wife sold off a number of small parcels on the northeastern side of Main Street between

Washington Boulevard and Avondale Street during 1874 to individual owners, whose names, along with Eden's, are indicated on the 1878 Hopkins map and include Flester, Brashear, Collier, and Truman and Diven. The map indicates that Eden retained a large parcel of land behind the Main Street properties and bordering the river, where part of Historic District No. 4 now stands. These were some of the first business and store owners to occupy the northeastern side of Main Street, what is now the Eastern Main Street Historic District.

The land on Main Street's southwestern side in the Eastern Main Street Historic District apparently was part of Capron's 610-acre farm. When Horace Capron applied for insolvency in 1850, he was directed by Orphan's Court to convey his land, household goods, and furniture for $1.00 to trustees Thomas S. Alexander and George W. Dobbin on April 1, 1850 (DB JJB 6, P. 331). At a public auction on May 21, 1850, the trustees sold the 610-acre parcel to Thomas Wilson of John (name appearing on deed) for $28,060.00 (DB CSM 1, P. 151).

The deed for Wilson of John's land acquisition named the property "Laurel Farm," which he owned for the next 11 years. On November 27, 1861, Thomas Wilson of John and his wife sold Laurel Farm to Thomas Jefferson Talbott for $27,200.00 (DB 1, P. 27). After Talbott's death, trustees for his property, Charles Stanley, Michael Bannon, and Edwin Higgins, sold 168 7/8 acres of the farm to Honora Talbott (DB HB 13, P. 474) at a public sale on June 24, 1878 for $1,950.00. The remaining Talbott land, including the land on the southwestern side of Main Street in the Eastern Main Street Historic District, was subdivided into narrow parcels and sold off to individual parties, who presumably constructed the first businesses there, as indicated on the 1878 Hopkins atlas. A larger tract of Capron's land lying south of Honora Talbott's land was purchased by land speculators Arthur Pue Gorman and partner James Kemp. Arthur Pue Gorman was a distant relative to the Warfields, one of the original families to settle in the Laurel area. He later became a U.S. Senator and President of the Baltimore and Ohio Canal Company.

The 1878 Hopkins map indicates the subdivided properties along Main Street, with the names of Miles, Flester, Shaffer, Talbott, Myer, and Herbert. Because some of the same names are indicated elsewhere on the map, it appears that some merchants or professionals who had their businesses or practices on Main Street were successful enough to be able to invest in lots on nearby streets slated for residential development. It appears that other property owners still had their homes on the northeastern side or farther west on Main Street. Main Street continued across the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike and extended to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad tracks and depot. From the time the railroad was built in 1832, this section of Laurel was more industrial in nature, with at least one warehouse, a lumberyard, and a foundry in close proximity to the railroad depot, as indicated on the 1861 Martenet map.

Much growth occurred in Laurel after the Civil War, undoubtedly spurred by the incorporation of the Laurel Building Association in 1869. The primary purpose of the association was to enable the accumulation of capital for its members to procure loans, purchase real or leasehold property, and to construct buildings. Additional interest in land investment and settlement in Laurel came from government employees who had become familiar with the town from traveling through it by train en route to Washington, D.C. Large parcels on the railroad tracks' eastern side were purchased and large homes were built, as indicated by the 1878 Hopkins atlas. Other residents started arriving from the capital and purchased lots for homes on the newly constructed Second Street, which was in close proximity to the railroad station. The lots on the western side of the tracks and on Second Street were smaller than those east of the railroad tracks. In the 1870s lots on both sides of the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike had been subdivided as well. In 1875, the town of Laurel Factory had been incorporated and its name changed to Laurel. By this time the southeastern side of Main Street was improved with stores and businesses, and together, the commercial center supported the developing residential neighborhoods to the south and east.

Laurel was incorporated a second time in 1890 and divided into three wards. Pressure for an electric power plant, street paving, and sidewalk improvements started to mount in the late 1880s, and in 1890, an electric light plant was built with private capital. A contract was let to light the streets, and brick sidewalks were constructed on most of the streets shortly after that, followed by the introduction of water and sewers and the paving of streets. Under a town bond issued in 1931, Main Street, along with Washington Boulevard and Montgomery Street, were improved by the state, and smaller streets were resurfaced.
Laurel continued to thrive into the 20th century, and by the 1930s, Main Street was flourishing as a commercial center, with many stores providing residents with a wide variety of goods and services. The 1938 *Album Representative of Official, Financial,*

Professional and Business Interests lists a number of Main Street store owners and includes long-time residents and descendants of some of the town's original residents as well as more recent arrivals from other cities and countries. Overseas immigrants included those from southern Europe, two of whom operated an ice cream parlor and candy store and a magazine store and soda fountain, respectively, and another that operated a barber shop. Several from western Europe operated bakeries and an upholstery shop, while several originating from eastern Europe were jewelers and tailors.

During the 20th century, Laurel reflected the American trend of becoming an increasingly automobile-dependent society. Auto-related businesses opened on Washington Boulevard. At the end of the 20th century, the number of daily commuters to Washington, D.C., increased, and large-scale parking was called for in Laurel. The buildings from First Street adjacent to the rail line and train station to Second Street were demolished and a large parking lot was constructed by the Maryland Transit Authority in 2004. Several small businesses and their buildings remain across the street from the parking lot on Main Street's northeastern side.

By the 1960s Laurel's city planners had grappled with ways to reinvigorate the Main Street business area and almost participated in an extensive federally-funded urban renewal program, which would have included the demolition of a large number of buildings there. City officials voted against plans to pursue the program in 1963, and other solutions to revitalization were explored throughout the 1960 and early 1970s.

By the early 1970s city planners started to acknowledge that the city's rich past could play a key role in its future and that revitalization might be possible by linking the improvement of the Main Street business district to a historic district program. Toward this end, the City of Laurel Historic District Commission was established by City Ordinance No. 535 on November 10, 1975, to oversee the protection of "Old Town" Laurel. Following the establishment of a commission, the Laurel Historic District was identified, and by 1983, six smaller historic districts within the overall district were further delineated. This 2008 survey has renamed Historic District No. 1 as the Eastern Main Street Historic District.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-17

Capron, Horace. Autobiography. 2 vols., nd, typed copy, Maryland Historical Society.

Hopkins, G.M. *Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington Including the County of Prince George Maryland.* Philadelphia: F. Bourquin, 1878.

Martenet, Simon J. Map of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1861.

Recorder of Deeds, Prince Georges County Circuit Court. Various deeds from Land Records.

Spero, P.A.C. and Company. *Montgomery-Prince Georges Short-term Congestion Relief.* May 1998.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property _____

Acreage of historical setting _____

Quadrangle name Laurel, Maryland Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The recommended historic district is bounded on the northeast by the rear of the properties on the northeastern side of Main Street; on the east by the railroad line east of First Street, followed by the southeastern boundary of the commuter parking lot; on the southwest by the southwestern and northwestern property lines of the parking lot up to the corner of Second and Main Street; followed by the rear property lines of the properties on the southwestern side of Main Street; and on the northwest by the southeastern side of Fourth Street.

11. Form Prepared by

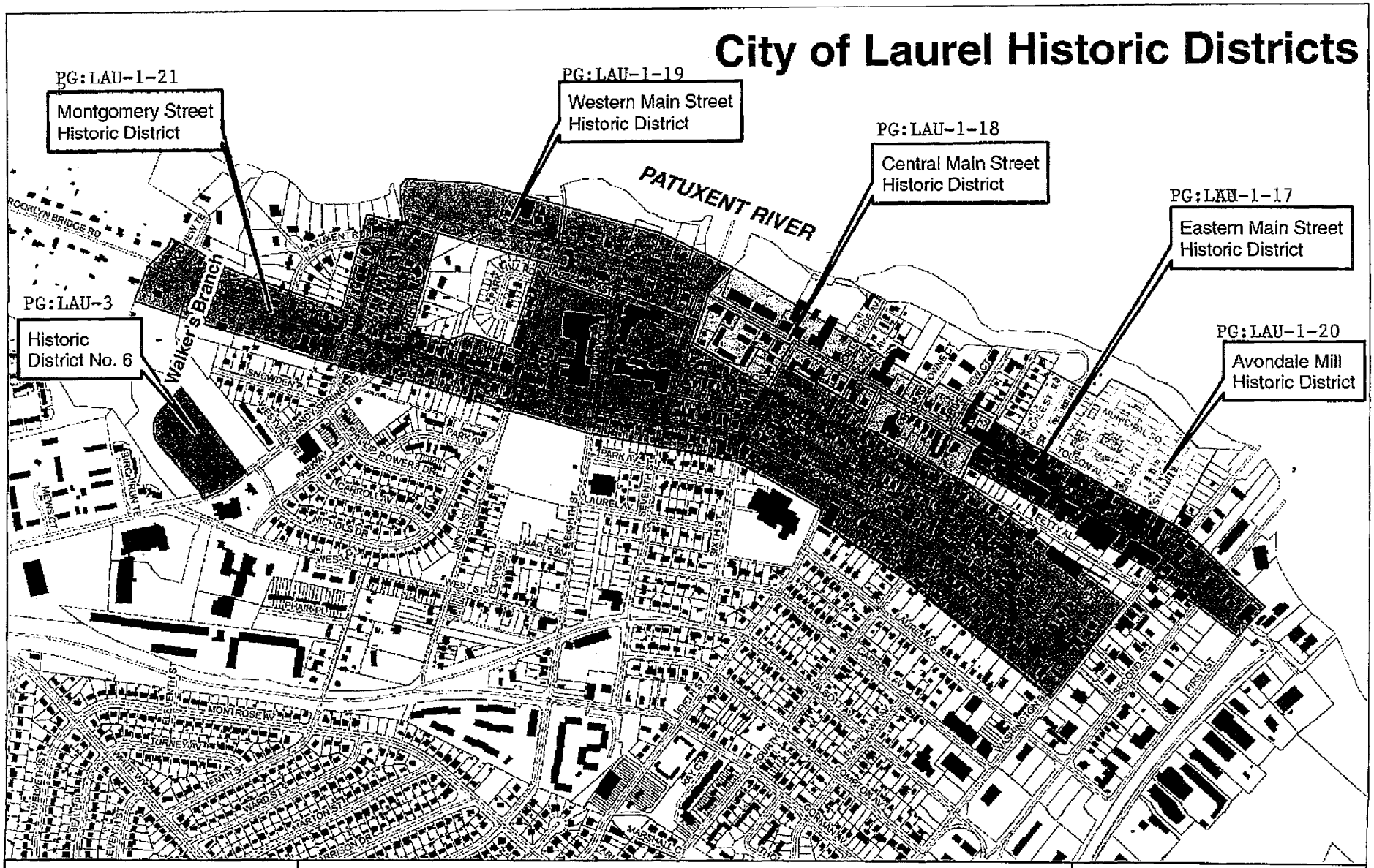
name/title	Alison Ross, M.S. Architectural Historian		
organization	KCI Technologies, Inc.	date	10/2008
street & number	5001 Louise Drive	telephone	717-691-1340
city or town	Mechanicsburg	state	PA 17055

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
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

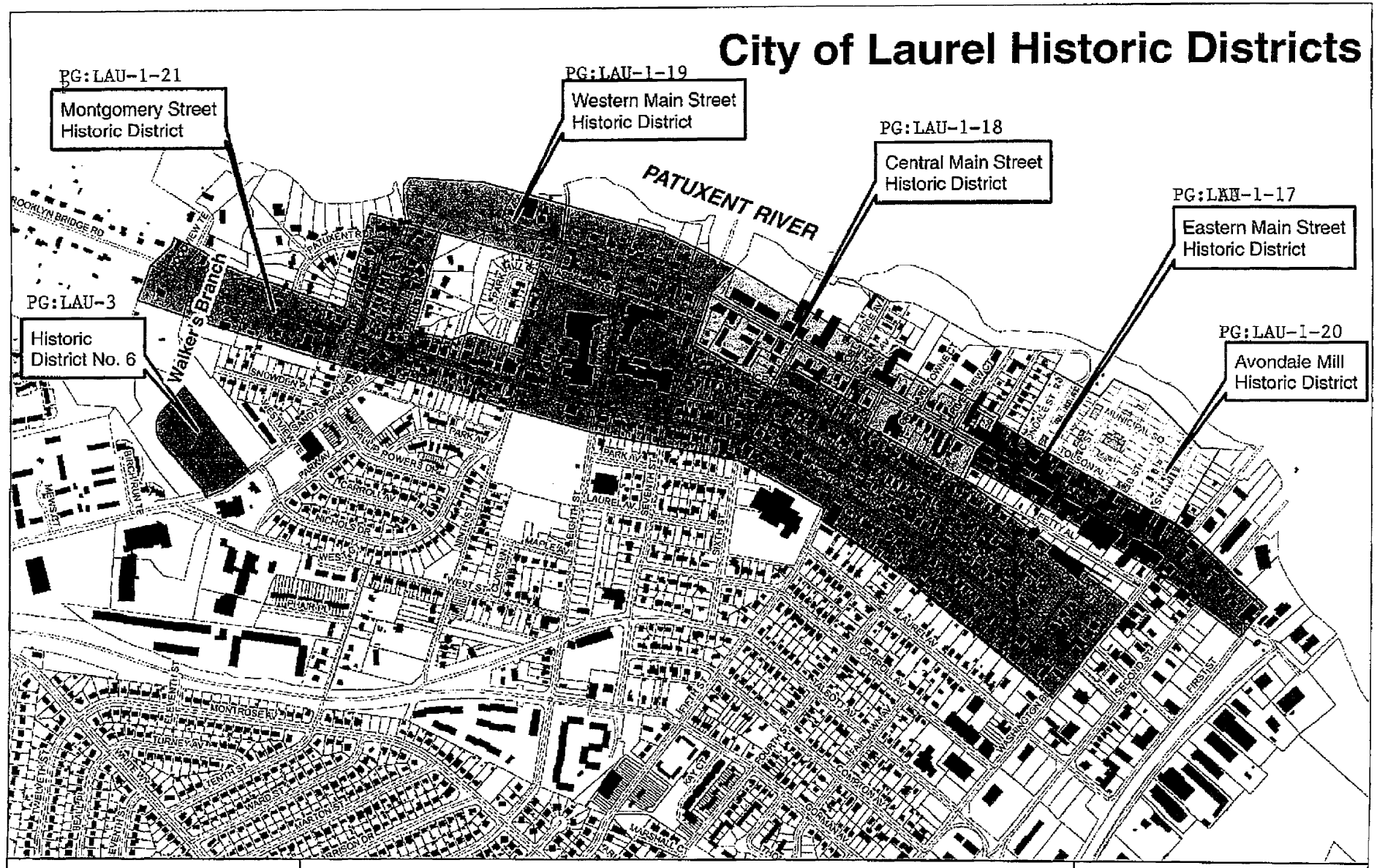
City of Laurel Historic Districts



Laurel Historic District
Architectural Survey and Analysis
City of Laurel, Prince George's County, Maryland

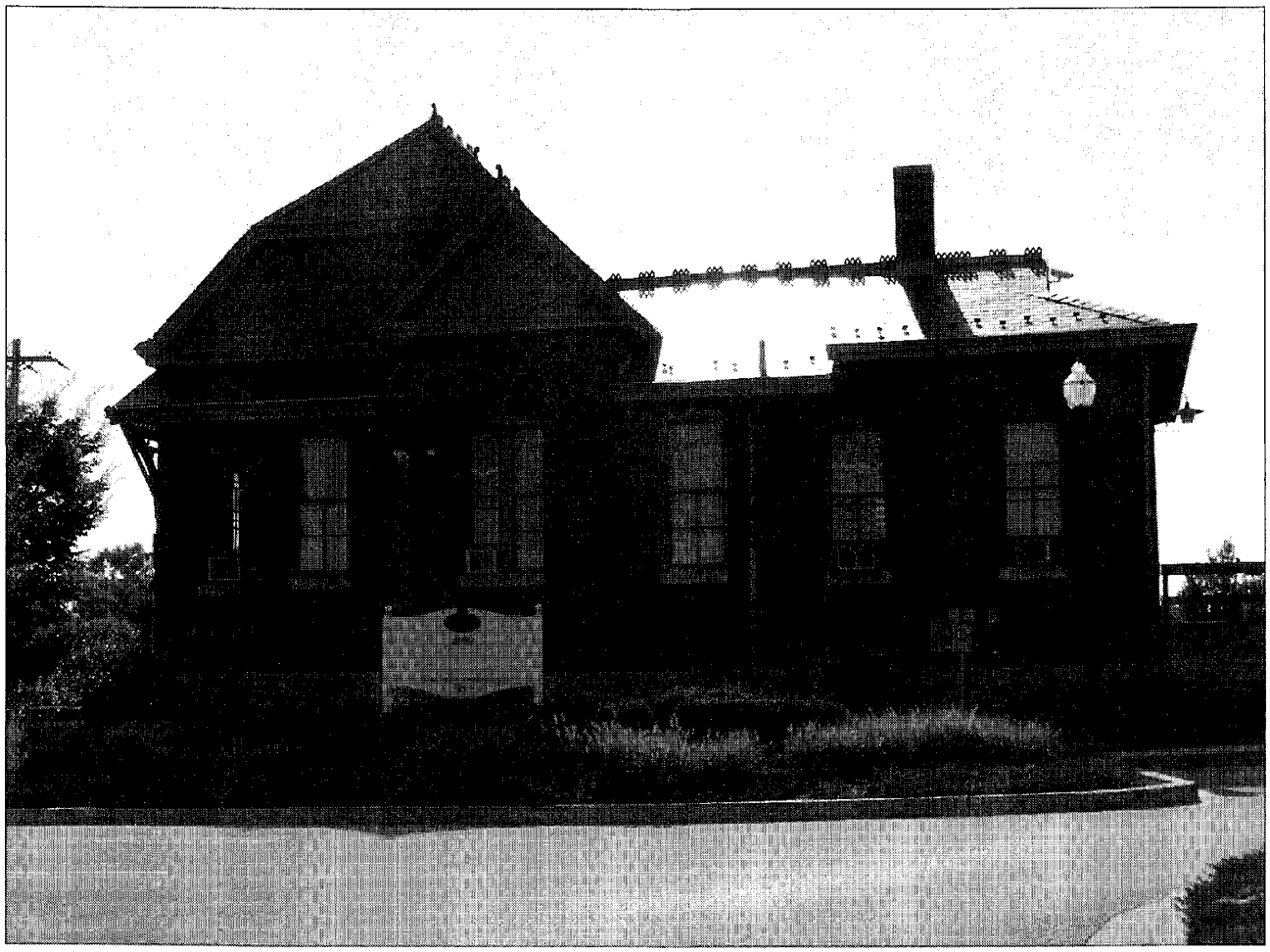
Source: City of Laurel
Department of Public Works

City of Laurel Historic Districts

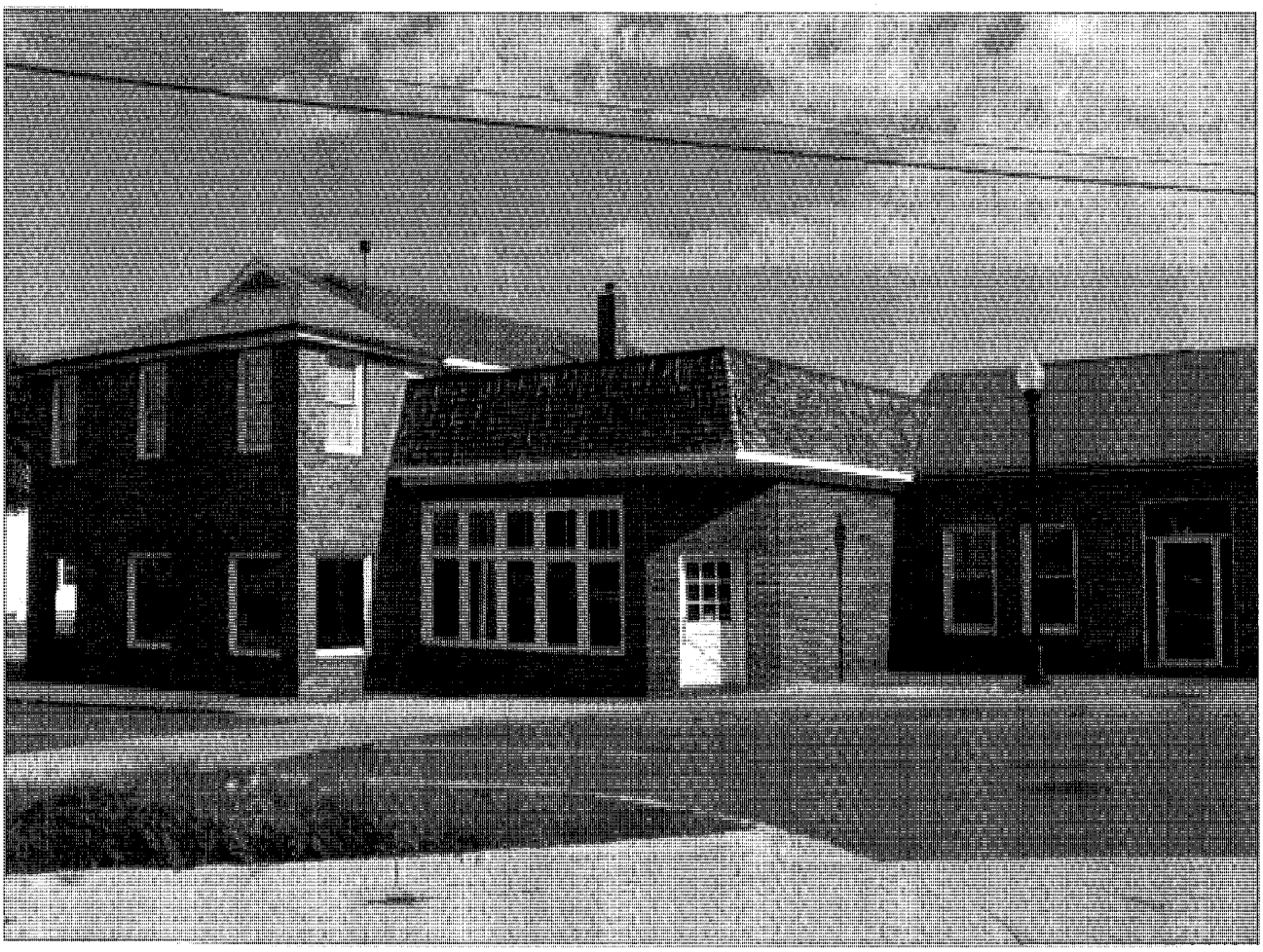


Laurel Historic District
Architectural Survey and Analysis
City of Laurel, Prince George's County, Maryland

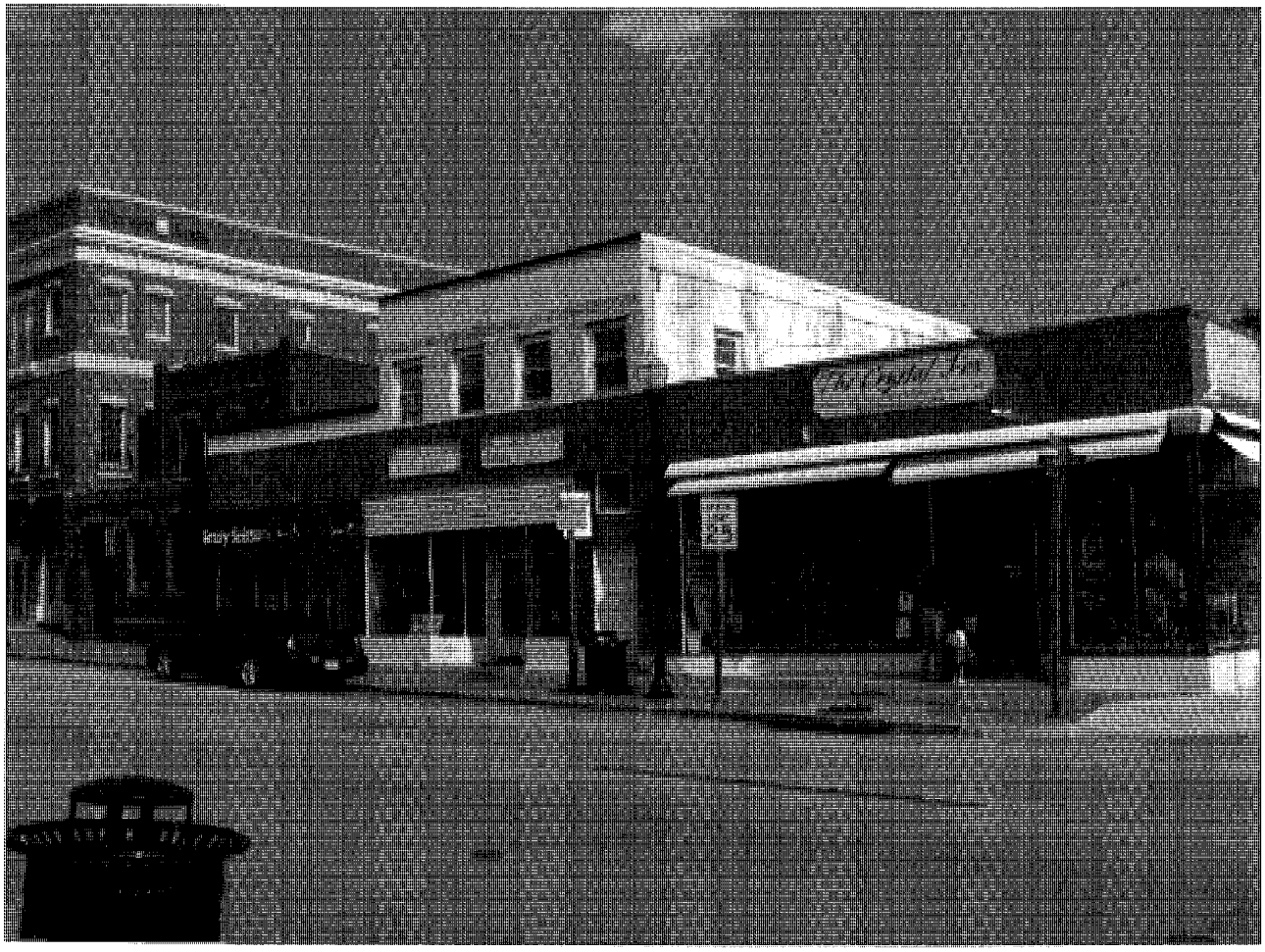
Source: City of Laurel
Department of Public Works



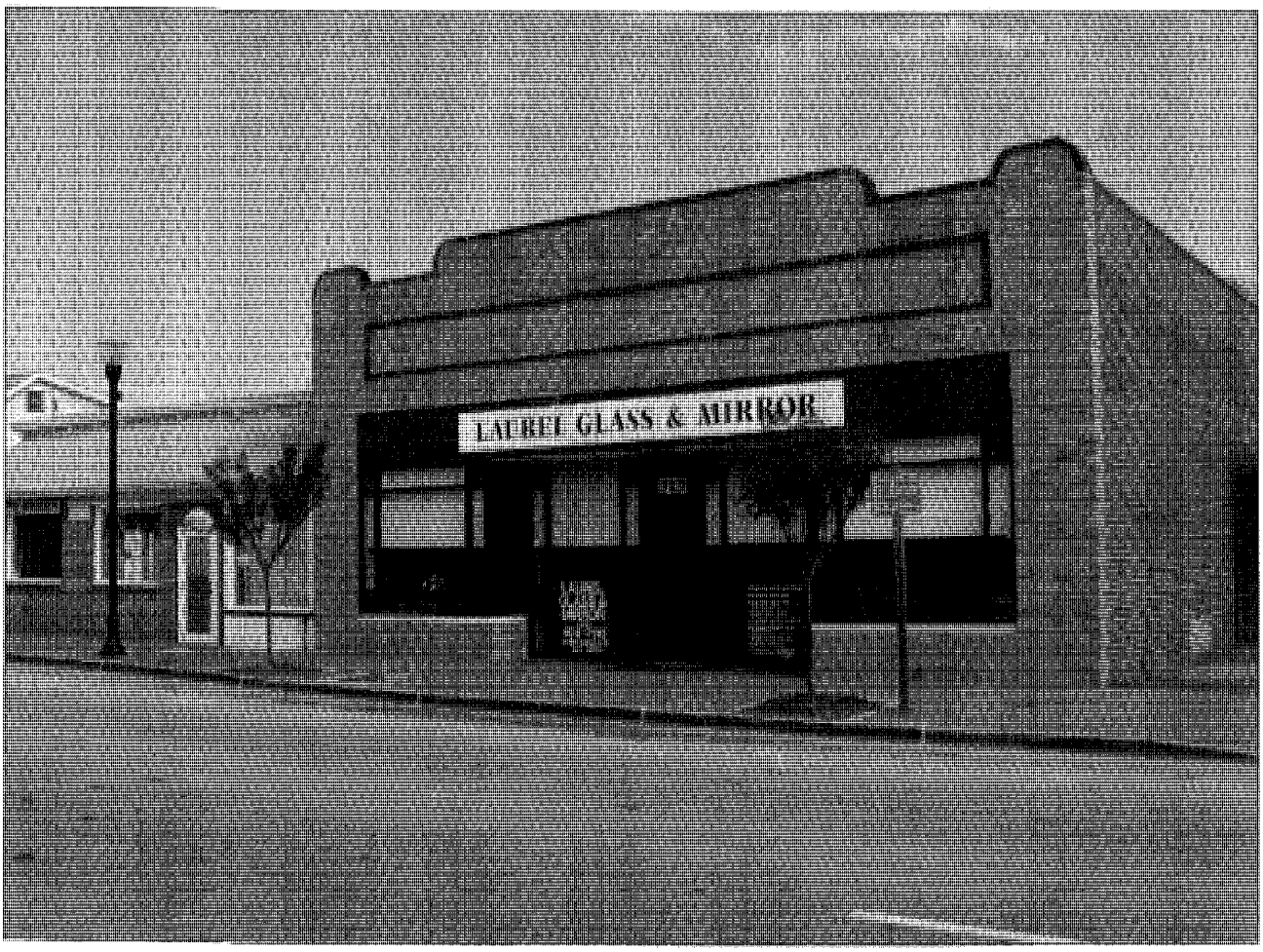
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17
B & O Railroad Station, Eastern Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of NRHP property and contributing resource, facing SE
Photo #1 of 16



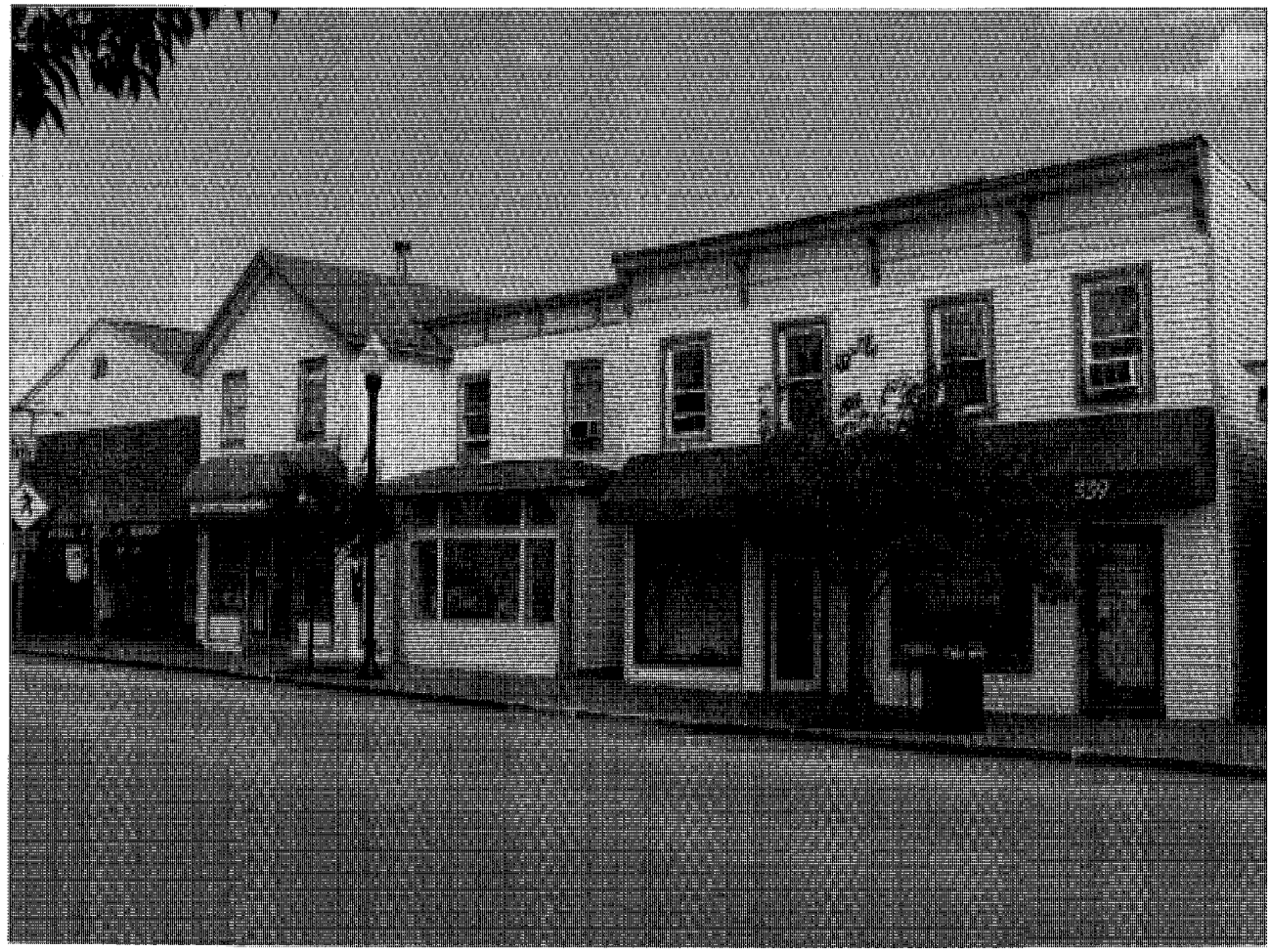
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17
99-101 Main Street, Eastern Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of non-contributing buildings in district, facing N
Photo #2 of 16



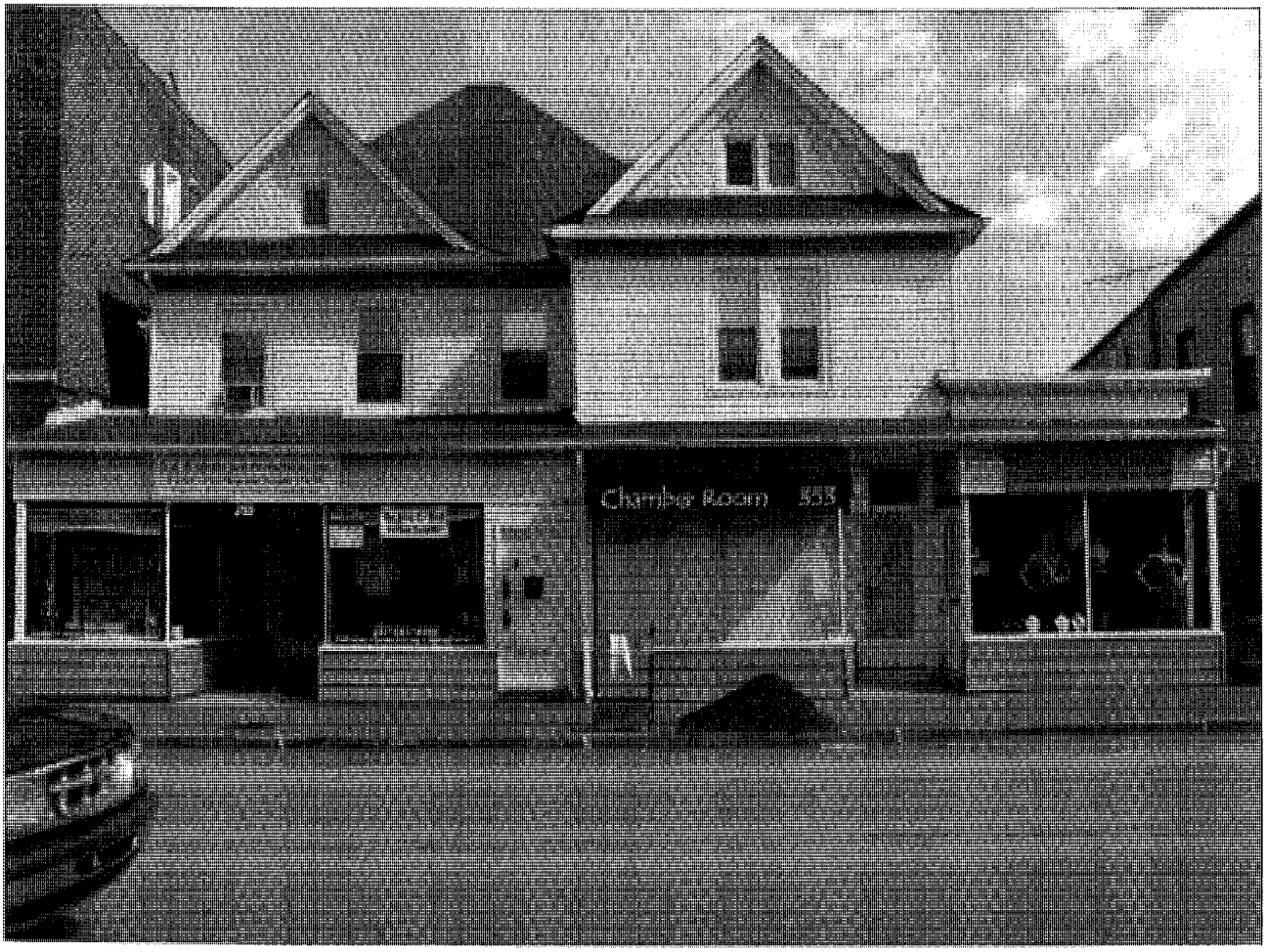
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17
319, 317, 315, 313, and 311 Main Street, Eastern Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of streetscape of contributing resources, facing N
Photo #3 of 16



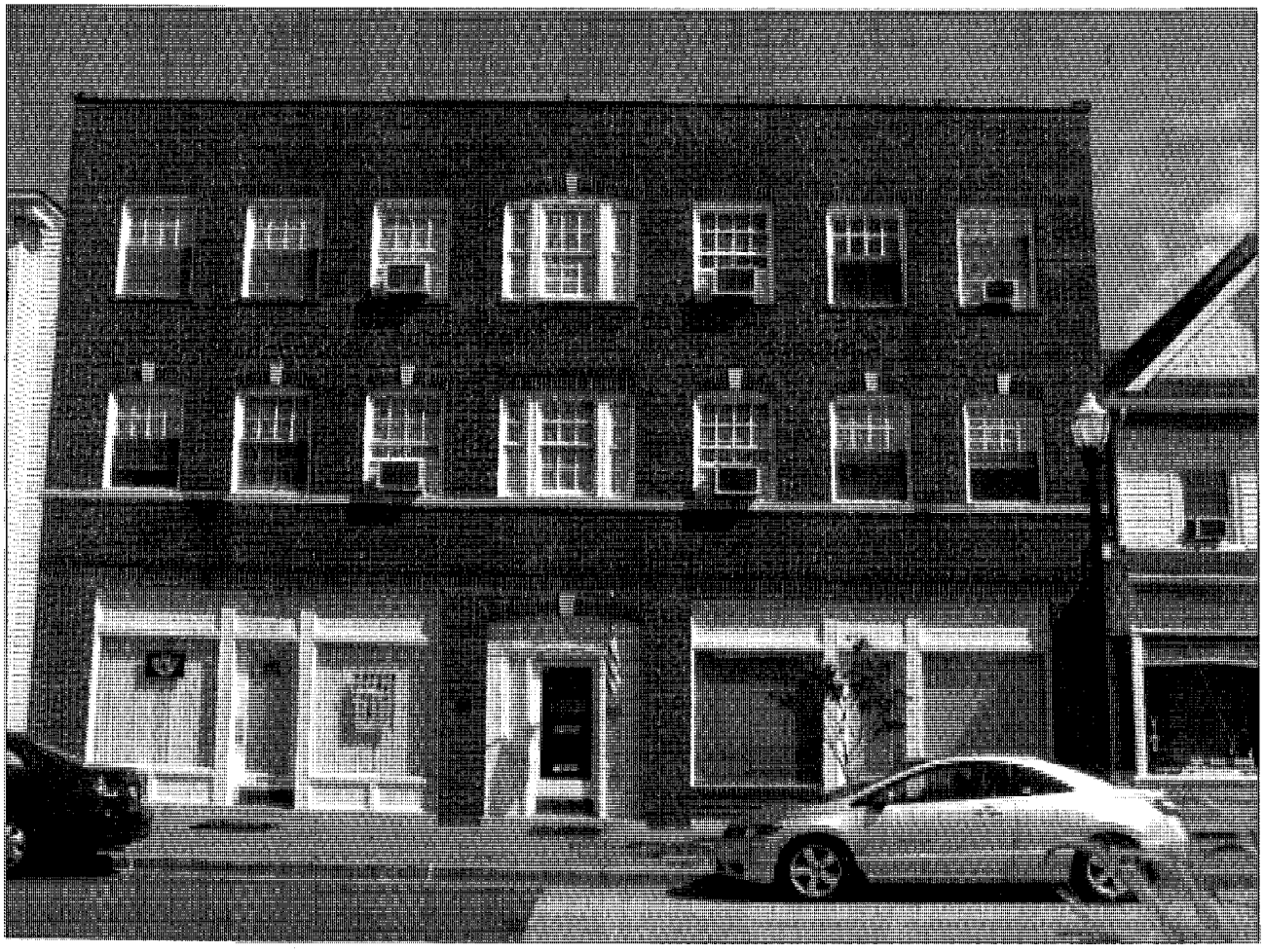
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17
329-329 ½ Main Street, Eastern Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing Art-Deco-style resource, facing N
Photo #4 of 16



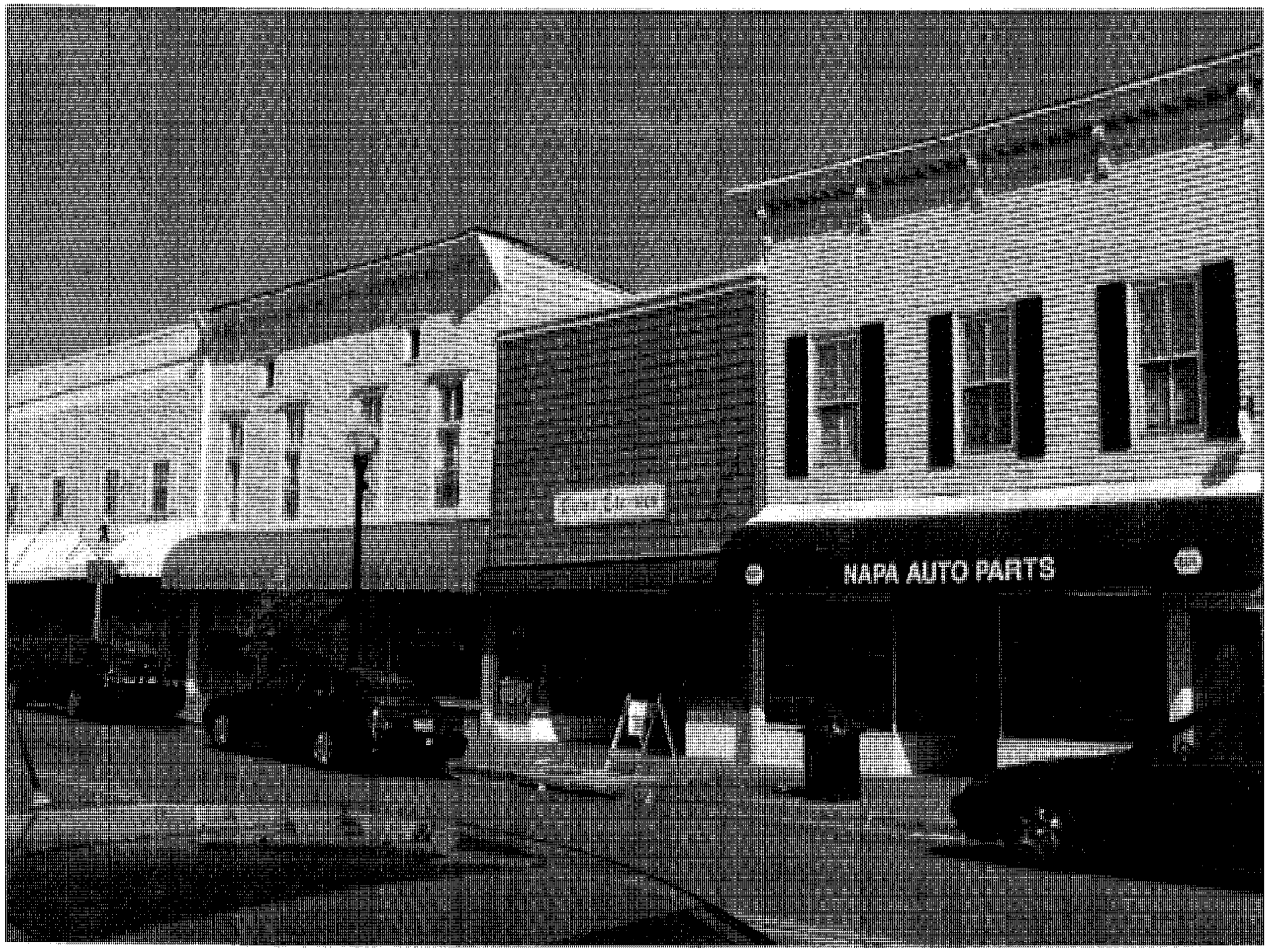
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17
347, 345, 343, 341, 339 Main Street, Eastern Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of streetscape of contributing Italianate- and Queen Anne-style resources, facing N
Photo #5 of 16



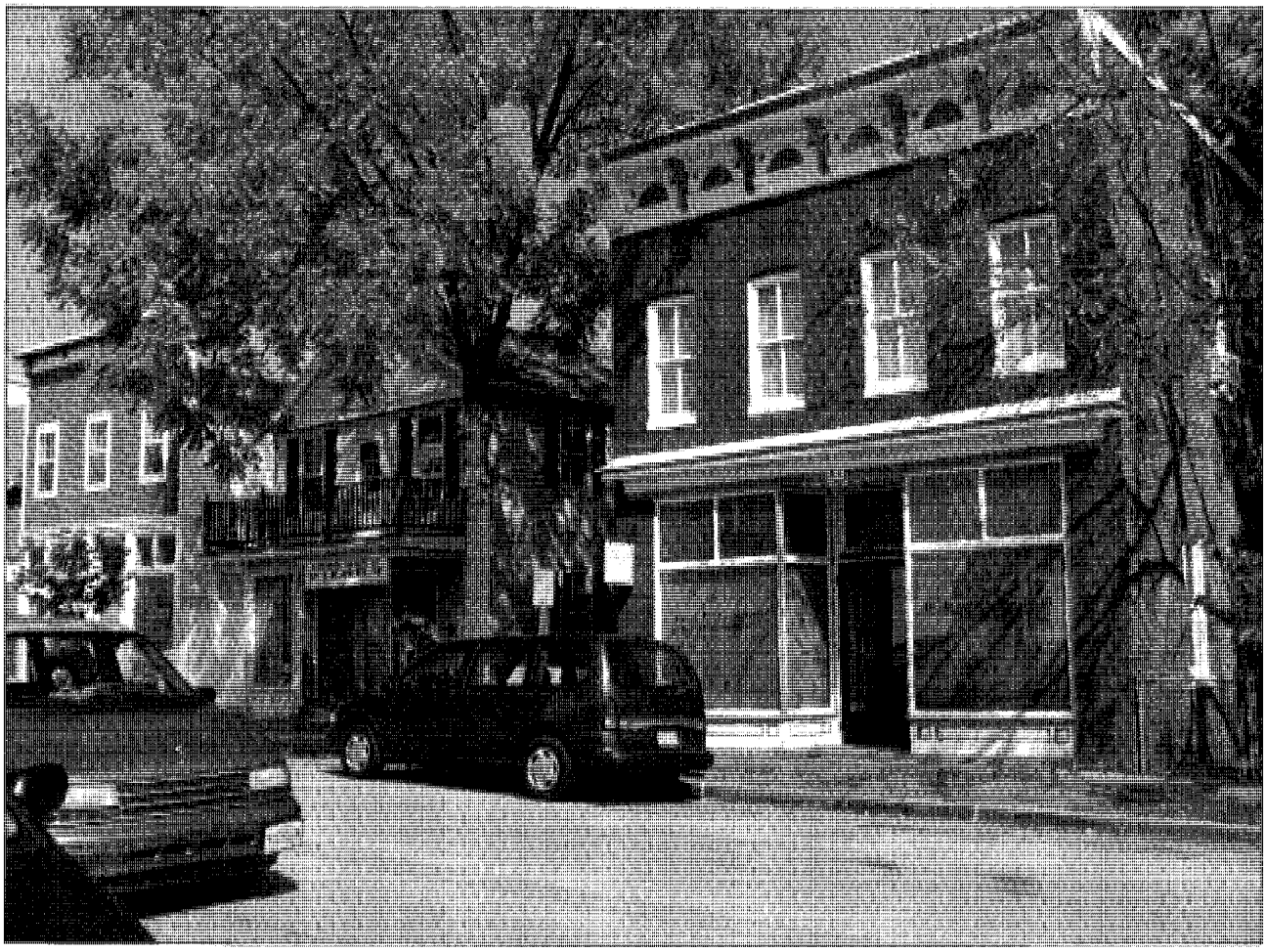
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17
355, 353A, and 353 Main Street, Eastern Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of representative contributing Queen Anne-style dwelling converted to retail stores, facing NE
Photo #6 of 16



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17
357 Main Street, Eastern Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of representative contributing ca. 1920s resource, facing NE
Photo #7 of 16

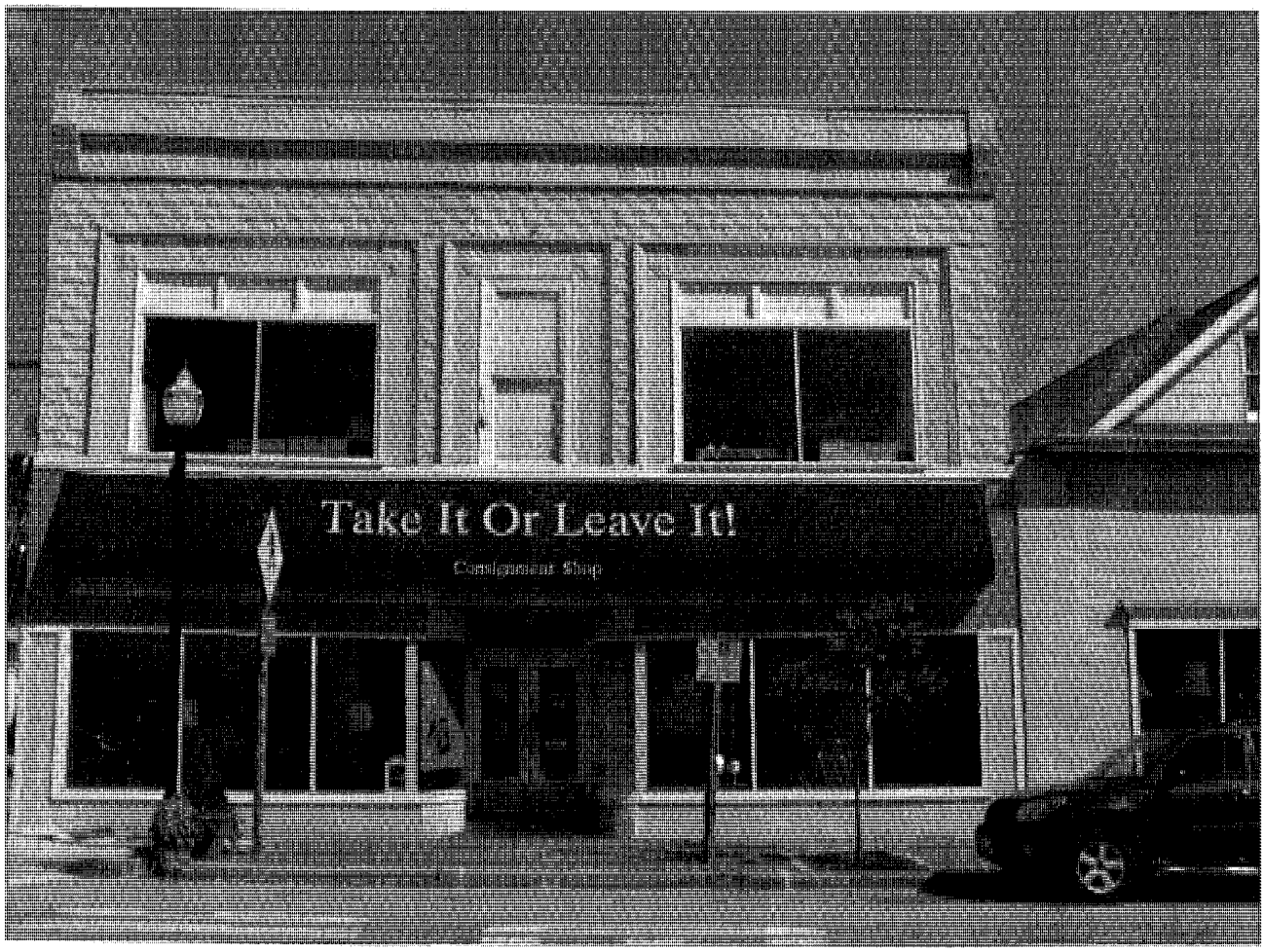


MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17
373-377, 371-367, 365, 359 Main Street, Eastern Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of streetscape showing continuous rooflines, building facades, and setbacks from street of contributing resources, facing N
Photo #8 of 16

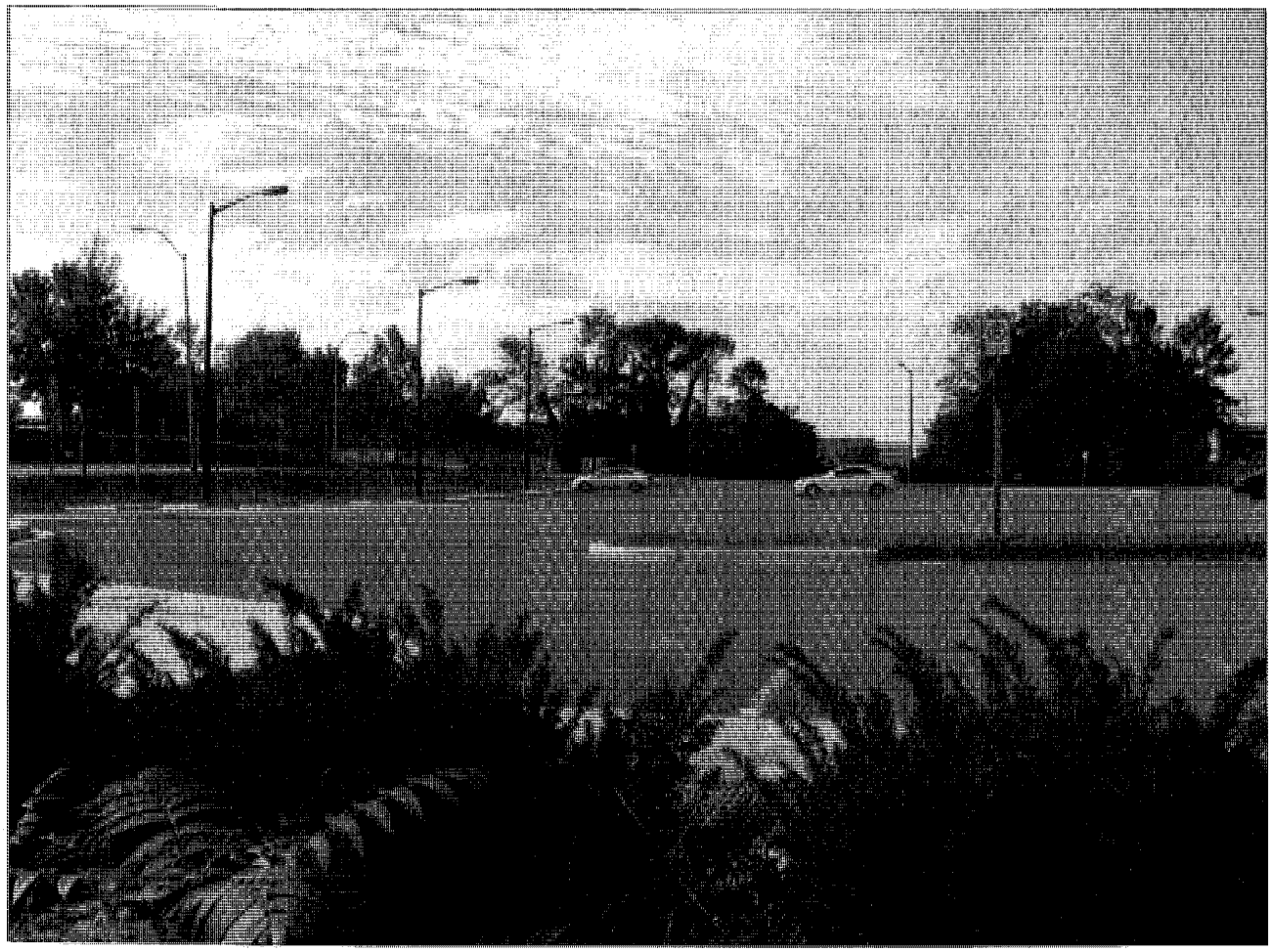


MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17
381, 383 Main Street, Eastern Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of streetscape showing harmonious blend of contributing Italianate and Queen Anne styles of architecture, facing N
Photo #9 of 16

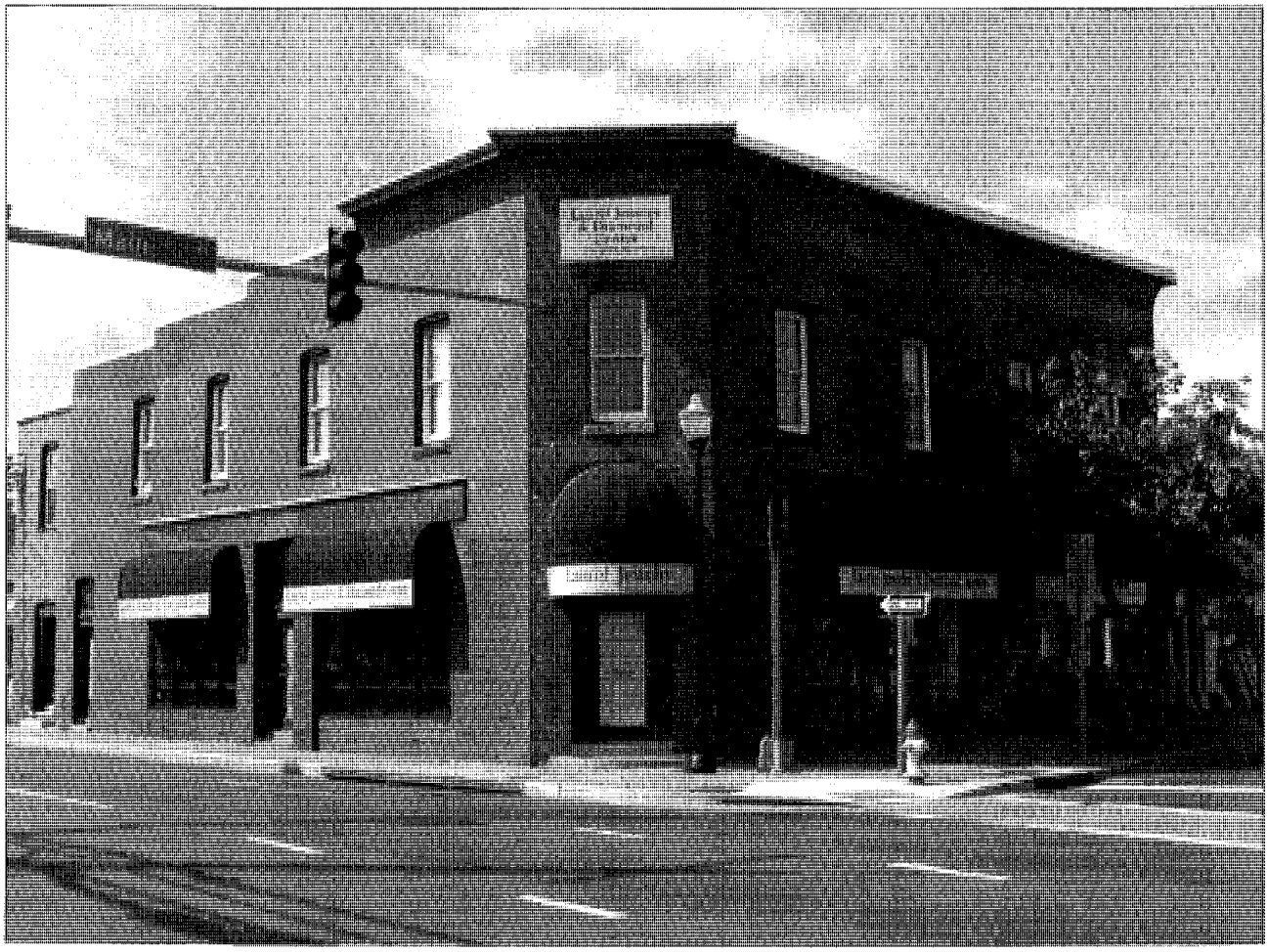
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17
385, 389 Main Street, Eastern Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of streetscape showing contributing 1890s through 1920s buildings, facing N
Photo #10 of 16



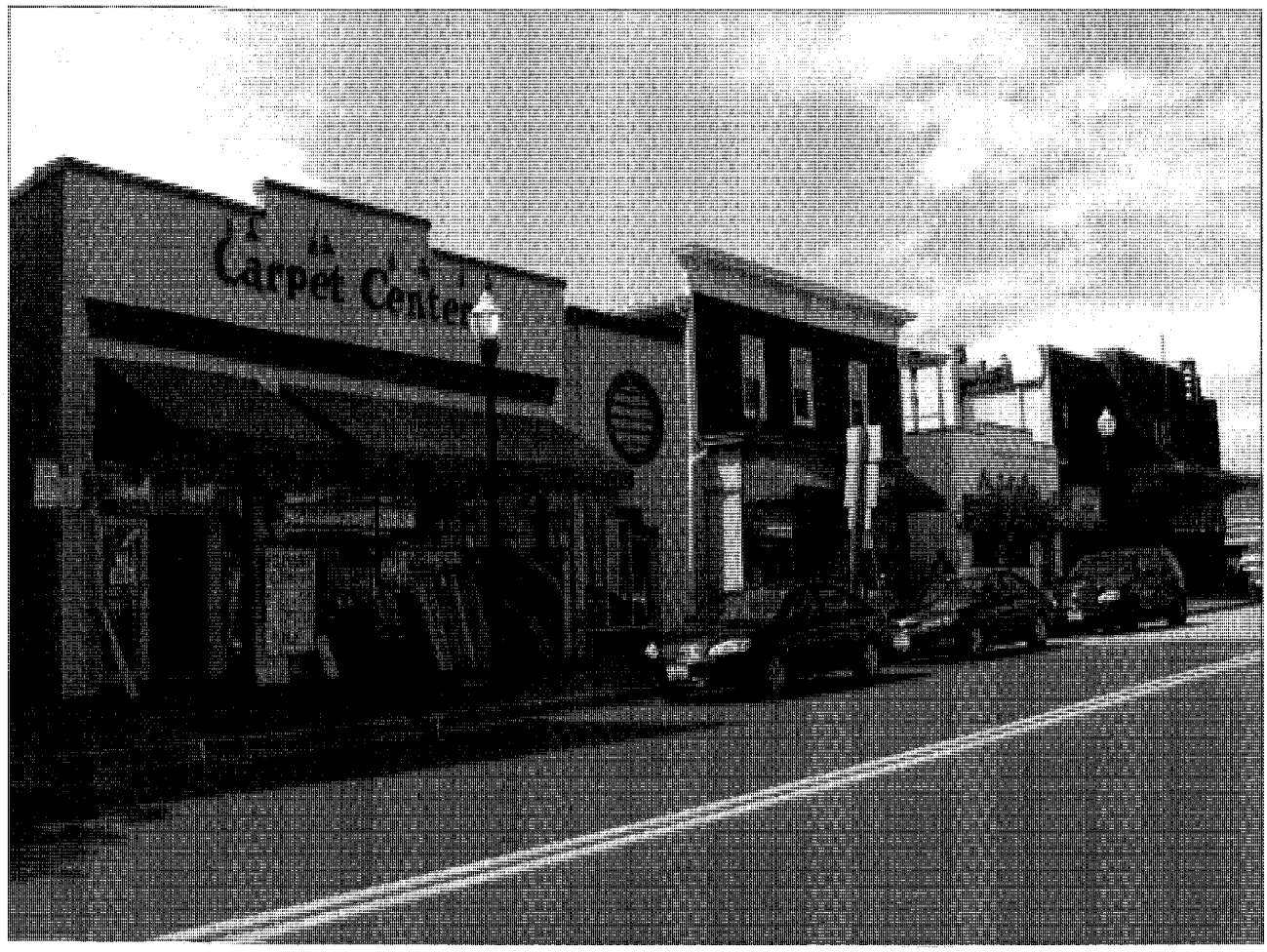
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17
389 Main Street, Eastern Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
Representative contributing ca. 1920s building, facing NE
Photo #11 of 16



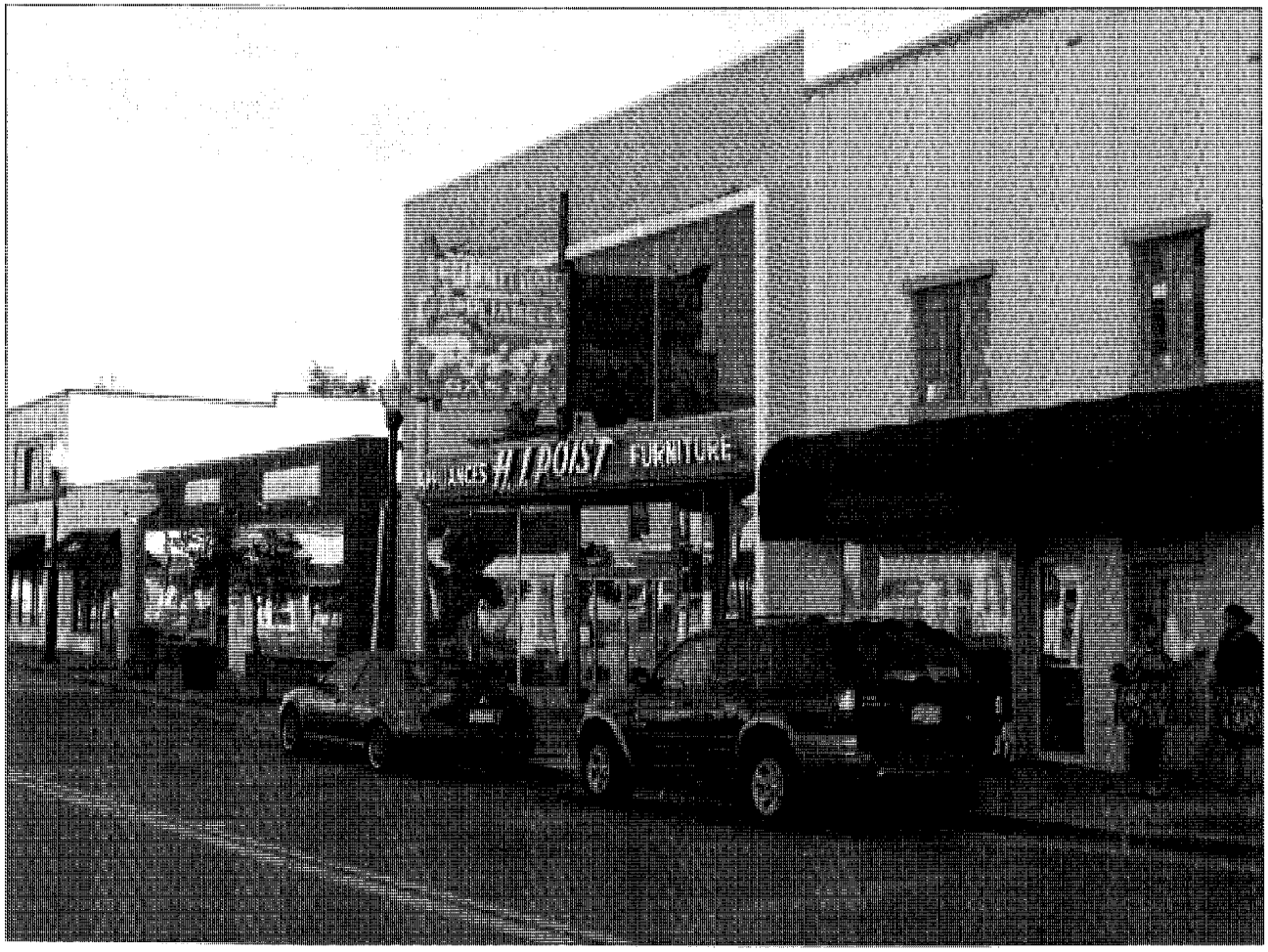
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17
Parking lot at First and Main Streets, Eastern Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of non-contributing resource where large-scale demolition occurred, facing S
Photo #12 of 16



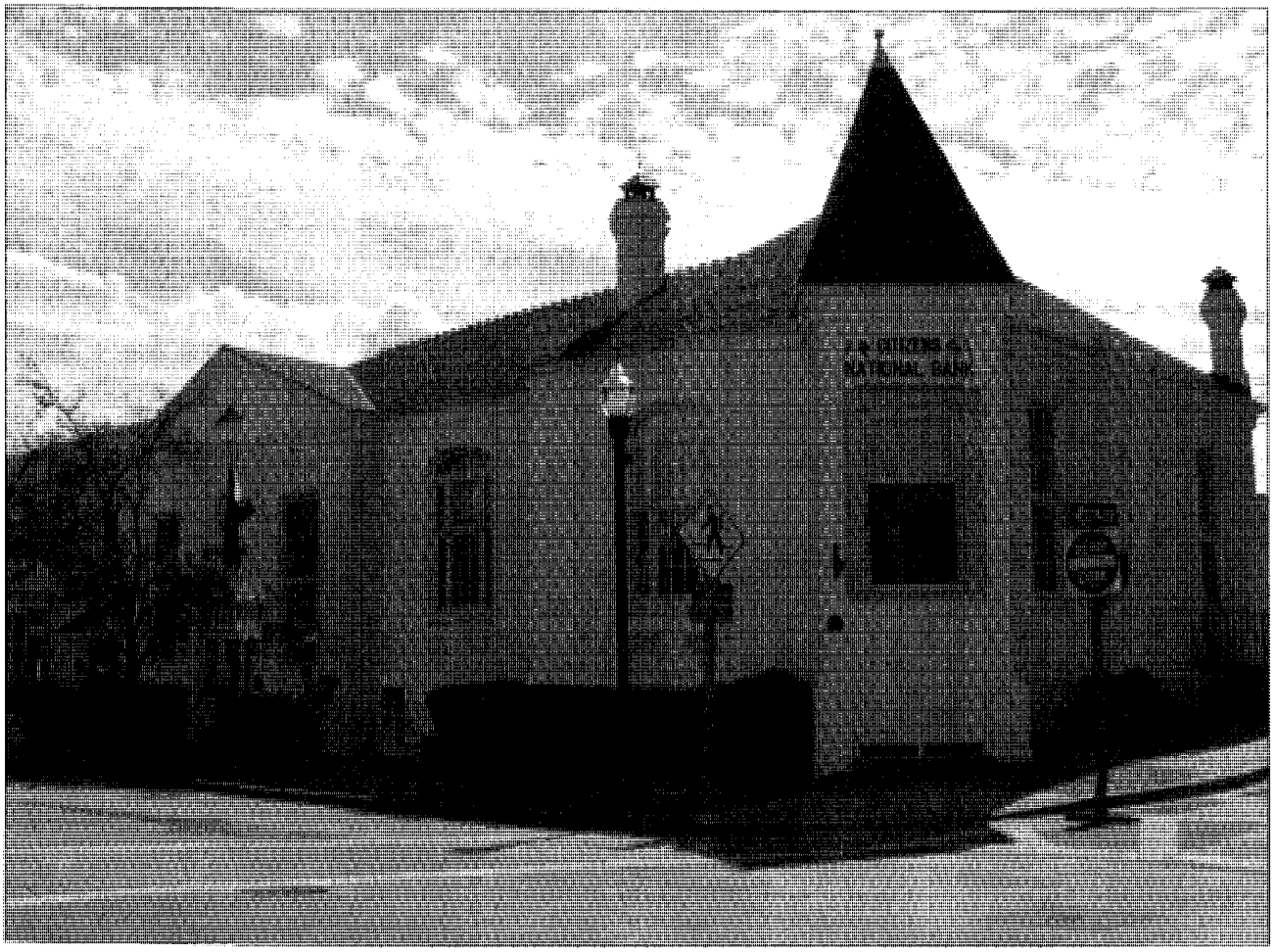
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17
302 Main Street, Eastern Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of representative contributing resource, facing SW
Photo #13 of 16



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17
304, 306, 308, 310, 312 Main Street, Eastern Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of streetscape of contributing resources, with continuous rooflines, building fronts, and setbacks, facing SW
Photo #14 of 16



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17
352 ½-354, 356-358, 360 Main Street, Eastern Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of streetscape of contributing resources, facing SE
Photo #15 of 16



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17
390 Main Street, Eastern Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Laurel, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing SE
Photo #16 of 16

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

'roperty Name: Eastern Main Street Historic District Inventory Number: PG:LAU-1-17

Address: Main Street from Lafayette Avenue to Fourth Street City: Laurel Zip Code: 20707

County: Prince Georges County USGS Topographic Map: Laurel, MD 1979

Owner: City of Laurel Is the property being evaluated a district? X yes

Tax Parcel Number: _____ Tax Map Number: _____ Tax Account ID Number: _____

Project: Laurel Historic District Architectural Survey and Analysis Agency: City of Laurel

Site visit by MHT Staff: ____no ____yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Is the property located within a historic district? ____yes X no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: PG:LAU-1-17

NR-listed district ____yes Eligible district X yes District Name: Eastern Main Street Historic District

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ____yes ____no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ____

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ____yes ____no

Criteria: X A ____B X C ____D Considerations: ____A ____B ____C ____D ____F ____G ____None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MHT MIHP Form Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-17

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

The Eastern Main Street Historic District is one of three designated linear districts along Main Street in Laurel, Maryland. The district is at the southeastern end of Main Street and is the historic commercial center of the town. The majority of the buildings along both the northeastern and the southwestern sides of Main Street consists of retail businesses and services that, like their predecessors, serve the residents of the surrounding community of Laurel. Most of the buildings on both sides of the street are attached to each other, forming continuous rows of buildings.

The Eastern Main Street Historic District is a cohesive, intact example of a commercial center whose 19th-century development resulted from one industry on the Patuxent River. The district extends from the railroad station at the southeastern end of First Street to Fourth Street and includes properties on both sides of Main Street. The town is bordered by the Patuxent River on the north and by urban and suburban residential and commercial development on its other sides. The construction dates of the district's buildings range from the mid 1850s to the 1990s. The most prevalent architectural styles include Italianate, Queen Anne, 1930s Commercial, Art Deco, and Colonial Revival. The majority of the buildings range in size from 1 to 3 stories, with the business or

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ____ **Eligibility not recommended** ____

Criteria: ____A ____B ____C ____D **Considerations:** ____A ____B ____C ____D ____E ____F ____G ____None

Comments: _____

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

Reviewer, NR Program **Date**

retail store occupying the first story and residential units above. Particularly prevalent, especially in the district's southeastern end, are 1-story stores with flat facades and stepped parapet roofs, characteristic of 1930s commercial buildings.

At the southeastern-most end of the district between Lafayette Street and Washington Boulevard, the density of buildings has been decreased because of block-long demolition that has occurred on the southwestern side between First and Second Street for the construction of a large commuter parking lot for the rail station. Demolition also has occurred between Second Street and Washington Boulevard for the construction of a parking lot for residential townhouse units set back from the street. Another large area of demolition is the northeastern side of Main Street on the 200 block, where most of the block has been demolished and sits vacant.

For the most part, from Washington Boulevard northwestward to Fourth Street, the district contains a continuous-appearing row of buildings on both sides of the street, forming a cohesive collection of buildings. Not all of the buildings are attached; however, their similar setbacks from the road, aligned front awnings and storefront windows, similar roof heights, and continuous rooflines provide visual continuity when looking down the street. Most of the buildings house retail stores, such as gift shops, furniture stores, and medical supply stores, and others contain businesses such as insurance agencies, salons, or tax consultant businesses. The street's southwestern side contains several banks, as well as a post office and women's club, all of which complete the collection of retail stores, businesses, and services available to the city's residents, many of whom live in adjacent residential neighborhoods.

While each store or business has a separate address, there are a number of buildings that house several businesses with separate entrances, signage displays, and glass storefront windows under one roof. For example, one building might contain three addresses and three separate retail stores and storefront windows, such as 352, 352 ½, and 354 Main Street. There are several 19th-century Queen Anne-style and Italianate-style residential dwellings, such as 353, 353A, and 355, that have been converted into retail stores, with additions or conversions of the first story into retail space with glass storefronts and residential or office spaces on the second stories. Other buildings were originally constructed for use as a retail store, such as 304, 308, and 310 Main Street.

Most, if not all, of the historic buildings have had some type of alteration. Some of the buildings have been converted from mid-19th-century residential dwellings to retail stores or businesses, including Queen Anne- and Italianate-style houses. Their conversions have included the construction of 1-story additions with glass storefronts and bulkheads to the front and sides of the houses. Other stores might have received new facades with updated material over the original or new entrances and windows.

Despite the alterations, most of the buildings of the Eastern Main Street Historic District are still an integral part of the town's commercial center and are contributing elements to the historic district. There are 56 buildings within the historic district boundaries, 45 of which are contributing and 11 non-contributing. The non-contributing buildings have been constructed after 1960.

The historic district has retained a high degree of historic integrity and retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The historic district meets significance criteria A and C as outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's National Register Bulletin, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation." The historic district meets Criterion A because it is associated with the commercial beginnings of Laurel from the middle of the 19th century onward as it flourished as a company town centered around the cotton mill complex on the Patuxent River. The historic district also meets Criterion C because it represents a significant and distinguishable collection of buildings. The property does not meet Criterion B because it is not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. It does not meet Criterion D because it has not yielded, nor is it likely to yield information important in prehistory or history. Therefore, the Eastern Main Street Historic District is recommended as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Prepared by: Alison J. Ross
KCI Technologies, Inc.

Date Prepared: May 2009

Capsule Summary

Name of Property: Fred Frederick Motors
MIHP number: PG:LAU-1-17-1
Location: 43 Washington Boulevard
Laurel, Prince Georges County, Maryland

Date of Construction:
Access: Private

Property Description: The buildings that comprise the property known as Fred Frederick Motors at 43 Washington Boulevard in Laurel, Maryland, sit on a parcel of land on the corner of Washington Boulevard and Talbott Street. The parcel contains two buildings, a main building fronting Washington Boulevard and a secondary building directly behind it and fronting Little Montgomery Avenue. The buildings are surrounded by a concrete and brick sidewalk on Washington Boulevard, a concrete sidewalk and parking area on Little Montgomery Avenue, and paved parking on the northwest and northeast of the buildings. Directly northeast and beside the main building is a small 1-story, 3-bay building of painted brick masonry construction with a slate-covered pyramidal roof. Although it appears to be part of the Frederick property, it is owned by AT&T.

Summary Paragraph on History: The buildings that comprise Fred Frederick Motors at 43 Washington Boulevard in Laurel, Maryland, sit on a tract of land that originally housed the Baublitz' Garage, also known as the Laurel Garage. Following the Baublitz' garage, the parcel contained a gas station that was constructed circa 1930 by the Sun Oil Company, who leased land from the Baublitz'; a Chevrolet automobile dealership starting in 1950; and Fred Frederick Motors, which was established in 1959 and sits on the lot to the present day. It is believed that the main building of the current dealership was the circa 1930 Sun Oil Company's gas station. A secondary building with an addition was constructed at an unknown date.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-17-1

1. Name of Property

historic	Fred Frederick Motors (preferred)
other	Baublitz' Garage

2. Location

street and number	43 Washington Boulevard	__ not for publication
city, town	Laurel	__ vicinity
county	Prince Georges	

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

name	Sylvester G. Frederick, Jr.				
street and number	43 Washington Boulevard South			telephone	
city, town	Laurel	state	Maryland	zip code	20707-4341

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Tax Department website			liber 2224	folio 340
city, town	Laurel	tax map A-0848	tax parcel		tax ID number 10 23001

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

_____ Contributing Resource in National Register District
__X__ 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
_____district
__X__building(s)
_____structure
_____site
_____object

Ownership
_____public
__X__private
_____both

Current Function
_____agriculture
__X__commerce/trade
_____defense
_____domestic
_____education
_____funerary
_____government
_____health care
industry
_____landscape
_____recreation/culture
_____religion
_____social
__X__transportation
_____work in progress
_____unknown
_____vacant/not in use
_____other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
2	_____	Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
0

7. Description

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-17-1

Condition

___ excellent ___ deteriorated
_X_ good ___ ruins
___ fair ___ altered

Summary

The buildings that comprise the property known as Fred Frederick Motors at 43 Washington Boulevard in Laurel, Maryland, sit on a tract of land that originally housed Baublitz' Garage, also known as the Laurel Garage, as early as 1912. The current building is believed to have been constructed circa 1930 when the Sun Oil Company leased land from the Baublitz' for a gasoline station. Besides the gas station, the property was the site of a Chevrolet dealership from 1950-1959, followed by the Frederick's automobile dealership from 1959 to the present day.

The Fred Frederick Motors automobile dealership is on the corner of Washington Boulevard and Tolson Street and contains two buildings, a main building fronting Washington Boulevard and a secondary building directly behind the main building and fronting Tolson Street. The buildings are surrounded by a concrete and brick sidewalk on Washington Boulevard, a concrete sidewalk and parking area on Tolson Street and paved parking on the northwest and northeast of the buildings.

Directly northeast and beside the main building is a small 1-story, 3-bay building of painted brick masonry construction with a slate-covered pyramidal roof. Although it appears to be part of the Frederick property, it is independently owned by AT&T and does not contribute to the property.

Comprehensive Description

The property's main building is a 1-story, 3-bay building that serves as a showroom, office, and mechanic shop for the automobile dealership. The main entrance is in the primary elevation and consists of a large opening that accommodates both automobile use and foot traffic. The large opening is covered by 2 metal and glass panels on a sliding track flanking a centrally-located rolling metal garage door. It appears that two other metal and glass panels were removed prior to the garage door retrofit in the center of the opening. The metal track on which the panels moved still remains and extends across the entire opening. The two remaining panels appear to be in a fixed position, with the panel to the left of the garage door having 6 lights and the panel to the right of the garage door having 1 large upper glass light and a lower single-leaf, glass and metal entrance door inserted. Showroom windows are on both sides of the entrance, with the original window opening on the left side and an altered window on the right. The window was removed, and a projecting 1-story, flat-roofed, glass-enclosed showroom with full-height windows was added to the front on the building's northern end. The bulkhead and glass windows extend over the sidewalk. The building's foundation and wall construction are not visible; however, the walls on all elevations have been covered with stucco. The roof is a front-gabled roof, with a stepped, parapeted façade on the primary elevation that appears to date from the 1930s.

The layers of changes that occurred to the front elevation of the automobile dealership reflect stylistic changes that have occurred throughout the 20th century. The alterations have enabled the building to adapt to changes and growing needs of the Washington Boulevard automobile dealership business. The 1930s parapeted façade was a common feature for early automobile-related architecture. The sliding panels and mechanism over the front entrance are reflective of designs of aircraft hangar doors commonly installed in the 1950s. The panels were undoubtedly installed on the large opening to allow for travel of vehicles into and out of the building while providing a secured entrance. The metal single-leaf door and the large showroom addition reflect common designs for retail businesses and automobile showrooms in the 1960s or 1970s. They were added to enable foot traffic into the showroom and to increase display capacity for the automobiles.

The main building's southwestern elevation also displays evidence of building alterations made to accommodate the automobile dealership. Originally containing six pilasters, the elevation currently has five pilasters and the remains of a sixth pilaster above a later garage door opening. Two small windows pierce this wall of the building. The northeastern elevation has 3 windows, and a glass entrance door that is within the metal framework holding the full-height glass showroom windows.

A secondary building on the property is a 1-story, shed-roof building sitting directly behind and almost adjacent to the main building, with its front elevation facing Tolson Street. Two former garage bays have been infilled with glass windows and single-width rolling metal doors, possibly indicating a conversion from a garage space to an office space to accommodate a growing automobile dealership business. A 1-story addition with a flat roof, metal siding, and long, rectangular floor plan was added to the rear of the secondary building and appears to house offices as well.

8. Significance

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-17-1

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

Specific dates circa 1930 **Architect/Builder**

Construction dates circa 1930

Evaluation for:

_____ National Register _____Maryland Register __X__Not evaluated

Narrative Discussion of History

General History

The City of Laurel was first developed by members of the Snowden family, one of the founding families of Maryland, and their relatives from Attleboro, Massachusetts. Laurel is located on land that was originally patented to Richard Snowden in 1715 as "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" in Prince George's County, Maryland. At the time, Snowden's estate already was approximately 3,000 acres in size, extending from Old Columbia Pike to the present city of Laurel and from south of Greencastle and Van Dusen Roads to north of Sandy Spring Road. The 1715 patent increased the already substantial Snowden land holdings, and by 1743 the estate had grown to 9,265 acres.

Although the Laurel area started as an agricultural center, it became a location for manufacturing as early as the first half of the 18th century, distinguishing it from the rest of rural Prince George's County. Manufacturing activity on the Patuxent River dates back to 1736 when the Snowden family established the Patuxent River Iron Works. Almost a century later in 1811, Nicholas Snowden constructed a stone grist mill building on the Patuxent River at what is now Ninth Street. In 1824, a Mr. Johnson leased the Snowden mill and converted it from a grist mill to a factory for spinning yarns, known as the Cotton Manufacturing Motive of Laurel. Other operations soon contributed to the manufacturing activity in Laurel, including a saw mill, a hat factory, and a blanket factory and were located farther east either on the Patuxent River or near the Baltimore-Washington Turnpike.

Nicholas Snowden died in 1831, and his estate, Montpelier, was subdivided among his children. His daughter, Louisa, received what was called the Bank Quarter, which contained the bank of iron ore. A leftover undivided portion along the Patuxent River, containing approximately 100 acres, eventually became the site of the Laurel Factory. The parcel contained a stone mansion occupied by the Snowdens, the original grist and saw mill, and a several log houses. It also contained a well-used farm where successive crops of tobacco and corn had been cultivated. The farm's location was invaluable because of the exceptional water power provided by the river.

The 1835 completion of the Baltimore and Ohio (B & O) Railroad Company's new railroad line through Laurel, located just over one mile east of the mill, contributed to the attractiveness of the mill location. The railroad, which was to connect Baltimore with Washington D.C., promised easier access to new markets, both for raw materials and finished products. Access to other markets was previously gained by travel from the mill eastward via Main Street to the Washington-Baltimore Turnpike, which was chartered by the state of Maryland in 1812.

The location and easy access to the railroad and the turnpike were not lost on Snowden's heirs, which included son-in-law Horace Capron, Louisa's husband and a member of the Capron family of Attleboro, Massachusetts. Snowden had previously worked at a mill at Savage, Maryland, prior to turning his attentions to the lands of the former New Birmingham Manor. On January 28, 1836, Horace Capron joined other Snowden family members in a new business venture. Capron, along with Dr. Theodore Jenkins (brother-in-law of Capron and neighbor of the Snowdens at New Birmingham Manor), Elizabeth Snowden (Capron's mother-in-law), Osmond C. Tiffany (Capron's first cousin from another Attleboro, Massachusetts, family) A.E. Hall, and W.C. Shaw incorporated a new company, the Patuxent Company, for the purpose of manufacturing and selling cotton, iron, and other articles at the site of the mill and farm. The Snowden children's land

holdings were combined and transferred when Horace Capron and his wife, Charles Hill and his wife, and Dr. Theodore Jenkins and his wife, conveyed their inherited lands to the Patuxent Company. Deeds for property and stock also were transferred by Osmond Tiffany, Comfort Tiffany, and several Capron cousins, who also were involved in mill activities elsewhere.

Shortly after its incorporation, the Patuxent Company constructed housing for its mill workers in the vicinity of the mill. Merchants established stores and businesses to support the mill workers and their families, and the town, known as Laurel Factory, started to grow. Churches schools and social halls were established as well, first in the western end near the mill, then in locations east of the mill as the town grew eastward along Main Street toward the turnpike and railroad. Much growth occurred in Laurel Factory after the Civil War, undoubtedly spurred by the incorporation of the Laurel Building Association in 1869, whose primary purpose was to enable the accumulation of sufficient capital for its members to procure loans, purchase real or leasehold property, and construct buildings.

In 1875, the town of Laurel Factory was incorporated and its name changed to Laurel. The 1878 Hopkins map indicates that by this time development of the eastern end of town surrounding the railroad and turnpike was well under way, with larger parcels and houses on the eastern side of the railroad (known by some as "Yankee Row"), and smaller lots on the track's western side.

Much growth occurred in Laurel after the Civil War, undoubtedly spurred by the incorporation of the Laurel Building Association in 1869. The primary purpose of the association was to enable the accumulation of capital sufficient for its members to procure loans, purchase real or leasehold property, and to erect buildings. After the Civil War, government employees purchased the tracts of land on the eastern side of the railroad and built large homes there. Others from Washington D.C. started arriving in Laurel and built homes in other areas.

History of Resource

The land north of Main Street was owned by Horace Capron and other Snowden heirs. On December 17, 1849, a large parcel (size unknown) lying between the Laurel factory and the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike was sold to James and Jesse Duvall (DB JBB 6, P. 230), who operated a store and post office nearby on Main Street, according to the 1861 Martenet map. James conveyed his interest to Jesse on February 20, 1866 (DB FS 3, P. 571), and five years later, Jesse Duvall sold 17 acres of the parcel to William Eden on July 13, 1871, for $9,500.00 (DB HB 4, P. 846). During his ownership, William Eden had a survey made of the land.

William Eden and his wife sold 3 lots (lots 1, 2, and 3, in square 5) on Washington Boulevard (formerly the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike) to Eliza A.C. Wheeler on May 7, 1874 (DB HB 9, P. 121). She obtained a mortgage from Thomas Rowles on June 11, 1874. Several years later, Eliza A.C. Wheeler and her husband, George, a local businessman and owner of the Avondale Mill, defaulted on the mortgage (DB ATB 1, P. 604). The deed to the property was conveyed back to Rowles, and the Wheelers were released from their debt to Rowles on November 25, 1879 (DB JWB 2, P. 149). On February 2, 1885, Edward J. Greene and George S. Petticord, Executors of Thomas Rowles' estate, sold lots 1,2, and 3 of square 5 to Charles F. Shaffer at a public sale (DB JWB, P. 552). Shaffer was the highest bidder, purchasing the lots for $310.00 (DB JWB4, P. 552). The deed from Greene and Petticord to Shaffer was dated April 27, 1885.

Charles T. Shaffer held onto the lots for 27 years until he conveyed them Samuel T. Baublitz on December 28, 1912, for $1,600.00 (BF 87, P. 469). Historical accounts describe Baublitz as operating a garage at the location as early as 1908; however this would predate his ownership of the parcel. It is unknown at this time when Baublitz constructed his garage and where it sat on his property. During their 35-year ownership, Samuel T. Baublitz and Clara A. Baublitz, his wife, leased a portion of their property to the Sun Oil Company on October 14, 1930, for a "gasoline and oil service or filling station and general automobile service station." The lease included a strip of land that extended across the 3 lots and fronting Washington Boulevard (what eventually became lots 1A, 2A, and 3A). No buildings were included in the lease at the time of its signing; however, the oil company was permitted to construct and install buildings and equipment on the lot, including

3 gasoline pumps, 3 underground tanks, 3 oil containers, 1 diamond sign on a post, 1 hydraulic lift, 1 air compressor, and 1 greasing outfit. The lease also permitted the company to add its own company colors.
It is unknown where on the lot the gasoline station building was located; however, the automobile dealership's main building may have been the building constructed by the Sun Oil Company. Stylistic features, such as the characteristic 1930s stepped, parapeted façade on the front of the building, support this theory. On April 4, 1938, Samuel T. Baublitz and his wife sold a portion of the parcel, believed to be lot no. 2A, to the American Telephone and Telegraph Company (later AT&T). The lot consisted of 7,440 square feet, or 0.17 acre, on which was constructed a small 1-story, 3-bay, brick masonry building with a slate-covered pyramidal roof, which AT&T still owns today (DB 497, P. 373).

On April 29, 1947, Samuel and Clara Baublitz sold their property for $10.00 to J. Frank Harman and wife, Iva Lorine, and to John Tyler and his wife, Ruby H. Tyler, with each couple receiving one-half interest in the property (DB 927, P. 381). Three years later on May 11, 1950, J. Frank and Iva Lorine Harman and John and Ruby Tyler sold their property, again for $10.00, to Mid-City Chevrolet Sales (DB 1228, P. 274). At some point the property was conveyed to Betty Ann Frederick (date unknown), and Betty Anne Frederick conveyed the property to Sylvester G. Frederick, Jr. for $10.00 on December 10, 1976 (DB 4711, P. 813). According to historical accounts, Fred Frederick started operating his car dealership in 1959 and continues to operate it as a Chrysler dealership.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-17-1

Capron, Horace. Autobiography. 2 vols., nd, typed copy, Maryland Historical Society.

Hopkins, G.M. *Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington Including the County of Prince George Maryland.* Philadelphia: F. Bourquin, 1878.

Martenet, Simon J. Map of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1861.

Recorder of Deeds, Prince Georges County Circuit Court. Various deeds from Land Records.

Spero, P.A.C. and Company. *Montgomery-Prince Georges Short-term Congestion Relief.* May 1998.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	0.18 acre		
Acreage of historical setting	0.18 acre		
Quadrangle name	Laurel	Quadrangle scale:	1: 24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The surveyed property consists of the tax parcel desribed in the tax records as Block 42 , Lot 1A and southern 31.32 feet of 2A.

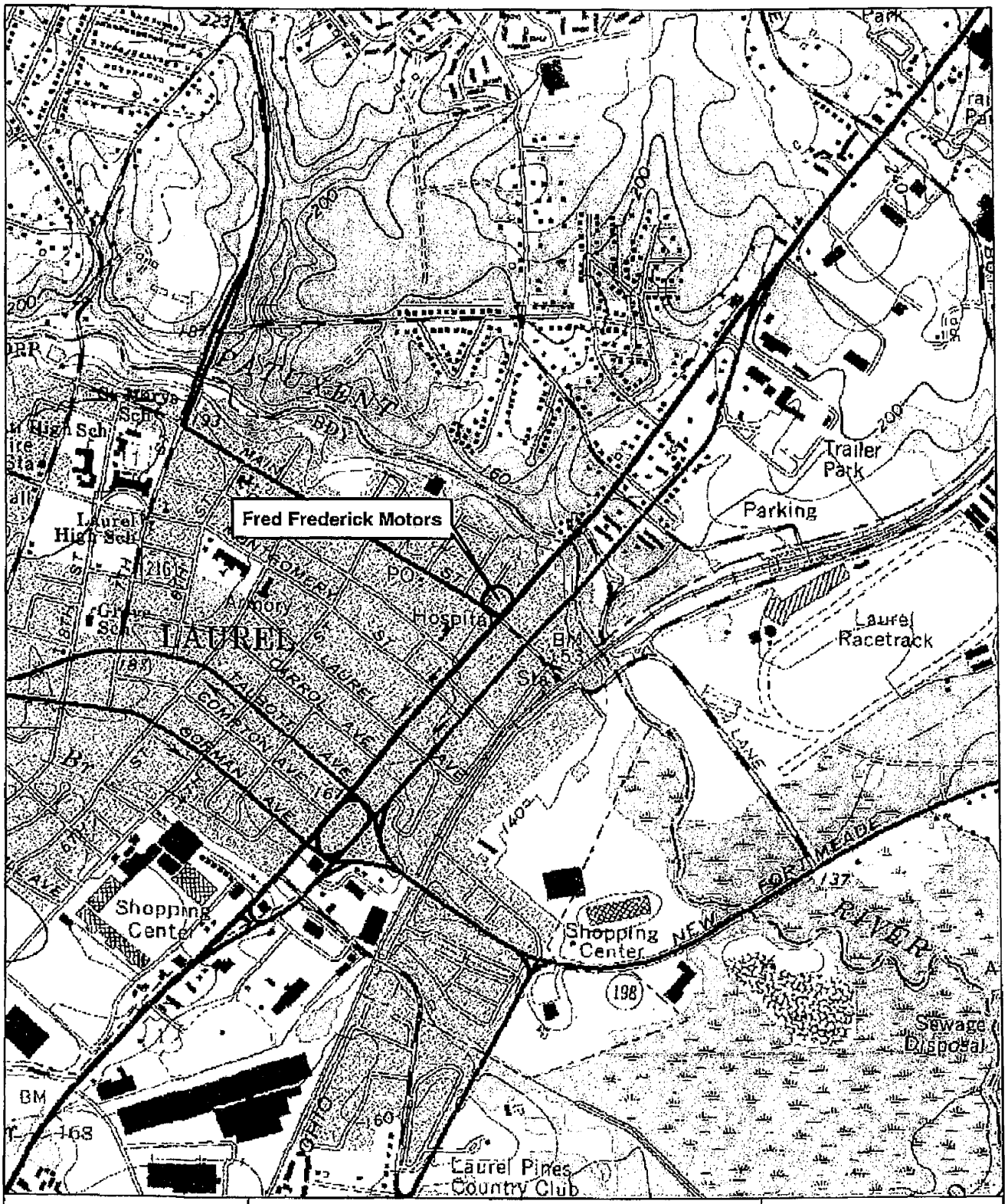
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Alison Ross, M.S. Architectural Historian		
organization	KCI Technologies, Inc.	date	10/2008
street & number	5001 Louise Drive	telephone	717-691-1340
city or town	Mechanicsburg	state	PA

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
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



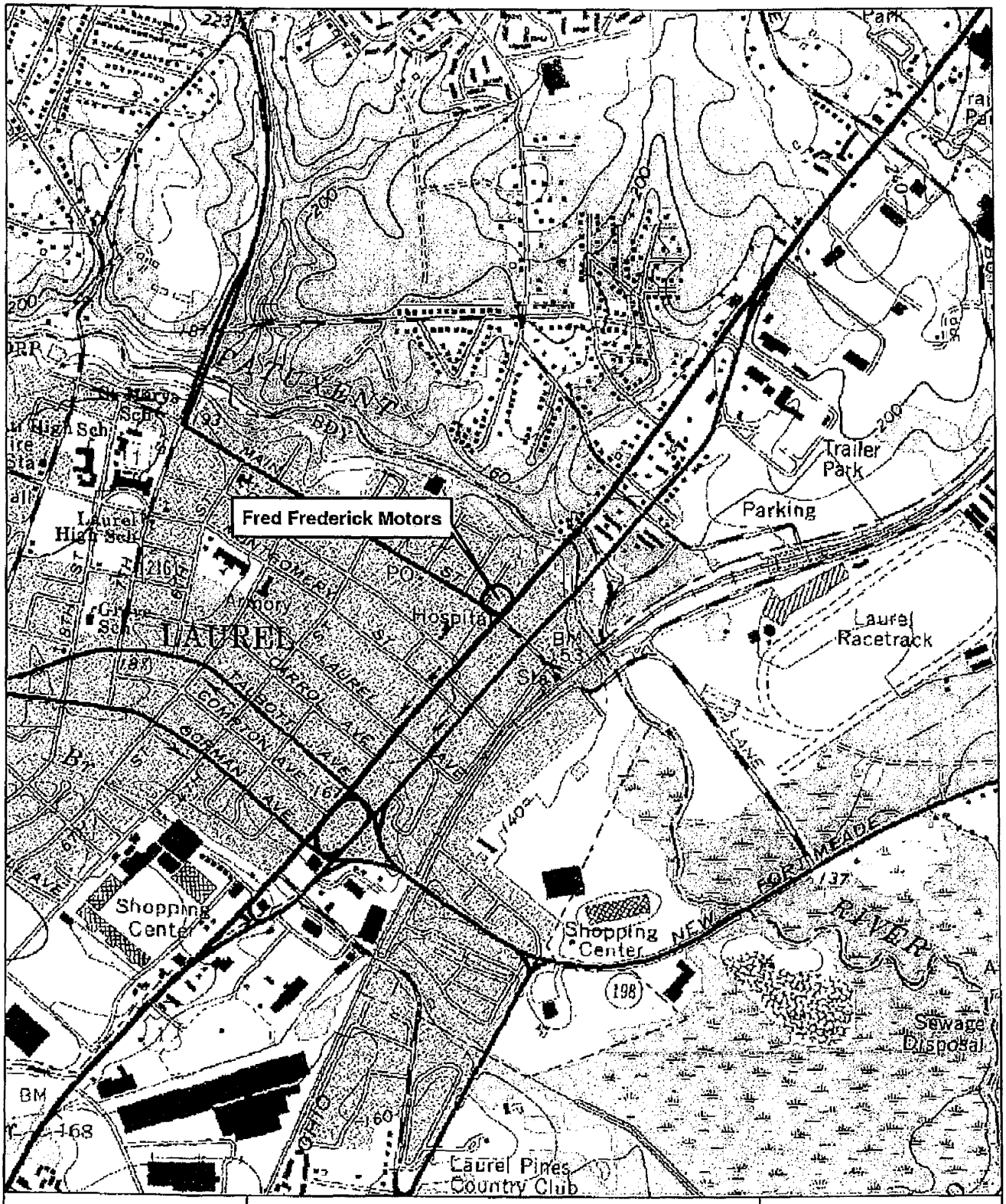
Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Site No. PG:LAU-1-17-1

Locational Map

Fred Frederick Motors
43 Washington Boulevard

Map Courtesy of
U.S. Geological Survey
2004 Microsoft Corporation

Laurel, Maryland, July 1, 1979



N

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Site No. PG:LAU-1-17-1

Locational Map

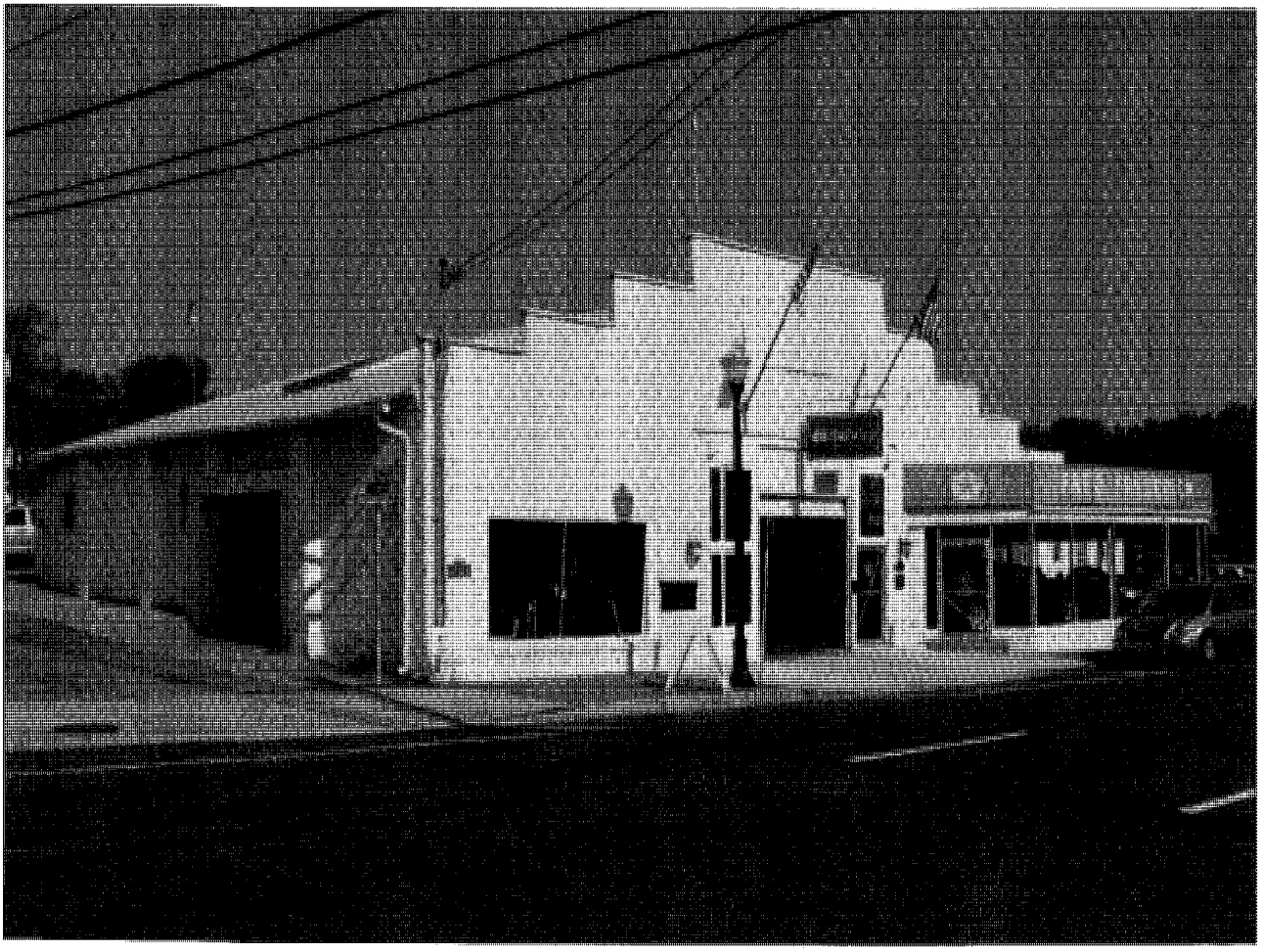
Fred Frederick Motors
43 Washington Boulevard

Map Courtesy of
U.S. Geological Survey
2004 Microsoft Corporation

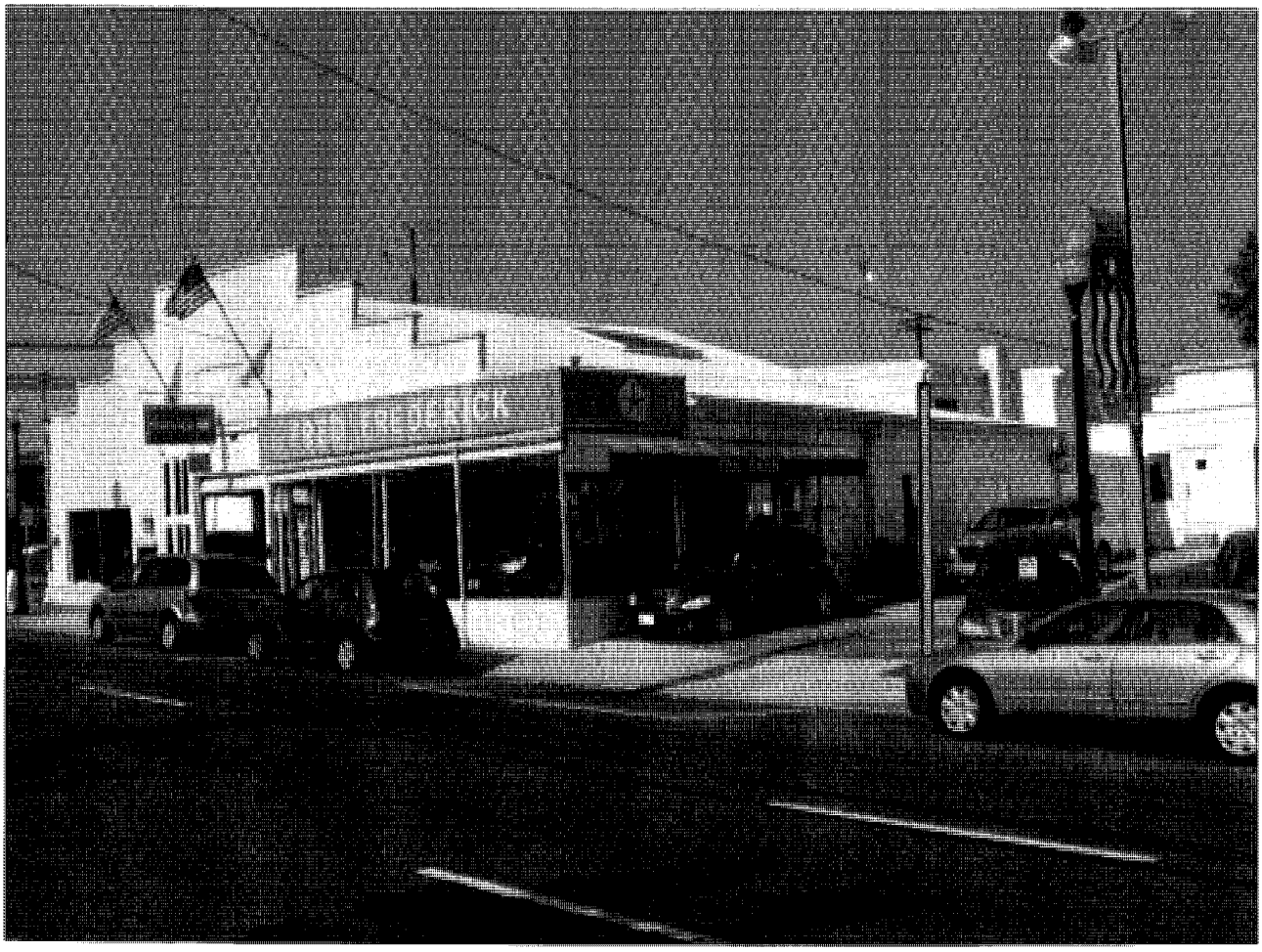
Laurel, Maryland, July 1, 1979

PHOTOGRAPHS – Fred Frederick Motors MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-1

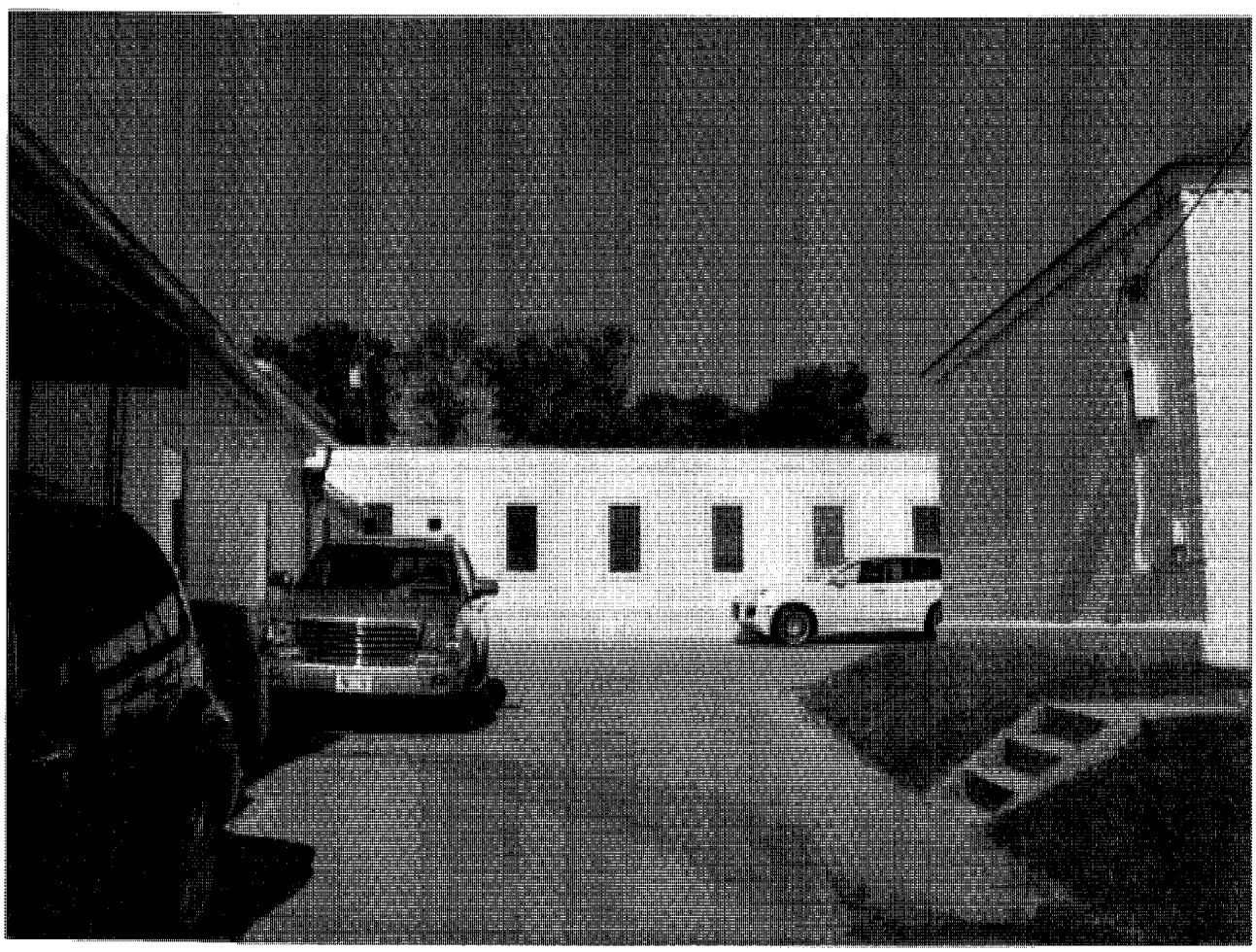
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-1
43 Washington Boulevard, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front elevation, facing NW
Photo #1 of 6



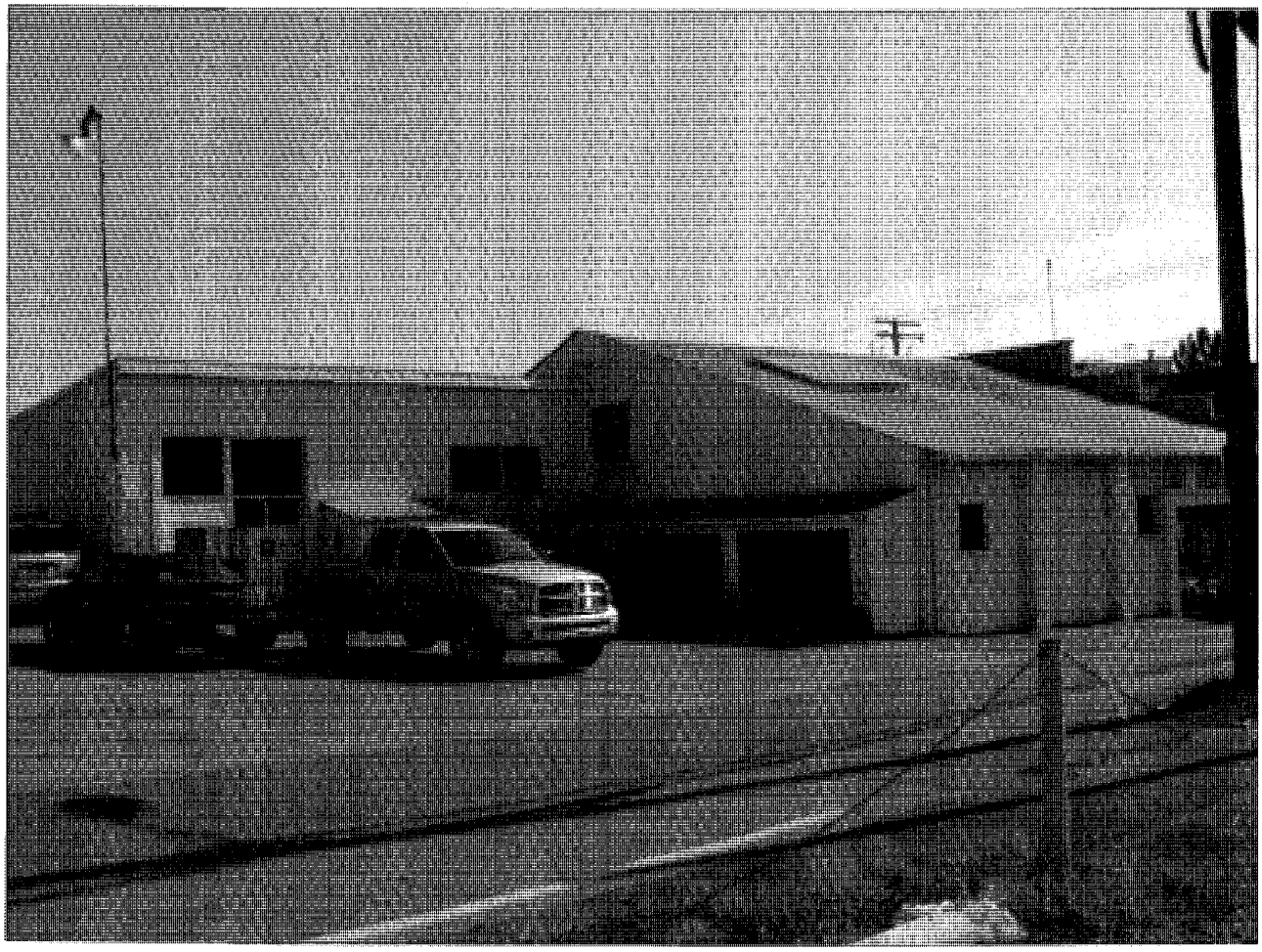
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-1
43 Washington Boulevard, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side and front elevations, facing NW
Photo #2 of 6



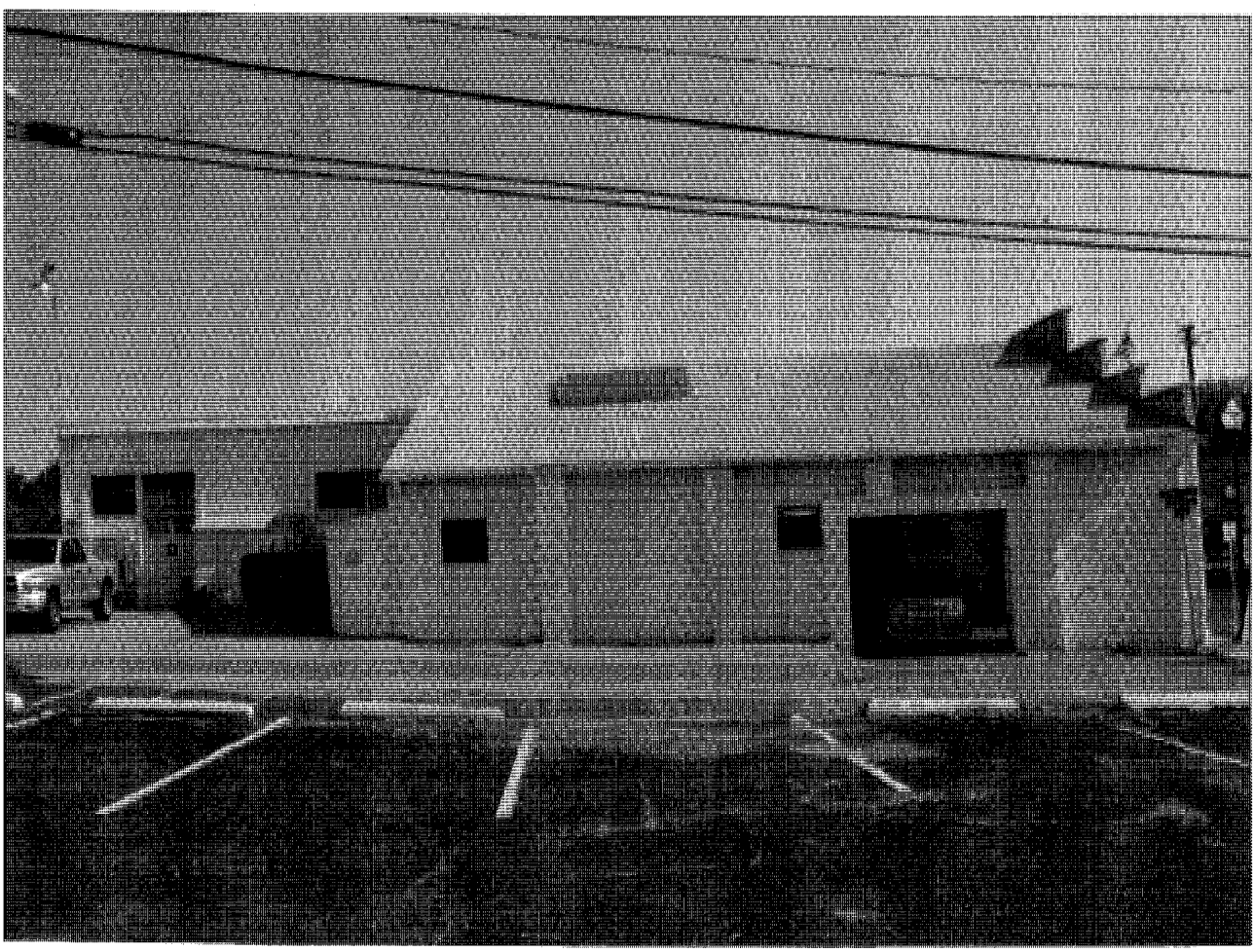
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-1
43 Washington Boulevard, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front and side elevations, facing W
Photo #3 of 6



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-1
43 Washington Boulevard, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of rear building, facing NW
Photo #4 of 6



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-1
43 Washington Boulevard, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of rear and side elevations, facing E
Photo #5 of 6



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-1
43 Washington Boulevard, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing NE
Photo #6 of 6

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

'roperty Name: Fred Frederick Motors Inventory Number: PG:LAU-1-17-1

Address: 43 Washington Boulevard South City: Laurel Zip Code: 20707

County: Prince Georges County USGS Topographic Map: Laurel, MD 1979

Owner: Sylvester G. Frederick, Jr. Is the property being evaluated a district? ____yes

Tax Parcel Number: _____ Tax Map Number: A-0848 Tax Account ID Number: 10 23001

Project: Laurel Historic District Architectural Survey and Analysis Agency: City of Laurel

Site visit by MHT Staff: _____no ____yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Is the property located within a historic district? X___yes ____no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: PG:LAU-17-_____

NR-listed district ____yes Eligible district X___yes District Name: Eastern Main Street Historic District

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ___yes ___no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ____

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ____yes ___X_no

Criteria: ___A ____B ___C ___D Considerations: _____A ___B ___C ___D _____F ___G ___None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Inventory No. MHT MIHP Form PG:LAU-1-17-1

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

The property's main building is a 1-story, 3-bay building that serves as a showroom, office, and mechanic shop for the automobile dealership. The main entrance is in the primary elevation and consists of a large opening that accommodates both automobile use and foot traffic. The large opening is covered by 2 metal and glass panels on a sliding track flanking a centrally-located rolling metal garage door. It appears that two other metal and glass panels were removed prior to the garage door retrofit in the center of the opening. The metal track on which the panels moved still remains and extends across the entire opening. The two remaining panels appear to be in a fixed position, with the panel to the left of the garage door having 6 lights and the panel to the right of the garage door having 1 large upper glass light and a lower single-leaf, glass and metal entrance door inserted. Showroom windows are on both sides of the entrance, with the original window opening on the left side and an altered window on the right. The window was removed, and a projecting 1-story, flat-roofed, glass-enclosed showroom with full-height windows was added to the front on the building's northern end. The bulkhead and glass windows extend over the sidewalk. The building's foundation and wall construction are not visible; however, the walls on all elevations have been covered with stucco. The roof is a front-gabled roof, with a stepped, parapeted façade on the primary elevation that appears to date from the 1930s.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ **Eligibility not recommended** _____

Criteria: ___**A** ____**B** ___**C** ___**D** **Considerations:** ___**A** ___**B** ___**C** ___**D** ___**E** ___**F** ___**G** ___**None**

Comments: _____

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

Reviewer, NR Program **Date**

The layers of changes that occurred to the front elevation of the automobile dealership reflect stylistic changes that have occurred throughout the 20th century. The alterations have enabled the building to adapt to changes and growing needs of the Washington Boulevard automobile dealership business. The 1930s parapeted façade was a common feature for early automobile-related architecture. The sliding panels and mechanism over the front entrance are reflective of designs of aircraft hangar doors commonly installed in the 1950s. The panels were undoubtedly installed on the large opening to allow for travel of vehicles into and out of the building while providing a secured entrance. The metal single-leaf door and the large showroom addition reflect common designs for retail businesses and automobile showrooms in the 1960s or 1970s. They were added to enable foot traffic into the showroom and to increase display capacity for the automobiles.

The main building's southwestern elevation also displays evidence of building alterations made to accommodate the automobile dealership. Originally containing six pilasters, the elevation currently has five pilasters and the remains of a sixth pilaster above a later garage door opening. Two small windows pierce this wall of the building. The northeastern elevation has 3 windows, and a glass entrance door that is within the metal framework holding the full-height glass showroom windows.

A secondary building on the property is a 1-story, shed-roof building sitting directly behind and almost adjacent to the main building, with its front elevation facing Tolson Street. Two former garage bays have been infilled with glass windows and single-width rolling metal doors, possibly indicating a conversion from a garage space to an office space to accommodate a growing automobile dealership business. A 1-story addition with a flat roof, metal siding, and long, rectangular floor plan was added to the rear of the secondary building and appears to house offices as well.

Because of the alterations that have occurred to the automobile dealership, the building no longer retains its integrity of design, materials and workmanship. The building has retained its integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association, however.

The property does not meet significance criteria outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's National Register Bulletin, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation." It does not meet Criterion A because it is not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. The property does not meet Criterion B because it is not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. The property does not meet Criterion C because it does not embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, nor does it represent a distinct architectural style. It does not meet Criterion D because it has not yielded, nor is it likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Because of its compromised historic integrity and lack of historic significance, Fred Frederick Motors is recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Although it is not eligible individually, however, it is recommended as a contributing resource to the Eastern Main Street Historic District.

Prepared by: Alison J. Ross
KCI Technologies, Inc.

Date Prepared: May 2009

Capsule Summary

Name of Property: Citizens National Bank
MIHP number: PG:LAU-1-17-2
Location: 388-390 Main Street
Laurel, Prince George's County, Maryland 20707

Date of Construction: 1890
Access: Public

Property Description: The Citizens Bank Building is a 1-story, 7-bay building located on the southeastern corner of Main and Fourth Streets in the city's Eastern Main Street Historic District. The large building is composed of two sections - an original, smaller, L-shaped corner building and a larger rectangular addition that was constructed on the eastern side of the original building and fronting Main Street.

The original, L-shaped building is a Queen Anne-style structure constructed of brick masonry, with hipped-roof wings and a central, projecting wing with a pyramid-shaped roof. The circa 1950 section is a 2-story, 5-bay addition constructed onto the eastern side of the original 1890 corner building. Constructed in a Neoclassical style, the addition has a mansard roof and a projecting, full-height pedimented entrance vestibule containing what appears to be the central banking room. The combination of both buildings was done in such a way that the appearance of the overall building, including both sections, appears to be uniform and continuous on the northern (Main Street) and southern (rear) elevations.

Summary Paragraph on History: The Citizens National Bank building was designed and built in 1890 by local architect and builder Lawrence Adelbert Ellis. Constructed first for the purposes of banking by Prince George's County's first nationally chartered bank, Citizens National Bank, the building still serves as a bank building almost 120 years later. The Citizens National Bank was independently managed under the same name until acquired by PNC Financial Services in 2007. The bank building was altered and enlarged in 1910, 1948, and 1960.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-17-2

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic	Citizens National Bank
other	Citizens Bank

2. Location

street and number	388-390 Main Street	__ not for publication
city, town	Laurel	__ vicinity
county	Prince George's	

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

name	Citizens National Bank of Laurel		
street and number	PNC Realty Services, 620 Liberty Avenue, 19th Floor	telephone	
city, town	Pittsburgh	state PA	zip code 15222-2722

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Tax Department website	liber multiple	folio multiple
city, town	Laurel	tax map A-0848	tax parcel / tax ID number

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

_____ Contributing Resource in National Register District
__X__ 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
_____district
__X__building(s)
_____structure
_____site
_____object

Ownership
__X__public
_____private
_____both

Current Function
_____agriculture
__X__commerce/trade
_____defense
_____domestic
_____education
_____funerary
_____government
_____health care
_____industry
_____landscape
_____recreation/culture
_____religion
_____social
_____transportation
_____work in progress
_____unknown
_____vacant/not in use
_____other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

_____

7. Description

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-17-2

Condition

___ excellent ___ deteriorated
_X_ good ___ ruins
___ fair ___ altered

Summary

Located in Laurel's Eastern Main Street Historic District, the Citizens National Bank building sits on the southeastern corner of Main and Fourth Streets. Constructed in 1890, Citizens National Bank was Prince George's County's first nationally chartered bank. The bank was in an advantageous location between Washington and Baltimore and offered loans to residents of both cities. Because of its ties to both cities and its relationship with the surrounding community, it survived the Great Depression and bank closings of 1933 (PNC Legacy Project 2009) and remained independently managed under the same name until its acquisition in 2007. The building was designed and built for the newly chartered bank in 1890 by local architect and builder, Lawrence Adelbert Ellis (L.A. Ellis). First a small building occupying a corner lot, the bank was later enlarged in 1910, 1948, and 1960, with the original building incorporated into the successive designs.

Comprehensive Description of Resource

The Citizens Bank Building is a 2-story, 7-bay building located on the southeastern side of Main Street. Originally a much smaller L-shaped building that sat at the corner, the building evolved over the next century into a larger, more prominent building on its block.

The original L-shaped building was designed by local architect L. A. Ellis. The 1-story, 2-bay Queen Anne-style structure constructed of brick masonry sits at the southeastern corner of Main and Fourth Streets (Plate 1). Both sides of the building have hipped roofs, and the corner, where the 2 sections meet, has a projecting 1-story, 1-bay section with a tall pyramid-shaped roof. The projection once contained the original entrance vestibule and still has 1 set of double-leaf wooden doors below a large retrofitted window with double-hung sashes and 8-over-12 lights. The original public banking area was on the first story, and the board room was on the second story.

In 1910 a small addition containing the president's office was added to the building (possibly the section in the rear of the building shown in Plate 2). In 1948, a 2-story, 4-bay addition (referred to here as the central section) was constructed onto the eastern side of the corner building (Plate 7). It contained the bank's new front entrance leading into a public banking area on the first story, with executive offices on the mezzanine level overlooking the teller line. The addition also provided a new board room and a night depository. The central section had a side-gabled roof with an intersecting front-gabled roof over a projecting section containing the entrance. The front and rear gables currently have a pediment with dentilled moldings and a triangular vent. It is unknown whether the decorative pediments were added in 1948 or during the subsequent renovation. In 1960 the eastern wall of the building was opened up, and a Neoclassical-style 2-story, 2-bay, mansard-roof addition for administrative offices was constructed (Plate 4) (Abel 2009). Each addition was designed to incorporate the previously existing building, with all sections currently forming one continuous bank building that extends along Main Street's southern side. The entire building has been painted white, lending visual uniformity to the different building sections (Plate 6).

The building's overall northern elevation contains (from left to right) a neoclassical-style projecting semicircular, full-height bay window, with 5 individual windows with 12 lights in each (Plate 6). The window sashes appear to be vinyl. To the west of the window is an opening containing an ATM machine under a shed-roof awning. West of the machine is the projecting pedimented section, the center of which is a double-leaf wooden and glass entrance door flanked by 2 large 2-story windows (Plate 7). The entrance doors each have 6 lights on top and a panel on the bottom as well as a 6-light rectangular transom above. The molding surrounding the door opening has a decorative keystone. Each of the large windows flanking the entrance appears to mimic a double-hung, sashed window, with 16-over-16 lights in each. West of the projection are 2 tripartite windows, the first one being in the 1948 addition and the second one in the original corner building. The arched window openings have brick lintels and brownstone sills, and the windows appear to have double-hung wooden sashes, with 10-over-16 lights and a fanlight in each one (Plate 8). At the corner of the building in the projecting vestibule is a double-leaf wooden entrance door (Plate 1). The area in the brick wall below the tripartite windows is ornamented with two sets of two terra-cotta panels containing rosettes below the first window and two terra-cotta panels depicting angels below the second window (Plates 9 and 10).

The 2nd story of the northern elevation has (from left to right) 4 windows with wooden double-hung sashes, each containing 8-over-8 lights. Below the windows are frieze band window openings (although not located in the frieze) with decorative fretwork in each. West of the windows are the large 2-story windows described above. Above the entrance door at the mezzanine level is a round window with a fixed pane and six lights.

The western (Fourth Street) elevation of the original building has an unbroken wall with 2 rectangular window openings with brick lintels and brownstone sills (Plate 2). Each window has wooden double-hung window sashes, with 9-over-9 lights in each. A 1-story, shed-roofed addition was added to the rear of the original building on its southern side. One single window opening with a brick lintel and sill is in the western elevation of the rear addition. The window is covered with metal bars. The roof of the original building, including the pyramid-shaped roof, is clad in shingles, and the small addition has a standing-seam metal roof. Two interior chimneys with corbelled brickwork are in the original building.

The southern (rear) elevation contains (from left to right) the small, 1-story addition, followed by the larger 2-story addition, with a projecting pedimented section. The 1st-story fenestration of both building sections includes (from left to right) 1 window opening with double-hung sashes and metal bars over it; 1 small opening that appears to be a vent; 3 large 2-story windows with 16-over-16 lights; one exterior brick chimney; and 4 windows with double-hung sashes and 8-over-12 lights. The 2nd story contains (from left to right) 1 single-leaf metal door accessed by a metal stairway located to the left of the 2-story windows, the 2-story windows, 1 door accessed by a metal stairway located to the right of the large windows, and 3 windows with double-hung sashes and 8-over-8 lights. Frieze band window openings with decorative fretwork are below the three windows.

The eastern elevation contains (from left to right) 1 window with double-hung sashes and 8-over-12 lights, a projecting, metal-clad drive-up banking booth underneath an awning, 1 single-leaf metal door with a 4-light transom above, and 1 window with double-hung sashes with 8-over-12 lights.

8. Significance

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-17-2

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

Specific dates	1890, 1910, 1948, 1960	**Architect/Builder**	L.A. Ellis and others
Construction dates	1890, 1910, 1948, 1960		

Evaluation for:

_____ National Register _____Maryland Register ____X___not evaluated

General History

The area surrounding the present-day City of Laurel in Prince George's County, Maryland, was first settled by members of the Snowden family, one of the founding families of Maryland, during the latter half of the 17th century and early 18th century. Laurel is on land that was originally patented to Richard Snowden in 1715 as "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" in Prince George's County. At the time, Snowden's estate already was approximately 3,000 acres in size, extending from Old Columbia Pike to the present city of Laurel and from south of Greencastle and Van Dusen Roads to north of Sandy Spring Road. The 1715 patent increased the already substantial Snowden land holdings, and by 1743 the estate had grown to 9,265 acres.

Although the Laurel area was first an agricultural region, it became a location for manufacturing as early as the first half of the 18th century, distinguishing it from the rest of rural Prince George's County. Manufacturing activity on the Patuxent River dates back to 1736 when the Snowden family established the Patuxent River Iron Works. Almost a century later in 1811, descendent Nicholas Snowden constructed a stone grist mill building on the banks of the Patuxent River as well as a dam across the river at the location of what is now Ninth Street in Laurel. In 1824, Nicholas Snowden leased the mill for a period of 12 years to Mr. Johnson (origin unknown), who transformed the grist mill into a factory for spinning cotton yarn, known as the Cotton Manufacturing Motive of Laurel. The mill was successful and at one time reportedly employed 100 adults. Another local businessman, Robert Pilsen, some time prior to 1835, soon installed the first loom in the mill that enabled the weaving of cotton cloth in the factory.

Nicholas Snowden died in 1831, and his estate, Montpelier, was subdivided among his children. His wife received what was called the Bank Quarter, which contained the bank of iron ore. A leftover undivided portion along the Patuxent River, contained approximately 100 acres, the Snowdens' stone mansion, the mill buildings, several log houses, and a well-used farm where successive crops of tobacco and corn had been cultivated. The parcel's location was invaluable because of the exceptional water power provided by the adjacent river.

The 1835 completion of the Baltimore and Ohio (B & O) Railroad Company's new railroad line through Laurel, located just over one mile east of the mill, contributed to the attractiveness of the mill location. The railroad, which was to connect Baltimore with Washington D.C., promised easier access to new markets both for raw materials and finished products. Access to other markets was previously gained by travel from the mill eastward via Main Street to the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike, which was chartered by the state of Maryland in 1812.

The location and easy access to transportation was not lost on Snowden's heirs, which included son-in-law Horace Capron, a member of the Capron family of Attleboro, Massachusetts. On January 28, 1836, Horace Capron joined other family members in a new business venture. Capron, along with Dr. Theodore Jenkins (brother-in-law of Capron and neighbor of the Snowdens at new New Birmingham Manor), Elizabeth Snowden (Capron's mother-in-law), Osmond Comfort Tiffany (Capron's first cousin from another Attleboro, Massachusetts, family) A.E. Hall, and W.C. Shaw incorporated a new company, the Patuxent Company, for the purpose of manufacturing and selling cotton, iron, and other articles at the site of the mill and farm. Snowden land holdings were combined and transferred when Horace Capron and his wife, Charles Hill and his wife, and Dr. Theodore Jenkins and his wife, conveyed their inherited lands to the Patuxent Company. Deeds for property and stock also were transferred by Osmond Tiffany, Comfort Tiffany, and several Capron cousins, who also were involved in mill activities elsewhere.

Shortly after its incorporation in 1835, the Patuxent Company constructed housing for its mill workers in the vicinity of the mill. Merchants established stores and businesses to support the employees and their families, and the town, known as Laurel Factory, started to grow. Churches, schools, and social halls were established as well, first in the western end near the mill, then in locations east of the mill as the town advanced eastward along Main Street toward the turnpike and newly constructed railroad through town.

Laurel Factory, as it was called in the beginning, grew quickly as businesses, churches, social halls, and schools were established to meet the needs of the fledgling community. Located in the western end of the town near the mill, the first churches included a Protestant Episcopal, a Methodist, and a Catholic Church. A schoolhouse and an assembly hall were built south of the mill building. According to Thomson's Mercantile and Professional Directory, Laurel Factory had its own post office by 1851. Much growth occurred in Laurel after the Civil War, undoubtedly spurred by the incorporation of the Laurel Building Association in 1869. The primary purpose of the association was to enable the accumulation of capital for its members to procure loans, purchase real or leasehold property, and to construct buildings. Additional interest in land investment and settlement in Laurel came from government employees who had become familiar with the town from traveling through it by train en route to Washington, D.C. Large parcels on the railroad tracks' eastern side were purchased and large homes were built, as indicated by the 1878 Hopkins atlas. Other residents started arriving from the capital and purchased lots for homes on the newly constructed Second Street, which was in close proximity to the railroad station. In the 1870s lots on both sides of the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike had been subdivided as well. In 1875, the town of Laurel Factory had been incorporated and its name changed to Laurel.

The 1878 Hopkins map indicates that the land on the southeastern end of Main Street had started to be developed by investors with the names of Miles, Flester, Shaffer, Talbott, Myer, and Herbert. Because some of the same names are indicated elsewhere on the map, it appears that merchants or professionals who had their businesses or practices on Main Street were successful enough to be able to invest in lots on nearby streets slated for residential development. It appears that other property owners still had their homes on the northeastern side or farther west on Main Street. Main Street continued across the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike and extended to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad tracks and depot. From the time the railroad was built in 1832, this section of Laurel was more industrial in nature, with at least one warehouse, a lumberyard, and a foundry in close proximity to the railroad depot, as indicated on the 1861 Martenet map.

Laurel was incorporated a second time in 1890 and divided into three wards. Pressure for an electric power plant, street paving, and sidewalk improvements started to mount in the late 1880s, and in 1890, an electric light plant was built with private capital. A contract was let to light the streets, and brick sidewalks were constructed on most of the streets shortly after that, followed by the introduction of water and sewers and the paving of streets. Under a town bond issued in 1931, Main Street, along with Washington Boulevard and Montgomery Street, were improved by the state, and smaller streets were resurfaced.

Laurel continued to thrive into the 20th century, and by the 1930s, Main Street was flourishing as a commercial center, with many stores providing residents with a wide variety of goods and services. The 1938 *Album Representative of Official, Financial, Professional and Business Interests* lists a number of Main Street store owners and includes long-time residents and descendants of some of the town's original residents as well as more recent arrivals from other cities and countries. Overseas immigrants included those from southern Europe, two of whom operated an ice cream parlor and candy store and a magazine store and soda fountain, respectively, and another that operated a barber shop. Several from Western Europe operated bakeries and an upholstery shop, while several originating from Eastern Europe were jewelers and tailors.

During the 20th century, Laurel reflected the American trend of becoming an increasingly automobile-dependent society. Auto-related businesses opened on Washington Boulevard. At the end of the 20th century, the number of daily commuters to Washington, D.C., increased, and large-scale parking was called for in Laurel. The buildings from First Street adjacent to the rail line and train station to Second Street were demolished and a large parking lot was constructed by the Maryland Transit Authority in 2004. Several small businesses and their buildings remain across the street from the parking lot on Main Street's northeastern side.

By the 1960s Laurel's city planners had grappled with ways to reinvigorate the Main Street business area and almost participated in an extensive federally-funded urban renewal program, which would have included the demolition of a large number of buildings there. City officials voted against plans to pursue the program in 1963, and other solutions to revitalization were explored throughout the 1960 and early 1970s.

By the early 1970s city planners started to acknowledge that the city's rich past could play a key role in its future and that revitalization might be possible by linking the improvement of the Main Street business district to a historic district program. Toward this end, the City of Laurel Historic District Commission was established by City Ordinance No. 535 on November 10, 1975, to oversee the protection of "Old Town" Laurel. Following the establishment of a commission, the Laurel Historic District was identified, and by 1983, six smaller historic districts within the overall district were further delineated. This 2008 survey has renamed Historic District No. 1 as the Eastern Main Street Historic District.

History of Resource

Before 1850 the land on both sides of Main Street was part of the original Snowden estate "New Birmingham Manor." After Nicholas Snowden's death in 1831, a large tract (size unknown) known as Lot No. 8 and located between the Baltimore and Washington Turnpike and the Snowden's mill to the west and between Main Street on the north to an unknown point south of it, was inherited by Nicholas' daughter, Eliza Snowden. Richard Snowden and his wife, Elizabeth, acquired it and subsequently conveyed a large tract to Horace Capron on August 29, 1839 (DB AB 12, P. 367). The land included both sides of Main Street and contained a mill operation, the Avondale Mill, on the northern side and vacant land on the southern side. Horace Capron developed the land on the southern side of Main Street into a 610-acre farm, where it is believed he lived. Main Street was first paved, or "macadamized," in 1845 by Peter Gorman, father of future Laurel land speculator and U.S. Senator, Arthur Pue Gorman.

Capron applied to the State of Maryland for Insolvency (bankruptcy) on May 21, 1850. Prior to his application, he sold off portions of his property to several landowners. The land on Main Street's southwestern side in what is now the Eastern Main Street Historic District apparently was part of Capron's 610-acre farm. When Capron applied for insolvency, he was directed by Orphan's Court to convey his land, household goods, and furniture for $1.00 to trustees Thomas S. Alexander and George W. Dobbin on April 1, 1850 (DB JJB 6, P. 331). At a public auction on May 21, 1850, the trustees sold the 610-acre parcel to Thomas Wilson of John (name appearing on deed) for $28,060.00 (DB CSM 1, P. 151).

The deed for Wilson's land acquisition named the property "Laurel Farm," and he owned it for the next 11 years. On November 27, 1861, Thomas Wilson of John and his wife sold Laurel Farm to Thomas Jefferson Talbott for $27,200.00 (DB 1, P. 27). After Talbott's death, trustees for his property, Charles Stanley, Michael Bannon, and Edwin Higgins, sold 168 7/8 acres of the farm to Honora Talbott (DB HB 13, P. 474) at a public sale on June 24, 1878 for $1,950.00. The remaining Talbott land, including the land on the southwestern side of Main Street was sold off by court order at a public sale in 1878. Parcels along Main Street were sold to individual parties, who presumably constructed the first buildings there, as suggested by the 1878 Hopkins atlas. A larger tract of Capron's land lying south of Honora Talbott's land was purchased by land speculators Arthur Pue Gorman and partner James Kemp. Arthur Pue Gorman was a distant relative of the Warfields, one of the original families to settle in the Laurel area. He later became a U.S. Senator and President of the Baltimore and Ohio Canal Company.

J.E. Flester (also spelled Fleister) purchased several narrow lots of the subdivided Talbott land on the southwestern side of Main Street (and what was to become both sides of Prince George's Street to the south of Main Street), as well as a larger 1.30-acre parcel (approximate size) on the southeastern corner of Main and Fourth Streets from the Talbott trustees on February 11, 1878. According to the deed for the transaction, the parcel was adjacent to lot No. 11 and was referred to as "the Barn," although there was no mention of a barn structure in the deed (DB WAJ 3, P. 276). The current legal description mentions that it is a "barn lot" as well. It is possible that a barn built by Capron, Wilson, or Talbott remained on the lot.

The lot was conveyed to Edward Phelps and Charles F. Shaffer, Jr. on April 18, 1890 (grantor unknown) (JWB 14, P. 534). One month later on May 12, 1840, Edward Phelps and his wife and Charles F. Shaffer, Jr., and his wife sold the lot for $487.50 to

Citizens National Bank of Laurel, a corporation formed under the National Bank Act. According to the deed, the lot was sold to the bank "for purposes of erecting a building for banking purposes" (JWB 14, P. 534).

According to minutes from a Citizens Bank directors' meeting, a bid submitted by architect and builder L.A. Ellis for the construction of a new building was accepted by the directors. The bank's building committee signed a contract with L.A. Ellis for the amount of $3,333.00, and the building was to be completed by July 15, 1890. It appears that this was accomplished, for a final payment was ordered to Ellis and Awalt (a person working with him at the time) on August 5, 1890, for a sum of $1,033.00. The bank's vault apparently was constructed at a cost of $2,750.00 (Laurel Historical Society 2008).

L. A. Ellis was a local architect, contractor, and builder who started working in Laurel, Maryland, in 1868. He first was employed at C.F. Shaffer's lumberyard on the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike before going to school at the Maryland Agricultural College and the Maryland Institute of Art. In the 1870s, L.A. Ellis established his career as an architect and builder in Laurel. His first office was in the Free Quill building on Washington Avenue (formerly the turnpike), according to newspaper advertisements of the time. His advertisements stated that he could provide plans and specifications and that he had a planing mill, from which he could furnish everything needed in the building line, including doors, mouldings, and mantels (Laurel Historical Society 2008). An 1894 directory showed that he formed a partnership with A.F. Nicholson in the firm of Ellis and Nicholson, still operating out of offices in the Free Quill building. Another newspaper advertisement (date unknown) states that L.A. Ellis was an agent (likely a real estate agent), and he listed property for sale on the Sandy Spring Road (Laurel Historical Society 2008). L.A. Ellis was well connected to city politicians, and he served on the city commission from 1879 to 1881, when he was elected president of the commission. His building commissions included a number of residences for prominent local businessmen, as well as several stores, offices, and a chapel (Laurel Historical Society 2008).

The original building contained a banking room on the first story and a board room on the second story. The corner building was altered in 1910 with a small expansion (exact location unknown) that included the bank president's office. In 1948 a larger addition was constructed onto the eastern end of the building, extending to the eastern wall of what is now the central section and containing the main entrance, the public banking area, a new board room, a mezzanine containing executive offices and overlooking the teller line, and a new night depository. In 1960, the building was enlarged again to the east. The eastern wall was opened up, and additional offices were constructed (Abel 2009). The Neoclassical-style pediment may have been added above the main entrance in the central section at this point, and this section continued to house the public banking area. After the last addition was constructed, a drive-through booth was added to the eastern side of the building, and an Automated Teller Machine was added to the Main Street side.

Today, the original corner building contains administrative offices on the first story and a training room on the second story. The banking room and offices remain in the rest of the building (Abel 2009). The building previously served as the bank's main office before another bank building was constructed nearby. Citizens National Bank was purchased by PNC Financial Services in 2007.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-17-2

Abel, Jan. Vice President of Community and Banking Services. Personal communication with author. March 2009.

Laurel Historical Society. Records on L.A. Ellis, compiled by family members and held by the historical society, Laurel, Maryland.

Laurel Horizon Society. National Register of Historic Places Inventory - Nomination Form. Prepared 1978. Site PG: LAU-4.

Hopkins, G.M. *Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington Including County of Prince George Maryland.* Philadelphia: F. Bourquin, 1878.

PNC Financial Services Group. PNC Legacy Project website. "Predecessor Banks." https://www.pnc.com/legacy/banks/index.html.
Recorder of Deeds. Prince George's County Circuit Court. Various deeds from Land Records.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	0.45 acre		
Acreage of historical setting	1.30 acre		
Quadrangle name	Laurel, Maryland	Quadrangle scale:	1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Barn Lot, W 50 Ft and C 31 Ft of Lot 5.

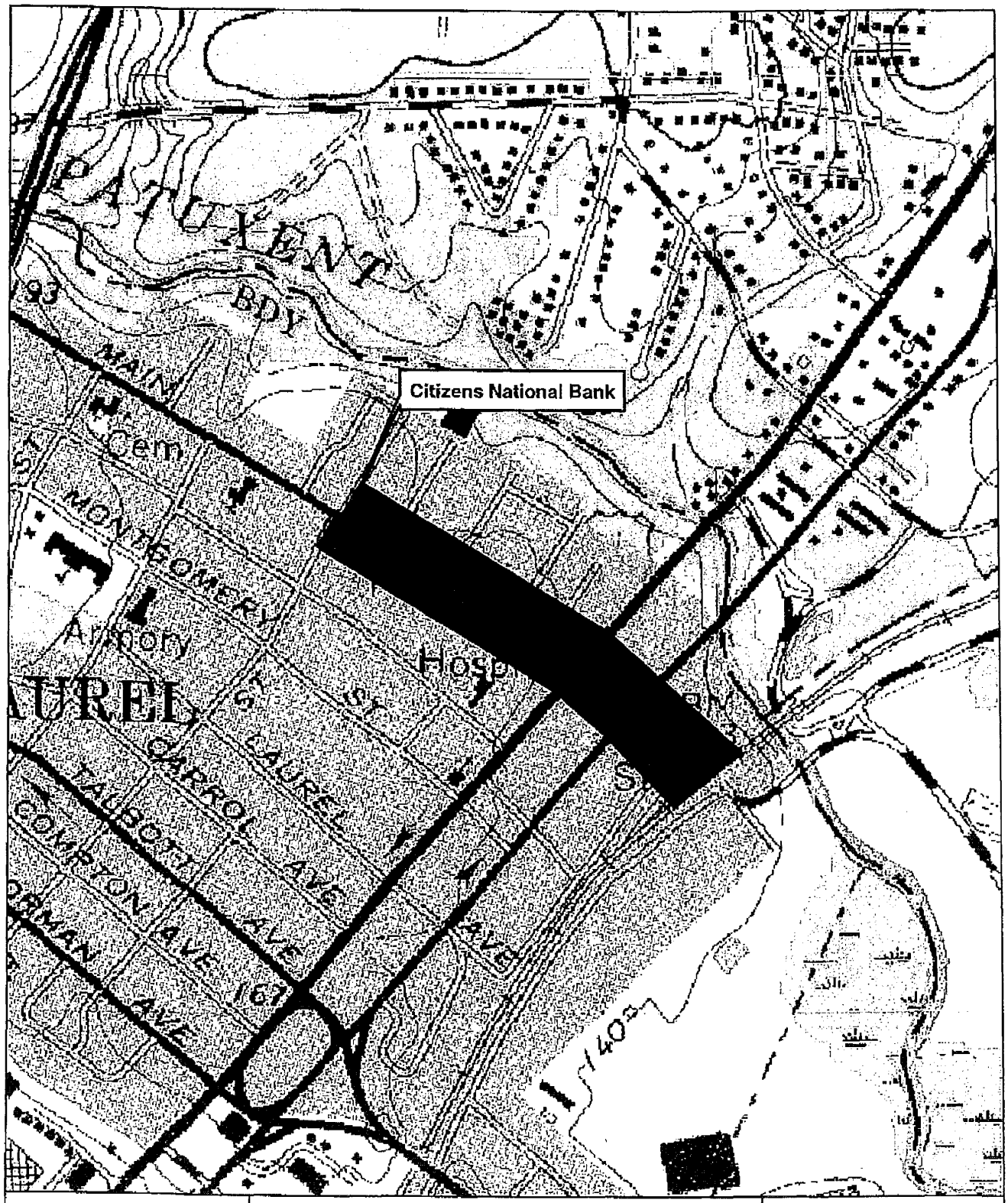
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Alison Ross, M.S., Architectural Historian		
organization	KCI Technologies, Inc.	date	03/2009
street & number	5001 Louise Drive	telephone	717-691-1340
city or town	Mechanicsburg	state	PA

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
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



N

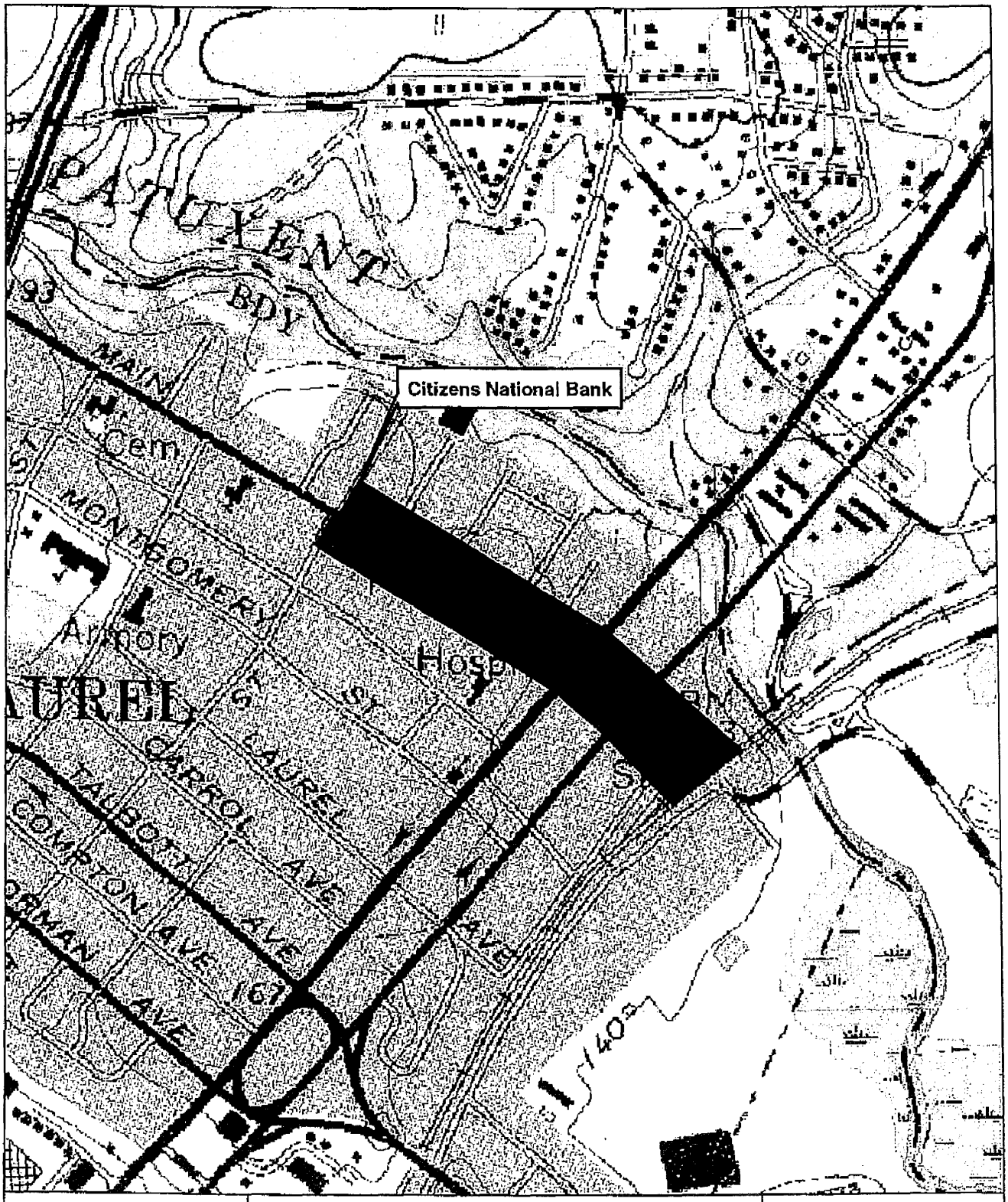
Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Site No. PG:LAU-1-17-2

Locational Map

Citizens National Bank
388-390 Main Street

Map Courtesy of
U.S. Geological Survey
2004 Microsoft Corporation

Laurel, Maryland, July 1, 1979



N

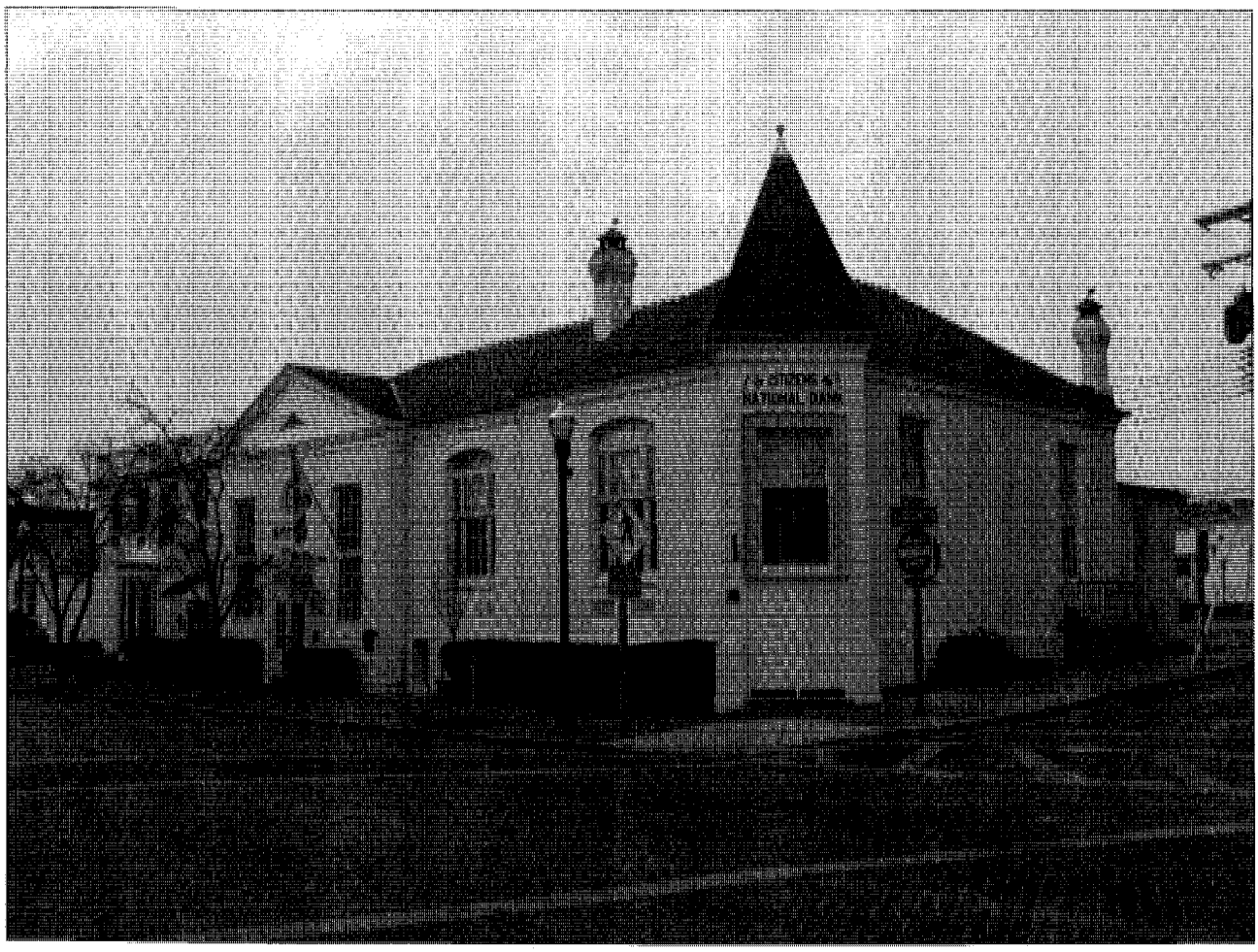
Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Site No. PG:LAU-1-17-2

Locational Map

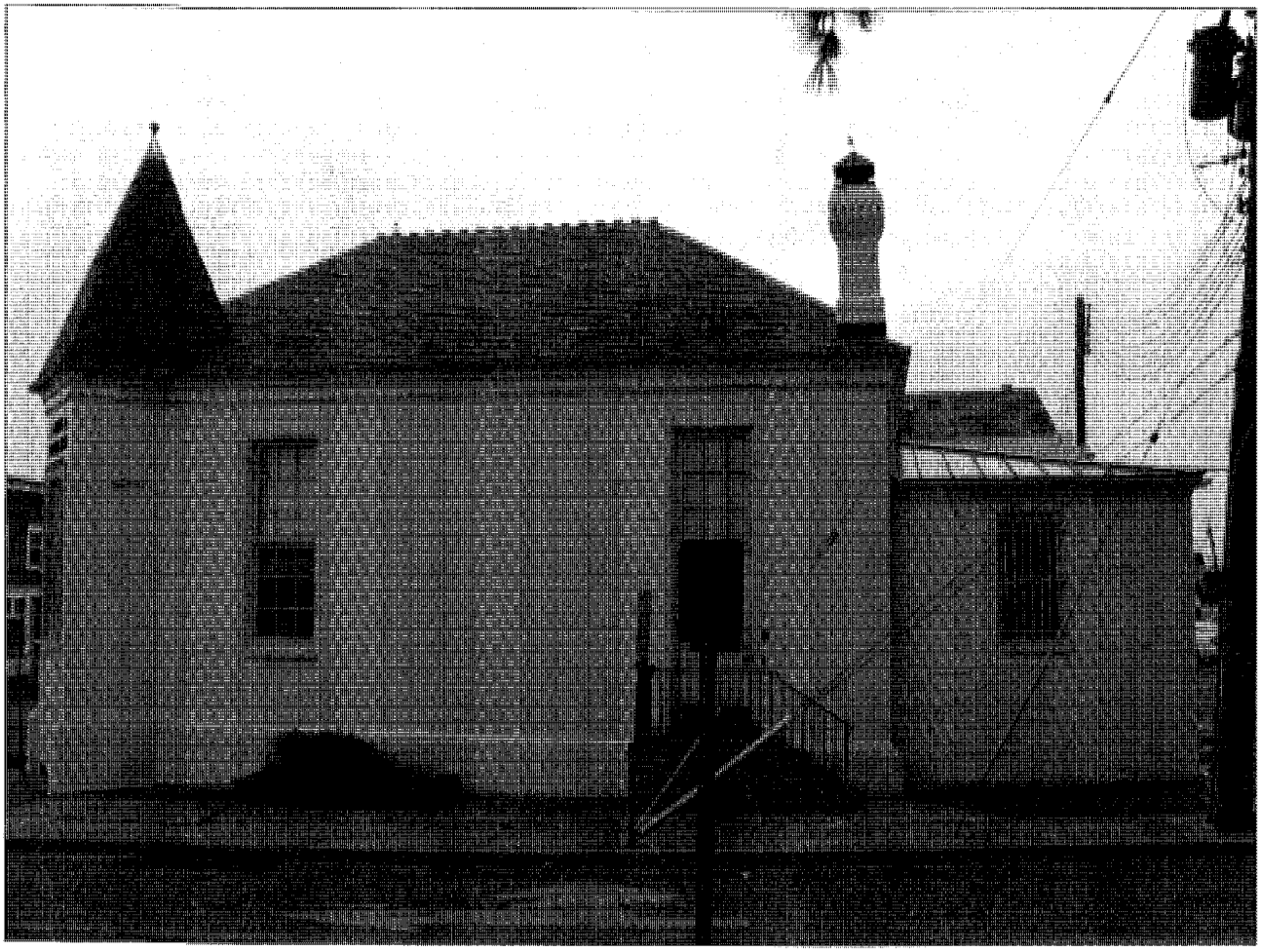
Citizens National Bank
388-390 Main Street

Map Courtesy of
U.S. Geological Survey
2004 Microsoft Corporation

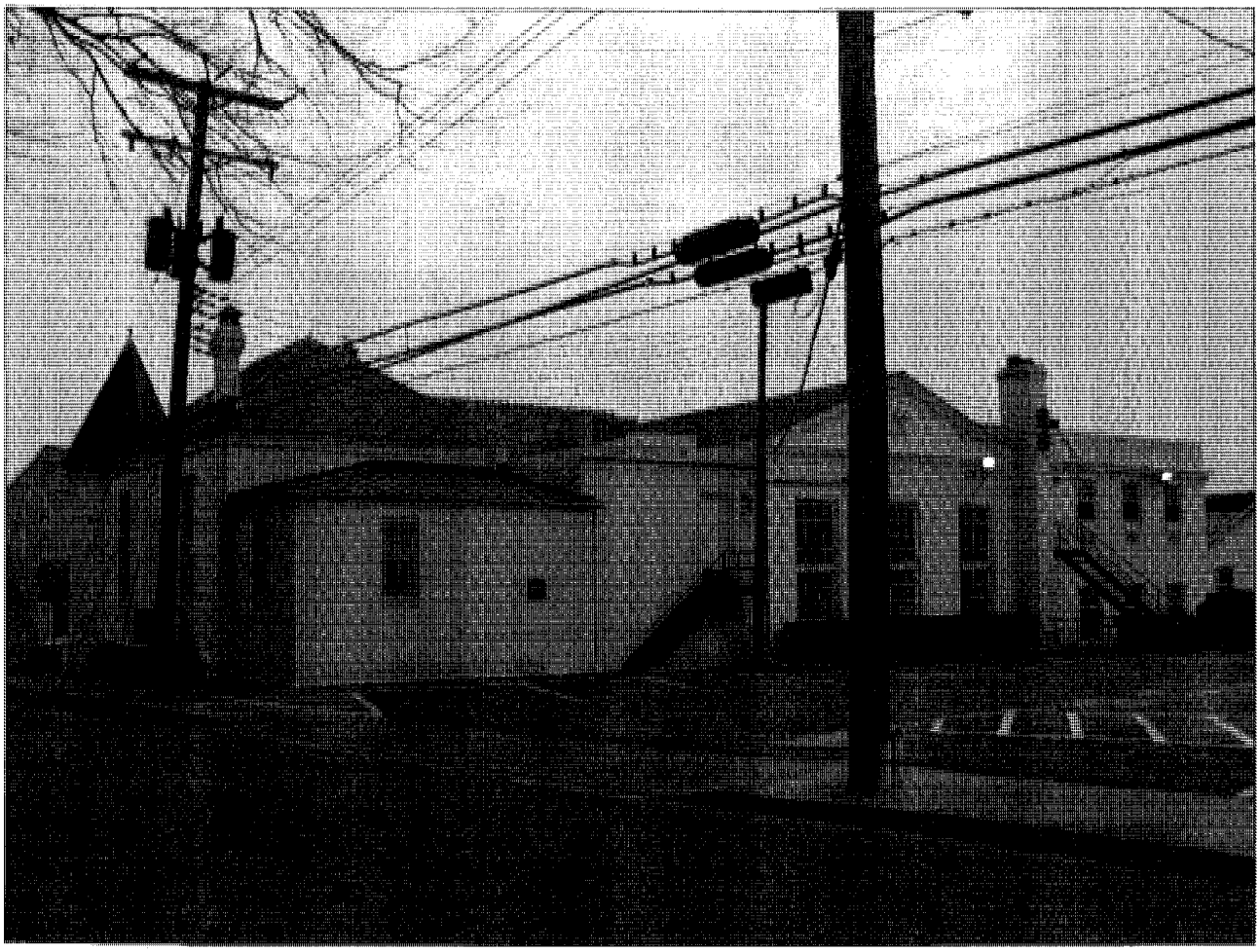
Laurel, Maryland, July 1, 1979



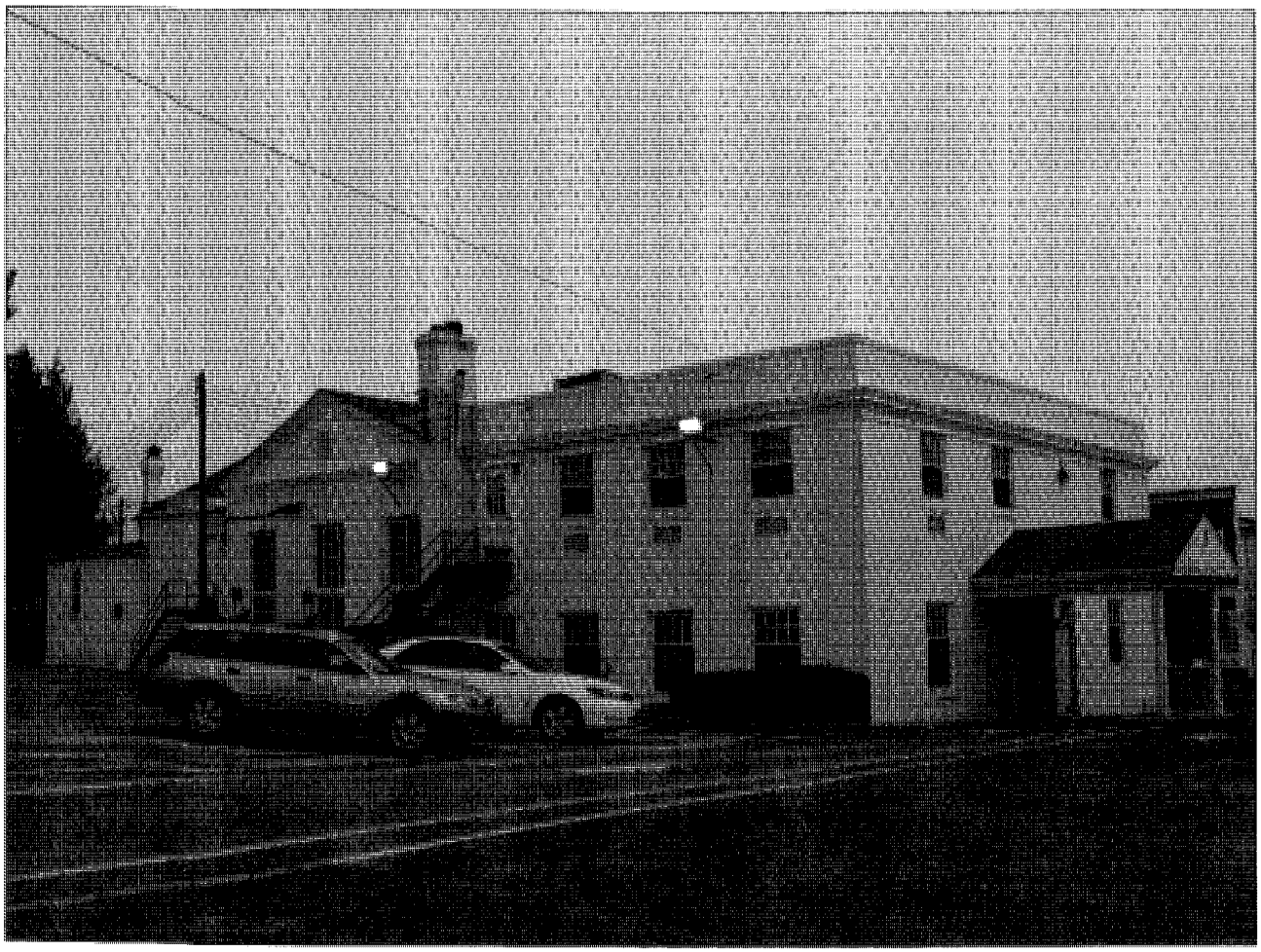
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-2
388-390 Main Street, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
View of front and side elevations, facing SE
Photo #1 of 11



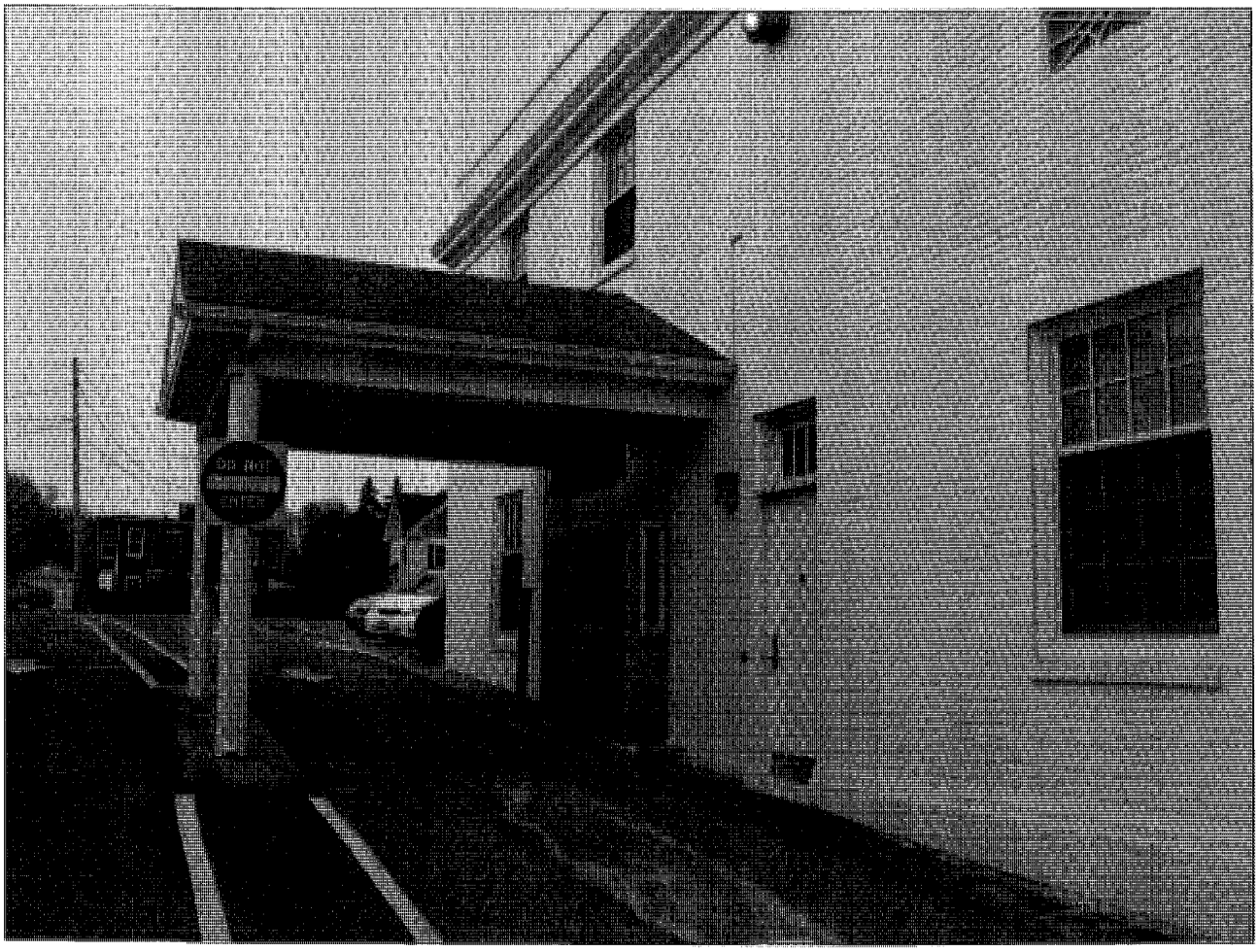
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-2
388-390 Main Street, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing E
Photo #2 of 11



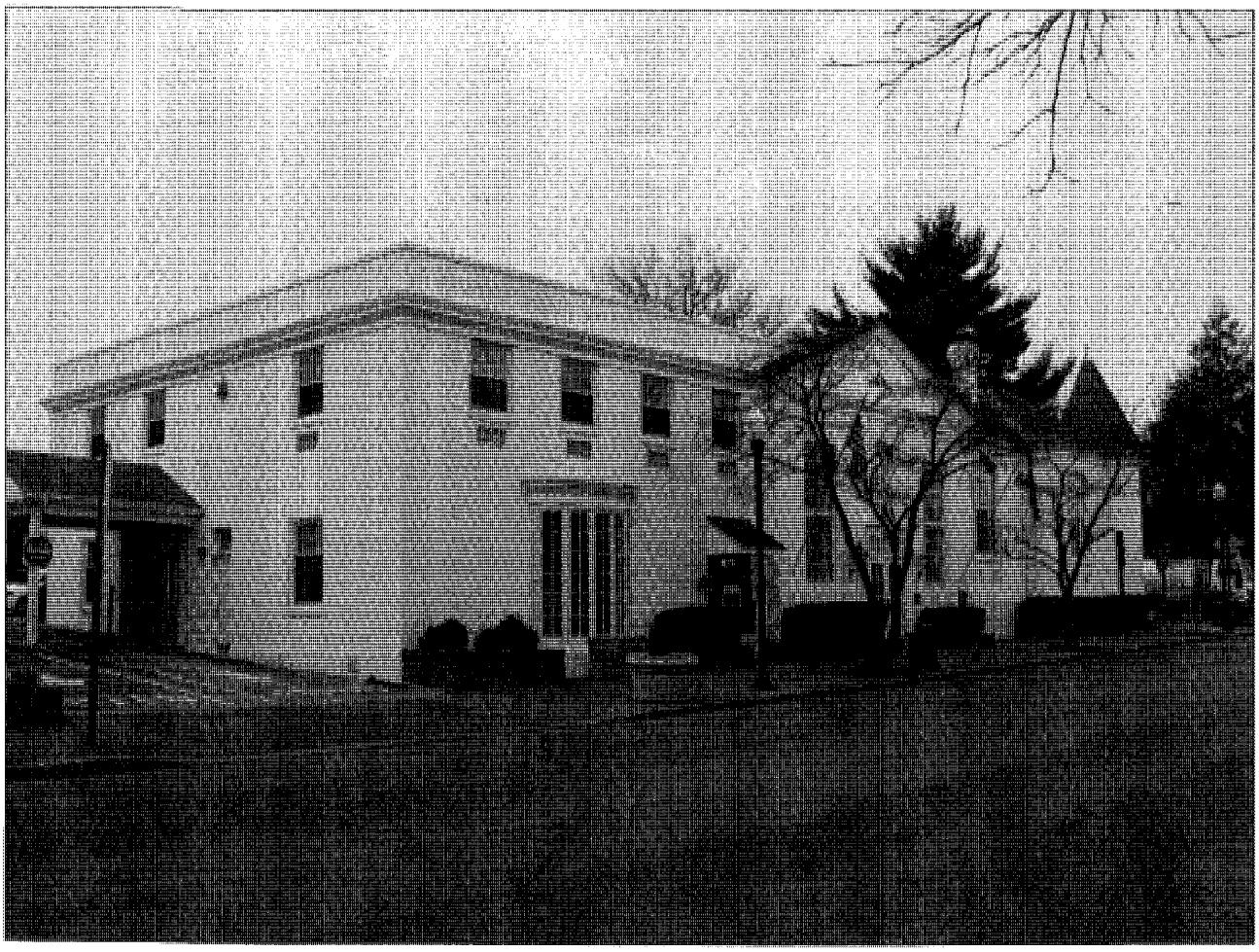
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-2
388-390 Main Street, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
View of side and rear elevations, facing NE
Photo #3 of 11



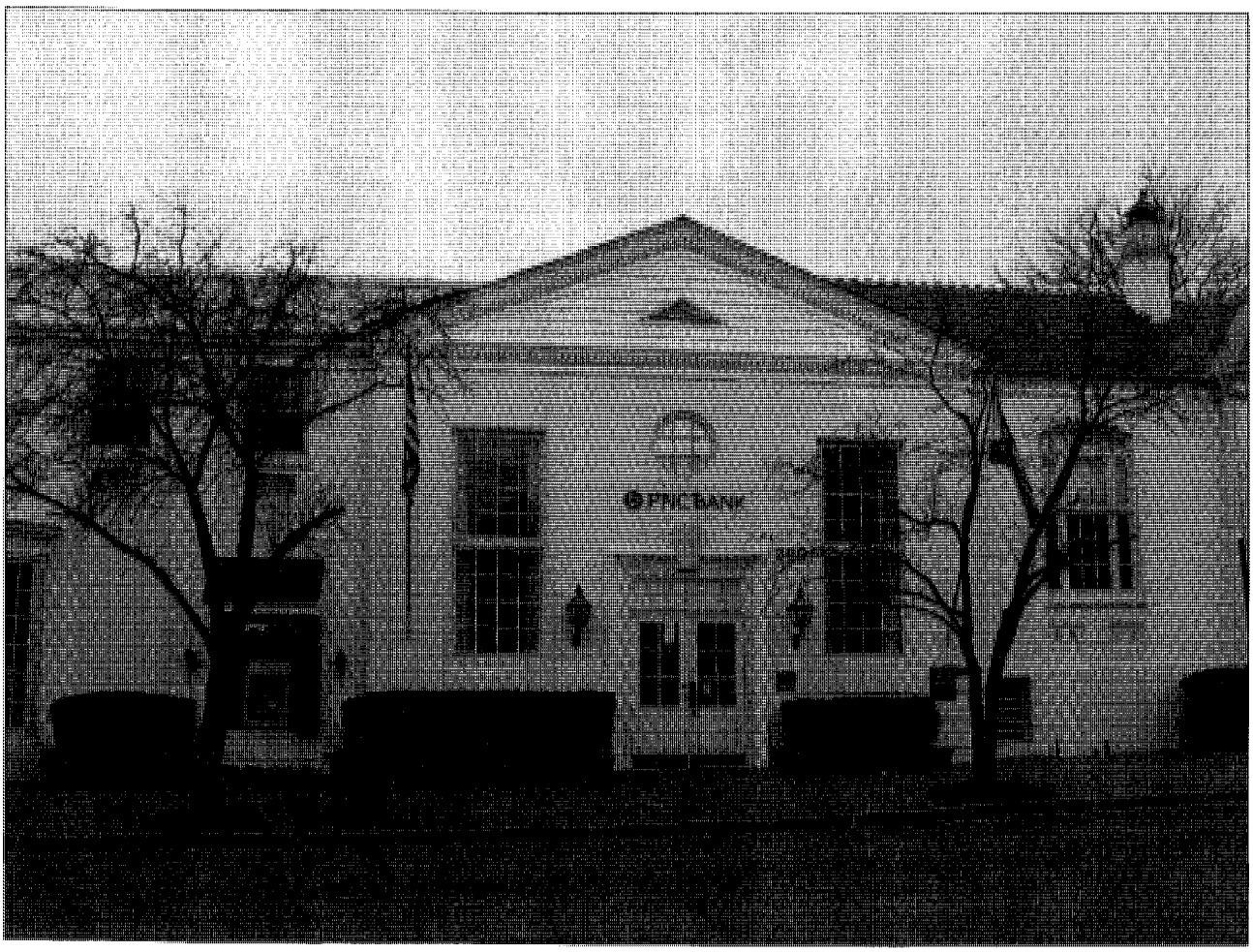
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-2
388-390 Main Street, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
View of rear and side elevations, facing NW
Photo #4 of 11



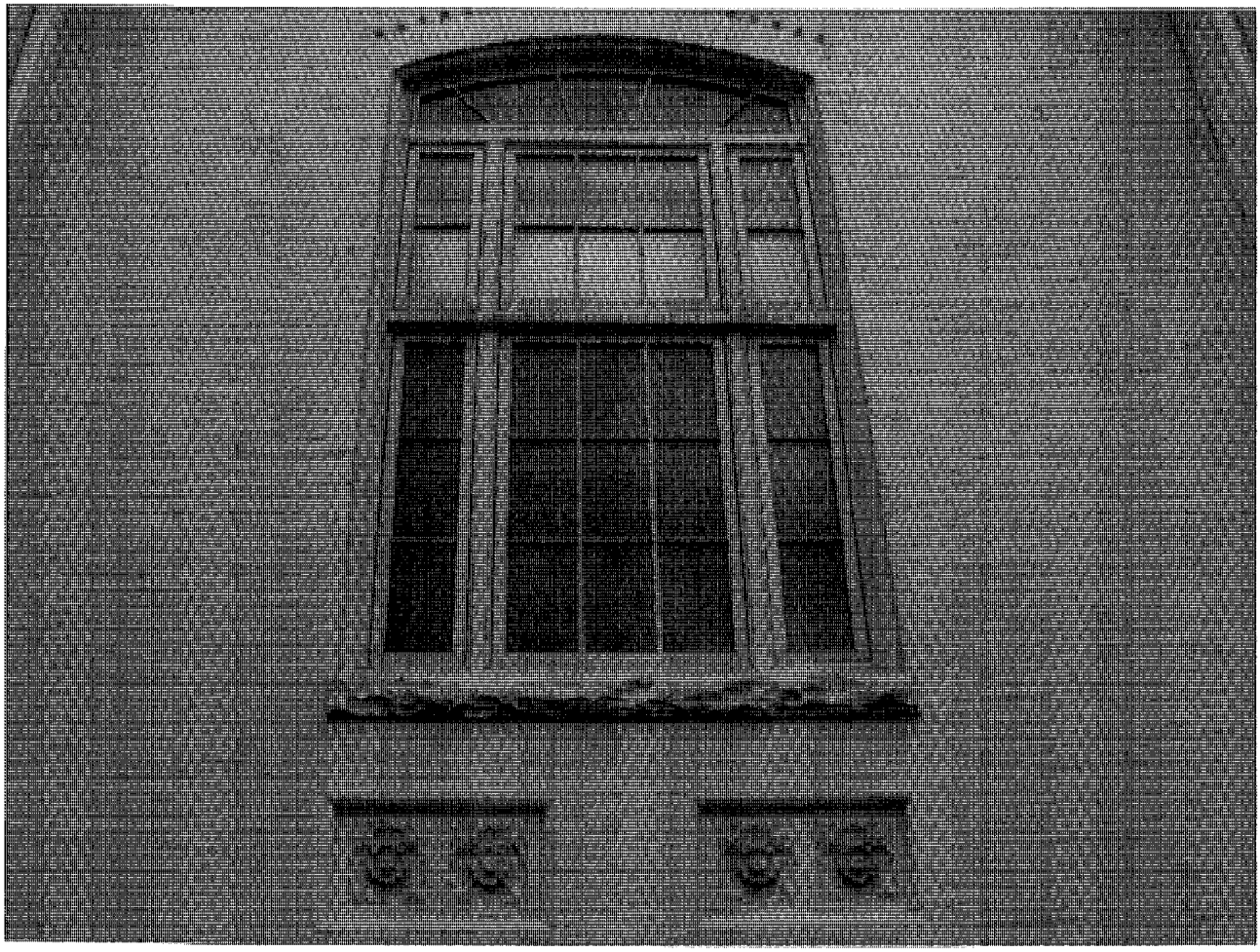
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-2
388-390 Main Street, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Eastern elevation at drive-through window, facing S
Photo #5 of 11



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-2
388-390 Main Street, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Northern elevation, facing SW
Photo #6 of 11

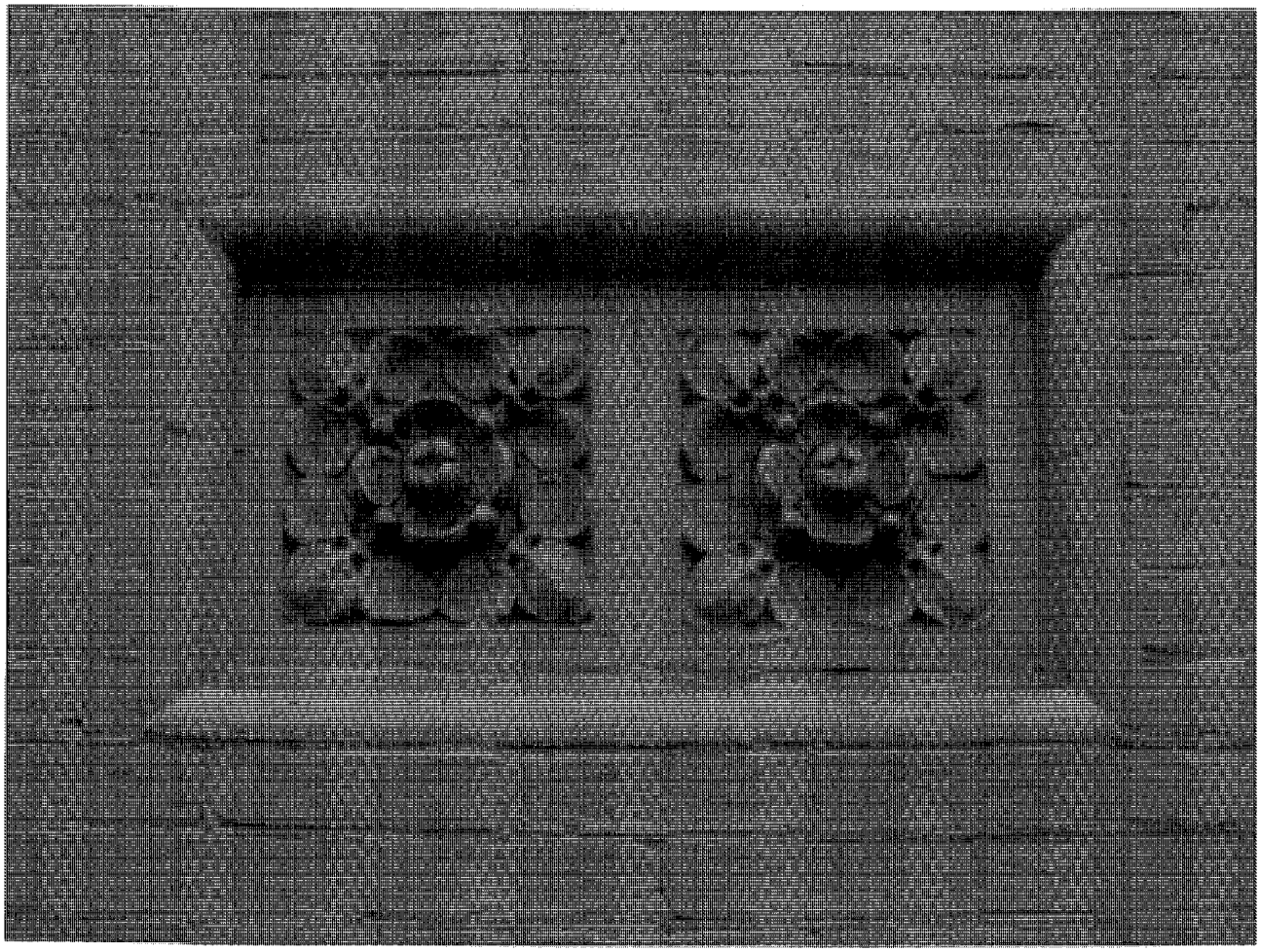


MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-2
388-390 Main Street, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Northern elevation on Main Street, facing S
Photo #7 of 11

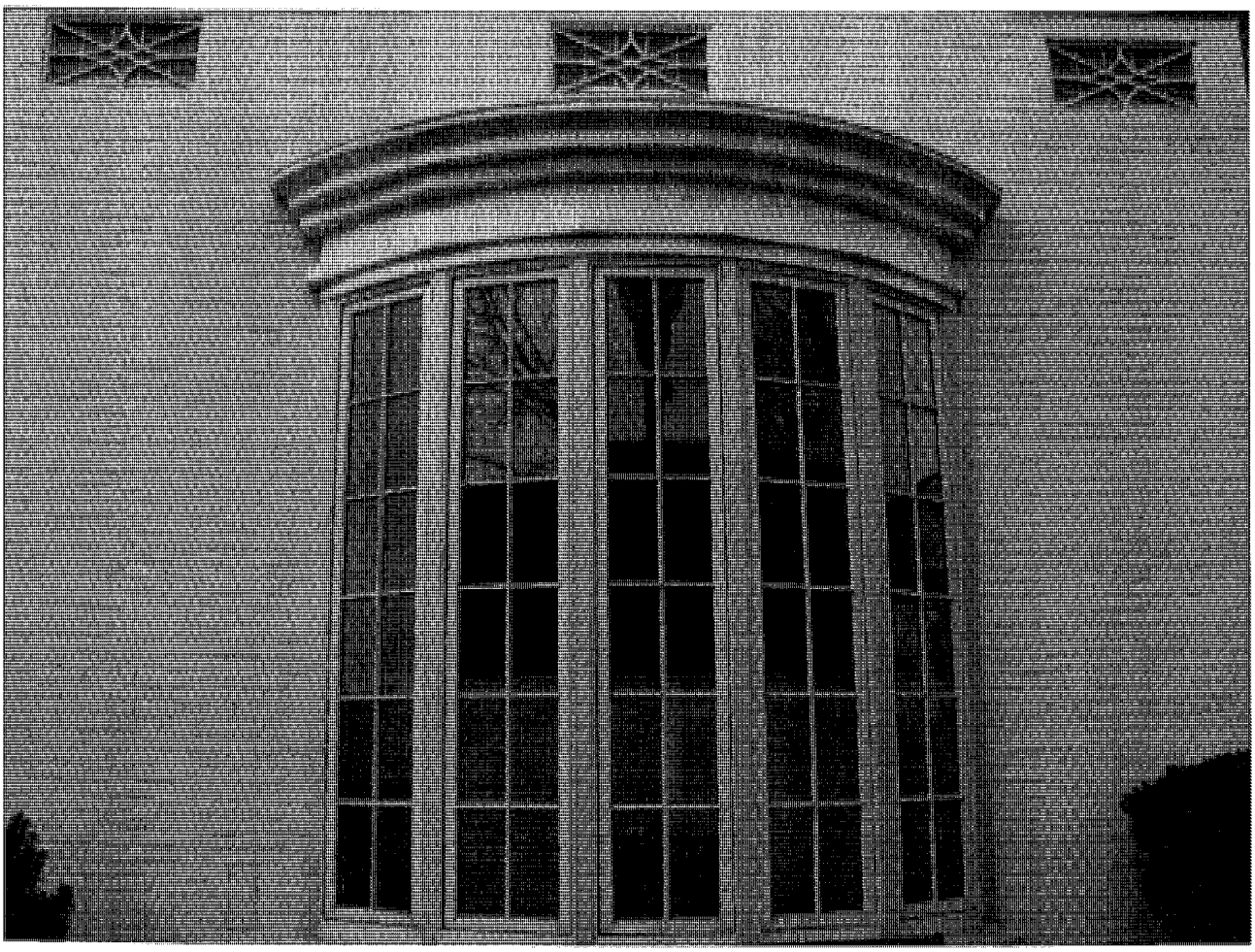


MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-2
388-390 Main Street, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Close-up view of details on northern elevation on Main Street, facing S
Photo #8 of 11

MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-2
388-390 Main Street, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Close-up view of decorative terra-cotta panel on northern elevation on Main Street, facing S
Photo #9 of 11



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-2
388-390 Main Street, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Close-up view of second decorative terra-cotta panel on northern elevation on Main Street, facing S
Photo #10 of 11



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-2
388-390 Main Street, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Close-up view of bay window in building addition on northern elevation, facing S
Photo #11 of 11

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

'roperty Name: Citizens National Bank Inventory Number: PG:LAU-1-17-2

Address: 388-390 Main Street City: Laurel Zip Code: 20707

County: Prince Georges County USGS Topographic Map: Laurel, MD 1979

Owner: Citizens National Bank of Laurel Is the property being evaluated a district? ____yes

Tax Parcel Number: _____ Tax Map Number: 6 Tax Account ID Number: 10 1009307

Project: Laurel Historic District Architectural Survey and Analysis Agency: City of Laurel

Site visit by MHT Staff: _____no ____yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Is the property located within a historic district? ____yes X ___no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: PG:LAU-1-1'_____

NR-listed district ____yes Eligible district X ___yes District Name: Eastern Main Street Historic District

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource X__yes ___no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ____

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ____yes ____no

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D Considerations: _____A ___B ___C ___D _____F ___G ___None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MHT MIHP Form Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-17-2

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

Located in Laurel's Eastern Main Street Historic District, the Citizens National Bank building sits on the southeastern corner of Main and Fourth Streets. Constructed in 1890, Citizens National Bank was Prince George's County's first nationally chartered bank. The bank was in an advantageous location between Washington and Baltimore and offered loans to residents of both cities. Because of its ties to both cities and its relationship with the surrounding community, it survived the Great Depression and bank closings of 1933 (PNC Legacy Project 2009) and remained independently managed under the same name until its acquisition in 2007. The building was designed and built for the newly chartered bank in 1890 by local architect and builder, Lawrence Adelbert Ellis (L.A. Ellis). First a small building occupying a corner lot, the bank was later enlarged in 1910, 1948, and 1960, with the original building incorporated into the successive designs.

The Citizens Bank Building is a 2-story, 7-bay Queen Anne- and Neoclassical-style building. Originally a much smaller L-shaped building that sat at the corner, the building evolved over the next century into a larger, more prominent building on its block. Both sides of the building have hipped roofs, and the corner where the 2 sections meet has a projecting 1-story, 1-bay, tower-like section with a tall pyramid-shaped roof. The projection once contained the original entrance vestibule and still has 1

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ____ **Eligibility not recommended** _____

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

Comments: _____

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

Reviewer, NR Program **Date**

set of double-leaf wooden doors below a large retrofitted window with double-hung sashes and 8-over-12 lights. The original public banking area was on the first story, and the board room was on the second story.

In 1910 a small addition containing the president's office was added to the building (possibly the section in the rear of the building). In 1948, a 2-story, 4-bay addition (referred to here as the central section) was constructed onto the eastern side of the corner building. It contained the bank's new front entrance leading into a public banking area on the first story, with executive offices on the mezzanine level overlooking the teller line. The addition also provided a new board room and a night depository. The central section had a side-gabled roof with an intersecting front-gabled roof over a projecting section containing the entrance. The front and rear gables currently have a pediment with dentiled moldings and a triangular vent. It is unknown whether the decorative pediments were added in 1948 or during the subsequent renovation. In 1960 the eastern wall of the building was opened up, and a Neoclassical-style 2-story, 2-bay, mansard-roof addition for administrative offices was constructed. Each addition was designed to incorporate the previously existing building, with all sections currently forming one continuous bank building that extends along Main Street's southern side. The entire building has been painted white, lending visual uniformity to the different building sections.

The building's overall northern elevation contains (from left to right) a Neoclassical-style projecting semicircular, full-height bay window, with 5 individual windows with 12 lights in each. The window sashes appear to be vinyl. To the west of the window is an opening containing an ATM machine under a shed-roof awning. West of the machine is the projecting pedimented section, the center of which is a double-leaf wooden and glass entrance door flanked by 2 large 2-story windows. The entrance doors each have 6 lights on top and a panel on the bottom as well as a 6-light rectangular transom above. The molding surrounding the door opening has a decorative keystone. Each of the large windows flanking the entrance appears to mimic a double-hung, sashed window, with 16-over-16 lights in each. West of the projection are 2 tripartite windows, the first one being in the 1948 addition and the second one in the original corner building. The arched window openings have brick lintels and brownstone sills, and the windows appear to have double-hung wooden sashes, with 10-over- 16 lights and a fanlight in each one. At the corner of the building in the projecting vestibule is a double-leaf wooden entrance door. The area in the brick wall below the tripartite windows is ornamented with two sets of two terra-cotta panels containing rosettes below the first window and two terra-cotta panels depicting angels below the second window.

The 2nd story of the northern elevation has (from left to right) 4 windows with wooden double-hung sashes, each containing 8-over-8 lights. Below the windows are frieze band window openings (although not located in the frieze) with decorative fretwork in each. West of the windows are the large 2-story windows described above. Above the entrance door at the mezzanine level is a round window with a fixed pane and six lights.

The western (Fourth Street) elevation of the original building has an unbroken wall with 2 rectangular window openings with brick lintels and brownstone sills. Each window has wooden double-hung window sashes, with 9-over-9 lights in each. A 1-story, shed-roofed addition was added to the rear of the original building on its southern side. One single window opening with a brick lintel and sill is in the western elevation of the rear addition. The window is covered with metal bars. The roof of the original building, including the pyramid-shaped roof, is clad in shingles, and the small addition has a standing-seam metal roof. Two interior chimneys with corbelled brickwork are in the original building.

The southern (rear) elevation contains (from left to right) the small, 1-story addition, followed by the larger 2-story addition, with a projecting pedimented section. The 1st story fenestration of both building sections includes (from left to right) 1 window opening with double-hung sashes and metal bars over it; 1 small opening that appears to be a vent; 3 large 2-story windows with 16-over-16 lights; one exterior brick chimney; and 4 windows with double-hung sashes and 8-over-12 lights. The 2nd story contains (from left to right) 1 single-leaf metal door accessed by a metal stairway located to the left of the 2-story windows, the 2-story windows, 1 door accessed by a metal stairway located to the right of the large windows, and 3 windows with double-hung sashes and 8-over-8 lights. Frieze band window openings with decorative fretwork are below the three windows.

The eastern elevation contains (from left to right) 1 window with double-hung sashes and 8-over-12 lights, a projecting, metal-clad drive-up banking booth underneath an awning, 1 single-leaf metal door with a 4-light transom above, and 1 window with double-hung sashes with 8-over-12 lights.

The building's historic integrity has been compromised by its additions. Its integrity of design, material, and workmanship has been diminished by the modern additions and the painting of the building. The building has retained its integrity of location, feeling, setting, and association. Its visual association to the community is strong. It is still located along the commercial thoroughfare of Laurel among other commercial structures and in close vicinity to residential structures. It still portrays the important role that it has had for over 100 years in the commerce and banking activities of the community. Because many of the buildings surrounding it were there at the construction of the original building, it possesses a high degree of integrity of setting and feeling.

As an individual property, the structure does not meet significance criteria outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's National Register Bulletin, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation." It does not meet Criterion A because it is not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. The property does not meet Criterion B because it is not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. The property does not meet Criterion C because it does not embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, nor does it represent a distinct architectural style. It does not meet Criterion D because it has not yielded, nor is it likely to yield information important in prehistory or history. The structure is however recommended eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing resource to the Eastern Main Street Historic District.

Prepared by: Alison J. Ross
KCI Technologies, Inc.

Date Prepared: May 2009

Capsule Summary

Name of Property: Central Main Street Historic District
MIHP number: PG:LAU-1-18
Location: Main Street
Laurel, Prince Georges County, Maryland 20707

Date of Construction: Various
Access: Public

Property Description: The Central Main Street Historic District is one of three designated linear districts along Main Street in Laurel, Maryland. Less commercial in character than the adjacent Eastern Main Street Historic District this district has a variety of building types, including single-family dwellings, high density residential dwellings, religious, and commercial buildings. Construction dates range from 1840 to 1988 according to tax records. Between Fifth and Seventh streets on the northeastern side of the street are retail stores, several single-family homes that have been converted to group homes, a newly constructed nursing home and a row of newly constructed (1985) mixed-use commercial buildings called Patuxent Row. The southwestern side of the district contains single-family homes, retail stores, a Methodist Church, and St. Philip's Episcopal Church.

Summary Paragraph on History: The area of Main Street contained in the Central Main Street Historic District has served as a mixed use area from its origins in the mid-1800s to today. As the only industrial area in rural Prince Georges County, the town of Laurel Factory originated in the 1830s as a mill town, centered on the Patuxent Manufacturing Company's cotton mill and complete with millworkers' housing, schools, social halls, stores, and churches. A second mill community grew around the Avondale Mill, and another area of development grew at the eastern end of Main Street near the existing turnpike and the Baltimore and Ohio railroad tracks and depot. After the sale of a land north and south of this section of Main Street, the land was subdivided and sold off, and subsequent improvements on the lots included residential dwellings, stores, and churches. By the last quarter of the 19th century the improvements and development along Main Street had filled in and were continuous from the Laurel Mill to the railroad tracks. The section between Fourth and Seventh Streets in the Central Main Street Historic District has continued to thrive as a mixed-use neighborhood throughout the 20th century and into the 21st century and has experienced a recent revitalization.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-18

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Historic District No. 2

other Central Main Street Historic District (preferred)

2. Location

street and number Both sides of Main Street from Fourth Street to Seventh Street not for publication

city, town Laurel vicinity

county Prince Georges

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

name Multiple owners and addresses

street and number telephone

city, town state zip code

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Tax Department website liber multiple folio multiple

city, town Laurel tax map A-0848 tax parcel tax ID number

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
__X__ Other: Recommended by City of Laurel as Eligible Historic District

6. Classification

Category
__X__ district
_____ building(s)
_____ structure
_____ site
_____ object

Ownership
_____ public
_____ private
__X__ both

Current Function
_____ agriculture
__X__ commerce/trade
_____ defense
__X__ domestic
_____ education
_____ funerary
_____ government
_____ health care
_____ industry
_____ landscape
__X__ recreation/culture
__X__ religion
__X__ social
_____ transportation
_____ work in progress
_____ unknown
_____ vacant/not in use
_____ other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
23	15	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
23	15	Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
0

7. Description

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-18

Condition

___ excellent ___ deteriorated
_X_ good ___ ruins
___ fair _X_ altered

Summary

The Central Main Street Historic District is one of three designated linear districts along Main Street in Laurel, Maryland. Less commercial in character than the adjacent Eastern Main Street Historic District, this district has more residential housing, including single-family dwellings, high density residential dwellings, garden apartments, and group homes. Other building uses include churches, stores and businesses. Construction dates range from 1840 to 1988 according to tax records. The historic district contains large areas of buildings of new construction, including a row of newly constructed (1985) mixed-use commercial buildings called Patuxent Row between Fifth and Seventh streets on the northeastern side of the street.

Comprehensive Description of Resource

The Central Main Street Historic District is an example of an intact, mixed use neighborhood, with a harmonious blend of single- and multiple-unit residential dwellings, churches, educational facilities, retail stores, and businesses. Three blocks in length, it is adjacent to the Eastern Main Street Historic District, the historic commercial center of the 19th-century mill-centered town. The Central Main Street Historic District extends from the northwestern side of Fourth Street to the southeastern side of Seventh Street and includes properties on both sides of Main Street. It is bordered by the Patuxent River on the north and by urban and suburban residential and commercial development on its other sides.

The northeastern side of Main Street contains retail stores, a ca. 1960 apartment complex, single-family houses converted to offices and group homes, a nursing home, a bar and restaurant, and two large 1988 mixed-use buildings. The southwestern side of the street contains one ca. 1955 apartment complex, several single-family dwellings, several single-family dwellings converted into offices and shops, retail stores, the First United Methodist Church, a playhouse, the 1848 St. Philip's Episcopal Church, a row of ca. 1960 townhouses, and several 1985-1988 mixed-use buildings with retail and offices, Patuxent Place. The construction dates of the district's buildings range from 1848 to 1985. The district does not exhibit any prevalent architectural styles but rather a variety, including Georgian, Italianate, Gothic Revival, Colonial Revival, and International Style, among others

Despite the removal of a number of buildings to build modern garden apartments on the 400 block, a nursing home on the 500 block, and the Patuxent Place buildings on the 500 and 600 block of the street, some original residential dwellings exist on both sides of the street, and the district's contributing buildings are linked together by their common history and association with the mid-19th-century town of Laurel Factory. There are 38 resources, with 23 that are contributing and 15 that are non-contributing to the historic district. The non-contributing buildings were constructed after 1960. Some of the historic buildings that were on the 500 and 600 blocks of Main Street and included in Historic District No. 2 when it was first designated have since been demolished for the Patuxent Place development. It is recommended that this section of the historic district be excluded from within the boundaries.

Notable buildings in the district are 400 Main Street, the 1866 McCeneys house; 420 Main Street, Sadler's Pharmacy; 424 Main Street, the 1884 First United Methodist Church building; 522 Main Street, the 1848 St. Philip's Episcopal Church building; 419 Main Street, Odd Fellow's Hall; 429 Main Street, a pre-Civil War building used as a residence and bakery; 531 Main Street, a 1902 building originally used as an electric railroad (trolley) station.

Following is a list of properties on both sides of Main Street, with their addresses, building type, construction date, brief description, and whether or not the buildings contribute to the historic district. Stores or businesses that are combined in one building are indicated.

Northeastern side of Main Street

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing/Non-contributing (N or NC)
401-403 Main Street	Realtor/Retail-bridal	1920	2-story, 7-bay, brick, flat roof, added to side-gabled house; glass storefront	C

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-18

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number _7_ Page 1

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing/Non-contributing (N or NC)
405 Main Street	Retail-thrift	1915	2-story, 2-bay, stucco over frame, Queen Anne	C
411 Main Street	Apt. complex office	1961	New construction	NC
413 Main Street	Offices	Ca. 1970	2-story, 3-bay	NC
415 Main Street	Dwelling (office)	Ca. 1930	2-story, 2-bay, vinyl, porch, pyramid roof	NC
417 Main Street	Dwelling (insurance)	Ca. 1850	2-story, 5-bay, asb. shingle. original windows	C
419 Main Street	Dwelling (group home)	1855	2-story, brick, porch added to 1st story, rear	C
429 Main Street	Dwelling (group home)	1860	2-story, 3-bay, front gabled, Italianate, brick	C
501 Main Street	Nursing home	Ca. 1990	New construction	NC
509 A,B,C Main Street	Retail	1900	1,2-story, 5-bay, pyramid roof	C
511 Main Street	Salon	Ca. 1970		NC
513- 515 Main Street	Retail / retail	Ca. 1920	2-story, 5-bay, flat roof, vinyl	C
531 Main Street	Bar and restaurant	1902	1½ -story, 5-bay	C
535 Main Street	Bank	1988	New construction	NC
575-595 Main Street	Retail/Residential	1988	New construction	NC
605-649 Main Street	Attached	1985	New construction	NC
651-695 Main Street	Attached	1985	New construction	NC

Southwestern side of Main Street

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing/Non-contributing (N or NC)
400 Main Street	Dwelling	1866	2-story, 5-bay, side-gabled, porch	C
410 Main Street	Apartment complex	1958	2-story, garden apts., brick, hipped roof	C
414 Main Street	Dwelling	1925	1-story, 3-bay, American Foursquare	C
416 Main Street	Dwelling (office)	1925	1-story, 7-bay, stone, Bungalow	C
418 Main Street	Dwelling	1900	1-story, 5-bay, asb.shingle, side-gabled	C
420 Main Street	Dwelling (antiques)	1870	1-story, 5-bay, cross-gabled, porch, alum, over frame	C
424 Main Street	Church	1884	brick	C
500 Main Street	Retail-dairy, convenience	1969	New construction	NC
502 Main Street	Service-acupuncture	1940	1-story, 2-bay, brick w/ add, front-gabled, shed roof added	C
504-506 Main Street	Retail	1910	1- and 2-story, 3-bay, Italianate cornice and brackets	C

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-18

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 2

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing/Non-contributing (N or NC)
508 Main Street	Playhouse	1900	2-story, 3-bay cornice with brackets, storefront window, Italianate	C
512 Main Street	Retail - pet spa	1910	2-story, 2-bay, storefront window, Italianate cornice with brackets	C
516 Main Street	Retail-liquor	1972	New construction	NC
518A Main Street	Dwelling	1925	1-story, 3-bay, snub-gabled bungalow, porch	NC
522 Main Street	Church	1848	1-story, stone, attached wings	C
600 Main Street	Dwelling	1982	New construction	NC
606 Main Street	Dwelling (retail)	1919	2-story, 4-bay duplex into store, cross-gabled roof, 1 side-gabled 1-story addition, dormers	C
610 Main Street	Townhouses	1960	New construction	NC
612-614 Main Street	Retail-optometrist	1890	2-story, 6-bay, glass storefront, pyramid roof, stone w/ stucco	C
634 -644 Main Street	Offices, retail	1987	New construction	NC

8. Significance

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-18

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

Specific dates **Architect/Builder**

Construction dates 1848-1990

Evaluation for:

_____ National Register _____Maryland Register ___X___not evaluated

Narrative Discussion of History of Resource

Regional History

The area surrounding the present-day City of Laurel in Prince Georges County, Maryland, was first settled by members of the Snowden family, one of the founding families of Maryland, during the latter half of the 17th century and early 18th century. Laurel is on land that was originally patented to Richard Snowden in 1715 as "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" in Prince George's County. At the time, Snowden's estate already was approximately 3,000 acres in size, extending from Old Columbia Pike to the present city of Laurel and from south of Greencastle and Van Dusen Roads to north of Sandy Spring Road. The 1715 patent increased the already substantial Snowden land holdings, and by 1743 the estate had grown to 9,265 acres.

Although the Laurel area was first an agricultural region, it became a location for manufacturing as early as the first half of the 18th century, distinguishing it from the rest of rural Prince George's County. Manufacturing activity on the Patuxent River dates back to 1736 when the Snowden family established the Patuxent River Iron Works. Almost a century later in 1811, descendent Nicholas Snowden constructed a stone grist mill building on the banks of the Patuxent River as well as a dam across the river at the location of what is now Ninth Street in Laurel. In 1824, Nicholas Snowden leased the mill for a period of 12 years to Mr. Johnson (origin unknown), who transformed the grist mill into a factory for spinning cotton yarn, known as the Cotton Manufacturing Motive of Laurel. Mr. Johnson installed wooden cogwheels and spindles that enabled it to convert raw cotton into twisted thread that was then used elsewhere in the manufacture of cotton cloth. The mill was successful and at one time reportedly employed 100 adults. Some time prior to 1835, another local businessman, Robert Pilsen, soon installed the first loom in the mill that enabled the weaving of cotton cloth in the factory.

Nicholas Snowden died in 1831, and his estate, Montpelier, was subdivided among his children. His wife received what was called the Bank Quarter, which contained the bank of iron ore. A leftover undivided portion along the Patuxent River, contained approximately 100 acres, the Snowdens' stone mansion, the mill buildings, several log houses, and a well-used farm where successive crops of tobacco and corn had been cultivated. The parcel's location was invaluable because of the exceptional water power provided by the river.

The 1835 completion of the Baltimore and Ohio (B & O) Railroad Company's new railroad line through Laurel, located just over one mile east of the mill, contributed to the attractiveness of the mill location. The railroad, which was to connect Baltimore with Washington D.C., promised easier access to new markets, both for raw materials and finished products. Access to other markets was previously gained by travel from the mill eastward via Main Street to the Washington-Baltimore Turnpike, which was chartered by the state of Maryland in 1812.

The location and easy access to the railroad and the turnpike were not lost on Snowden's heirs, which included son-in-law Horace Capron, Louisa's husband and a member of the Capron family of Attleboro, Massachusetts. Snowden had previously worked at a mill at Savage, Maryland, prior to turning his attentions to the lands of the former New Birmingham Manor. On January 28, 1836, Horace Capron joined other Snowden family members in a new business venture. Capron, along with Dr. Theodore Jenkins (brother-in-law of Capron and neighbor of the Snowdens at New Birmingham Manor), Elizabeth Snowden (Capron's mother-in-law), Osmond C. Tiffany (Capron's first cousin from another Attleboro, Massachusetts, family) A.E. Hall, and W.C. Shaw incorporated a new company, the Patuxent Company, for the purpose of manufacturing and selling cotton, iron, and

other articles at the site of the mill and farm. The Snowden children's land holdings were combined and transferred when Horace Capron and his wife, Charles Hill and his wife, and Dr. Theodore Jenkins and his wife, conveyed their inherited lands to the Patuxent Company. Deeds for property and stock also were transferred by Osmond Tiffany, Comfort Tiffany, and several Capron cousins, who also were involved in mill activities elsewhere.

Shortly after its incorporation in 1835, the Patuxent Company constructed housing for its mill workers in the vicinity of the mill. Merchants established stores and businesses near the mill to support the employees and their families, and the town, known as Laurel Factory, started to grow around and in the vicinity of the mill. Businesses, churches, a social hall, and schools were established to meet the needs of the fledgling community as well. Supported by wealthy residents and members of the Snowden family, the first churches were constructed on Main Street and Yellow Row (the future Sixth Street) and included a Protestant Episcopal, a Methodist, and a Catholic Church. A schoolhouse and an assembly hall were built south of the mill building. According to Thomson's Mercantile and Professional Directory, Laurel Factory had its own post office by 1851. By that date, businesses reportedly included four dealers in dry goods, groceries, and hardware; two physicians; one hotelkeeper; and one factory.

In the 1840s another mill, the Avondale Mill, was established along the Patuxent River halfway between the Laurel Mill and the railroad station and turnpike. Another residential area developed near the mill on the northeastern side of Main Street with housing built for the mill workers on Avondale Street. As the western end of the town was flourishing, the eastern end between the railroad depot and turnpike started to grow, as property owners established a hotel, blacksmith shops, a warehouse, a store, and a post office.

History of the Resource

Like the Eastern Main Street Historic District's land, the land on both sides of the Central Main Street Historic District was part of the original Snowden estate "New Birmingham Manor." After Nicholas Snowden's death in 1831, a large tract (size unknown) known as Lot No. 8 and located between the Baltimore and Washington Turnpike and the Snowden's mill to the west, and between Main Street on the north to a point south of it, was inherited by Nicholas' daughter, Eliza Snowden. Richard Snowden and his wife, Elizabeth, acquired some of it and subsequently conveyed a large tract to Horace Capron on August 29, 1839 (DB AB 12, P. 367). Capron's land included tracts on both sides of Main Street.

Prior to Horace Capron applying to the State of Maryland for Insolvency (bankruptcy) on May 21, 1850, he sold off portions of his property on both sides of Main Street to a number of people. On December 17, 1849, a large parcel (size unknown) on the northeastern side of Main Street lying between the Laurel factory and the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike was sold to James and Jesse Duvall (DB JBB 6, P. 230), who operated a store and post office on Main Street, according to the 1861 Martenet map. James conveyed his interest to Jesse on February 20, 1866 (DB FS 3, P. 571). At some point the Duvall's land was subdivided and lots sold. The 1861 Martenet atlas confirms that land on the northeastern side of Main Street between the mill and the railroad depot had been subdivided and sold to individual property owners, with buildings indicated at regular intervals along the street.

On Main Street's southwestern side, the western end developed sooner than the eastern end of Main Street because of the early mill community located there. By 1878, however, the middle section of Main Street, contained in Central Main Street Historic District, began to be improved after the large Talbott farm, a 610-acre farm first owned by Horace Capron, was subdivided and sold off. Evidence of the recent subdivision and improvements occurring in this section of Main Street is in an 1869 deed for land in the area south of Main Street that mentions the "new lots" on Main Street (DB HB 2, P. 742).

Horace Capron had acquired the farm as part of a large tract conveyed to him by Snowden heirs Richard and Elizabeth Snowden in 1839. Capron applied to the State of Maryland for insolvency on May 21, 1850, and was directed by Orphan's Court to convey his land, household goods, and furniture for $1.00 to trustees Thomas S. Alexander and George W. Dobbin on April 1, 1850 (DB JJB 6, P. 331). At a public auction on May 21, 1850, the trustees sold the 610-acre farm to Thomas Wilson of John (name as it appears on deed) for $28,060.00 (DB CSM 1, P. 151). Thomas Wilson of John named the tract "Laurel Farm" and

owned it for the next ten years. On November 27, 1861, Thomas Wilson of John and his wife sold Laurel Farm to Thomas Jefferson Talbott for $27,200.00 (DB 1, P. 27). After Talbott's death, trustees for his property, Charles Stanley, Michael Bannon, and Edwin Higgins, conveyed part of the land to Honora Talbott (DB HB 13, P. 474) at a public sale, another portion to sisters, Emily F. Talbott and Sarah E. Talbott, and another large portion to land speculators Arthur Pue Gorman and partner James Kemp. Lots on the southwestern side of Main Street were sold to individual parties, as evidenced by the 1878 Hopkins map. Property owners' names on the portion of Main Street contained in Central Main Street Historic District include S. Gambrill, Burnham, Whiteside, Mrs. Welsh, among others.

Growth had occurred after the Civil War period in Laurel with assistance from the Laurel Building Association, which was incorporated in 1869 for the primary purpose of enabling the accumulation of capital sufficient for its members to procure loans, purchase real or leasehold property, and to construct buildings. Additional interest in land investment and settlement in Laurel came from government employees who had become familiar with the town from traveling through it by train en route to Washington, D.C. Large parcels on the railroad tracks' eastern side were purchased and large homes built, as indicated by the 1878 Hopkins atlas. Others started arriving from the capital and purchased lots for homes on the newly constructed Second Street (on former Talbott land), which was in close proximity to the railroad station. Lots on both sides of the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike had been subdivided as well. In 1875, the town of Laurel Factory had been incorporated and its name changed to Laurel.

Similar to today, Main Street's properties between Fourth and Seventh Street in the 1870s included a mixture of building types and uses. For example, the Hopkins map shows a large house on the southwestern corner of Main and Fourth Streets, and records say that Stephen Gambrill, former President of the Baltimore and Ohio Canal Company and brother-in-law of Arthur Pue Gorman built a home there. Three lots farther west is a building labeled on the atlas as a store, beside the store is indicated a Methodist Church, and two lots from the Methodist Church is a Presbyterian Church. The map shows smaller lots and what appear to be both houses and stores on the block between Fifth and Sixth Streets. The block between Sixth and Seventh Streets contains duplexes for the mill workers and buildings that were part of the Laurel Machine Company.

The 1878 Hopkins atlas also indicates that perhaps some merchants or professionals had their businesses or practices on Main Street and were successful enough to be able to invest in lots on nearby streets slated for residential development. Some built their homes on the lots, and others either continued to live on Main Street or elsewhere. Land investors included the Divens, of Truman and Diven's Laurel Foundry, J. E. Flester, of Flester and Bond, Dr. J. Cronmiller, and S. Brashears. Other investors and businessmen had their businesses in Laurel but lived elsewhere in nearby Maryland towns such as Beltsville, Springfield, or Bowie.

Laurel was incorporated a second time in 1890 and divided into three wards. Pressure for an electric power plant, street paving, and sidewalk improvements started to mount in the late 1880s, and in 1890, an electric light plant was built with private capital. A contract was let to light the streets, and brick sidewalks were constructed on most of the streets shortly after that, followed by the introduction of water and sewers and the paving of streets. Under a town bond issue in 1931, Main Street, along with Washington Boulevard and Montgomery Avenue, were improved by the state, and smaller streets were resurfaced.

Laurel continued to thrive into the 20th century, and by the 1930s the commercial part of Main Street was flourishing as a commercial center, with many stores providing residents with a wide variety of goods and services. The section between Fourth and Seventh Streets continued as a residential area, with residences and churches.

By the 1960s Laurel's city planners had grappled with ways to reinvigorate the Main Street business area and almost participated in an extensive federally-funded urban renewal program which would have included the demolition of a large number of buildings there. City officials voted against plans to pursue the plan in 1963, and other solutions to revitalization were explored throughout the 1960 and early 1970s. By the early 1970s city planners started to acknowledge that the city's rich past could play a key role in its future and that revitalization might be possible by linking the improvement of the Main Street business district to a historic district program. Toward this end, the City of Laurel Historic District Commission was established by City Ordinance No. 535 on November 10, 1975, to oversee the protection of "Old Town" Laurel. Following the establishment of a commission, the

Laurel Historic District was identified, and by 1983 six smaller historic districts within the overall district were further delineated. This 2008 survey has renamed Historic District No. 2 as the Central Main Street Historic District.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-18

Capron, Horace. Autobiography. 2 vols., nd, typed copy, Maryland Historical Society.

Hopkins, G.M. *Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington Including the County of Prince George Maryland.* Philadelphia: F. Bourquin, 1878.

Martenet, Simon J. Map of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1861.

Recorder of Deeds, Prince Georges County Circuit Court. Various deeds from Land Records.

Spero, P.A.C. and Company. *Montgomery-Prince Georges Short-term Congestion Relief.* May 1998.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property _____

Acreage of historical setting _____

Quadrangle name Laurel, Maryland Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The recommended historic district is bounded on the northeast by the rear of the properties on the northeastern side of Main Street, on the east by the front property lines of the properties on the western side of Fourth Street, on the south by the rear property lines of the properties on the southwestern side of Main Street, and on the west by the front property lines of the properties on the eastern side of Seventh Street.

11. Form Prepared by

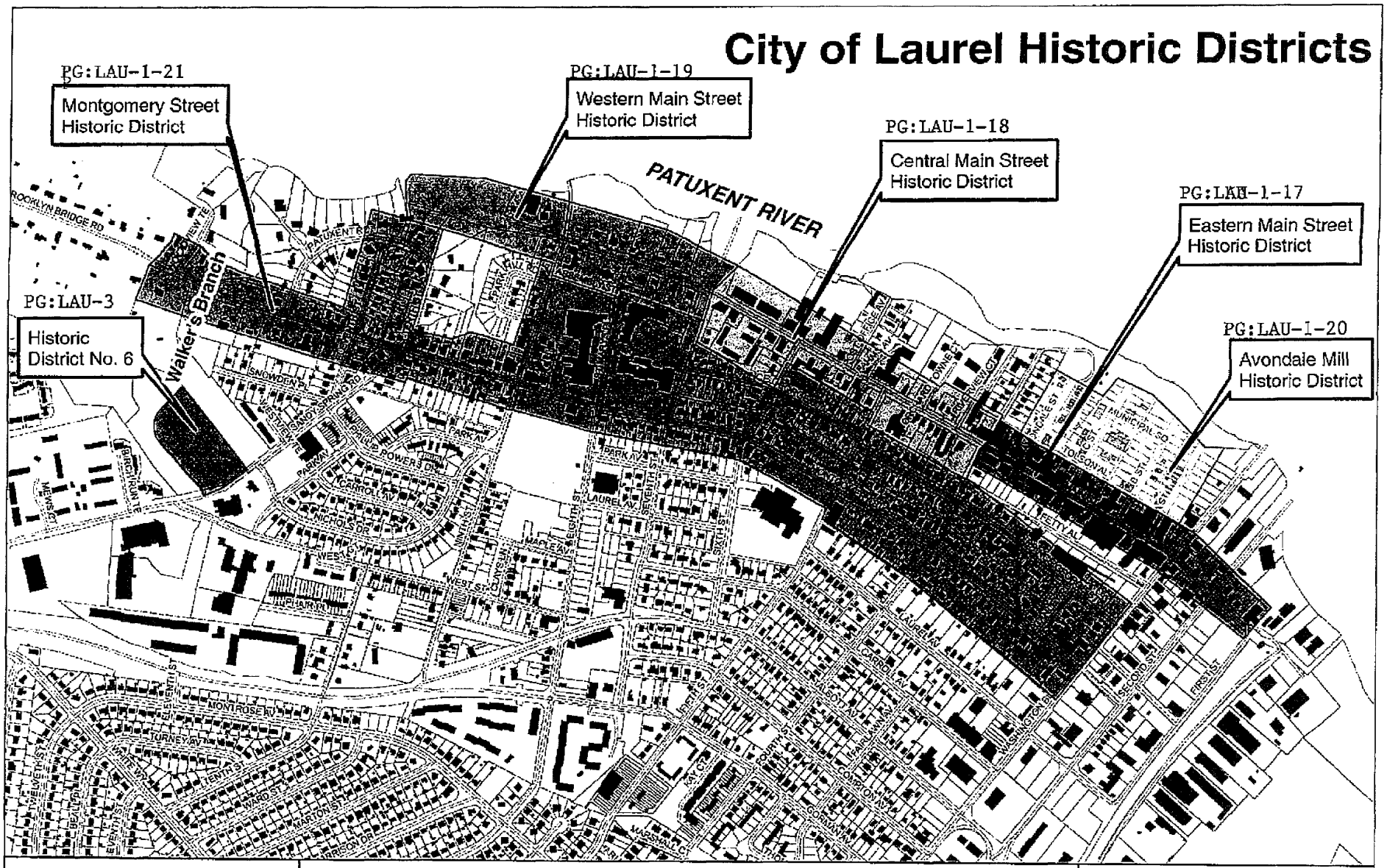
name/title	Alison J. Ross, M.S.		
organization	KCI Technologies, Inc.	date	10/2008
street & number	5001 Louise Drive	telephone	717 691-1340
city or town	Mechanicsburg	state	PA

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
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

City of Laurel Historic Districts



N

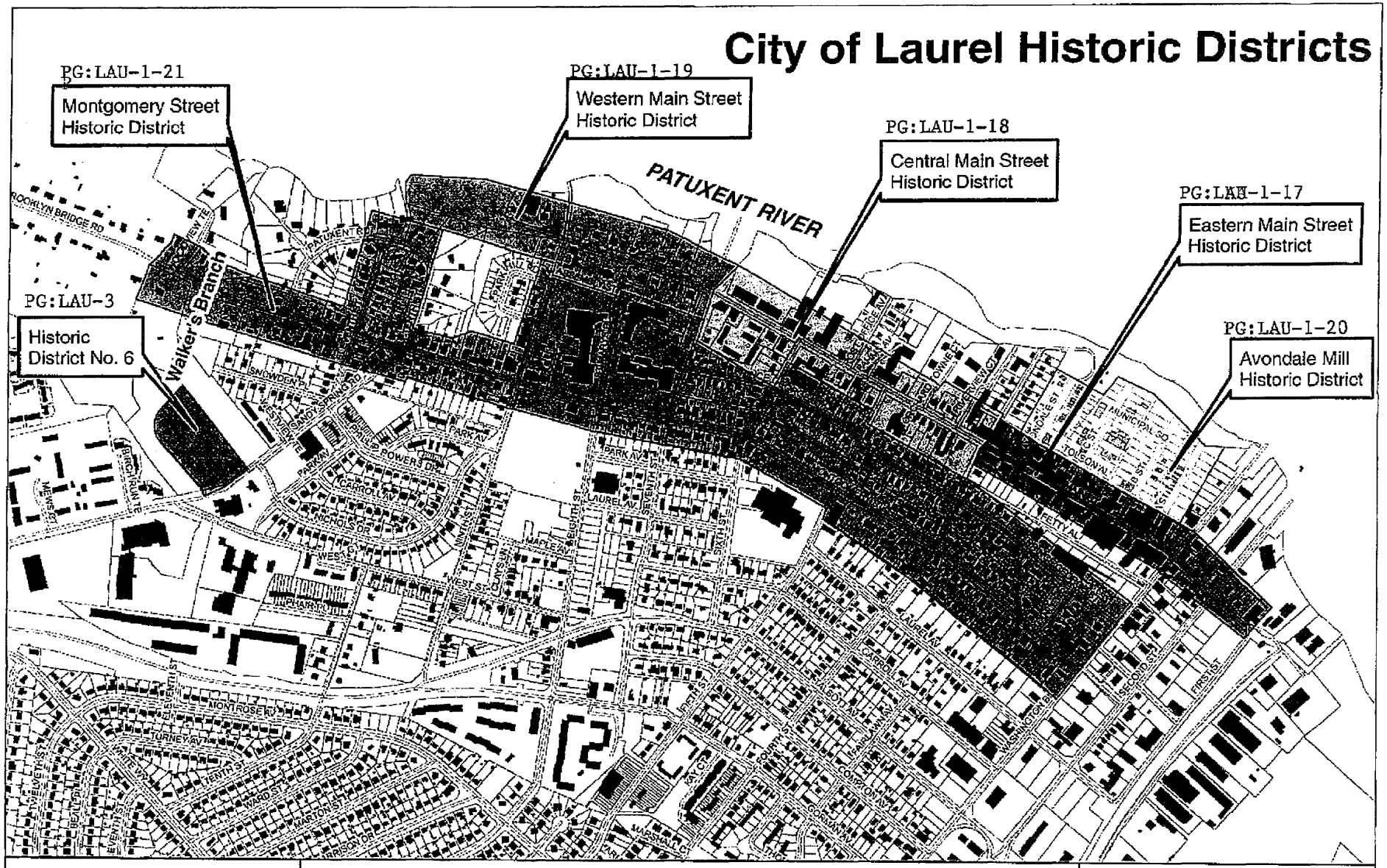
0 800 1,600

Feet

Laurel Historic District
Architectural Survey and Analysis
City of Laurel, Prince George's County, Maryland

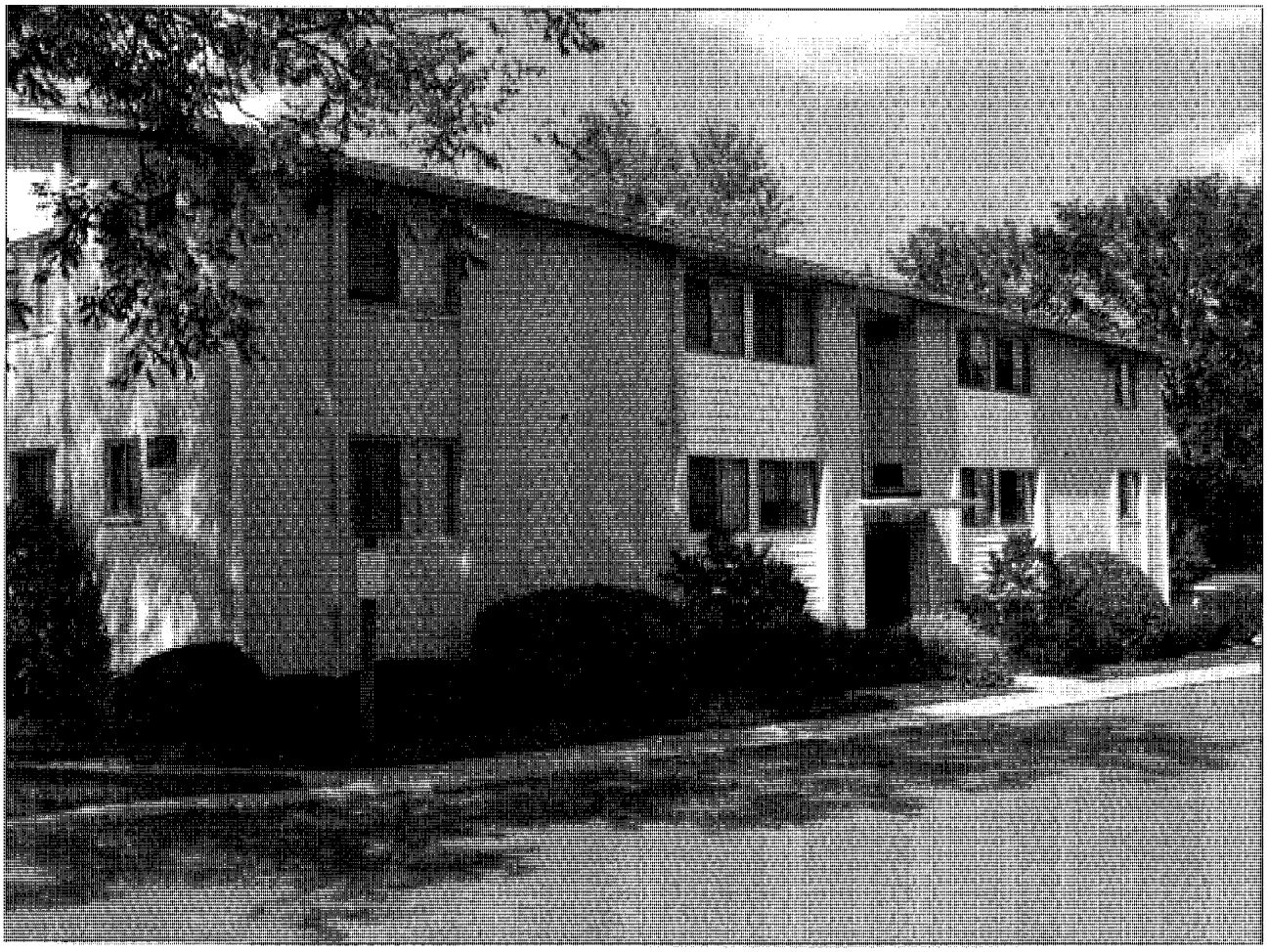
Source: City of Laurel
Department of Public Works

City of Laurel Historic Districts



Laurel Historic District
Architectural Survey and Analysis
City of Laurel, Prince George's County, Maryland

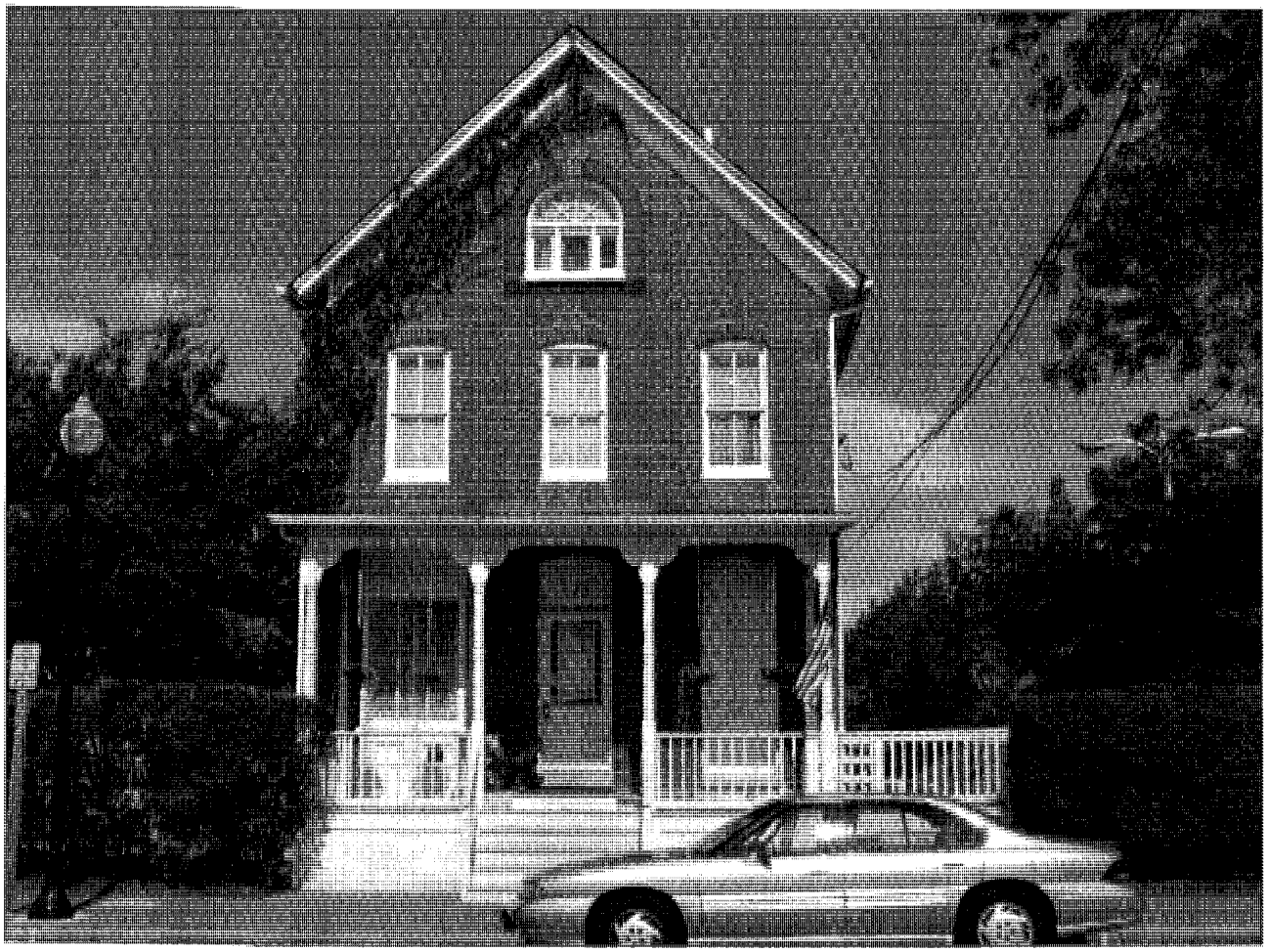
Source: City of Laurel
Department of Public Works



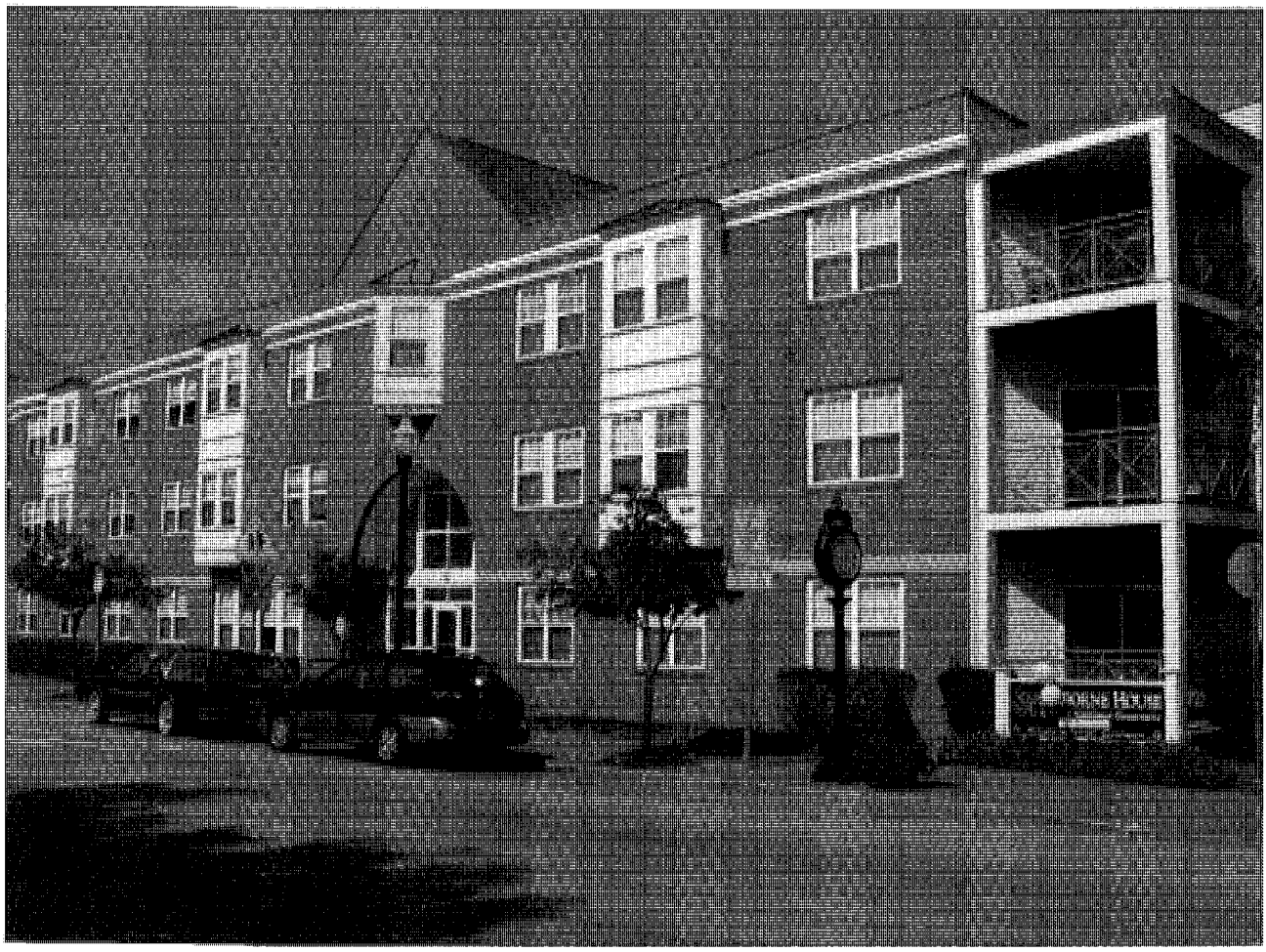
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-18
411 Main Street, Central Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of non-contributing building and apartment complex, facing NE
Photo #1 of 11

MIHP # PG:LAU-1-18
417 Main Street, Central Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing building, facing NE
Photo #2 of 11

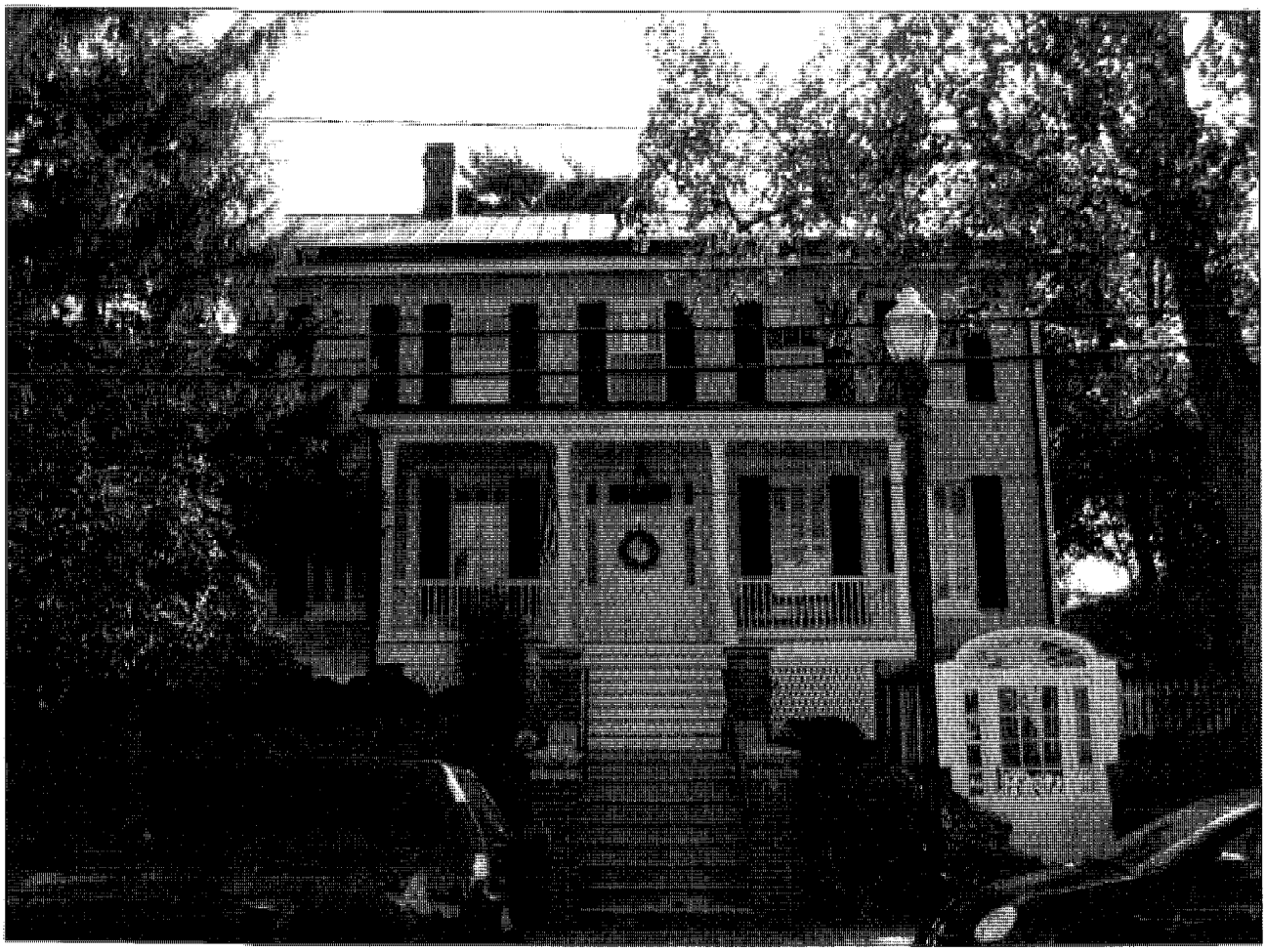
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-18
419 Main Street, Central Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing building, facing N
Photo #3 of 11



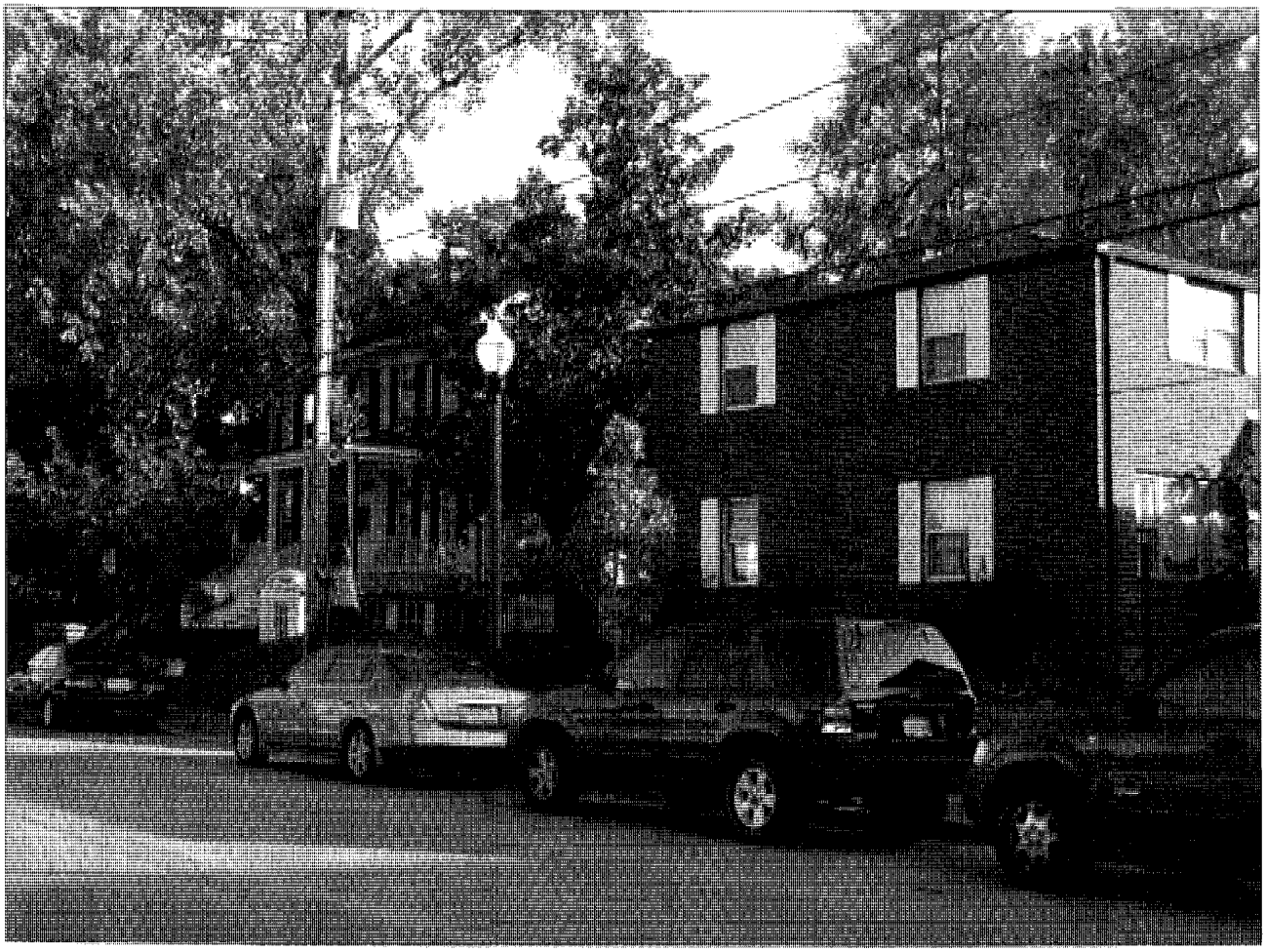
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-18
429 Main Street, Central Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing building, facing NE
Photo #4 of 11



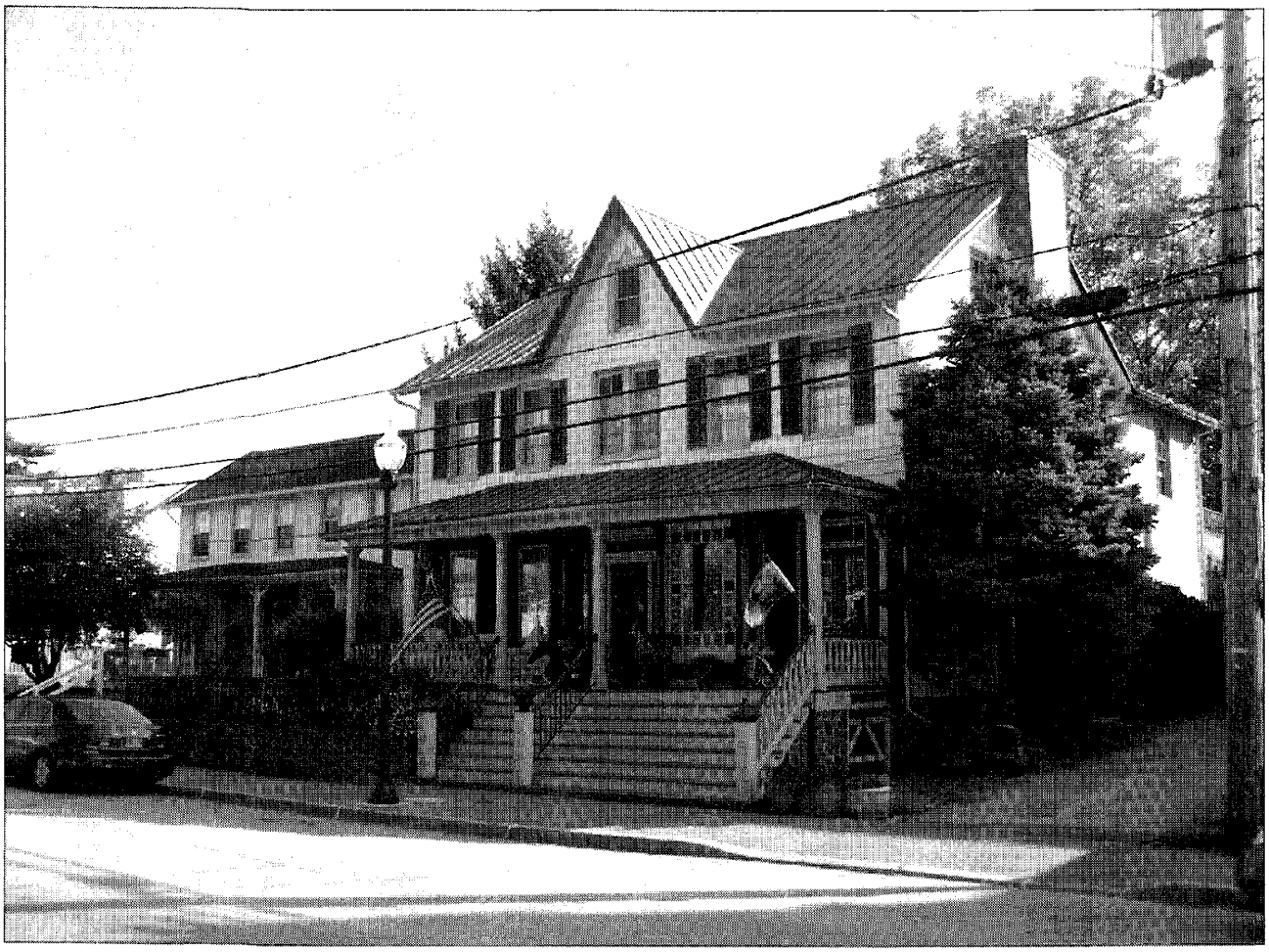
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-18
501 Main Street, Central Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of non-contributing building, facing N
Photo #5 of 11



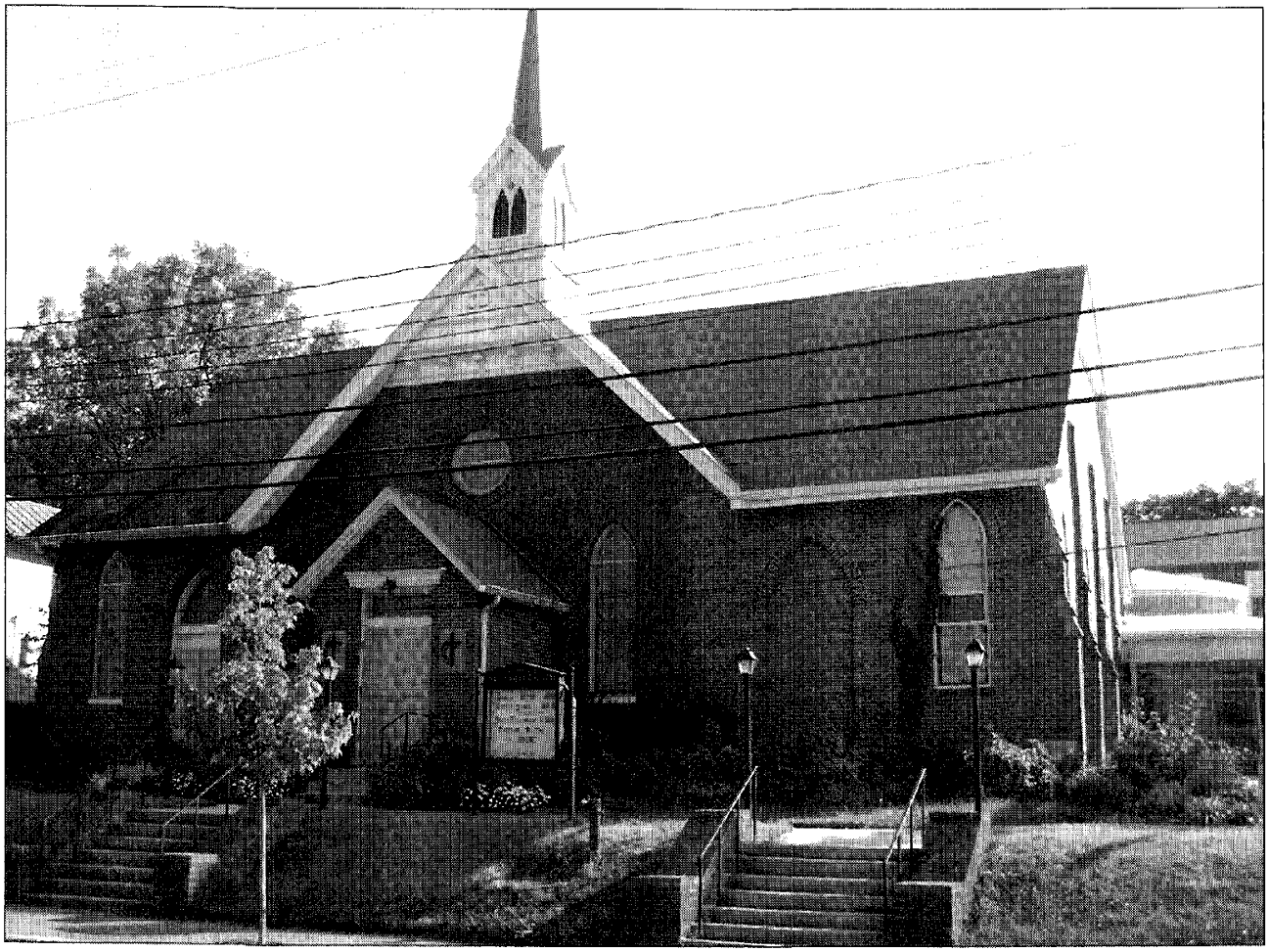
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-18
400 Main Street, Central Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing building, facing SW
Photo #6 of 11



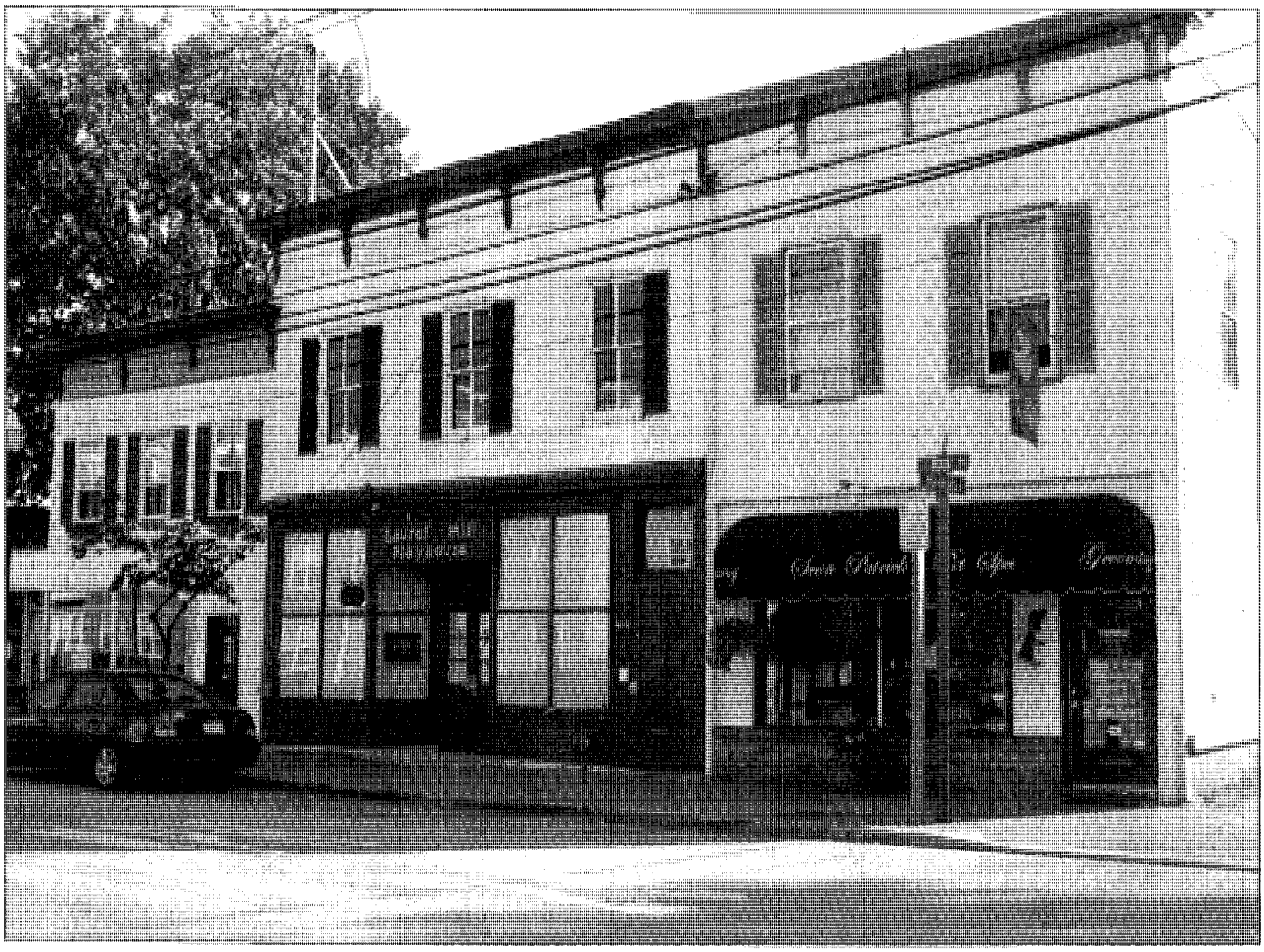
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-18
400-402 Main Street, Central Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
Streetscape of contributing buildings, facing SE
Photo #7 of 11



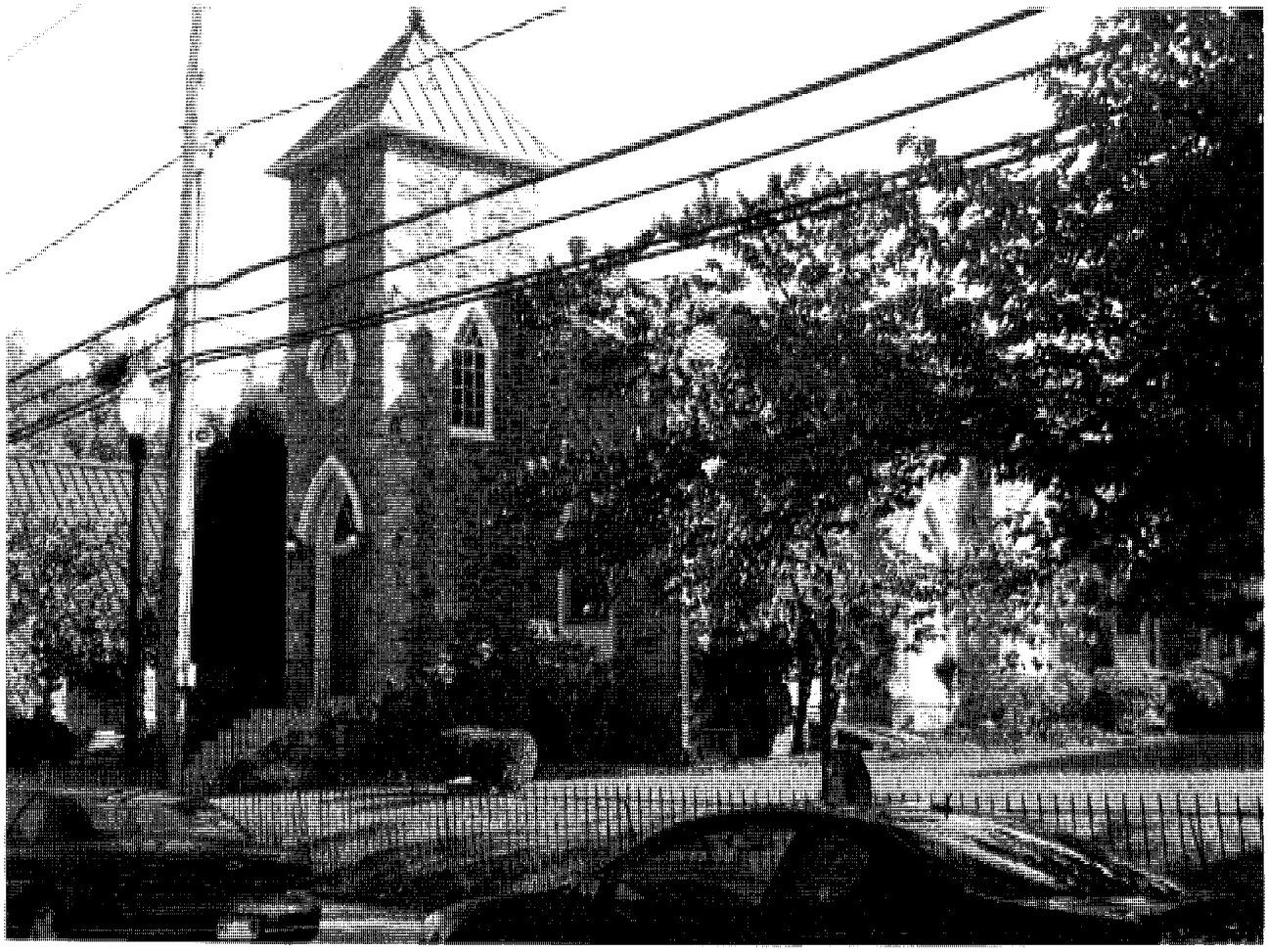
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-18
418-420 Main Street, Central Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
Streetscape of contributing buildings, facing SE
Photo #8 of 11



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-18
424 Main Street, Central Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
First United Methodist Church, facing S
Photo #9 of 11



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-18
506-512 Main Street, Central Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
Streetscape of contributing buildings, facing SE
Photo #10 of 11



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-18
522 Main Street, Central Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
St. Philip's Episcopal Church, facing S
Photo #11 of 11

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

roperty Name: Central Main Street Historic District Inventory Number: PG:LAU-1-18

Address: Main Street between Fourth and Seventh Streets City: Laurel Zip Code: 20707

County: Prince Georges County USGS Topographic Map: Laurel, MD 1979

Owner: City of Laurel Is the property being evaluated a district? X yes

Tax Parcel Number: _____ Tax Map Number: _____ Tax Account ID Number: _____

Project: Laurel Historic District Architectural Survey and Analysis Agency: City of Laurel

Site visit by MHT Staff: ____ no ___ yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Is the property located within a historic district? ____ yes X no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: PG:LAU-1-18

NR-listed district ____ yes Eligible district X yes District Name: Central Main Street Historic District

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ___ yes ___ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ____

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ____ yes ____ no

Criteria: X A ___ B X C ___ D Considerations: ____ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ____ F ___ G ___ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MHT MIHP Form Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-18

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

The Central Main Street Historic District is one of three designated linear districts along Main Street in Laurel, Maryland. Less commercial in character than the adjacent Eastern Main Street Historic District, this district has more residential housing, including single-family dwellings, high density residential dwellings, garden apartments, and group homes. Other building uses include churches, stores and businesses. Construction dates range from 1840 to 1988 according to tax records. The historic district contains large areas of buildings of new construction, including a row of newly constructed (1985) mixed-use commercial buildings called Patuxent Row between Fifth and Seventh Streets on the northeastern side of the street.

The Central Main Street Historic District is an example of an intact mixed use neighborhood, with a harmonious blend of single- and multiple-unit residential dwellings, churches, educational facilities, retail stores, and businesses. Three blocks in length, it is adjacent to the Eastern Main Street Historic District, the historic commercial center of the 19th-century mill-centered town. The Central Main Street Historic District extends from the northwestern side of Fourth Street to the southeastern side of Seventh Street and includes properties on both sides of Main Street. It is bordered by the Patuxent River on the north and by urban and suburban residential and commercial development on its other sides.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ____ **Eligibility not recommended** ____

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

Comments: _____

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

Reviewer, NR Program **Date**

The northeastern side of Main Street contains retail stores, a ca. 1960 apartment complex, single-family houses converted to offices and group homes, a nursing home, a bar and restaurant, and two large 1988 mixed-use buildings. The southwestern side of the street contains one ca. 1955 apartment complex, several single-family dwellings, several single-family dwellings converted into offices and shops, retail stores, the First United Methodist Church, a playhouse, the 1848 St. Philip's Episcopal Church, a row of ca. 1960 townhouses, and several 1985-1988 mixed-use buildings with retail and offices, Patuxent Place. The construction dates of the district's buildings range from 1848 to 1985. The district does not exhibit any prevalent architectural styles but rather a variety, including Georgian, Italianate, Gothic Revival, Colonial Revival, and International Style, among others

Despite the removal of a number of buildings to build modern garden apartments on the 400 block, a nursing home on the 500 block, and the Patuxent Place buildings on the 500 and 600 block of the street, some original residential dwellings exist on both sides of the street, and the district's contributing buildings are linked together by their common history and association with the mid-19th-century town of Laurel Factory. There are 38 resources, with 23 that are contributing and 15 that are non-contributing to the historic district. The non-contributing buildings were constructed after 1960. Some of the historic buildings that were on the 500 and 600 blocks of Main Street and included in Historic District No. 2 when it was first designated have since been demolished for the Patuxent Place development. It is recommended that this section of the historic district be excluded from within the boundaries.

Despite the alterations, the buildings are still an integral part of the town's commercial center and are contributing elements of the historic district. The historic district has retained a high degree of historic integrity. Its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association has been retained. The historic district meets significance criteria A and C as outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's National Register Bulletin, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation." The historic district meets Criterion A because it is a mixed use neighborhood associated with the commercial center of the 19th-century mill-centered town. The property does not meet Criterion B because it is not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. The historic district meets Criterion C because it represents a significant and distinguishable collection of buildings. It does not meet Criterion D because it has not yielded, or is it likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Prepared by: Alison J. Ross
KCI Technologies, Inc.

Date Prepared: May 2009

Capsule Summary

Name of Property: Western Main Street Historic District
MIHP number: PG:LAU-1-19
Location: Main Street
Laurel, Prince Georges County, Maryland 20707

Date of Construction: Various
Access: Public

Property Description: The Western Main Street Historic District is one of three designated adjacent linear districts along Main Street in Laurel, Maryland. Less commercial and quieter in character than the Eastern Main Street and Central Main Street Historic Districts, this westernmost district is primarily residential in nature and includes several remaining single-family, duplex, and multiple-family houses from the Laurel Factory days. Included in the district are the remains of a bridge that once crossed the Patuxent River and the land where the Patuxent Company's large Laurel Mill once stood but which now contains a 1953 municipal pool facility.

The Western Main Street Historic District extends from the northwestern side of Seventh Street to the city limits beyond Ninth Street at the end of Main Street. Approximately two and a half blocks in length, it contains mostly residential buildings, some of which date from the days of the Patuxent Company's Laurel Cotton Mill. On the northeastern side of Main Street between Seventh and Ninth Streets, the district contains a ca. 1840 single-family house that was probably a mill manager's house, a ca. 1950s building containing 5 attached townhouses, another ca. 1840 single house, one ca. 1840 duplex building used as mill workers' housing, a ca. 1840 8-unit residential building converted from another possible manager's house, a ca. 1840 duplex building (known locally as mill workers' housing), and a former ca. 1840 duplex building converted into a museum and historical society. At Ninth Street are the remains of a bridge that once crossed the river. Between Ninth Street and the woods is the former site of the original mill complex, which now houses the 92,000 square-foot Laurel Municipal Pool, owned and operated by the City of Laurel Department of Parks and Recreation.

The southwestern side of Main Street between Seventh and Eighth Street (formerly St. Mary's Place) contains three ca. 1840 duplex buildings that are locally known as the "Lovely Ladies of Main Street." Following the duplex homes are the grounds of the Saint Mary of the Mills Catholic Church and its associated buildings, constructed between 1843 and 1965. Between Eighth and Ninth Street on a site that formerly contained the early Assembly Hall is a building that houses a non-profit community organization (which fronts on Eighth Street), and between Ninth Street and the woods is a multiple-unit (number of units unknown) apartment building, constructed ca. 1840.

Summary Paragraph on History: The area of Main Street contained in the Western Main Street Historic District Historic contains the origins of the mill town of Laurel Factory. The town was centered on the Patuxent Manufacturing Company's cotton mill and had millworkers' housing, schools, social halls, stores, and churches constructed in close proximity to the mill. Following the 1846 sale of the mill by its original owners, the mill continued to operate under a series of owners, producing cotton throughout the 19th century and ramie and shade cloth in the 20th century. Finally, in 1944 the entire property was purchased by the City of Laurel, after which the mill buildings were removed, the dam was destroyed, and the mill property developed into a recreation area and municipal pool. The millworkers' housing was sold off in the 19th century, with some remaining on the 700 and 800 blocks of Main Street.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-19

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic	Historic District No. 3
other	Western Main Street Historic District (preferred)

2. Location

street and number	Both sides of Main Street from Seventh Street to the western boundaries of the city	__ not for publication
city, town	Laurel	__ vicinity
county	Prince Georges	

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

name	Multiple owners		
street and number			telephone
city, town		state	zip code

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Tax Department website			liber	multiple	folio	multiple
city, town	Laurel	tax map A-0848	tax parcel	multiple		tax ID number	multiple

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
__X__ Other: Recommended by City of Laurel as Eligible Historic District

6. Classification

Category
__X__district
_____building(s)
_____structure
_____site
_____object

Ownership
_____public
_____private
__X__both

Current Function
_____agriculture
__X__commerce/trade
_____defense
__X__domestic
_____education
_____funerary
_____government
_____health care
_____industry
_____landscape
__X__recreation/culture
_____religion
__X__social
_____transportation
_____work in progress
_____unknown
_____vacant/not in use
_____other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
10	2	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
10	2	Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
0

7. Description

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-19

Condition

___ excellent ___ deteriorated
_X_ good ___ ruins
_X_ fair ___ altered

Summary

The Western Main Street Historic District is one of three designated adjacent linear districts along Main Street in Laurel, Maryland. Less commercial and quieter in character than the Eastern Main Street and Central Main Street Historic Districts, the Western Main Street Historic District is primarily residential and includes several remaining duplex houses from the Laurel Factory era. Included in the district are the remains of a bridge that once crossed the Patuxent River and the lot of ground where the Patuxent Company's large Laurel Cotton Mill factory once stood but which now houses a 1953 municipal pool facility.

Comprehensive Description

The Western Main Street Historic District is an intact residential neighborhood containing an illustrative group of original residential buildings dating from the time when the newly formed Patuxent Company constructed its mill buildings and worker housing between 1835 and 1840. Single family, duplex, and multiple-unit residential buildings that were used as mill workers' and supervisors' homes are present, as well as a church, a school, a building housing a non-profit community organization, a row of attached residential units, and a municipal swimming pool complex. The three-block-long district is at the northwestern end of Main Street and adjacent to the Central Main Street Historic District, extending from the northwestern side of Seventh Street to the end of Main Street where it dead ends into a paved parking lot for the adjacent city park. The district is bordered by the Patuxent River on the north, the wooded park on the west, and by urban and suburban residential development on its other sides.

On the northeastern side of Main Street between Seventh and Ninth Streets, the district contains a ca. 1840 single-family house that was probably a mill manager's house, a ca. 1950s building containing 5 attached townhouses, another ca. 1840 single house, one ca. 1840 duplex building used as mill workers' housing, a ca. 1840 8-unit residential building converted from another possible manager's house, a ca. 1840 duplex building (known locally as mill workers' housing), and a former ca. 1840 duplex building converted into a museum and historical society. Few exterior alterations have occurred to the ca. 1840s buildings, except for the stucco that has been applied to the exterior of the 8-unit building. The residences are used almost in the same way that they were since the 1840s, with the only change being the number of residential units inside each building. For example, whereas the duplex buildings now house two attached residential units placed side-by-side, they were constructed and utilized as 4-family homes, with 2 units downstairs and 2 units upstairs, separated by a central entrance and stairway. The museum also was a 4-family home but has since been converted to its current use as a museum and historical society. Between Ninth Street and the woods is the former site of the original mill complex, which now houses the 92,000 square-foot Laurel Municipal Pool, owned and operated by the City of Laurel Department of Parks and Recreation.

The southwestern side of Main Street between Seventh and Eighth Street (formerly St. Mary's Place) contains three 1840 duplex buildings that are locally known as the "Lovely Old Ladies of Main Street," constructed for mill supervisors. Following the duplex homes on the same block are the grounds of the Saint Mary of the Mills Catholic Church and its associated buildings, constructed between 1843 and 1965. Between Eighth and Ninth Street on a site that formerly contained the early Assembly Hall (constructed in 1840 and since demolished) is a building that houses a non-profit community organization (which fronts on Eighth Street), and between Ninth Street and the woods is a multiple-unit (number of units unknown) apartment building, constructed ca. 1840.

The construction dates of the buildings range from 1840 to 1955. Despite the removal of a building (probably a house) on the corner of Seventh and Main Street, the removal of a house at 805-807 Main Street, and the demolition of original mill buildings at the end of Ninth Street, the neighborhood's association to the Laurel Cotton Mill is still evident in the existing intact residential dwellings that are grouped closely together. Of the 12 buildings surveyed in the district, 10 are contributing resources, and 2 are non-contributing resources.

Following is a list of buildings on both sides of Main Street, with their addresses, building type, construction date, brief description, and whether or not the buildings contribute to the historic district.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-19

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

Northeastern side of Main Street

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing/ Non Contributing (C or NC)
709 Main Street	Dwelling - single	1832	2½ story, 5-bay, stone, side-gabled,	C
709½,711, 711½, 713, 713 ½ Main Street	Dwelling - attached units	ca. 1950	2-story, 5-unit building, brick, flat roof.	NC
715 Main Street	Dwelling-duplex	1900	2 ½-story, 5-bay, stone, side-gabled	C
801-803 Main Street	Dwelling-duplex	ca. 1840	2½ story, 5-bay, stucco over stone, side-gabled, 2 dormers	C
809-811 Main Street	Duplex dwelling	ca. 1840	2½ story, 6-bay, brick, side gabled, 2 dormers	C
813-815 Main Street	Dwelling-apt. building	ca. 1840	$2^{1/2}$-story, 5-bay, brick, side-gabled, stucco front	C
817 Main Street	Dwelling (museum)	1837	21/2 story, 5-bay, brick, side-gabled	C
901 Main Street	Municipal pool	1955	Large recreation complex, 1-story poolhouse and pools	NC

Southwestern side of Main Street

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing/ Non Contributing (C or NC)
704 -706 Main Street	Dwelling - duplex	ca. 1840	2-story, 6-bay, stone, side-gabled	C
708 - 710 Main Street	Dwelling - duplex	ca. 1840	2-story, 6-bay, stone, side-gabled	C
712 – 714 Main Street	Dwelling - duplex	ca. 1840	2-story, 6-bay, stone, side-gabled	C
900 Main Street	Dwelling – multiple units	ca. 1840	3-story, 7-bay, side-gabled, stucco over stone	C

8. Significance

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-19

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

Specific dates **Architect/Builder**

Construction dates 1840-1957

Evaluation for:
_____ National Register _____Maryland Register ___X___not evaluated

Narrative Discussion of History of Resource

Regional History

The area surrounding the present-day City of Laurel in Prince George's County, Maryland, was first settled by members of the Snowden family, one of the founding families of Maryland, during the latter half of the 17th century and early 18th century. Laurel is on land that was originally patented to Richard Snowden in 1715 as "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" in Prince George's County. At the time, Snowden's estate already was approximately 3,000 acres in size, extending from Old Columbia Pike to the present city of Laurel and from south of Greencastle and Van Dusen Roads to north of Sandy Spring Road. The 1715 patent increased the already substantial Snowden land holdings, and by 1743 the estate had grown to 9,265 acres.

Although the Laurel area was first an agricultural region, it became a location for manufacturing as early as the first half of the 18th century, distinguishing it from the rest of rural Prince George's County. Manufacturing activity on the Patuxent River dates back to 1736 when the Snowden family established the Patuxent River Iron Works. Almost a century later in 1811, descendent Nicholas Snowden constructed a stone grist mill building on the banks of the Patuxent River as well as a dam across the river at the location of what is now Ninth Street in Laurel. Snowden located his mill and dam to take advantage of the downhill drop in the river at that point. In 1824, Nicholas Snowden leased the mill for a period of 12 years to Mr. Johnson (origin unknown), who transformed the grist mill by removing all the grain-grinding equipment and converting the mill into a factory for spinning cotton yarn, known as the Cotton Manufacturing Motive of Laurel. Mr. Johnson installed wooden cogwheels and spindles that enabled it to convert raw cotton into twisted thread that was then used elsewhere in the manufacture of cotton cloth. The mill was successful and at one time reportedly employed 100 adults. Another local businessman, Robert Pilsen, some time prior to 1835, soon installed the first loom in the mill that enabled the weaving of cotton cloth in the factory.

Nicholas Snowden died in 1831, and his estate, Montpelier, was subdivided among his children. His wife received what was called the Bank Quarter, which contained the bank of iron ore. A leftover undivided portion along the Patuxent River, contained approximately 100 acres, the Snowdens' stone mansion, the mill buildings, several log houses, and a well-used farm where successive crops of tobacco and corn had been cultivated. The parcel's location was invaluable because of the exceptional water power provided by the river.

The 1835 completion of the Baltimore and Ohio (B & O) Railroad Company's new railroad line through Laurel, located just over one mile east of the mill, contributed to the attractiveness of the mill location. The railroad, which was to connect Baltimore with Washington D.C., promised easier access to new markets both for raw materials and finished products. Access to other markets was previously gained by travel from the mill eastward via Main Street to the Washington-Baltimore Turnpike, which was chartered by the state of Maryland in 1812.

The location and easy access to the railroad and the turnpike were not lost on Snowden's heirs, which included son-in-law Horace Capron, Louisa's husband and a member of the Capron family of Attleboro, Massachusetts. Snowden had previously worked at a mill at Savage, Maryland, prior to turning his attentions to the lands of the former New Birmingham Manor. On January 28, 1836, Horace Capron joined other Snowden family members in a new business venture. Capron, along with Dr. Theodore Jenkins (brother-in-law of Capron and neighbor of the Snowdens at New Birmingham Manor), Elizabeth Snowden (Capron's mother-in-law), Osmond C. Tiffany (Capron's first cousin from another Attleboro, Massachusetts, family) A.E. Hall, and

W.C. Shaw incorporated a new company, the Patuxent Company, for the purpose of manufacturing and selling cotton, iron, and other articles at the site of the mill and farm. The Snowden children's land holdings were combined and transferred when Horace Capron and his wife, Charles Hill and his wife, and Dr. Theodore Jenkins and his wife, conveyed their inherited lands to the Patuxent Company. Deeds for property and stock also were transferred by Osmond Tiffany, Comfort Tiffany, and several Capron cousins, who also were involved in mill activities elsewhere.

History of Resource

Following the 1836 incorporation of the new company, Horace Capron constructed two brick mill buildings on the site that now contains the municipal swimming pool in the Western Main Street Historic District. A dam for impounding water and operating the mill also was constructed at a point upstream from the mill property. In 1840 the Patuxent Company constructed approximately 50 blocks of stone and brick buildings for the mill personnel in the vicinity of the mill. The 2½-story, 5-bay buildings were duplex-style, side-gabled houses designed to house four families, with two families in the western half and two in the eastern half. Several of these buildings still stand in the district. Between Patuxent (now Seventh) Street and Church (also St. Mary's Place and now Eighth) Street on the southern side of Main Street, three stone houses were constructed for mill supervisors, one of which was occupied by S. Heath, owner of the Laurel Machine Company. The 18th-century Snowden mansion was on land between Eighth and Ninth Streets but was demolished in 1957.

Merchants established stores and businesses to support mill employees and their families, and the town, known as Laurel Factory, started to grow. Churches, schools, and social halls were established as well, first in the western end near the mill, then in locations east of the mill as the town advanced eastward along Main Street toward the turnpike and newly constructed railroad. One of the partners of the mill factory and a Snowden relative, Dr. Theodore Jenkins, initiated the establishment of a Jesuit mission from Georgetown College in Washington, D.C. on what is now Eighth Street, with St. Mary's Chapel constructed in 1843. An Assembly Hall was constructed across from the chapel ca. 1840 and was used for many purposes by the fledgling town. In the 1840s, Laurel's population, including the mill workers, their families, area farmers, and local shopkeepers, reportedly totaled approximately 2,000 people.

It appears that Horace Capron met with financial hardship in the late 1840s, and he and the Patuxent Company started to divest itself of its holdings. In 1846 Capron and the other partners sold the Patuxent Company, the Laurel Cotton Mill Company, and adjacent property on the northeastern side of Main Street in what is now the Western Main Street Historic District, including worker housing, to cousin and partner Osmond Comfort Tiffany and his sons. According to deed records, they applied for a mortgage on September 8, 1851, for a 93-acre property that included the cotton factory and its machinery and a grist mill and its machinery (DB JBB 7, P. 268). An 1861 map of Laurel by Simon J. Martenet indicates this new ownership. Capron applied to the State of Maryland for insolvency on May 21, 1850, and was directed by Orphan's Court to convey his land, a 610-ace farm located further east in the community to trustees Thomas S. Alexander and George W. Dobbin on April 1, 1850 (DB JJB 6, P. 331).

According to the 1878 Hopkins map, most of the housing units on both sides of the 700 block of Main Street had been sold to William Stewart, while the housing and other buildings on both sides of the 800 block was retained by Laurel Mills (as it was called then). After the Tiffanys' acquisition of the mill property, the dam located west of the mill was rebuilt circa 1850. The mill building was destroyed by fire five years later in 1855 but was rebuilt in 1856. The Laurel Mill continued to operate into the 20th century, when it was converted into a mill for the production of ramie cloth shortly before 1912. On September 3, 1915, Mount Vernon-Woodberry Mills, Inc. purchased the mill property from the Patuxent Company, including the dam and all of the mill buildings (DB 109, P. 60. The property was subsequently put up for auction in 1916 by a Philadelphia auction house.

The auctioned property was composed of a total of 234 acres and included the land, mill buildings, and housing, as well as the water rights, water power plant, dam, canal, and water wheels. In an advertisement for the auction, the property was noted as having three components, the Mill Yard, Tenement Lots, and Farm Lands. The Mill Yard was 82.7 acres and consisted of the buildings and property adjacent to the mill, including the dam, which was necessary for its operation. It also included the land

adjoining the dam and canal, which was necessary to protect the water power. Perhaps the auction was never held because it appears that the property was held by the Mount Vernon-Woodberry Mills company until June 3, 1921, when it sold the mill property to the Industrial Power Corporation (DB 164, P. 137). The company defaulted on its mortgage a year later, and the mill property was sold for $52,000.00 to William E. Ferguson, the highest bidder at the August 22, 1922, public sale (DB 188, P. 207).

Less than one year later, on April 7, 1923, William E. Ferguson and his wife sold the mill property to the Maryland Investment and Realty Company (DB 194, P. 159). In 1923 a firm, Lapsley and Brother of Baltimore, reportedly leased the mill and modernized it for the manufacture of shade cloth. Following the firm's use of the mill, the mill building was dismantled in the mid-1930s. On November 20, 1944, the Maryland Investment Realty Company sold the property to the Mayor and City Council of Laurel (DB 194, P. 247). Either during the ownership of the investment company or the City of Laurel, the dam was destroyed by dynamite in the mid-1940s. The City of Laurel subsequently developed the former mill site into a municipal park and constructed the public pool in 1953.

Laurel continued to thrive into the 20th century, and by the 1930s the commercial end of Main Street was flourishing as a commercial center, with many stores providing residents with a wide variety of goods and services. The section between Fourth and Seventh Streets continued to house churches and residences, and Main Street's northwestern end continued primarily as a residential area. The Snowden mansion (used by this time as a school and convent) was demolished in 1957, and the Saint Vincent Pallotti High School was constructed in 1957 between Eighth and Ninth Streets and Montgomery and Main Streets.

By the 1960s Laurel's city planners had grappled with ways to reinvigorate the Main Street business area and almost participated in an extensive federally-funded urban renewal program which would have included the demolition of a large number of buildings there. City officials voted against plans to pursue the plan in 1963, and other solutions to revitalization were explored throughout the 1960 and early 1970s.

By the early 1970s city planners started to acknowledge that the city's rich past could play a key role in its future and that revitalization might be possible by linking the improvement of the Main Street business district to a historic district program. Toward this end, the City of Laurel Historic District Commission was established by City Ordinance No. 535 on November 10, 1975, to oversee the protection of "Old Town" Laurel. Following the establishment of a commission, the Laurel Historic District was identified, and by 1983 six smaller historic districts within the overall district were further delineated. This 2008 survey has renamed Historic District No. 3 as the Western Main Street Historic District.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-19

Capron, Horace. Autobiography. 2 vols., nd, typed copy, Maryland Historical Society.

Hopkins, G.M. *Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington Including the County of Prince George Maryland.* Philadelphia: F. Bourquin, 1878.

Martenet, Simon J. Map of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1861.

Moore, Sydney. Personal communication with author, September 21, 2008.

Recorder of Deeds, Prince Georges County Circuit Court. Various deeds from Land Records.

Spero, P.A.C. and Company. *Montgomery-Prince Georges Short-term Congestion Relief.* May 1998.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property _____

Acreage of historical setting _____

Quadrangle name Laurel, Maryland Quadrangle scale: _____

Verbal boundary description and justification

The recommended historic district is bounded on the northeast by the rear of the properties on the northeastern side of Main Street, on the east by the front property lines of the properties on the western side of Seventh Street, on the south by the rear property lines of the properties on the southwestern side of Main Street, and on the west by the city limits at the end of Main Street.

11. Form Prepared by

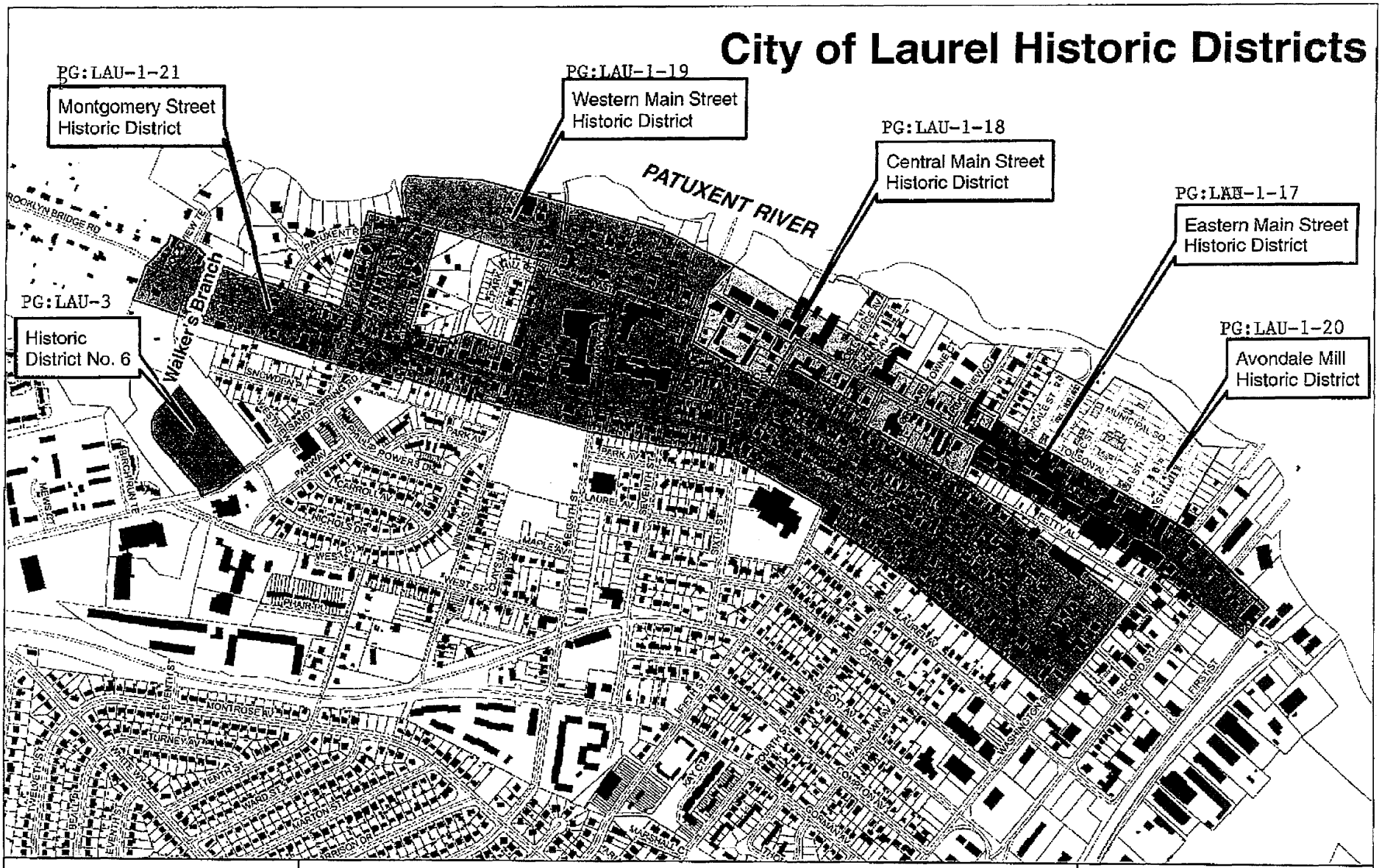
name/title	Alison J. Ross, M.S.		
organization	KCI Technologies, Inc.	date	October 2008
street & number	5001 Louise Drive	telephone	717-691-1340
city or town	Mechanicsburg	state	PA

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
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

City of Laurel Historic Districts



N

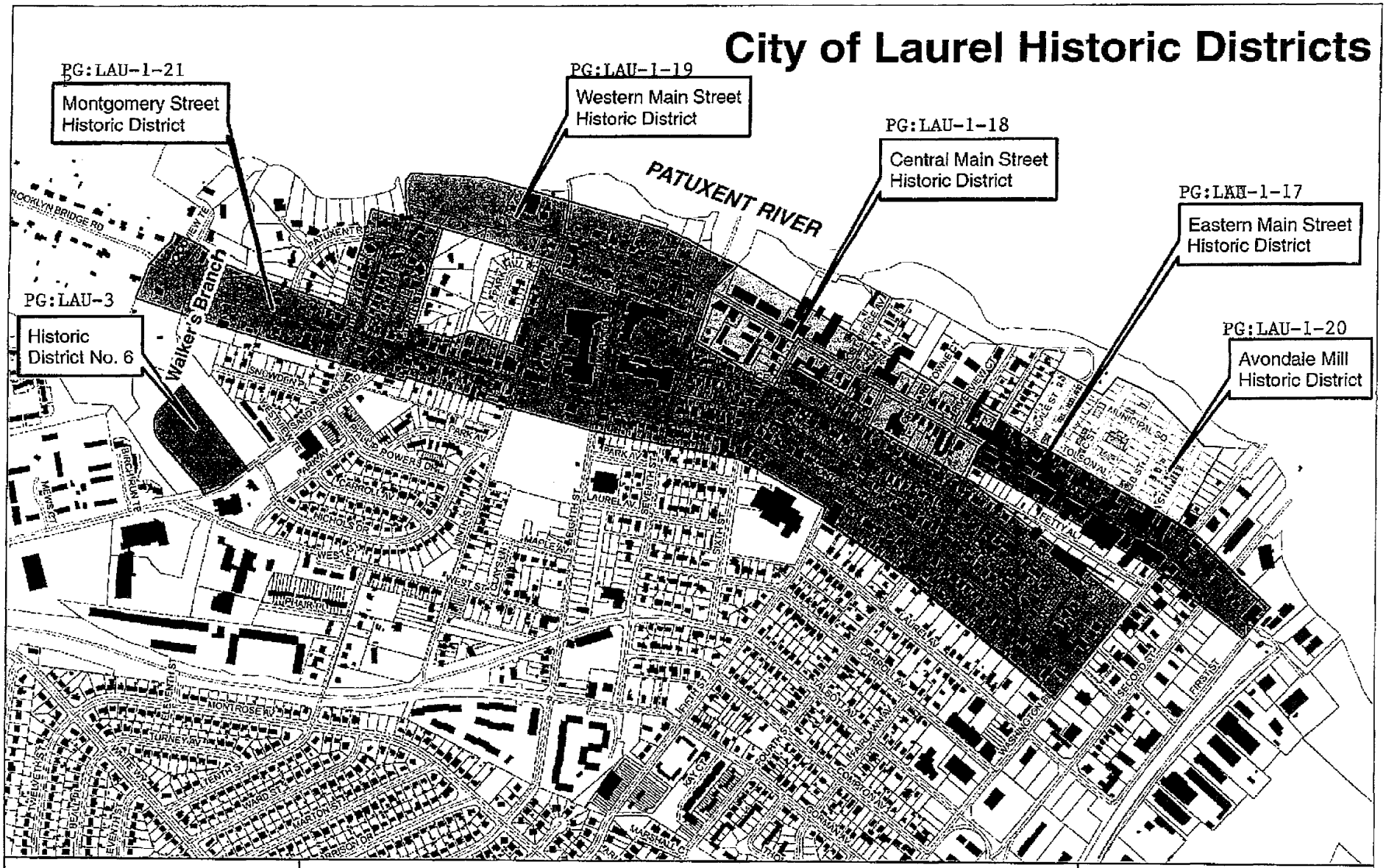
0 800 1,600

Feet

Laurel Historic District
Architectural Survey and Analysis
City of Laurel, Prince George's County, Maryland

Source: City of Laurel
Department of Public Works

City of Laurel Historic Districts



N

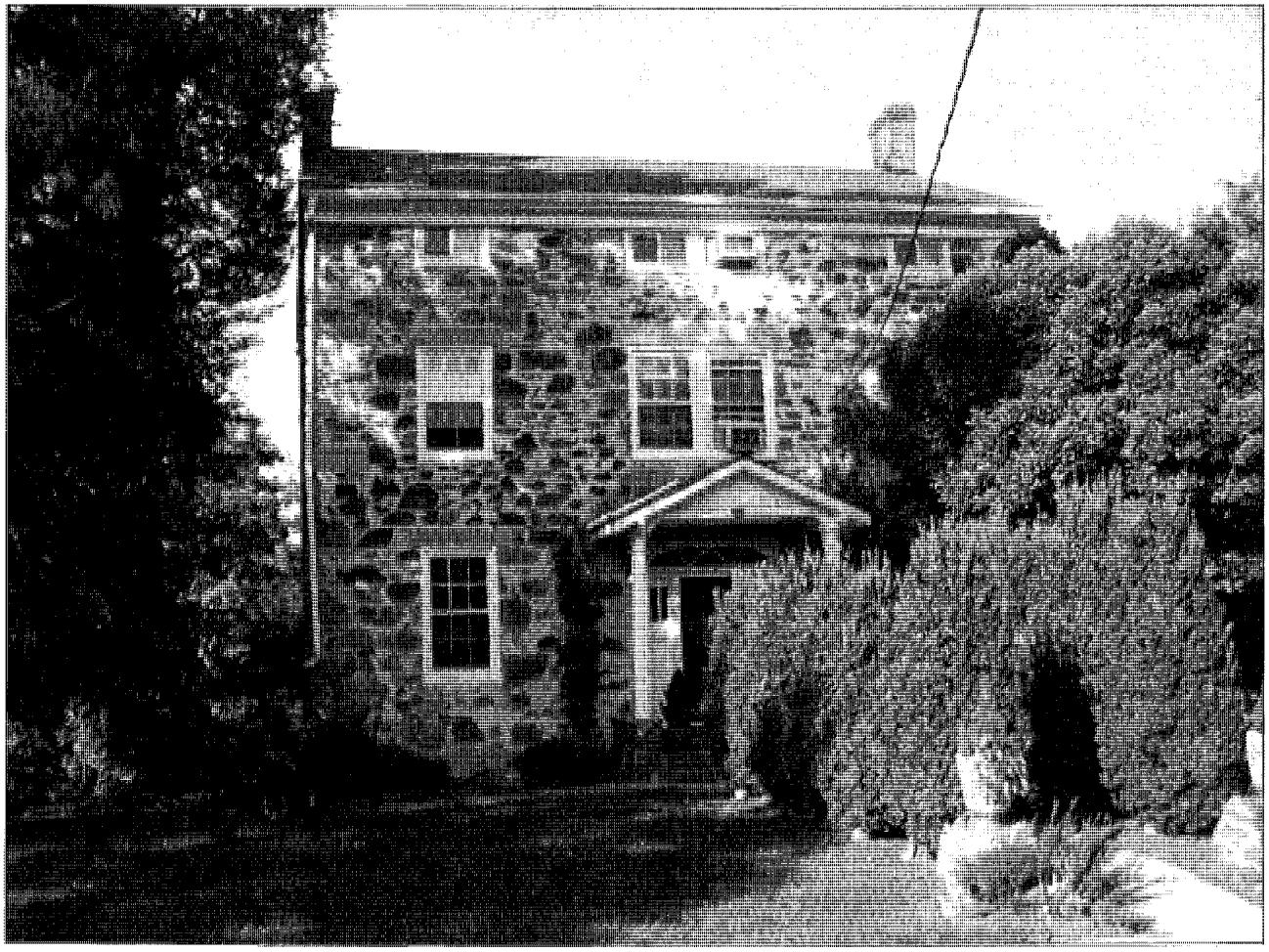
0 800 1,600

Feet

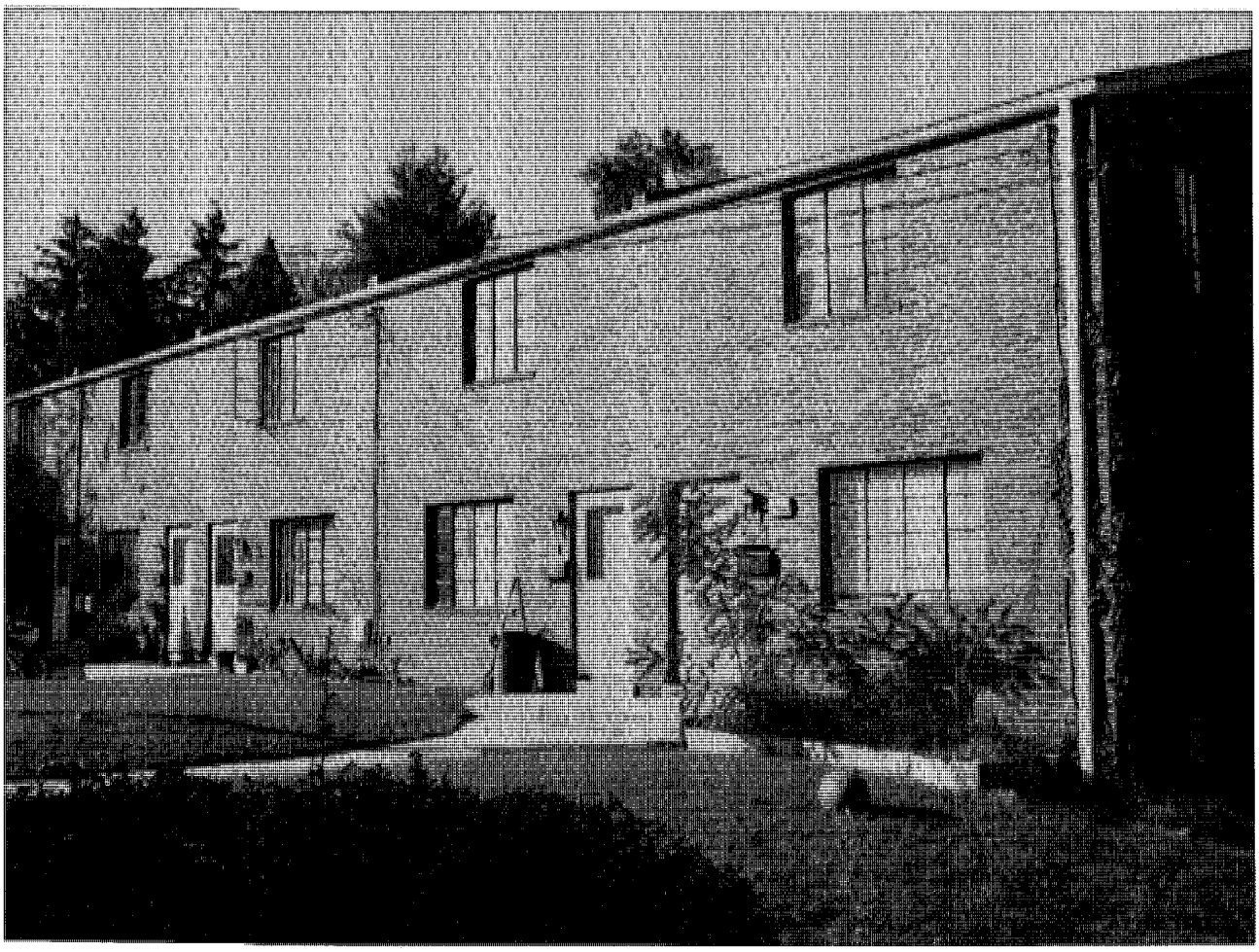
Laurel Historic District
Architectural Survey and Analysis
City of Laurel, Prince George's County, Maryland

Source: City of Laurel
Department of Public Works

PHOTOGRAPHS – Western Main Street Historic District MIHP # PG:LAU-1-19

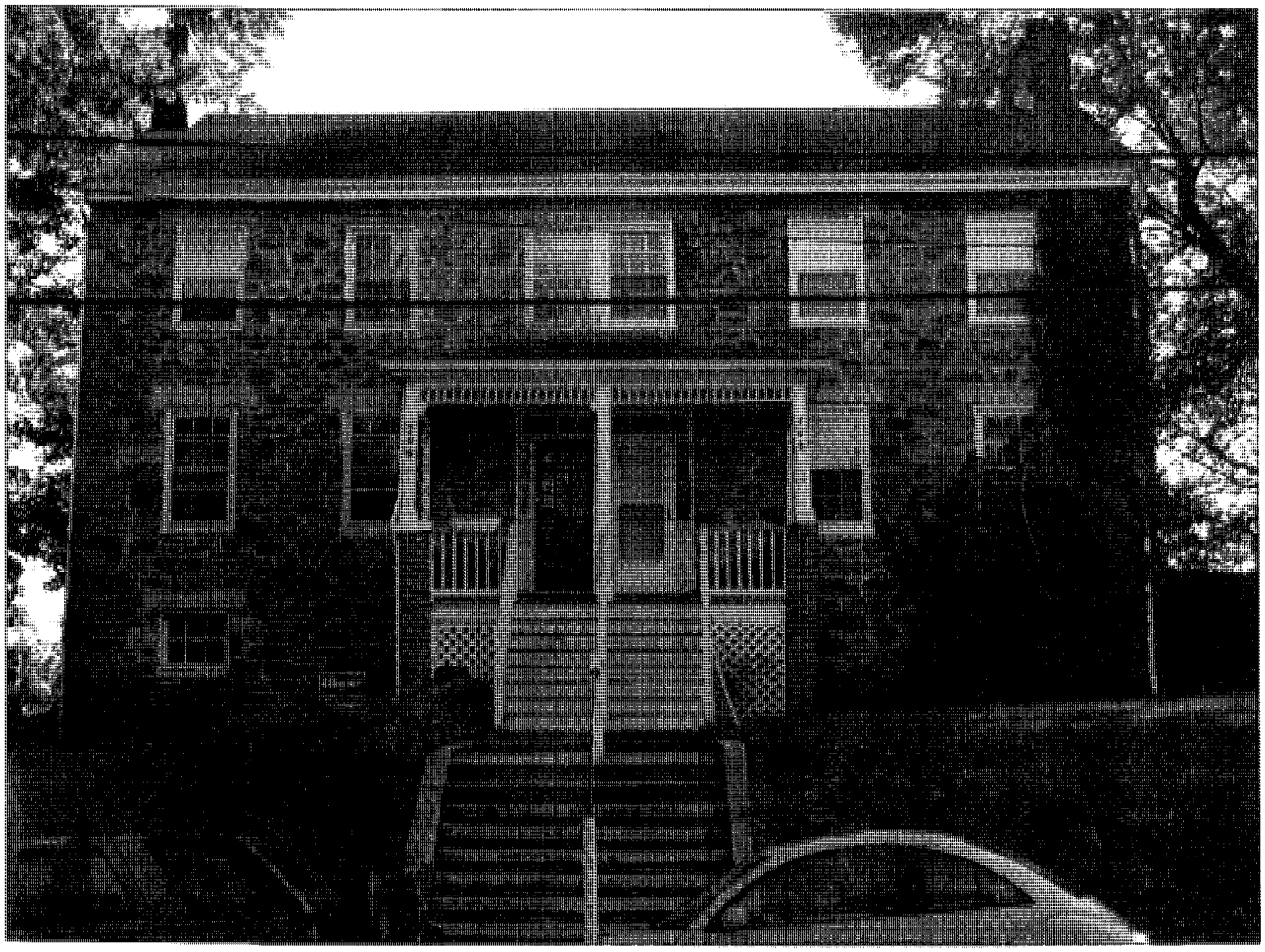


MIHP # PG:LAU-1-19
709 Main Street, Western Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing NE
Photo #1 of 5

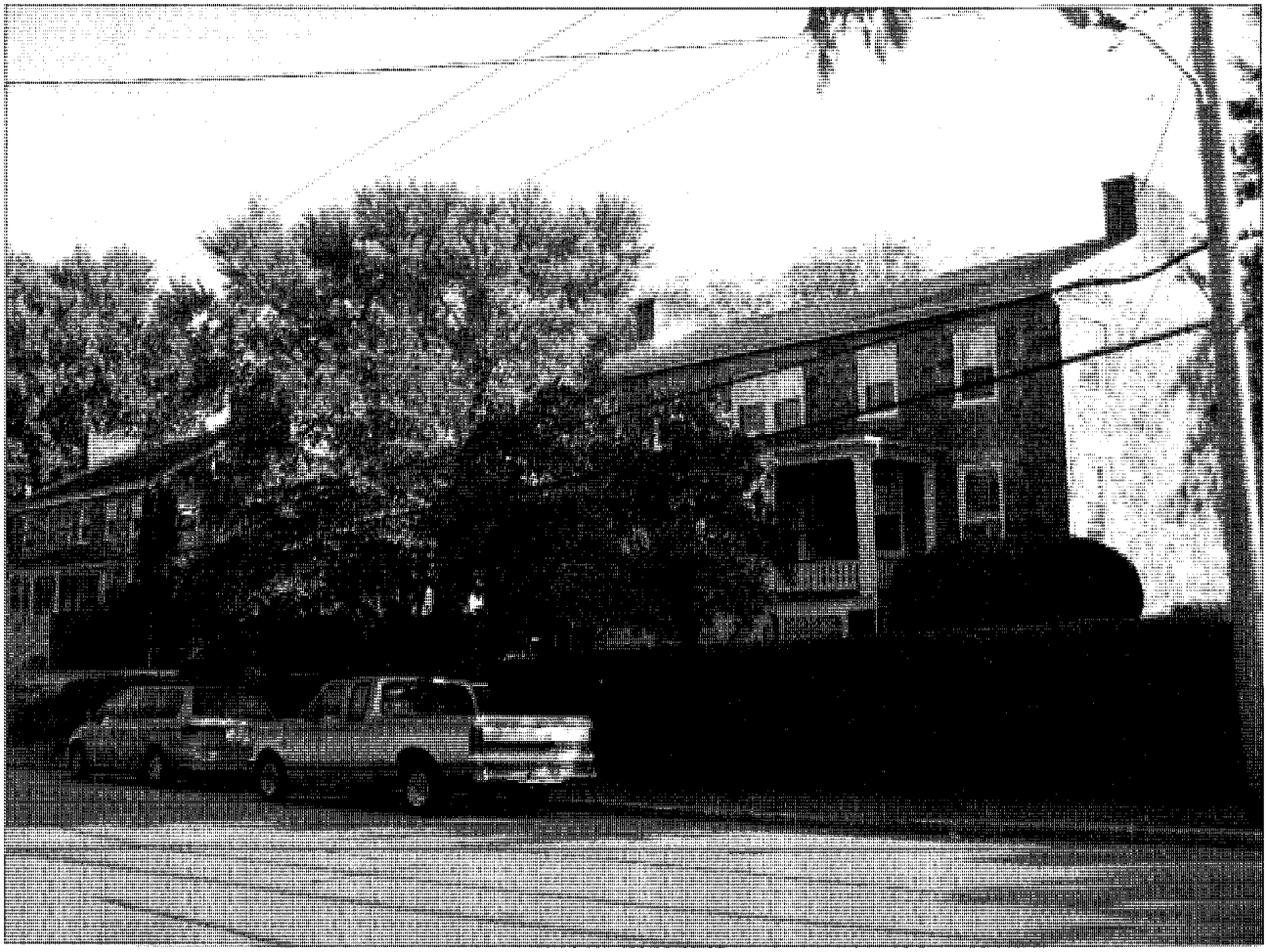


MIHP # PG:LAU-1-19
709½, 711, 711½, 713, 713½ Main Street, Western Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of non-contributing townhouses, facing N
Photo #2 of 5

MIHP # PG:LAU-1-19
(from right) 715 Main Street, 801-803 Main Street, Western Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
Streetscape of single house (715) and duplex house (801-803), facing E
Photo #3 of 5



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-19
704-706 Main Street, Western Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View looking at contributing resources, facing SW
Photo #4 of 5



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-19
(from left) 704-706 and 708-710 Main Street, Western Main Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
Streetscape view of 704-706 and 708-710, facing S
Photo #5 of 5

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

Property Name: Western Main Street Historic District Inventory Number: PG:LAU-1-19

Address: Main Street between Seventh and Ninth Streets City: Laurel Zip Code: 20707

County: Prince Georges County USGS Topographic Map: Laurel, MD 1979

Owner: City of Laurel Is the property being evaluated a district? X yes

Tax Parcel Number: ____ Tax Map Number: ____ Tax Account ID Number: ____

Project: Laurel Historic District Architectural Survey and Analysis Agency: City of Laurel

Site visit by MHT Staff: ____ no ____ yes Name: ____ Date: ____

Is the property located within a historic district? ____ yes X no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: PG:LAU-1-19

NR-listed district ____ yes Eligible district X yes District Name: Western Main Street Historic District

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ____ yes ____ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ____

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ____ yes ____ no

Criteria: X A ____ B X C ____ D Considerations: ____ A ____ B ____ C ____ D ____ F ____ G ____ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MHT MIHP Form Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-19

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

The Western Main Street Historic District is one of three designated adjacent linear districts along Main Street in Laurel, Maryland. Less commercial and quieter in character than the Eastern Main Street and Central Main Street Historic Districts, the Western Main Street Historic District is primarily residential and includes several remaining duplex houses from the mid-19th century Laurel Factory era. Included in the district are the remains of a bridge that once crossed the Patuxent River and the lot of ground where the Patuxent Company's large Laurel Cotton Mill factory once stood but which now houses a 1953 municipal pool facility.

The Western Main Street Historic District is an intact residential neighborhood containing an illustrative group of original residential buildings dating from the time when the newly formed Patuxent Company constructed its mill buildings and worker housing between 1835 and 1840. Single family, duplex, and multiple-unit residential buildings that were used as mill workers' and supervisors' homes are present, as well as a church, a school, a building housing a non-profit community organization, a row of attached residential units, and a municipal swimming pool complex. The three-block-long district is at the northwestern end of Main Street and adjacent to the Central Main Street Historic District, extending from the northwestern side of Seventh Street to the end of Main Street where it dead ends into a

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ____ **Eligibility not recommended** ____

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

Comments: ____

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

Reviewer, NR Program **Date**

paved parking lot for the adjacent city park. The district is bordered by the Patuxent River on the north, the wooded park on the west, and by urban and suburban residential development on its other sides.

On the northeastern side of Main Street between Seventh and Ninth Streets, the district contains a ca. 1840 single-family house that was probably a mill manager's house, a ca. 1950s building containing 5 attached townhouses, another ca. 1840 single house, one ca. 1840 duplex building used as mill workers' housing, a ca. 1840 8-unit residential building converted from another possible manager's house, a ca. 1840 duplex building (known locally as mill workers' housing), and a former ca. 1840 duplex building converted into a museum and historical society. Few exterior alterations have occurred to the ca. 1840s buildings, except for the stucco that has been applied to the exterior of the 8-unit building. The residences are used almost in the same way that they were since the 1840s, with the only change being the number of residential units inside each building. For example, whereas the duplex buildings now house two attached residential units placed side-by-side, they were constructed and utilized as 4-family homes, with 2 units downstairs and 2 units upstairs, separated by a central entrance and stairway. The museum also was a 4-family home but has since been converted to its current use as a museum and historical society. Between Ninth Street and the woods is the former site of the original mill complex, which now houses the 92,000 square-foot Laurel Municipal Pool, owned and operated by the City of Laurel Department of Parks and Recreation.

The southwestern side of Main Street between Seventh and Eighth Street (formerly St. Mary's Place) contains three 1840 duplex buildings that are locally known as the "Lovely Old Ladies of Main Street," constructed for mill supervisors. Following the duplex homes on the same block are the grounds of the Saint Mary of the Mills Catholic Church and its associated buildings, constructed between 1843 and 1965. Between Eighth and Ninth Street on a site that formerly contained the early Assembly Hall (constructed in 1840 and since demolished) is a building that houses a non-profit community organization (which fronts on Eighth Street), and between Ninth Street and the woods is a multiple-unit (number of units unknown) apartment building, constructed ca. 1840.

The construction dates of the buildings in the Western Main Street Historic District range from 1840 to 1955. Despite the removal of some buildings, the neighborhood's association to the Laurel Cotton Mill is still evident in the existing intact residential dwellings that are grouped closely together. Of the 12 buildings surveyed in the district, 10 are contributing resources, and 2 are non-contributing resources.

The historic district has retained a high degree of historic integrity. Its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association has been retained. The historic district meets significance criteria A and C as outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's National Register Bulletin, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation." The historic district meets Criterion A for its association with the 19th century mill-centered town, and it meets Criterion C because it represents a significant and distinguishable collection of buildings. The historic district does not meet Criterion B because it is not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. In addition, it does not meet Criterion D because it has not yielded, nor is it likely to yield information important in prehistory or history. Therefore, the Western Main Street Historic District is recommended eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Prepared by: Alison J. Ross
KCI Technologies, Inc.

Date Prepared: May 2009

Capsule Summary

Name of Property: Avondale Mill Historic District
MIHP number: PG:LAU-1-20
Location: Between Washington Boulevard and Avondale Street and Main Street and the Patuxent River
Laurel, Prince Georges County, Maryland 20707

Date of Construction: Various
Access: Public and private

Property Description: The Avondale Mill Historic District is a neighborhood in transition with mixed building uses. It contains the area of land between Main Street and the Patuxent River and between Washington Boulevard and Avondale Street. The streets in the district include A Street, B Street, C Street, and Avondale Street, all of which are perpendicular to Main Street and approximately two blocks in length. Formerly consisting primarily of modestly-scaled residential single and duplex dwellings, the small streets now have a combination of buildings used for cultural, commercial, municipal, retail, and residential purposes, as well as several paved parking lots and empty, overgrown lots where houses once stood. Each street of the district has a different appearance, with one that is entirely residential on both sides, another that is divided, with residential buildings on one side and vacant land on the other, and still another with an unusual assortment of buildings together on both sides of the street.

A Street contains single family residential and duplex housing constructed circa 1870s along with paved parking lots and empty building lots. B Street contains single-family houses constructed in the 1940s and 1990s, as well as vacant land. C Street contains buildings housing a retail store, municipal offices, a theater company, and offices. Avondale Street contains single-family residential dwellings.

Summary Paragraph on History: The area that comprises the Avondale Historic District on the northeastern side of Main Street contains lands of the former Avondale Grist Mill, owned by Horace Capron, as well as early residents James and Jesse Duvall. The Avondale Flour Mill was constructed in 1845 on Snowden lands for the manufacture of cotton cloth, and the houses on Avondale Street were constructed in the ca. 1860s for workers of the cotton mill, some of which still exist on the northwestern side of the street. The mill was subsequently owned by a succession of owners, including Benjamin F. Crabbs toward the end of the 19th century. In the 20th century, the mill reportedly became known as the Southern Embroidery Company and produced lace-print cloth for dressgoods (giving it the name the Lace Factory) and embroidered chevrons, among other things, for World War I uniforms from 1915-1917. After the war, the factory closed down at an unknown date and was used for the Avondale Military Grammar School. The City Department of Parks and Recreation used the mill building for indoor programs and for storage and a recreation area but was forced to vacate the building because of its structural instability. The building stood vacant for a number of years and was destroyed by fire in 1991. Currently, the mill site is still owned by the City of Laurel and is used as a riverfront park. The land on A, B, and C, Street was subdivided by the partnership of Travers and Fairall and sold to individual property owners.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-20

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic: Historic District No. 4

other: Avondale Mill Historic District (preferred)

2. Location

street and number: Both sides of A,B,C and Avondale Streets, from Main St. to Patuxent River __ not for publication

city, town: Laurel __ vicinity

county: Prince Georges

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

name: Multiple Owners

street and number: telephone

city, town: state: zip code

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Tax Department website liber multiple folio multiple

city, town: Laurel tax map A-0848 tax parcel tax ID number

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
__X__district
_____building(s)
_____structure
_____site
_____object

Ownership
_____public
_____private
__X__both

Current Function
_____agriculture
__X__commerce/trade
_____defense
__X__domestic
_____education
_____funerary
_____government
_____health care
_____industry
_____landscape
__X__recreation/culture
_____religion
_____social
_____transportation
_____work in progress
_____unknown
_____vacant/not in use
_____other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
22	9	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
22	9	Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

_____

7. Description

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-20

Condition

___ excellent ___ deteriorated
X_ good ___ ruins
X_ fair ___ altered

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

Summary

The Avondale Mill Historic District is adjacent to and northeast of the Eastern Main Street Historic District. The district contains an eclectic collection of buildings with a variety of uses, including residential, office, retail, and municipal buildings, as well as recreational facilities. The district extends from Main Street to the Patuxent River and from A Street to Avondale Street. The municipal park at the northeastern end of the district was the former site of the Avondale Mill, later Crabb's Mill, Laurel's last standing mill building prior to its destruction by fire in 1991.

Each street of the district has a different appearance, with one that is entirely residential on both sides, another that is divided, with residential buildings on one side and vacant land on the other, and still another with an unusual assortment of buildings together on both sides of the street. The Avondale Mill Historic District includes a total of 31 resources and 22 of these contribute to the district.

Comprehensive Description of Resource

A Street contains a row of attached residential houses, constructed in 1910, on the northwestern side and vacant land used as a parking lot for the car dealership on its southeastern side. The attached houses form a visually continuous row of buildings, with their almost identical Queen-Anne-style architectural style and their identical heights, setbacks, and lot sizes.

B street contains vacant land and one dwelling on the northwestern side, forming a visually discontinuous and discordant landscape. The southeastern side is more visually harmonious, with several intact, single-family houses, with similar architectural styles, building lots, sizes and setbacks.

The southeastern side of C Street contains two, low 1-story buildings that house offices and retail stores, respectively. The row forms a visually continuous view but is interrupted by the small row of tall, attached townhouses containing professional offices at the end of the street. The southeastern side of C Street contains an unrelated assortment of buildings that vary in shape, size, and style, which include a workshop and retail business, the municipal police station, and a residential dwelling.

Avondale Street is the most visually harmonious street in the district with residential dwellings on both sides of the street, similar building sizes, lots and building setbacks. The architectural styles on this street differ widely, however, with ca. 1860 houses on the northwestern side and ca. 1990 townhouses on the southeastern side. At the end of Avondale Street is the municipal park on land that used to belong to the Avondale Mill. Demolition in the district has occurred on A Street, B Street, and at the end of Avondale Street. The following charts describe the district's resources by street.

A Street – Northwestern Side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing/Non-contributing (N or NC)
47-45 A Street	Dwelling-duplex	1910	Gothic Rev., 2 ½-story, 6-bay, cross-gabled	C
43 A Street	Dwelling	1910	Italianate, s-story, 3-bay, flat roofs, cornices and brackets	C
41 A Street	Dwelling	1910	Italianate, 2-story, 3-bay, flat roofs, cornices and brackets	C
39 A Street	Dwelling	1910	Italianate, 2-story, 3-bay, flat roofs, cornices and brackets	C
37 A Street	Dwelling	1910	Italianate, 2-story, 3-bay, flat roofs, cornices and brackets	C
35 A Street	Dwelling	1910	Italianate, 2-story, 3-bay, flat roofs, cornices and brackets	C

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-20

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number _7_ Page 1

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing/Non-contributing (N or NC)
33 A Street	Dwelling	1910	Italianate, 2-story, 3-bay, flat roofs, cornices and brackets	C
31 A Street	Dwelling	1910	Italianate, 2-story, 3-bay, flat roofs, cornices and brackets	C
29 A Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1900	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 2-bay, front-gabled, porch	C
27 A Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1900	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 2-bay, porch	C
25 A Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1900	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 2-bay, porch	C

A Street – Southeastern side – parking lot

B Street – Northwestern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing/Non-contributing (N or NC)
60 B Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1980	New construction	NC
52 B Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1930	Front-gabled bungalow, 1 ½ story, 3-bay	C
44 B Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1930	Front-gabled bungalow	C

B Street – Southeastern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing/Non-contributing (N or NC)
41 B Street	Dwelling – rooming house	Ca. 1880	Second Empire, 3-story, 3-bay	C
No Address	Dwelling	Ca. 1930	Vernacular, 1-story, front-gabled, many additions	NC

C Street – Northwestern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing/Non-contributing (N or NC)
29 C Street	Office building	Ca. 1980	1-story, flat roof, strip of windows, gray brick	NC
27-17 C Street	Retail strip	Ca. 1955	1-story, attached storefronts, yellow brick	C
13 C Street	Office building	Ca. 1980	Attached townhouses	NC

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-20

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 2

C Street – Southeastern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing/Non-contributing (N or NC)
26 C Street	Municipal building	Ca. 1960	1-story	NC
2 C Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1880	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay, center turret	C

Avondale Street - Northwestern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing/Non-contributing (N or NC)
47-45 Avondale	Dwelling - duplex	Ca. 2000	New construction	NC
41 Avondale Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1860	Folk Victorian, 2-story, 4-bay, side-gabled roof	C
37-79 Avondale Street	Dwelling - duplex	Ca. 1860	Folk Victorian, 2-story, 4-bay, side-gabled roof	C
31-29 Avondale 41 Avondale Street	Dwelling - duplex	Ca. 1860	Folk Victorian and Italianate, 2-story, 4-bay, altered	C
27 Avondale Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1940	Front-gabled bungalow, brick, 1 1/2-story, 3-bay	C
25 Avondale Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1940	Side-gabled bungalow, 1 1/2-story, 3-bay	C

Avondale Street – Southeastern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing/Non-contributing (N or NC)
44 Avondale Street	Retail - Garage	Ca. 1940	2-story, 5-bay, corrugated metal	C
42 Avondale Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1860	Folk Victorian, altered, 2-story, 3-bay	NC
30-34 Avondale Street	Dwelling - townhouses	Ca. 1980	New construction	NC
24-28 Avondale Street	Dwelling - townhouses	Ca. 1980	New construction	NC

8. Significance

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-20

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

Specific dates **Architect/Builder**

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

_____ National Register _____Maryland Register ____X___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.)

General History

The area surrounding the present-day City of Laurel in Prince George's County, Maryland, was first settled by members of the Snowden family, one of the founding families of Maryland, during the latter half of the 17th century and early 18th century. Laurel is on land that was originally patented to Richard Snowden in 1715 as "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" in Prince George's County. At the time, Snowden's estate already was approximately 3,000 acres in size, extending from Old Columbia Pike to the present city of Laurel and from south of Greencastle and Van Dusen Roads to north of Sandy Spring Road. The 1715 patent increased the already substantial Snowden land holdings, and by 1743 the estate had grown to 9,265 acres.

Although the Laurel area was first an agricultural region, it became a location for manufacturing as early as the first half of the 18th century, distinguishing it from the rest of rural Prince George's County. Manufacturing activity on the Patuxent River dates back to 1736 when the Snowden family established the Patuxent River Iron Works. Almost a century later in 1811, descendent Nicholas Snowden constructed a stone grist mill building on the banks of the Patuxent River as well as a dam across the river at the location of what is now Ninth Street in Laurel. In 1824, Nicholas Snowden leased the mill for a period of 12 years to Mr. Johnson (origin unknown), who transformed the grist mill into a factory for spinning cotton yarn, known as the Cotton Manufacturing Motive of Laurel. The mill was successful and at one time reportedly employed 100 adults. Another local businessman, Robert Pilsen, some time prior to 1835, soon installed the first loom in the mill that enabled the weaving of cotton cloth in the factory.

Nicholas Snowden died in 1831, and his estate, Montpelier, was subdivided among his children. His wife received what was called the Bank Quarter, which contained the bank of iron ore. A leftover undivided portion along the Patuxent River, contained approximately 100 acres, the Snowdens' stone mansion, the mill buildings, several log houses, and a well-used farm where successive crops of tobacco and corn had been cultivated. The parcel's location was invaluable because of the exceptional water power provided by the adjacent river.

The 1835 completion of the Baltimore and Ohio (B & O) Railroad Company's new railroad line through Laurel, located just over one mile east of the mill, contributed to the attractiveness of the mill location. The railroad, which was to connect Baltimore with Washington D.C., promised easier access to new markets, both for raw materials and finished products. Access to other markets was previously gained by travel from the mill eastward via Main Street to the Washington-Baltimore Turnpike, which was chartered by the state of Maryland in 1812.

The location and easy access to transportation was not lost on Snowden's heirs, which included son-in-law Horace Capron, a member of the Capron family of Attleboro, Massachusetts. On January 28, 1836, Horace Capron joined other family members in a new business venture. Capron, along with Dr. Theodore Jenkins (brother-in-law of Capron and neighbor of the Snowdens at new New Birmingham Manor), Elizabeth Snowden (Capron's mother-in-law), Osmond Comfort Tiffany (Capron's first cousin from another Attleboro, Massachusetts, family) A.E. Hall, and W.C. Shaw incorporated a new company, the Patuxent Company, for the purpose of manufacturing and selling cotton, iron, and other articles at the site of the mill and farm. Snowden land holdings were combined and transferred when Horace Capron and his wife, Charles Hill and his wife, and Dr. Theodore Jenkins and his

wife, conveyed their inherited lands to the Patuxent Company. Deeds for property and stock also were transferred by Osmond Tiffany, Comfort Tiffany, and several Capron cousins, who also were involved in mill activities elsewhere.

Shortly after its incorporation in 1835, the Patuxent Company constructed housing for its mill workers in the vicinity of the mill. Merchants established stores and businesses to support the employees and their families, and the town, known as Laurel Factory, started to grow. Churches, schools, and social halls were established as well, first in the western end near the mill, then in locations east of the mill as the town advanced eastward along Main Street toward the turnpike and newly constructed railroad through town.

Laurel Factory, as it was called in the beginning, grew quickly as businesses, churches, social halls, and schools were established to meet the needs of the fledgling community. Located in the western end of the town near the mill, the first churches included a Protestant Episcopal, a Methodist, and a Catholic Church. A schoolhouse and an assembly hall were built south of the mill building. According to Thomson's Mercantile and Professional Directory, Laurel Factory had its own post office by 1851.

History of Resource

The area that comprises the Avondale Historic District on the northern side of Main Street contains lands of the former Avondale Grist Mill, which was owned by a succession of people. Sitting at the end of what is now Avondale Street, the Avondale Flour Mill was established by the Snowden family on the banks of the Patuxent River farther east and downstream from the Laurel Cotton Mill that had been established several decades earlier. Named after the home of Nicholas Snowden, Jr., the Avondale Mill was constructed in 1845 for the manufacture of cotton cloth. Descendents Richard N. Snowden and his wife Elizabeth had sold the land along the Patuxent, including the mill property, to Horace Capron on August 29, 1839 (DB AB 12, P. 367). Horace Capron was the President of the Avondale Manufacturing Company. Historical accounts state that the Avondale Mill employed 15 men and 40 women, and it produced cotton and sheeting, valued at $25,000.

Horace Capron and his wife sold a one-third interest in the property for $5,000 to Osmond Comfort Tiffany and his wife, Ann, on December 26, 1845 (DB JBB 4, P. 360). Horace Capron also sold a 15-acre parcel to William E. Mayhew (DB JSS 4, P. 504). Horace Capron applied to the State of Maryland for insolvency (bankruptcy) in May of 1850. Prior to this, the Avondale Manufacturing Company sold its real and personal estate, including goods, wares, merchandise, machinery, chattel, effects, property debts, and sums of money, to trustees George W. Dobbin and Thomas S. Alexander for $5.00 on March 2, 1850 (DB JBB 6, P. 315). When Capron applied for insolvency on May 21, 1850, he was directed by Orphan's Court to convey his own land, household goods, and furniture for $1.00 to Capron's court-appointed trustees, Thomas S. Alexander and George W. Dobbin (DB JJB 6, P. 331).

Several months later, the trustees of Capron's estate sold the Avondale Manufacturing Company to Richard Hardesty by an indenture on November 14, 1850. The indenture for the conveyance was never recorded, so Alexander and Dobbin executed a "deed of affirmance" to Hardesty on November 14, 1858 (DB CSM, P. 14).

On December 9, 1860, Richard S. Hardesty, Thomas M. Mason, Trustee, Eliza Mason, Stephen Heath, and James Arthur sold the mill building along with 15 surrounding acres to George Wheeler for $13,000 (DB FS 2, P. 108). Wheeler saw that there was a glut of cotton mills in the state, and he converted the mill back into a grist mill. The 1860 federal census describes it as a water powered merchant mill producing 8,700 barrels of flour valued at $49,200. The mill's work force consisted of three men whose average monthly wage was $28.33 each. The 1861 Martenet atlas indicates that the grist mill was indeed owned by George Wheeler, who also owned the small land parcels on both sides of Avondale Street and a property down the street and around the corner from the mill on Main Street.

Although the deeds record the Avondale Manufacturing Company being conveyed to Richard Hardesty in 1850, deeds also show that what appears to be the same land was sold to other parties as well. Separate portions of the same land were sold at a public auction in 1854 to William Mayhew and George Tiffany. Eventually the lands were combined, as Mayhew sold a one-seventh share of his land to George Tiffany on May 3, 1854, and Tiffany likewise conveyed interest in his land to Mayhew and others in one-seventh portions. The land was thus combined, and by 1878 was owned by a group of Tiffany descendents that

included Susan B. Eaton, Mayhew's widow; Ann B. Tiffany, Osmond Tiffany's widow; George P. Tiffany and Annie, his wife; William S. Tiffany and Elizabeth, his wife; Frances Tiffany and Esther A., his wife, and Hooper C. Eaton, who had their power-of-attorney (DB JWB 2, P. 296).

In April 1879, George Wheeler's ownership of the mill was contested in the Prince County Circuit Court by the above-mentioned group of descendents. The deed describing the case mentions that George Wheeler was only a tenant-in-possession with a leasehold interest at the time. The group won the case, and the interest in the mill property reverted back to them. George Wheeler surrendered possession of the property (DB JWB 2, P. 296).

Four years later in 1883 the above-mentioned group of owners sold the mill property to Benjamin F. Crabbs (DB JWB 2, P. 296). Crabbs Mill, as it became known, was owned and operated by Benjamin Crabbs (an influential citizen who served as City Council President in 1891) for 15 years, after which time Crabbs sold the 21-acre mill property in 1898 to Charles F. Shaffer, Jr., of the firm Phelps and Shaffer. The reason for the sale is unknown at this time. According to deeds of the early 1900s, Charles F. Shaffer, Jr. owned a large amount of property in Laurel, which included the tract formerly owned by Gorman and Kemp south of Main Street as well as lots along Avondale Street and the Baltimore and Washington Turnpike.

After Shaffer's death, trustees for his estate sold the 17.066-acre Avondale Mill property on May 26, 1908, to Charles H. Birmingham (DB 47, P. 229). Included in the purchase was the following equipment: 1 Cincinnati milling machine No. 2, 1 lathe, 1 small speed lathe, 1 engine lathe and other equipment. The mill reportedly became known as the Southern Embroidery Company and produced lace-print cloth for dressgoods (giving it the name the Lace Factory) and embroidered chevrons, among other things, for World War I uniforms from 1915-1917. After the war, the factory closed down at an unknown date and was used for the Avondale Military Grammar School.

On November 17, 1954, Ben N. Eisenberg and others sold the former mill property to William R. Ahrendt and Matilda G. Ahrendt (DB 1795, P. 160), and on January 18, 1961, the 17.66-acre (corrected in deeds from 17.06 acres) Avondale Mill property was sold by the Ahrendts to the Mayor and City Council of Laurel for $10.00 (DB 2525, P. 33). The City Department of Parks and Recreation used the mill building for indoor programs and for storage and a recreation area but was forced to vacate the building because of its structural instability. The building stood vacant for a number of years and was destroyed by fire in 1991. Currently, the mill site is still owned by the City of Laurel and is used as a riverfront park.

Other land contained in the present-day Avondale Mill Historic District includes the land that was previously contained within the Avondale Mill property, sometimes known as "Avondale," lying north of Main Street and extending to the Patuxent River and bound by the eastern boundary of the Avondale Mill property on the west and the Baltimore and Washington Turnpike on the east. On December 17, 1849, a large tract of land (size unknown) was conveyed from Horace Capron and others (comprised of heirs of the Snowden family) to James and Jesse Duvall (DB JBB 6, P. 230). Seventeen years later, on February 20, 1866, James Duvall sold his interest to Jesse Duvall (DB FS 3, P. 571). Five years later on July 13, 1871, Jesse Duvall sold 17 acres of his land to William Eden for $9,500.

During his ownership, William Eden had the land surveyed and subdivided into smaller parcels. According to deed records Eden and his wife sold off a number of small parcels on the northern side of Main Street during 1874 to individual owners, whose names, along with Eden's, are indicated on the 1878 Hopkins map. The map shows Eden retaining a parcel of land behind the Main Street properties and bordering the river.

By the early 1900s Charles F. Shaffer, Jr. had acquired parcels of land, including dwellings, that were formerly part of the larger Avondale mill property along Avondale Street. After his death, his trustees sold the parcels to different parties. At an unknown date, William Eden's remaining land was sold off, probably to a firm called Fairall and Travers, which apparently subdivided the land and sold off parcels, according to references in deeds and tax records. It appears that the Fairall and Travers Subdivision extended from A Street westward to both sides of C Street according to tax records that give a legal description for properties on both streets as Fairall and Travers Subdivision. The subdivision and road improvement apparently occurred prior to 1910, which is the construction date given for the houses on the western side of A Street.

Currently, A Street consists of parking areas on the eastern side and residential housing on the western side. B Street has some residential new construction on the corner of Main and B Street, followed by parking lots and residential housing on the eastern side and residential housing and empty lots on the western side. C Street contains an empty lot followed by a post 1960 building used for a commercial business, after which is a new warehouse building. The western side of C Street contains a newly constructed building attached to a circa 1950s building containing offices, retail stores, and a theater. Newly constructed townhouses sit at the end of the western side of C Street.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-20

Laurel Horizon Society. National Register of Historic Places Inventory - Nomination Form. Prepared 1978. Site PG: LAU-4.
"Laurel, A Mill Town First." Article on website of Laurel Historical Society, http://www.laurelhistory.org/pages/house_Mill.html
Hopkins, G.M. *Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington Including County of Prince George Maryland.* Philadelphia: F. Bourquin, 1878.
Recorder of Deeds, Prince Georges County Circuit Court. Various deeds from Land Records.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property _____
Acreage of historical setting _____
Quadrangle name Laurel, Maryland Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Avondale Mill Historic District extends from the northwestern (rear) boundary of the properties along the northwestern side of Washington Boulevard to the northwestern (rear) boundary of the properties along the northwestern side of Avondale Street, and from the northeastern (or rear) boundaries of the properties along the northeastern side of Main Street to the southern bank of the Patuxent River.

11. Form Prepared by

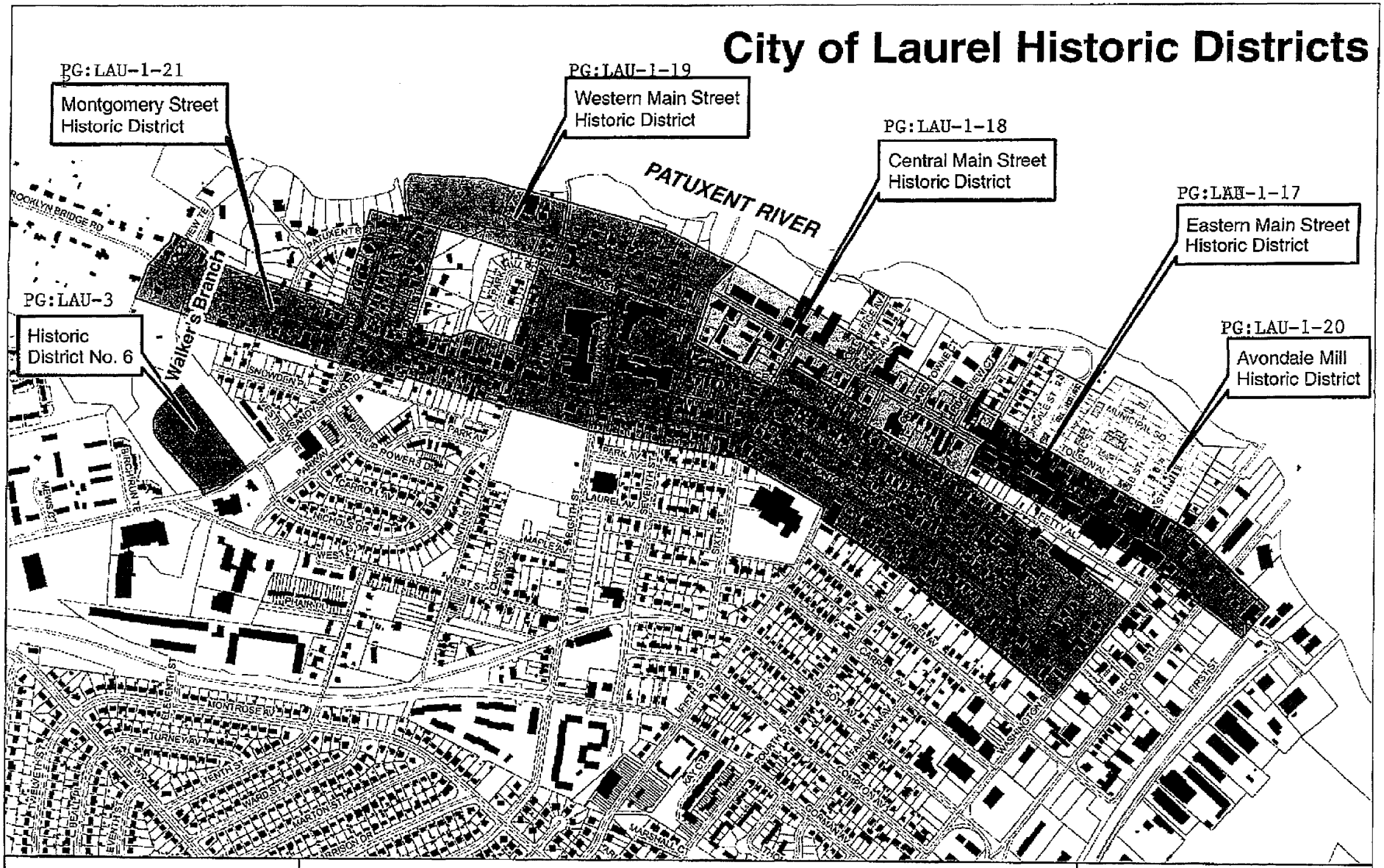
name/title	Alison Ross, M.S., Architectural Historian		
organization	KCI Technologies, Inc.	date	05/2008
street & number	5001 Louise Drive	telephone	717-691-1340
city or town	Mechanicsburg	state	PA

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
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

City of Laurel Historic Districts



N

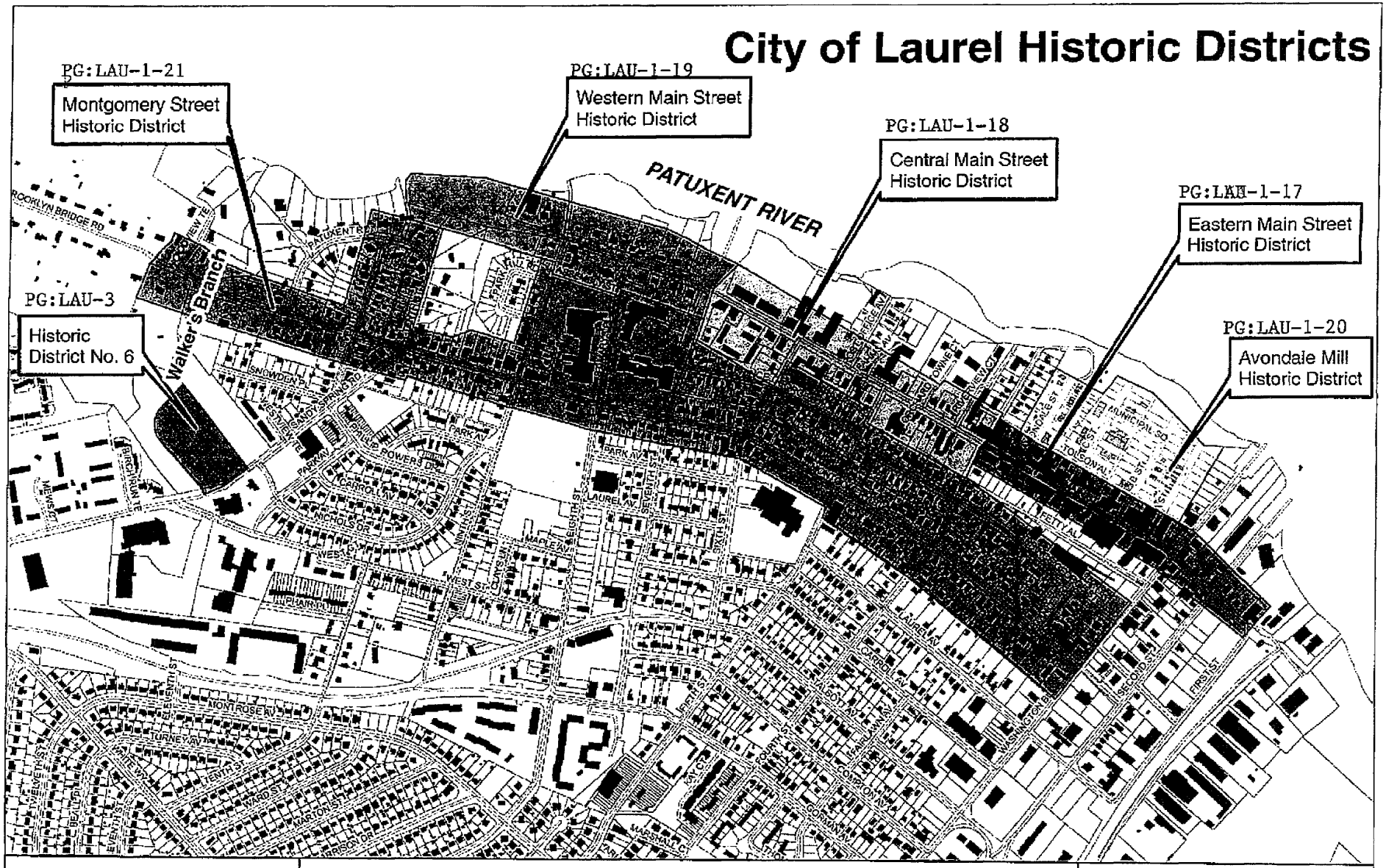
0 800 1,600

Feet

Laurel Historic District
Architectural Survey and Analysis
City of Laurel, Prince George's County, Maryland

Source: City of Laurel
Department of Public Works

City of Laurel Historic Districts



N

0 800 1,600

Feet

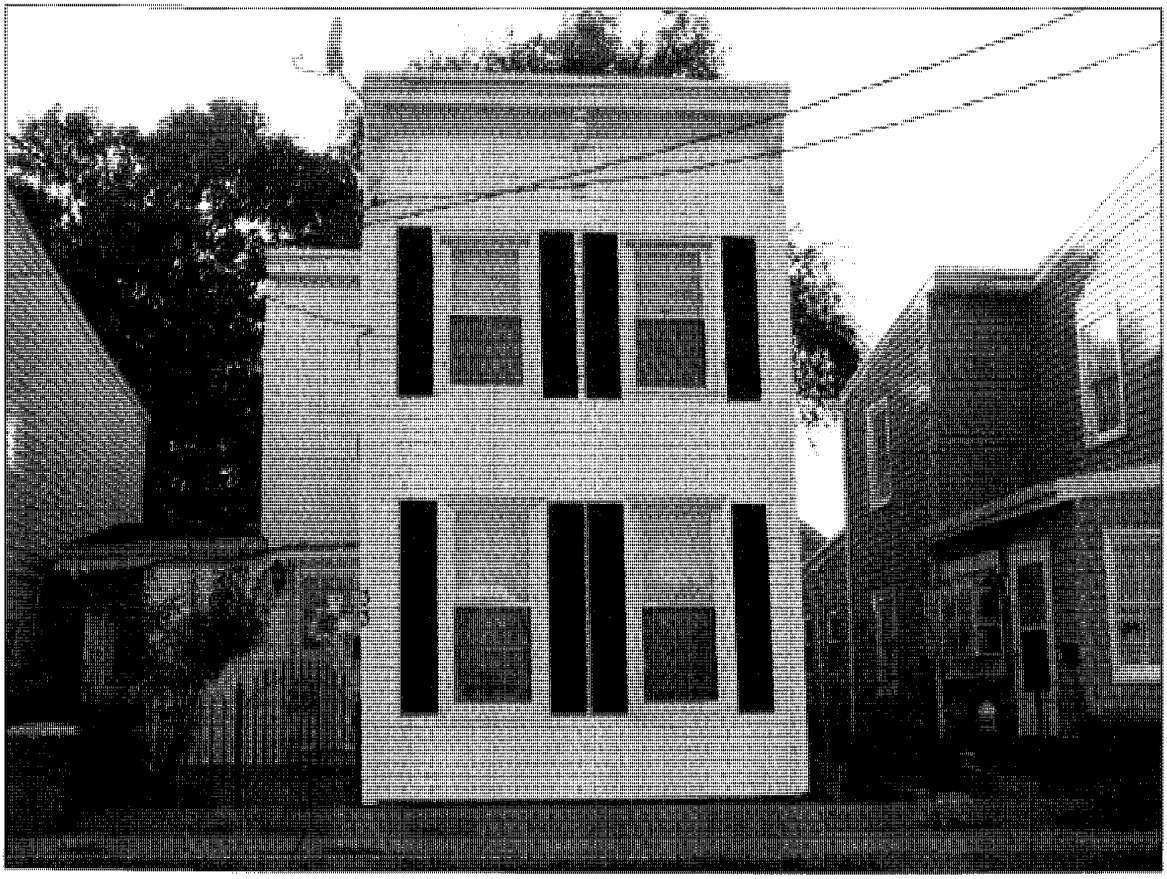
Laurel Historic District
Architectural Survey and Analysis
City of Laurel, Prince George's County, Maryland

Source: City of Laurel
Department of Public Works

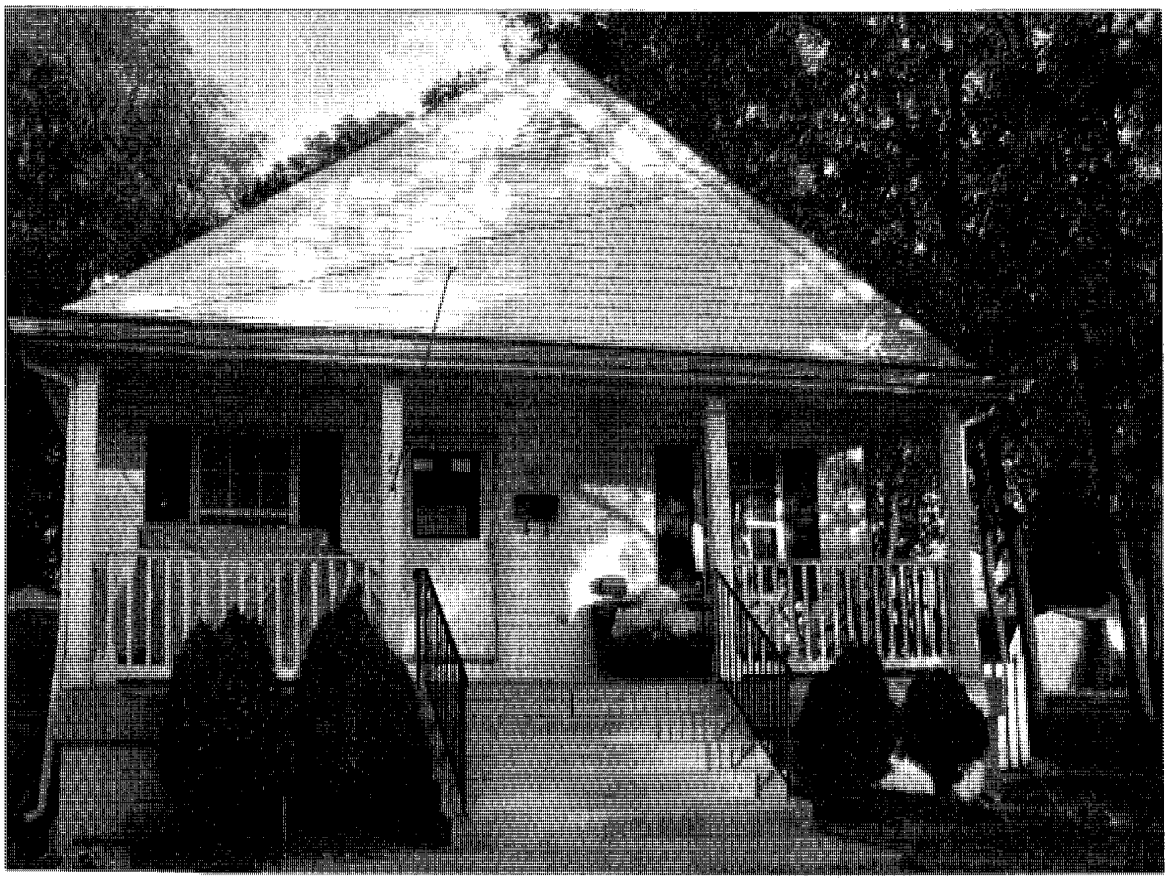
PHOTOGRAPHS – Avondale Mill Historic District MIHP # PG:LAU-1-20

MIHP # PG:LAU-1-20
41-43 A Street, Avondale Mill Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing W
Photo #1 of 9

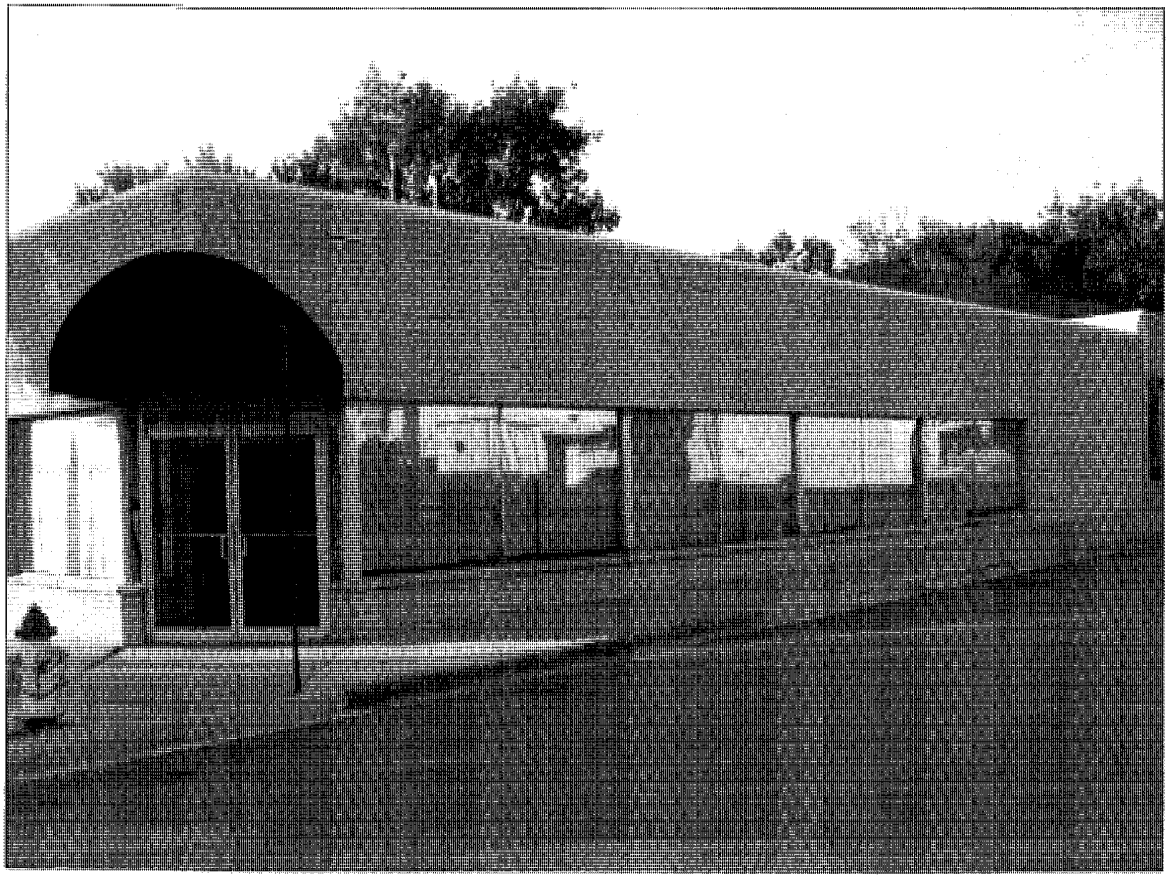
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-20
45 A Street, Avondale Mill Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
Streetscape of contributing resources, facing N
Photo #2 of 9



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-20
33 A Street, Avondale Mill Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resources, facing NW
Photo #3 of 9

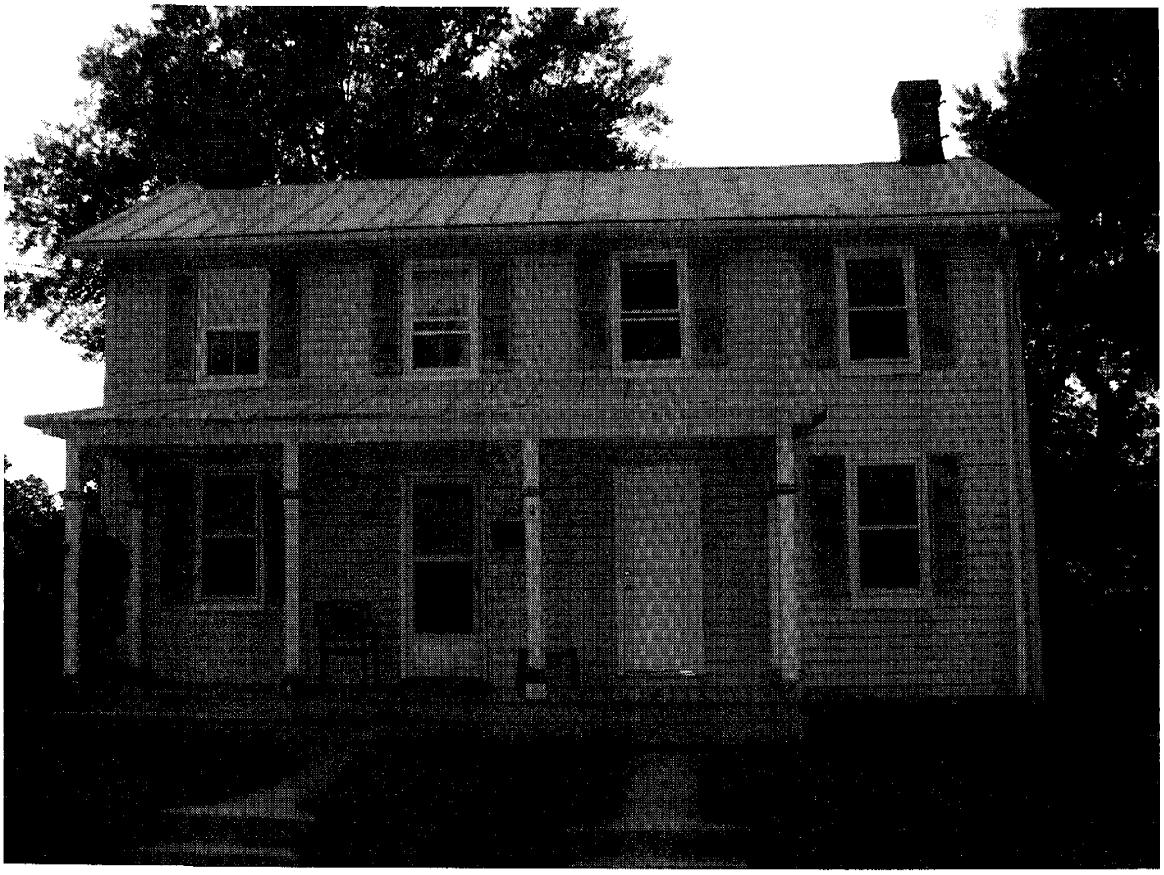


MIHP # PG:LAU-1-20
60 B Street, Avondale Mill Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing SE
Photo #4 of 9

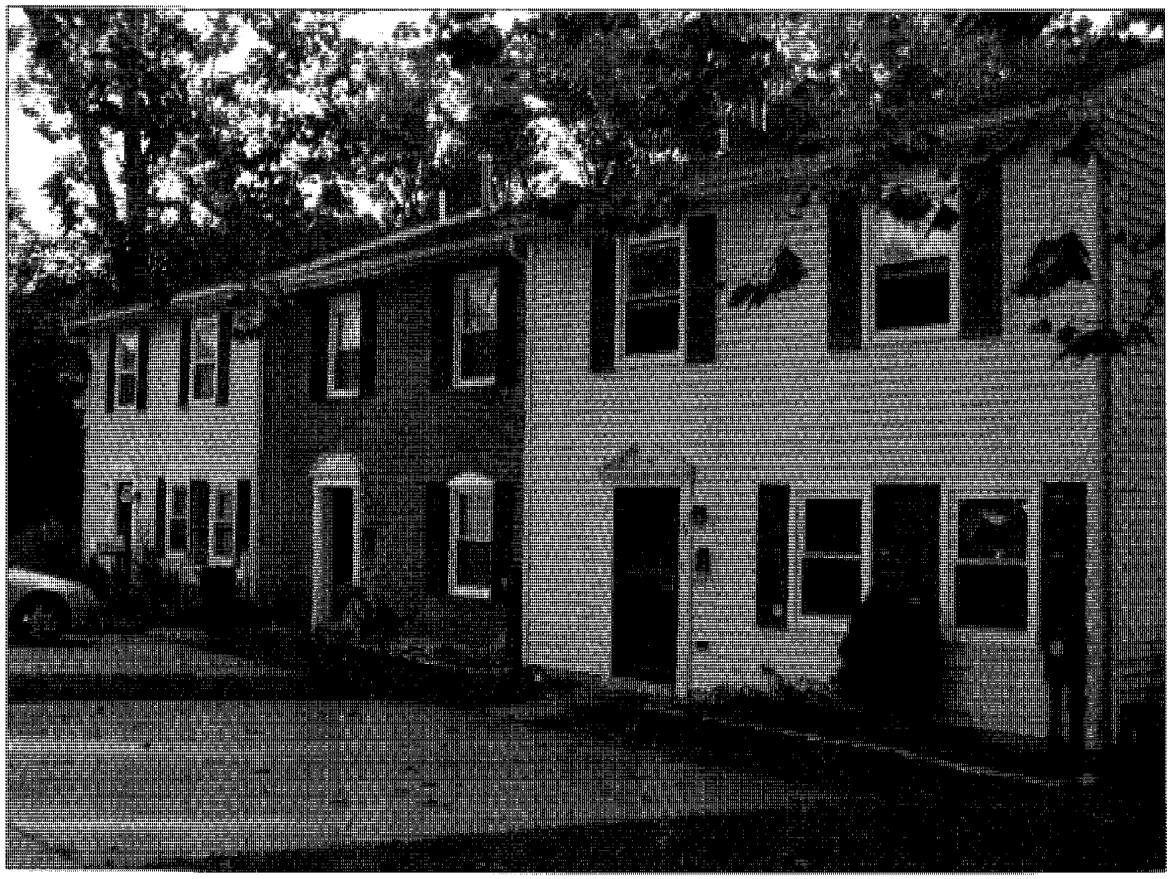


MIHP # PG:LAU-1-20
29 C Street, Avondale Mill Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing N
Photo #5 of 9

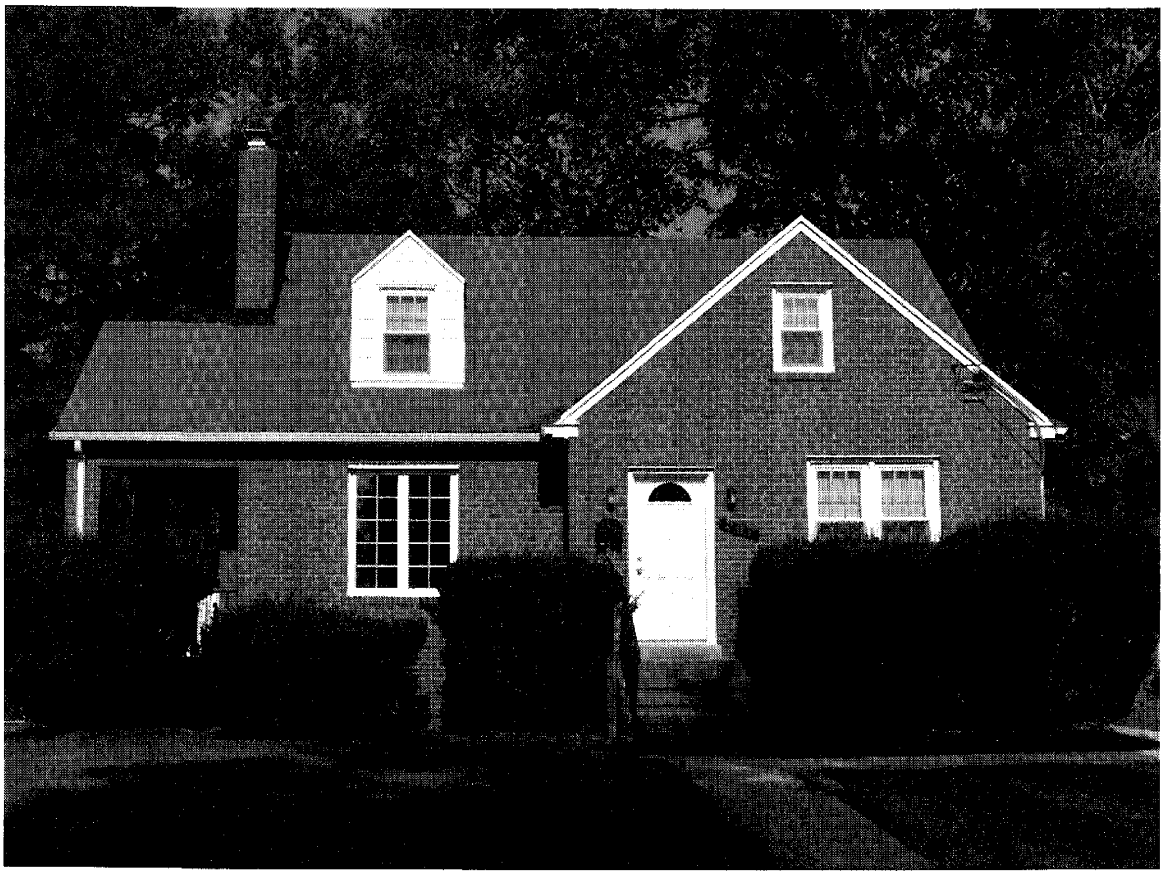
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-20
26 C Street, Avondale Mill Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing SE
Photo #6 of 9



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-20
37-39 Avondale Street, Avondale Mill Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing NW
Photo #7 of 9



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-20
30-34 Avondale Street, Avondale Mill Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
Streetscape of non-contributing resource, facing NE
Photo #8 of 9



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-20
203 Avondale Street, Avondale Mill Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing NW
Photo #9 of 9

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

'roperty Name: Avondale Mill Historic District Inventory Number: PG:LAU-1-20

Address: Both sides of A, B, C, and Avondale Streets, from Main Street to the Patuxent River City: Laurel Zip Code: 20707

County: Prince Georges County USGS Topographic Map: Laurel, MD 1979

Owner: City of Laurel Is the property being evaluated a district? X yes

Tax Parcel Number: ____ Tax Map Number: ____ Tax Account ID Number: ____

Project: Laurel Historic District Architectural Survey and Analysis Agency: City of Laurel

Site visit by MHT Staff: ____ no ____ yes Name: ____ Date: ____

Is the property located within a historic district? ____ yes X no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: PG:LAU-1-20

NR-listed district ____ yes Eligible district X yes District Name: Avondale Mill Historic District

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ____ yes ____ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ____

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ____ yes ____ no

Criteria: X A ____ B X C ____ D Considerations: ____ A ____ B ____ C ____ D ____ F ____ G ____ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MHT MIHP Form Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-20

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

The Avondale Mill Historic District is adjacent to and northeast of the Eastern Main Street Historic District. The district contains an eclectic collection of buildings with a variety of uses, including residential, office, retail, and municipal buildings, as well as recreational facilities. The district extends from Main Street to the Patuxent River and from A Street to Avondale Street. The municipal park at the northeastern end of the district was the former site of the Avondale Mill, later Crabb's Mill, Laurel's last standing mill building prior to its destruction by fire in 1991.

Each street of the district has a different appearance, with one that is entirely residential on both sides, another that is divided, with residential buildings on one side and vacant land on the other, and still another with an unusual assortment of buildings together on both sides of the street. The Avondale Mill Historic District includes a total of 31 resources and 22 of these contribute to the district.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ____ **Eligibility not recommended** ____

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

Comments: ____

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

Reviewer, NR Program **Date**

A Street contains a row of attached residential houses, constructed in 1910, on the northwestern side and vacant land used as a parking lot for the car dealership on its southeastern side. The attached houses form a visually continuous row of buildings, with their almost identical Queen-Anne-style architectural style and their identical heights, setbacks, and lot sizes.

B street contains vacant land and one dwelling on the northwestern side, forming a visually discontinuous and discordant landscape. The southeastern side is more visually harmonious, with several intact, single-family houses, with similar architectural styles, building lots, sizes and setbacks.

The southeastern side of C Street contains two, low 1-story buildings that house offices and retail stores, respectively. The row forms a visually continuous view but is interrupted by the small row of tall, attached townhouses containing professional offices at the end of the street. The southeastern side of C Street contains an unrelated assortment of buildings that vary in shape, size, and style, which include a workshop and retail business, the municipal police station, and a residential dwelling.

Avondale Street is the most visually harmonious street in the district with residential dwellings on both sides of the street, similar building sizes, lots and building setbacks. The architectural styles on this street differ widely, however, with ca. 1860 houses on the northwestern side and ca. 1990 townhouses on the southeastern side. At the end of Avondale Street is the municipal park on land that used to belong to the Avondale Mill. Demolition in the district has occurred on A Street, B Street, and at the end of Avondale Street.

The historic district has not retained its historic integrity. Its integrity of location, setting, association, feeling, design, workmanship, and materials has been diminished by intrusions in building use, construction dates, architectural styles, and modern materials. Because the Avondale Mill building is no longer extant, there is no association of the neighborhood to the mill building around which it was constructed. The historic district does not meet significance criteria as outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's National Register Bulletin, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation." It does not meet Criterion A because it is not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. The property does not meet Criterion B because it is not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. The property does not meet Criterion C because it does not represent a significant and distinguishable collection of buildings. It does not meet Criterion D because it has not yielded, nor is it likely to yield information important in prehistory or history. Because it has not retained its historic integrity and does not possess historic significance, the resource is recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Prepared by: Alison J. Ross
KCI Technologies, Inc.

Date Prepared: May 2009

Capsule Summary

Name of Property: Montgomery Street Historic District
MIHP number: PG:LAU-1-21
Location: Between Washington Boulevard and Eleventh Street and Main and Montgomery Streets
Laurel, Prince Georges County, Maryland 20707

Date of Construction: Various
Access: Public and private

Property Description: The Montgomery Street Historic District is the largest locally designated historic district in Laurel. Largely residential, the district extends, roughly, from Washington Boulevard on the southeastern end to Eleventh Street on the northwestern end and from the back of the properties on Main Street on the northeast to the back of the properties along Montgomery Street on the southeast. The properties on both sides of the numbered, or side, streets between Main Street and Montgomery Street are included as well. The tree-lined streets are generally straight, with the side streets running perpendicular to them in a northeastern to southwestern direction. The lots and houses are moderate in size on Montgomery Street, with the lots and houses on Prince George Street narrower and smaller. Most lots have tended grass lawns with ornamental shrubbery. Several apartment buildings and multiple family residences are in the district as well as duplex houses and several rows of attached townhouse units. The district's other building types include educational, community, and religious, in the form of the Laurel Armory, Laurel High School, several churches, a union hall, the St. Vincent Pallotti High School, the Laurel Boys and Girls Club, and several retail stores and businesses.

Summary Paragraph on History: The land included in the Montgomery Street Historic District once belonged to a few of the founding members of the mill town of Laurel, including Dr. Theodore Jenkins and Horace Capron. The lands south of Main Street were sold to several successive owners from the 1850s through the 1870s, such as the Cronmiller sisters and Thomas Jefferson Talbott. Following their ownership, the large tracts were subsequently sold to land speculators and developers, namely the partnership of Kemp and Gorman, followed by Shaffer and Gorman. The Cronmiller sisters also formed a partnership with businessmen, subdividing their land and selling off the lots. The landowners subdivided the land, constructed streets, and sold the parcels to individual owners, who gradually constructed their homes in the newly fashionable neighborhood along Montgomery Street, Prince George Street, and the side streets. The neighborhood continued to develop into the 20th century, with the addition of schools, a church and an armory. Today, it is a thriving residential community filled with a large yet cohesive and harmonious collection of late 19th-century and early 20th-century residential buildings.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-21

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic	Historic District No. 5
other	Montgomery Street Historic District (preferred)

2. Location

street and number	Both sides of Montgomery Avenue and Prince George Street and side streets	__ not for publication
city, town	Laurel	__ vicinity
county	Prince Georges	

3. Owner of Property

name	Multiple owners		
street and number			telephone
city, town		state	zip code

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Tax Department website		liber	multiple folio	multiple
city, town	Laurel	tax map A-0848	tax parcel		tax ID number

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
__X__district
_____building(s)
_____structure
_____site
_____object

Ownership
_____public
_____private
__X__both

Current Function
_____agriculture
_____commerce/trade
_____defense
__X__domestic
__X__education
_____funerary
_____government
_____health care
_____industry
_____landscape
__X__recreation/culture
__X__religion
_____social
_____transportation
_____work in progress
_____unknown
_____vacant/not in use
_____other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
192	37	buildings
	2	sites
		structures
		objects
192	39	Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

_____

7. Description

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-21

Condition

X_ excellent ___ deteriorated
X_ good ___ ruins
X_ fair ___ altered

Paragraph Summary

The Montgomery Street Historic District is the largest locally designated historic district in Laurel. Largely residential, the district extends, roughly, from Washington Boulevard on the southeastern end to Eleventh Street on the northwestern end and from the back of the properties on Prince George Street on the north to the back of the properties along Montgomery Street. The properties on both sides of the numbered, or side, streets between Main Street and Montgomery Street are included as well. The tree-lined streets are generally straight, with the side streets running perpendicular to them in a northeastern to southwestern direction. The lots and houses are moderate in size on Montgomery Street, with the lots and houses on Prince Georges Street being narrower and smaller. Most lots have tended grass lawns with ornamental shrubbery. The Montgomery Street Historic District contains a total of 231 resources and 192, or over 83%, contribute to the district. Several apartment buildings and multiple family residences are in the district as well as duplex houses and several rows of attached townhouse units. The district's other building types include the Laurel Armory, Laurel High School, several churches, a union hall, the St. Vincent Pallotti High School, the Laurel Boys and Girls Club and several retail stores and businesses.

Comprehensive Description

Montgomery Street – General Description

Montgomery Street is a tree-lined street with mostly residential dwellings on both sides. It extends, roughly, from the northwestern side of Washington Boulevard to the northwestern side of Eleventh Street. The southeastern half of the district contains almost all single-family houses on moderate-sized lots, with grass and landscaped lawns. The central section of the street contains the Laurel Elementary School, the Laurel Armory, the Laurel Boys and Girls' Club (formerly the Laurel High School), St. Mary of the Mills Church and schools (initially a Jesuit Mission from Georgetown University in Washington D.C.), and the St. Vincent Pallotti High School (on the grounds of the former St. Mildred's Academy). The street's northwestern end contains mostly single-family residential dwellings, a union hall (in the former fire company building), and several neighborhood businesses, such as a retail kitchen center, a bicycle repair shop, and a cleaner business. Two churches also are located on Montgomery Street. There is visual continuity on both sides of the street, with houses having similar lot sizes, building sizes, setbacks, and roof heights

On the southeastern end, where the former Gorman, Phelps, and Shaffer tract of land was located, the lots and houses are larger, reflecting the growing wealth that the business class had in the beginning of the 20th century. In the middle section and northwestern section, the lots and houses are smaller.

According to tax records, the houses along Montgomery Street were constructed between 1860 and 2002. The street displays a mix of architectural styles representing all decades of the neighborhood's development in the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries. Especially noticeable, however, is the large number of dwellings that were constructed in the 1890s through 1920, with a large number of the houses representing the Queen Anne style. Repeating features of the dwellings are the height, usually 2 or 2 ½ stories, and the width, ranging from 3 to 5 bays. The dwellings are either front-gabled with projecting front porches or front-gabled wing and ell houses, with projecting wraparound porches. Other prominent styles in the district are 2-story Colonial Revival-style homes, with side-gabled or gambrel roofs; Craftsman-style bungalows, with wide, integral front porches; and American Foursquare-style houses, with their pyramid roofs and front dormers. Several Italianate duplexes can be found on Prince George and Montgomery Street, and a long row of attached Italianate-style townhouses sits on Ninth Street between Montgomery and Main Street. The table below describes each resource on Montgomery Street.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-21

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number _7_ Page 1

Montgomery Street - Northeastern Side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC)
305 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1917	Craftsman bungalow, 1-story, hipped roof, dormer	C
311 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1947	Col. Rev. (modified), s-tory, 5-bay, hipped roof	C
313 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1948	Tudor Rev. 2-story, 5-bay, brick and stone veneer, gabled roofs	C
315 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1938	Col. Rev., 2-story, 3-bay, side-gabled	C
317 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1910	Col. Rev., 2-story, 3-bay, cross-gabled	C
321 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1910	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled	C
323 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1920	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
325 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1910	Gothic Rev., 2-story, 3-bay, cross gable	C
327 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1879	Folk Victorian, 2-story, 6-bay, porch	C
333 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1860	Vernacular, 3-bay, 2-story, side-gabled	C
335 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1927	Craftsman, 1 ½-story, 3-bay, front-gabled	C
337 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1949	Tudor Rev., 1-story, 4-bay, brick, front-gabled	C
401 Montgomery Street	Dwelling-apts.	1920	Vernacular, 2-story, 3-bay, side-gabled	C
405 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1922	American Foursquare, 1 ½ story, 2-bay, pyramid roof	C
407 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1924	Craftsman bungalow, 1 ½ story, 3-bay, shed dormer	C
409 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1922	Craftsman bungalow, 1 ½ story, 3-bay, shed dormer	C
411 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1917	Craftsman bungalow, 1 ½ story, 3-bay, shed dormer	C
413 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1889	Col. Rev., 2-story, 3-bay, side-gabled	C
415 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1922	Col. Rev., 2-story, 3-bay, side-gabled	C
417 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1988	Craftsman bungalow, 2-story, 2-bay, enclosed porch	C
419 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1933	Col. Rev., 2-story, 3-bay, brick, side-gabled	C
421 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1980	New construction	NC
501 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1977	New construction	NC
503A Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1977	New construction	NC
503 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1977	New construction	NC
505 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1977	New construction	NC
505A Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1977	New construction	NC
507 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1977	New construction	NC
507A Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1977	New construction	NC
507B Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1977	New construction	NC

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-21

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 2

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC)
509 Montgomery Street	Dwelling-apts.	1957	Vernacular, 2-story, 3-bay, brick, pyramid roof	C
511 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1900	Qu. Anne, 2 ½ story, 3-bay, front-gabled	C
513 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1947	Cape Cod, 1 ½ story, 3-bay, side-gabled	C
515 Montgomery Street	Dwelling (into apts)	1910	Qu. Anne, 2 ½ story, 3-bay, hipped roof	C
517 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1900 1945 on list	Qu. Anne, 2 ½ story, enclosed porch, side-gabled	C
601 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1909	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 5-bay, front-gabled	C
605 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1900	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay, front gabled, wrap porch	C
607 Montgomery Street	Dwelling-apts	1956	Vernacular, 2-story, 5-bay, brick, flat roof	C
611 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1913	Vernacular, 2 story, 2-bay, altered	C
613 Montgomery Street	Church	Ca. 1900	Qu. Anne, 2-story, front-gabled, formed stone walls	C
615 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1871	Gothic Rev., 2-story, 5-bay, cross-gabled	C
617 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1900	Gothic Rev., 2-story, 3-bay, cross-gabled, enclosed porch	C
817 Montgomery Street	Dwelling/Barber shop	1933	Vernacular, 2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled, additions, very altered	C
821 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	2001	New construction	NC
825- 827 Montgomery Street	Dwelling-duplex	1895	Italianate, 2-story, 2-bay, stucco (825), brick (827), front addition, brackets and cornice	C
901 Montgomery Street	Union hall (former fire house)	1954	Vernacular, former fire house, 2-story, brick, flat roof	C
909 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1933	Craftsman bungalow, 1 ½ story, 4-bay, broad roof over porch, original windows	C
911 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1933	American Foursquare, 1 ½-story, 3-bay, pyramid roof, dormer, original windows	C
913 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1933	Craftsman bungalow, 1 ½-story, 5-bay, hipped roof, porch, broad roof, original brackets, exposed rafters	C
915 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1928	Craftsman Bungalow, 1 ½-story, 5-bay, hipped roof, porch, broad roof, original brackets, windows, exposed rafters	C
919 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1933	Craftsman Bungalow, 1 ½-story, 4-bay, hipped roof, original porch, exposed rafters	C
921-923 Montgomery	Dwelling-duplex	1893	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled,	C

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC)
Street			porch	
925 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1893	Col. Rev., 2-story, 3-bay, side-gabled, porch,	C
927 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1898	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay, porch, orig. wood trim and German siding, front-gabled wing and ell	C
929 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1898	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 4-bay, porch, front-gabled wing and ell	C
931 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1903	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch, fishscales in gable	C
933 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1875	Folk Victorian, 2-story, 5-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, original windows and doors, wrap porch	C
1001 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	2001	New construction	NC
1005 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1860	Gothic Rev., 2-story, 3-bay, cross-gabled, porch	C
1007 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1893	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 2-bay,porch, original windows and trim	C
1009 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1888	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell	C
1011 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1888	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 2-bay, porch added	C

Montgomery Street – Southwestern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description-Architectural Style	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC)
304 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1918	Col. Rev., 2-story, 3-bay, side-gabled	C
306 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1900	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay, side-gabled, gambrel dormer	C
306A Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1900	Col. Rev., 2-story, 3-bay, brick	C
308 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1926	Col. Rev. 2 ½-story, 3-bay, gambrel roof	C
314 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1924	American 4-Square, 2-story, 2-bay, pyramid roof, dormer	C
316 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1914	Qu. Anne, 2 ½ story, 2-bay, clipped roof	C
318 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1879	Qu. Anne, 2 ½ story, 2-bay, dormer added	C
320 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1910	Qu. Anne, 2 ½ story, 3-bay, addition, clipped roof	C
322 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1910	Qu. Anne, 2 ½ story, 2-bay, front-gabled, clipped roof	C
324 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1889	Qu. Anne, 2 ½-story, 2-bay, front-gabled, clipped roof	C

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description-Architectural Style	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC)
328 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1914	American Foursquare, 2-story, 2-bay, pyramid roof, dormer	C
332 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1878	Gothic Rev., 2-story, 2-bay, cross-gabled, wrap porch	C
336 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1914	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 5-bay, front-gabled, wrap porch	C
400 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1884	Folk Victorian, 2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, porch	C
404 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1888	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, porch	C
408 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1864	Folk Victorian, 2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, porch	C
412 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1919	American Foursquare, 2-story, 2-bay, pyramid, dormer	C
414 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1925	Ranch, 1-story	C
416 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1917	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
418 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1889	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled	C
420 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1924	Col. Rev. 2-story3-bay, gable-roof, dormer	C
422 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1920	Vernacular, 2-story, 7-bay, parapet roof, brick	C
518B Montgomery Street	Dwelling	2003	New construction	NC
518A Montgomery Street	Dwelling	2003	New construction	NC
520 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1900	Italianate, 2-story, glass storefront,, flat roof, cornice and brackets	C
600 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1925	Ranch, 1-story	NC
602 Montgomery Street	Retail store	1947	Commercial, 2-story, 3-bay, brick, glass storefront	C
606 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1900	Gothic Rev., 2-story, 3-bay, brick, cross-gabled	C
608-610 Montgomery Street	Dwelling-duplex	1900	Italianate, 2-story, 4-bay, cornice, brackets,	C
612-614 Montgomery Street	Dwelling-duplex	1945	Vernacular, 2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled	NC
616 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	2002	New construction	NC
618 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	2002	New construction	NC
620 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	Ca. 2000	New construction	NC
700A-B Montgomery Street	Dwelling-duplex	1955	Vernacular, 2-story, 4-bay, brick, flat roof	NC
700 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1900	Co. Rev., 2-story, 2-bay, pyramid roof, porch	C
702 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1900	Col. Rev., 2-story, 3-bay, side-gabled	C
704 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1900	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 2-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, porch	C

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description-Architectural Style	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC)
706 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1900	Qu. Anne, 2-bay, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell	C
708 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1900	Qu. Anne, 2-bay, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell	C
710 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1900	Col. Rev., 2 ½-story, 3-bay, dormers	C
900 Montgomery Street	Store	1893	Italianate, 2-story 3-bay, altered, cornice and bracket	C
904 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1870	Italianate, 2-story, 2-bay, flat roof, porch	C
906 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1900	Italianate, 2-story, 3-bay, flat roof, cornice and bracket	C
910 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1935	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 2-bay, front-gabled, porch	C
912 Montgomery Street	Dwelling into retail store	1910	Vernacular, 2-story, 3-bay, front gable added to house, house obscured	NC
914 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1930	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell	C
916 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1890	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
920 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1930	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
924 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1900	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
928 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1890	Qu. Anne, 2 story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch, original trim	C
930 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1890	Qu. Anne, 2 story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
932 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1888	Qu. Anne, 2 story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
934 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	2003	New construction	NC
1100 Montgomery Street	Dwelling	1947	Tudor. Rev., 1 ½ story, 4-bay, brick	C

Prince George Street – General Description

Prince George Street is a tree-lined street extending from the northwestern side of Washington Boulevard to the southeastern side of Seventh Street and consisting of mostly residential dwellings. This part of the district represents a homogenous group of dwellings, with similar lot sizes, building sizes, building setbacks, and rooflines. The dwellings on both sides of the street are modestly-sized houses of approximately 1,350 to 1,700 square feet in size on narrow, well-maintained lots ranging in size from approximately one-tenth to one-fifth of an acre. Although much of the land along Prince George Street was subdivided in the 1870s, according to atlases, it appears that many lots were not improved until after the turn of the century, as evidenced by their construction dates.

According to tax records, the construction dates of the buildings on Prince George Street range from 1825 to 2004. The greatest number of houses were constructed during the time period between 1890 and 1930, with the most being constructed in the decade of the 1890s, the 1910s, and the 1920s. The prevailing architectural style of the homes along the street reflect the Queen Anne style, with either a front-gabled roof over a narrow 2-story house or a cross-gabled roof over a gable and wing floor plan.

Front porches with decorative woodwork remain on many of the homes, lending visual cohesiveness to the streetscapes. Other popular architectural styles along the street are American Four-squares, with their pyramidal roofs and projecting dormers, and Arts and Crafts bungalows, with their integral front porches. Several Italianate-style duplex homes can be found on the street, retaining their flat fronts and roofs and elaborate upper cornices with shell-motif friezes and bracketing. Colonial-revival-style homes are also present in the district. The table below describes each resource on Prince George Street.

Prince George Street – Northeastern Side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC)
305 Prince George Street	Parking lot	N?A	Parking	NC
307 Prince George Street	Post office	1997	New Construction	NC
323 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1918	Queen (Qu.) Anne, 2-story, 5-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
325 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1918	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 5-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
329 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1920	American (Am.) 4-Square, 2 story, 2-bay, pyramid roof, dormer	C
331 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1878	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
333 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1910	Qu. Anne, 2 1/2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
335-337 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1915	Italianate, 2-story, 6-bay, brick, continuous porch, cornice, brackets	C
339 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1910	Qu. Anne, 2 1/2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
401 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1914	Qu. Anne, 2 1/2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
403 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1924	Colonial Revival (Co. Rev.), 2 ½-story, 3-bay, side-gabled, dormers added	C
405 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1899	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
407 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1904	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
409 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1865	Col. Rev., 2-story, 3-bay, side-gabled	C
411-413 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1847	Italianate, 2-story, 6-bay, brick, continuous porch, cornice, brackets	C
415 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1908	Qu. Anne, 2 1/2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
417 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1930	American Foursquare, 2-story, 5-bay, pyramid roof, Addition	C
419 Prince George Street	Vacant Land	0		NC
421 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1914	Qu. Anne, 2 1/2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing	C

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC)
			and ell, wrap porch	
423 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1899	Qu. Anne, 2 1/2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled, porch	C
425 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1894	Col. Rev., 2-story, 3-bay, side-gable roof, porch over entry	C
427 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1954	Ranch, 1-story, hipped roof	C
501 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1917	Qu. Anne, 2 1/2-story, 5-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
503 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1890	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 2-bay, front-gabled, porch	C
505 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1890	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 2-bay, front-gabled, porch	C
507 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1890	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 2-bay, front-gabled, porch, 1-story addition on side	C
509 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1890	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 2-bay, front-gabled, porch	C
511 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1825	Georgian, 2-story, 4-bay, side gabled	C
513 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1890	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
515 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1890	Qu. Anne, 2 1/2-story, 2-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
605 Prince George Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1890	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch, addition on wing	C
609 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1863	Folk Victorian, 2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
611 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1935	Cape Cod, 1 ½-story, 3-bay, side-gabled roof, 2 dormers	C
613 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1930	Tudor Rev., 2-story, 2-bay, side dormer	C
615 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1935	Col. Rev. 2-story, 3-bay, side-gabled	C

Prince George Street - Southwestern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC)
312 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1920	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
316 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1974	New construction	NC
318 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1880	Qu. Anne, 2 ½-story, 3-bay, front-gabled, porch	C
320 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1919	Qu. Anne, 2 ½-story, 3-bay, front-gabled, porch	C
328 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1904	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay, cross-gabled	C
330 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1919	Col. Rev., 2-story, 3-bay, side-gabled	C
332 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1914	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC)
334 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1919	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
336 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1919	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 3-bay front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
400 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1922	American Foursquare, 2 ½-story, 2-bay, pyramid roof, dormer	C
408 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1929	Col. Rev., 2 ½-story, 2-bay, side-gable, dormer added	C
410 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1920	Bungalow, 1 ½-story, 3-bay, side-gabled	C
412 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1922	American Foursquare, 2 1/2-story, 2-bay, pyramid roof, dormer	C
414 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1882	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 2-bay, front-gabled, porch	C
416 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1887	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 2-bay, front-gabled, porch	C
418 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1890	Col. Rev., 2-story, 3-bay, cross-gabled roof added	C
420 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1897	American Foursquare, 2-story, 2-bay, pyramid roof, dormer	C
500 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1976	Townhouse	NC
502 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1976	Townhouse	NC
504 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1976	Townhouse	NC
506 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1976	Townhouse	NC
508 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1976	Townhouse	NC
510 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1976	Townhouse	NC
512 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1900	Col. Rev., 2 ½ story, 5-bay, hipped roof	C
516 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1870	Col. Rev., 2 ½ story, 5-bay, hipped roof	C
518 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1987	New construction	C
606 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1880	Qu. Anne, 2 ½ story, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
608 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1920	Bungalow, 1 ½ story, 3-bay, front-gabled, integral porch	C
610 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1871	Folk Victorian, 2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
612 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1920	Bungalow, 1-story, 3-bay, front-gabled, integral porch	C
614 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1920	Bungalow, 1-story, 3-bay, front-gabled, projecting porch	C
616 Prince George Street	Dwelling	1900	Qu. Anne, 2 ½-story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch, orig. wood posts, shutters, windows	C

Side Streets – General Description

The Montgomery Street Historic District also includes the side streets running in a northeastern-southwestern direction between the southwestern side of Main Street and the southwestern side of Montgomery Street. They include Stanley Place, Fourth Street, Fifth Street, Sixth Street, Seventh Street, Eighth Street (or St. Mary's Place), Ninth Street (or Yellow Row), Tenth Street, and Eleventh Street. The streets are residential in character, except for both sides of Eighth Street, which contain the St. Mary of the Mills Church and associated buildings and the St. Vincent Pallotti High School, respectively. While most of the residences on the side streets are single-family homes, there is a long row of attached townhouses on Ninth Street, as well as two multiple-family units on the same street, one of which is the last of a row of ca. 1840 multiple-family housing units known as Yellow Row.

Stanley Place – Northwestern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC)
203 Stanley Place	Dwelling	Ca. 1940	American Small House, 1 1/2-story, 3-bay, brick, cross-gabled roofs	C
205-207 Stanley Place	Dwelling-attached houses	Ca. 1990	New construction	NC

Stanley Place – Southeastern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC)
200 Stanley Place	Dwelling	Ca. 1900	Qu. Anne, 2 ½-story, 5-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
202 Stanley Place	Dwelling	Ca. 1900	Qu. Anne, 2 ½-story, 5-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C

Fourth Street – Northwestern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC)
111 Fourth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1900	2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled	C
205 Fourth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1870	Italianate, 2-story, 3-bay, cornice and brackets, porch	C

Fourth Street – Southeastern side – No resources

Fifth Street – Northwestern side – No resources

Fifth Street – Southeastern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC)
200 Fifth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1900	Col. Rev., 2-story, 3-bay, gambrel roof, pent eave, side-gabled roof,	C
204 Fifth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1900	Stick style, 2-story, 3-bay, broad porch, exposed brackets, steep pitch	C
206 Fifth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1930	Craftsman bungalow, 1 ½ story, 3-bay, pyramid roof, dormer	C

Sixth Street – Northwestern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC)
105 Sixth Street	Dwelling-Apt. bldg.	Ca. 1960	New construction	NC
109 Sixth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1900	Vernacular 2-story, 4-bay, side-gabled, porch	C
111 Sixth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1900	Vernacular 2-story, 3-bay, side-gabled, porch	C
113 Sixth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1960	Ranch, 1-story, 3-bay, side-gabled	C
201 Sixth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1900	Vernacular, 2 ½-story, 3-bay, front-gabled, porch, original windows	NC
203 Sixth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1900	2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C

Sixth Street – Southeastern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC)
No address	Chapel	Ca. 1860	1-story, 3-bay, frame, clapboards	C
200 Sixth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1920	Col. Rev., 2-story, 5-bay, side-gabled	C
204 Sixth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1880	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, porch	C
206 Sixth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1940	American Small House, 1-story, 3-bay, brick, side-gabled	C

Seventh Street – Northwestern side – no resources

Seventh Street – Southeastern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC
108 Seventh Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1930	Cape Cod, 1 1/2-story, 3-bay, side-gabled, vinyl	C
110 Seventh Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1930	Cape Cod, 1 1/2-story, 3-bay, side-gabled, vinyl	C

Eighth Street – Northwestern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC)
St. Vincent Pallotti High School	Educational	1957	3-story, brick	C

Eighth Street – Southeastern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC)
114 Eighth Street (or St. Mary's Place)	Church	1843	Church and associated schools, 1-story, front and side-gabled, stone, brick, 4-story bell tower	C
Address Unknown	Hall	Ca. 1900	2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled, brick foundation, projecting porch, gables, shed-roof addition,	C

Ninth Street – Northwestern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC
115-121 Ninth Street	Dwelling-4-unit	ca. 1960	Vernacular, 2-story, 3-bay, side-gabled, brick	NC
123 Ninth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1840	Vernacular, 2 ½ story, 5-bay, side-gabled, brick, wood lintels and sills	C
203-223 Ninth Street	Dwelling-attached townhouses	Ca. 1870	Italianate, 2-story, 2-bay, brick or other material for veneer, original cornice and brackets, enclosed front porch added to 6 buildings	

Ninth Street – Southeastern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC
220 Ninth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1900	Italianate, 2-story, 2-bay, front-gabled, porch	C
222-224 Ninth Street	Dwelling-duplex	Ca. 1890	Italianate, 2-story, 4-bay, brick, cornice and brackets, addition, enclosed porch on front	C

Tenth Street – Northwestern Side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC
201 Tenth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1900	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, porch	C
203 Tenth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1900	Qu. Anne, 2 1/2-story, 5-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, wrap porch	C
205 Tenth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1900	Qu. Anne, 2 1/2-story, 5-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, enclosed porch	C
207 Tenth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1860	Folk Victorian, 2-story, 2-bay, side-gabled, porch	C
209 Tenth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1860	Folk Victorian, 2-story, 2-bay, side-gabled, porch	C
211 Tenth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1860	Folk Victorian, 2-story, 2-bay, side-gabled, porch	C

Tenth Street – Southeastern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC
200 Tenth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1860	Vernacular, 2-story, 4-bay, side-gabled	C
204 Tenth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1860	Vernacular, 2-story, 5-bay, side-gabled, screened in porch	C
206 Tenth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1900	Vernacular, 2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, porch	C
210-212 Tenth Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1860	Vernacular, 2-story, 3-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, porch	C
214A-216A Tenth Street	Dwelling-duplex	Ca. 1860	Italianate, 2-story, 4-bay, cornice and brackets	C

Eleventh Street – Northwestern Side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC
201A Eleventh Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1890	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 2-bay, side-gabled, porch	C
201 Eleventh Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1890	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 4-bay, front-gabled wing and ell, porch	C
203 Eleventh Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1890	No style, 2-story, 4-bay, much altered front-gabled wing and ell, brick veneer	NC
205 Eleventh Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1890	No style, 2-story, 4-bay, much altered front-gabled wing and ell,	NC
207 Eleventh Street	Dwelling-duplex	Ca. 1890	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 2-bay, front-gabled, porch	C
209 Eleventh Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1890	Qu. Anne, 2-story, 2-bay, front-gabled, porch	C
211 Eleventh Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1970	New Construction	NC

Eleventh Street – Southeastern side

Address	Building Type	Construction Date	Brief Description	Contributing or Non-contributing (C or NC
200 Eleventh Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1900	Neoclassical, 2-story, 3-bay, 2-story porch, Qu. Anne-style renovated in 1960s.	NC
202 Eleventh Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1960	New construction	NC
204 Eleventh Street	Dwelling-duplex	Ca. 1860	Italianate, 2-story, 4-bay, flat roof, original cornice and brackets	C
206 Eleventh Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1960	New construction	NC
210 Eleventh Street	Dwelling	Ca. 1960	New construction	NC

8. Significance

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-21

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

Specific dates **Architect/Builder**

Construction dates 1840 - 1960

Evaluation for:

_____ National Register _____Maryland Register ___X___not evaluated

Narrative Discussion of History of Resource

Located in the middle of the City of Laurel, the Montgomery Street Historic District is an intact community comprised mostly of residential dwellings constructed generally between circa 1850 and 1960. Prince George Street was the first all-residential street in the town, and Montgomery Street soon followed. While the district is mostly residential in character, scattered throughout the community are several schools, recreational facilities, a National Guard Armory facility, and a handful of retail stores.

Regional History

The area surrounding the present-day City of Laurel in Prince George's County, Maryland, was first settled by members of the Snowden family, one of the founding families of Maryland, during the latter half of the 17th century and early 18th century. Laurel is on land that was originally patented to Richard Snowden in 1715 as "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" in Prince George's County. At the time, Snowden's estate already was approximately 3,000 acres in size, extending from Old Columbia Pike to the present city of Laurel and from south of Greencastle and Van Dusen Roads to north of Sandy Spring Road. The 1715 patent increased the already substantial Snowden land holdings, and by 1743 the estate had grown to 9,265 acres.

The Laurel area became a location for manufacturing as early as the first half of the 18th century, distinguishing it from the rest of rural Prince George's County. Manufacturing activity on the Patuxent River dates back to 1736 when the Snowden family established the Patuxent River Iron Works. Almost a century later in 1811, descendent Nicholas Snowden constructed a stone grist mill building on the banks of the Patuxent River as well as a dam across the river at the location of what is now Ninth Street in Laurel. In 1824, Nicholas Snowden leased the mill for a period of 12 years to Mr. Johnson, transformed the grist mill into a factory for spinning cotton yarn, known as the Cotton Manufacturing Motive of Laurel. Mr. Johnson installed equipment that enabled it to convert raw cotton into twisted thread that was then used elsewhere in the manufacture of cotton cloth. The mill was successful and at one time reportedly employed 100 adults. Another local businessman, Robert Pilsen, some time prior to 1835, soon installed the first loom in the mill that enabled the weaving of cotton cloth in the factory.

Nicholas Snowden died in 1831, and his estate, Montpelier, was subdivided among his children. His daughter, Eliza, received what was called the Bank Quarter, which contained the bank of iron ore. A leftover undivided portion along the Patuxent River, contained approximately 100 acres, the Snowden's stone mansion, the mill buildings, several log houses, and a well-used farm where successive crops of tobacco and corn had been cultivated. The parcel's location was invaluable because of the exceptional water power provided by the river.

The 1835 completion of the Baltimore and Ohio (B & O) Railroad Company's new railroad line through Laurel, located just over one mile east of the mill, contributed to the attractiveness of the mill location. The railroad, which was to connect Baltimore with Washington D.C., promised easier access to new markets, both for raw materials and finished products. Access to other markets was previously gained by travel from the mill eastward via Main Street to the Washington-Baltimore Turnpike, which was chartered by the state of Maryland in 1812.

The location and easy access to the railroad and the turnpike were not lost on Snowden's heirs, which included son-in-law Horace Capron, Louisa's husband and a member of the Capron family of Attleboro, Massachusetts. Snowden had previously worked at a mill at Savage, Maryland, prior to turning his attentions to the lands of the former New Birmingham Manor. On

January 28, 1836, Horace Capron joined other Snowden family members in a new business venture. Capron, along with Dr. Theodore Jenkins (brother-in-law of Capron and neighbor of the Snowdens at New Birmingham Manor), Elizabeth Snowden (Capron's mother-in-law), Osmond C. Tiffany (Capron's first cousin from another Attleboro, Massachusetts, family) A.E. Hall, and W.C. Shaw incorporated a new company, the Patuxent Company, for the purpose of manufacturing and selling cotton, iron, and other articles at the site of the mill and farm. The Snowden children's land holdings were combined and transferred when Horace Capron and his wife, Charles Hill and his wife, and Dr. Theodore Jenkins and his wife, conveyed their inherited lands to the Patuxent Company. Deeds for property and stock also were transferred by Osmond Tiffany, Comfort Tiffany, and several Capron cousins, who also were involved in mill activities elsewhere.

Shortly after its incorporation in 1835, the Patuxent Company constructed housing for its mill workers in the vicinity of the mill. Merchants established stores and businesses to support the employees and their families, and the town, known as Laurel Factory, started to grow. Churches, schools, and social halls were established as well, first in the western end near the mill, then in locations east of the mill as the town advanced eastward along Main Street toward the turnpike and newly constructed railroad through town.

Laurel Factory, as it was called in the beginning, grew quickly in the middle of the 19th century as businesses, churches, a social hall, and schools were established to meet the needs of the fledgling community. Located in the western end of the town near the mill, the first churches included a Protestant Episcopal, a Methodist, and a Catholic Church. A schoolhouse and an assembly hall were built south of the mill building. According to Thomson's Mercantile and Professional Directory, Laurel Factory had its own post office by 1851. Growth occurred after the Civil War period in Laurel with assistance from the Laurel Building Association, incorporated in 1869 for the primary purpose of enabling the accumulation of capital for its members to procure loans, purchase real or leasehold property, and to construct buildings. Additional interest in land investment and settlement in Laurel came from government employees who had become familiar with the town from traveling through it by train en route to Washington, D.C. Large parcels on the railroad tracks' eastern side were purchased and large homes built, as indicated by the 1878 Hopkins atlas. Others started arriving from the capital and purchased lots for homes on the newly constructed Second Street which was in close proximity to the railroad station. In 1875, the town of Laurel Factory had been incorporated and its name changed to Laurel.

History of Resource

Along with land on the northeastern side of Main Street, land on the southwestern side also was part of the original Snowden estate, "New Birmingham Manor." After Nicholas Snowden's 1831 death, his land was divided and conveyed to his children, two of which were Juliana and Eliza Snowden. Juliana (who was married to Dr. Theodore Jenkins) apparently received Lots 1 and 2, located in the western end of the town, and the other daughter, Eliza (who remained single, joined the Georgetown Convent, and received her habit in 1847) inherited a part of Lots 1 and 2 and also Lot 8, which was located between the Baltimore and Washington Turnpike and the Laurel Factory mill to the west, and between Main Street on the north to a point south of it (boundary unknown). It appears that in the late 1830s and 1840s the children started to sell off their land. Both Dr. Jenkins and his wife and Eliza sold Lots 1 and 2 to Horace Capron on March 21, 1843 (DB 3, P. 1). Richard Snowden and his wife, Elizabeth, acquired some of Lot 8 and subsequently conveyed a large tract of Lot 8 to Horace Capron on August 29, 1839 (DB AB 12, P. 367). By the mid 1840s Horace Capron owned much, if not all of the land south of Main Street, including what would become the Montgomery Street Historic District. On a portion of his land south of Main Street, Capron had a 610-acre farm.

On April 24, 1847, Eliza Snowden sold to Dr. Jenkins and his wife a 66-acre tract on the northern side of what would become Montgomery Street between Church Street and Yellow Row (Ninth Street) (DB JBB 5, P. 69). Three years later on February 15, 1850, the Jenkins' conveyed the same tract to the President and Directors of Georgetown College (DB FS 2, P. 437), where Jenkins had received his education and degree. Fifteen years later on August 31, 1865, the President and Directors of Georgetown College conveyed the land, except for one acre where St. Mary's Chapel stood, to Eliza, Susan, Catherine, and Hester Cronmiller (DB 3, P. 535). The land surrounding the church stayed in the Cronmiller family until it was subdivided and sold by the sisters in the 1880s and beyond. Following the subdivision of the Cronmiller land in the central part of what is now

Montgomery Street, new property owners started improving the land and building dwellings, many of which remain in the historic district.

It appears that Horace Capron met with financial hardship because in late 1849 he sold off portions of his property on both sides of Main Street to a number of people, including a large parcel (size unknown) on the northeastern side of Main Street lying between the Laurel factory and the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike to James and Jesse Duvall on December 17, 1849. After applying to the State of Maryland for insolvency (bankruptcy) six months later on April 1, 1850, Capron was directed by Orphan's Court to convey his 610-acre farm on the southwestern side of Main Street, household goods, and furniture for $1.00 to trustees Thomas S. Alexander and George W. Dobbin (DB JJB 6, P. 331). At a public auction on May 21, 1850, the trustees sold the 610-acre farm to Thomas Wilson of John (name was recorded on deed as such) for $28,060.00 (DB CSM 1, P. 151). Thomas Wilson of John named the tract "Laurel Farm" and owned it for the next ten years. On November 27, 1861, Thomas Wilson of John and his wife sold Laurel Farm to Thomas Jefferson Talbott for $27,200.00 (DB 1, P. 27). After Talbott's death, trustees for his property, Charles Stanley, Michael Bannon, and Edwin Higgins, sold part of the land to Honora Talbott (DB HB 13, P. 474) at a public sale, another large portion to land speculators Arthur Pue Gorman and partner James Kemp, and lots on the southwestern side of Main Street to individual parties, as evidenced by the 1878 Hopkins map.

Following the death of Thomas J. Talbott, his land was subdivided into building lots, and streets were constructed through the land, including Prince George Street and Stanley Place. Lots were sold off, and residential development occurred from the late 1870s through the 1930s, as the area became a fashionable and popular place to live for the town's growing business class. According to the 1878 Hopkins atlas, the land bordered by Main and Prince George Street and by Washington Boulevard and Fourth Street had been subdivided into narrow lots (narrower than those on Montgomery Street) and purchased by local and outside investors, including John Miles, Burnham, J.F. Flester, C.F. Shaffer, Sarah and Emily Talbott, J.F. Myer, J.N. Herbert, and Armand Jardin. Lots on Prince George Street between Fourth and Fifth Streets were subdivided and sold to owners, including Rose Diven, J.A. Crandle, Donaldson, and L.A. Miles. The lots on Prince George Street between Fifth and Patuxent Street (later Seventh Street) was owned by the Cronmiller sisters and later subdivided and sold.

Honora Talbott and Emily F. and Sarah E. Talbott retained portions of the land on the northeastern side of Montgomery Street between the turnpike and Fourth Street. Stanley Place was later cut through the parcel, but the original Talbott house still remains on Prince George Street and is known as the Talbott Mansion. On the southwestern side of Montgomery Street between the turnpike and Fifth Street, the land was owned by Arthur Pue Gorman (distant relative to the Warfields, local businessman, future U.S. Senator, and President of the Baltimore and Ohio Canal Company) who purchased a large portion of the Talbott land with business partner James Kemp and subdivided part of the land into 38 building lots for residential development. The land on both sides of Montgomery Street between Fifth and Church Streets was owned by the Cronmiller sisters and later subdivided and sold. The land between Church Street and Walker's Branch was owned by Laurel Mills, William Warfield, and Warfield and Whiteside. Some of Warfield's land was subsequently sold by his trustee, Charles Stanley, and his widow to Phelps and Shaffer. The land beyond Ninth Street on the northern side of Montgomery Street had been subdivided in the mid- to late- 1900s, and worker housing was constructed on what is now Tenth and Eleventh Streets and is also a part of the Montgomery Street Historic District.

Some time prior to 1887, it appears that Kemp sold his interest in the Talbott subdivision to the firm of Phelps and Shaffer. Approximately between the years of 1887 and the mid 1890s, the remaining three partners, known as Gorman, Phelps, and Shaffer, sold the Talbott tract lots, many of which were on both sides of the eastern end of Montgomery Street and which are now in the Montgomery Street Historic District. In the mid-section of Montgomery Street on the northern side, it appears that the Cronmiller sisters sold and also leased individual lots in the 1880s. By the early 1890s it appears that a business partnership had formed between the Cronmillers and other land speculators in Laurel. The Cronmiller sisters sold some of their interest in their land on the southern side of Montgomery Street between Fifth and Church Streets and joined Charles H. Stanley, and Phelps and Shaffer in the formation of a subdivision called Laurel Park (DB JWB 24 P. 107). Farther west on Montgomery Street, Warfield's trustee, Charles H. Stanley, and Warfield's widow sold off lots from Warfield's tract there.

Newspaper accounts from the September and October 1889 issues of the *Laurel News Leader* mention some of the homebuilders in the area, including Mr. Henry Shaffer who constructed a house on Montgomery Street for a Mr. Alfred Fairall and Messrs. Crandle and Donaldson, architects and builders of new homes on Laurel Avenue. The firm Ellis and Nichols also designed and constructed some of the homes in the neighborhood.

Although the majority of buildings in the neighborhood are residential structures, several are religious and educational. Saint Mary of the Mills sits between Seventh and Eight Streets. Originally a Jesuit mission with a small chapel constructed under the sponsorship of Dr. Jenkins in 1848, the chapel grew with the addition of an extension in 1890 and another one in 1959. A parish school was built in 1893 and replaced with the St. Mary's School in 1953, all of which still stand. By the 1900s the Snowden mansion had become Saint Mildred's Academy and was demolished in 1957, when the St. Vincent Pallotti High School was constructed between Eighth and Ninth Streets.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-21

Capron, Horace. Autobiography. 2 vols., nd, typed copy, Maryland Historical Society.

Hopkins, G.M. *Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington Including the County of Prince George Maryland.* Philadelphia: F. Bourquin, 1878.

Martenet, Simon J. Map of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1861.

Recorder of Deeds, Prince Georges County Circuit Court. Various deeds from Land Records.

Spero, P.A.C. and Company. *Montgomery-Prince Georges Short-term Congestion Relief.* May 1998.

News Leader. Various newspaper accounts. September – October 1889.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property _____

Acreage of historical setting _____

Quadrangle name Laurel, Maryland

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

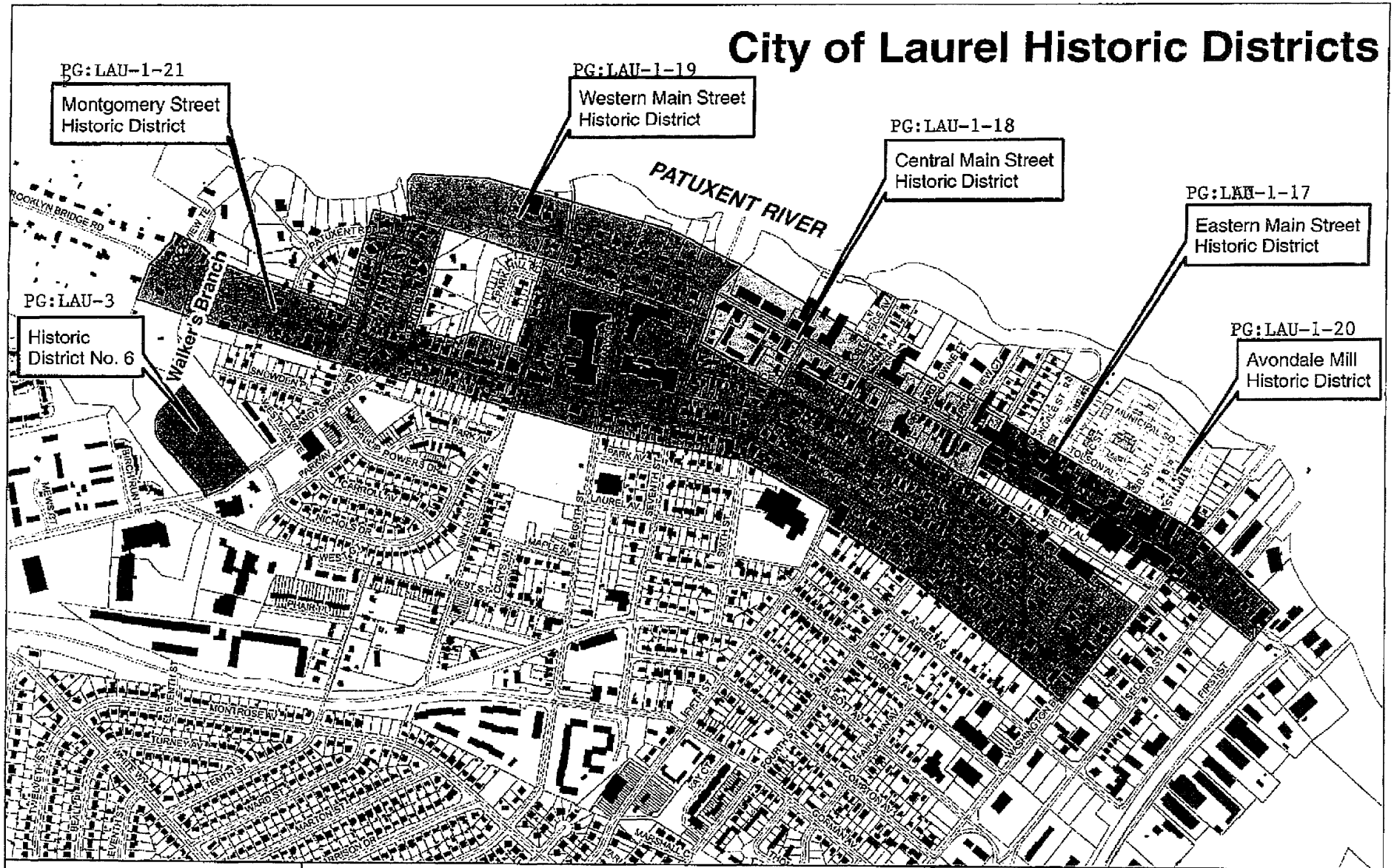
name/title	Alison J. Ross, M.S., Architectural Historian		
organization	KCI Technologies, Inc.	date	June 2008
street & number	5001 Louise Drive	telephone	717-691-1340
city or town	Mechanicsburg	state	PA 17055

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
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

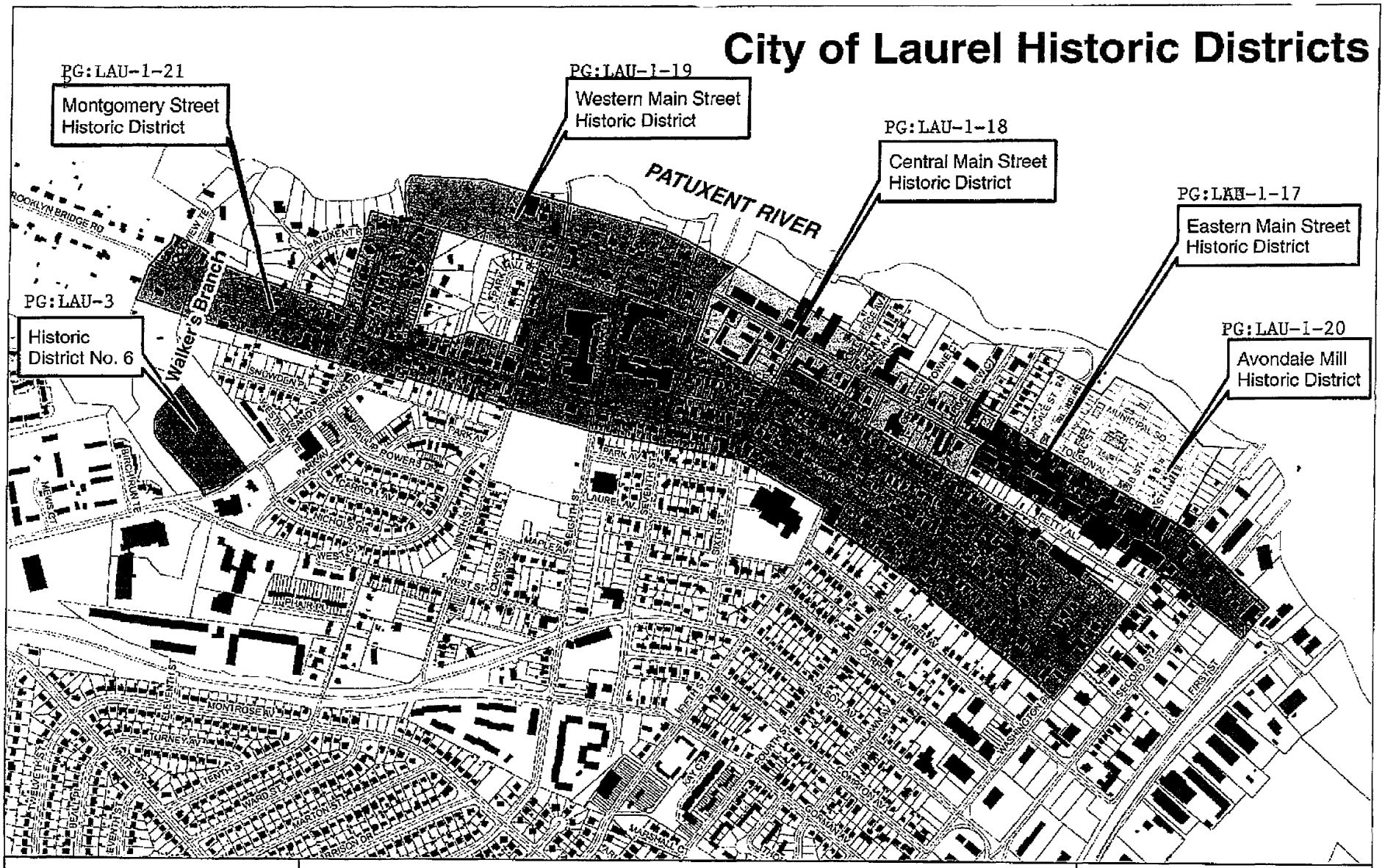
City of Laurel Historic Districts



Laurel Historic District
Architectural Survey and Analysis
City of Laurel, Prince George's County, Maryland

Source: City of Laurel
Department of Public Works

City of Laurel Historic Districts



N

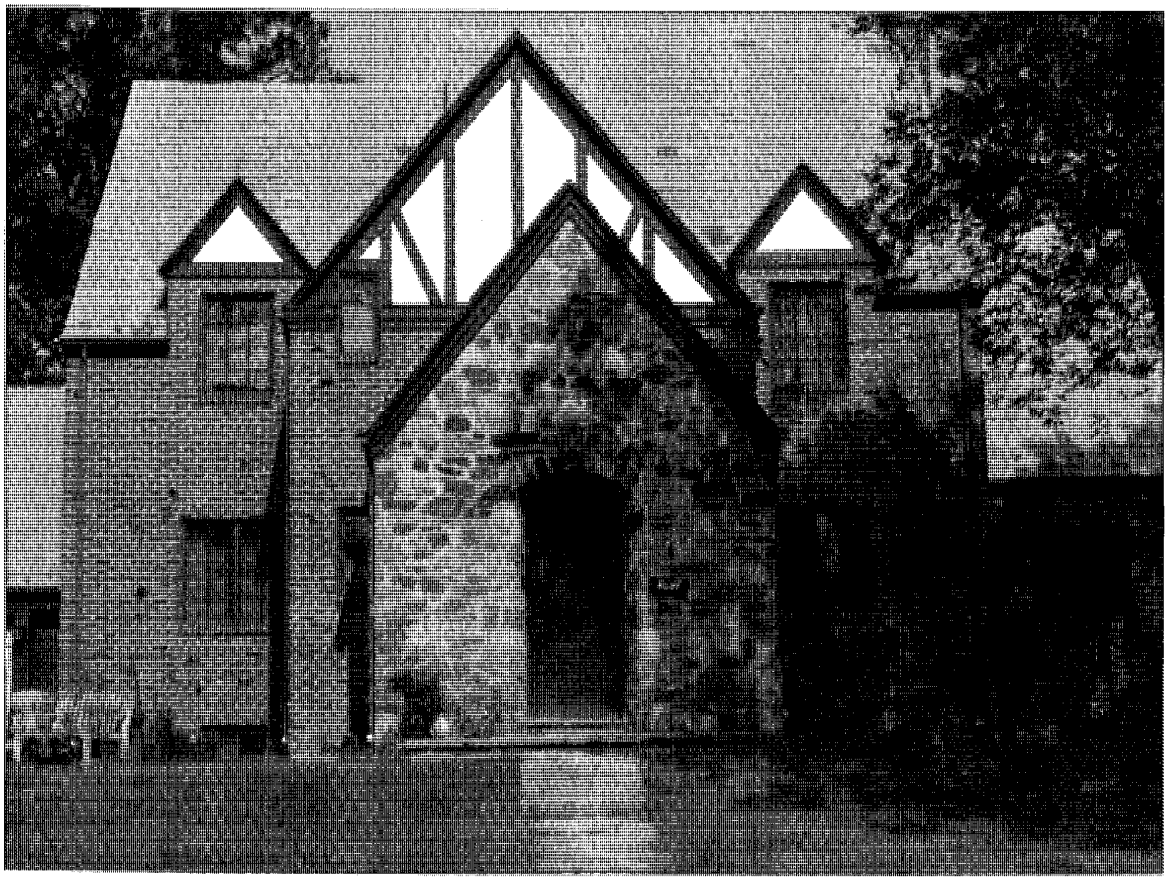
0 800 1,600

Feet

Laurel Historic District
Architectural Survey and Analysis
City of Laurel, Prince George's County, Maryland

Source: City of Laurel
Department of Public Works

PHOTOGRAPHS – Montgomery Street Historic District MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21

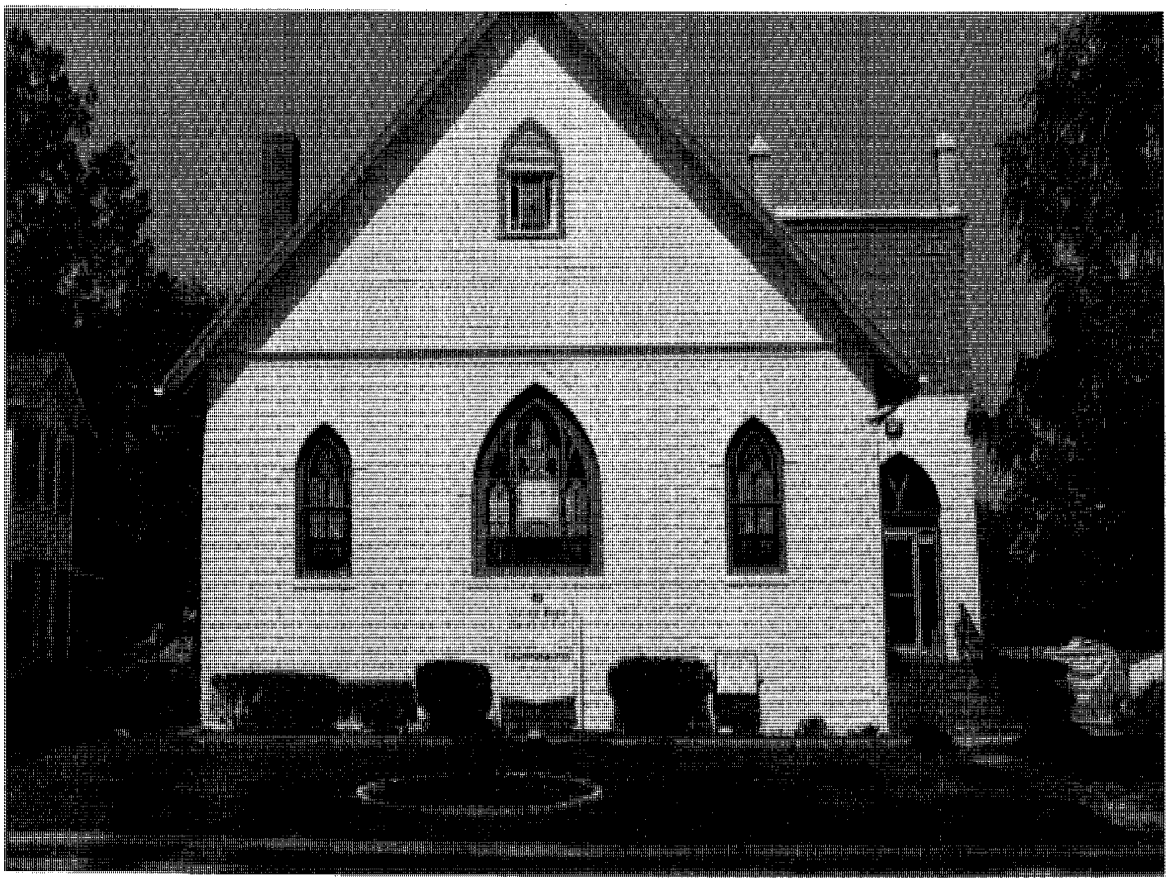


MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
313 Montgomery Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View looking at contributing resource, facing NE
Photo #1 of 24

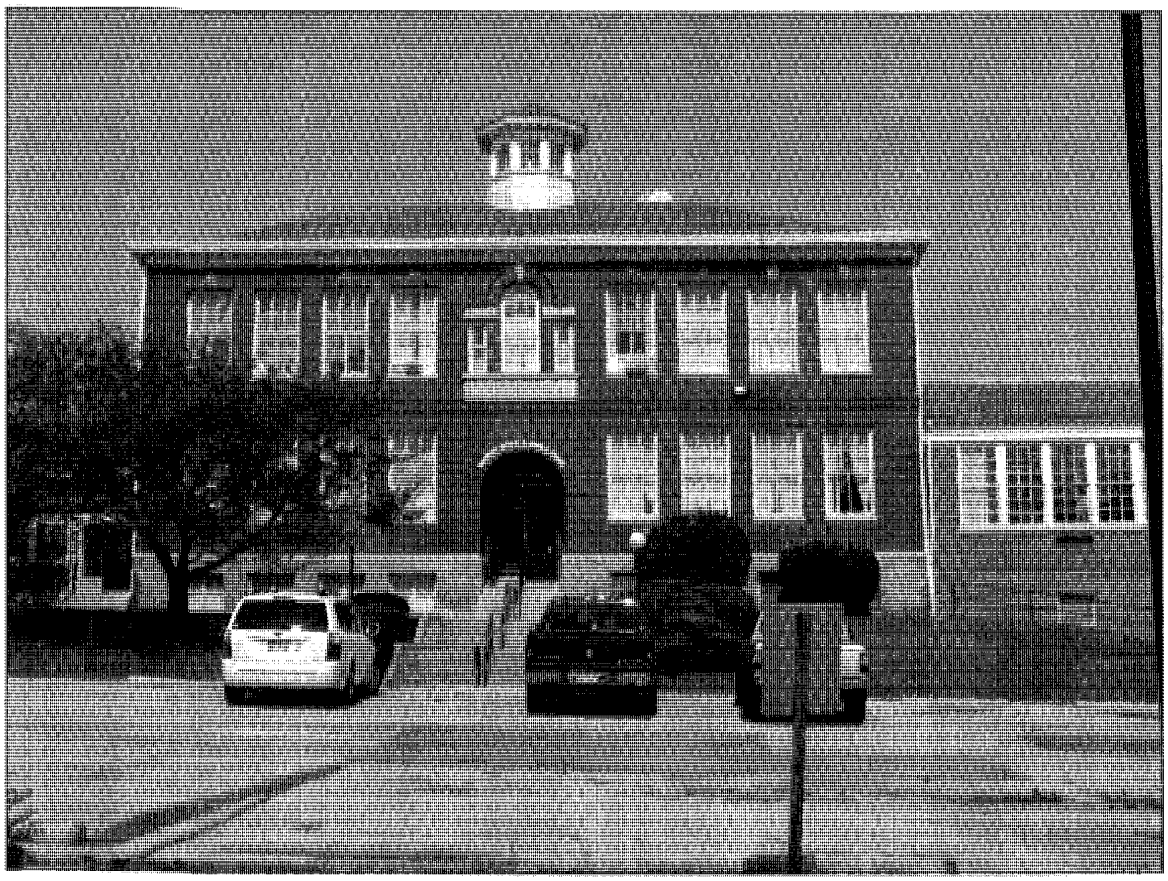
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
327 Montgomery Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
MD SHPO
September 2008
View looking at contributing resource, facing NE
Photo #2 of 24

MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
401-405 Montgomery Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
Streetscape showing contributing resources, facing N
Photo #3 of 24

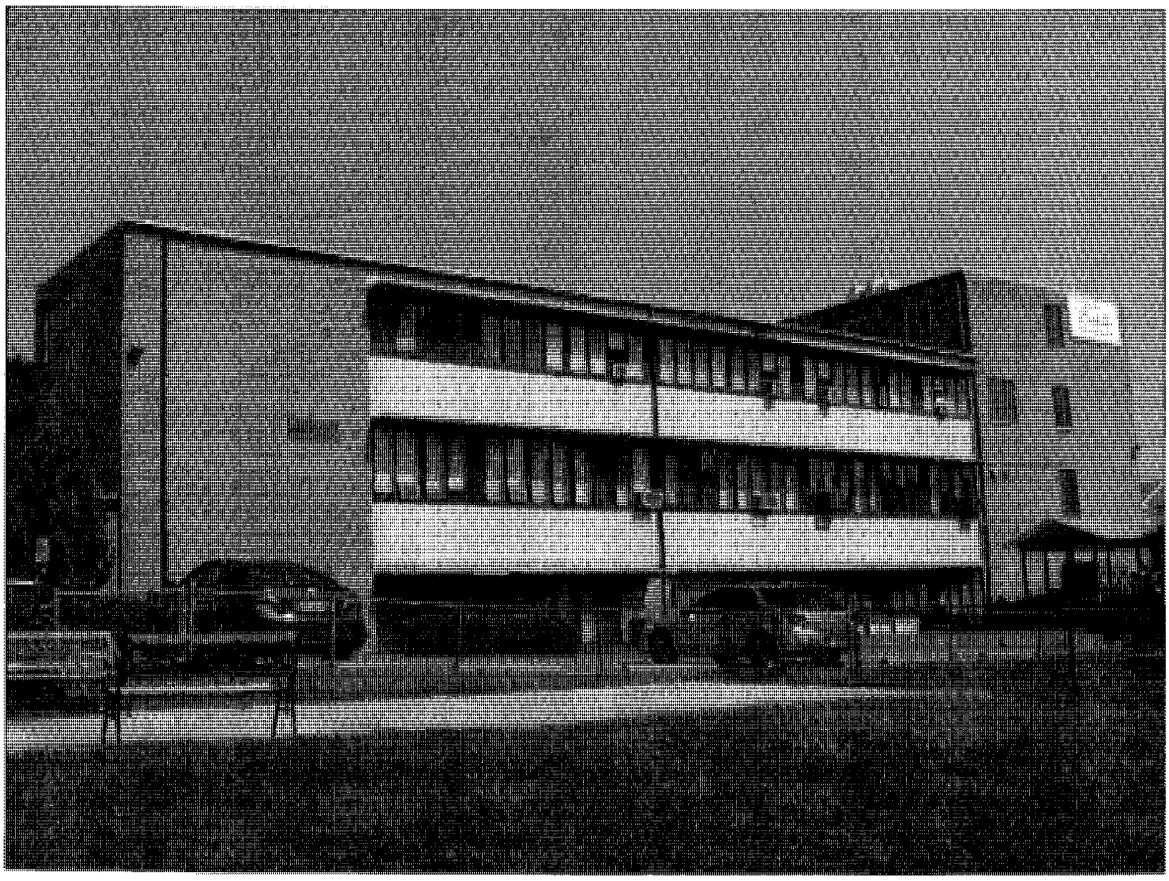
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
407 Montgomery Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View looking at contributing resource, facing NE
Photo #4 of 24



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
613 Montgomery Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View looking at contributing resource, facing NE
Photo #5 of 24



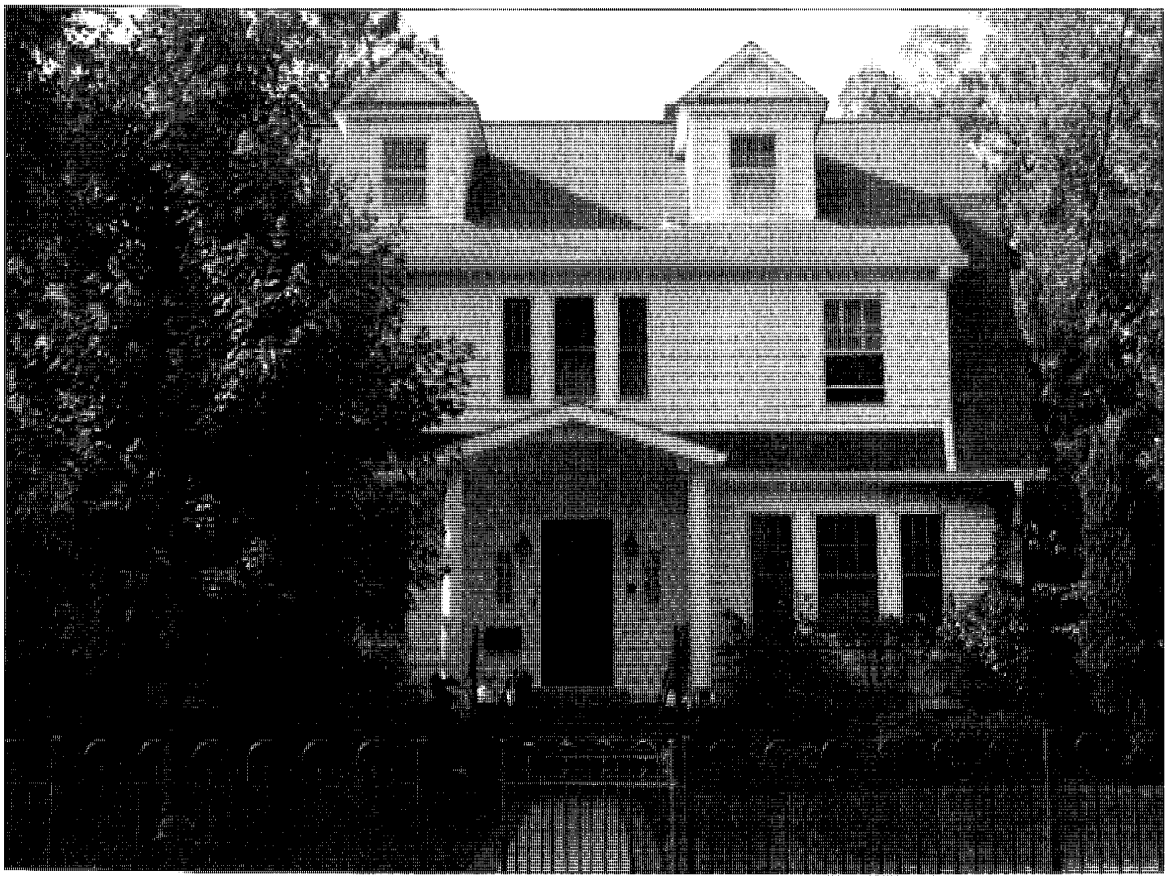
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
Boys and Girls Club of Laurel, between Sixth and Seventh Streets, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View looking at contributing resource, facing NE
Photo #6 of 24



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
St. Vincent Pallotti High School between Eighth and Ninth Streets, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View looking at contributing resource, facing NE
Photo #7 of 24

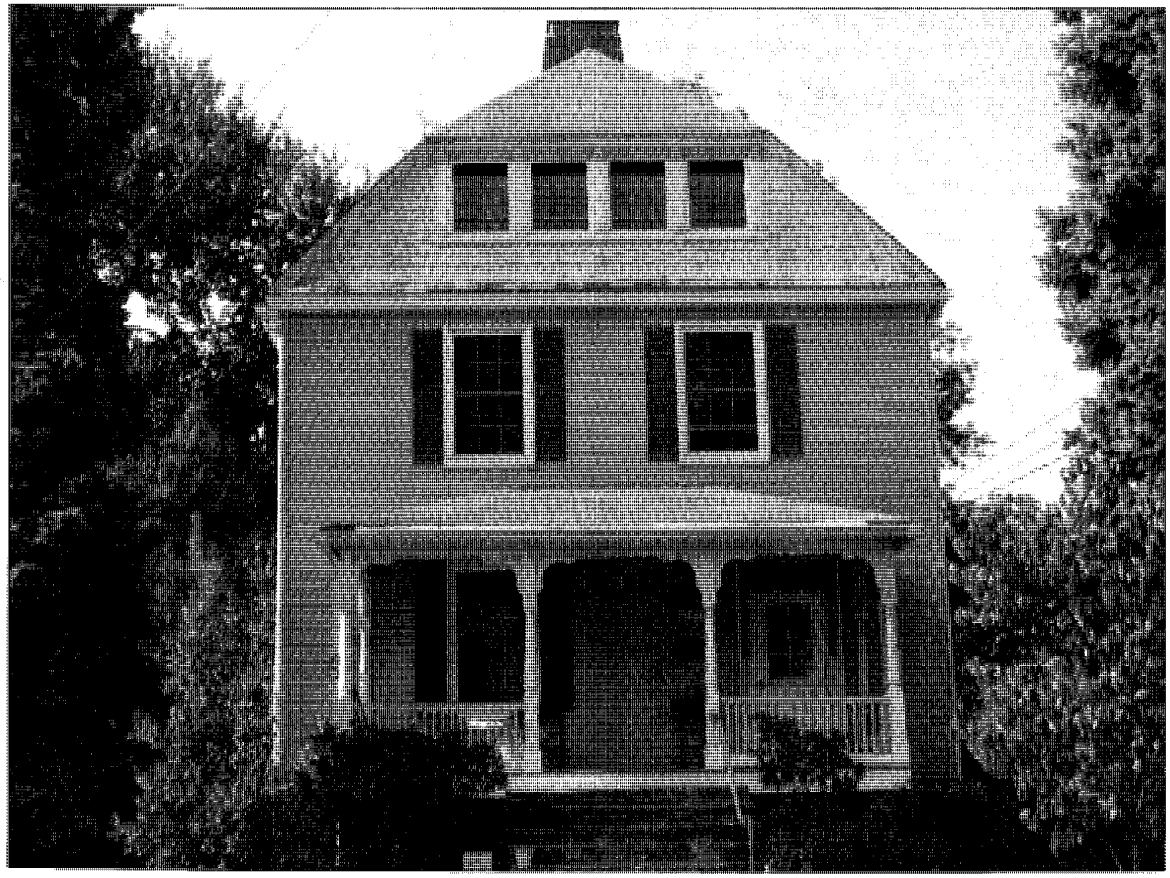
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
915, 913 Montgomery Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
Streetscape of contributing resources, facing N
Photo #8 of 24

MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
929, 927, 925, 923 Montgomery Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
Streetscape of contributing resources, facing N
Photo #9 of 24



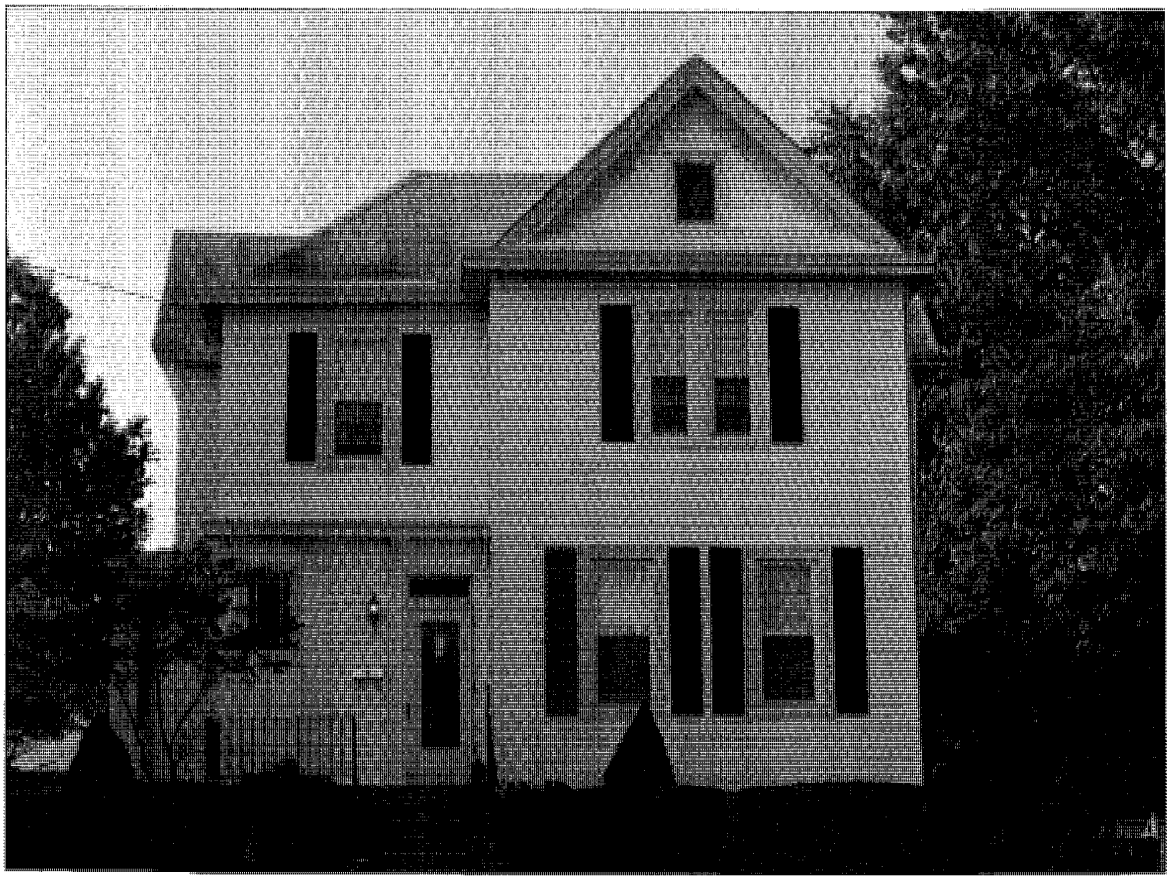
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
308 Montgomery Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing SW
Photo #10 of 24

MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
314 Montgomery Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
View of contributing resource, facing SW
Photo #11 of 24



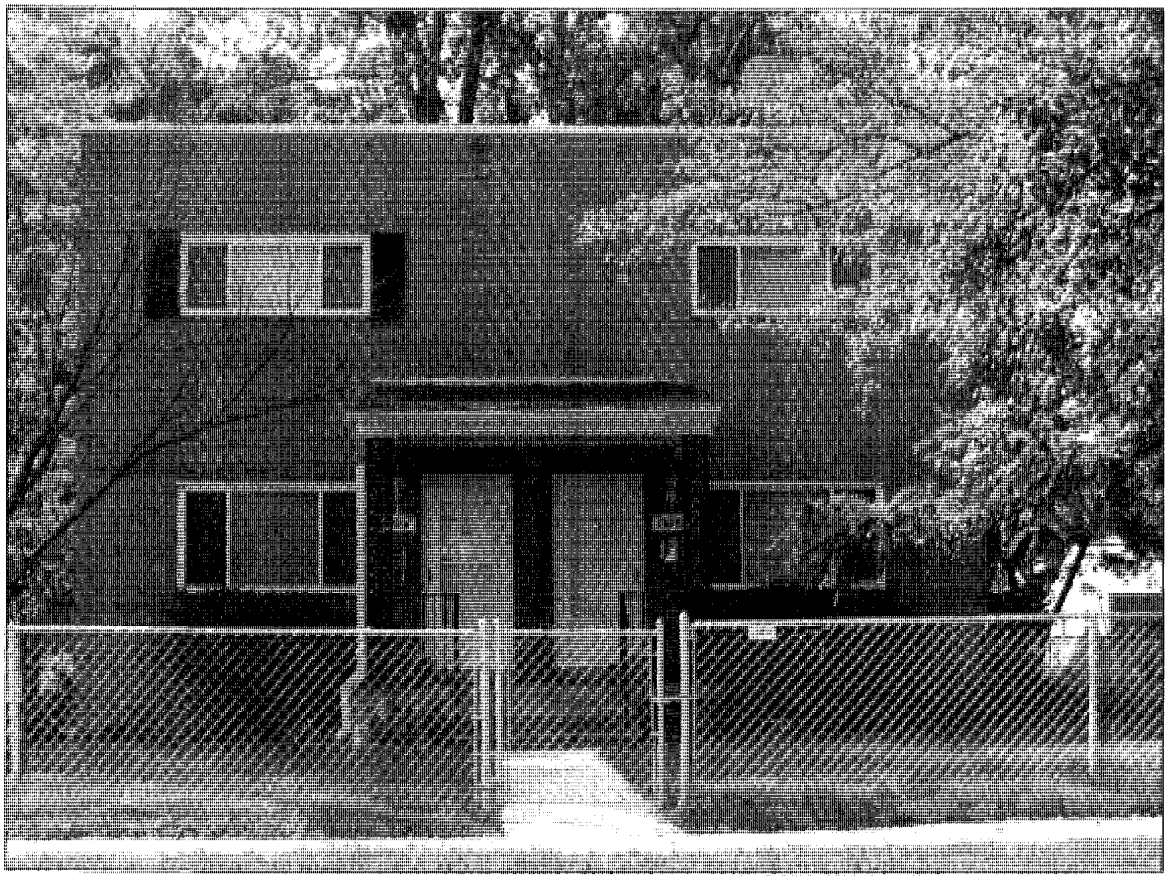
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
324 Montgomery Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing SW
Photo #12 of 24

MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
332 Montgomery Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing SW
Photo #13 of 24



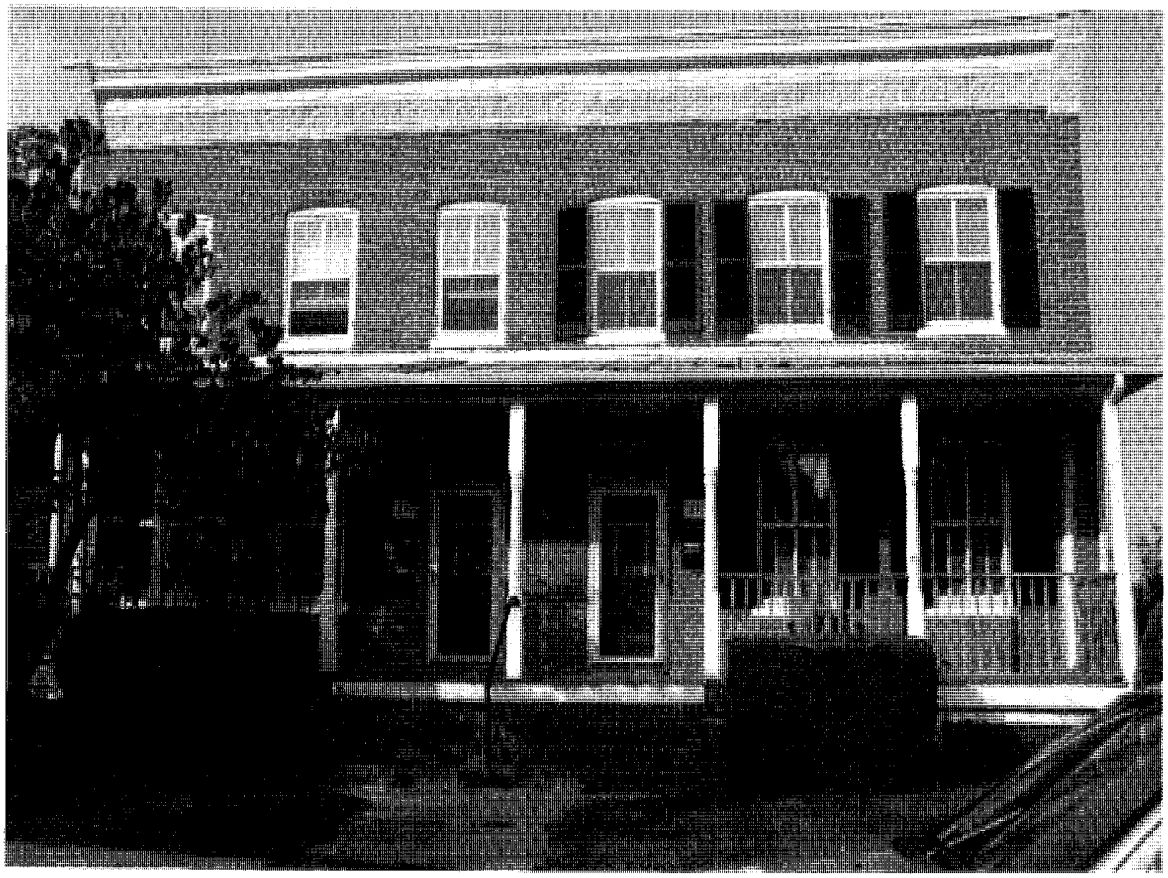
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
404 Montgomery Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing SW
Photo #14 of 24

MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
408 Montgomery Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing SW
Photo #15 of 24



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
702 Montgomery Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing SW
Photo #16 of 24

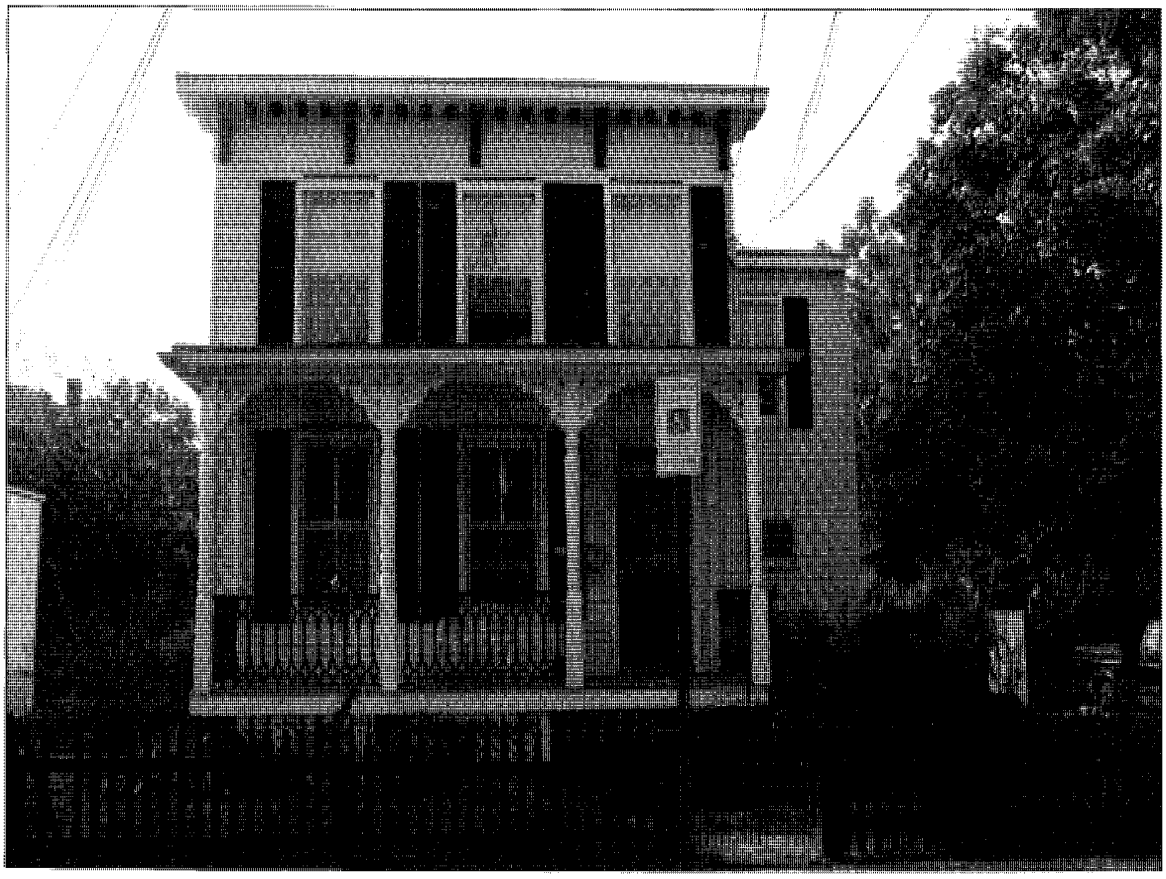
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
708 Montgomery Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing SW
Photo #17 of 24



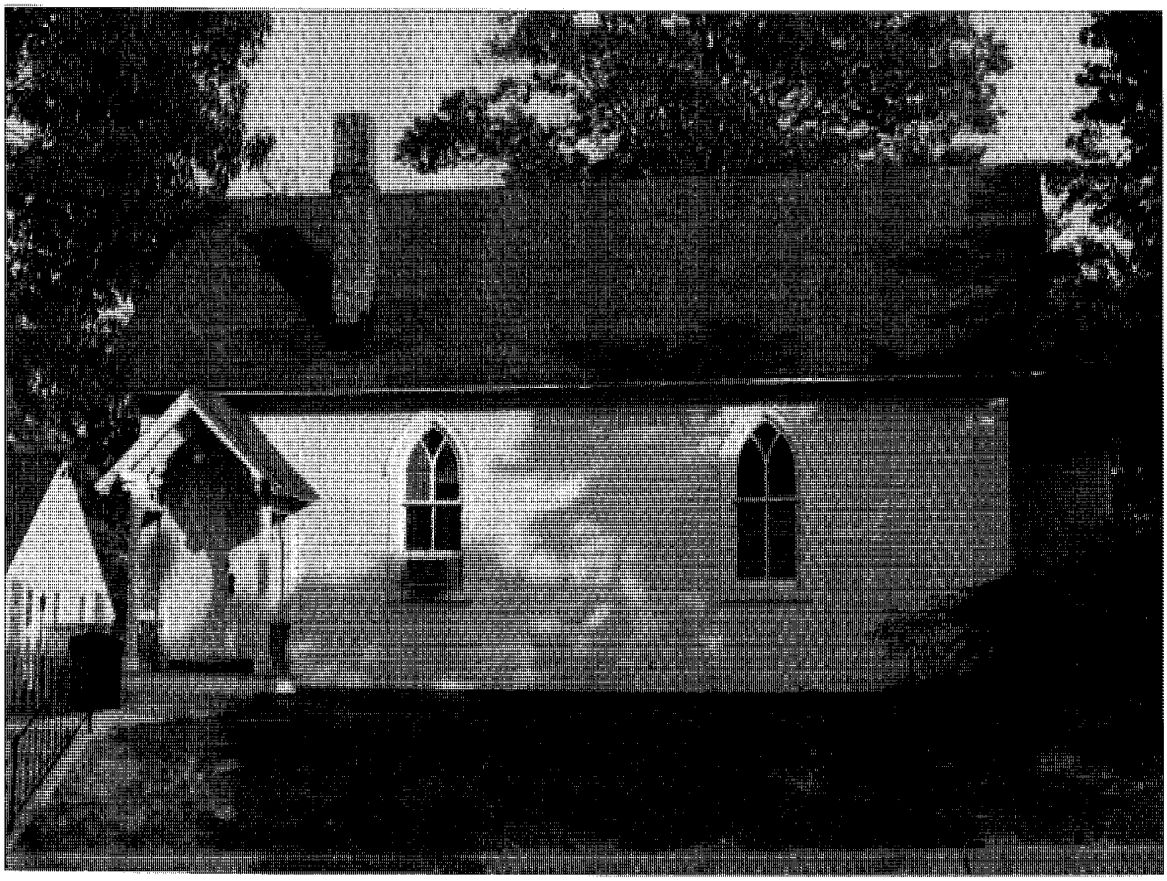
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
325-327 Prince George Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing NE
Photo #18 of 24

MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
337 Prince George Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing NE
Photo #19 of 24

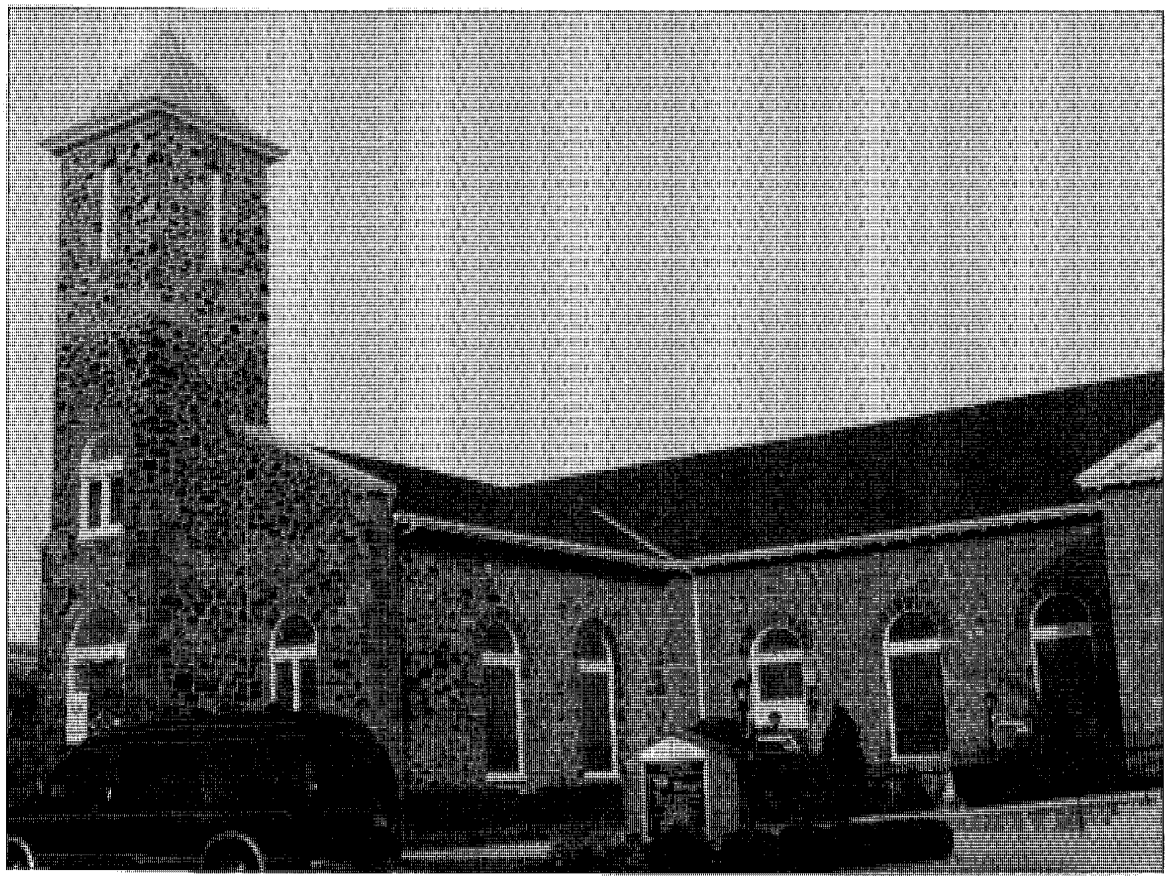
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
405-409 Prince George Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
Streetscape of contributing resource, facing N
Photo #20 of 24



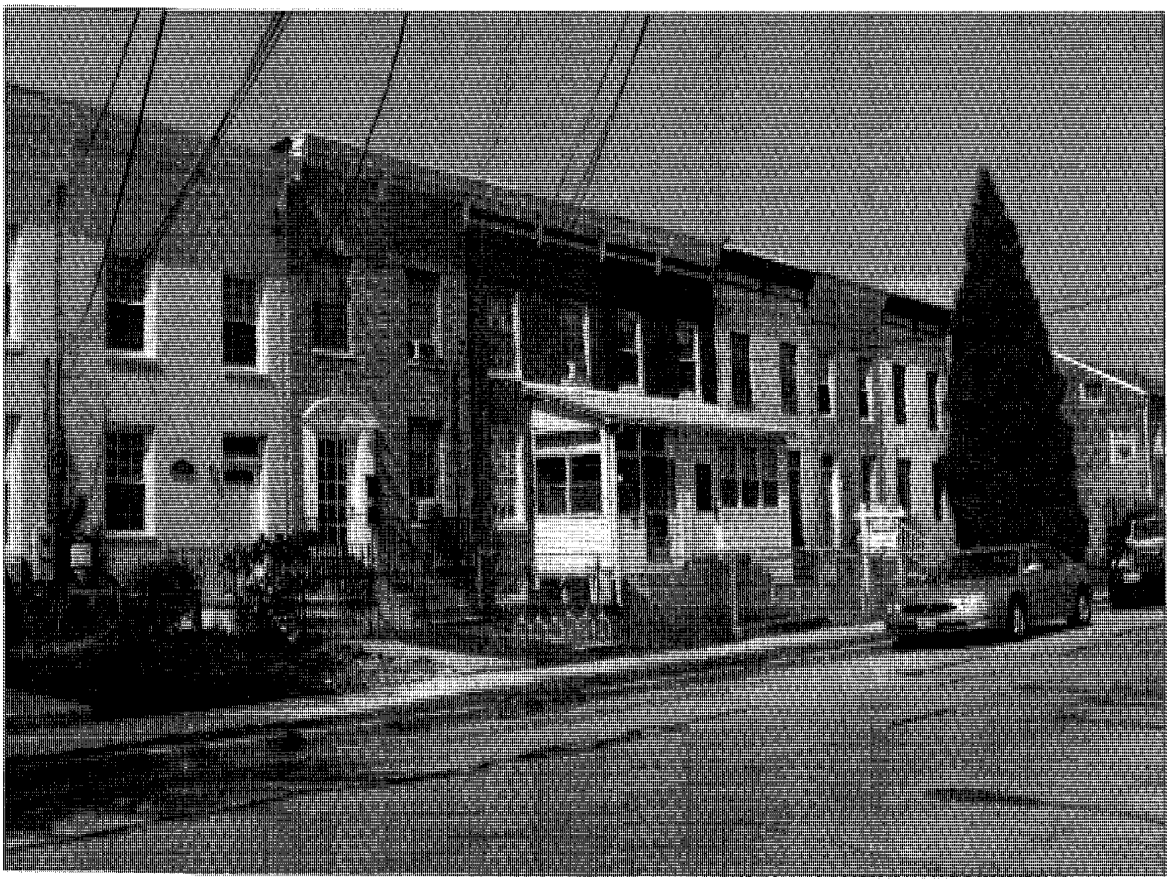
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
205 Fourth Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing SE
Photo #21 of 24



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
Chapel on Fourth Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing SE
Photo #22 of 24



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
St. Mary of the Mills, Eighth Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of contributing resource, facing NE
Photo #23 of 24



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-21
213-201 Ninth Street, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
Streetscape of contributing resource, facing NW
Photo #24 of 24

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

roperty Name: Montgomery Street Historic District Inventory Number: PG:LAU-1-21

Address: Both sides of Montgomery Street and Prince George Street and side streets City: Laurel Zip Code: 20707

County: Prince Georges County USGS Topographic Map: Laurel, MD 1979

Owner: City of Laurel Is the property being evaluated a district? X yes

Tax Parcel Number: _____ Tax Map Number: _____ Tax Account ID Number: _____

Project: Laurel Historic District Architectural Survey and Analysis Agency: City of Laurel

Site visit by MHT Staff: _____ no ____ yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Is the property located within a historic district? ____ yes X no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: PG:LAU-1-21

NR-listed district ____ yes Eligible district X yes District Name: Montgomery Street Historic District

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ___ yes ___ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ____

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible X yes ____ no

Criteria: X A ___ B X C ___ D Considerations: ____ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ____ F ___ G ___ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MHT MIHP Form Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-21

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

The Montgomery Street Historic District is the largest locally designated historic district in Laurel. Largely residential, the district extends, roughly, from Washington Boulevard on the southeastern end to Eleventh Street on the northwestern end and from the back of the properties on Prince George Street on the north to the back of the properties along Montgomery Street. The properties on both sides of the numbered, or side, streets between Main Street and Montgomery Street are included as well. The tree-lined streets are generally straight, with the side streets running perpendicular to them in a northeastern to southwestern direction. The lots and houses are moderate in size on Montgomery Street, with the lots and houses on Prince Georges Street being narrower and smaller. Most lots have tended grass lawns with ornamental shrubbery. The Montgomery Street Historic District contains a total of 231 resources and 192, or over 83%, contribute to the district. Several apartment buildings and multiple family residences are in the district as well as duplex houses and several rows of attached townhouse units. The district's other building types include the Laurel Armory, Laurel High School, several churches, a union hall, the St. Vincent Pallotti High School, the Laurel Boys and Girls Club and several retail stores and businesses.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ____ **Eligibility not recommended** _____

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

Comments: _____

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

Reviewer, NR Program **Date**

Montgomery Street is a tree-lined street with mostly residential dwellings on both sides. It extends, roughly, from the northwestern side of Washington Boulevard to the northwestern side of Eleventh Street. The southeastern half of the district contains almost all single-family houses on moderate-sized lots, with grass and landscaped lawns. The central section of the street contains the Laurel Elementary School, the Laurel Armory, the Laurel Boys and Girls' Club (formerly the Laurel High School), St. Mary of the Mills Church and schools (initially a Jesuit Mission from Georgetown University in Washington D.C.), and the St. Vincent Pallotti High School (on the grounds of the former St. Mildred's Academy). The street's northwestern end contains mostly single-family residential dwellings, a union hall (in the former fire company building), and several neighborhood businesses, such as a retail kitchen center, a bicycle repair shop, and a cleaner business. Two churches also are located on Montgomery Street. There is visual continuity on both sides of the street, with houses having similar lot sizes, building sizes, setbacks, and roof heights

On the southeastern end, where the former Gorman, Phelps, and Shaffer tract of land was located, the lots and houses are larger, reflecting the growing wealth that the business class had in the beginning of the 20th century. In the middle section and northwestern section, the lots and houses are smaller.

According to tax records, the houses along Montgomery Street were constructed between 1860 and 2002. The street displays a mix of architectural styles representing all decades of the neighborhood's development in the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries. Especially noticeable, however, is the large number of dwellings that were constructed in the 1890s through 1920, with a large number of the houses representing the Queen Anne style. Repeating features of the dwellings are the height, usually 2 or 2 ½ stories, and the width, ranging from 3 to 5 bays. The dwellings are either front-gabled with projecting front porches or front-gabled wing and ell houses, with projecting wraparound porches. Other prominent styles in the district are 2-story Colonial Revival-style homes, with side-gabled or gambrel roofs; Craftsman-style bungalows, with wide, integral front porches; and American Foursquare-style houses, with their pyramid roofs and front dormers. Several Italianate duplexes can be found on Prince George and Montgomery Street, and a long row of attached Italianate-style townhouses sits on Ninth Street between Montgomery and Main Street. The table below describes each resource on Montgomery Street.

The Montgomery Street Historic District contains a total of 231 resources, and 192, or over 83%, are contributing resources. The historic district has retained its historic integrity. It retains its integrity of location, setting, association, feeling, design, workmanship, and materials. The character of the district is still largely residential as it has been since the latter part of the 19th century with several schools and churches located within it. The district maintains a visual association to the commercial center just north of the neighborhood in the eastern half of the district. The historic district meets significance criteria A and C as outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's National Register Bulletin, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation." It meets Criterion A for its association with the 19th-century town of Laurel and its growth as a manufacturing, commercial, and residential community. The historic district meets Criterion C because it represents a significant and distinguishable collection of buildings. The historic district does not meet Criterion B because it is not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. In addition, it does not meet Criterion D because it has not yielded, nor is it likely to yield information important in prehistory or history. Therefore, the Montgomery Street Historic District is recommended eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Prepared by: Alison J. Ross
KCI Technologies, Inc.

Date Prepared: May 2009

Capsule Summary

Name of Property: Phelps and Shaffer
MIHP number: PG:LAU-1-21-2
Location: 900 Montgomery Street
Laurel, Prince Georges County, Maryland 20707

Date of Construction: 1891
Access: Private

Property Description: The building at 900 Montgomery Street is a 2-story, 2-bay building on the southwestern corner of Montgomery and Ninth Streets in Laurel, Maryland, that has functioned as both a commercial and a municipal structure. Constructed in 1891, the building has a stone masonry foundation and is constructed of brick masonry. The front façade on the first story is covered with stone masonry, and the second story façade is covered with decorative sheet metal. The building's original roof was a shed roof with one interior brick chimney, but its roof has been built up so that it is now stepped from the front to the rear of the building.

The lot on which the building stands is flat, with a concrete driveway and narrow paved parking area adjacent to it on the west and in the rear of the building. The adjacent lot to the west is vacant, and a metal chain link fence separates the two lots. There is no decorative landscaping on the lot.

Summary Paragraph on History: The building at 900 Montgomery Street has several associations, with one as the second location of Phelps and Shaffer Department Store, and the other as the second home of the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department. Phelps and Shaffer had this building constructed in 1891 to house their store, which had previously been located at 906 Montgomery Street. Phelps and Shaffer's first store building sat strategically in the western end of the town, where the town originated, in proximity to the homes of the Laurel Cotton Mill employees and their families. After being vacated by the store, the building was sold at auction to a private owner prior to being sold to the Volunteer Fire Company, where it remained for over twenty years before relocating. The building was sold to the Mayor and City of Laurel, after which it served as the City Hall and Jail. It is currently owned by a private corporation.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-21-2

1. Name of Property

historic	Phelps and Shaffer (preferred)
other	Laurel Volunteer Fire Company

2. Location

street and number	900 Montgomery Street	__	not for publication
city, town	Laurel	__	vicinity
county	Prince Georges		

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

name	Cummings LLC				
street and number	11673 Farside Road			telephone	
city, town	Ellicott City	state	Maryland	zip code	21042-1531

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Tax Department website		liber	22732	folio 575
city, town	Laurel	tax map	tax parcel	tax ID number	10 1071745

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
_____district
__X_building(s)
_____structure
_____site
_____object

Ownership
_____public
__X_private
_____both

Current Function
_____agriculture
_____commerce/trade
_____defense
_____domestic
_____education
_____funerary
__X_government
_____health care
_____industry
_____landscape
_____recreation/culture
_____religion
_____social
_____transportation
_____work in progress
_____unknown
_____vacant/not in use
_____other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
1	_____	Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
0

7. Description

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-21-2

Condition

___ excellent ___ deteriorated
_X_ good ___ ruins
___ fair ___ altered

Summary

The building at 900 Montgomery Street is a 2-story, 2-bay building on the southwestern corner of Montgomery and Ninth Streets in Laurel, Maryland, that has functioned as both a commercial and a municipal structure. Constructed in 1891, the building has a cut rubble stone foundation and is constructed of brick masonry. The front façade on the first story is clad with stone masonry, and the second story façade is covered with decorative sheet metal. The first story stone cladding wraps around the building's northeastern corner. It appears that the building's original stepped roofline was repaired with new brick. One interior brick chimney constructed of new brick sits in the rear of the building.

The lot on which the building stands is flat, with a concrete driveway and narrow paved parking area adjacent to it on the west and in the rear of the building. The adjacent lot to the west is vacant, and a metal chain link fence separates the two lots. There is no decorative landscaping on the lot.

Comprehensive Description

The building's front, or northern, elevation consists of 2 arched windows with elliptical fanlights and segmental stone arches over each window. Both windows have been infilled with modern glass block. The second story has 5 double-hung windows with 2-over-2 lights and decorative pilasters between each window and at the building's corners. The top of the early commercial-style metal façade forms a parapet roof and has finials at each end, double brackets across the building's width, and modillions on the upper cornice.

The building's eastern elevation consists of (from left to right) 1 double-hung window with 2-over-2 lights, a single-leaf metal storm door with 4 lights in the top half, 2 identical double-hung windows with 2-over-2 lights in the elevation's middle section, a small opening in the brick wall that is boarded up, and a wide door opening with a double-leaf all-glass door and glass transom. Plywood boards are behind this door opening. In the brick wall above the first-mentioned window, the single-leaf door, and the next window are patched areas that indicate previous window openings that have been filled in. These suggest original window openings that were placed high in the merchandise wall of the early department store, perhaps to allow for wall shelving below them. It is possible that they were filled in and replaced with new window openings cut into the wall at a different location when the building was converted for municipal use. Another opening that has been filled in sits at the right end of the elevation near the northeastern corner of the building. The window opening has been infilled with brick, and an installed plaque reads, "Merrill L. Harrison Noms J. Beard Building."

Although the newer window openings replaced the original higher openings, alterations were made to these window openings as well, possibly to replace older windows with new ones. Evidence of this is the patching of the brick masonry work around all sides of the existing three windows and the two door openings. Besides the patching of brick on both sides of the windows there is evidence of the removal and replacement of window sills and lintels above and below the windows as well. The existing three windows have brick sills and lintels, while the front infilled opening with the plaque has what appears to be a sandstone sill and a granite lintel, suggesting that the building's original sills were of sandstone. The eastern elevation's second-story contains (from left to right) 4 windows with double-hung sashes with 2-over-2 lights. The windows appear to be original and have sandstone lintels and wooden hood molds with pediments and decorative rosettes, similar to those found on the Laurel Wreath Lodge, which was designed by the same architect during the same time period. No patching of the brickwork appears around the openings.

The first story of the building's western elevation contains (from left to right): 2 double-hung windows with 2-over-2 lights, a projecting, 1-story, hipped-roof addition with a small boarded up window opening , 2 small fixed windows with divided lights, 1 double-hung window with 2-over-2 lights, and 1 double-hung window with 2-over 2 lights set into a projecting building section at the rear of the building. There are 2 areas of infilled brickwork above the windows in the central portion of the elevation, suggesting, again, the removal of windows placed high on the department store's first-story merchandising wall. As with the eastern elevation, the newer windows were cut into the brick wall in a lower location. The window in the rear projecting section appears to have been cut into the wall at the same time. The projecting section contains 1 single-leaf door on its northern elevation.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-21-2

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number _7_ Page 1

The western elevation's second story contains (from left to right) 1 double-hung window with 2-over-2 lights, 1 single leaf door that opens onto a metal fire escape platform with metal stairs leading to the ground, 1 double-hung window with 2-over-2 lights, 1 small fixed window, 1 double-hung window with 2-over-2 lights, and 1 double-hung window with 2-over-2 lights in the rear projecting building section. The windows have no hood molds, as this elevation was not an exterior one facing the street. All of the windows appear to be original, with no brickwork patching around them and their sandstone sills and brick lintels intact.

The projecting rear building section appears to be original because of the original window on the second story. It is possible that this section contained the original interior stair tower of the department store. Another interior stair tower appears to be at the location of the projecting 1-story addition.

8. Significance

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-21-2

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

Specific dates 1891 **Architect/Builder**

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

____ National Register ____ Maryland Register X Not evaluated

Narrative Discussion of History

General History

The City of Laurel was developed by members of the Snowden family, one of the founding families of Maryland, and their relatives from Attleboro, Massachusetts. Laurel is located on land that was originally patented to Richard Snowden in 1715 as "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" in Prince George's County, Maryland. At the time, Snowden's estate already was approximately 3,000 acres in size, extending from Old Columbia Pike to the present city of Laurel and from south of Greencastle and Van Dusen Roads to north of Sandy Spring Road. The 1715 patent increased the already substantial Snowden land holdings, and by 1743 the estate had grown to 9,265 acres.

Manufacturing activity on the Patuxent River dates back to 1736 when the Snowden family established the Patuxent River Iron Works. Almost a century later in 1811, Nicholas Snowden constructed a stone grist mill building on the banks of the Patuxent River as well as a dam across the river at the location of what is now Ninth Street in Laurel. In 1824, a Mr. Johnson leased the Snowden mill, which reportedly employed approximately 100 people at the time, and converted it from a grist mill to a factory for spinning yarns, known as the Cotton Manufacturing Motive of Laurel.
Nicholas Snowden died in 1831, and his estate, Montpelier, was subdivided among his children. His wife received what was called the Bank Quarter, which contained the bank of iron ore. A leftover undivided portion along the Patuxent River, contained approximately 100 acres, the Snowdens stone mansion, the mill buildings, several log houses, and a well-used farm where successive crops of tobacco and corn had been cultivated. The parcel's location was invaluable because of the exceptional water power provided by the river.

The 1835 completion of the Baltimore and Ohio (B & O) Railroad Company's new railroad line through Laurel, located just over one mile east of the mill, also contributed to the attractiveness of the mill location. The railroad, which was to connect Baltimore with Washington D.C., promised easier access to new markets for raw materials and finished products. Access to other markets was previously gained by the Washington-Baltimore Turnpike, a road that had been chartered by the state of Maryland in 1812 which was located just one mile east of the mill.

The location and easy access to the railroad and the turnpike were not lost on Snowden's heirs, which included son-in-law Horace Capron, Louisa's husband and a member of the Capron family of Attleboro, Massachusetts. Snowden had previously worked at a mill at Savage, Maryland, prior to turning his attentions to the lands of the former New Birmingham Manor. On January 28, 1836, Horace Capron joined other Snowden family members in a new business venture. Capron, along with Dr. Theodore Jenkins (brother-in-law of Capron and neighbor of the Snowdens at New Birmingham Manor), Elizabeth Snowden (Capron's mother-in-law), Osmond C. Tiffany (Capron's first cousin from another Attleboro, Massachusetts, family) A.E. Hall, and W.C. Shaw incorporated a new company, the Patuxent Company, for the purpose of manufacturing and selling cotton, iron, and other articles at the site of the mill and farm. The Snowden children's land holdings were combined and transferred when Horace Capron and his wife, Charles Hill and his wife, and Dr. Theodore Jenkins and his wife, conveyed their inherited lands to the Patuxent Company. Deeds for property and stock also were transferred by Osmond Tiffany, Comfort Tiffany, and several Capron cousins, who also were involved in mill activities elsewhere.

In 1835, at approximately the same time that the Patuxent Company was establishing its mill operations along the Patuxent River, the Baltimore and Ohio (B&O) Railroad Company completed its rail line, connecting the cities of Baltimore and Washington D.C. The new rail line and depot were just one mile east of the company's mill and enabled easier transport of materials and finished products to and from the mill via Main Street.

Shortly after its incorporation in 1835, the Patuxent Company constructed housing for its mill workers near the mill. Merchants established stores and businesses to support the employees and their families, and the town, known as Laurel Factory, started to grow. Laurel Factory grew quickly in the middle of the 19th century as businesses, churches, social halls, and schools were established to meet the needs of the fledgling community, first in the western end near the mill, then east of the mill as the town crept along Main Street toward the turnpike and railroad.

According to Thomson's Mercantile and Professional Directory, Laurel Factory had its own post office by 1851 as well as four dealers in dry goods, groceries, and hardware; two physicians; one hotelkeeper; and one factory. According to the 1861 Martenet map, Laurel property owners from established and prominent Maryland families included William M. Warfield and Thomas J. Talbot. Other local property owners included J.W. Whiteside, D.D. and W.W. Heath, K. Phelps, J. Carter, Boswell, George H. Hall, Susan Coale, Peter Bogert, Jesse Duvall, Thomas N. Young, and R. Collier. Main Street businesses indicated on the map include Jesse Duvall's store and post office, George Wheeler's Avondale Grist Mill, J. P. Tiffany's store, S. Heath's Machine Shop, J. Watson's blacksmith shop, H. Harrison's hotel, and William H. Warfield's store. The 1861 Martenet map does not indicate the name of the owner of the land at the southwest corner of what would become Ninth and Montgomery Streets, although William Warfield's large tract is in close proximity.

In 1875, Laurel Factory had been incorporated and its name changed to Laurel. The 1878 Hopkins atlas indicates that by this time the eastern end of the town surrounding the railroad had begun to develop, with larger parcels and houses on the eastern side of the railroad and smaller lots on the track's western side. Lots on both sides of the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike had been subdivided as well. Lots along the northern and southern sides of Main Street had been subdivided and developed with both residences and businesses. The 1878 atlas indicates that a property and store owned by E.J. Phelps sat near the southwestern corner of Ninth and Montgomery Streets.
History of Resource

Although the town had grown eastward and businesses were located primarily along Main Street, Edward Phelps' dry goods store was located in the original, western end of the town, where mill activity was still centered. Montgomery Street later developed into a residential area; however the dry goods business continued in this location across from School Number 1 at Ninth and Montgomery Streets. Phelps' store was housed first in a small, wood-frame building, constructed in 1867, at what would become 906 Montgomery Street. By 1891 the dry goods store (also known as a department store) had prospered, and a new, two-story building was constructed nearby at the corner at 900 Montgomery Street. The building was designed and constructed in 1891 by Lawrence Adelbert Ellis of the firm of Ellis and Nichols, a firm that built many buildings in Laurel in the latter quarter of the century. Lawrence A. Ellis had become a local and well-connected real estate agent, architect, and builder. Originally from Pennsylvania, Ellis moved to Laurel, Maryland, in 1868. After first working as a carpenter for Charles F. Shaffer's lumberyard, Ellis trained to become an architect at the Maryland Institute of Art. He married the daughter of a local politician in 1875 and entered politics himself, serving as a town commissioner and later, President of the commission in 1881.

Ellis' role as a town commissioner served him well in his following career as an architect and builder. He opened an office in the Free Quill Building on Washington Boulevard and was hired by property owners in Laurel, some of which had served on the commission alongside him. He designed and constructed a number of projects in the eastern end of town along Washington Boulevard as well as throughout Laurel, one of which was Phelps and Shaffer's new building at 900 Montgomery Street in 1891.

By the 1890s, the successful dry goods store was owned by both Edward Phelps and Charles F. Shaffer, Jr., and known as Phelps and Shaffer's. According to descriptions of the store, the basement contained oils and paints on one side and meal, butter, and other items on the other side, while the first floor contained groceries, including dry goods. A mezzanine contained the shoe department on the left and a china department on the right. A second floor housed a furniture department and carpets.

Well before 1935, Phelps and Shaffer had moved their department store to another location (date unknown), and the building at 900 Montgomery Street was converted to a firehouse for the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department. The fire department had been established in 1902, and three stations were located in Laurel, with one at Eighth and Montgomery Streets, one at Fifth and Montgomery Streets, and another at Washington Boulevard. The fire service was consolidated in 1935 and moved to the former department store building at 900 Montgomery Street, where it stayed until 1954. At that time a new and larger station was constructed across the street from 900 Montgomery Street.

After the fire department was removed, the building continued to serve the city and became home to the City Hall, with the Police Department and jail in the basement. In the early 1970s when the City Hall was moved to "C" Street it became a home for Senior Citizens followed by the Laurel Hospital Auxiliary trifle shop until a tornado hit the building in 2001.

History of Resource

The building that housed 900 Montgomery Street was constructed on land that was originally patented to Richard Snowden as "New Birmingham Manor." Following the death of Nicholas Snowden in 1831 and the subdivision of New Birmingham Manor to family members, son-in-law Theodore Jenkins acquired a portion of the land (date unknown). On October 19, 1866, Theodore Jenkins (Trustee), Louis W. Jenkins, and Frank X. Jenkins sold Lot No. 9, consisting of 5 acres, to William H. Warfield for $457.00 (DB FS 4, P. 219). Two years later on May 5, 1868, William Warfield and Lottie, his wife, sold the lot to Edward Phelps for $450.00 (DB HB1, P. 293). Phelps held onto the land for almost thirty years, and had become business partners with Charles F. Shaffer, who purchased an interest in Phelps' land (date unknown). During that time, the two partners established the Phelps and Shaffer dry goods store on their land at 906 Montgomery Street. The business partners built a new building for their store in 1891 on the southwestern corner of Montgomery and Ninth Streets. Three years later on April 7, 1894, Edward Phelps and Savilla A. Phelps, his wife, and Charles F. Shaffer, Jr. and Annie, his wife, sold the new building and its corner lot to the business, Phelps and Shaffer Company, for $3,000.00. The corner lot measured 55 feet wide by 88 feet deep (DB JWB 29, P. 268).

By 1914, the department store had relocated, and the lot and building were sold at auction on July 6, 1914, to Ernest D. Northam for $1,050.00. Northam defaulted on the property two years later, and the property was conveyed to attorney James G. Boss, Jr. and William Stanley on April 11, 1916, for $5.00 (DB 117, P. 145). William Stanley and Mary G. Stanley, his wife, sold the property to Milton and Ella Haynes on May 9, 1921 (DB 171, P. 213), after which they sold the property to the Volunteer Fire Company on October 1, 1935 (DB 423, P. 410). The Volunteer Fire Company owned the property for 24 years, after which it sold the building and lot to Mayor and City Council of Laurel on October 29, 1959 for $10.00. Forty-five years later, the Mayor and City Council of Laurel sold the property to Cummings LLC on May 11, 2005 for $275,000.00 (DB 2392, P. 535).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-21-2

Capron, Horace. Autobiography. 2 vols., nd, typed copy, Maryland Historical Society.

Hopkins, G.M. *Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington Including County of Prince George Maryland.* Philadelphia: F. Bourquin, 1878.

Martenet, Simon J. Map of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1861.

Poe, Gertrude L. *Laurel, Maryland: Centennial Souvenir Booklet.* Privately published by City of Laurel, Maryland, 1970.
Robison, Joseph R. Personal communication with author, May 1, 2008.
Spero, P.A.C. and Company. *Montgomery-Prince Georges Short-term Congestion Relief.* May 1998.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	0.11 acre		
Acreage of historical setting	0.11		
Quadrangle name	Laurel, Maryland	Quadrangle scale:	1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Block 3, Lot 16

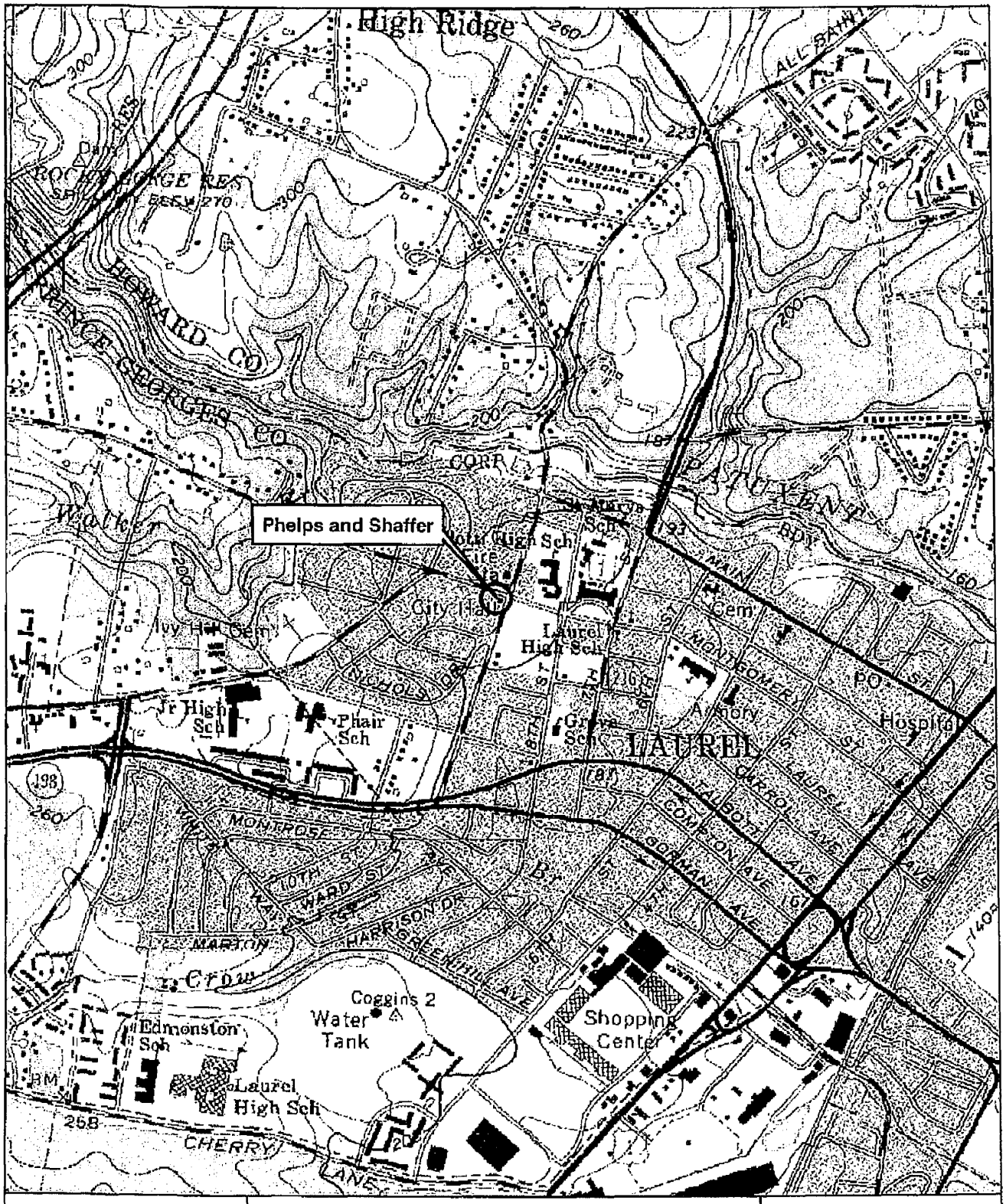
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Alison Ross, M.S. Architectural Historian		
organization	KCI Technologies, Inc.	date	10/2008
street & number	5001 Louise Drive	telephone	717-691-1340
city or town	Mechanicsburg	state	PA

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
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



N

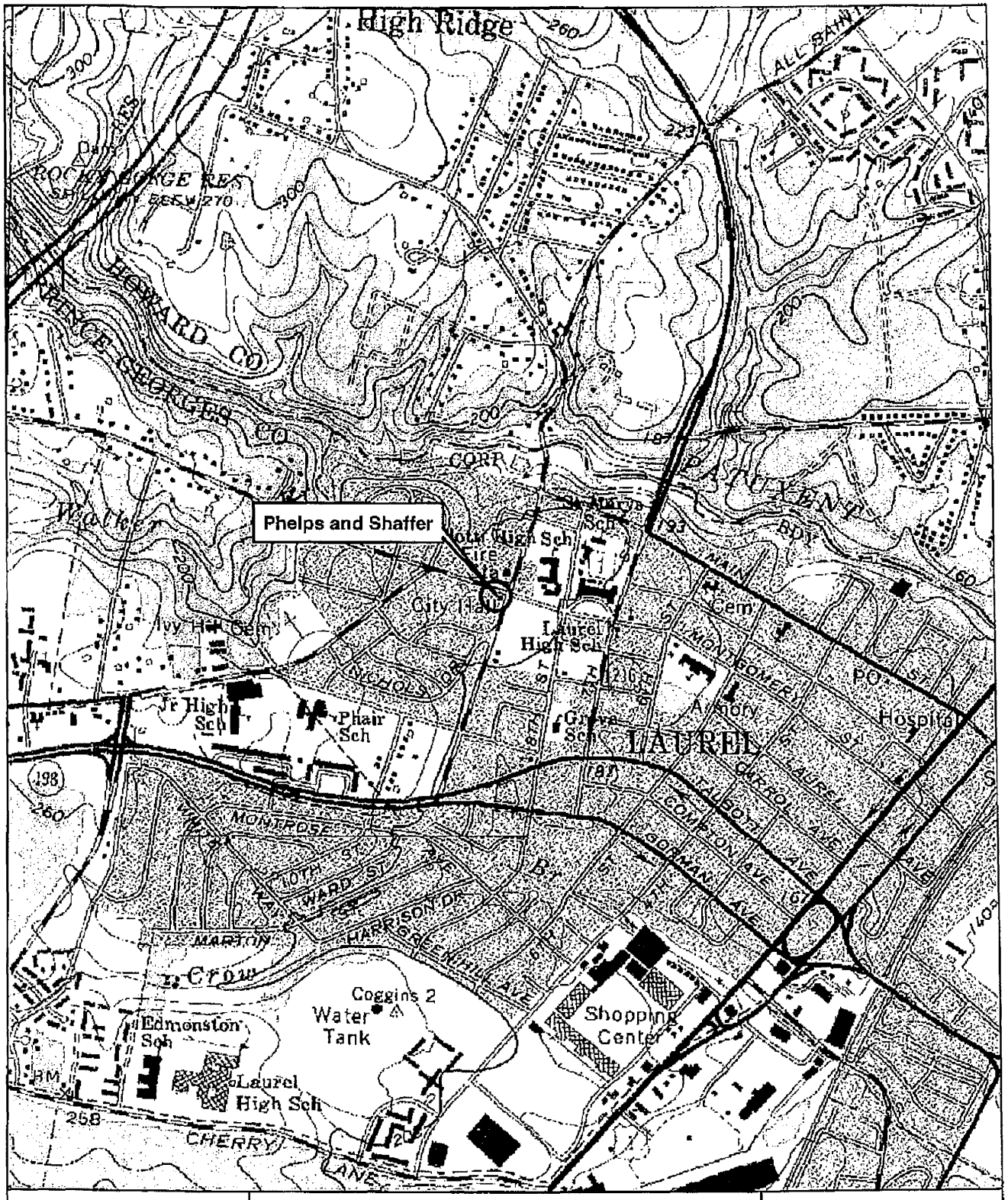
Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Site No. PG:LAU-1-17-1

Locational Map

Phelps and Shaffer
900 Montgomery Avenue

Map Courtesy of
U.S. Geological Survey
2004 Microsoft Corporation

Laurel, Maryland, July 1, 1979



N

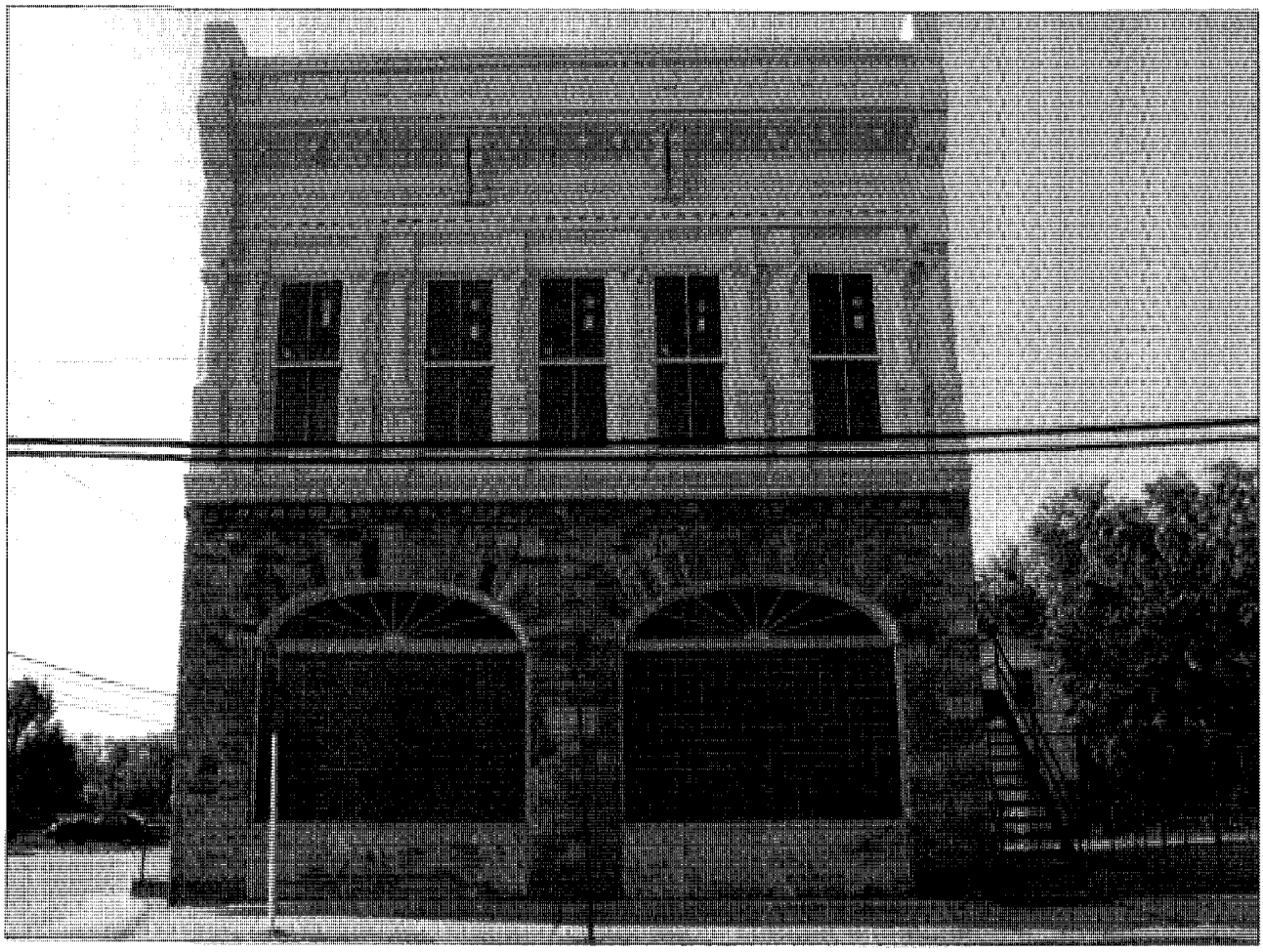
Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Site No. PG:LAU-1-17-1

Locational Map

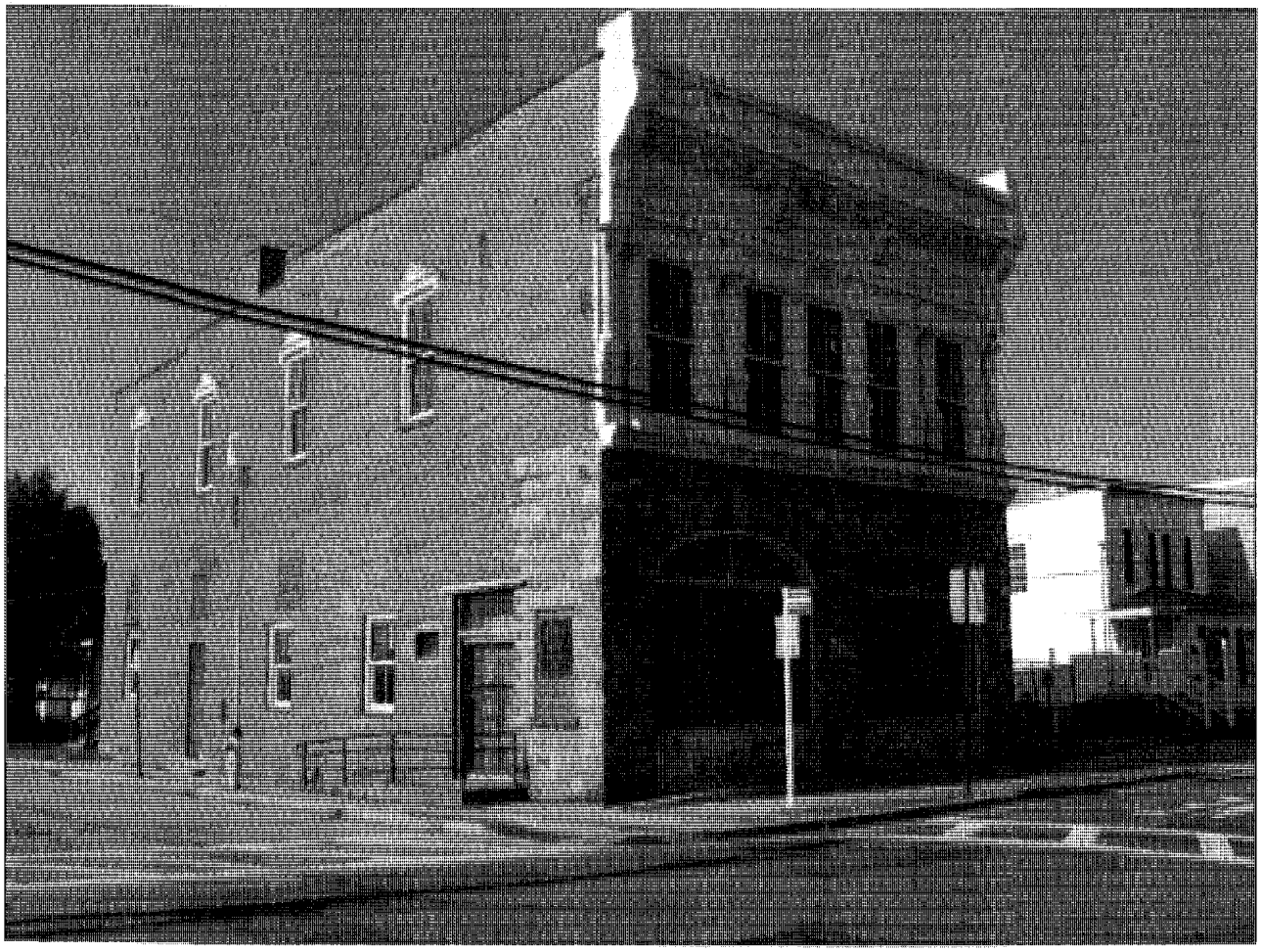
Phelps and Shaffer
900 Montgomery Avenue

Map Courtesy of
U.S. Geological Survey
2004 Microsoft Corporation

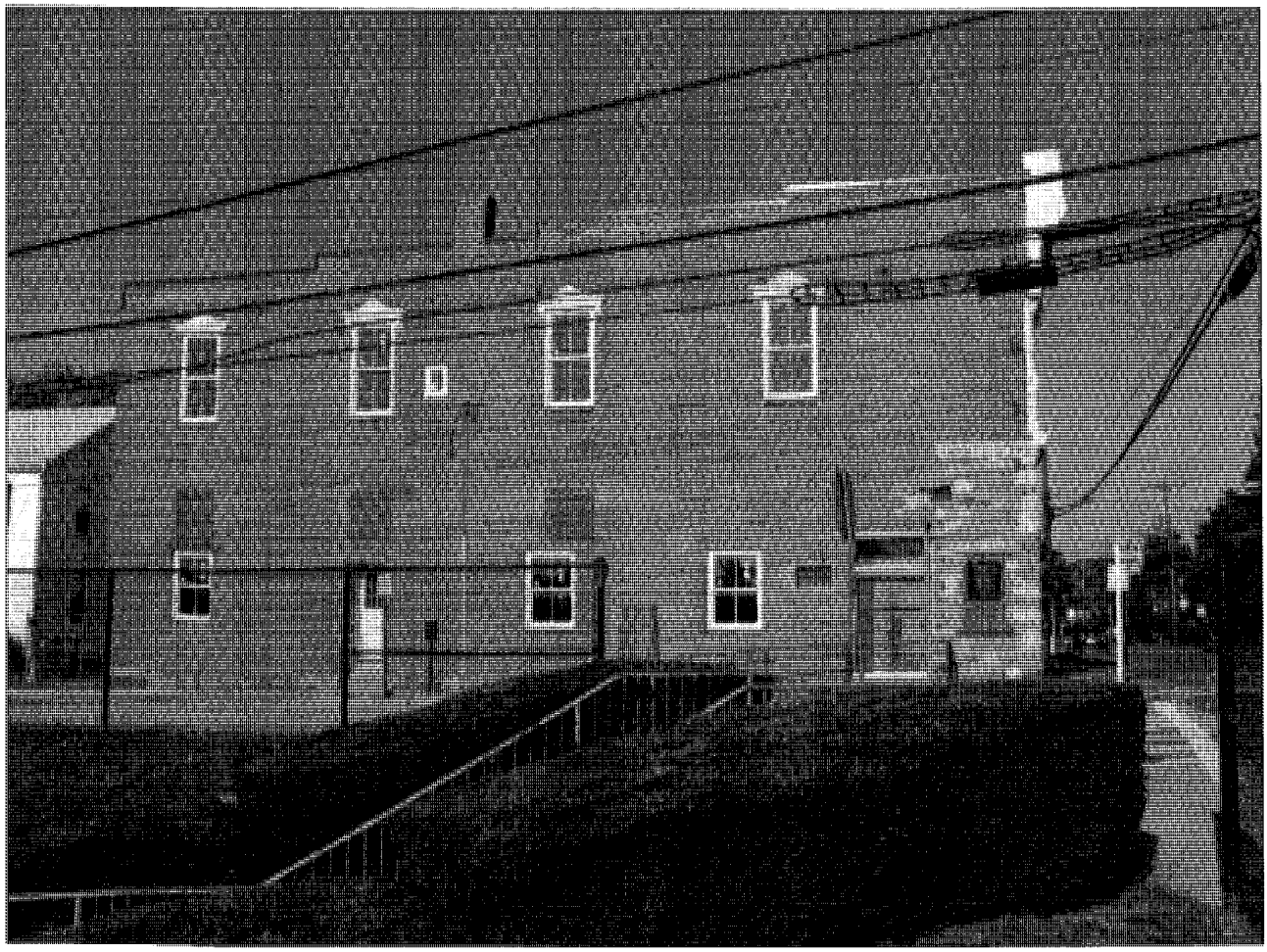
Laurel, Maryland, July 1, 1979



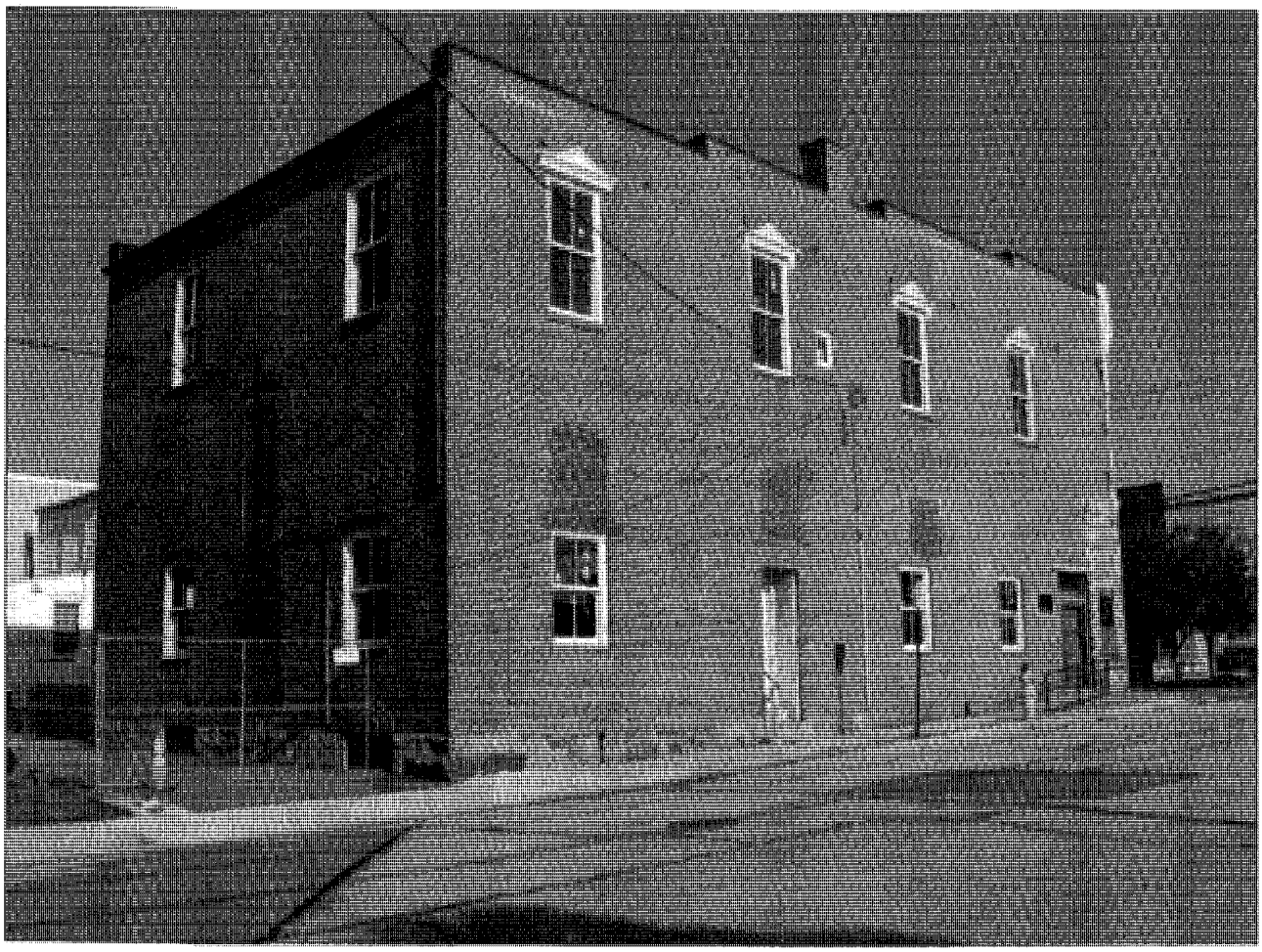
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-1
Phelps and Shaffer, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front elevation of resource, facing SW
Photo #1 of 6



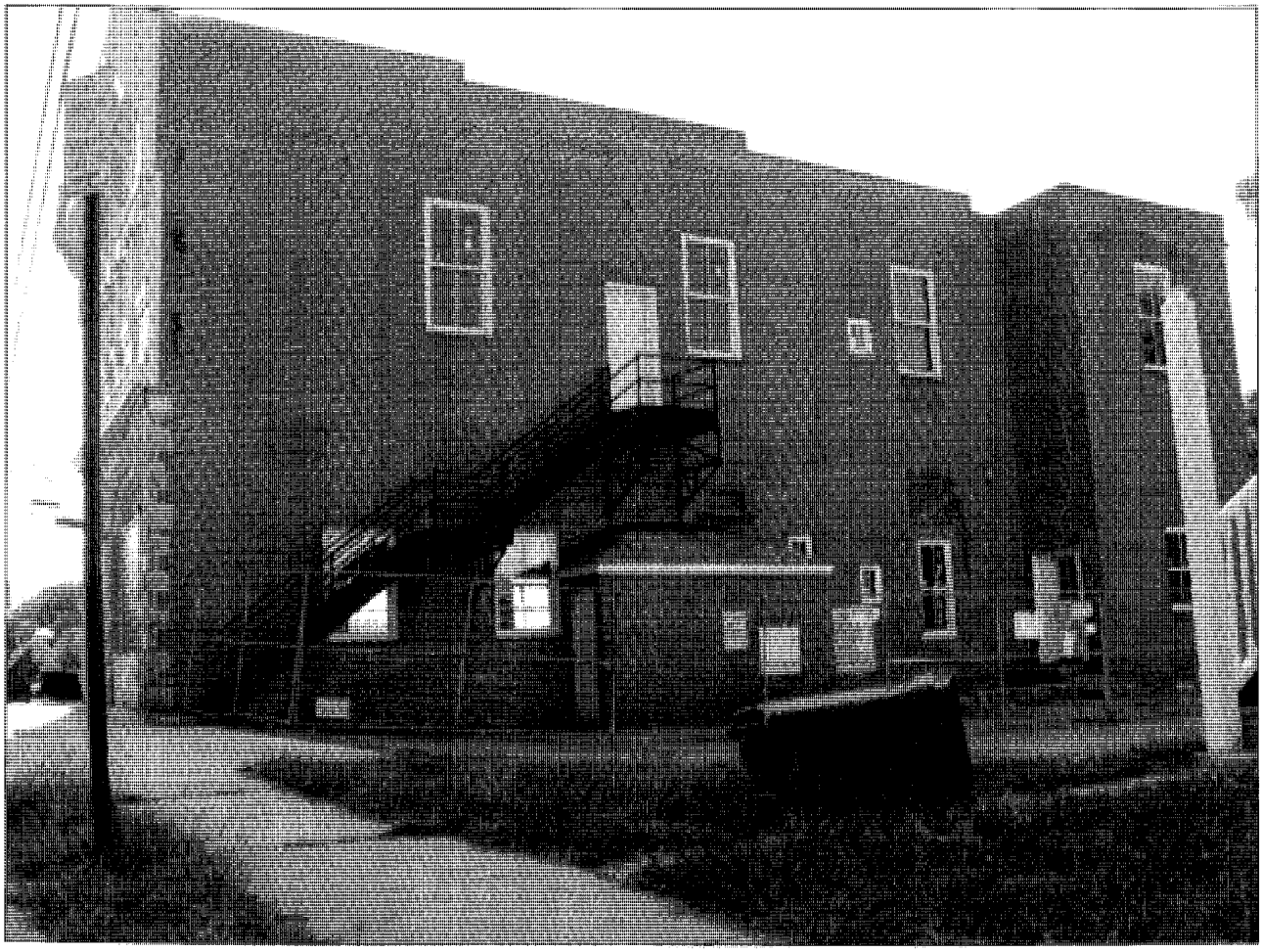
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-1
Phelps and Shaffer, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front and side elevations, facing SW
Photo #2 of 6



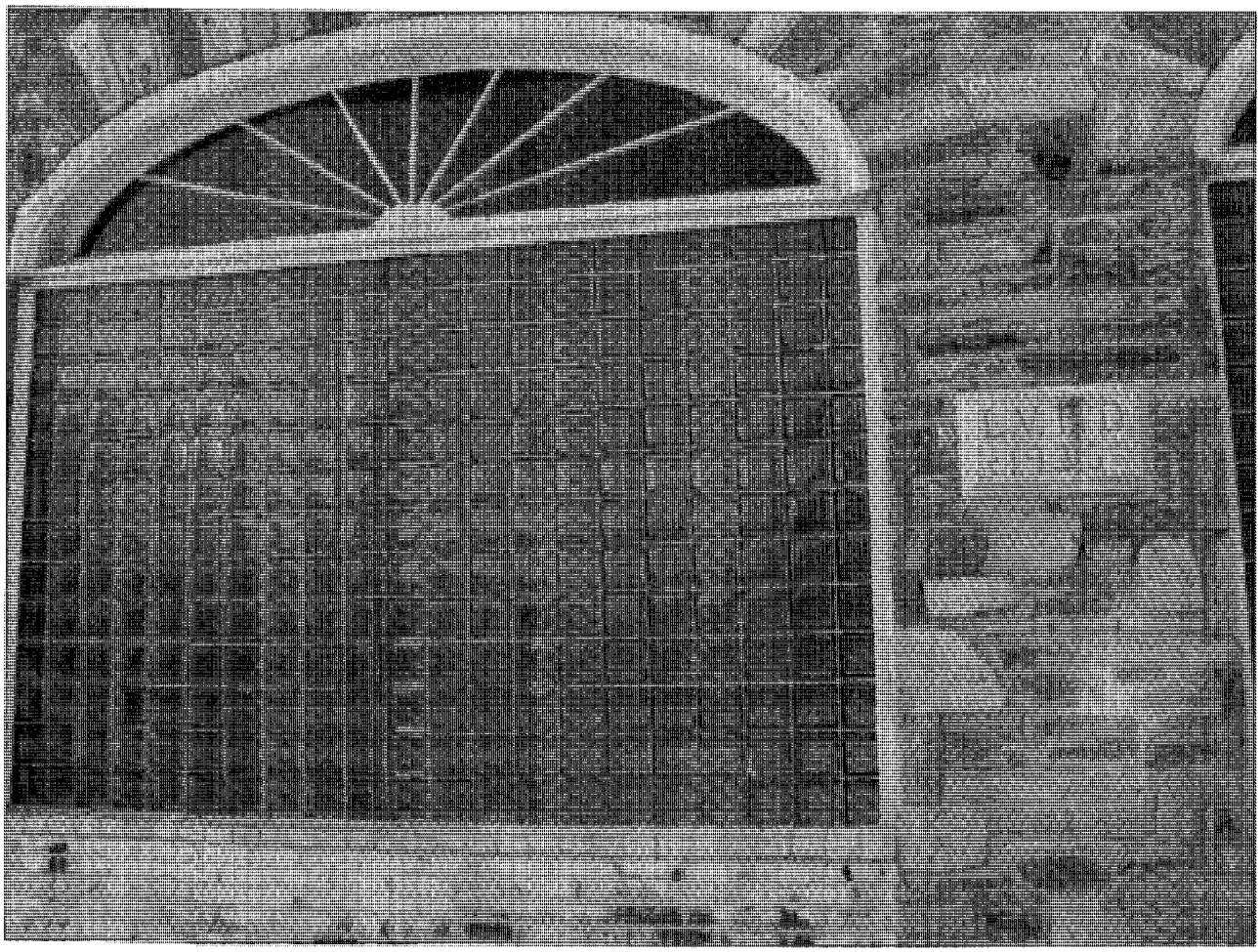
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-1
Phelps and Shaffer, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing SE
Photo #3 of 6



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-1
Phelps and Shaffer, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of rear and side elevations, facing NW
Photo #4 of 6



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-1
Phelps and Shaffer, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing SE
Photo #5 of 6



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-17-1
Phelps and Shaffer, Montgomery Street Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
Close-up of filled in window with modern glass material, facing SE
Photo #6 of 6

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

'roperty Name: Phelps and Shaffer Inventory Number: PG:LAU-1-21-2

Address: 900 Montgomery Street City: Laurel Zip Code: 20707

County: Prince Georges County USGS Topographic Map: Laurel, MD 1979

Owner: Cummings LLC Is the property being evaluated a district? ___yes

Tax Parcel Number: ___ Tax Map Number: ___ Tax Account ID Number: 10 1060029

Project: Laurel Historic District Architectural Survey and Analysis Agency: City of Laurel

Site visit by MHT Staff: ___no ___yes Name: ___ Date: ___

Is the property located within a historic district? X yes ___no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: PG:LAU-1-21-2

NR-listed district ___yes Eligible district X yes District Name: Montgomery Street Historic District

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource X yes ___no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ___

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ___yes ___no

Criteria: ___A ___B X C ___D Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___F ___G ___None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MHT MIHP Form Inventory No. PG:LAU-26

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

The building at 900 Montgomery Street is a 2-story, 2-bay building on the southwestern corner of Montgomery and Ninth Streets in Laurel, Maryland, that has functioned as both a commercial and municipal structure. Constructed in 1891, the building has a cut rubble stone foundation and is constructed of brick masonry. The front façade on the first story is clad with stone masonry that wraps around the building's northeastern corner, and the second story façade is covered with decorative sheet metal. It appears that the building's original stepped roofline was repaired with new brick. One interior brick chimney constructed of new brick sits in the rear of the building.

The lot on which the building stands is flat, with a concrete driveway and narrow paved parking area adjacent to it on the west and in the rear of the building. The adjacent lot to the west is vacant, and a metal chain link fence separates the two lots. There is no decorative landscaping on the lot.

The building's front, or northern, elevation consists of 2 arched windows with elliptical fanlights and segmental stone arches over each window. Both windows have been infilled with modern glass block. The second story has 5 double-hung windows with 2-over-2 lights and decorative pilasters between each window and at the building's corners. The top of the early commercial-style metal façade forms a parapet roof and has finials at each end, double brackets across the building's width, and modillions on the upper cornice.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ___ **Eligibility not recommended** ___

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D **Considerations:** ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None

Comments: ___

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

Reviewer, NR Program **Date**

The building's eastern elevation consists of (from left to right) 1 double-hung window with 2-over-2 lights, a single-leaf metal storm door with 4 lights in the top half, 2 identical double-hung windows with 2-over-2 lights in the elevation's middle section, a small opening in the brick wall that is boarded up, and a wide door opening with a double-leaf all-glass door and glass transom and plywood boards behind the door opening. In the brick wall above the window and door openings are patched areas that indicate previous larger window openings that have been filled in. These suggest windows that were placed high in the merchandise wall of the early department store, perhaps to allow for wall shelving below them. It is possible that they were filled in and replaced with new window openings cut into the wall at a different location when the building was converted for municipal use. Another opening that has been filled in sits at the right end of the eastern elevation near the northeastern corner of the building. Next to the window opening is a plaque that reads, "Merrill L. Harrison Norris J. Beard Building."

Although newer window openings replaced original higher openings, alterations were made to the newer window openings as well, possibly to replace older window sashes. Evidence of this is the patching of the brick masonry work around all sides of the existing three windows and the two door openings. There is also evidence of the removal and replacement of window sills and lintels above and below the windows. The existing three windows have brick sills and lintels, while the front infilled opening with the plaque has what appears to be a sandstone sill and a granite lintel, suggesting that all of the building's original sills were of sandstone. The eastern elevation's second-story contains 4 windows with double-hung sashes with 2-over-2 lights. The windows appear to be original and have sandstone lintels and wooden hood molds with pediments and decorative rosettes, similar to those found on the Laurel Wreath Lodge, which was designed by the same architect during the same time period. No patching of the brickwork appears around the openings.

The first story of the building's western elevation contains (from left to right): 2 double-hung windows with 2-over-2 lights; a projecting 1-story, hipped-roof addition with a small boarded up window opening; 2 small fixed windows with divided lights; 1 double-hung window with 2-over-2 lights; and 1 double-hung window with 2-over 2 lights set into a projecting building section at the rear of the building. There are 2 areas of infilled brickwork above the windows in the central portion of the elevation, suggesting, again, the removal of windows placed high on the department store's first-story merchandising wall. As with the eastern elevation, the newer windows were cut into the brick wall in a lower location. The window in the rear projecting section appears to have been cut into the wall at the same time. The projecting section contains 1 single-leaf door on its northern elevation.

The western elevation's second story contains (from left to right) 1 double-hung window with 2-over-2 lights, 1 single leaf door that opens onto a metal fire escape platform with metal stairs leading to the ground, 1 double-hung window with 2-over-2 lights, 1 small fixed window, 1 double-hung window with 2-over-2 lights, and 1 double-hung window with 2-over-2 lights in the rear projecting building section. The windows have no hood molds, as this elevation does not face the street. All of the windows appear to be original, with no brickwork patching around them and sandstone sills and brick lintels intact.

The projecting rear building section appears to be original because of the original window on the second story. It is possible that this section contained the original interior stair tower of the department store. Another interior stair tower appears to be at the location of the projecting 1-story addition.

The building's historic integrity has been compromised by the numerous alterations. Its integrity of design, material, and workmanship has been diminished by the infilling of windows and replacement of glass panes with modern glass block material. Although the building has retained its integrity of location because it is in its original location, its integrity of setting and association have been compromised by the vacant lot to its west and the chain link fence that surrounds the western and southern side of the parcel. Visually, it does not appear tied to its surrounding residential community as it once was.

The property does not meet significance criteria outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's National Register Bulletin, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation." It does not meet Criterion A because it is not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. The property does not meet Criterion B because it is not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. The property does not meet Criterion C because it does not embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, nor does it represent a distinct architectural style. It does not meet Criterion D because it has not yielded, nor is it likely to yield information important in prehistory or history. Because of its compromised historic integrity and lack of historic significance, the Phelps and Shaffer store is recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Although it is recommended not eligible individually, it is recommended a contributing resource in the Montgomery Street Historic District.

Prepared by: Alison J. Ross
KCI Technologies, Inc. Date Prepared: May 2009

Capsule Summary

Name of Property: Fairall Foundry
MIHP number: PG:LAU-1-22
Location: First Avenue
Laurel, Prince Georges County, Maryland 20707

Date of Construction: Circa 1866
Access: Private (publicly owned but limited access)

Property Description: The Fairall Foundry consists of Buildings 305-307 of the City of Laurel's Fairall Public Works Complex located on First Street adjacent to the CSX (formerly Baltimore and Ohio Railroad) tracks in Laurel, Maryland. As part of the municipal public works facility, the building houses storage space, and its outside yard stores city-owned vehicles, equipment, and fuel tanks. The Fairall Foundry is a 2-story, 3-bay stone masonry structure with several additions, including one 2-story, shed-roofed addition added to the southwestern elevation; one 1-story, side-gabled addition added to the northwestern elevation; and one shed-roofed addition added to the previous addition. Repairs have been made to the roof and masonry walls, and the building is in fair condition. It appears that the stone masonry walls were parged at one time.

Summary Paragraph on History: The Fairall Foundry building was constructed circa 1866 as a foundry and machine works in a strategic location next to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad tracks in Laurel, Maryland. Operated first by a partnership that included Albin M. Bond, Thomas D. Bond, and Artemus Donaldson, the business was subsequently operated by Artemus Donaldson, prior to being sold to Thomas L. Fairall. Fairall operated the Laurel Machine Works until 1892. By 1910, the building was converted to a flour and feed warehouse, operating as the J.R. Jones Feed and Seed Store until 1965. Between 1965 and 1980 the Laurel Metals and Superior Garage and several other businesses occupied the building, and in 1999 the City of Laurel purchased the property, after which it renovated the building to house its Department of Public Works facility.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-22

1. Name of Property

historic	Fairall Foundry (preferred)
other	First Street Foundry

2. Location

street and number	First Street	__ not for publication
city, town	Laurel	__ vicinity
county	Prince Georges	

3. Owner of Property

name	City of Laurel				
street and number	8103 Sandy Spring Road			telephone	(301)725-0088
city, town	Laurel	state	Maryland	zip code	20707

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.				liber 12195	folio 56
city, town	Laurel	tax map	tax parcel	tax ID number	

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
_____district
__1__building(s)
_____structure
_____site
_____object

Ownership
__X__public
_____private
_____both

Current Function
_____agriculture
_____commerce/trade
_____defense
_____domestic
_____education
_____funerary
__X__government
_____health care
_____industry
_____landscape
_____recreation/culture
_____religion
_____social
_____transportation
_____work in progress
_____unknown
_____vacant/not in use
_____other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
__0__

7. Description

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-22

Condition

___ excellent ___ deteriorated
___ good ___ ruins
_X_ fair _X_ altered

Paragraph Summary

The Fairall Foundry consists of Buildings 305-307 of the City of Laurel's Fairall Public Works Complex located on First Street adjacent to the CSX (formerly Baltimore and Ohio Railroad) tracks in Laurel, Maryland. Constructed circa 1866 by partners Bond and Donaldson for a foundry and machine shop, the business thrived and contributed to Laurel Factory's industry-based economy. Thomas Fairall purchased the property in 1883 and supplied machinery and equipment to the cotton mill as well as to the general public. He operated the machine works until 1892, after which it was converted to J.R. Jones Feed and Seed store in 1910. It thrived until 1965, after which it was sold, and a series of machine shops and garages occupied the building. The foundry building is now owned by the City of Laurel, and it houses the city's main public works complex.

Comprehensive Description

The Fairall Foundry is a 1- and 2-story, side-gabled and shed-roofed, stone masonry structure on the southeastern corner of Little Montgomery Avenue and First Street in Laurel, Maryland. The southeastern elevation faces First Street and the tracks and embankment of the railroad tracks. Currently part of a municipal public works facility, the building serves as a storage area,, while the surrounding paved yard serves as parking lot and storage yard for the city's sanitary trucks, other vehicles, and equipment. A detached modern 1-story office building sits southeast of the foundry building.

The foundry building is composed of an original building with three additions that have been added at different times. The additions were appended to the southwestern and northwestern sides of the original building. The original building is a 2-story, 3-bay, side-gabled structure of stone masonry. The southeastern gable has been infilled with wood boards, while the northwestern gable has what appears to be aluminum or vinyl siding along the cornice. The northeastern, or main, elevation's first story consists of a central entrance door flanked by 1 window opening on each side. One of the windows contains a 12-light window, and the other has been infilled with stone. This elevation's second story contains 3 windows that have been infilled with concrete block.

The building's southeastern elevation is partially obscured by a fence; however, the openings are visible on its interior. The first story has 1 wide central door with 1 window on each side, with the door covered with plywood and the windows containing metal grates. The second story has a central door and 1 window on each side, all of which have been infilled with concrete block. A 2-story, 4-bay stone masonry addition was added onto the southwestern side of the original building. Its roof is now a shed roof, but it may have had a gabled roof at one time. Its construction date is unknown, but it appears to have been added shortly after the construction of the first because of very similar stonework and building techniques. The southeastern elevation faces the railroad tracks and consists of 1 central door and 1 window on each side on the first story. The windows contain glass lights with metal grates in them, and the door has been covered with plywood. The second story contains 2 windows and 1 door, all of which have been infilled with concrete block. The addition's southwestern side contains 4 windows and 1 door on the first story. Three of the windows have been covered with paper, while one has a 12-light glass and a wooden door. The second story of this elevation has 3 windows that have been covered with paper and 1 door that has been covered with plywood. The southwestern elevation's first story has a metal replacement window, and the second story has 2 windows that have been covered with plywood. All windows still retain their wooden lintels. This addition reportedly sustained a fire (date unknown), after which an upper story was removed for safety reasons.

A one-story, side-gabled addition was added onto the northwestern end of the original building (date unknown). Its northeastern, or front, elevation has 1 wide central door and two windows that have been infilled with plywood. The northwestern elevation has 1 central door and 2 window openings that have been infilled with concrete block. A shed-roofed addition, also constructed of stone masonry, was added onto the southwestern side of the addition. The addition's southwestern side contains a garage bay and one door opening.

The interior walls of all of the buildings have exposed stone, with the walls of the original building parged over the stone. The original building has a replaced second floor, with a stairway leading to it, while the southwestern addition has its existing joists but no floor resting on them. The northwestern addition has exposed rafters and beams above the first story. The building and its additions have concrete floors. None of the machinery associated with the foundry remains in the building.

A frame barn previously sat on the lot northwest of the end-gabled addition. It was constructed by Joel R. Jones (possibly in 1910) for storage for the feed store. The barn and the two northwestern stone additions may have been added at the same time.

8. Significance

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-22

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

Specific dates	1866	**Architect/Builder**	
Construction dates	1866		

Evaluation for:

_____ National Register _____Maryland Register ___X___Not evaluated

Narrative Discussion of History

General History

The City of Laurel was developed by members of the Snowden family, one of the founding families of Maryland, and their relatives from Attleboro, Massachusetts. Laurel is located on land that was originally patented to Richard Snowden in 1715 as "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" in Prince George's County, Maryland. At the time, Snowden's estate already was approximately 3,000 acres in size, extending from Old Columbia Pike to the present city of Laurel and from south of Greencastle and Van Dusen Roads to north of Sandy Spring Road. The 1715 patent increased the already substantial Snowden land holdings, and by 1743 the estate had grown to 9,265 acres.

Although the Laurel area was first an agricultural region, it became a location for manufacturing as early as the first half of the 18th century, distinguishing it from the rest of rural Prince George's County. Manufacturing activity on the Patuxent River dates back to 1736 when the Snowden family established the Patuxent River Iron Works. Almost a century later in 1811, Nicholas Snowden constructed a stone grist mill building on the banks of the Patuxent River as well as a dam across the river at the location of what is now Ninth Street in Laurel. In 1824, a Mr. Johnson leased the Snowden mill, which reportedly employed approximately 100 people at the time, and converted it from a grist mill to a factory for spinning yarns, known as the Cotton Manufacturing Motive of Laurel.

Nicholas Snowden died in 1831, and his estate, Montpelier, was subdivided among his children. His wife received what was called the Bank Quarter, which contained the bank of iron ore. A leftover undivided portion along the Patuxent River, contained approximately 100 acres, the Snowdens' stone mansion, the mill buildings, several log houses, and a well-used farm where successive crops of tobacco and corn had been cultivated. The parcel's location was invaluable because of the exceptional water power provided by the river.

The 1835 completion of the Baltimore and Ohio (B & O) Railroad Company's new railroad line through Laurel, located just over one mile east of the mill, contributed to the attractiveness of the mill location. The railroad, which was to connect Baltimore with Washington D.C., promised easier access to new markets, both for raw materials and finished products. Access to other markets was previously gained by travel from the mill eastward via Main Street to the Washington-Baltimore Turnpike, which was chartered by the state of Maryland in 1812.

The location and easy access to transportation were not lost on Snowden's heirs, which included son-in-law Horace Capron, a member of the Capron family of Attleboro, Massachusetts. On January 28, 1836, Horace Capron joined other family members in a new business venture. Capron, along with Dr. Theodore Jenkins (brother-in-law of Capron and neighbor of the Snowdens at new New Birmingham Manor), Elizabeth Snowden (Capron's mother-in-law), Osmond C. Tiffany (Capron's first cousin from another Attleboro, Massachusetts, family) A.E. Hall, and W.C. Shaw incorporated a new company, the Patuxent Company, for the purpose of manufacturing and selling cotton, iron, and other articles at the site of the mill and farm. Snowden land holdings were combined and transferred when Horace Capron and his wife, Charles Hill and his wife, and Dr. Theodore Jenkins and his wife, conveyed their inherited lands to the Patuxent Company. Deeds for property and stock also were transferred by Osmond Tiffany, Comfort Tiffany, and several Capron cousins, who also were involved in mill activities elsewhere.

Shortly after its incorporation in 1835, the Patuxent Company constructed housing for its mill workers in the vicinity of the mill. Merchants established stores and businesses to support the employees and their families and the town, known as Laurel Factory, started to grow. The town grew quickly in the middle of the 19th century as businesses, churches, social halls, and schools were established to meet the needs of the fledgling community, first in the western end near the mill, then in locations east of the mill as the town crept eastward along Main Street toward the turnpike and railroad.

According to Thomson's Mercantile and Professional Directory, Laurel Factory, as it was called then, had its own post office by 1851. By that date, there were four dealers in dry goods, groceries, and hardware; two physicians; one hotelkeeper; and one factory, according to the directory.

In 1875, the town of Laurel Factory had been incorporated and its name changed to Laurel. The 1878 Hopkins atlas indicates that by this time the eastern end of the town surrounding the railroad had begun to develop, with larger parcels and houses on the eastern side of the railroad and smaller lots on the track's western side. Lots on both sides of the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike had been subdivided as well. Lots along the northern and southern sides of Main Street had been subdivided and developed with both residences and businesses. By 1888, Laurel was the largest town in Prince Georges County, with electric lights, brick sidewalks, and macadamized roads.

History of Resource

The Fairall Foundry stands on land that was originally patented in 1715 to Richard Snowden as part of "New Birmingham Manor." After the death of his descendent, Nicholas Snowden, in 1831, a large tract known as Lot No. 8 and located between the Baltimore and Washington Turnpike and the Snowden's mill to the west, and between Main Street on the north to a point south of it, was inherited by Nicholas' daughter, Eliza Snowden. Richard Snowden and his wife, Elizabeth, acquired it and subsequently conveyed a large tract to Horace Capron on August 29, 1839 (DB AB 12, P. 367). It appears that Capron had a 610-acre farm and home on the southeastern side of the tract. On May 21, 1850, Horace Capron applied to the State of Maryland for Insolvency and was directed by Orphan's Court to convey his land, household goods, and furniture for $1.00 to trustees Thomas S. Alexander and George W. Dobbin on April 1, 1850 (DB JJB 6, P. 331). At a public auction on May 21, 1850, the trustees sold the 610-acre parcel to Thomas Wilson of John for $28,060.00 (DB CSM 1, P. 151).

Thomas Wilson of John named the 610-acre tract "Laurel Farm" and owned it for the next ten years. On November 27, 1861, Thomas Wilson of John and his wife sold Laurel Farm to Thomas Jefferson Talbott for $27,200.00 (DB 1, P. 27). Thomas J. Talbott sold a 2-acre parcel on the western side of the railroad to Albin M. Bond, Thomas D. Bond and Artemus Donaldson on February 1, 1866, for $4,666.00 (DB HB 4, P. 734). It was on this parcel, that the new owners, known as Donaldson and Bond, constructed a building for a foundry and machine shop on First Street (originally known as Front Street) adjacent to the railroad tracks circa 1866. Gradually, the partners sold their interest in the business to Artemus Donaldson, with Thomas D. Bond selling off his interest for $5,200.00 on May 20, 1871 (DB HB 4, P. 734).

Included in the sale of Thomas Bond's interest were stock, merchandise, and tools on the premises. On April 13, 1883, Artemus Donaldson and his wife, Emeline V., sold the 2-acre property for $2,500.00 to Thomas L. Fairall (DB JWB 1, P. 749). Fairall also owned property at 523 Main Street and was already listed on the 1878 atlas as being the proprietor of the Laurel Machine Works, which might be the same establishment as the Laurel Machine Company in the 600 block of Main Street (first owned and operated by Stephen Heath). His advertisement in the atlas states that he is a machinist who manufactures cotton machinery, pulleys, hangers, shafting, gearings, plows and castings. It appears that the Laurel Machine Company was originally owned and operated by Horace Capron followed by Osmond C. Tiffany then Stephen Heath, and it is possible that Fairall acquired the machine works on Main Street and ran it until he moved his business to a new location on First Street. By that date, Fairall's machine works was not the only one in the city; the 1878 atlas of Laurel indicates another foundry on Main Street near Avondale Street, owned by Truman and Diven. A city directory listed Thomas Fairall as living on Second Street between Main and Montgomery with a wife and a daughter. Other Fairall family members working in Laurel were a carpenter and builder, a news agent, and a laborer.

The Laurel Machine Works conducted much business with the Laurel Factory Mill, first at its previous location, then at its new location on First Street, according to diaries of mill superintendent General George Nye, dated 1877-1885. Business included building looms and other equipment for the mill. The foundry also manufactured cast iron stoves, ornamental ironwork, plumbing equipment, and other castings for the general public. Thomas Fairall operated the machine shop until 1892 when the foundry was closed. It appears that during his ownership, Thomas Fairall constructed a house on the western end of his 2-acre property, now known as 120 Second Street (Surveyed resource PG: LAU-1-10).

After Thomas Fairall's death, his son, William Fairall, inherited the property. Between 1908 and 1910, the building was converted to a flour and feed warehouse. William Fairall sold the property on December 18, 1909 to Ernest Northam (DB 87, P. 121). Northam defaulted on the mortgage several years later, and on October 5, 1912, a public sale was conducted by Charles H. Stanley on behalf of William Fairall. Local landowner and businessman Charles F. Shaffer was the highest bidder and purchased the property for $3,100.00 (DB 87, P. 121).

After Charles F. Shaffer's death, the parcel was subdivided, and his granddaughter, Myra Shaffer, received the western portion of the lot, Lot 11A, which contained the house at 120 Second Street. The foundry was conveyed to George W. Waters and John R. Jones (date unknown), who ran the G.W. Waters Company. Waters and Jones stored grain and hay on the first floor and operated a shirt factory on the second floor of the building. The G.W. Waters Company eventually specialized in selling agricultural implements, fertilizers, feed, and other supplies. John R. Jones died in 1937, and his son, Joel Russell Jones and his wife, Helen, acquired the property. The business became known as the J.R. Jones Feed & Seed store and the building was occupied until 1965. Sometime after this time a fire occurred in the building, after which it was repaired and occupied by Laurel Metals and Superior Garage.

Following the death of Joel Russell Jones in 1978, the property was inherited by his wife, Helen L. Jones. The city of Laurel leased the building from her circa 1980. In 1986 Helen Jones gave the Power of Attorney to her son Russell Lowery Jones (DB 7111, P. 440). On April 20, 1989, Russell Lowery Jones sold the property to himself and his wife Susan B. Jones (DB 7291, P. 850). Susan B. Jones conveyed her interest in the property to Russell L. Jones two years later on April 3, 1991 (DB 7939, P. 916). On March 12, 1999, Russell Lowery Jones conveyed the property to the Mayor and City of Laurel for $515,000.00 (DB 12915, P. 56). Prior to the purchase, the City of Laurel announced its intention to demolish the building to provide parking for a new Public Works Department. Following the purchase, concerned citizens who wanted to prevent the building's demolition, formed a community action group called the Friends of First Street Foundry (FFF). FFF addressed long-term goals of restoring the building and including it in Laurel's Main Street Revitalization Area.

In 1998, the FFF received a grant of $5,250.00 for professional services from the Neighborhood Design Center to develop a restoration and reuse plan. A 1999 grant paid for emergency roof repairs for the building. More renovations occurred in 2003, and the city's public works department is headquartered at the site today.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. PG:LAU-1-22

Capron, Horace. Autobiography. 2 vols., nd, typed copy, Maryland Historical Society.

City of Laurel Department of Public Works. "The Fairall Foundry: A Maryland Treasure with Historical and Architectural Significance."

Hopkins, G.M. *Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington Including County of Prince George Maryland.* Philadelphia: F. Bourquin, 1878.

Recorder of Deeds, Prince Georges County Circuit Court. Various deeds from Land Records.
Spero, P.A.C. and Company. *Montgomery-Prince Georges Short-term Congestion Relief.* May 1998.
Spero, P.A.C. and Company. Maryland Historical Trust Historic Sites Inventory Form for PG: LAU-1-10.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	0.5 acre		
Acreage of historical setting	0.5 acre		
Quadrangle name	Laurel, Maryland	Quadrangle scale:	1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Block 57, Lot 5

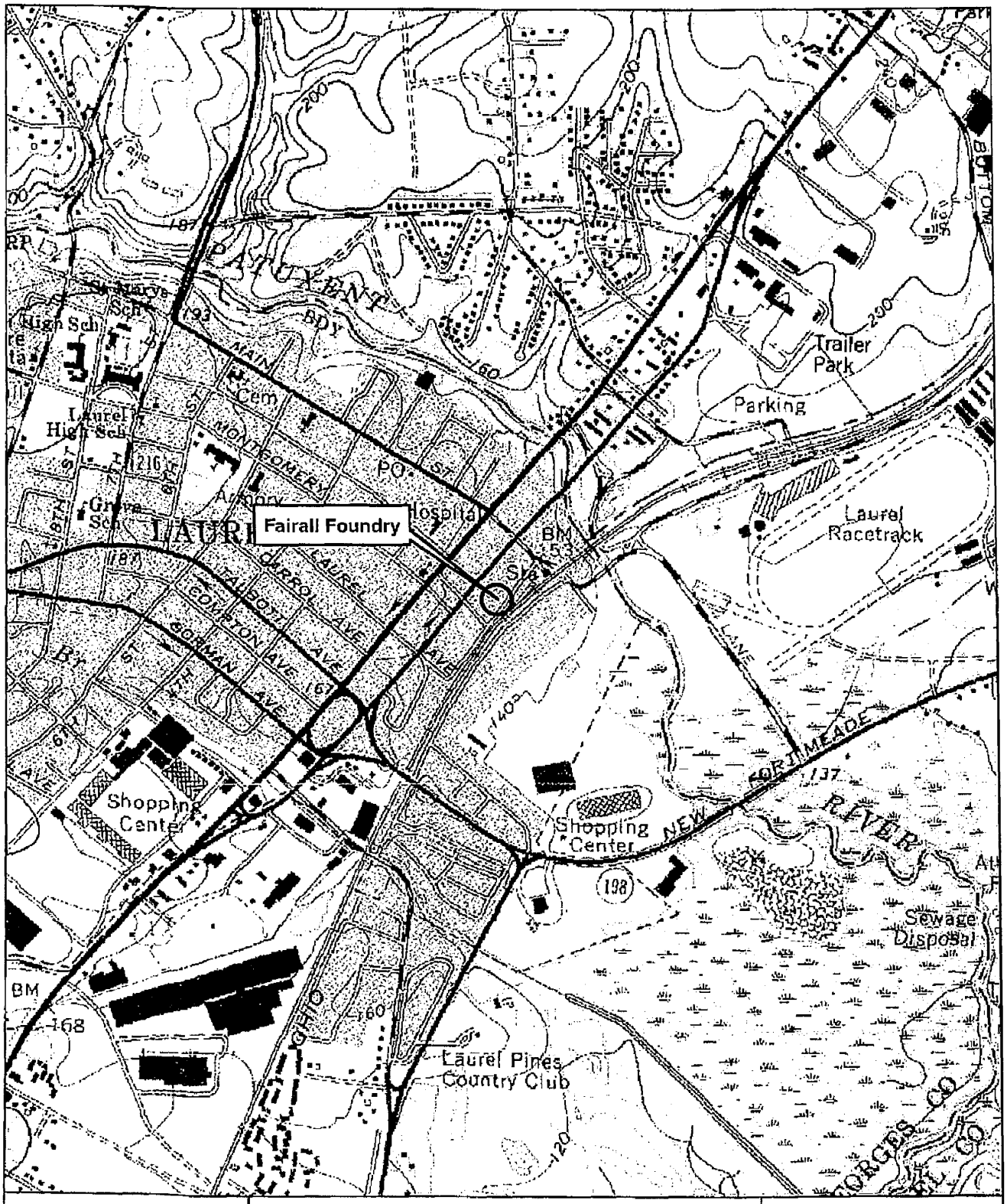
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Alison Ross, M.S. Architectural Historian		
organization	KCI Technologies, Inc.	date	05/2008
street & number	5001 Louise Drive	telephone	717-691-1340
city or town	Mechanicsburg	state	PA

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
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



N

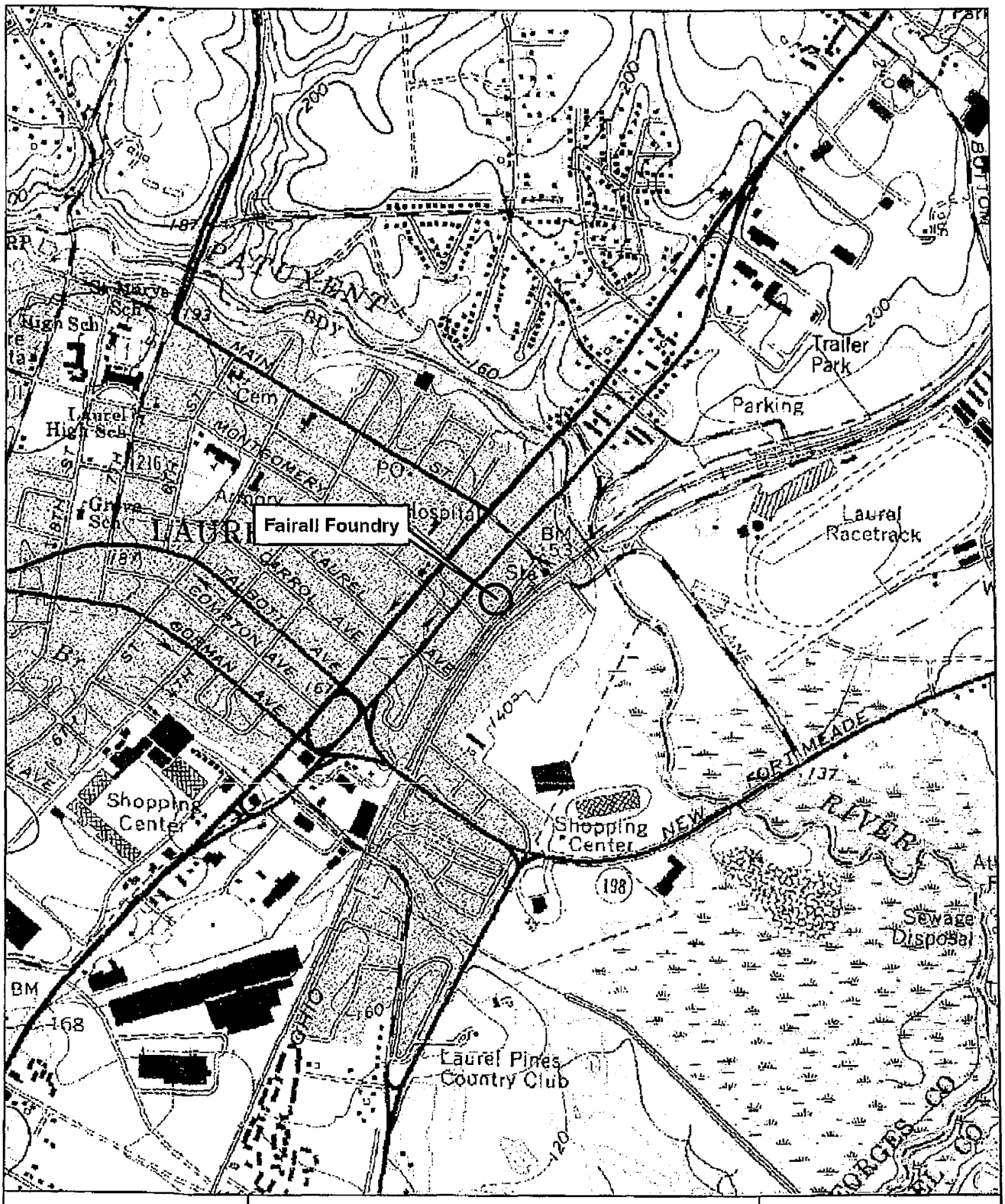
Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Site No. PG:LAU-1-22

Locational Map

Fairall Foundry
First Street

Map Courtesy of
U.S. Geological Survey
2004 Microsoft Corporation

Laurel, Maryland, July 1, 1979



Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Site No. PG:LAU-1-22

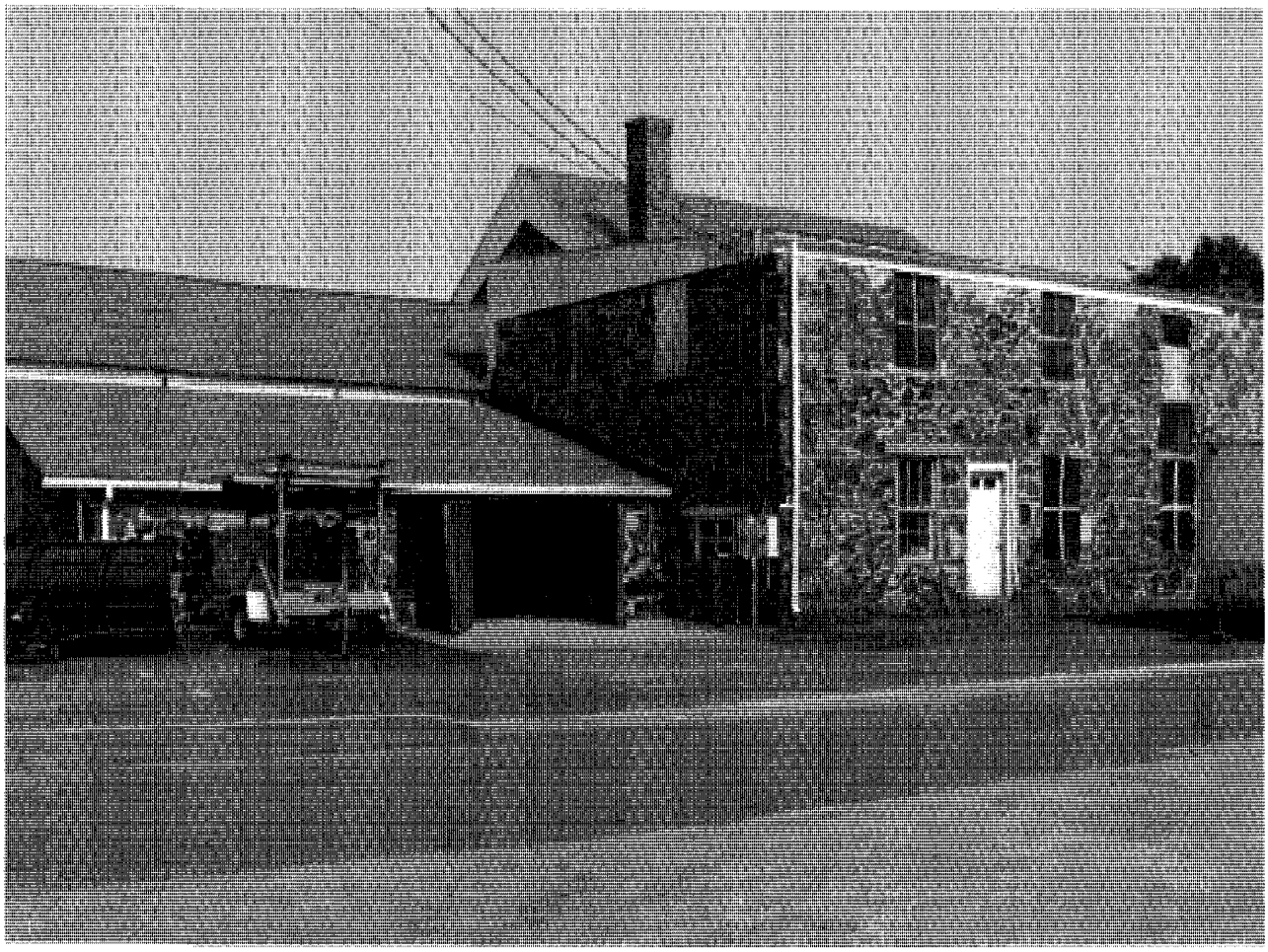
Locational Map

Fairall Foundry
First Street

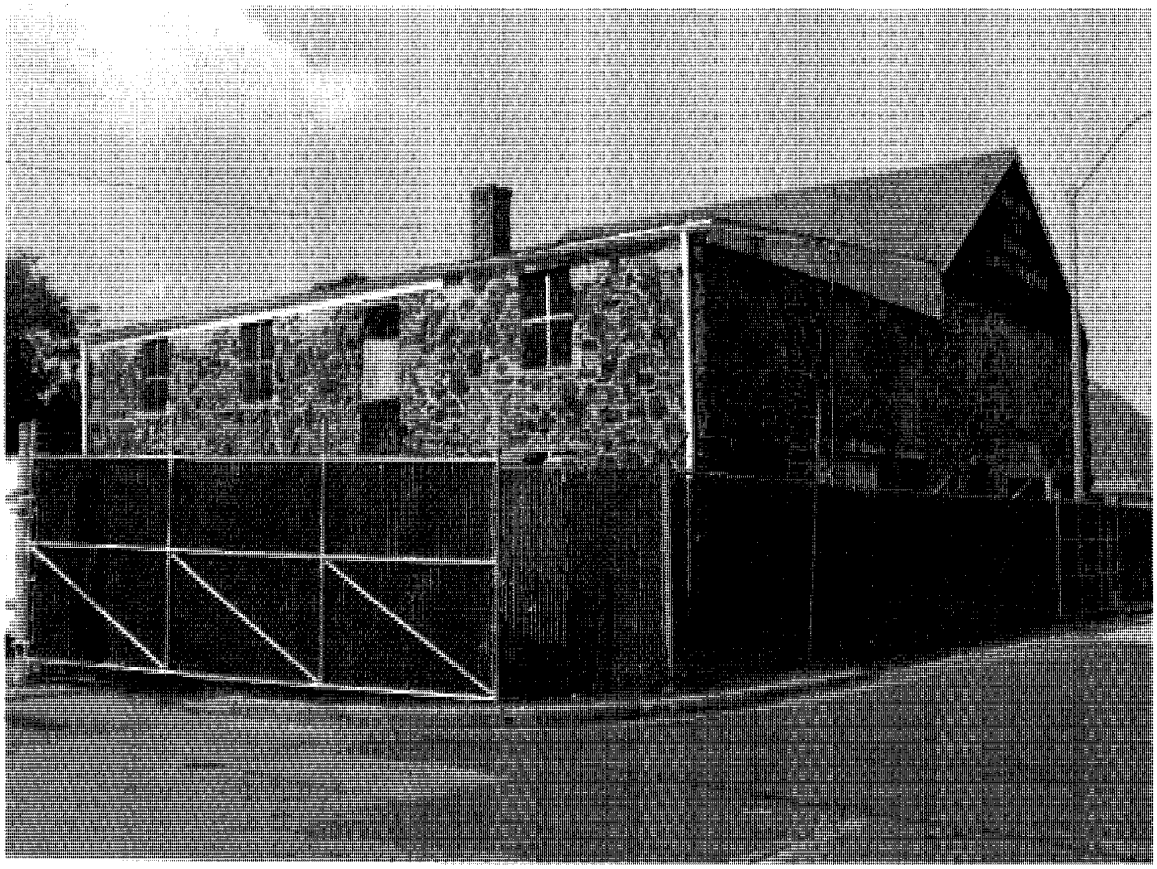
Map Courtesy of
U.S. Geological Survey
2004 Microsoft Corporation

Laurel, Maryland, July 1, 1979

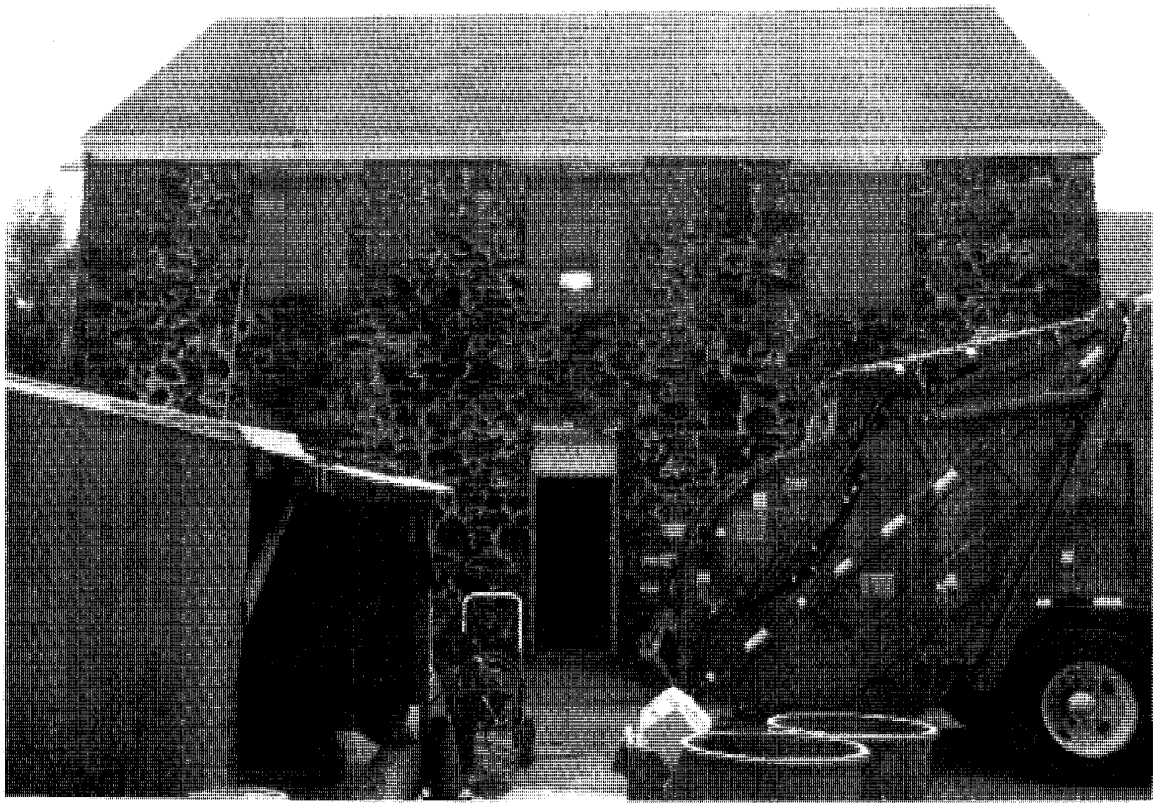
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-22
Fairall Foundry, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of resource, showing original building and 3 additions, facing E
Photo #1 of 11



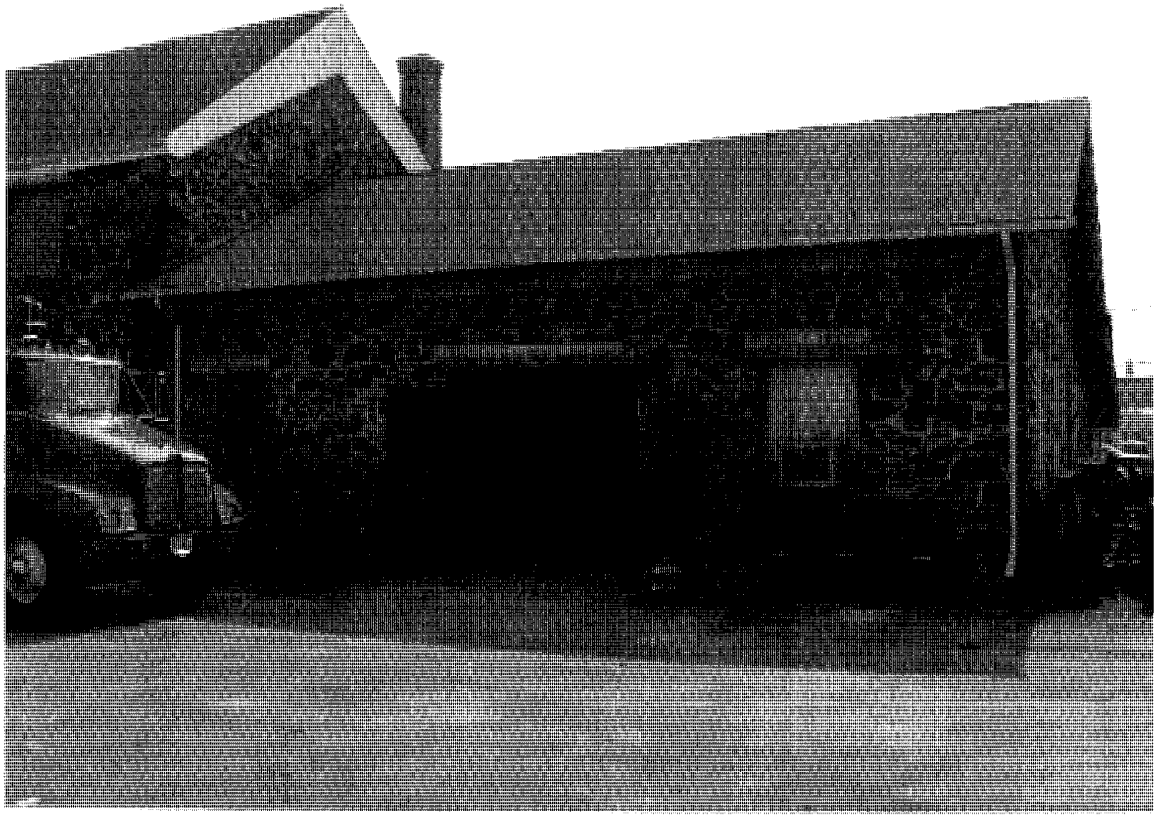
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-22
Fairall Foundry, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of resource, showing original building and additions, facing NE
Photo #2 of 11



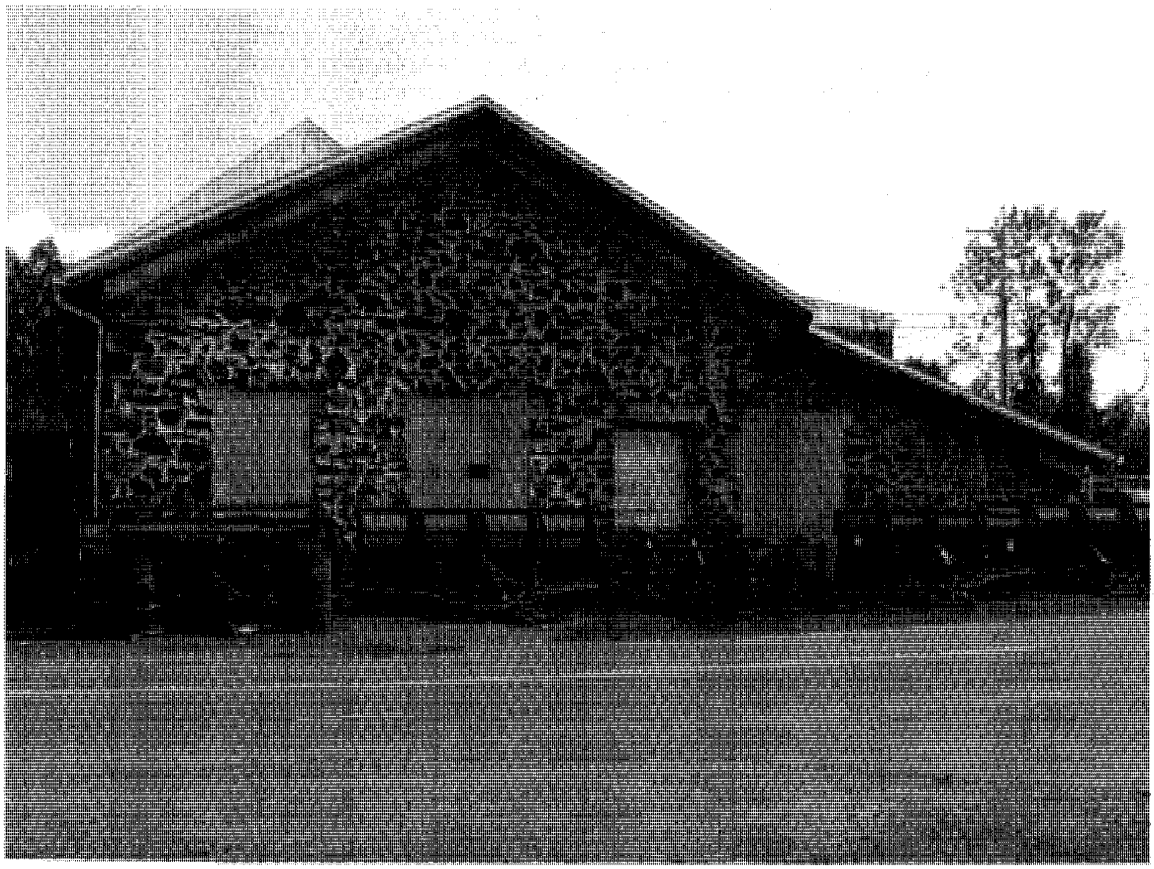
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-22
Fairall Foundry, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of resource, showing original building and first addition, facing N
Photo #3 of 11



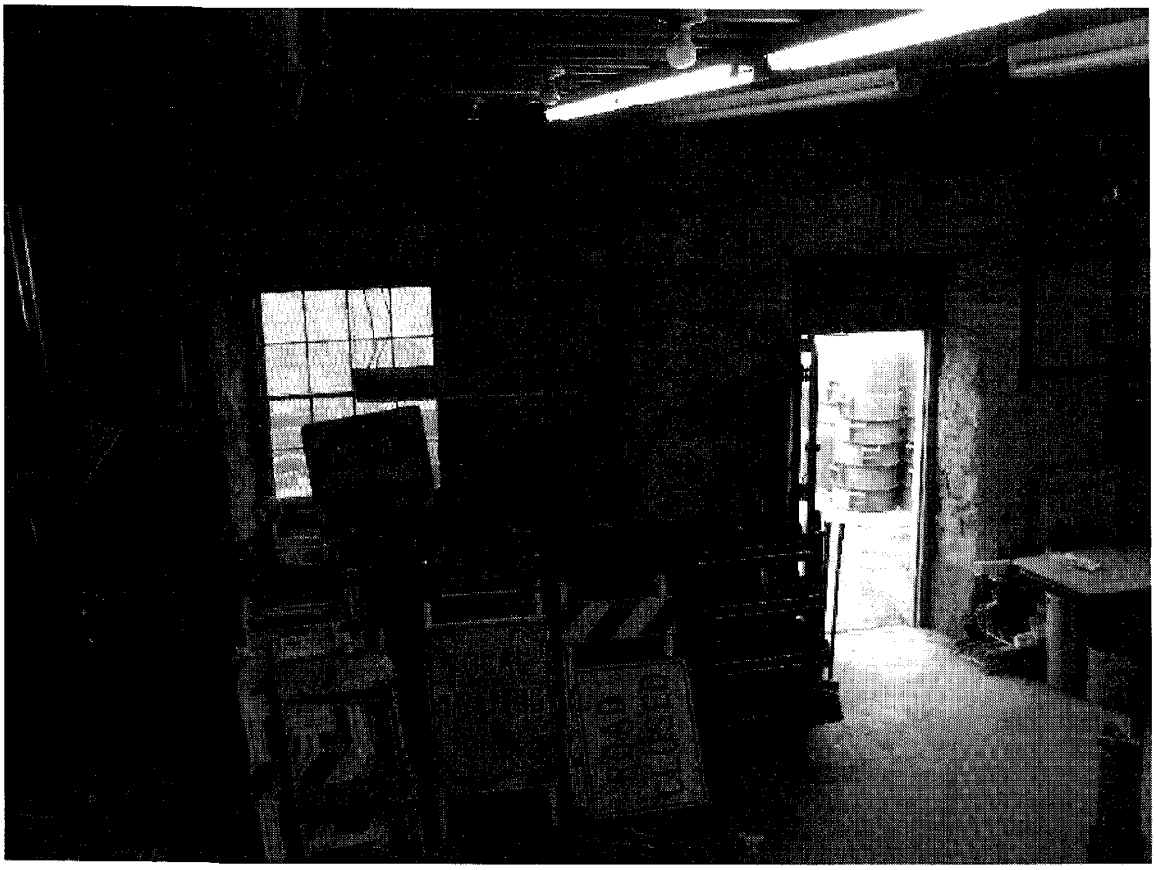
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-22
Fairall Foundry, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of resource, showing front of original building, facing SW
Photo #4 of 11



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-22
Fairall Foundry, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of resource, showing front of northwestern addition, facing SE
Photo #5 of 11



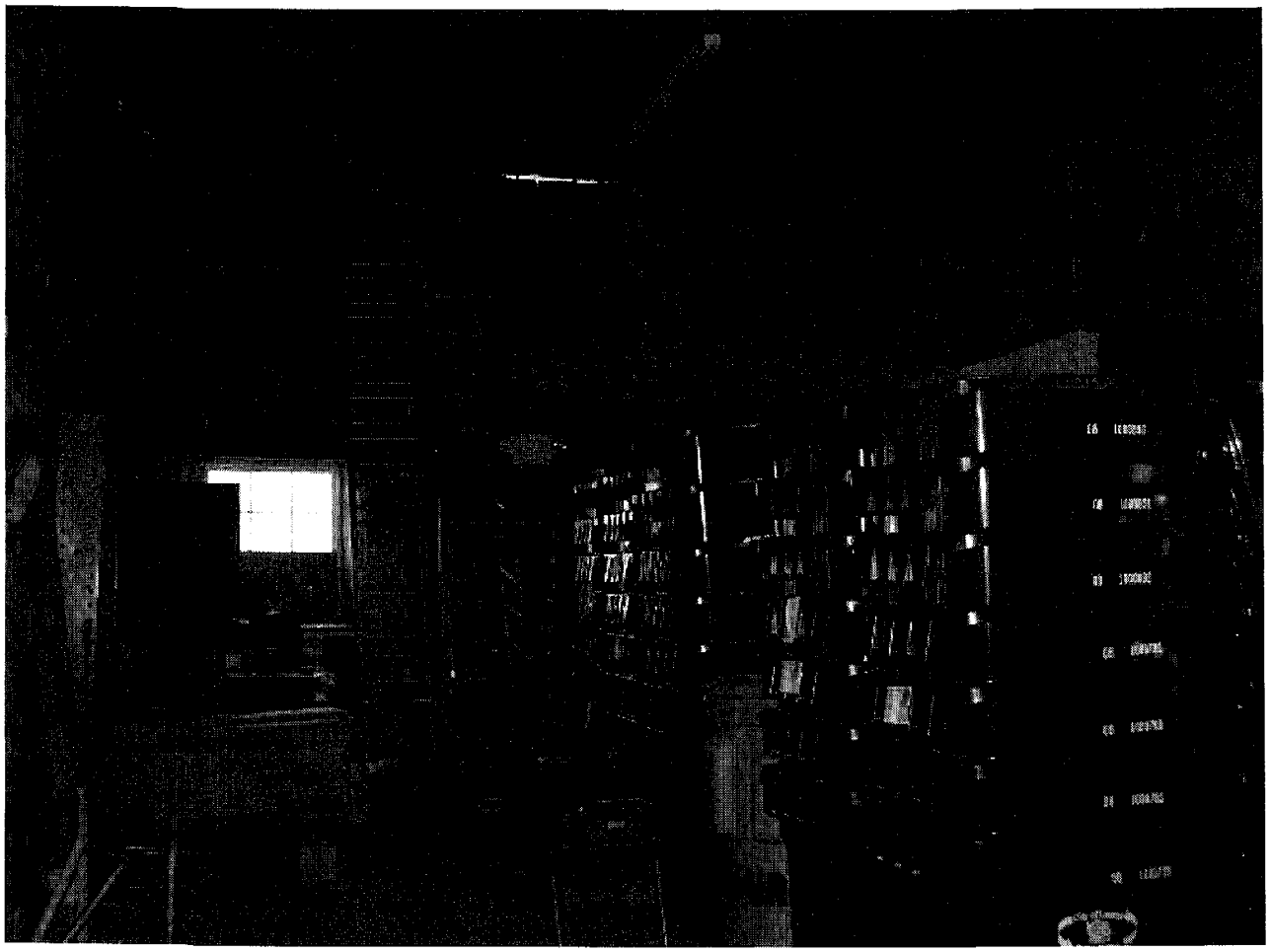
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-22
Fairall Foundry, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of resource, showing end of northwestern addition, facing SE
Photo #6 of 11



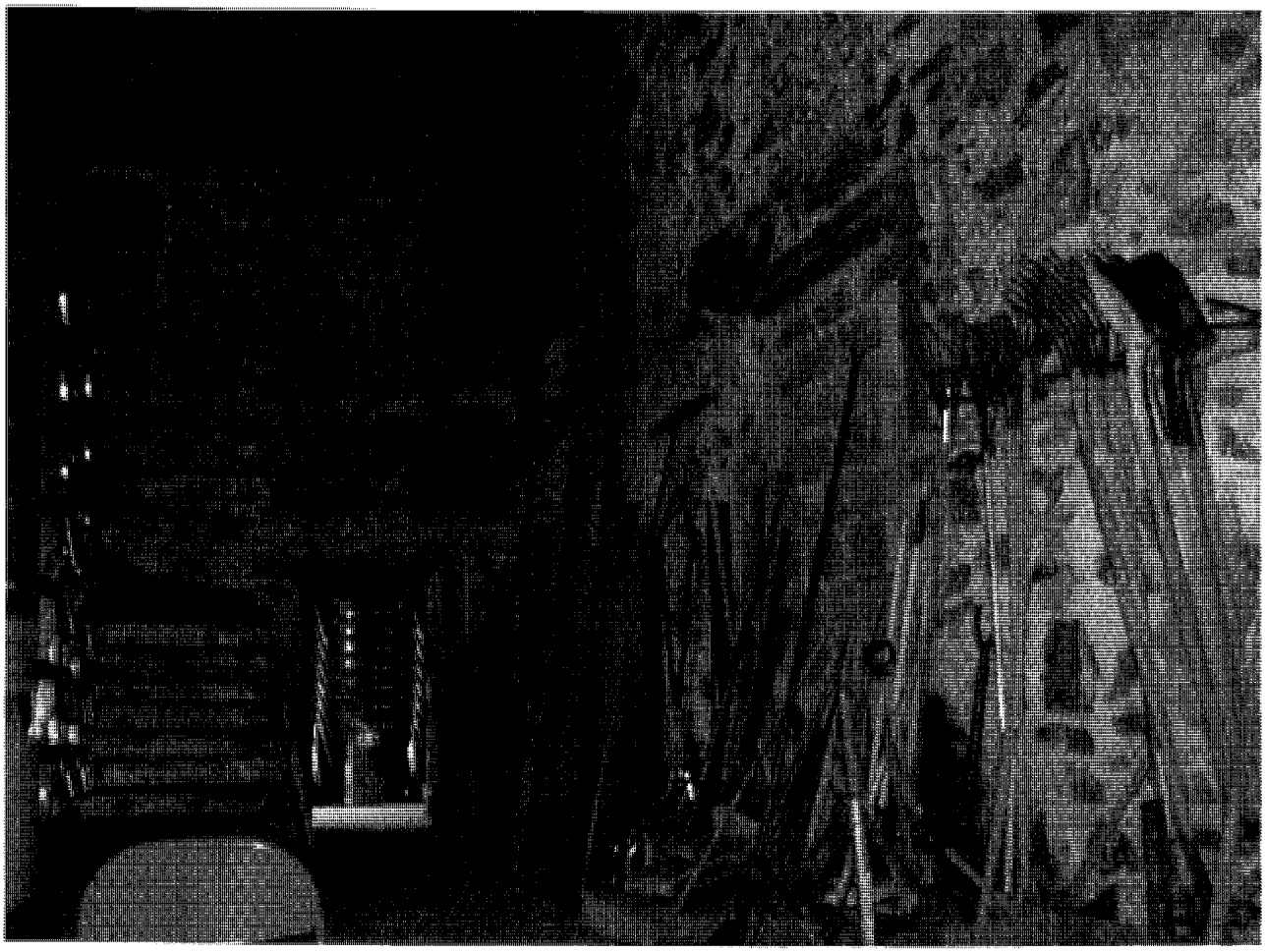
MIHP # PG:LAU-1-22
Fairall Foundry, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of inside of NE wall of original building, facing NE
Photo #7 of 11

MIHP # PG:LAU-1-22
Fairall Foundry, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of inside of NW wall of original building, facing NW
Photo #8 of 11

MIHP # PG:LAU-1-22
Fairall Foundry, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September, 2008
MD SHPO
View of inside of SE wall of original building, facing SE
Photo #9 of 11



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-22
First Street, Fairall Foundry
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of inside of SE wall of southwestern addition, facing SE
Photo #10 of 11



MIHP # PG:LAU-1-22
Fairall Foundry, Laurel Historic District
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of inside of NW wall of southwestern addition, facing NW
Photo #11 of 11

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

Property Name: Fairall Foundry Inventory Number: PG:LAU-22

Address: First Street City: Laurel Zip Code: 20707

County: Prince Georges County USGS Topographic Map: Laurel, MD 1979

Owner: City of Laurel Is the property being evaluated a district? ____yes

Tax Parcel Number: _____ Tax Map Number: _____ Tax Account ID Number: _____

Project: Laurel Historic District Architectural Survey and Analysis Agency: City of Laurel

Site visit by MHT Staff: ____no ____yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Is the property located within a historic district? ____yes X ___no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: _____

NR-listed district ____yes Eligible district ____yes District Name: _____

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ___yes ___no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ____

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ____yes X ___no

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D Considerations: ____A ___B ___C ___D ____F ___G ___None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MHT MIHP Form Inventory No. PG:LAU-22

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

The Fairall Foundry consists of Buildings 305-307 of the City of Laurel's Fairall Public Works Complex located on First Street adjacent to the CSX (formerly Baltimore and Ohio Railroad) tracks in Laurel, Maryland. Constructed circa 1866 by partners Bond and Donaldson for a foundry and machine shop, the business thrived and contributed to Laurel Factory's industry-based economy. Thomas Fairall purchased the property in 1883 and supplied machinery and equipment to the cotton mill as well as to the general public. He operated the machine works until 1892, after which it was converted to J.R. Jones Feed and Seed store in 1910. The feed store thrived until 1965, after which it was sold, and a series of machine shops and garages occupied the building. The foundry building is now owned by the City of Laurel, and it houses the city's main public works complex.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ____ **Eligibility not recommended** ____

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D **Considerations:** ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None

Comments: _____

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

Reviewer, NR Program **Date**

The Fairall Foundry is a 1- and 2-story, side-gabled and shed-roofed, stone masonry structure on the southeastern corner of Little Montgomery Avenue and First Street in Laurel, Maryland. The southeastern elevation faces First Street and the tracks and embankment of the railroad tracks. Currently part of a municipal public works facility, the building serves as a storage area, while the surrounding paved yard serves as parking lot and storage yard for the city's sanitary trucks, other vehicles, and equipment. A detached modern 1-story office building sits southeast of the foundry building.

The foundry building is composed of an original building with three additions that have been added at different times. The additions were appended to the southwestern and northwestern sides of the original building. The original building is a 2-story, 3-bay, side-gabled structure of stone masonry. The southeastern gable has been infilled with wood boards, while the northwestern gable has what appears to be aluminum or vinyl siding along the cornice. The northeastern, or main, elevation's first story consists of a central entrance door flanked by 1 window opening on each side. One of the windows contains a 12-light window, and the other has been infilled with stone. This elevation's second story contains 3 windows that have been infilled with concrete block.

The building's southeastern elevation is partially obscured by a fence; however, the openings are visible on its interior. The first story has 1 wide central door with 1 window on each side, with the door covered with plywood and the windows containing metal grates. The second story has a central door and 1 window on each side, all of which have been infilled with concrete block. A 2-story, 4-bay stone masonry addition was added onto the southwestern side of the original building. Its roof is now a shed roof, but it may have had a gabled roof at one time. Its construction date is unknown, but it appears to have been added shortly after the construction of the first because of very similar stonework and building techniques. The southeastern elevation faces the railroad tracks and consists of 1 central door and 1 window on each side on the first story. The windows contain glass lights with metal grates in them, and the door has been covered with plywood. The second story contains 2 windows and 1 door, all of which have been infilled with concrete block. The addition's southwestern side contains 4 windows and 1 door on the first story. Three of the windows have been covered with paper, while one has a 12-light glass and a wooden door. The second story of this elevation has 3 windows that have been covered with paper and 1 door that has been covered with plywood. The southwestern elevation's first story has a metal replacement window, and the second story has 2 windows that have been covered with plywood. All windows still retain their wooden lintels. This addition reportedly sustained a fire (date unknown), after which an upper story was removed for safety reasons.

A one-story, side-gabled addition was added onto the northwestern end of the original building (date unknown). Its northeastern, or front, elevation has 1 wide central door and two windows that have been infilled with plywood. The northwestern elevation has 1 central door and 2 window openings that have been infilled with concrete block. A shed-roofed addition, also constructed of stone masonry, was added onto the southwestern side of the addition. The addition's southwestern side contains a garage bay and one door opening.

The interior walls of all of the buildings have exposed stone, with the walls of the original building parged over the stone. The original building has a replaced second floor, with a modern stairway leading to it, while the southwestern addition has existing joists but no floorboards resting on them. The northwestern addition also has exposed rafters and beams above the first story. The building and its additions have concrete floors. None of the machinery associated with the foundry remains in the building.

Research has shown that a frame barn previously sat on the lot northwest of the end-gabled addition. It was constructed by Joel R. Jones (possibly in 1910) for storage for the feed store. The barn and the two northwestern stone additions may have been added at the same time.

The building has not retained historic integrity. Its integrity of design, materials, and workmanship has been compromised by alterations that have been made to the original building and its additions, including alterations to the roofs, the addition of modern material to exterior walls and the infilling of windows and doors with wood and concrete block. Its integrity of setting, feeling, and association has been diminished by the presence of a large paved parking lot and driveways on all sides of the building and a chain link fence enclosing the immediate yard. The original function of a foundry is not evident on the property, and the building does not retain a visual tie to its historic past.

The structure does not meet significance criteria outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's National Register Bulletin, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation." It does not meet Criterion A because it is not associated with events that

have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. The property does not meet Criterion B because it is not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. The property does not meet Criterion C because it does not embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, nor does it represent a distinct architectural style. It does not meet Criterion D because it has not yielded, or is it likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Because it has not retained historic integrity and does not possess historic significance, the resource is recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

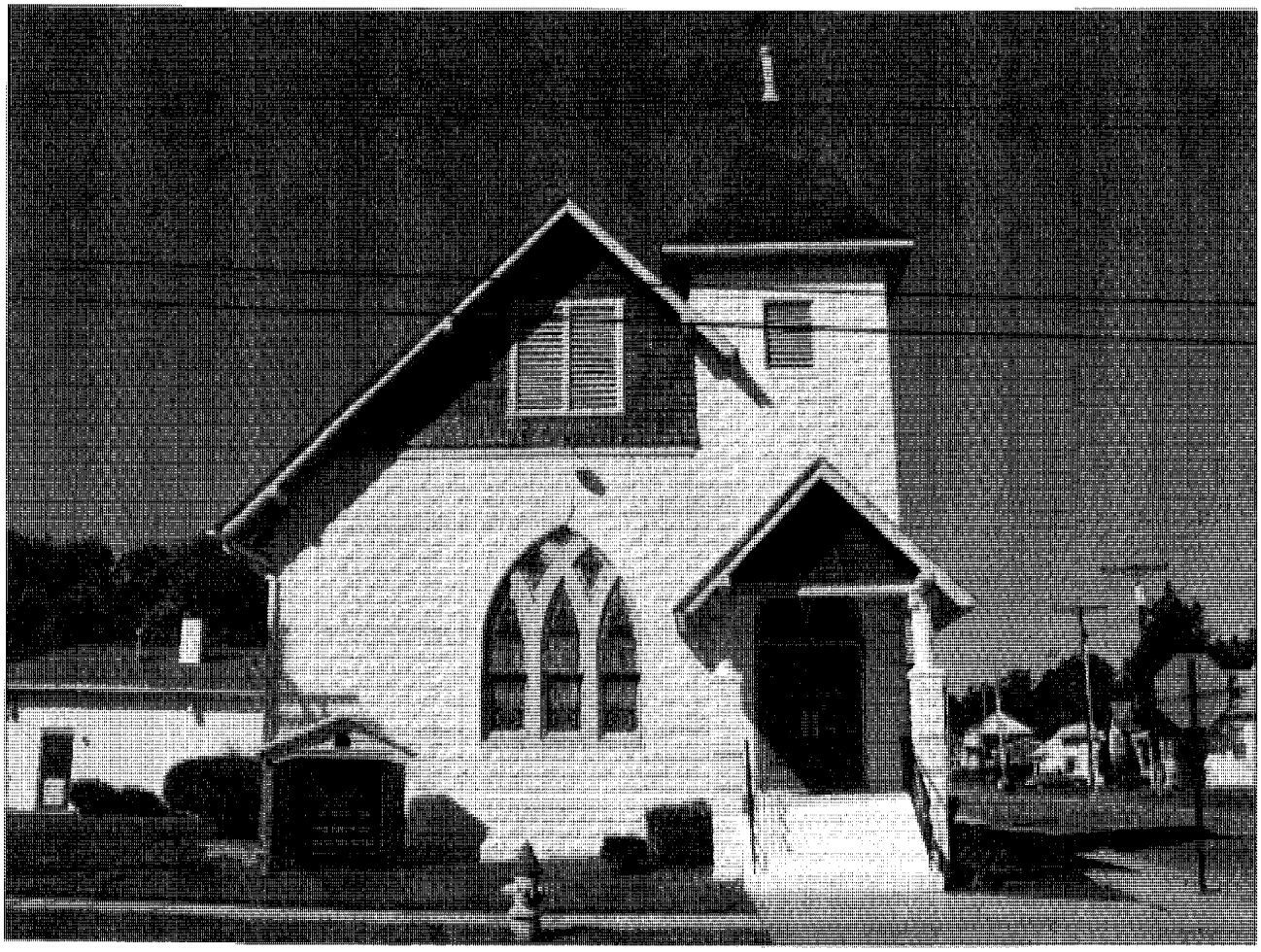
Prepared by: Alison J. Ross
KCI Technologies, Inc.

Date Prepared: May 2009

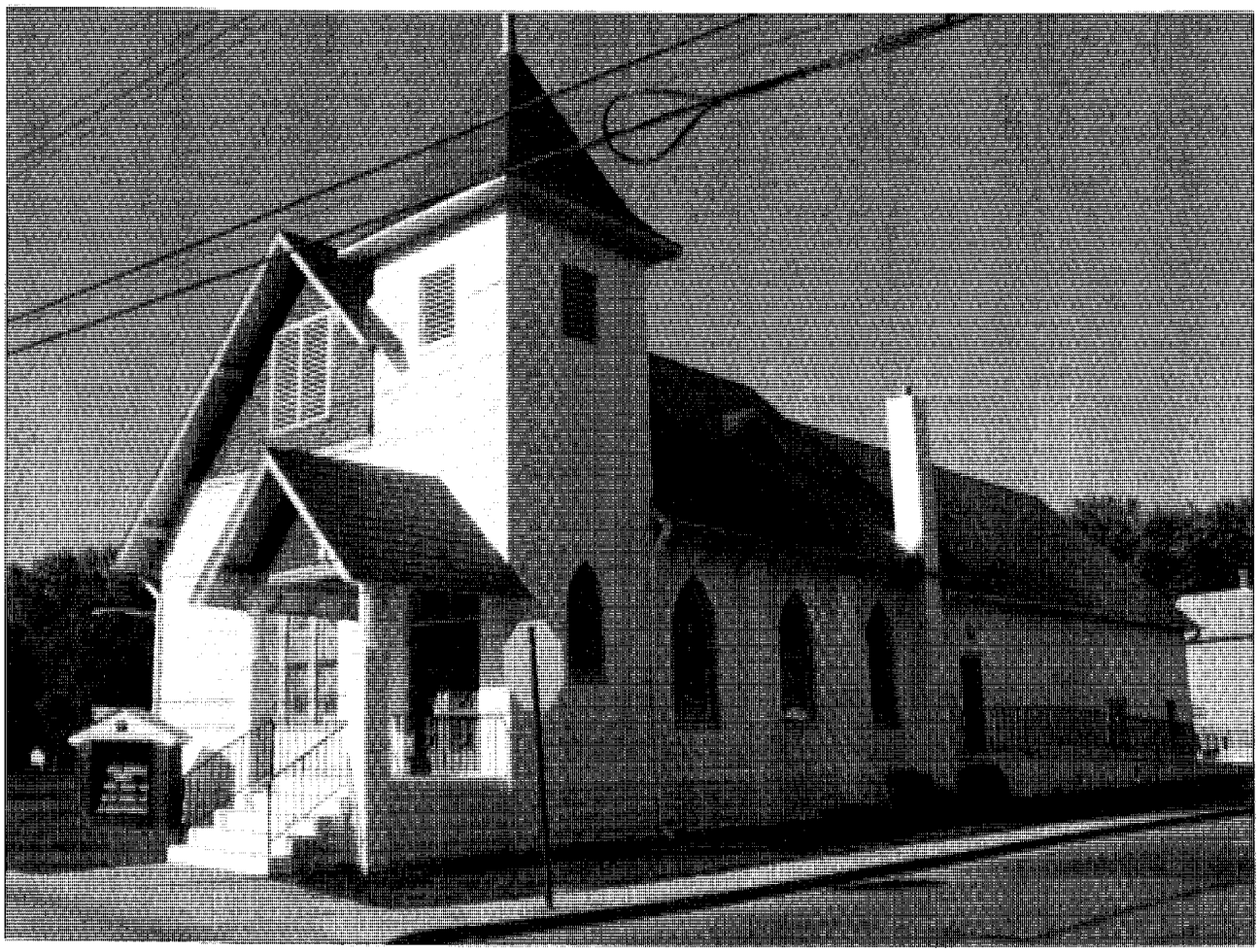
Name of Property: St. Mark's Methodist Episcopal Church
MIHP Number: PG:LAU-2
Location: 601 Eighth Street
Surveyed by: Alison J. Ross
Date: July 2008

Addendum

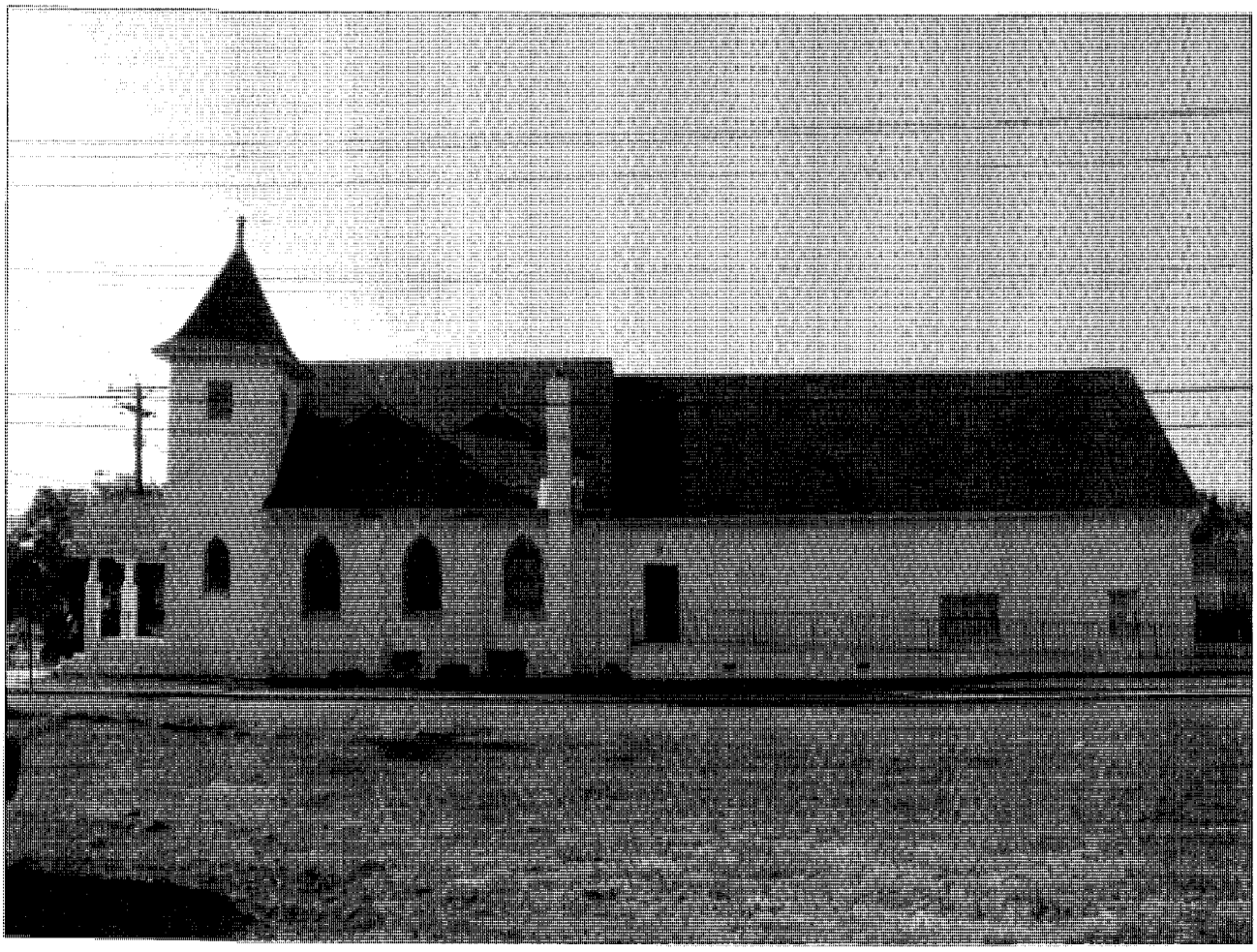
Photographs



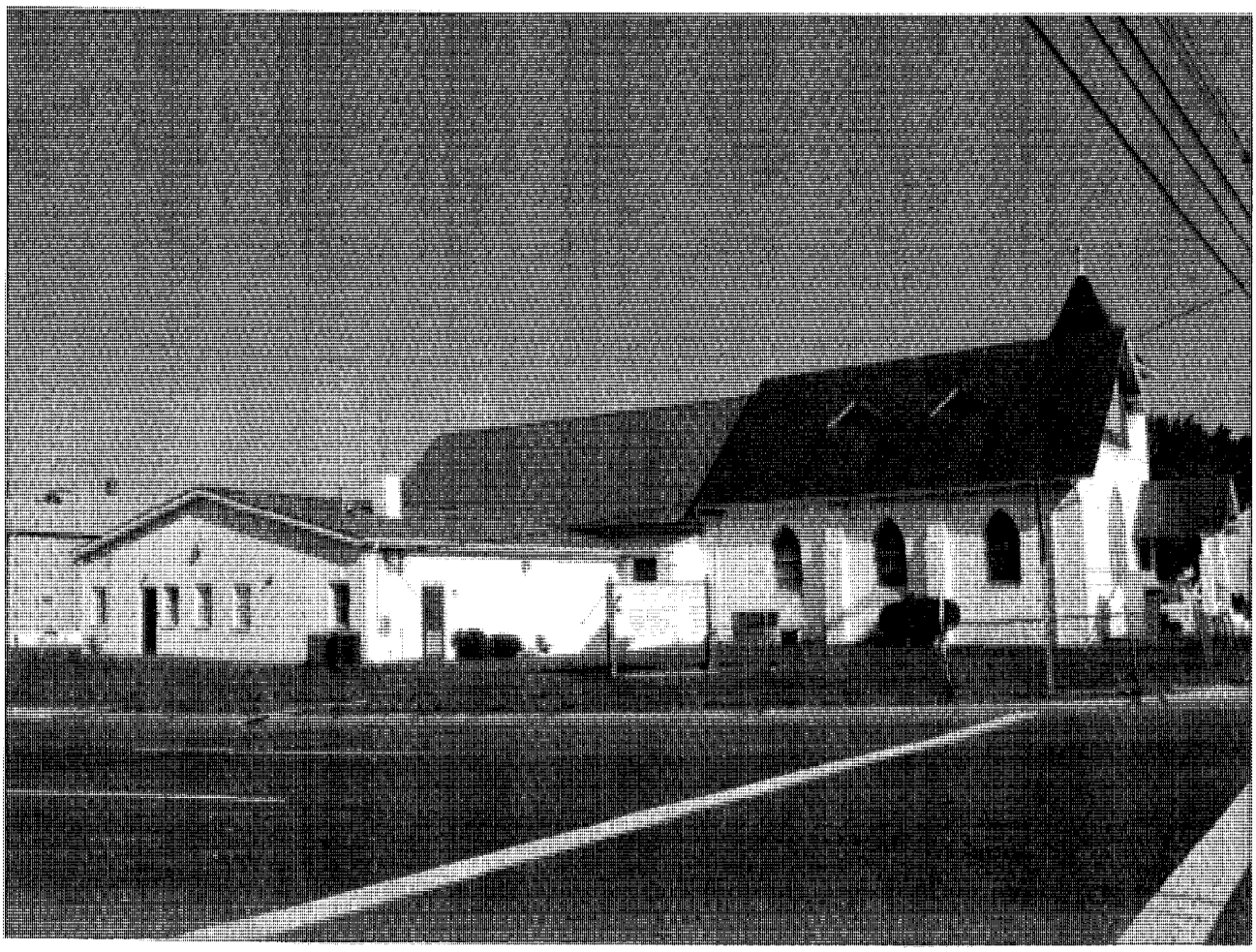
MIHP # PG:LAU-2
St. Mark's Methodist Episcopal Church
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front elevation, facing NW
Photo #1 of 4



MIHP # PG:LAU-2
St. Mark's Methodist Episcopal Church
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front and side elevations, facing SW
Photo #2 of 4



MIHP # PG:LAU-2
St. Mark's Methodist Episcopal Church
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing SW
Photo #3 of 4

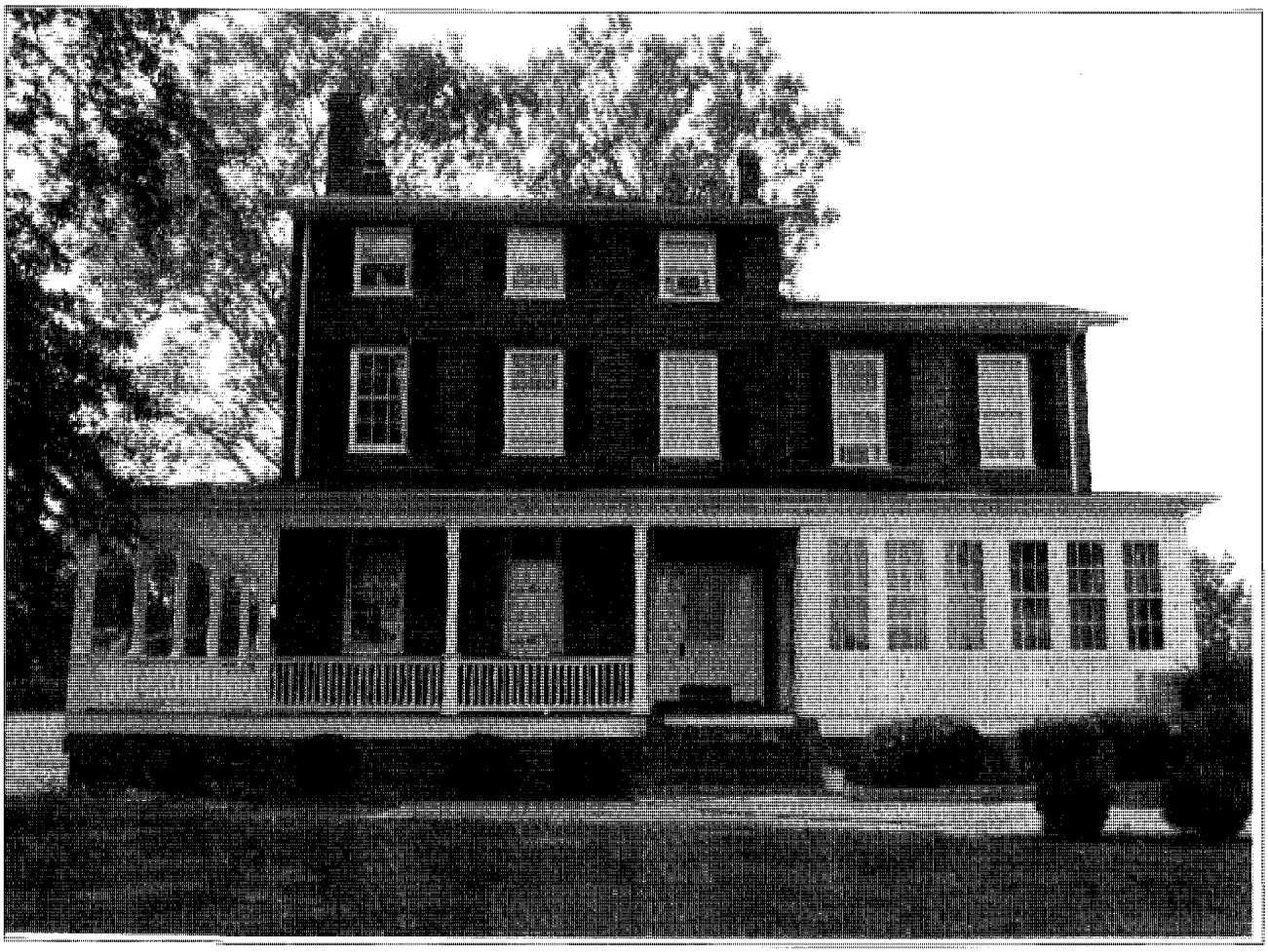


MIHP # PG:LAU-2
St. Mark's Methodist Episcopal Church
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing N
Photo #4 of 4

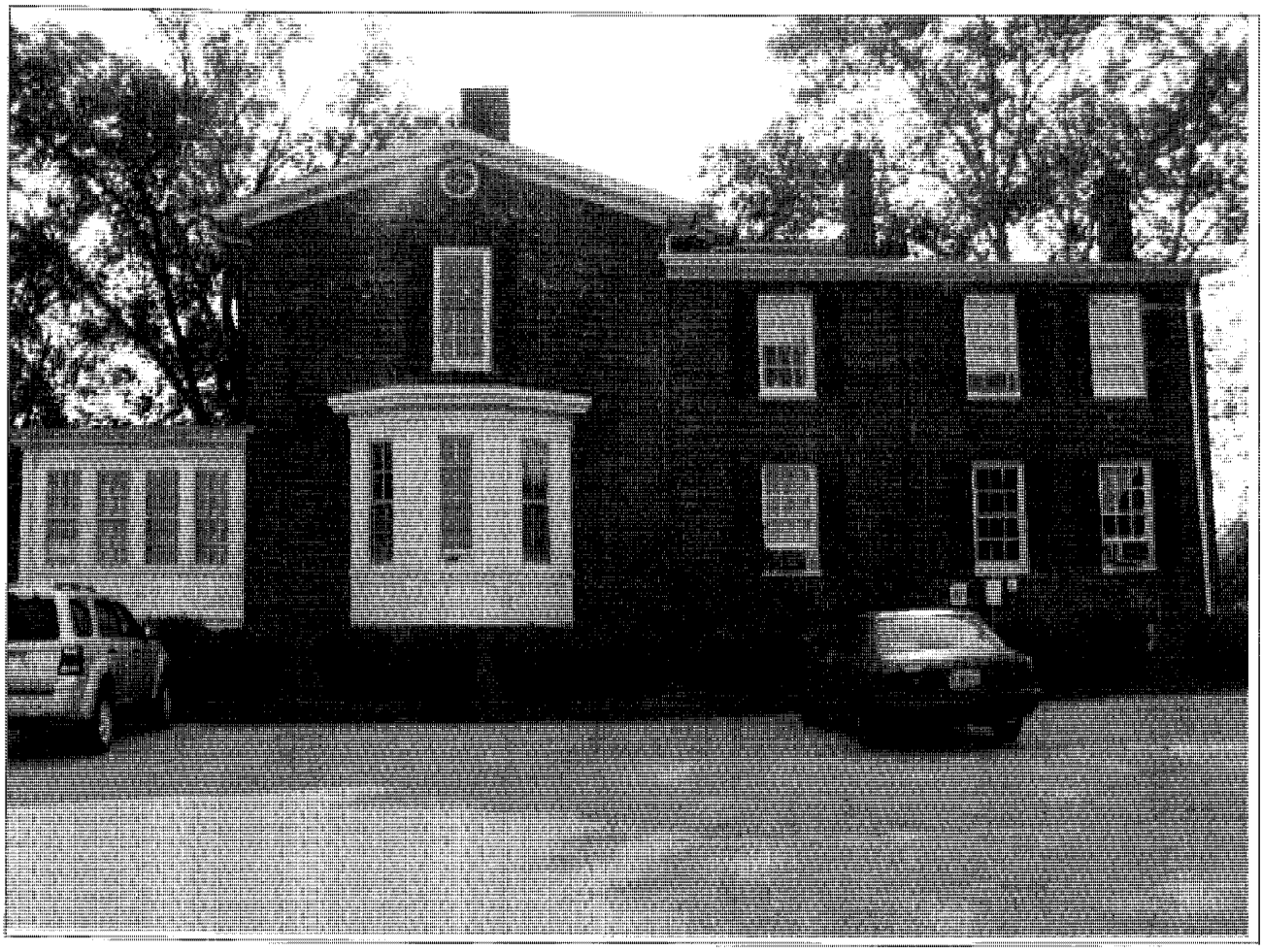
Name of Property: Gude House
MIHP Number: PG:LAU-8
Location: 13910 Laurel Lakes Avenue
Surveyed by: Alison J. Ross
Date: September 2008

Addendum

Photographs

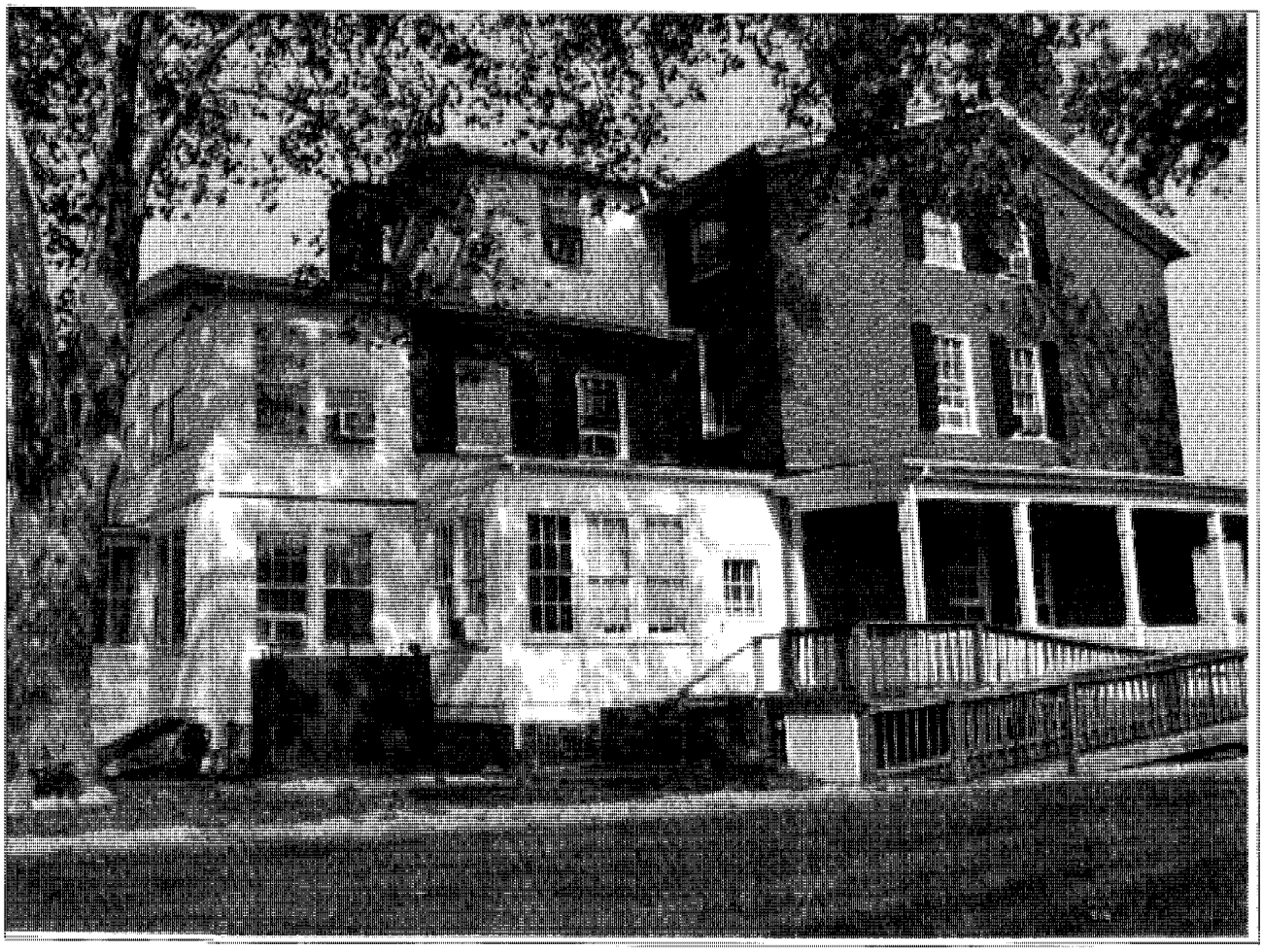


MIHP # PG:LAU-8
Gude House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front elevation of resource, facing SW
Photo #1 of 4



MIHP # PG:LAU-8
Gude House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing SE
Photo #2 of 4

MIHP # PG:LAU-8
Gude House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of rear elevation, facing NE
Photo #3 of 4



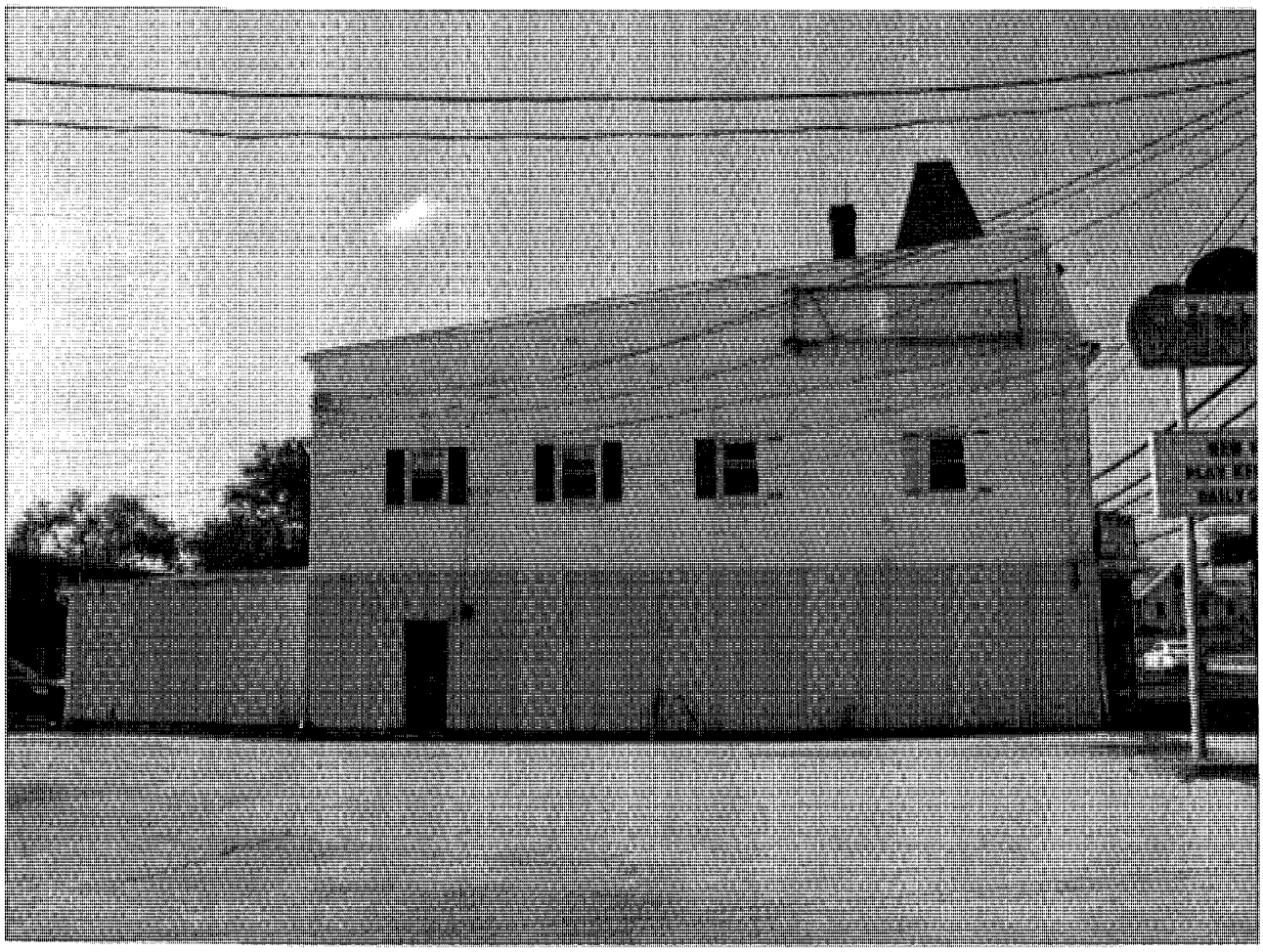
MIHP # PG:LAU-8
Gude House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing NW
Photo #4 of 4

Name of Property: The Free Quill Building
MIHP Number: PG:LAU-16
Location: 126 Washington Boulevard, Laurel, Maryland
Surveyed by: Alison J. Ross
Date: July 2008

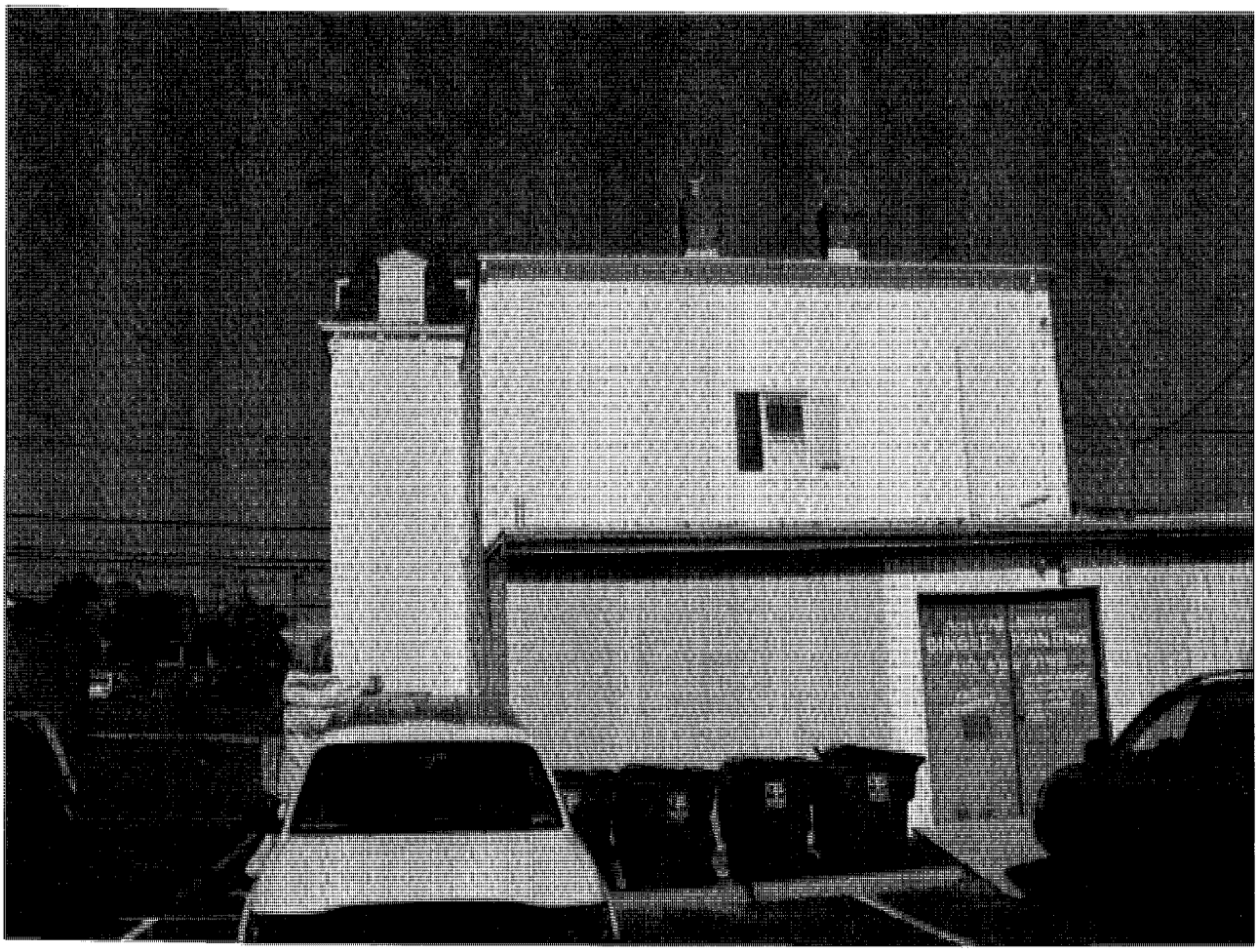
Addendum

Photographs

MIHP # PG:LAU-16
Free Quill Building
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front elevation, facing SE
Photo #1 of 5

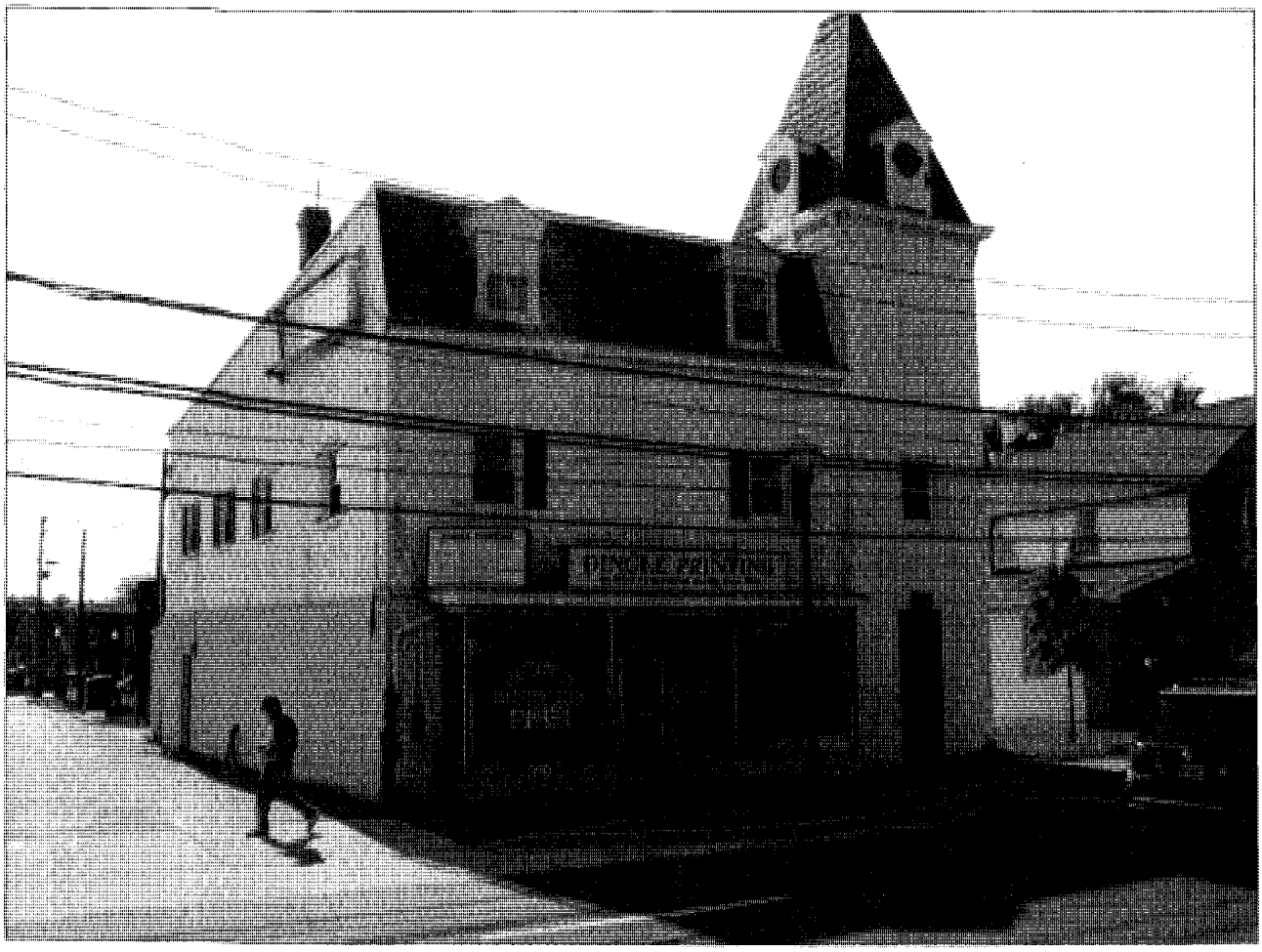


MIHP # PG:LAU-16
Free Quill Building
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing SW
Photo #2 of 5



MIHP # PG:LAU-16
Free Quill Building
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of rear elevation, facing NW
Photo #3 of 5

MIHP # PG:LAU-16
Free Quill Building
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing NE
Photo #4 of 5



MIHP # PG:LAU-16
Free Quill Building
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side and front elevations, facing SE
Photo #5 of 5

Name of Property: Richard S. Hill Property
MIHP Number: PG:LAU-23
Location: 7401 Old Sandy Spring Road
Surveyed by: Alison J. Ross
Date: July 2008

Addendum

Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

Comprehensive Description (updated information)

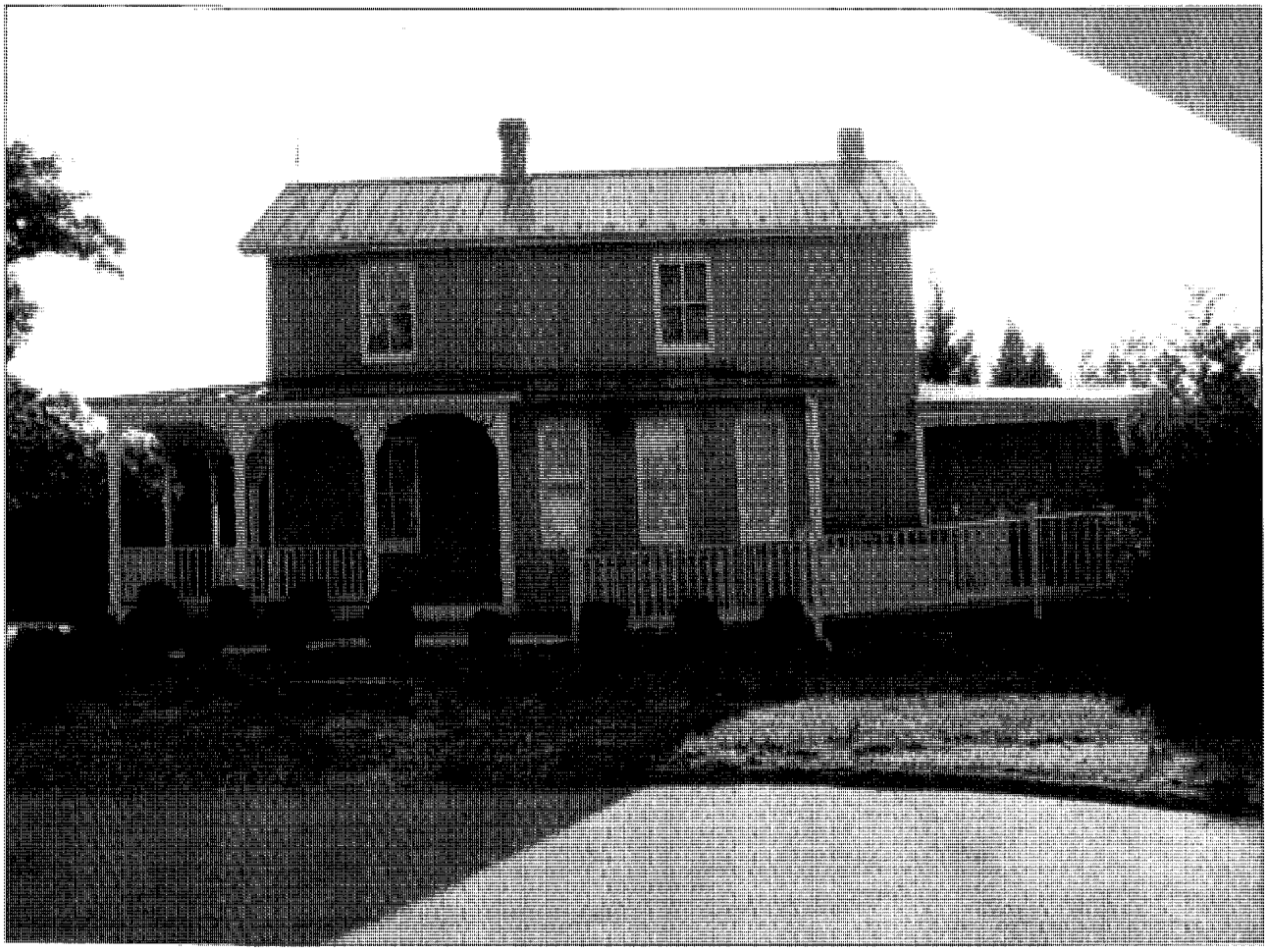
Several alterations have occurred to the Richard S. Hill property since it was last surveyed. Previously, there were two outbuildings, a barn and a shed, associated with the dwelling house and contributing resources of the property. They have since been demolished. New residential development surrounds the property on the southern and western sides. A large prominent oak tree that contributed to the historic landscaped setting in the front of the house has been removed, and a portion of the front yard has been paved for a parking lot. The original stone entrance posts have been retained near the street.

The 2-story, 2-bay, cross-gabled house has been renovated with a 1-story, 3-bay hipped roof addition on the northeastern side of the house. A new standing seam metal roof was installed on the cross-gabled roof, and vinyl siding was installed over the asbestos shingle siding. An accessibility ramp was installed on the western elevation leading to the rear entrance on this side of the house. The folk Victorian features still remain on the house, such as the porch details and doors, and it still reads as a folk Victorian-style cross-gabled dwelling house, representative of its era.

Name Richard S. Hill Property
Inventory No. PG:LAU-23
Location 7401 Old Sandy Spring Road
Surveyed by Alison J. Ross July 2008

Addendum Photographs

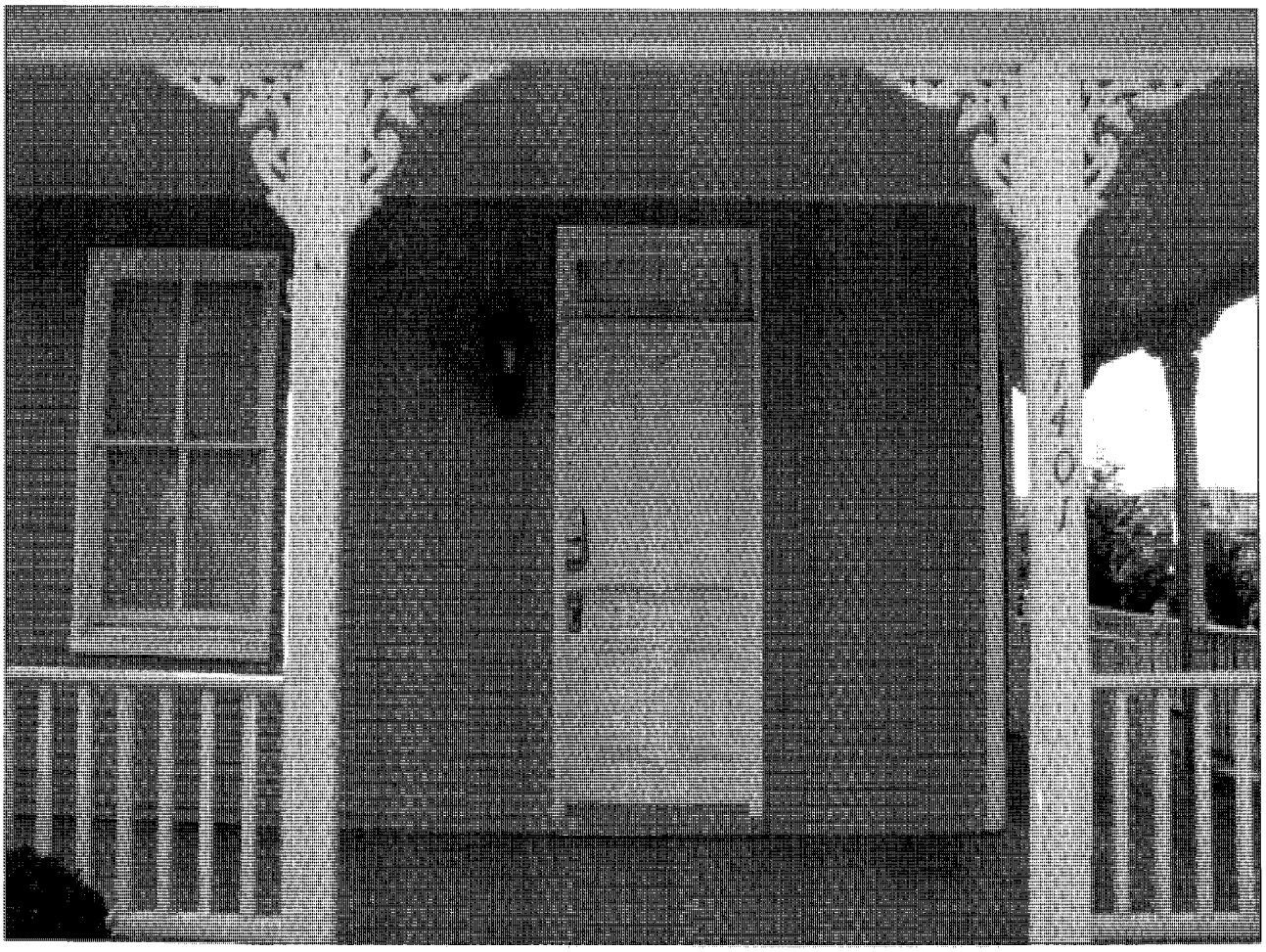
MIHP # PG:LAU-23
Richard S. Hill Property
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front elevation of resource, showing front addition, facing S
Photo #1 of 5



MIHP # PG:LAU-23
Richard S. Hill Property
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, showing side additions and ramp, facing E
Photo #2 of 5

MIHP # PG:LAU-23
Richard S. Hill Property
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, showing side additions and ramp, facing E
Photo #3 of 5

MIHP # PG:LAU-23
Richard S. Hill Property
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, showing side additions and ramp, facing E
Photo #4 of 5



MIHP # PG:LAU-23
Richard S. Hill Property
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front porch, showing detail of wood trim around, facing S
Photo #5 of 5

Capsule Summary

Name of Property: Laurel Wreath Lodge
MIHP number: PG:LAU-25
Location: 207 Washington Boulevard
Laurel, Prince Georges County, Maryland 20707

Date of Construction: 1894
Access: Private

Property Description: Constructed in 1894, the Laurel Wreath Lodge is a 2-story, 3-bay, hip-roofed structure fronting Washington Boulevard. It is constructed of brick masonry, with a stone foundation. A rear 2-story addition is constructed of concrete block painted to match the brick masonry of the main building. The roof of the main building is hipped with a broad, projecting pediment in the front elevation, while the rear addition has a shed roof. A small grass lawn surrounds the building, with a paved parking lot beyond the lawn on three sides. Four concrete steps and a walkway lead from the sidewalk at the street in front of the building to the front entry door. Pipe railings are on both sides of the steps.

Summary Paragraph on History: The Laurel Wreath Lodge stands on land that was originally part of "New Birmingham Manor," after which it became part of a 610-acre parcel known as "Laurel Farm." Following the sale of the farm and the subdivision of the land, several land speculators purchased the land on the western side of Washington Boulevard from which 207 Washington Boulevard would be carved. A mixture of buildings was built along Washington Boulevard, then a fashionable road, and included residences, churches, and commercial buildings. On October 31, 1893, members of Laurel Wreath Lodge No. 149 of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons purchased the land on behalf of the lodge, and a building was designed and constructed by local architect and builder Lawrence Adelbert Ellis constructed for its use. The building has remained as a lodge for the organization from 1894 to the present day.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-25

1. Name of Property

historic	Laurel Wreath Lodge (preferred)
other	Masonic Lodge

2. Location

street and number	207 Washington Boulevard	__ not for publication
city, town	Laurel	__ vicinity
county	Prince Georges	

3. Owner of Property

name	Laurel Temple Holding Corporation				
street and number	207 Washington Boulevard			telephone	
city, town	Laurel	state	Maryland	zip code	20707-4615

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Tax Department website		liber 7069	folio 899	
city, town	Laurel	tax map A-0848	tax parcel	tax ID number	

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
____district
__X_building(s)
____structure
____site
____object

Ownership
____public
__X_private
____both

Current Function
____agriculture
____commerce/trade
____defense
____domestic
____education
____funerary
____government
____health care
____industry
____landscape
____recreation/culture
____religion
__X__social
____transportation
____work in progress
____unknown
____vacant/not in use
____other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
1	_____	Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
0

7. Description

Inventory No. PG:LAU-25

Condition

___ excellent ___ deteriorated
___ good ___ ruins
_X_ fair ___ altered

Summary

Constructed in 1894, the Laurel Wreath Lodge is a 2-story, 3-bay structure fronting Washington Boulevard. It is constructed of brick masonry with a stone foundation. A rear 2-story addition is constructed of concrete block painted to match the brick of the main building. The main building's roof is hipped, with a broad, projecting pediment in the front elevation, while the rear addition has a shed roof. A small grass lawn surrounds the building, with a paved parking lot beyond the lawn on three sides. Four concrete steps and a walkway lead from the sidewalk at the street in front of the building to the front entry door. Pipe railings are on both sides of the steps. Next to the building on its southwestern side is a building that was formerly a funeral parlor, with a parking lot in front of it.

Comprehensive Description

The first story of the main building's front, or southeastern, elevation has 3 bays and consists of (from left to right): a double-hung window with 1-over-1 lights and 1 single-leaf, 6-paneled wooden door with one 4-light sidelight on each side and a 2-light transom above a 2-panel lintel. The windows and door have wooden pedimented hood molds with a decorative rosette design. The second story of the front elevation has 3 bays, with (from left to right) a window opening closed up with vertical wooden boards, a blind window in the center, and another window opening that has been boarded up with vertical wooden boards. The blind window opening is infilled with brick, and a marble or granite plaque is set into the brick. The plaque bears the inscription of the Masonic insignia and the words "Laurel Wreath Lodge No. 149 A. F. and A. M." All three window openings have straight wooden hood molds with rosette designs. The closed up windows give evidence of the interior function of this part of the building's second story, a private assembly hall characteristic of Masonic halls. It is believed that the two outer window openings contained glass lights originally but were closed up at a later date for increased privacy in order to maintain the secrecy that Masonic practice required. Perhaps as the boulevard became busier and more heavily trafficked, more insulation was desired. It appears that the center bay was always closed up with brick. All window openings have granite sills. The front of the projecting roof pediment has horizontal wooden siding, and the building's main roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Overhanging eaves are on all sides of the building, and it appears that the cornice (perhaps once bracketed) was covered with siding during renovations to modernize the building (date unknown) and perhaps to reduce maintenance costs for the Lodge. The Masonic function that occurred inside of the structure clearly influenced the design and alterations that were made to the building and that are reflected on the building's front elevation.

The first story of the main building's northeastern elevation has a row of 5 double-hung windows with 1-over-1 lights and wooden, pedimented hood molds above each window. The second story of this elevation contains 5 window openings, with 4 of them closed with vertical wooden boards, giving evidence, again, of the private assembly hall within. A fire escape with a decorative metal railing projects from the central window, and a stairway descends to the ground. The sixth window opening contains a double-hung window, with 1-over-1 lights. The glass in this window indicates that the assembly hall inside ends before this window and that perhaps an entry foyer is located at the rear of the building. All windows on the second story have straight wooden hood molds with decorative rosette designs and granite sills.

The first story of the main building's southwestern elevation has (from left to right) 1 single-leaf, paneled wooden door and 3 double-hung windows with 1-over-1 lights, all of which have pedimented hood molds. The second story has 4 boarded up window openings with vertical boards in each and a fifth opening with double-hung windows with 1-over-1 lights. All five second-story window openings have straight, wooden hood molds and granite sills.

A 2-story, 3-bay rear addition of concrete block was constructed onto the building's northwestern end. The addition's northeastern elevation contains no windows. The first story of the addition's rear elevation has (from left to right) a single-leaf door of wooden planks and no windows, a single-leaf, three-panel, wooden door with six lights, and a 4-light fixed window with a metal frame. Alterations were made to the window configurations in this elevation. It appears that another window opening in the left side of the wall was filled in with concrete block. It also appears that the 8-light metal window was larger at one time and that the wall next to it was patched with brick. The addition's second story has (from left to right) an 8-light window in a metal frame and a window opening that has been filled in with an unknown material and stuccoed. An air conditioning unit sits in this window. All windows have brick sills. It is possible that the first story's solid door is intended for privacy and leads to the assembly hall upstairs and that the door with lights leads to a more public area where privacy is not warranted.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No.

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

An interior brick chimney sits in the center of the rear of the main building, indicating the presence of a fireplace that has been used for heating purposes.

8. Significance

Inventory No. PG:LAU-25

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

Specific dates	1894	**Architect/Builder**	Lawrence Adelbert Ellis
Construction dates	1894		

Evaluation for:

_____ National Register _____Maryland Register ___X_____not evaluated

Narrative Discussion of History

General History

The Laurel Wreath Lodge is on the northwestern side of Washington Boulevard in the city of Laurel, Prince Georges County, Maryland. It sits on land that was originally patented to Richard Snowden in 1715 as "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" in Prince George's County, Maryland. The Laurel area was established by members of the Snowden family, one of the founding families of Maryland, and their relatives from Attleboro, Massachusetts. At the time of the patent, Snowden's estate already was approximately 3,000 acres in size, extending from Old Columbia Pike to the present city of Laurel and from south of Greencastle and Van Dusen Roads to north of Sandy Spring Road. The 1715 patent increased the already substantial Snowden land holdings, and by 1743 the estate had grown to 9,265 acres

Manufacturing activity on the Patuxent River started in 1736 when the Snowden family established the Patuxent River Iron Works. Almost a century later in 1811, Nicholas Snowden constructed a stone grist mill building on the banks of the river as well as a dam at what is now Ninth Street in Laurel. In 1824, a Mr. Johnson leased the Snowden mill for a period of 12 years and converted it from a grist mill to a factory for spinning cotton yarn, known as the Cotton Manufacturing Motive of Laurel. The mill was successful and at one time reportedly employed 100 adults. Prior to 1835, another local businessman, Robert Pilsen, installed the first loom in the factory that enabled the weaving of cotton cloth on site.

Nicholas Snowden died in 1831, and his 14,000-acre estate, Montpelier, was subdivided among his children. His wife received what was called the Bank Quarter, which contained a bank of iron ore. A leftover undivided portion along the Patuxent River, containing approximately 100 acres eventually became the site of the Laurel Factory. The parcel contained a stone mansion, a small grist and saw mill, and a few log houses. It also contained a well-used farm, with successive crops of tobacco and corn. Its location was valuable because of the exceptional water power in the river.

The location and easy access to the railroad and the turnpike were not lost on Snowden's heirs, which included son-in-law Horace Capron, Louisa's husband and a member of the Capron family of Attleboro, Massachusetts. Snowden had previously worked at a mill at Savage, Maryland, prior to turning his attentions to the lands of the former New Birmingham Manor. On January 28, 1836, Horace Capron joined other Snowden family members in a new business venture. Capron, along with Dr. Theodore Jenkins (brother-in-law of Capron and neighbor of the Snowdens at New Birmingham Manor), Elizabeth Snowden (Capron's mother-in-law), Osmond C. Tiffany (Capron's first cousin from another Attleboro, Massachusetts, family) A.E. Hall, and W.C. Shaw incorporated a new company, the Patuxent Company, for the purpose of manufacturing and selling cotton, iron, and other articles at the site of the mill and farm. The Snowden children's land holdings were combined and transferred when Horace Capron and his wife, Charles Hill and his wife, and Dr. Theodore Jenkins and his wife, conveyed their inherited lands to the Patuxent Company. Deeds for property and stock also were transferred by Osmond Tiffany, Comfort Tiffany, and several Capron cousins, who also were involved in mill activities elsewhere.

In 1835, at approximately the same time that the Patuxent Company was establishing its mill operations on the river, the Baltimore and Ohio (B&O) Railroad Company completed its rail line and connected the cities of Baltimore and Washington D.C. A road (later Main Street) ran from the mill eastward to the railroad, approximately one mile away, and a depot was constructed near the rail line. Much growth occurred in Laurel between the mill and the depot after the Civil War, undoubtedly spurred by the

incorporation of the Laurel Building Association in 1869. The primary purpose of the association was to enable the accumulation of capital sufficient for its members to procure loans, purchase real or leasehold property, and to erect buildings

History of Resource

In 1875, the town of Laurel Factory had been incorporated and its name changed to Laurel. The 1878 Hopkins map indicates that by this time the eastern end of the town surrounding the railroad had developed, with larger parcels and houses on the eastern side of the railroad, and smaller lots on the track's western side. At this time, a large, 610-acre plantation owned by Thomas Jefferson Talbott, was located between the mill at the western end and the railroad and turnpike at the eastern end of town.

By 1878 the Talbott land had been subdivided and parcels sold. While a portion of the Talbott land stayed in the Talbott family, the remaining land was purchased by Arthur Pue Gorman, President of the Baltimore and Ohio Canal Company and later a U.S. Senator, and partner James Kemp. A portion of the land was subdivided into 38 building lots, with some lots fronting the Washington & Baltimore Turnpike (later known as Washington Boulevard). Gorman and Kemp were not the only land speculators in Laurel. Business partners Edward Phelps and Charles F. Shaffer, operating as Phelps and Shaffer, later purchased much land from Gorman and Kemp in the latter part of the nineteenth century, among which were lots along Washington Boulevard.

The buildings that were constructed on the western side of Washington Boulevard were a mixture of commercial and residential properties. Local architect and builder Lawrence Adelbert Ellis opened an office in a building on the turnpike and acted as both a real estate agent and architect and builder. He was hired by several property owners on the Washington & Baltimore Turnpike (as well as throughout Laurel) to design and construct buildings for them. Among his projects was the Laurel Wreath Lodge, which chose his design and construction bid from among four competing ones.

The Laurel Wreath Lodge stands on land that was originally patented to Richard Snowden as part of "New Birmingham Manor." After the death of Nicholas Snowden in 1831, a large tract known as Lot No. 8 and located between the Baltimore and Washington Turnpike and the Snowden's mill to the west, and between Main Street on the north to a point south of it, was inherited by Nicholas' daughter, Eliza Snowden. Richard Snowden and his wife, Elizabeth, acquired it and subsequently conveyed a large tract to Horace Capron on August 29, 1839 (DB AB 12, P. 367). It appears that Capron had a 610-acre farm and home on the southeastern side of the tract. On May 21, 1850, Horace Capron applied to the State of Maryland for Insolvency and was directed by Orphan's Court to convey his land, household goods, and furniture for $1.00 to trustees Thomas S. Alexander and George W. Dobbin on April 1, 1850 (DB JJB 6, P. 331). At a public auction on May 21, 1850, the trustees sold the 610-acre parcel to Thomas Wilson of John for $28,060.00 (DB CSM 1, P. 151).

Thomas Wilson of John named the tract "Laurel Farm" and owned it for the next ten years. On November 27, 1861, Thomas Wilson of John and his wife sold Laurel Farm to Thomas Jefferson Talbott for $27,200.00 (DB 1, P. 27). After Talbott's death, trustees for his property, Charles Stanley, Michael Bannon, and Edwin Higgins, sold 168 7/8 acres of the farm to Honora Talbott (DB HB 13, P. 474) at a public sale on June 24, 1878 for $1,950.00 (the remaining Talbott land had been sold to Arthur Pue Gorman and partner James Kemp). The 1878 Hopkins map indicates Honora Talbott's parcel as the same parcel from which 207 Washington Boulevard would later be subdivided. Charles F. Shaffer and partner Edward Phelps acquired much of Gorman and Kemp's land between 1878 and 1887 and acquired Honora Talbott's tract (date unknown) before selling it on October 31, 1893, to P.M. Fisher, C.H. Stanley, J. F. Billard, P.P. Castle, and F.M. Baker, Trustees, for $500.00 for the purposes of the Laurel Wreath Lodge (DB JWB 28 P. 631). The successors to the trust named in 1893 held onto the deed for almost 100 years, when on August 15, 1988, David R. Chamberlin, Otis A. Mauck, Emory P. Haslup, Frank D. Bush, and Albert Boulter, Successor Trustees for the benefit of the Laurel Wreath Lodge No. 149 of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, conveyed the deed to the Laurel Temple Holding Corporation, which retains title to the property to this day (DB 7069, P. 899).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. PG:LAU-25

Capron, Horace. Autobiography. 2 vols., nd, typed copy, Maryland Historical Society.

Hopkins, G.M. *Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington Including the County of Prince George Maryland.* Philadelphia: F. Bourquin, 1878.

Martenet, Simon J. Map of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1861.

Poe, Gertrude L. *Laurel, Maryland: Centennial Souvenir Booklet.* Privately published by City of Laurel, Maryland, 1970.

Recorder of Deeds, Prince Georges County Circuit Court. Various deeds from Land Records.

Spero, P.A.C. and Company. *Montgomery-Prince Georges Short-term Congestion Relief.* May 1998.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	0.14 acre		
Acreage of historical setting	0.14 acre		
Quadrangle name	Laurel	Quadrangle scale:	1: 24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The surveyed property consists of the tax parcel described in the tax records as Block 44, Lot 16D

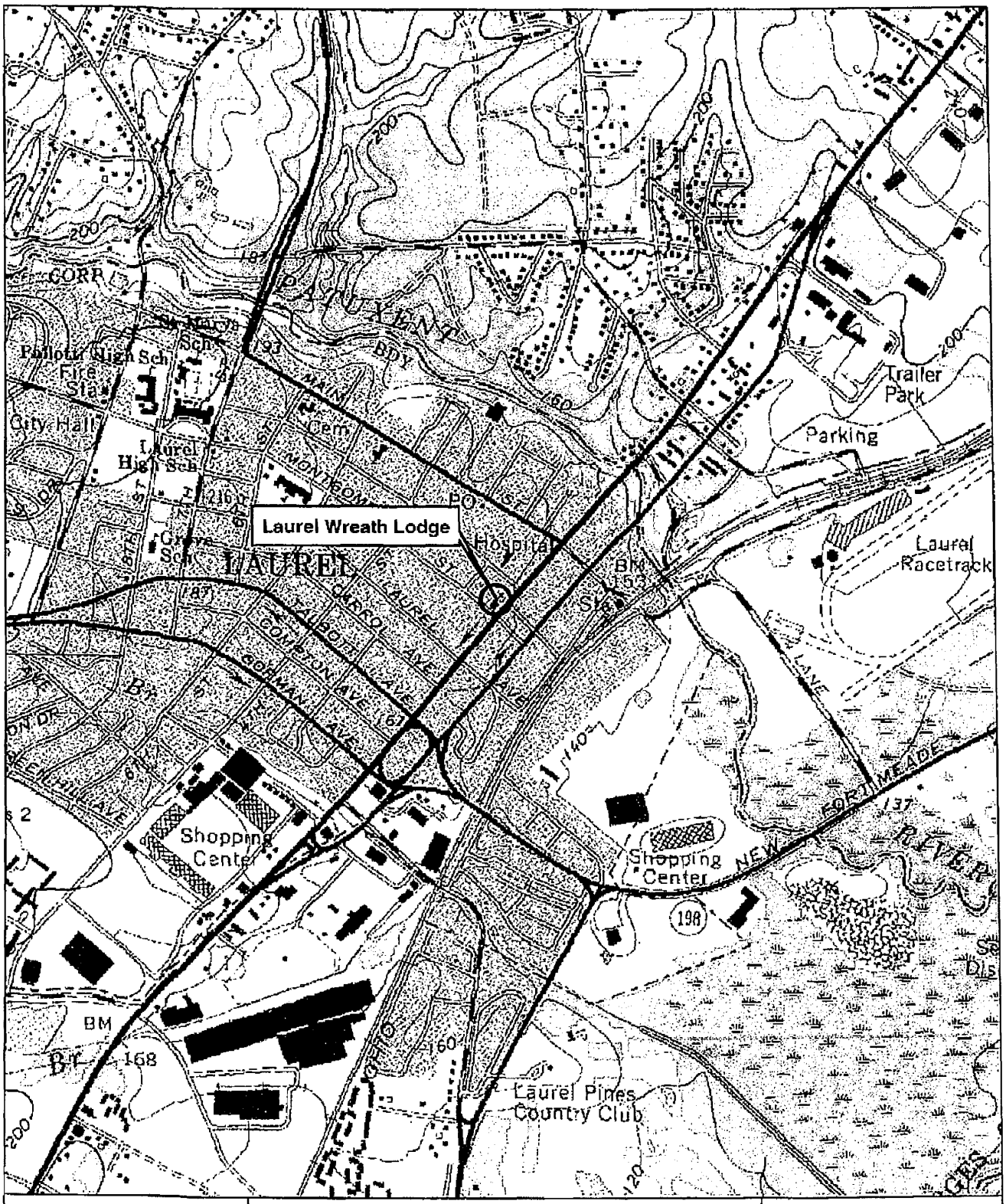
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Alison Ross, M.S. Architectural Historian		
organization	KCI Technologies, Inc.	date	10/2008
street & number	5001 Louise Drive	telephone	717-691-1340
city or town	Mechanicsburg	state	PA

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
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



N

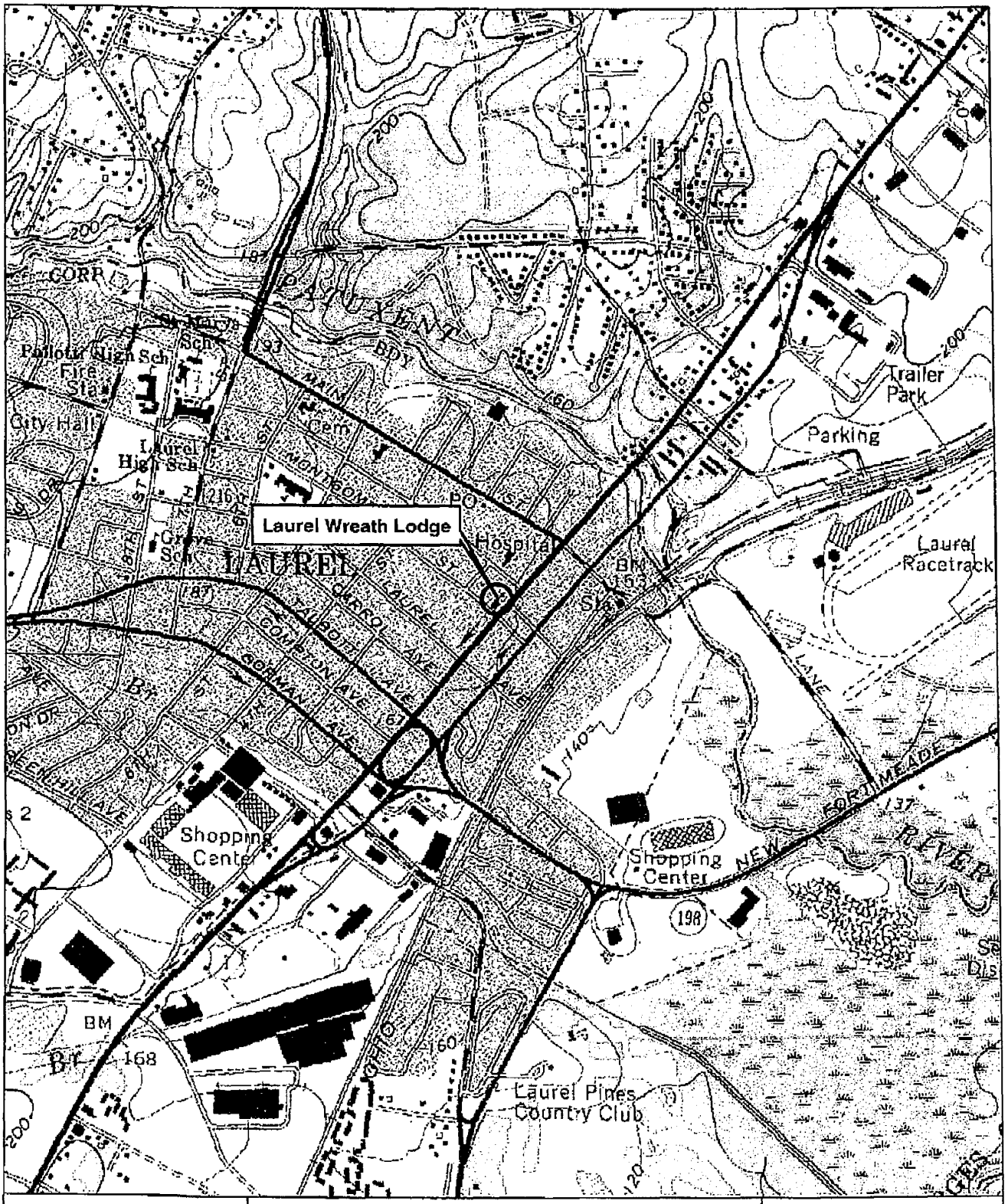
Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Site No. PG:LAU-25

Locational Map

Laurel Wreath Lodge
207 Washington Boulevard

Map Courtesy of
U.S. Geological Survey
2004 Microsoft Corporation

Laurel, Maryland, July 1, 1979



N

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Site No. PG:LAU-25

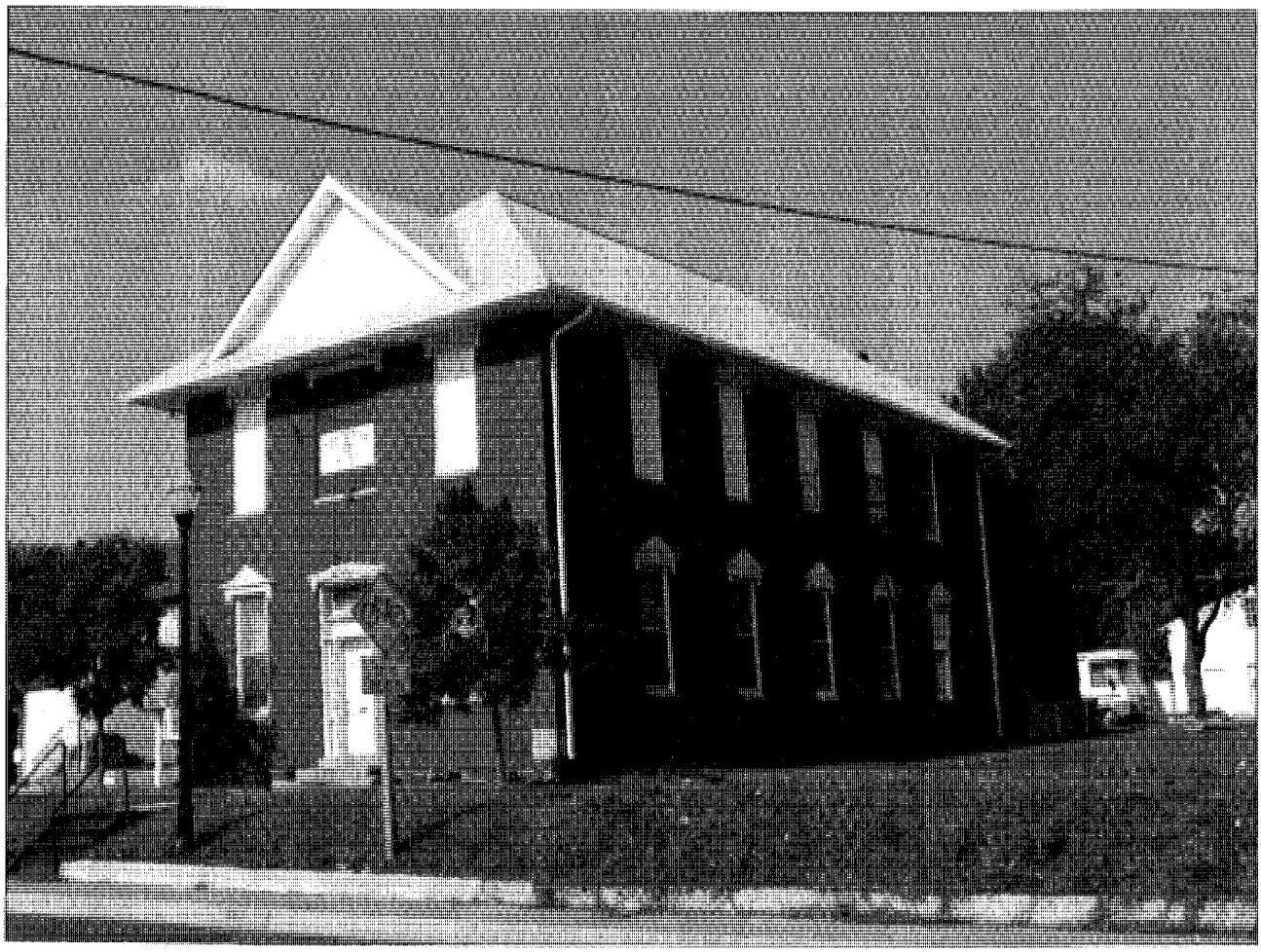
Locational Map

Laurel Wreath Lodge
207 Washington Boulevard

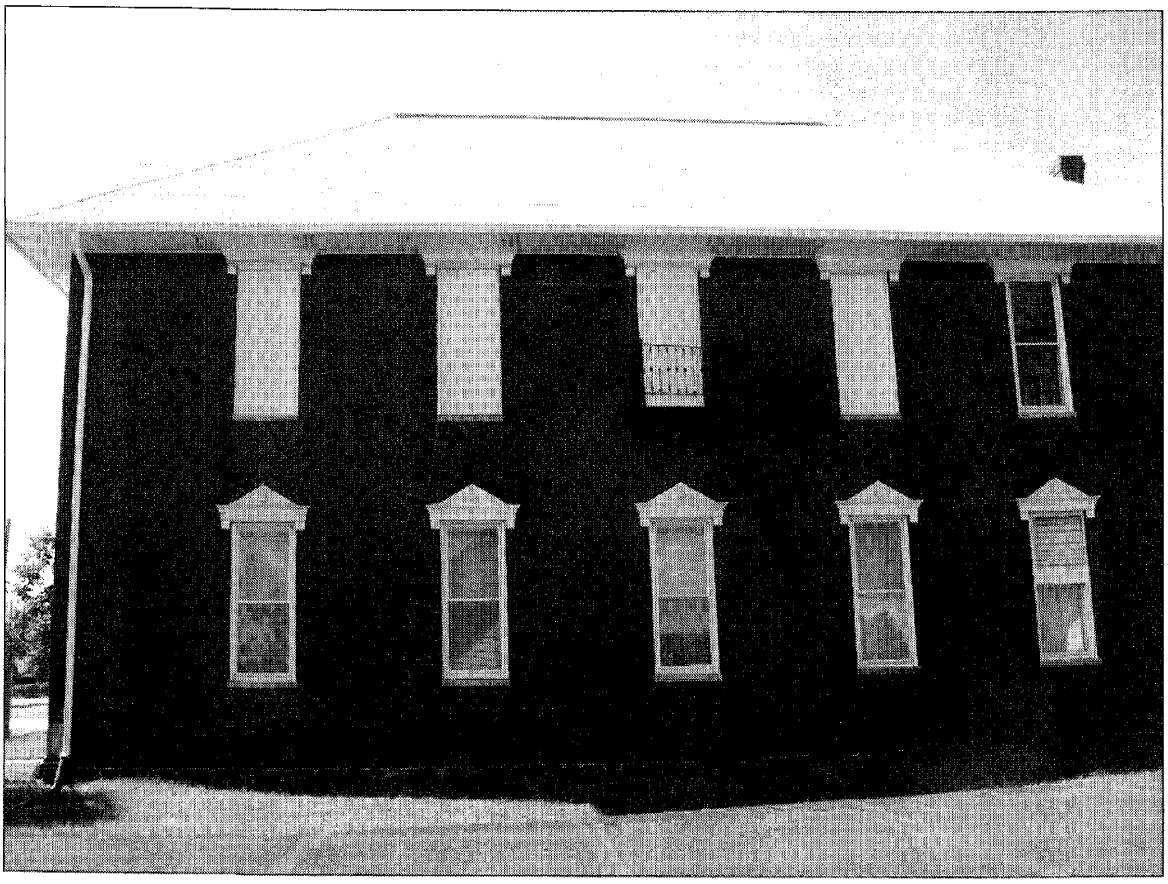
Map Courtesy of
U.S. Geological Survey
2004 Microsoft Corporation

Laurel, Maryland, July 1, 1979

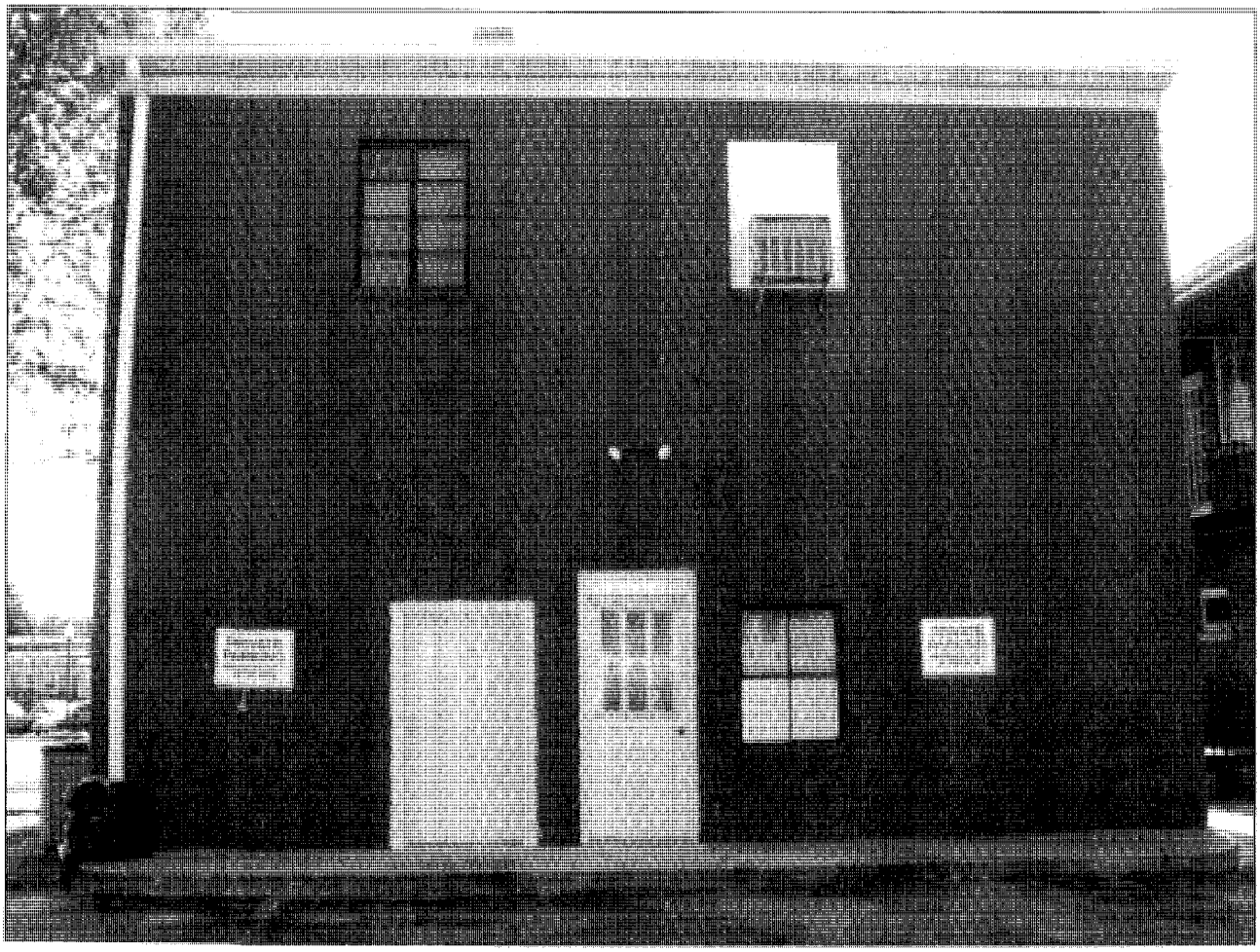
MIHP # PG:LAU-25
Laurel Wreath Lodge
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front elevation, facing NW
Photo #1 of 5



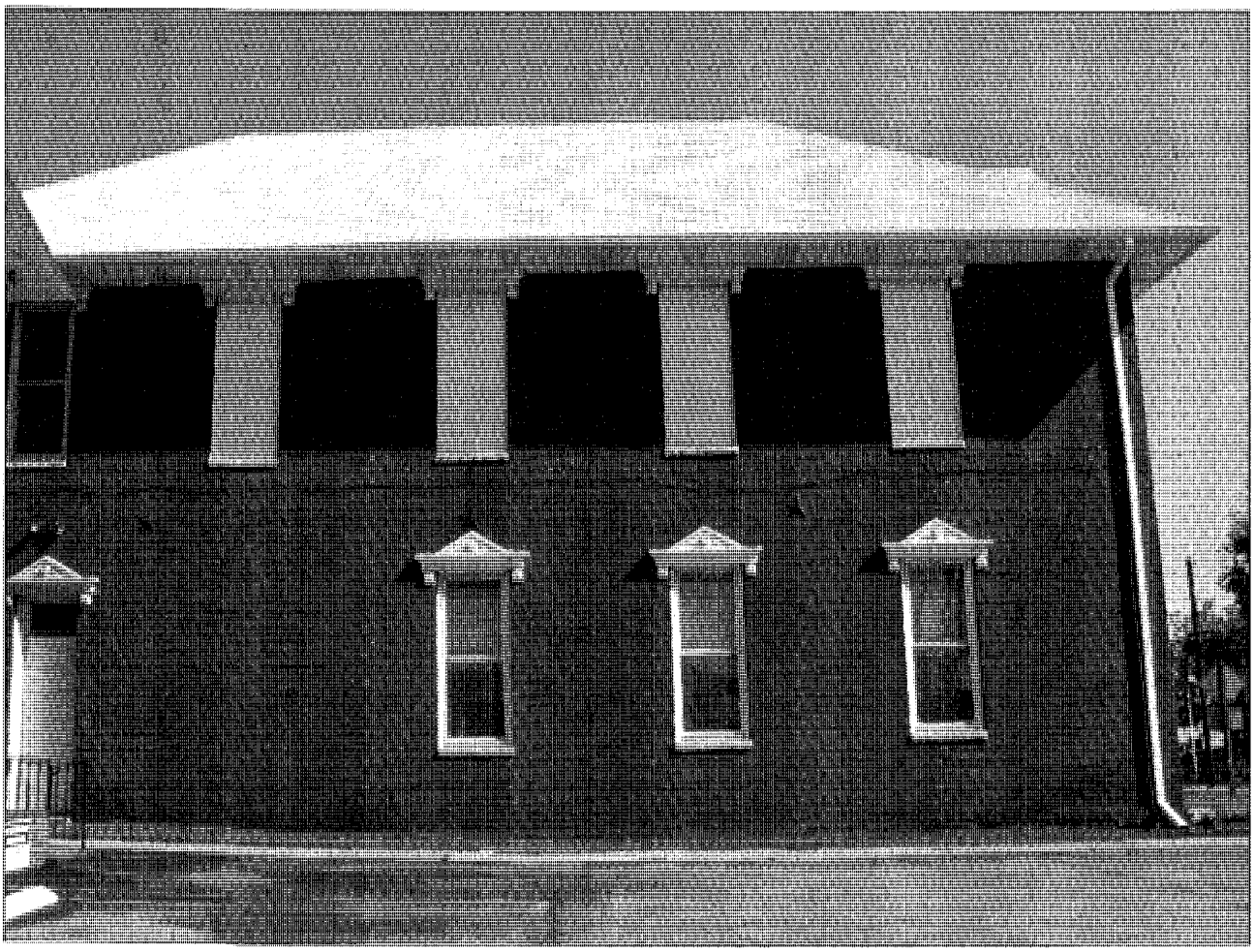
MIHP # PG:LAU-25
Laurel Wreath Lodge
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front and side elevations, facing W
Photo #2 of 5



MIHP # PG:LAU-25
Laurel Wreath Lodge
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing SW
Photo #3 of 5



MIHP # PG:LAU-25
Laurel Wreath Lodge
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of rear elevation, facing SE
Photo #4 of 5



MIHP # PG:LAU-25
Laurel Wreath Lodge
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing NE
Photo #5 of 5

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

'roperty Name: Laurel Wreath Lodge Inventory Number: PG:LAU-25

Address: 207 Washington Boulevard City: Laurel Zip Code: 20707

County: Prince Georges County USGS Topographic Map: Laurel, MD 1979

Owner: Laurel Temple Holding Corporation Is the property being evaluated a district? ____yes

Tax Parcel Number: _____ Tax Map Number: _____ Tax Account ID Number: 10 23001

Project: Laurel Historic District Architectural Survey and Analysis Agency: City of Laurel

Site visit by MHT Staff: _____no ____yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Is the property located within a historic district? ____yes X ___no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: _____

NR-listed district ____yes Eligible district ____yes District Name: _____

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ___yes ___no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ____

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ____yes ___X_no

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D Considerations: _____A ___B ___C ___D _____F ___G ___None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Inventory No. MHT MIHP Form PG:LAU-1-17-1

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

The first story of the main building's front, or southeastern, elevation has 3 bays and consists of (from left to right): a double-hung window with 1-over-1 lights and 1 single-leaf, 6-paneled wooden door with one 4-light sidelight on each side and a 2-light transom above a 2-panel lintel. The windows and door have wooden pedimented hood molds with a decorative rosette design. The second story of the front elevation has 3 bays, with (from left to right) a window opening closed up with vertical wooden boards, a blind window in the center, and another window opening that has been boarded up with vertical wooden boards. The blind window opening is infilled with brick, and a marble or granite plaque is set into the brick. The plaque bears the inscription of the Masonic insignia and the words "Laurel Wreath Lodge No. 149 A. F. and A. M." All three window openings have straight wooden hood molds with rosette designs. The closed up windows give evidence of the interior function of this part of the building's second story, a private assembly hall characteristic of Masonic halls. It is believed that the two outer window openings contained glass lights originally but were closed up at a later date for increased privacy in order to maintain the secrecy that Masonic practice required. Perhaps as the boulevard became busier and more heavily trafficked, more insulation was desired. It appears that the center bay was always closed up with brick. All window openings have granite sills. The front of the projecting roof pediment has horizontal wooden siding, and the building's main roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Overhanging eaves are on all sides of the building, and it appears that the cornice (perhaps once bracketed) was covered with siding during renovations to modernize the

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ____ **Eligibility not recommended** _____

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D **Considerations:** ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None

Comments: _____

_____ _____

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

_____ _____

Reviewer, NR Program **Date**

building (date unknown) and perhaps to reduce maintenance costs for the Lodge. The Masonic function that occurred inside of the structure clearly influenced the design and alterations that were made to the building and are reflected on the building's front elevation.

The first story of the main building's northeastern elevation has a row of 5 double-hung windows with 1-over-1 lights and wooden, pedimented hood molds above each window. The second story of this elevation contains 5 window openings, with 4 of them closed with vertical wooden boards, giving evidence, again, of the private assembly hall within. A fire escape with a decorative metal railing projects from the central window, and a stairway descends to the ground. The sixth window opening contains a double-hung window, with 1-over-1 lights. The glass in this window indicates that the assembly hall inside ends before this window and that perhaps an entry foyer is located at the rear of the building. All windows on the second story have straight wooden hood molds with decorative rosette designs and granite sills.

The first story of the main building's southwestern elevation has (from left to right) 1 single-leaf, paneled wooden door and 3 double-hung windows with 1-over-1 lights, all of which have pedimented hood molds. The second story has 4 boarded up window openings with vertical boards in each and a fifth opening with double-hung windows with 1-over-1 lights. All five second-story window openings have straight, wooden hood molds and granite sills.

A 2-story, 3-bay rear addition of concrete block was constructed onto the building's northwestern end. The addition's northeastern elevation contains no windows. The first story of the addition's rear elevation has (from left to right) a single-leaf door of wooden planks and no windows, a single-leaf, three-panel, wooden door with six lights, and a 4-light fixed window with a metal frame. Alterations were made to the window configurations in this elevation. It appears that another window opening in the left side of the wall was filled in with concrete block. It also appears that the 8-light metal window was larger at one time and that the wall next to it was patched with brick. The addition's second story has (from left to right) an 8-light window in a metal frame and a window opening that has been filled in with an unknown material and stuccoed. An air conditioning unit sits in this window. All windows have brick sills. It is possible that the first story's solid door is intended for privacy and leads to the assembly hall upstairs and that the door with lights leads to a more public area where privacy is not warranted. An interior brick chimney sits in the center of the rear of the main building, indicating the presence of a fireplace that has been used for heating purposes.

Because of the alterations that have occurred to the building, including the infilling of the windows, the covering of the cornice, and the construction of the rear addition, the building no longer retains its integrity of design, materials and workmanship. The building has retained its integrity of location but has not retained its integrity of setting, feeling, and association. The building that was previously east of the hall has been demolished, and a vacant, overgrown lot exists there. Additionally, to the immediate west of the Masonic Hall is a paved parking lot.

The property does not meet significance criteria outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's National Register Bulletin, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation." It does not meet Criterion A because it is not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. The property does not meet Criterion B because it is not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. The property does not meet Criterion C because it does not embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, nor does it represent a distinct architectural style. It does not meet Criterion D because it has not yielded, nor is it likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Because of its compromised historic integrity and lack of historic significance, the Laurel Wreath Lodge is recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Capsule Summary

Name of Property: Laurel Colored School
MIHP number: PG:LAU-26
Location: 803 West Street
Laurel, Prince Georges County, Maryland 20707

Date of Construction: 1884
Access: Private

Property Description: The house at 803 West Street is a 1-story, 3-bay residential dwelling on the northern side of West Street in the City of Laurel, Prince Georges County, Maryland. Constructed in 1884, the building has a rectangular floor plan, with two 1-story additions added to its rear and a shed-roof porch on a concrete foundation added to the front elevation. The house appears to be of frame construction and is clad with vinyl siding on all elevations. The foundations of the house and additions are of an unknown material but are covered with concrete. The original building and the first addition have front-gabled roofs while the rear addition has a shed roof, all of which are covered with asphalt shingles. The front porch's roof is of sheet metal and is supported by decorative metal posts. The original building has one interior brick chimney.

Summary Paragraph on History: Although currently a residential dwelling, the building at 803 West Street is significant because it was formerly the Laurel Colored School, or School No. 2, the first and only school in the town of Laurel that catered to the education of Laurel's African-American children after the Civil War. Located in a segregated area of Laurel known as Laurel Grove, or "The Grove," the land on which the school was constructed was conveyed to the Board of County School Commissioners of Prince Georges County in 1884 for the sole purpose of the establishment of a school within the African-American community. Constructed in 1884, the building served as a school for the community's children for almost 40 years before a larger building was provided in 1930. The Laurel Colored School played an important role in assisting the town's African-American families in their transition from slavery to freedom, and, along with St. Marks Church, it became central to Laurel's African-American community.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No.PG:LAU-26

1. Name of Property

historic	Laurel Colored School (Preferred)
other	School No. 2

2. Location

street and number	803 West Street	__ not for publication
city, town	Laurel	__ vicinity
county	Prince Georges	

3. Owner of Property

name	Jones-Patterson, Dorothy D. et al				
street and number	803 West Street			telephone	
city, town	Laurel	state	Maryland	zip code	20707-3529

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Tax Department website		liber	7915	folio 156
city, town	Laurel	tax map A-0848	tax parcel	tax ID number	10 1060029

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
____district
_X_building(s)
____structure
____site
____object

Ownership
____public
_X_private
____both

Current Function
____agriculture
____commerce/trade
____defense
____domestic
_X_education
____funerary
____government
____health care
____industry
____landscape
____recreation/culture
____religion
____social
____transportation
____work in progress
____unknown
____vacant/not in use
____other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
1	_____	Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
0

7. Description

Inventory No.PG:LAU-26

Condition

___ excellent ___ deteriorated
_X_ good ___ ruins
___ fair ___ altered

Summary

The house at 803 West Street is a 1-story, 3-bay residential dwelling on the northern side of West Street in the City of Laurel, Prince Georges County, Maryland. Constructed in 1884, the building has a rectangular floor plan, with two 1-story additions added to its rear and a shed-roof porch on a concrete foundation added to the front elevation. The house appears to be of frame construction and is clad with vinyl siding on all elevations. The foundations of the house and additions are of an unknown material but are covered with concrete. The original building and the first addition have front-gabled roofs while the rear addition has a shed roof, all of which are covered with asphalt shingles. The front porch is a raised concrete pad covered by a sheet metal awning supported by decorative rolled metal scrollwork posts with a metal railing between the posts. The original building has one interior brick chimney located precisely in the center of what was originally the school house's single room.

The lot on which the house stands is flat, with a maintained grass lawn on all sides and low ornamental shrubbery surrounding the house. Residential dwellings are on the western side of the house, while the large lot on the eastern side consists of a cleared, flat, and maintained grass lawn. Neighbors reported that the lot was always cleared, giving evidence to a possible playground located there. A large hardwood tree is at the house's southeastern corner.

Comprehensive Description

The house consists of three sections: a front-gabled main building that was originally the one-room school house; the annex, constructed to increase the capacity of the school; and a smaller addition that possibly was constructed at a later date to house indoor plumbing. The main building's front gable has deep returns. The southern, or front, elevation of the main building has (from west to east): 2 double-hung windows with 2-over-2 lights, 1 double-hung window with 1-over 1-light, and 1 single-leaf door with a 1-light glass and vinyl storm door. Decorative shutters were added to each side of the window on the front elevation. The porch appears to have been added at a later date, possibly when the school house was converted to a private residence. The main building's western and eastern elevations each have 2 double-hung windows with 1 in the front and 1 in the rear of the building, providing even lighting for both sides of the school room. It is possible that a chalkboard might have been located between the two windows on each wall. The centrally placed chimney gives evidence that a fireplace was in the center of the room, serving as the source of heat for the students and teacher.

The annex was formed by an end-gabled addition constructed onto the rear of the main building. The western and eastern elevations each have 1 double-hung window with 1-over-1 light. The eastern elevation has a single-leaf wooden door with divided lights covered by a vinyl and glass storm door. The door may have opened onto a playground adjacent to the school. The second addition has a shed roof, with a slider window on both the western and eastern elevations. The northern, or rear, elevation has no entrance door. The windows on all sections of the house are replacements, with vinyl frames covering original window sashes and sills. There are no outbuildings associated with this building.

Interior access to the property was not available because of the home's vacancy. The owner was deceased, having passed away two days prior to the survey. The house exterior is in good condition and has been well maintained over the years.

8. Significance

Inventory No. PG-LAU-26

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

Specific dates 1884 – 1930 **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates 1884

Evaluation for:

_____ National Register _____Maryland Register ___X____not evaluated

Narrative Discussion of History

General History

The house at 803 West Street sits in a neighborhood known as Laurel Grove, or "The Grove." The Grove was named for a grove of oak trees standing in the southwestern portion of what would become the City of Laurel on land that was originally patented to Richard Snowden in 1715 as "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" in Prince George's County, Maryland. The Laurel area was established by members of the Snowden family, one of the founding families of Maryland, and their relatives from Attleboro, Massachusetts. At the time of the patent, Snowden's estate already was approximately 3,000 acres in size, extending from Old Columbia Pike to the present city of Laurel and from south of Greencastle and Van Dusen Roads to north of Sandy Spring Road. The 1715 patent increased the already substantial Snowden land holdings, and by 1743 the estate had grown to 9,265 acres.

Although the Laurel area was first an agricultural region, it became a location for manufacturing as early as the beginning of the 18th century, distinguishing it from the rest of rural Prince George's County. Manufacturing activity on the Patuxent River started in 1736 when the Snowden family established the Patuxent River Iron Works. Almost a century later in 1811, Nicholas Snowden constructed a stone grist mill building on the banks of the river as well as a dam at what is now Ninth Street in Laurel. In 1824, a Mr. Johnson leased the Snowden mill for a period of 12 years and converted it from a grist mill to a factory for spinning cotton yarn, known as the Cotton Manufacturing Motive of Laurel. The mill was successful and at one time reportedly employed 100 adults. Prior to 1835, another local businessman, Robert Pilsen, installed the first loom in the factory that enabled the weaving of cotton cloth on site.

After Nicholas Snowden's 1831 death, his estate, Montpelier, was subdivided among his family members. His wife received what was called the Bank Quarter, which contained the bank of iron ore. A leftover undivided portion along the Patuxent River, contained approximately 100 acres, the Snowdens' stone mansion, the mill buildings, several log houses, and a well-used farm where successive crops of tobacco and corn had been cultivated. The parcel's location was invaluable because of the exceptional water power provided by the adjacent river.

The location and easy access to the railroad and the turnpike were not lost on Snowden's heirs, which included son-in-law Horace Capron, Louisa's husband and a member of the Capron family of Attleboro, Massachusetts. Snowden had previously worked at a mill at Savage, Maryland, prior to turning his attentions to the lands of the former New Birmingham Manor. On January 28, 1836, Horace Capron joined other Snowden family members in a new business venture. Capron, along with Dr. Theodore Jenkins (brother-in-law of Capron and neighbor of the Snowdens at New Birmingham Manor), Elizabeth Snowden (Capron's mother-in-law), Osmond C. Tiffany (Capron's first cousin from another Attleboro, Massachusetts, family) A.E. Hall, and W.C. Shaw incorporated a new company, the Patuxent Company, for the purpose of manufacturing and selling cotton, iron, and other articles at the site of the mill and farm. The Snowden children's land holdings were combined and transferred when Horace Capron and his wife, Charles Hill and his wife, and Dr. Theodore Jenkins and his wife, conveyed their inherited lands to the Patuxent Company. Deeds for property and stock also were transferred by Osmond Tiffany, Comfort Tiffany, and several Capron cousins, who also were involved in mill activities elsewhere.

In 1835, at approximately the same time that the Patuxent Company established its mill operations along the Patuxent River, the Baltimore and Ohio (B&O) Railroad Company completed its rail line, connecting the cities of Baltimore and Washington D.C. The new rail line and depot were just one mile east of the company's mill and enabled the transport of materials and finished products via Main Street to and from the mill. The Washington-Baltimore Turnpike, chartered by the state of Maryland in 1812, also traveled past the town approximately one mile east of the mill.

Shortly after its 1835 incorporation, the Patuxent Company constructed housing for its mill workers near the mill. Merchants established stores and businesses to support the mill employees and their families, and the town, known as Laurel Factory, started to grow. Churches, schools, and social halls were first established in the western end near the mill then east of the mill as the town crept eastward along Main Street toward the turnpike and railroad.

The town grew quickly in the middle of the 19th century as increasingly more businesses, churches, social halls, and schools were established to meet the needs of the fledgling community. The churches included a Protestant Episcopal, a Methodist, and a Catholic Church. A schoolhouse and an assembly hall were built south of the mill building. According to Thomson's Mercantile and Professional Directory, Laurel Factory had its own post office by 1851. By that date, there were four dealers in dry goods, groceries, and hardware; two physicians; one hotelkeeper; and one factory.

History of Resource

Prior to the Civil War, Laurel Factory purportedly was a stop along the Underground Railroad for fugitive slaves escaping to the north. The escape route ran from Sandy Spring, west of Laurel, and through Laurel before turning northward along the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike. Following the Civil War, African-Americans settled in an area in the southwestern part of Laurel that became known as Laurel Grove (later, the Grove). Laurel's African-American population was restricted to living in the Grove, and, as with other similar communities, life and activity there were centered on the church and school.

Prince Georges County's first school for African-American children was at the Muirkirk Iron Furnace. A teacher was sent from the New England Association, a beneficial society based in Boston, Massachusetts, that assisted African Americans in their transition from slavery to freedom following the war. Laurel's children first attended classes in a school set up in a house in the nearby Halltown community off of Route 197, south of Laurel. When grammar schools were officially established, there were three schools in Laurel: School No. 1 was known as the "uptown school," School No. 2 was constructed at 803 West Street and known as the Laurel Colored School, and School No. 3 was known as the "downtown school."

The Laurel Colored School was constructed in the Grove in 1884. The one-room building housed seven grades, with one teacher for all of the grades. As the population in the Grove increased, more space was needed, and an annex was constructed, followed by the leasing of another building by the Board of Education. From 1884 to 1930, when a larger building was built on Eighth Street, all of the Grove's children received their grammar school education from the Laurel Colored School, or School No. 2.

The building that housed the Laurel Colored School was constructed on land that was originally patented to Richard Snowden as "New Birmingham Manor." In approximately 1840, land was conveyed by Eliza Snowden to Dr. Theodore Jenkins, in trust, for Louis M. Jenkins and Frank X. Jenkins for $20.00 (pages missing from deed book, but see DB JWB 3, P 454). On April 14, 1884, Elizabeth S. Jenkins, Mollie E. Jenkins, and Michael Bannon (trustee of the deceased Dr. Jenkins) sold 1/3 of an acre of the larger tract of land to the Board of County School Commissioners of Prince Georges County for $50.00 (DB JWB 3, P 454). School No. 2 was constructed the same year and remained publicly-owned until August 7, 1926, when the Board of Education of Prince Georges County sold the building at public auction for $500.00 to George W. Alcorn, the highest bidder (DB 277, P. 376). On August 5, 1940, G. Bowie McCeney (a trustee for Alcorn's estate) sold the property to Bessy B. and William E. Beall for $710.00 (DB 576, P. 257). The Bealls sold the property to Otha and Vestine Knox on October 21, 1959 (DB 2388, P. 247) for $10.00, and on August 29, 1963, the Knoxes sold the same property to Alonzo and Dorothy Jones (DB 2863, P. 317). Dorothy Jones (then a widow) sold the property to Dorothy Jones-Patterson et al, on April 8, 1991 (DB 7915, P. 156). The original house remains on the property and functions as a private dwelling. It is currently vacant.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. PG:LAU-26

Floyd, Bianca Patrice. *Black History and Historic Sites in Prince George's County, Maryland.* Written for Black History Study History Division, Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 1983.

Johnson, Sandra. "The African-American Experience in Laurel." Laurel Maryland: Laurel Historical Society, 2003.

Recorder of Deeds, Prince Georges County Circuit Court. Various deeds from Land Records.

Spero, P.A.C. and Company. *Montgomery-Prince Georges Short-term Congestion Relief.* May 1998.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	0.14 acre		
Acreage of historical setting	0.14 acre		
Quadrangle name	Laurel	Quadrangle scale:	1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary of the surveyed property consists of the tax parcel, Block 8, Lot 13A, and its immediate surroundings.

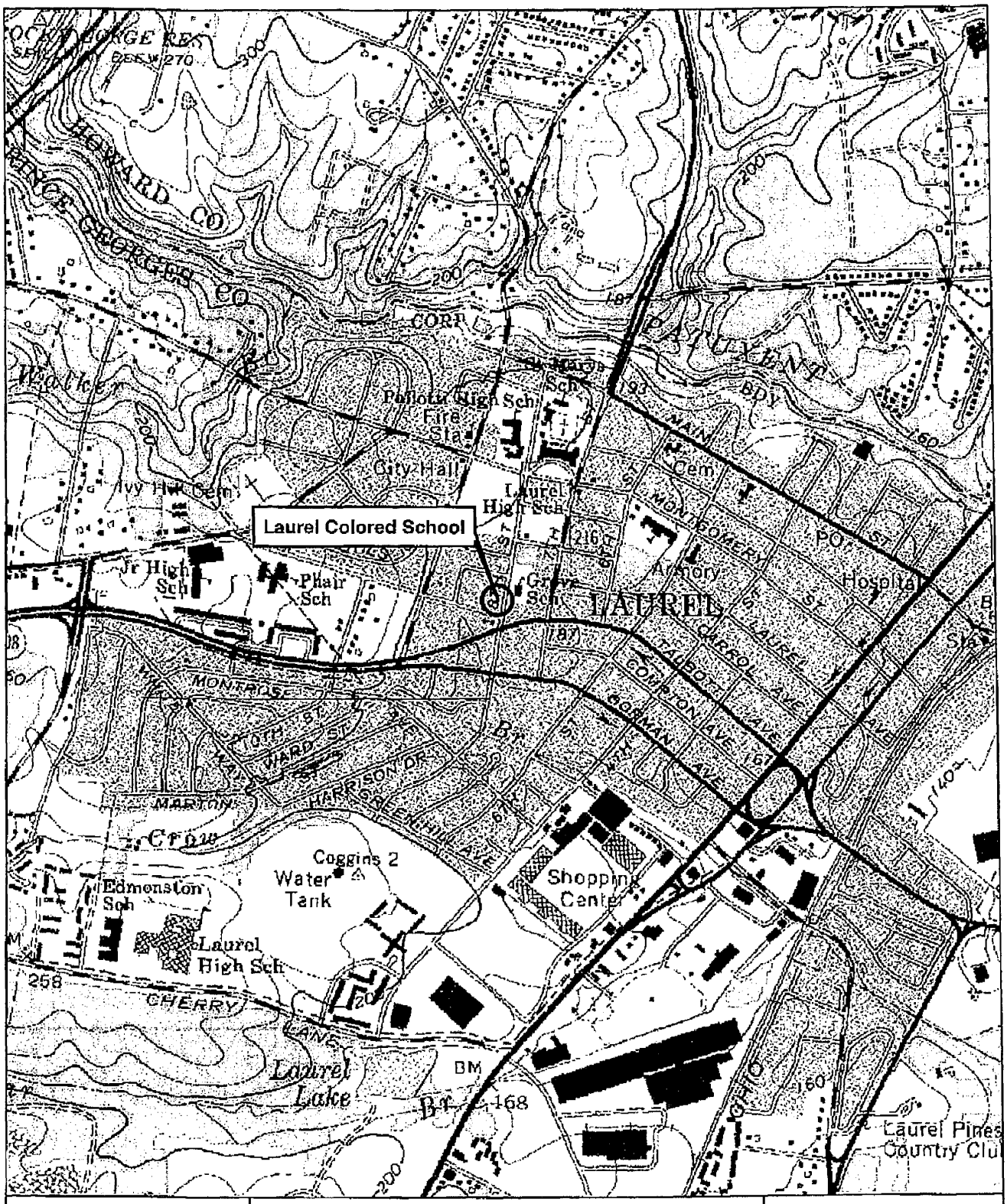
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Alison Ross, M.S. Architectural Historian		
organization	KCI Technologies, Inc.	date	10/2008
street & number	5001 Louise Drive	telephone	717-691-1340
city or town	Mechanicsburg	state	PA

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
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



N

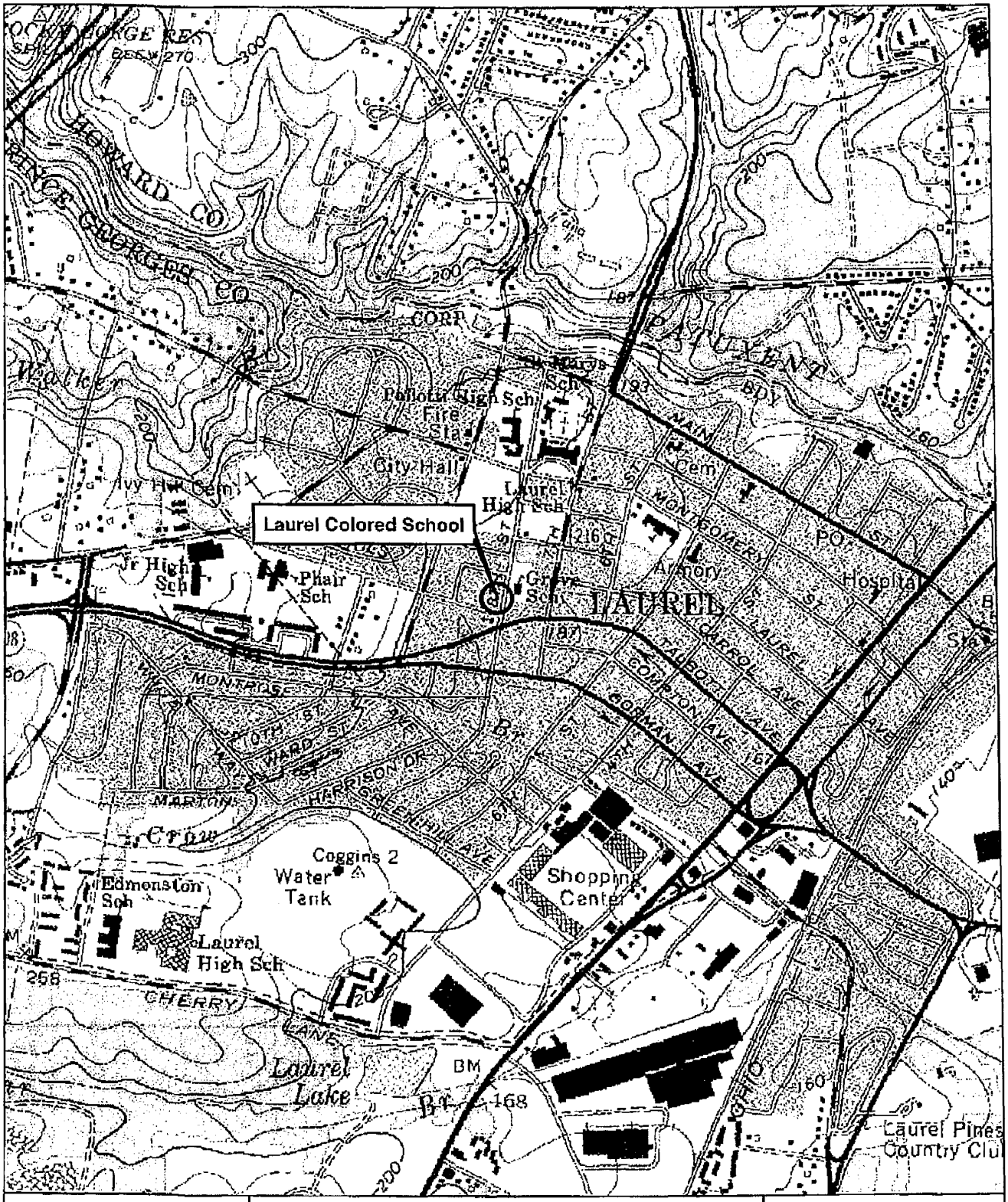
Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Site No. PG:LAU-26

Locational Map

Laurel Colored School
803 West Street

Map Courtesy of
U.S. Geological Survey
2004 Microsoft Corporation

Laurel, Maryland, July 1, 1979



N

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Site No. PG:LAU-26

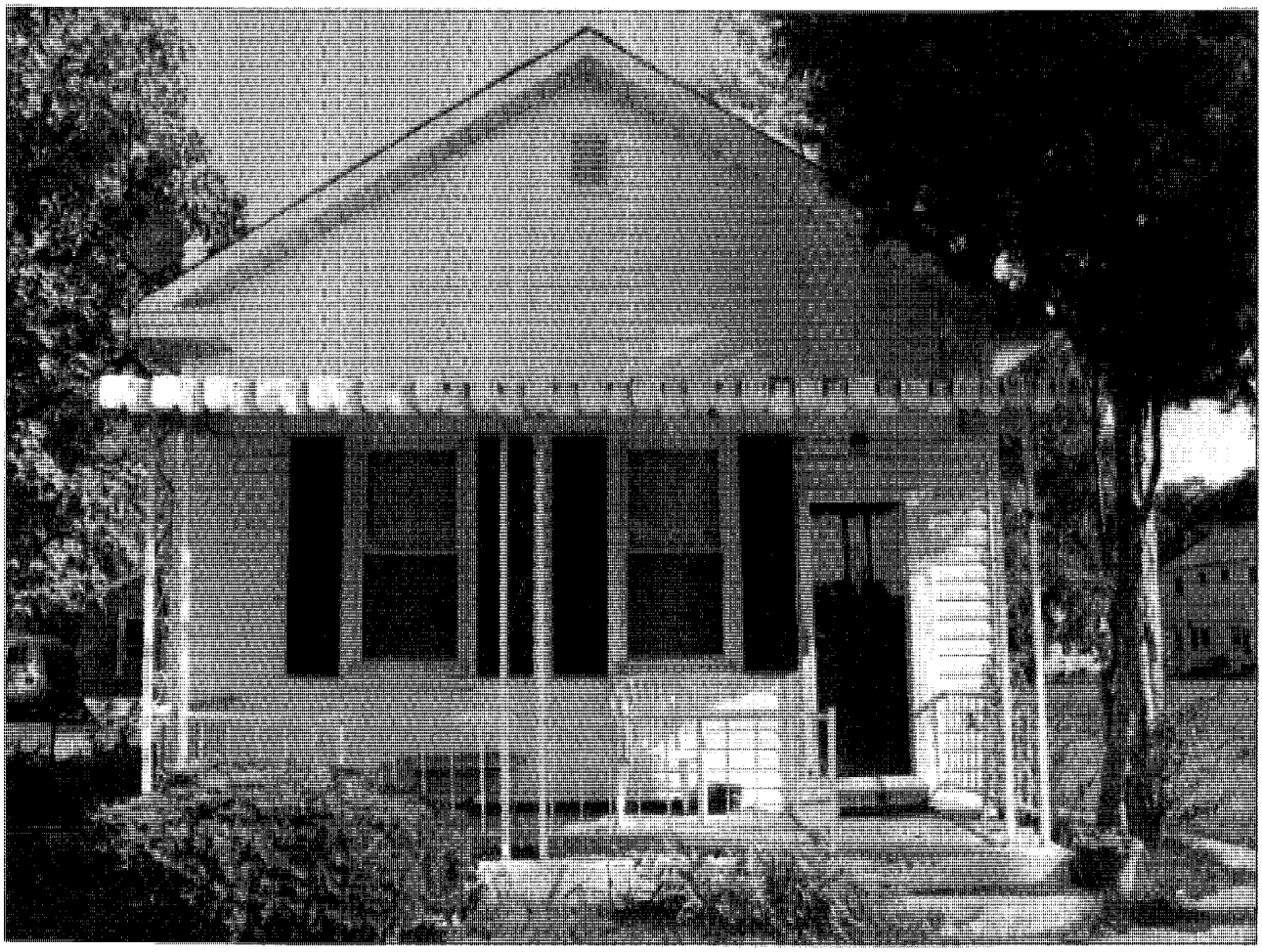
Locational Map

Laurel Colored School
803 West Street

Map Courtesy of
U.S. Geological Survey
2004 Microsoft Corporation

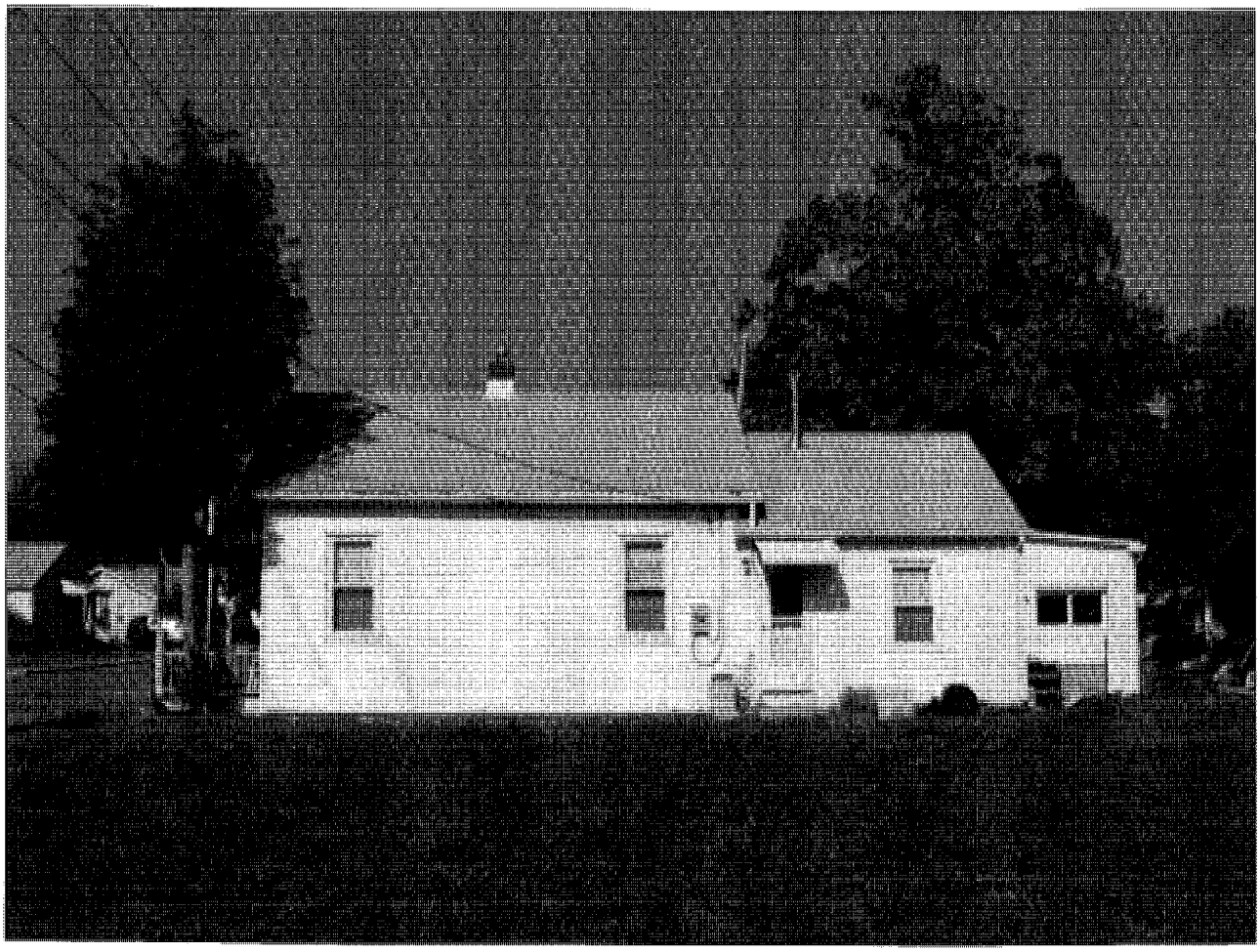
Laurel, Maryland, July 1, 1979

PHOTOGRAPHS – Laurel Colored School MIHP # PG:LAU-26

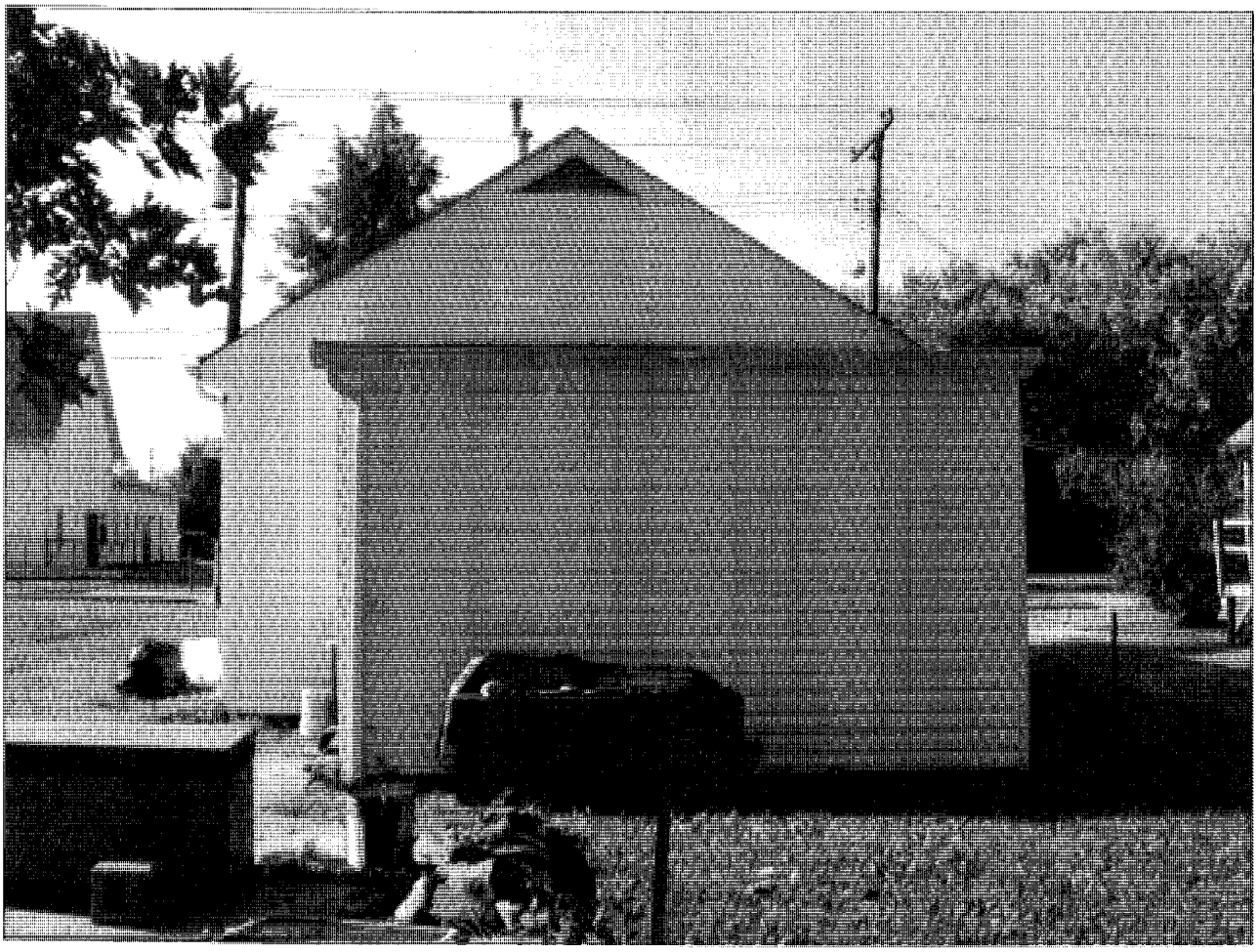


MIHP # PG:LAU-26
Laurel Colored School
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front elevation, facing N
Photo #1 of 6

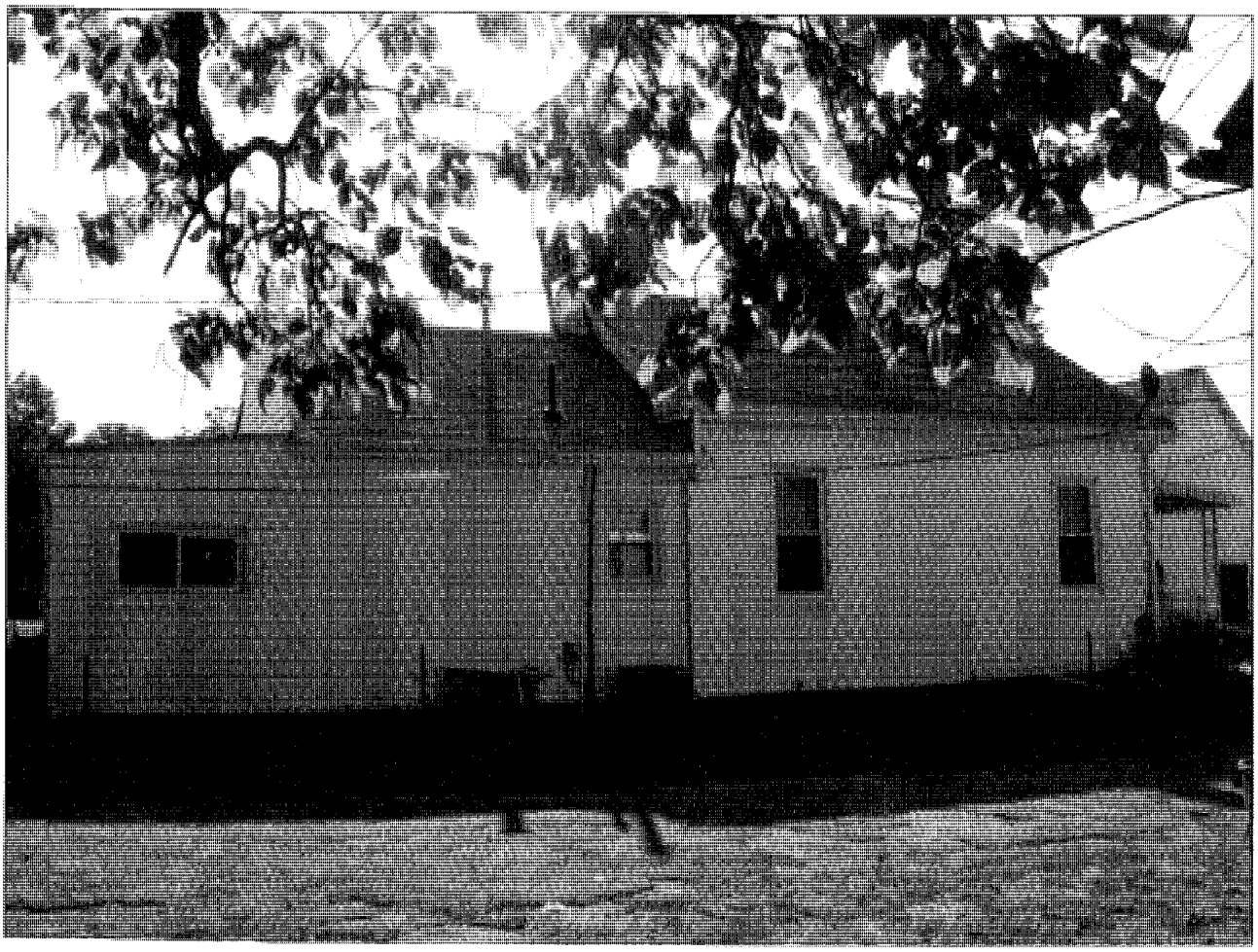
MIHP # PG:LAU-26
Laurel Colored School
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front and side elevations, facing NW
Photo #2 of 6



MIHP # PG:LAU-26
Laurel Colored School
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing W
Photo #3 of 6



MIHP # PG:LAU-26
Laurel Colored School
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of rear elevation, facing S
Photo #4 of 6



MIHP # PG:LAU-26
Laurel Colored School
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing E
Photo #5 of 6

MIHP # PG:LAU-26
Laurel Colored School
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing NE
Photo #6 of 6

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

roperty Name: Laurel Colored School Inventory Number: PG:LAU-26

Address: 803 West Street City: Laurel Zip Code: 20707

County: Prince Georges County USGS Topographic Map: Laurel, MD 1979

Owner: Jones-Patterson, Dorothy D. et al Is the property being evaluated a district? ____yes

Tax Parcel Number: _____ Tax Map Number: 6 Tax Account ID Number: 10 1060029

Project: Laurel Historic District Architectural Survey and Analysis Agency: City of Laurel

Site visit by MHT Staff: _____no ___yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Is the property located within a historic district? ____yes X ___no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: _____

NR-listed district ____yes Eligible district ____yes District Name: _____

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ___yes ___no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ____

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible X yes ____no

Criteria: X A ___B ___C ___D Considerations: ____A ___B ___C ___D _____F ___G ___None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MHT MIHP Form Inventory No. PG:LAU-26

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

The house at 803 West Street is a 1-story, 3-bay residential dwelling on the northern side of West Street in the City of Laurel, Prince Georges County, Maryland. Constructed in 1884 as a school building, the building has a rectangular floor plan, with two 1-story additions added to its rear and a shed-roof porch on a concrete foundation added to the front elevation. The building appears to be of frame construction and is clad with vinyl siding on all elevations. The foundations of the house and additions are of an unknown material but are covered with concrete. The original building and the first addition have front-gabled roofs while the rear addition has a shed roof, all of which are covered with asphalt shingles. The front porch is a raised concrete pad covered by a sheet metal awning supported by decorative rolled metal scrollwork posts with a metal railing between the posts. The original building has one interior brick chimney located in the center of what was originally the school house's single room.

The lot on which the house stands is flat, with a maintained grass lawn on all sides and low ornamental shrubbery surrounding the house. Residential dwellings are on the western side of the house, while the large lot on the eastern side consists of a cleared, flat, and maintained grass lawn. Neighbors reported that the lot was always cleared, giving evidence to a possible playground located there. A large hardwood tree is at the house's southeastern corner.

The building consists of three sections: a front-gabled main building that was originally the one-room school house; the annex, constructed to increase the capacity of the school; and a smaller addition that possibly was constructed at a later

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ **Eligibility not recommended** _____

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D **Considerations:** ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None

Comments: _____

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

Reviewer, NR Program **Date**

date to house indoor plumbing. The main building's front gable has deep returns. The southern, or front, elevation of the main building has (from west to east): 2 double-hung windows with 2-over-2 lights, 1 double-hung window with 1-over 1-light, and 1 single-leaf door with a 1-light glass and vinyl storm door. Decorative shutters were added to each side of the window on the front elevation. The porch appears to have been added at a later date, possibly when the school house was converted to a private residence. The main building's western and eastern elevations each have 2 double-hung windows with 1 in the front and 1 in the rear of the building, providing even lighting for both sides of the school room. It is possible that a chalkboard might have been located between the two windows on each wall. The centrally placed chimney gives evidence that a fireplace was in the center of the room, serving as the source of heat for the students and teacher.

The annex was formed by an end-gabled addition constructed onto the rear of the main building. The western and eastern elevations each have 1 double-hung window with 1-over-1 light. The eastern elevation has a single-leaf wooden door with divided lights covered by a vinyl and glass storm door. The door may have opened onto a playground adjacent to the school. The second addition has a shed roof, with a slider window on both the western and eastern elevations. The northern, or rear, elevation has no entrance door. The windows on all sections of the house are replacements, with vinyl frames covering original window sashes and sills. There are no outbuildings associated with this building.

Interior access to the property was not available because of the home's vacancy. The owner was deceased, having passed away two days prior to the survey. The house exterior is in good condition and has been well maintained over the years.

The building has retained its integrity of location, setting, association, and design. However, its integrity of materials and workmanship has been compromised with the construction of several additions in the rear and a porch on the front and the addition of replacement windows and vinyl siding on its exterior.

The property meets significance criteria outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's National Register Bulletin, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation." It meets Criterion A because it is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. It was the first school for African-American children in a segregated neighborhood of Laurel following the Civil War. On April 14, 1884, Elizabeth S. Jenkins, Mollie E. Jenkins, and Michael Bannon sold 1/3 of an acre of a larger tract of land to the Board of County School Commissioners of Prince Georges County for $50.00. School No. 2, as it was also known, was constructed the same year and remained publicly-owned until August 7, 1926, when the Board of Education of Prince Georges County sold the building at public auction for $500.00. It was then converted to a private residence and has remained so. The property does not meet Criterion B because it is not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. The property does not meet Criterion C because it does not embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, nor does it represent a distinct architectural style. It is not meet Criterion D because it has not yielded, or is it likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Because of its historic significance and its ability to meet Criterion A, the Laurel Colored School is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Prepared by: Alison J. Ross
KCI Technologies, Inc.

Date Prepared: May 2009

Capsule Summary

Name of Property: Laurel Cotton Mill Dam Ruins
MIHP number: PG:LAU-27
Location: In Riverside Park
Beyond Ninth and Main Streets
Laurel, Prince Georges County, Maryland 20707

Date of Construction: Various
Access: Public and private

Property Description: The Laurel Cotton Mill Dam Ruins is beyond the western end of Main Street in Riverfront Park, a 30.2-acre city-owned park that parallels the Patuxent River. The park extends from the dam ruins southeast to U.S. Route 1. The dam ruins are a remnant of either the ca. 1840 dam constructed by the Patuxent Company or the 1855 dam reconstructed by Osmond Tiffany. Both dams were used to impound water from the Patuxent River to power the cotton mill.

The dam ruins sit in a wooded area adjacent to the Patuxent River. The resource is reached by a dirt path and is surrounded by dense, overgrown, and mature vegetation. The ruins consist of two sections of the dam that sat on each side of the mill race. The walls of each section are constructed of horizontal bands of stone masonry, stacked upon each other, with spaces between each layer where timber beams previously sat. Each wall has a radius profile on its end cap. One section of wall is approximately 27'-0" high, with a rounded profile and no return wall. The other section is approximately 18'-0" high by 50'-0" long and consists of the rounded end cap and a return wall.

Summary Paragraph on History: The area containing the Laurel Cotton Mill Dam Ruins was the original location of the mill town and cotton mill. On January 28, 1836, Horace Capron joined other family members in a new business venture, called the Patuxent Company. The company was established for the purpose of manufacturing and selling cotton, iron, and other articles. Snowden land holdings were combined and transferred to the Patuxent Company

Shortly after its incorporation in 1835, the Patuxent Company constructed the mill buildings and dam structure, housing for its mill workers, and other associated buildings. The town grew around the mill and was known as Laurel Factory by the mid-19th century. In 1846 Osmond Comfort Tiffany and his sons acquired the deed to the Patuxent Company and the 93-acre property that contained all structures associated with the Laurel Cotton Mill. Shortly after the acquisition, the dam was rebuilt circa 1850 by the new owners. With a width of 222 feet, the dam produced a 27-foot high waterfall. The mill building was destroyed by fire five years later in 1855 but was rebuilt in 1856. The mill continued to operate into the 20th century and was conveyed several times. During the ownership of the Maryland Investment Realty Company, the mill building stood vacant until it was dismantled in the mid-1930s. On November 20, 1944, the Maryland Investment Realty Company sold the property to the Mayor and City Council of Laurel. Either during the ownership of the investment company or the City of Laurel, most of the dam was destroyed by dynamite in the mid-1940s, possibly for the construction of sewage lines.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-27

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic	Laurel Cotton Mill Dam Ruin
other	same

2. Location

street and number	Ninth and Main Street	__	not for publication
city, town	Laurel	__	vicinity
county	Montgomery		

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

name	City of Laurel				
street and number	8103 Sandy Spring Road			telephone	
city, town	Laurel	state	Maryland	zip code	20707

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.				liber	folio
city, town	Laurel	tax map	tax parcel	tax ID number	

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
_____district
_____building(s)
____structure
__X__site
_____object

Ownership
__X__public
_____private
_____both

Current Function
_____agriculture
_____commerce/trade
_____defense
_____domestic
_____education
_____funerary
_____government
_____health care
_____industry
_____landscape
_____recreation/culture
_____religion
_____social
_____transportation
_____work in progress
_____unknown
_____vacant/not in use
__X__other: Ruin

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
__1__	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
__1__	_____	Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

_____

7. Description

Inventory No. PG:LAU-27

Condition

___ excellent ___ deteriorated
___ good _X_ ruins
___ fair ___ altered

Summary

The Laurel Cotton Mill Dam Ruins site is located beyond the western end of Main Street in the City of Laurel, Maryland. The ruins sit in Riverfront Park, a 30.2-acre city-owned park that parallels the Patuxent River and that extends southeastward from the dam ruins to U.S. Route 1. The dam ruins are a remnant of either the ca. 1835 dam constructed by the Patuxent Company or the 1850 dam reconstructed by Osmond Tiffany after his purchase of the mill property. Both dams were used to impound water from the Patuxent River to power the cotton mill.

Comprehensive Description

The dam ruins sit in a wooded area adjacent to the Patuxent River. The resource is reached by a dirt path leading westward from a parking lot at the end of Main Street and is surrounded by dense, overgrown, and mature vegetation. The ruins consist of two sections of the southwestern end of the dam that was in the area of the mill race. The walls of each section are constructed of horizontal bands of stone masonry, stacked upon each other, with spaces between each layer where timber beams previously sat. Each wall has a radius profile on its endcap. One section of wall is approximately 25'-0" high, with a rounded profile and no return wall. The other section is approximately 18'-0" high by 50'-0" long and consists of the rounded endcap and a return wall.

8. Significance

Inventory No. PG:LAU-27

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

Specific dates **Architect/Builder**

Construction dates ca. 1835 or 1850

Evaluation for:

___ National Register _____Maryland Register ___X___not evaluated

Narrative Discussion of History of Resource

Regional History

The City of Laurel was developed by members of the Snowden family, one of the founding families of Maryland, and their relatives from Attleboro, Massachusetts. Laurel is located on land that was originally patented to Richard Snowden in 1715 as "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" in Prince George's County, Maryland. At the time, Snowden's estate already was approximately 3,000 acres in size, extending from Old Columbia Pike to the present city of Laurel and from south of Greencastle and Van Dusen Roads to north of Sandy Spring Road. The 1715 patent increased the already substantial Snowden land holdings, and by 1743 the estate had grown to 9,265 acres (Spero 1998).

Although the Laurel area was first an agricultural region, it became a location for manufacturing as early as the first half of the 18th century, distinguishing it from the rest of rural Prince George's County. Manufacturing activity on the Patuxent River dates back to 1736 when the Snowden family established the Patuxent River Iron Works. Almost a century later in 1811, Nicholas Snowden constructed a stone grist mill building on the banks of the Patuxent River as well as a dam across the river at the location of what is now Ninth Street in Laurel. Snowden located his mill and dam to take advantage of the downhill drop in the river at that point. In 1824, a Mr. Johnson leased the Snowden mill for a period of 12 years and converted it by removing all the grain-grinding equipment and transforming the mill into a factory for spinning cotton yarn, known as the Cotton Manufacturing Motive of Laurel. Mr. Johnson installed wooden cogwheels and spindles that enabled it to convert raw cotton into twisted thread that was then used elsewhere in the manufacture of cotton cloth. The mill was successful and at one time reportedly employed 100 adults

.

Prior to 1835, another local businessman, Robert Pilsen, installed the first loom in the mill that enabled the weaving of cotton cloth in the factory.

Nicholas Snowden died in 1831, and his estate, Montpelier, was subdivided among his children. His wife received what was called the Bank Quarter, which contained the bank of iron ore. A leftover undivided portion along the Patuxent River contained approximately 100 acres, the Snowdens stone mansion, the mill buildings, several log houses, and a well-used farm where successive crops of tobacco and corn had been cultivated. The parcel's location was invaluable because of the exceptional water power provided by the river.

The 1835 completion of the Baltimore and Ohio (B & O) Railroad Company's new railroad line through Laurel, located just over one mile east of the mill, contributed to the attractiveness of the mill location. The railroad, which was to connect Baltimore with Washington D.C., promised easier access to new markets, both for raw materials and finished products. Access to other markets was previously gained by travel from the mill eastward via Main Street to the Washington-Baltimore Turnpike, which was chartered by the state of Maryland in 1812.

The mill's prime location and easy access to transportation routes were not lost on Snowden's heirs, which included son-in-law Horace Capron, a member of the Capron family of Attleboro, Massachusetts. On January 28, 1836, Horace Capron joined other family members in a new business venture. Capron, along with Dr. Theodore Jenkins (brother-in-law of Capron and neighbor of

the Snowdens at New Birmingham Manor), Elizabeth Snowden (Capron's mother-in-law), Osmond C. Tiffany (Capron's first cousin from another Attleboro, Massachusetts, family) A.E. Hall, and W.C. Shaw incorporated a new company, the Patuxent Company, for the purpose of manufacturing and selling cotton, iron, and other articles at the site of the mill and farm. Snowden land holdings were combined and transferred when Horace Capron and his wife, Charles Hill and his wife, and Dr. Theodore Jenkins and his wife, conveyed their inherited lands to the Patuxent Company. Deeds for property and stock also were transferred by Osmond Tiffany, Comfort Tiffany, and several Capron cousins, who also were involved in mill activities elsewhere.

History of the Resource

Shortly after its incorporation in 1835, the Patuxent Company constructed the cotton mill buildings and dam. The company also constructed housing for its mill workers in the vicinity of the mill. Merchants established stores and businesses to support the employees and their families and the town, known as Laurel Factory, started to grow. Churches, schools, and social halls were established as well, first in the western end near the mill, then in locations east of the mill as the town crept eastward along Main Street toward the turnpike and railroad.

Horace Capron had to file for bankruptcy, prior to which the Patuxent Company started to divest itself of its holdings. In 1846 Osmond Comfort Tiffany and his sons acquired the deed to the Patuxent Company and the Laurel Cotton Mill. They applied for a mortgage on September 8, 1851 for a 93-acre property that included the cotton factory and dam along with a grist mill and its machinery (DB JBB 7, P. 268). Shortly after the acquisition, the dam was rebuilt circa 1850 by the new owners. With a width of 222 feet, the dam produced a 27-foot high waterfall. The mill building was destroyed by fire five years later in 1855 but was rebuilt in 1856. The mill continued to operate into the 20th century, and shortly before 1912, the cotton processing machinery was shipped south and replaced with spindles designed to convert a new imported material, ramie, into threading and string. On September 3, 1915, Mount Vernon-Woodberry Mills, Inc. purchased the mill property from the Patuxent Company, including the dam and all of its buildings (DB 109, P. 60). The property was put up for auction in 1916 by a Philadelphia auction house.

The auctioned property was composed of a total of 234 acres and included the land, mill buildings, and housing, as well as the water rights, water power plant, dam, canal, and water wheels. In an advertisement for the auction, the property was advertised as having three components, the Mill Yard, Tenement Lots, and Farm Lands. The Mill Yard was 82.7 acres and consisted of the buildings and property adjacent to the mill, including the dam, which was necessary for its operation. It also included the land adjoining the dam and canal, which was necessary to protect the water power. Despite the 1916 auction, the property was held by the Mount Vernon-Woodberry Mills company until June 3, 1921, when it sold the mill property to the Industrial Power Corporation (DB 164, P. 137). The company defaulted on its mortgage a year later, and the mill property was sold for $52,000.00 to William E. Ferguson, who was the highest bidder at the August 22, 1922, public sale (DB 188, P. 207).

Less than one year later, on April 7, 1923, William E. Ferguson and his wife sold the mill property to the Maryland Investment and Realty Company (DB 194, P. 159). During the ownership of the investment company, the mill building stood vacant until it was dismantled in the mid-1930s. On November 20, 1944, the Maryland Investment Realty Company sold the entire property to the Mayor and City Council of Laurel (DB 194, P. 247). Either during the ownership of the investment company or the City of Laurel, the dam was destroyed by dynamite in the mid-1940s, with just the southwestern portion remaining. The City of Laurel subsequently developed the land into a municipal park and constructed the public pool in 1953.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. PG:LAU-27

Capron, Horace. Autobiography. 2 vols., nd, typed copy, Maryland Historical Society.

Hopkins, G.M. *Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington Including the County of Prince George Maryland.* Philadelphia: F. Bourquin, 1878

Martenet, Simon J. Map of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1861.

Mount Vernon-Woodberry Mills, Inc. *Liquidation Sale of the 4 Valuable Maryland Mill and Factory Properties Near the City of Baltimore.* Philadelphia: William H. Pile & Sons, 1916.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	N/A		
Acreage of historical setting	N/A		
Quadrangle name	Laurel, Maryland	Quadrangle scale:	1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The perimeter of the dam ruin in Riverside Park is the boundary of the ruin.

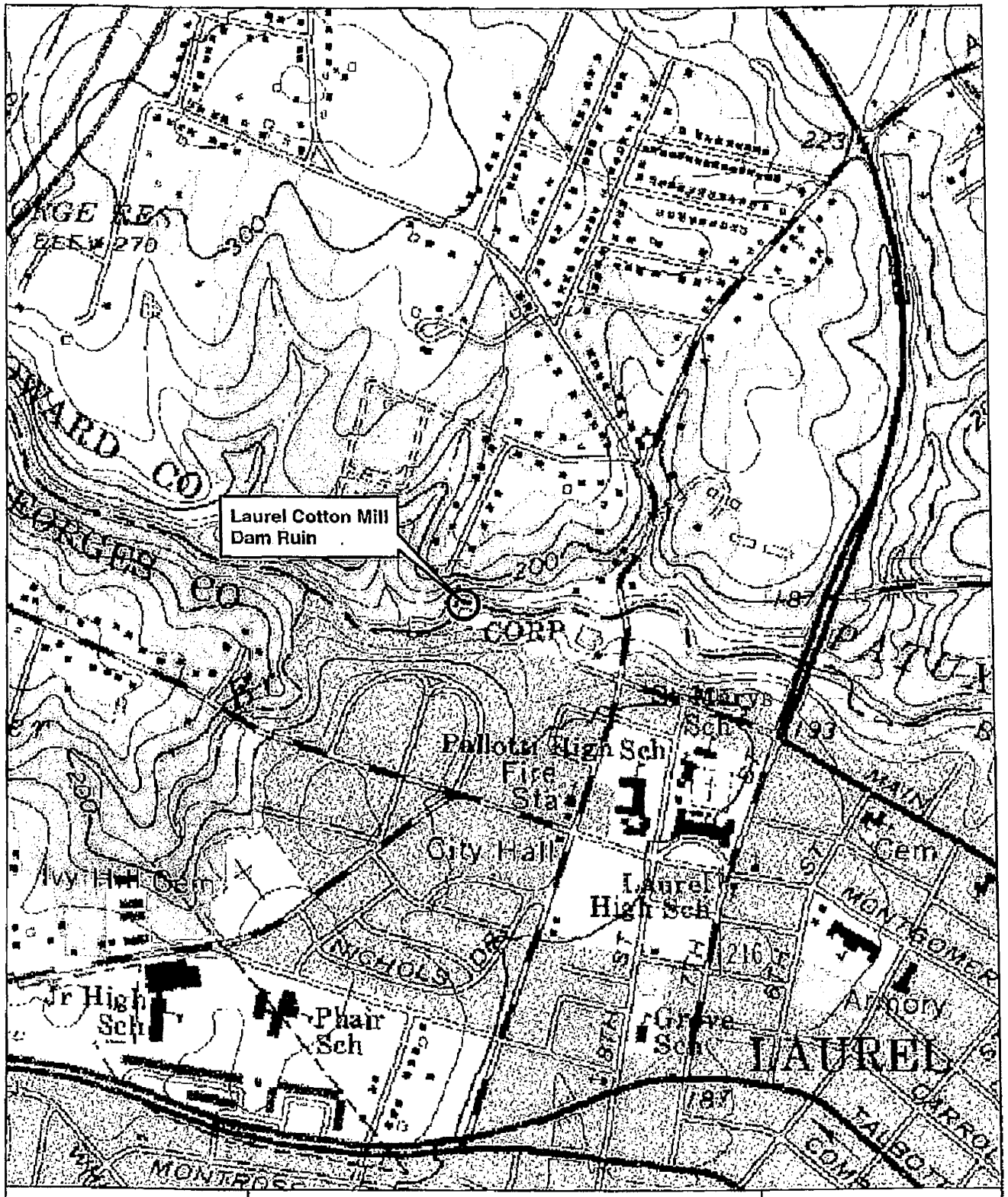
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Alison Ross, M.S., Architectural Historian		
organization	KCI Technologies, Inc.	date	10/2008
street & number	5001 Louise Drive	telephone	717-691-1340
city or town	Mechanicsburg	state	PA

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
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



N

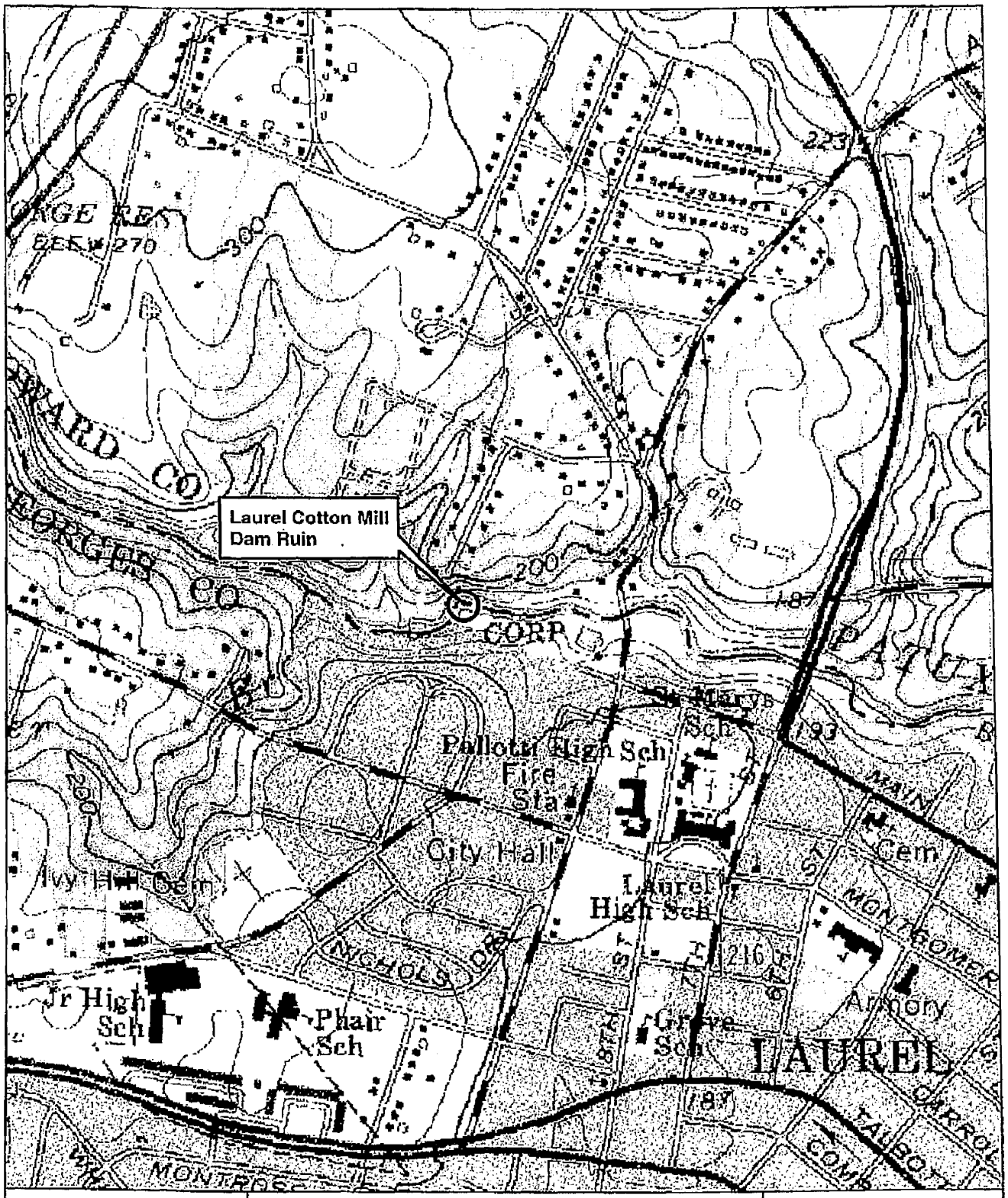
Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Site No. PG:LAU-27

Locational Map

Laurel Cotton Mill Dam Ruin
End of Main Street

Map Courtesy of
U.S. Geological Survey
2004 Microsoft Corporation

Laurel, Maryland, July 1, 1979



N

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Site No. PG:LAU-27

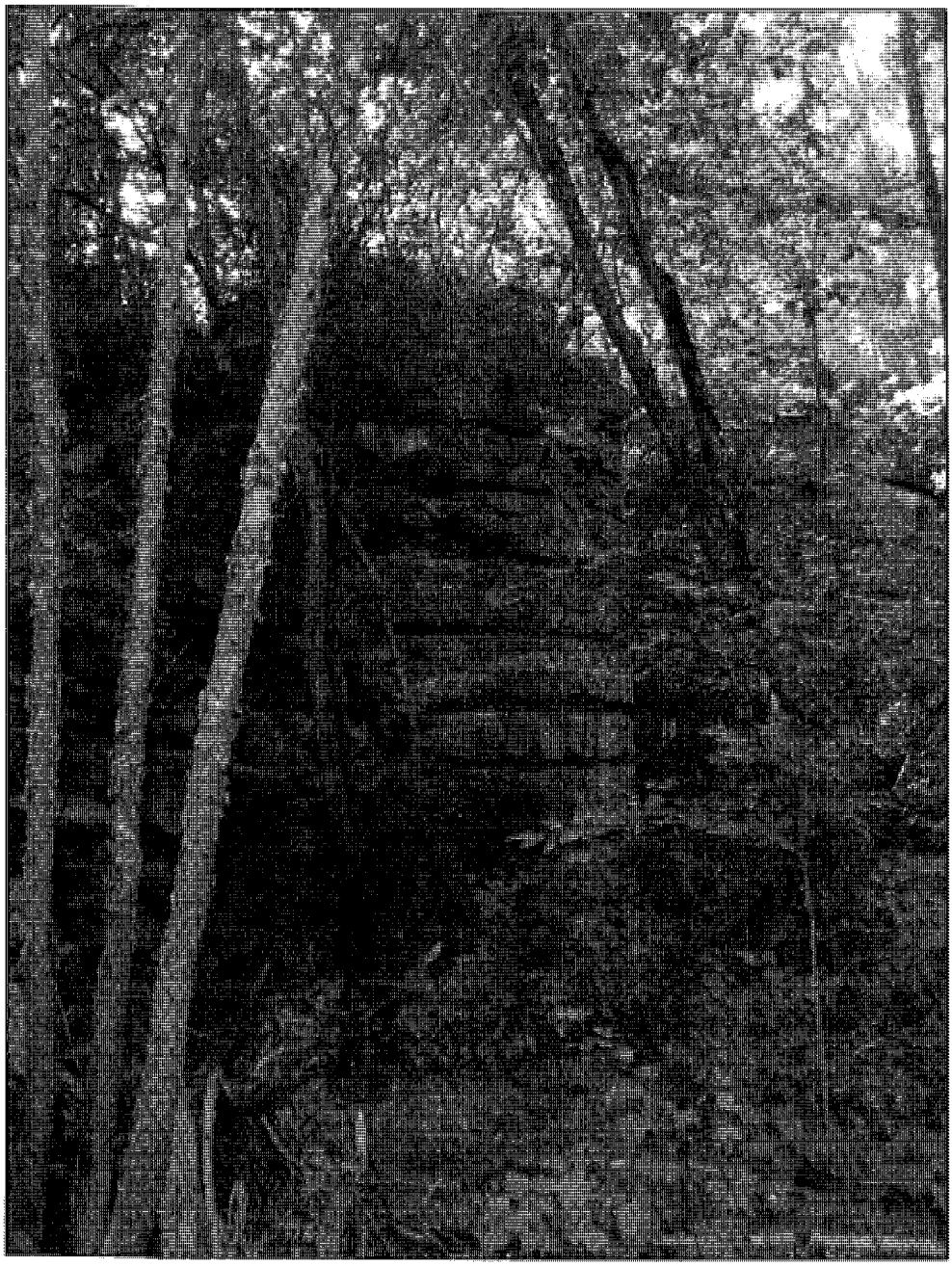
Locational Map

Laurel Cotton Mill Dam Ruin
End of Main Street

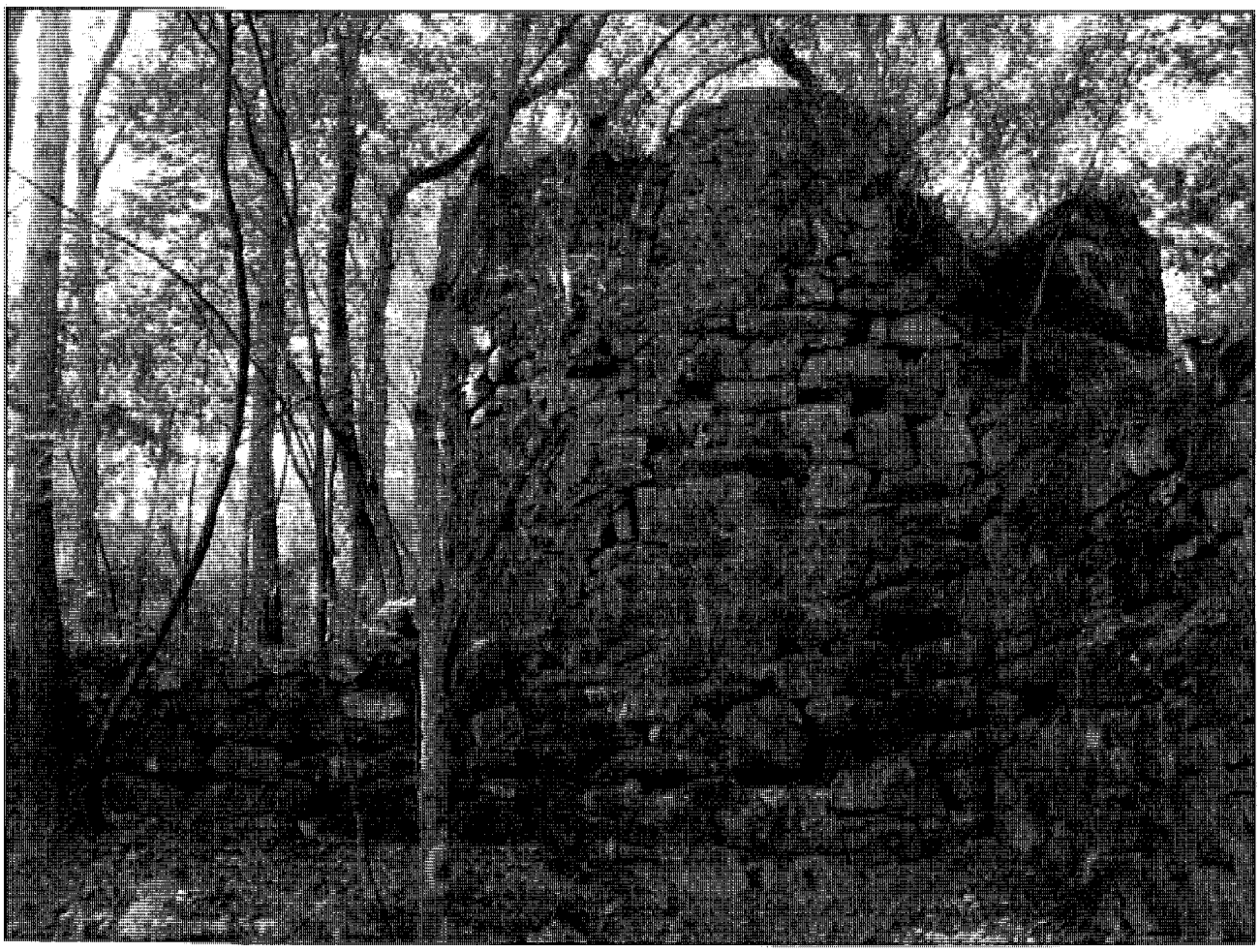
Map Courtesy of
U.S. Geological Survey
2004 Microsoft Corporation

Laurel, Maryland, July 1, 1979

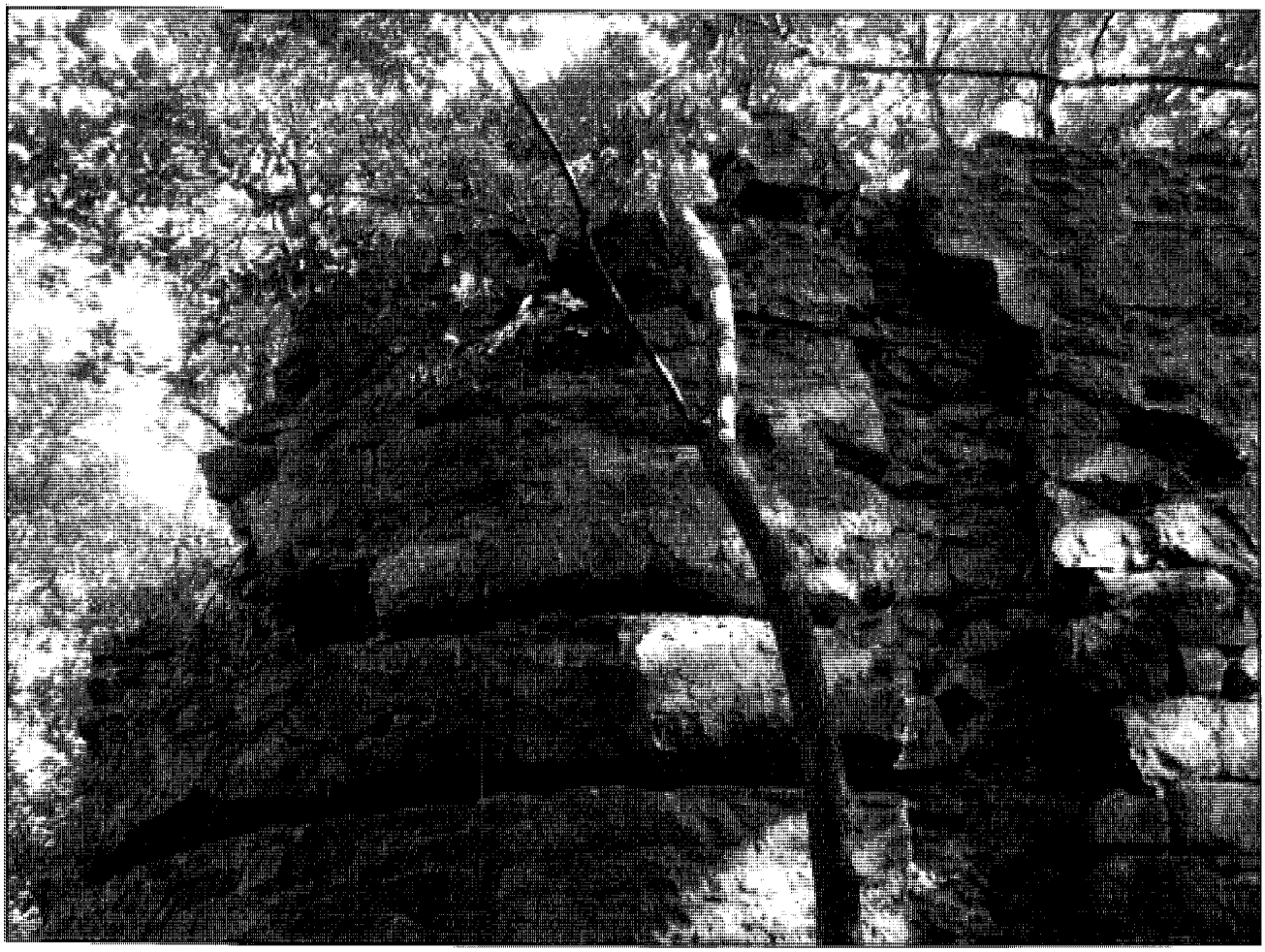
PHOTOGRAPHS – Laurel Cotton Mill Dam Ruin MIHP # PG:LAU-27



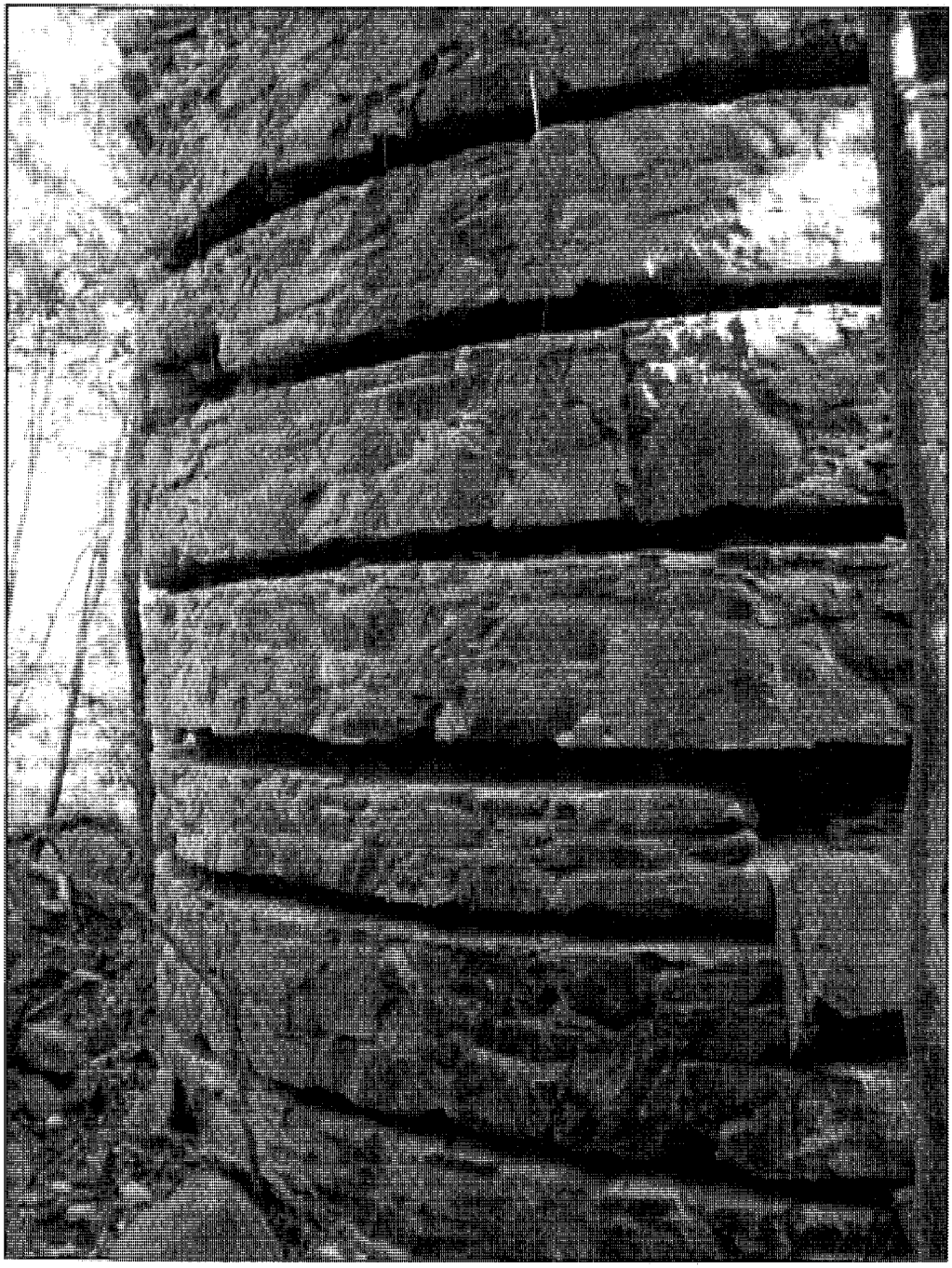
MIHP # PG:LAU-27
Laurel Cotton Mill Dam Ruin
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of radius end caps of one of the walls, facing W
Photo #1 of 5



MIHP # PG:LAU-27
Laurel Cotton Mill Dam Ruin
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of radius end caps and return wall, facing S
Photo #2 of 5



MIHP # PG:LAU-27
Laurel Cotton Mill Dam Ruin
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of close-up detail of stone masonry bands, facing N
Photo #3 of 5



MIHP # PG:LAU-27
Laurel Cotton Mill Dam Ruin
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of close-up detail of stone masonry bands, facing N
Photo #4 of 5

MIHP # PG:LAU-27
Laurel Cotton Mill Dam Ruin
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Alison J. Ross
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of return wall and adjacent Patuxent Creek, facing NW
Photo #5 of 5

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

Property Name: Laurel Cotton Mill Dam Ruins Inventory Number: PG:LAU-27

Address: Ninth and Main Streets (nearby) City: Laurel Zip Code: 20707

County: Prince Georges County USGS Topographic Map: Laurel, MD 1979

Owner: City of Laurel Is the property being evaluated a district? ____yes

Tax Parcel Number: _____ Tax Map Number: _____ Tax Account ID Number: _____

Project: Laurel Historic District Architectural Survey and Analysis Agency: City of Laurel

Site visit by MHT Staff: ____no ____yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Is the property located within a historic district? ____yes X ___no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: _____

NR-listed district ____yes Eligible district ____yes District Name: _____

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ___yes ___no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ____

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ____yes X ___no

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D Considerations: ____A ___B ___C ___D ____F ___G ___None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MHT MIHP Form Inventory No. PG:LAU-27

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

The Laurel Cotton Mill Dam Ruins site is located beyond the western end of Main Street in the City of Laurel, Maryland. The ruins sit in a wooded area in Riverfront Park, a 30.2-acre city-owned park that parallels the Patuxent River and that extends southeastward from the dam ruins to U.S. Route 1. The dam ruins are a remnant of either the ca. 1835 dam constructed by the Patuxent Company or the 1850 dam reconstructed by Osmond Tiffany after his purchase of the mill property. Both dams were used to impound water from the Patuxent River to power the cotton mill and Avondale Grist Mill.

The dam ruins site is reached by a dirt path leading westward from a parking lot at the end of Main Street and is surrounded by dense, overgrown, and mature vegetation. The ruins consist of two sections of the southwestern end of the dam that were in the area of the mill race. The walls of each section are constructed of horizontal bands of stone masonry, stacked upon each other, with spaces between each layer where timber beams previously sat. Each wall has a radius profile on its endcap. One section of wall is approximately 25'-0" high, with a rounded profile and no return wall. The other section is approximately 18'-0" high by 50'-0" long and consists of the rounded endcap and a return wall.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ____ **Eligibility not recommended** _____

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

Comments: _____

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

Reviewer, NR Program **Date**

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 1

The dam ruins have not retained their historic integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Although the ruins are in their original location, there are only several parts of the dam that remain. The exact location of the former dam, millrace, and other dam components are difficult to place because the majority of the structure is missing. The surrounding woods are very overgrown, and the river is considerably smaller than it previously was. There is no visual association to the former dam operation; therefore, its integrity of setting, feeling and association has been greatly diminished. Apparently part of the structure was destroyed by dynamite during the mid-1900s; therefore its integrity of design, materials, and workmanship has been compromised as well.

The structure does not meet historic significance criteria outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's National Register Bulletin, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation." It does not meet Criterion A because it is not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. The property does not meet Criterion B because it is not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. The ruins do not meet significance Criterion C because the remaining features of the former dam do not embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or engineering. If more of the structure existed, its engineering, design, and craftsmanship would be more evident and illustrative. In its current state of ruin, it does not meet Criterion C. It is unknown whether the site meets Criterion D and its ability to yield information important in prehistory or history. For this evaluation the site was evaluated for its ability to meet Criteria A, B, and C.

Prepared by: Alison J. Ross
KCI Technologies, Inc.

Date Prepared: May 2009

Capsule Summary

Name of Property: Phelps House
MIHP number: PG:LAU-28
Location: 1110 Montgomery Street
Laurel, Prince George's County, Maryland 20707

Date of Construction: 1888
Access: Private

Property Description: The building at 1110 Montgomery Street is a residential dwelling located on the southern side of Montgomery Street in the western end of the City of Laurel, Maryland. The exuberant, Victorian-era 2½-story, 4-bay dwelling house, with an irregularly-shaped floor plan, does not embody one architectural style but instead combines elements of both the Queen Anne and Stick styles of architecture. The house's massing and irregular floor plan reflect the Queen Anne style, with its irregular facades, wraparound porch, and projecting wings with intersecting gabled roofs. The Stick style is reflected in the square tower as well as on the surface decoration and horseshoe-shaped trusses in the gables and in the decorative door and window trim. The architect is unknown; however it is possible that local architect and builder Lawrence Adelbert Ellis may have designed and constructed the house for its owner, Edward Phelps, Jr.

Summary Paragraph on History: The house at 1110 Montgomery Street was constructed in 1888 by prominent Laurel businessman, and later mayor, Edward Phelps, Jr. for himself and his wife and family of eight children. Edward Phelps was a successful Laurel merchant, owning a dry goods business with partner Charles F. Shaffer. Phelps and Shaffer's dry goods store was located at 906, and later 900, Montgomery Street just two blocks from the lot that Phelps purchased for the construction of his large home. Phelps and his partner were also land speculators and investors, purchasing many other lots throughout Laurel. The Phelps house was later home to the Kluckuhn family, successful electrical supply merchants from Washington, D.C., and the Steinbauer family. The house has continued to serve as a private residence throughout the 20th century and is now owned by the First Assembly of God Church, located just east of the house. The house now serves as the residence of the church's staff pastor.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:LAU-28

1. Name of Property

historic Phelps House

other

2. Location

street and number 1110 Montgomery Street ___ not for publication

city, town Laurel ___ vicinity

county Prince George's

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

name First Assembly of God of Laurel, Maryland

address 6504 Muirkirk Road

city, town Beltsville state Maryland zip code 20705-1224

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Tax Department website liber 3885 folio 409

city, town Laurel tax map A-0848 tax parcel tax ID number

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
_____district
__X__building(s)
_____structure
_____site
_____object

Ownership
_____public
__X__private
_____both

Current Function
_____agriculture
_____commerce/trade
_____defense
_____domestic
_____education
_____funerary
_____government
_____health care
_____industry
_____landscape
_____recreation/culture
__X__religion
_____social
_____transportation
_____work in progress
_____unknown
_____vacant/not in use
_____other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
0

7. Description

Inventory No. PG:LAU-28

Condition

___ excellent ___ deteriorated
_X_ good ___ ruins
___ fair ___ altered

Summary

The building at 1110 Montgomery Street is a residential dwelling located on the southern side of Montgomery Street in the western end of the City of Laurel, Maryland. The exuberant Victorian-era house was constructed by prominent Laurel businessman, and later mayor, Edward Phelps, Jr. for himself and his wife and family of eight children. The house has continued to serve as a private residence throughout the 20th century and is now owned by the First Assembly of God Church, located just east of the house. The house now serves as the residence of the church's staff pastor.

Comprehensive Description

The building at 1110 Montgomery Street is a 2½-story, 4-bay dwelling house, with an irregularly-shaped floor plan, located on the southern side of Montgomery Street in Laurel, Maryland. The house has served as a private residence since its construction and now is home to the staff pastor for the neighboring First Assembly of God Church, located just east of the house. The exuberant, Victorian-era house sits on a parcel that is mostly-flat, with an expansive grass lawn, some hardwood trees, and some ornamental shrubbery surrounding the house (Photo 1). A brick walkway with a herringbone design leads from Montgomery Street to the northern side of the house and turns to encircle the northern and eastern sides. The walkway is in disrepair in some areas, with loose or missing bricks (Photo 2). A straight then slightly curving paved driveway leads from Montgomery Street to the rear of the property on the house's eastern side (Photo 3).

The house does not embody one architectural style but instead combines elements of the Queen Anne and Stick styles of architecture. The house's massing and irregular floor plan reflect the Queen Anne style, with its irregular facades, wraparound porch, and projecting wings with intersecting gabled roofs (Photo 4). The Stick style is reflected in the gables' surface decoration and horseshoe-shaped trusses, as well as the decorative door and window trim throughout the house (Photos 5, 6, and 8). The front tower and roof reflect the Stick style of architecture (Photo 6). The architect is unknown; however it is possible that local architect and builder Lawrence Adelbert Ellis may have designed and constructed the house. Evidence of this is an artist's sketch (possibly his) published in the newspaper showing another house that was designed and built by him. Although it does not depict the Phelps house, it is similar in design and appearance.

The house's northern (or front) elevation facing the street consists of a central 2-story, front-gabled section with two 2-story side-gabled wings projecting off of the central section to the east and west (Photo 7). Adjacent to the front-gabled section in the house's northeastern corner is a 3-story square tower with a pyramid-shaped roof. Wrapping around the northeastern corner is a porch supported by simple wooden posts that might have replaced earlier turned wooden posts. The 1st story contains (from left to right) a single-leaf wooden door with a replacement metal storm door opening onto the porch, 1 double-hung window with 1-over-1 lights, 1 set of paired windows with double-hung sashes and 1-over-1 lights, and 1 single double-hung window with 2-over-2 lights. The front entry door and all windows have decorative wooden surrounds. A pedimented crown with dentils and decorative "branchwork" tops the set of paired windows on the first story (Photo 8), and a straight bracketed crown tops the other windows and doors. Painted wooden lattice panels have been applied below the porch, covering the porch foundation. The 2nd story of this elevation consists of (from left to right) 2 windows with double-hung sashes and 1-over-1 lights, 1 paired window, with 1-over-1 lights and an arched bracketed crown, and a third window with double-hung window sashes and 2-over-2 lights. One 3rd-story paired window with double-hung sashes and 1-over-1 lights sits in the gable in the elevation's central section. A horseshoe-shaped truss and decorative wooden siding are in the gable above this window (Photo 5).

The 1st story of the western elevation has a projecting 1-story bay (Photo 9). The windows have been filled in on all 3 sides of the bay; however, the arched window frames and turned corner posts remain. Painted wooden lattice panels have been applied below the bay, filling in the space between the bay and the ground. South of the bay is a window with its original wooden double-hung sashes and 2-over-2 lights. Further south on this elevation is 1 window with its original wooden double-hung window sashes and 2-over-2 lights (Photo 10). The projecting bay around the corner on the house's southern elevation is visible on the end of this elevation. The 2nd story of the western elevation has (from left to right) 1 small fixed window with a simple wooden frame and 1 larger window with wooden double-hung sashes and 2-over-2 lights.

The house's southern elevation has 1 projecting 1-story bay on a stone foundation that has been covered with concrete (Photos 11 and 12). The bay has a set of 3 windows with double-hung sashes and 2-over-2 lights. Double-hung windows are on both sides of the bay as well, suggesting the presence of a sunroom on the house's interior. An overhanging cornice contains bracketing and dentiled molding on all sides of the bay. The elevation's 2nd story has 1 set of paired windows with an arched,

bracketed crown. The 3rd-story windows in the gable match those in the northern elevation gable. The set of paired windows has double-hung sashes and 1-over-1 lights. A horseshoe-shaped truss and decorative wooden siding are in this gable as well.

The house's eastern elevation has (from left to right) 1 projecting bay with a set of 3 double-hung windows, with 1-over-1 lights; another projecting bay with 3 double-hung windows, with 1-over-1 lights; and 1 original wooden double-leaf entrance door covered with a storm door that opens onto the porch (Photo 14). Both projecting bays have hipped roofs with bracketing, dentiled molding above the windows, and panels below the windows with an incised abstract design typical of the period (Photo 15). The elevation's 2nd story has (from left to right) 1 set of paired windows with double-hung sashes and 1-over-1 lights; another set of paired windows with double-hung sashes and 1-over-1 lights in the projecting wing, and 1 single window with double-hung sashes with 1-over-1 lights in the tower. Above the window in the tower is a spandrel with the incised construction date, "1888" (Photo 6).

The eastern elevation has a 3rd-story dormer with a front-gabled roof and 1 set of paired, double-hung windows in the southern side of the eastern elevation (Photo 13). The central, main gable has 1 set of paired windows on the 3rd story that match those in the other gables, with a horseshoe-shaped truss and decorative wooden siding. The 3rd story of the tower's eastern side has 1 double-hung window with 1-over-1 lights and a pedimented crown on top. An overhanging cornice with bracketing and dentiled molding surrounds the tower as well as all sides of the house, and a decorative finial tops the tower as well as the peaks of the gabled roofs on each elevation (Photo 6).

8. Significance

Inventory No. PG:LAU-28

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

Specific dates 1888 **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates 1888

Evaluation for:

_____ National Register _____Maryland Register ____X____not evaluated

Narrative Discussion of History

General History

The City of Laurel was developed by members of the Snowden family, one of the founding families of Maryland, and their relatives from Attleboro, Massachusetts. Laurel is located on land that was originally patented to Richard Snowden in 1715 as "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" in Prince George's County, Maryland. At the time, Snowden's estate already was approximately 3,000 acres in size, extending from Old Columbia Pike to the present city of Laurel and from south of Greencastle and Van Dusen Roads to north of Sandy Spring Road. The 1715 patent increased the already substantial Snowden land holdings, and by 1743 the estate had grown to 9,265 acres.

Manufacturing activity on the Patuxent River dates back to 1736 when the Snowden family established the Patuxent River Iron Works. Almost a century later in 1811, Nicholas Snowden constructed a stone grist mill building on the banks of the Patuxent River as well as a dam across the river at the location of what is now Ninth Street in Laurel. In 1824, a Mr. Johnson leased the Snowden mill, which reportedly employed approximately 100 people at the time, and converted it from a grist mill to a factory for spinning yarns, known as the Cotton Manufacturing Motive of Laurel.

Nicholas Snowden died in 1831, and his estate, Montpelier, was subdivided among his children. His wife received what was called the Bank Quarter, which contained the bank of iron ore. A leftover undivided portion along the Patuxent River, contained approximately 100 acres, the Snowdens stone mansion, the mill buildings, several log houses, and a well-used farm where successive crops of tobacco and corn had been cultivated. The parcel's location was invaluable because of the exceptional water power provided by the river.

The 1835 completion of the Baltimore and Ohio (B & O) Railroad Company's new railroad line through Laurel, located just over one mile east of the mill, also contributed to the attractiveness of the mill location. The railroad, which was to connect Baltimore with Washington D.C., promised easier access to new markets, both for raw materials and finished products. Access to other markets was previously gained by the Washington-Baltimore Turnpike, a road that had been chartered by the state of Maryland in 1812 which was located just one mile east of the mill.

The mill's prime location and easy access to transportation routes were not lost on Snowden's heirs, which included son-in-law Horace Capron, a member of the Capron family of Attleboro, Massachusetts. On January 28, 1836, Horace Capron joined family members in a new business venture. Capron, along with Dr. Theodore Jenkins (brother-in-law of Capron and neighbor of the Snowdens at New Birmingham Manor), Elizabeth Snowden (Capron's mother-in-law), Osmond C. Tiffany (Capron's first cousin from another Attleboro, Massachusetts, family) A.E. Hall., and W.C. Shaw incorporated a new company, the Patuxent Company, for the purpose of manufacturing and selling cotton, iron, and other articles at the site of the mill and farm. Snowden land holdings were combined and transferred when Horace Capron and his wife, Charles Hill and his wife, and Dr. Theodore Jenkins and his wife, conveyed their inherited lands to the Patuxent Company. Deeds for property and stock also were transferred by Osmond Tiffany, Comfort Tiffany, and several Capron cousins, who also were involved in mill activities elsewhere.

In 1835, at approximately the same time that the Patuxent Company was establishing its mill operations along the Patuxent River, the Baltimore and Ohio (B&O) Railroad Company completed its rail line, connecting the cities of Baltimore and

Washington D.C. The new rail line and depot were just one mile east of the company's mill and enabled easier transport of materials and finished products to and from the mill via Main Street.

Shortly after its incorporation in 1835, the Patuxent Company constructed housing for its mill workers near the mill. Merchants established stores and businesses to support the employees and their families, and the town, known as Laurel Factory, started to grow. Laurel Factory grew quickly in the middle of the 19th century as businesses, churches, social halls, and schools were established to meet the needs of the fledgling community, first in the western end near the mill, then east of the mill as the town crept along Main Street toward the turnpike and railroad.

According to Thomson's Mercantile and Professional Directory, Laurel Factory had its own post office by 1851 as well as four dealers in dry goods, groceries, and hardware; two physicians; one hotelkeeper; and one factory. According to the 1861 Martenet map, Laurel property owners from established and prominent Maryland families included William M. Warfield and Thomas J. Talbot. Other local property owners included J.W. Whiteside, D.D. and W.W. Heath, K. Phelps, J. Carter, Boswell, George H. Hall, Susan Coale, Peter Bogert, Jesse Duvall, Thomas N. Young, and R. Collier. Main Street businesses indicated on the map include Jesse Duvall's store and post office, George Wheeler's Avondale Grist Mill, J. P. Tiffany's store, S. Heath's Machine Shop, J. Watson's blacksmith shop, H. Harrison's hotel, and William H. Warfield's store. The 1861 Martenet map does not indicate the name of the owner of the land at the southwest corner of what would become Ninth and Montgomery Streets, although William Warfield's large tract is in close proximity.

In 1875, Laurel Factory had been incorporated and its name changed to Laurel. The 1878 Hopkins atlas indicates that by this time the eastern end of the town surrounding the railroad had begun to develop, with larger parcels and houses on the eastern side of the railroad and smaller lots on the track's western side. Lots on both sides of the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike had been subdivided as well. Lots along the northern and southern sides of Main Street had been subdivided and developed with both residences and businesses. The 1878 atlas indicates that a property and store owned by E.J. Phelps sat near the original section of the town at the southwestern corner of Ninth and Montgomery Streets. The same atlas indicates that the land on which the Phelps House stands was owned by William M. Warfield and John Whiteside.

History of Resource

Although the town had grown eastward and businesses were located primarily along Main Street, Edward Phelps' dry goods store was located in the original, western end of the town where mill activity was still centered. Montgomery Street later developed into a primarily residential area; however the dry goods business continued in this location across from School Number 1 at the southwestern corner of Ninth and Montgomery Streets. Phelps' store was housed first in a small, wood-frame building, constructed in 1867, at what would become 906 Montgomery Street. By 1891 the dry goods store (later known as a department store) had prospered, and a new, two-story building was constructed nearby at the corner at 900 Montgomery Street.

The Phelps House was located four blocks west of the store site on land that was originally patented to Richard Snowden as "New Birmingham Manor." Following the death of Nicholas Snowden in 1831 his land was subdivided to family members, with Eliza Snowden acquiring much of the land that was to form the city of Laurel. On March 21, 1843, Snowden's son-in-law, Dr. Theodore Jenkins and his wife, Juliana, acquired lots No. 1 and 2 from Eliza Snowden for $2,000 (DB CSM 2, P. 0457). It is believed that the Phelps house is located on what was previously Lots No. 1 and 2.

On October 19, 1866, Theodore Jenkins (Trustee), Louis W. Jenkins, and Frank X. Jenkins sold 42 acres of their land between what is now Sandy Spring Road and Walker's Branch for $2,954. to William H. Warfield and John W. Whiteside (DB FS 4, P. 220). Twenty–one years later on May 11, 1887, John H. Whiteside, who was by now a widower, sold his interest in lots 1,2,3, and 4 in square No. 1 (believed to be the land where the house stands) to Edward Phelps and Charles F. Shaffer, Jr. Another possibility is that Phelps might have acquired Warfield's interest in the land through inheritance from his mother and father, Edward J. Phelps and Elizabeth Warfield Phelps, although this is currently not known for certain (DB JWB 8, P. 0481).

Edward Phelps took over his father's grocery store at 912 Montgomery Street and went into business with Charles Shaffer in 1876. It is believed that Phelps also had a store at 906 Montgomery Street. Phelps and his wife, Savilla, lived on Ninth Street behind the store until they built their house at 1110 Montgomery Street in 1888, following acquisition of the property in 1887. While residing in the house at 1110 Montgomery Street, Phelps continued to run a successful dry goods business, which, by 1891 had moved to a new building 900 Montgomery Street. Phelps was an influential businessman in the city of Laurel and was elected the mayor of Laurel several years later in 1895 and served for seven terms. He resided in the house at 1110 Montgomery Street and raised a large family there.

Edward Phelps' wife died, and he remarried and moved to Annapolis, Maryland (date unknown). On December 31, 1920, Citizens National Bank, with George W. Waters, Jr., as the Trustee, sold the 6.13-acre parcel with the house to Warner and Laura Wright (DB 292, P. 350).

On June 13, 1927, Warner and Laura M. Wright conveyed the 6.13-acre parcel to Eva and Boyd Timanus (DB 292, P. 350), with the Wrights holding the mortgage note. Two years later, the Timanus' defaulted on the mortgage, and the property was sold at a public auction. Laura Wright attempted to purchase the property back and was the highest bidder at $6,500. Fred and Daisy Kluckhuhn were substituted for Laura Wright (according to the deed, reason unknown) and the sale was finalized in 1929 (DB 336, P. 224).

Fred Klukhuhn and his wife, originally from Washington, D.C., sold the parcel on April 19, 1947, to Clarence Steinbauer (DB 932, P. 68). Twenty-three years later on November 4, 1970, Clarence Steinbauer sold the parcel to the First Assembly of God Church, which owns it today. The house has always been a single family residence.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. PG:LAU-28

Capron, Horace. Autobiography. 2 vols., nd, typed copy, Maryland Historical Society.

Hopkins, G.M. *Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington Including County of Prince George Maryland.* Philadelphia: F. Bourquin, 1878.

Martenet, Simon J. Map of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1861.

Poe, Gertrude L. *Laurel, Maryland: Centennial Souvenir Booklet.* Privately published by City of Laurel, Maryland, 1970.
Robison, Joseph R. Personal communication with author, May 1, 2008.
Spero, P.A.C. and Company. *Montgomery-Prince Georges Short-term Congestion Relief.* May 1998.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	2.60	
Acreage of historical setting	2.60	
Quadrangle name	Laurel, Maryland	Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Map 3, Grid B4, Parcel 40

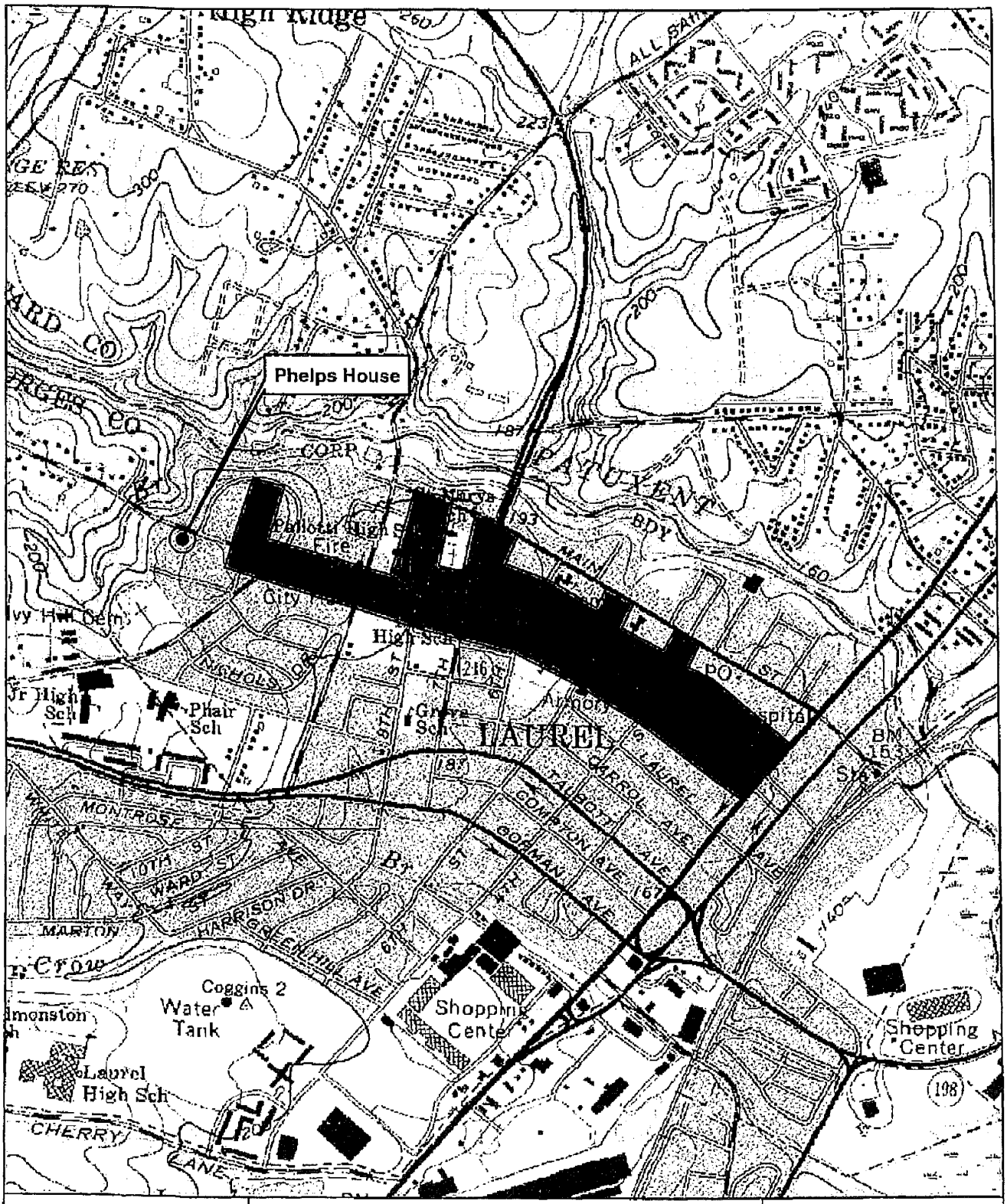
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Alison Ross, M.S. Architectural Historian		
organization	KCI Technologies, Inc.	date	12/2008
street & number	5001 Louise Drive	telephone	717-691-1340
city or town	Mechanicsburg	state	PA

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
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



N

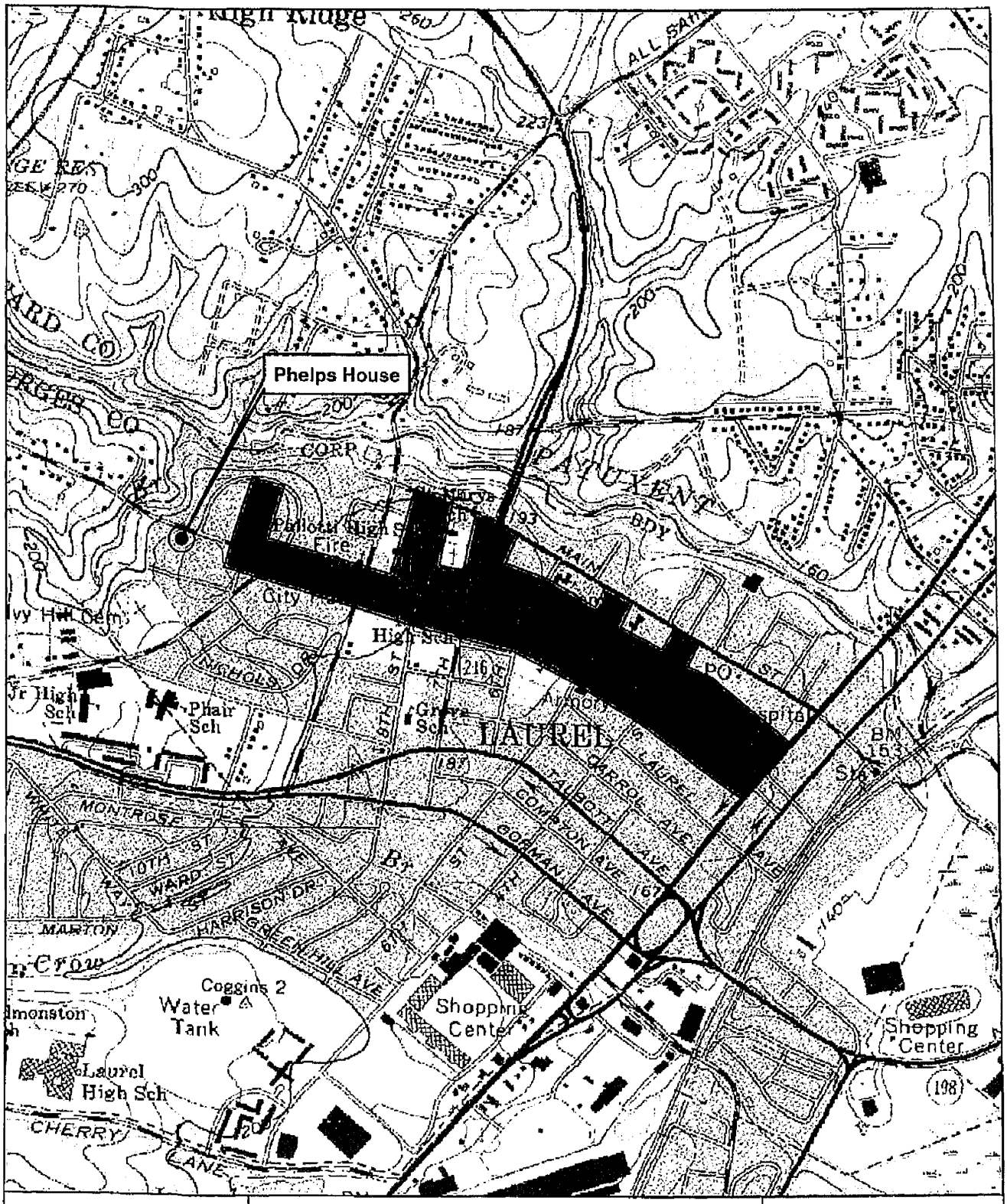
Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Site No. PG:LAU-28

Locational Map

Phelps House
1110 Montgomery Street

Map Courtesy of
U.S. Geological Survey
2004 Microsoft Corporation

Laurel, Maryland, July 1, 1979



N

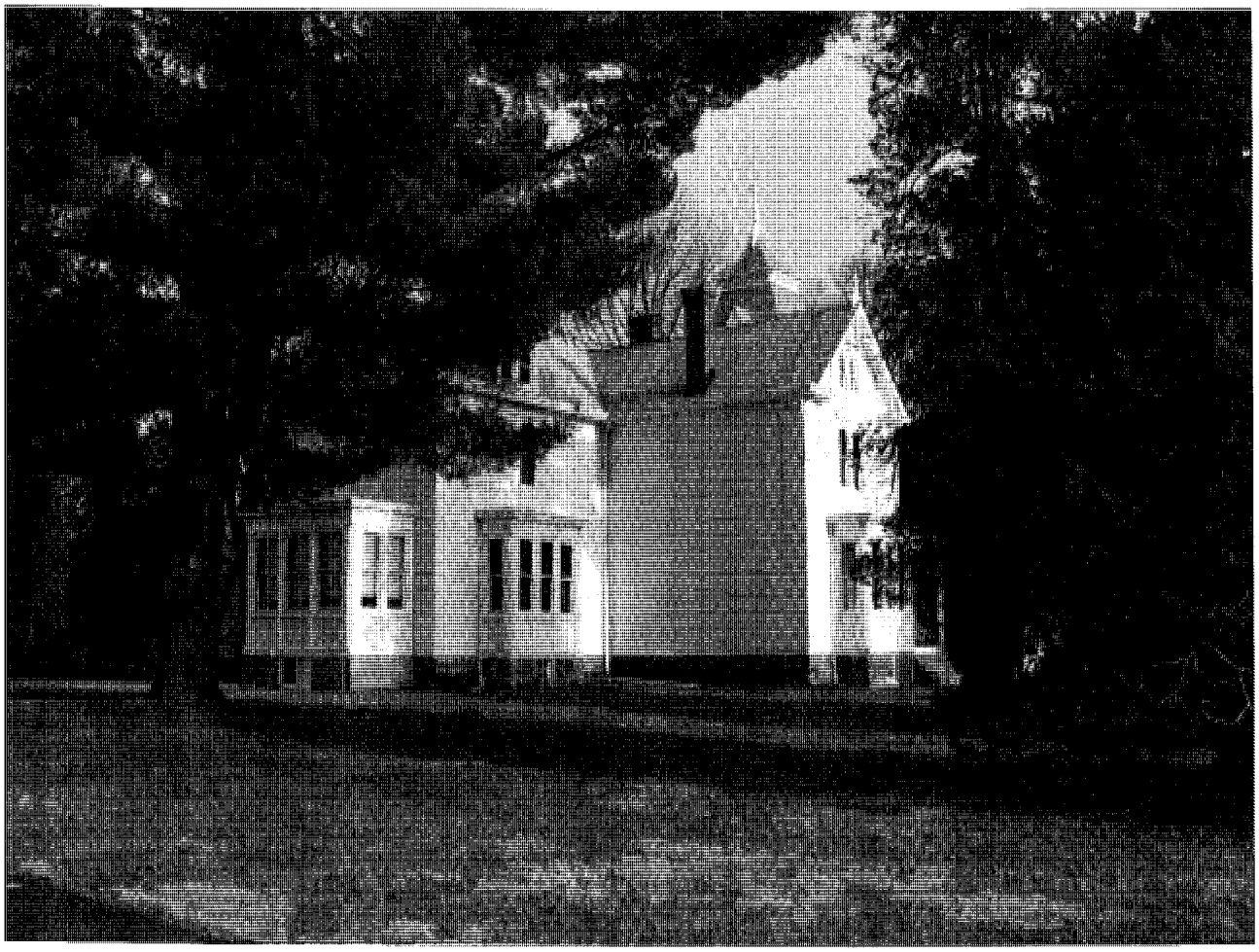
Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties
Site No. PG:LAU-28

Locational Map

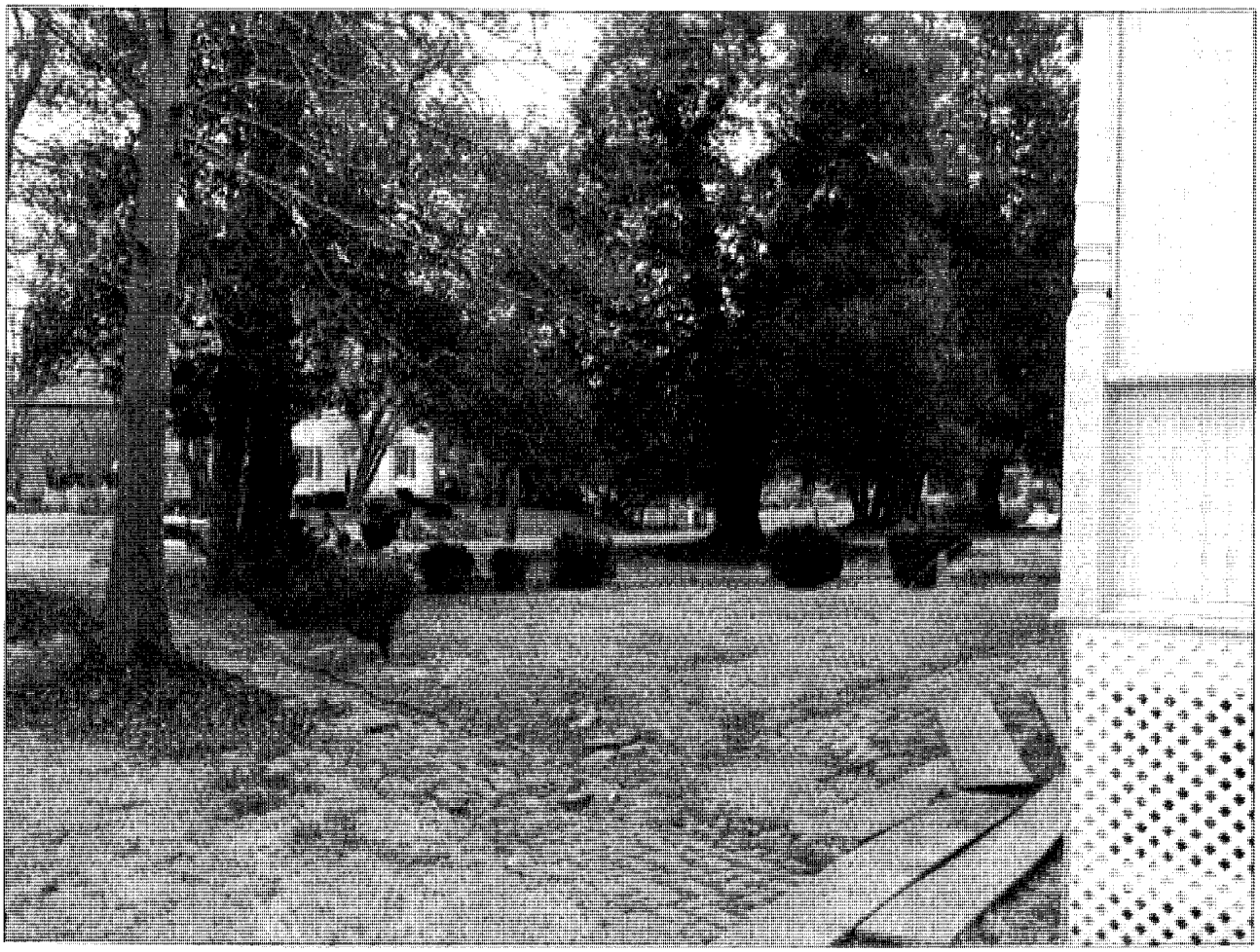
Phelps House
1110 Montgomery Street

Map Courtesy of
U.S. Geological Survey
2004 Microsoft Corporation

Laurel, Maryland, July 1, 1979



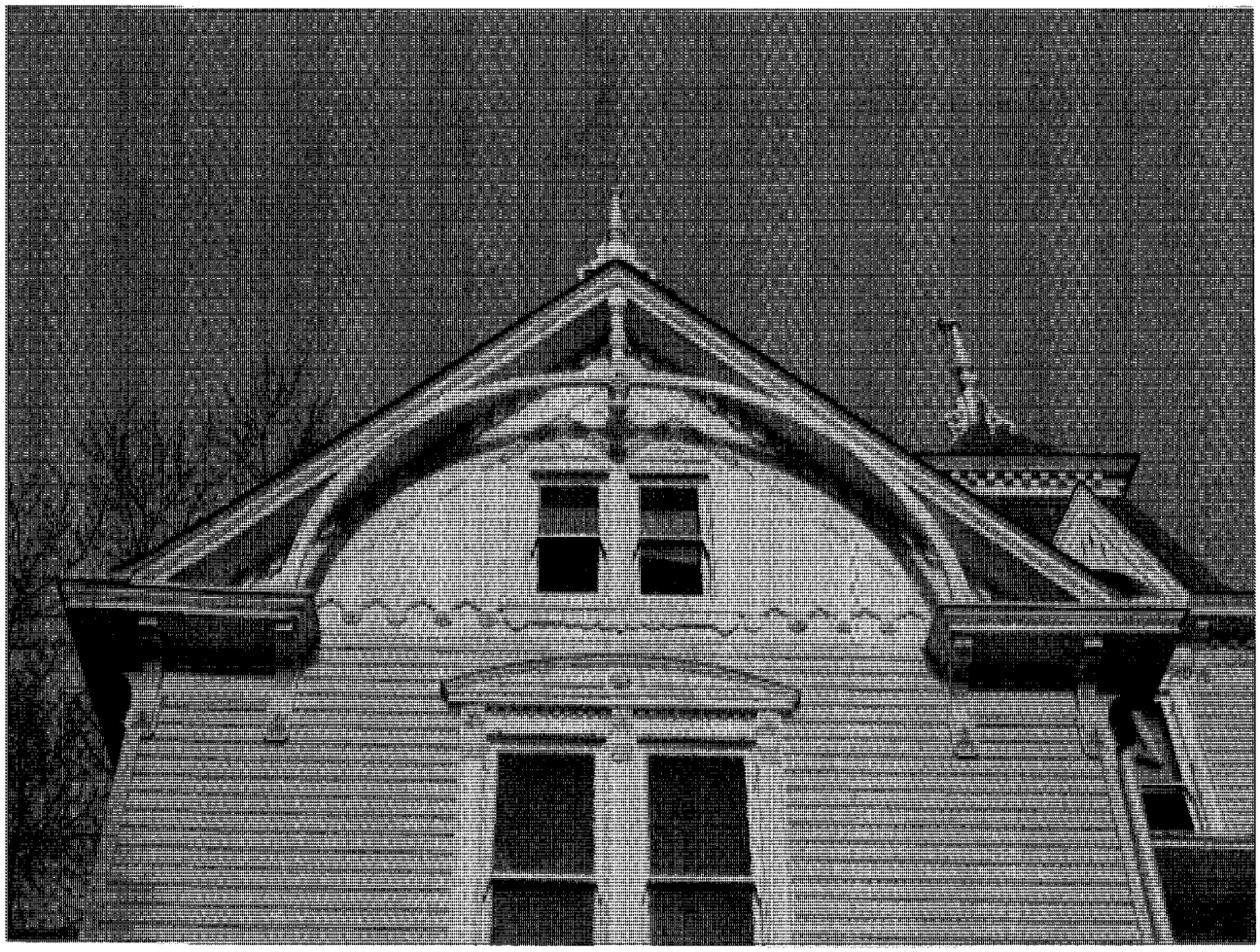
MIHP # PG:LAU-28
Phelps House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Rear and side lawn of house, facing NW
Photo #1 of 15



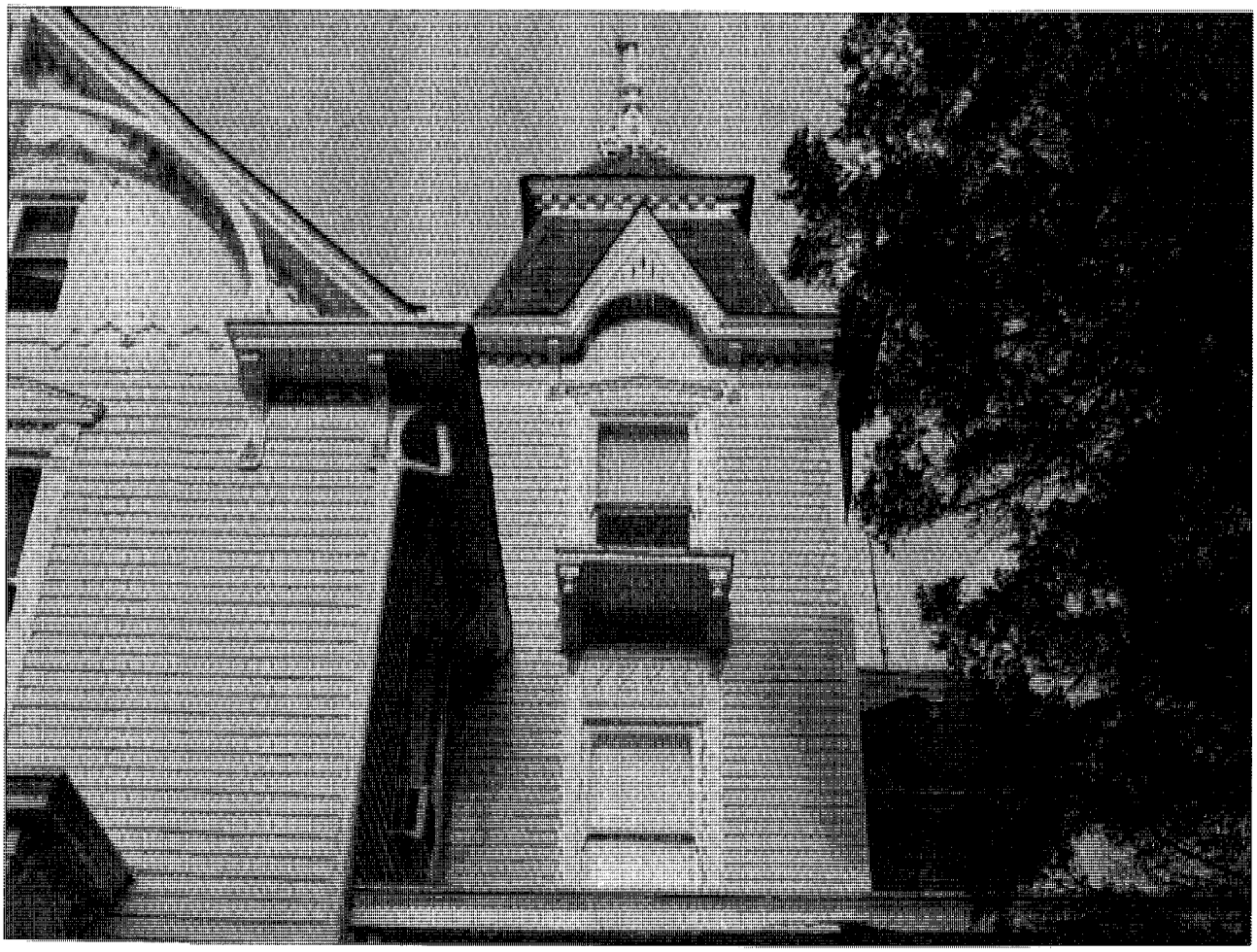
MIHP # PG:LAU-28
Phelps House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Northern side of house showing front yard and brick walkway, facing NE
Photo #2 of 15

MIHP # PG:LAU-28
Phelps House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Driveway on eastern side, facing NW
Photo #3 of 15

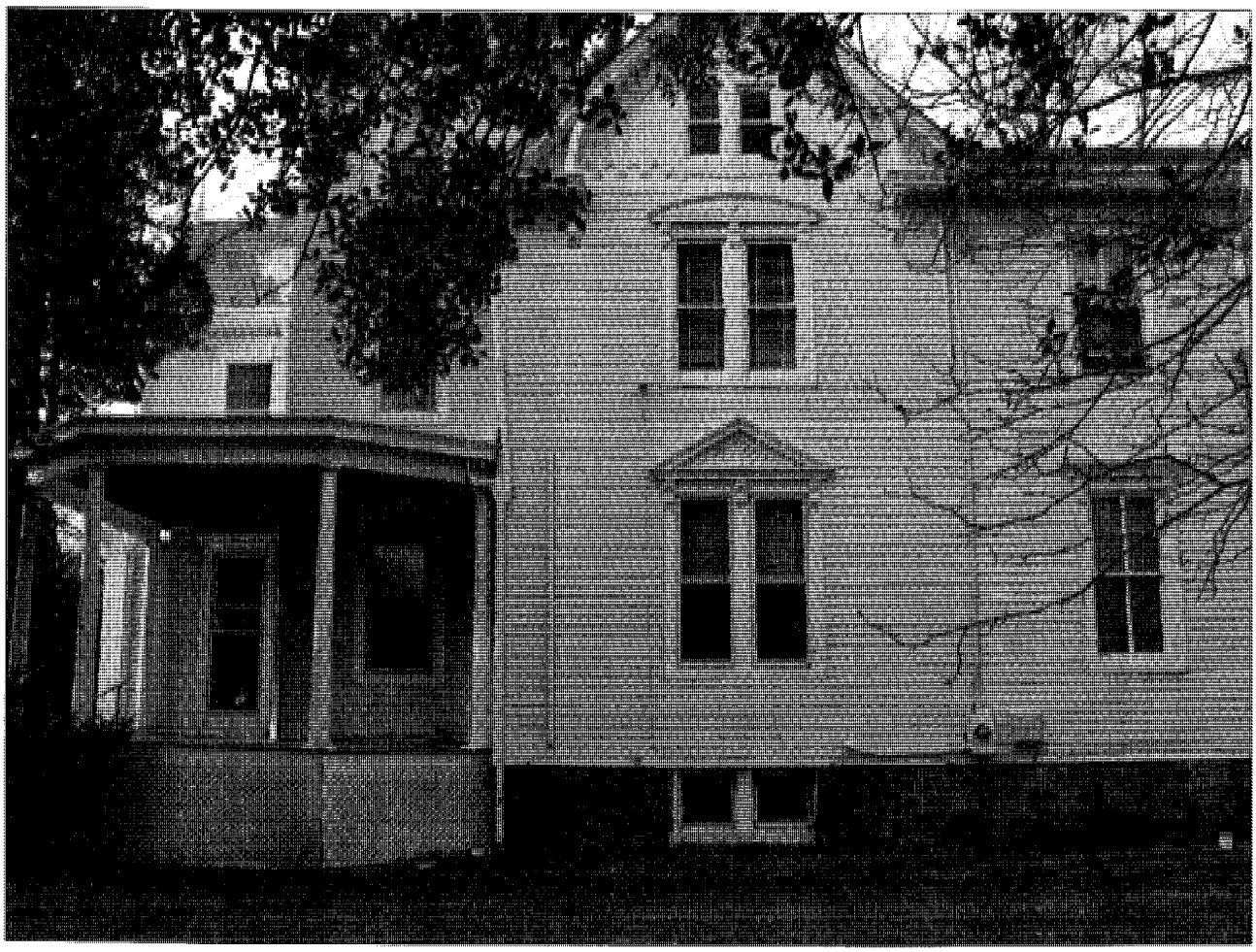
MIHP # PG:LAU-28
Phelps House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Eastern elevation showing projecting wings and intersecting gabled roofs, facing west
Photo #4 of 15



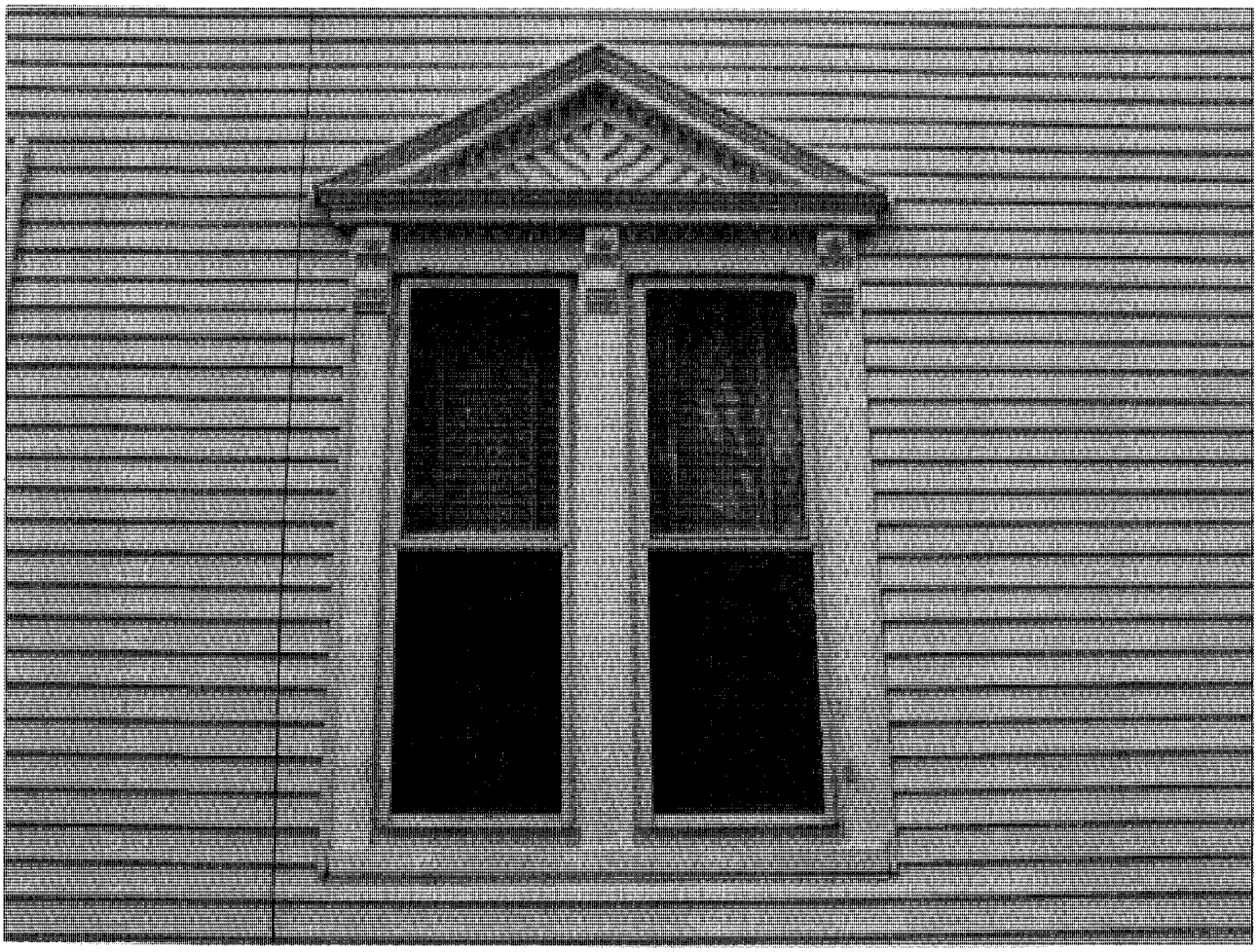
MIHP # PG:LAU-28
Phelps House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Typical gable with Stick-style details, facing W
Photo #5 of 15



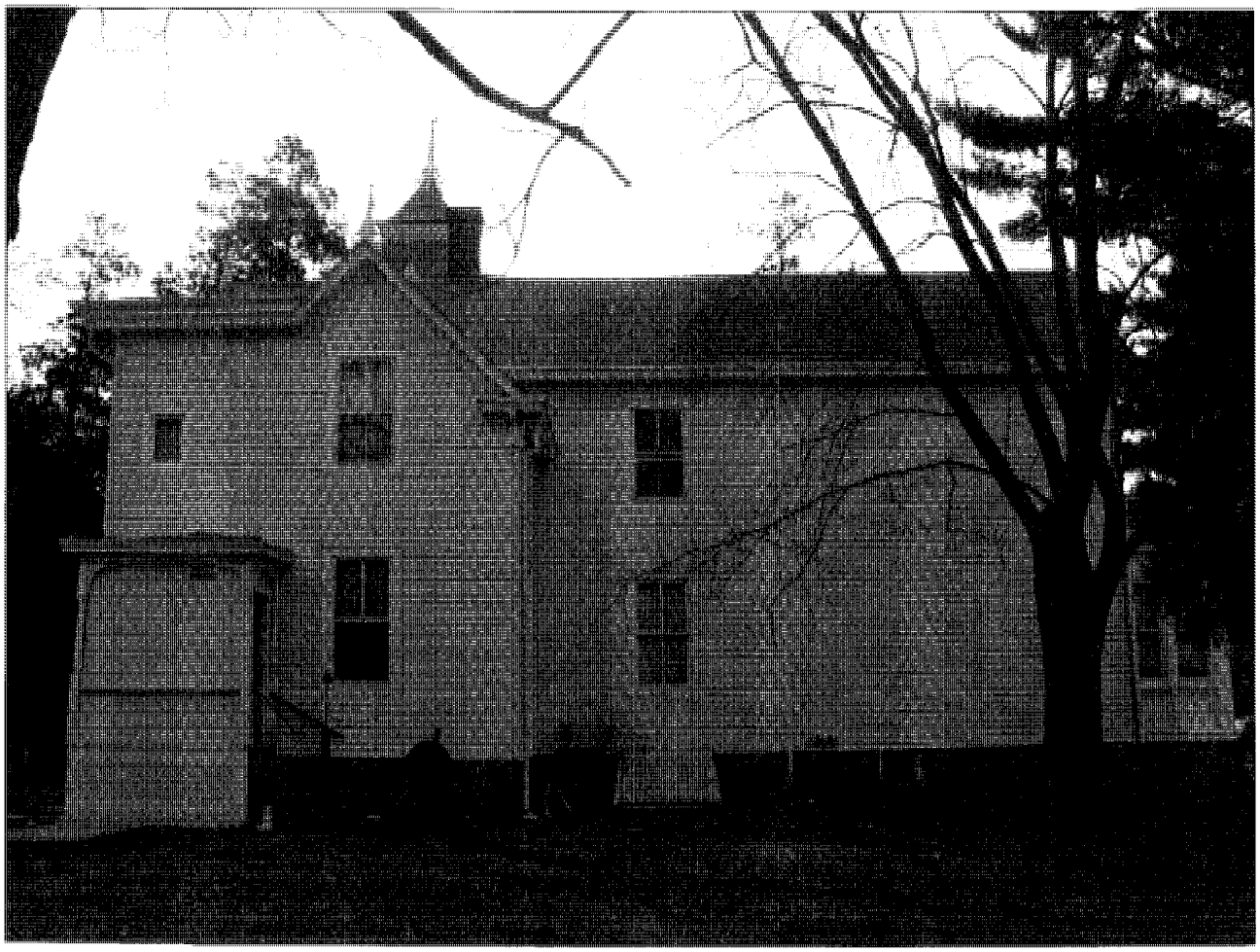
MIHP # PG:LAU-28
Phelps House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Tower on northeastern corner of house, facing W
Photo #6 of 15



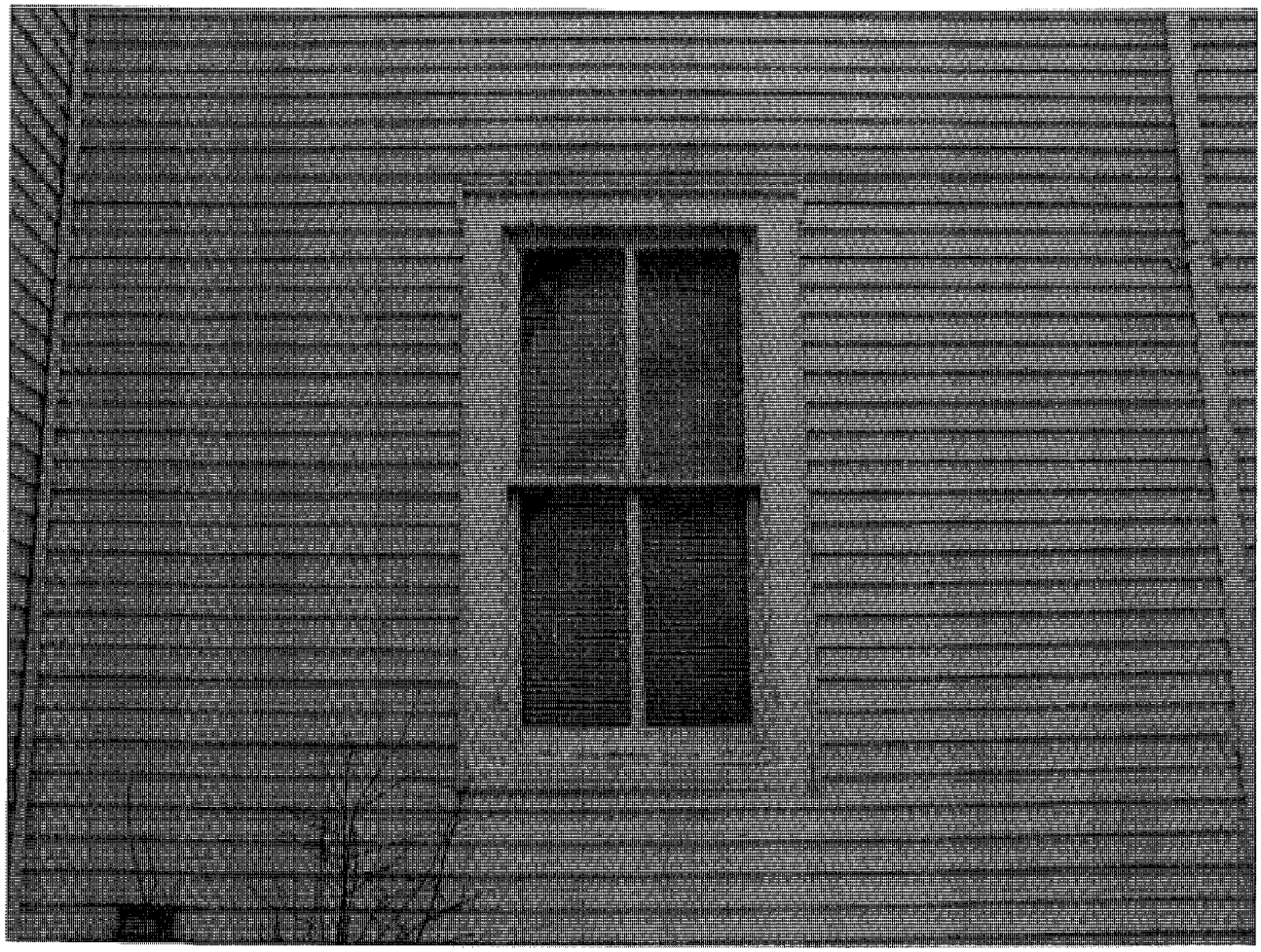
MIHP # PG:LAU-28
Phelps House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Northern (front) elevation, facing S
Photo #7 of 15



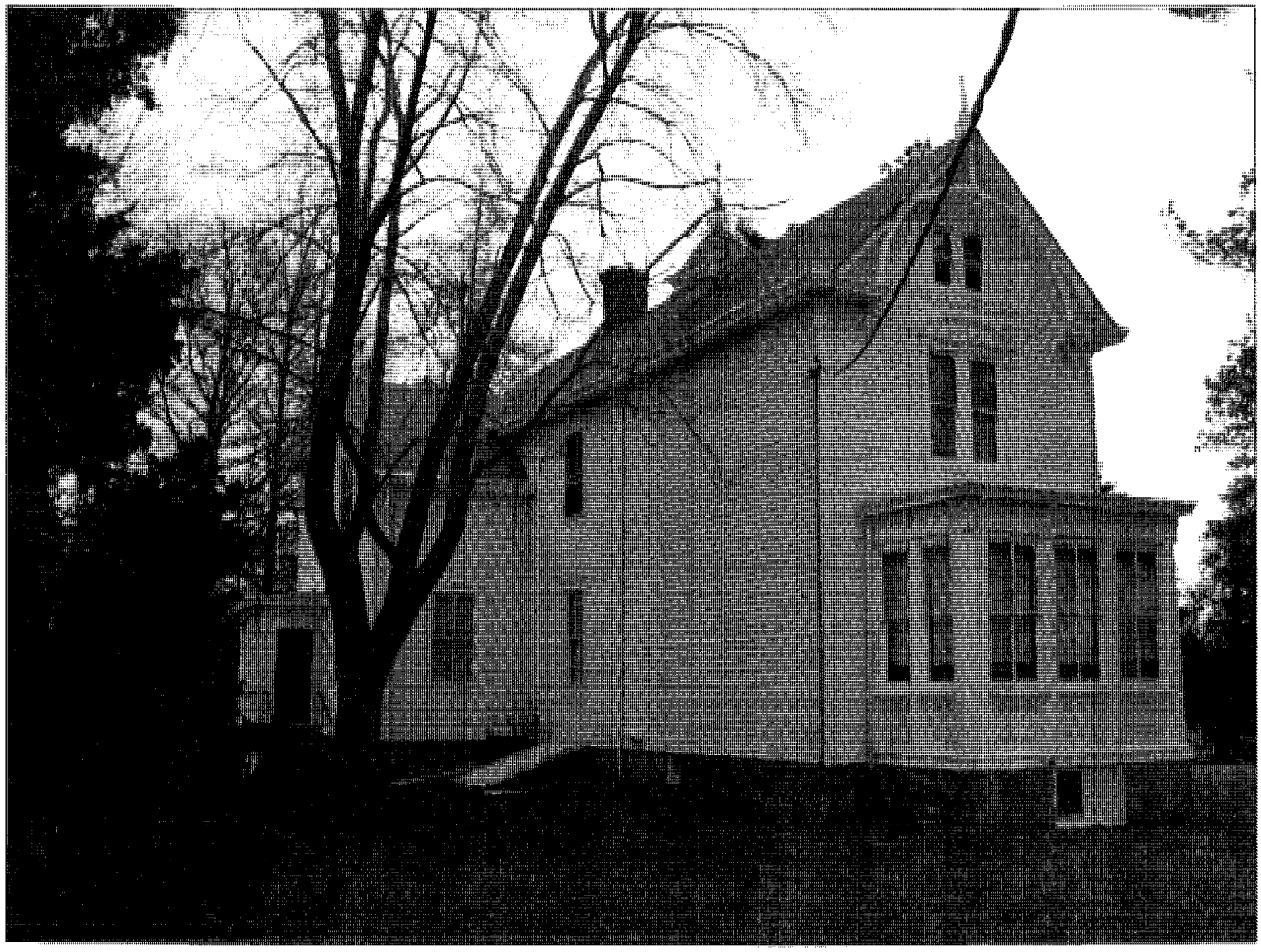
MIHP # PG:LAU-28
Phelps House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Pedimented crown over window with brackets, dentils, and “branchwork” detailing, facing S
Photo #8 of 15



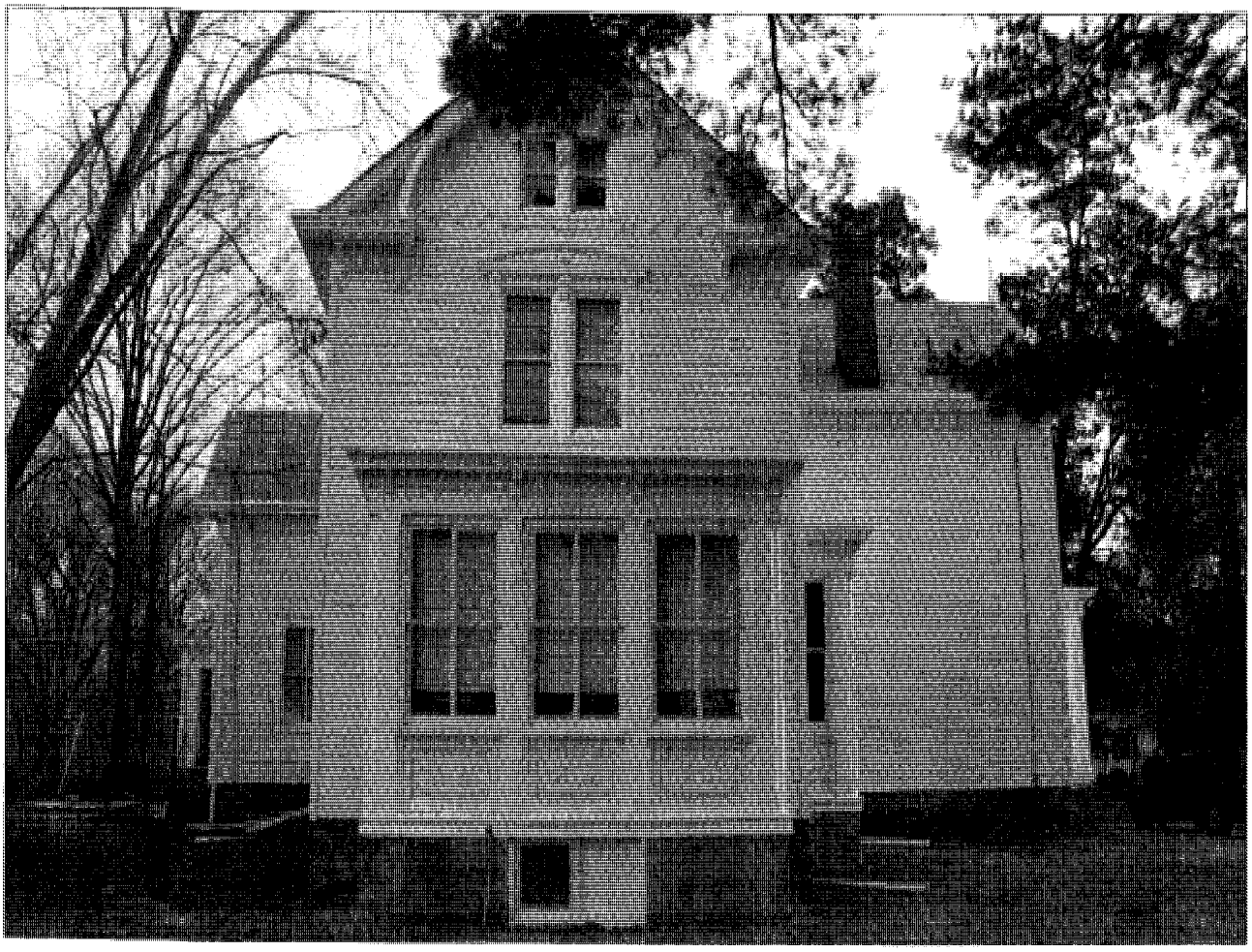
MIHP # PG:LAU-28
Phelps House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Western elevation, facing E
Photo #9 of 15



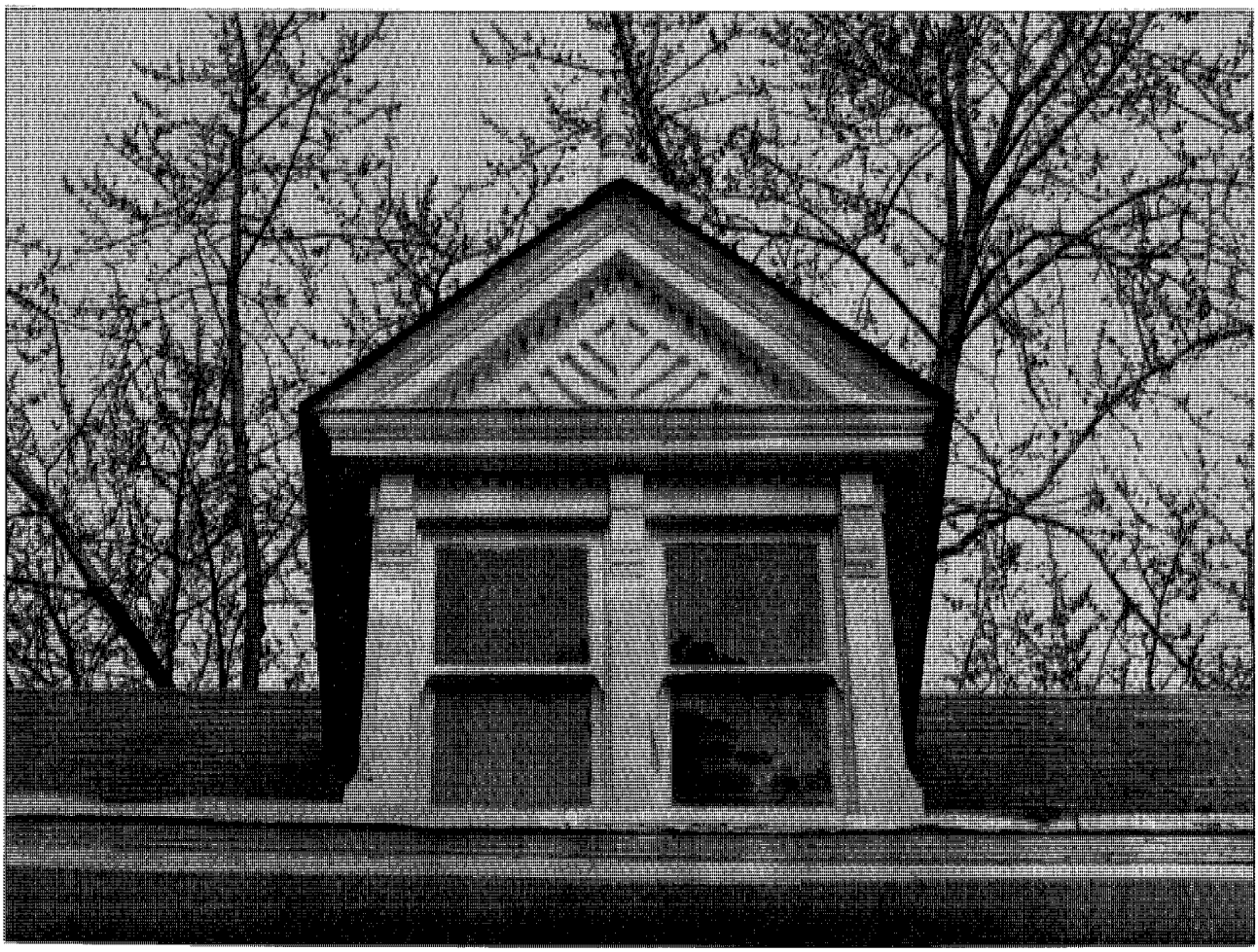
MIHP # PG:LAU-28
Phelps House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Original wooden window sash, facing E
Photo #10 of 15



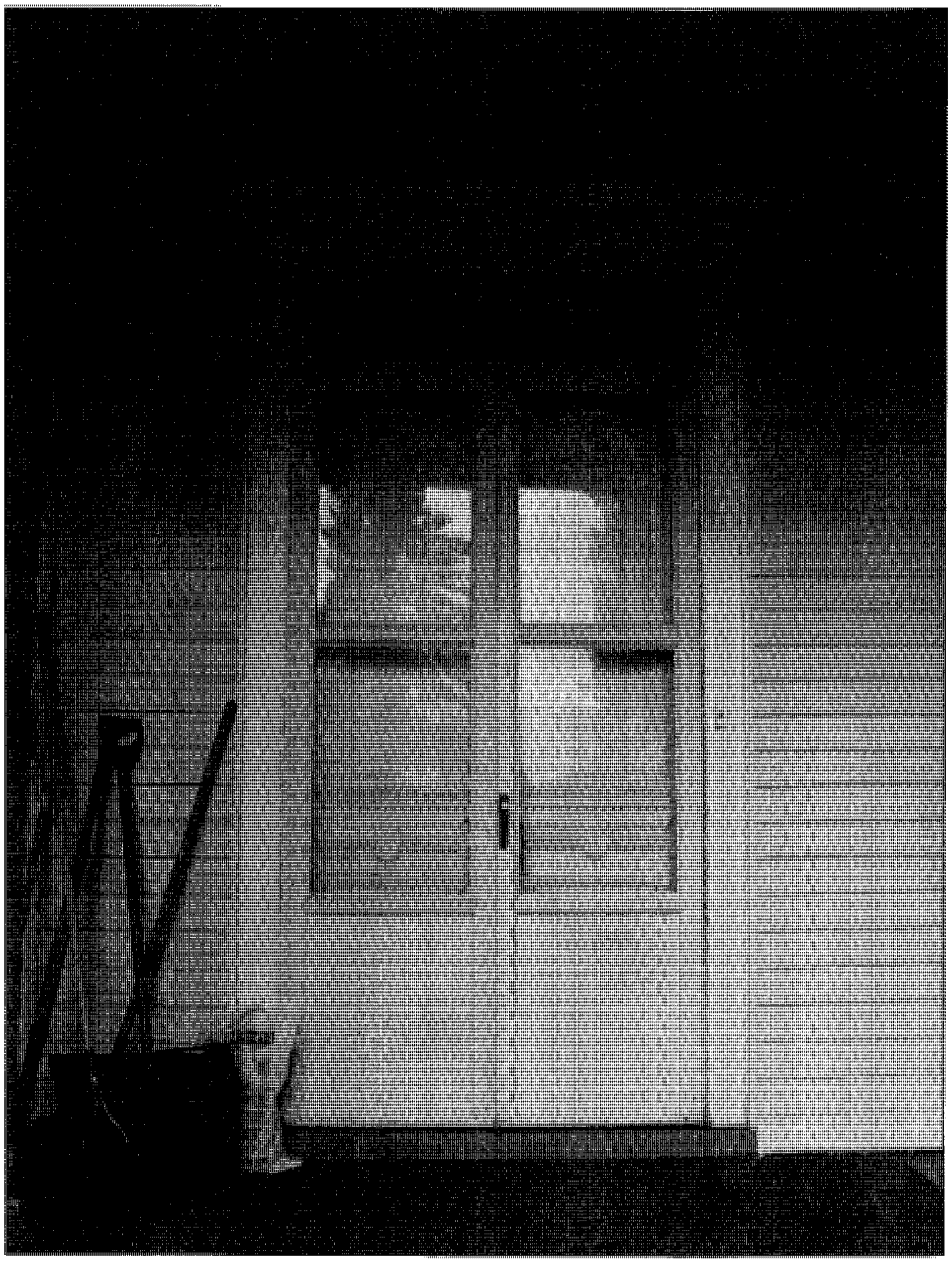
MIHP # PG:LAU-28
Phelps House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Western and southern elevations, facing NE
Photo #11 of 15



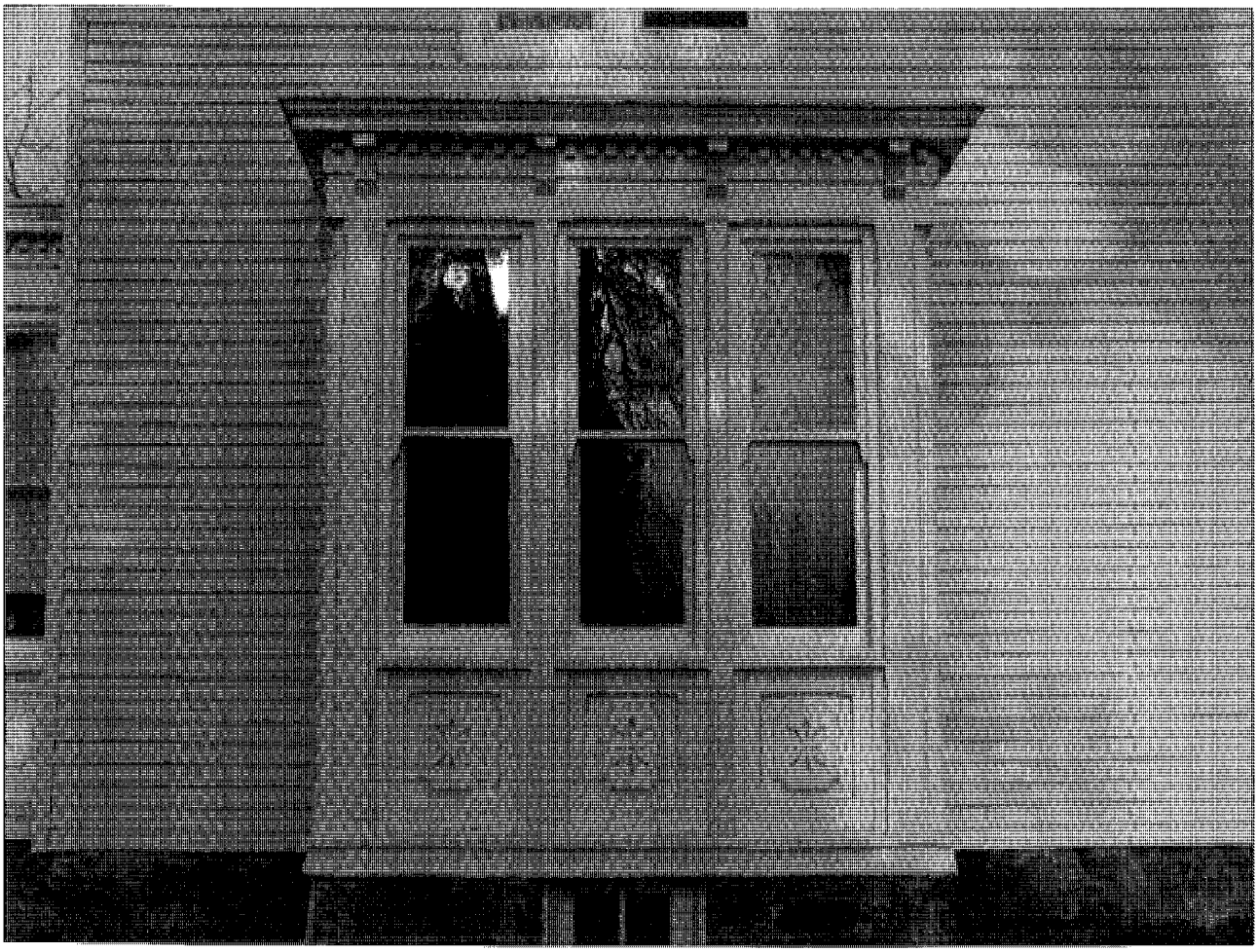
MIHP # PG:LAU-28
Phelps House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Southern elevation showing projecting bay, Facing N
Photo #12 of 15



MIHP # PG:LAU-28
Phelps House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Third floor dormer on eastern elevation, facing W
Photo #13 of 15



MIHP # PG:LAU-28
Phelps House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Original entrance door on eastern elevation, facing W
Photo #14 of 15



MIHP # PG:LAU-28
Phelps House
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
March 2009
MD SHPO
Projecting bay on eastern elevation, facing W
Photo #15 of 15

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

roperty Name: Phelps House Inventory Number: PG:LAU-28

Address: 1110 Montgomery Street City: Laurel Zip Code: 20707

County: Prince Georges County USGS Topographic Map: Laurel, MD 1979

Owner: First Assembly of God of Laurel, Maryland Is the property being evaluated a district? ____yes

Tax Parcel Number: _____ Tax Map Number: 6 Tax Account ID Number: 10 1021716

Project: Laurel Historic District Architectural Survey and Analysis Agency: City of Laurel

Site visit by MHT Staff: _____no ____yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Is the property located within a historic district? ____yes X ___no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: _____

NR-listed district ____yes Eligible district ____yes District Name: _____

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ___yes ___no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ____

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible X yes ____no

Criteria: ___A ___B X C ___D Considerations: _____A ___B ___C ___D _____F ___G ___None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MHT MIHP Form Inventory No. PG:LAU-28

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

The building at 1110 Montgomery Street is a residential dwelling located on the southern side of Montgomery Street in the western end of the City of Laurel, Maryland. The exuberant Victorian-era house was constructed by prominent Laurel businessman, and later mayor, Edward Phelps, Jr., for himself, his wife, and eight children. The house has continued to serve as a private residence throughout the 20th century and is now owned by the First Assembly of God Church, located just east of the house. The house now serves as the residence of the church's staff pastor.

The house is a 2½-story, 4-bay dwelling house, with an irregularly-shaped floor plan. The exuberant, Victorian-era house sits on a parcel that is mostly flat, with an expansive grass lawn, some hardwood trees, and some ornamental shrubbery surrounding the house. A brick walkway with a herringbone design leads from Montgomery Street to the northern side of the house and turns to encircle the northern and eastern sides. The walkway is in disrepair in some areas, with loose or missing bricks. A straight then slightly curving paved driveway leads from Montgomery Street to the rear of the property on the house's eastern side.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ **Eligibility not recommended** _____

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D **Considerations:** ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None

Comments: _____

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

Reviewer, NR Program **Date**

The house does not embody one architectural style but instead combines elements of the Queen Anne and Stick styles of architecture. The house's massing and irregular floor plan reflect the Queen Anne style, with its irregular facades, wraparound porch, and projecting wings with intersecting gabled roofs. The Stick style is reflected in the gables' surface decoration and horseshoe-shaped trusses, as well as the decorative door and window trim throughout the house. The front tower and roof reflect the Stick style of architecture as well. The architect is unknown; however it is possible that local architect and builder Lawrence Adelbert Ellis may have designed and constructed the house. Evidence of this is an artist's sketch (possibly his) published in the newspaper showing another house that was designed and built by him. Although it does not depict the Phelps house, it is very similar in design and appearance.

The house's northern (or front) elevation facing the street consists of a central 2-story, front-gabled section with two 2-story side-gabled wings projecting off of the central section to the east and west. Adjacent to the front-gabled section in the house's northeastern corner is a 3-story square tower with a pyramid-shaped roof. Wrapping around the northeastern corner is a porch supported by simple wooden posts that might have replaced earlier turned wooden posts. The 1st story contains (from left to right) a single-leaf wooden door with a replacement metal storm door opening onto the porch, 1 double-hung window with 1-over-1 lights, 1 set of paired windows with double-hung sashes and 1-over-1 lights, and 1 single double-hung window with 2-over-2 lights. The front entry door and all windows have decorative wooden surrounds. A pedimented crown with dentils and decorative "branchwork" tops the set of paired windows on the first story, and a straight bracketed crown tops the other windows and doors. Painted wooden lattice panels have been applied below the porch, covering the porch foundation. The 2nd story of this elevation consists of (from left to right) 2 windows with double-hung sashes and 1-over-1 lights; 1 paired window, with 1-over-1 lights and an arched bracketed crown; and a third window with double-hung window sashes and 2-over-2 lights. One 3rd-story paired window with double-hung sashes and 1-over-1 lights sits in the gable in the elevation's central section. A horseshoe-shaped truss and decorative wooden siding are in the gable above this window.

The 1st story of the western elevation has a projecting 1-story bay. The windows have been filled in on all 3 sides of the bay; however, the arched window frames and turned corner posts remain. Painted wooden lattice panels have been applied below the bay, filling in the space between the bay and the ground. South of the bay is a window with its original wooden double-hung sashes and 2-over-2 lights. Further south on this elevation is 1 window with its original wooden double-hung window sashes and 2-over-2 lights. The projecting bay around the corner on the house's southern elevation is visible on the end of this elevation. The 2nd story of the western elevation has (from left to right) 1 small fixed window with a simple wooden frame and 1 larger window with wooden double-hung sashes and 2-over-2 lights.

The house's southern elevation has 1 projecting 1-story bay on a stone foundation that has been covered with concrete. The bay has a set of 3 windows with double-hung sashes and 2-over-2 lights. Double-hung windows are on both sides of the bay as well, suggesting the presence of a sunroom on the house's interior. An overhanging cornice contains bracketing and dentiled molding on all sides of the bay. The elevation's 2nd story has 1 set of paired windows with an arched, bracketed crown. The 3rd-story windows in the gable match those in the northern elevation gable. The set of paired windows has double-hung sashes and 1-over-1 lights. A horseshoe-shaped truss and decorative wooden siding are in this gable as well.

The house's eastern elevation has (from left to right) 1 projecting bay with a set of 3 double-hung windows, with 1-over-1 lights; another projecting bay with 3 double-hung windows, with 1-over-1 lights; and 1 original wooden double-leaf entrance door covered with a storm door that opens onto the porch. Both projecting bays have hipped roofs with bracketing, dentiled molding above the windows, and panels below the windows with an incised abstract design typical of the period. The elevation's 2nd story has (from left to right) 1 set of paired windows with double-hung sashes and 1-over-1 lights, another set of paired windows with double-hung sashes and 1-over-1 lights in the projecting wing, and 1 single window with double-hung sashes with 1-over-1 lights in the tower. Above the window in the tower is a spandrel with the incised construction date, "1888."

The eastern elevation has a 3rd-story dormer with a front-gabled roof and 1 set of paired, double-hung windows in the southern side of the eastern elevation. The central main gable has 1 set of paired windows on the 3rd story that match those in the other gables, with a horseshoe-shaped truss and decorative wooden siding. The 3rd story of the tower's eastern side has 1 double-hung window with 1-over-1 lights and a pedimented crown on top. An overhanging cornice with bracketing and dentiled molding surrounds the tower as well as all sides of the house, and a decorative finial tops the tower as well as the peaks of the gabled roofs on each elevation.

The building has retained a high degree of historic integrity and retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The structure meets historic significance criteria outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's National Register Bulletin, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation." The property meets Criterion C because it embodies distinctive characteristics of the Queen Anne and Stick style of architecture and still conveys its significance. It does not meet Criterion A because it is not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. The property does not meet Criterion B because it is not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. In addition, it does not meet Criterion D because it has not yielded, nor is it likely to yield information important in prehistory or history. Because it retains a high degree of integrity and meets Criterion C for its significant architecture, the Phelps House is recommended eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

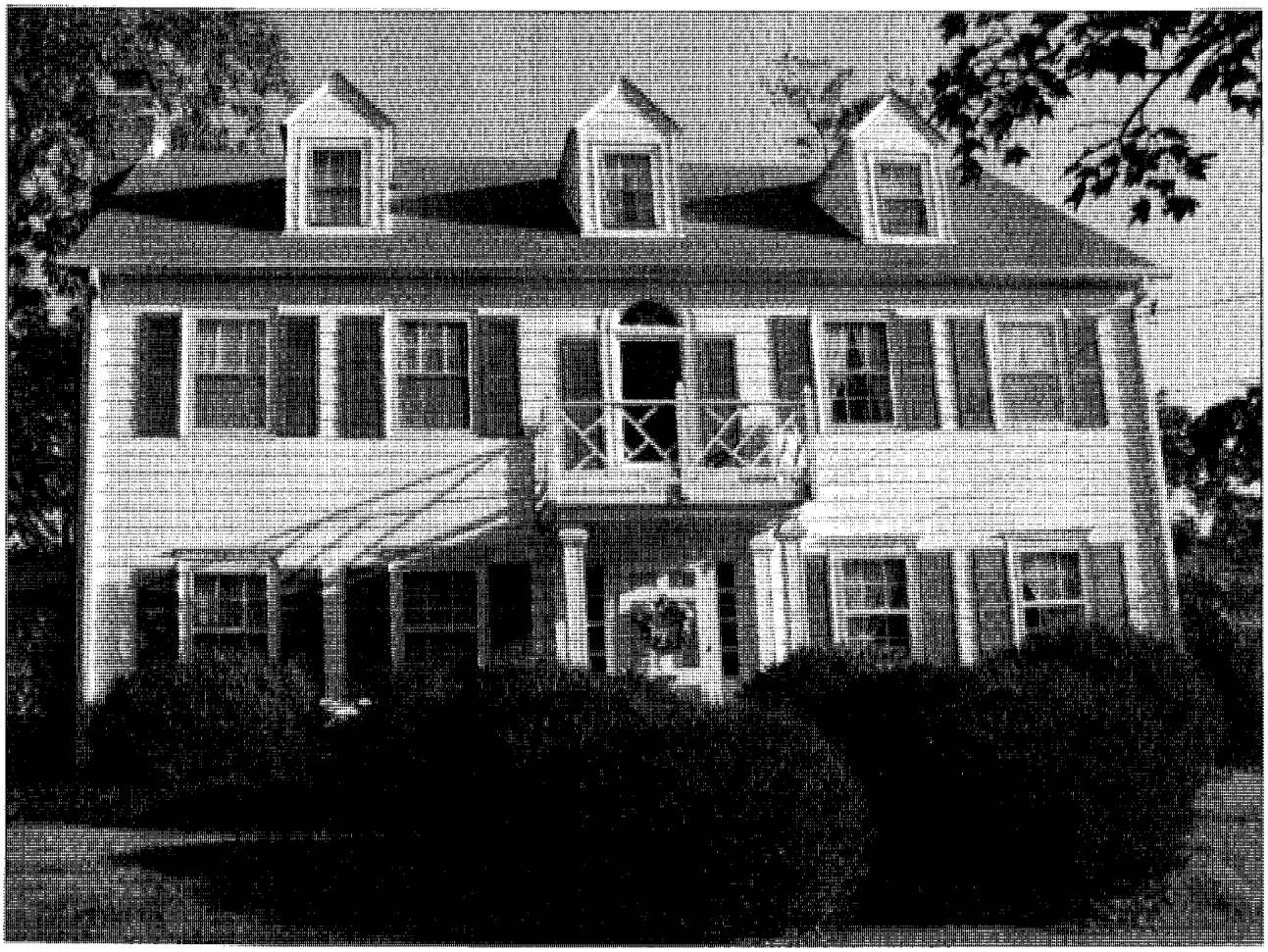
Prepared by: Alison J. Ross
KCI Technologies, Inc.

Date Prepared: May 2009

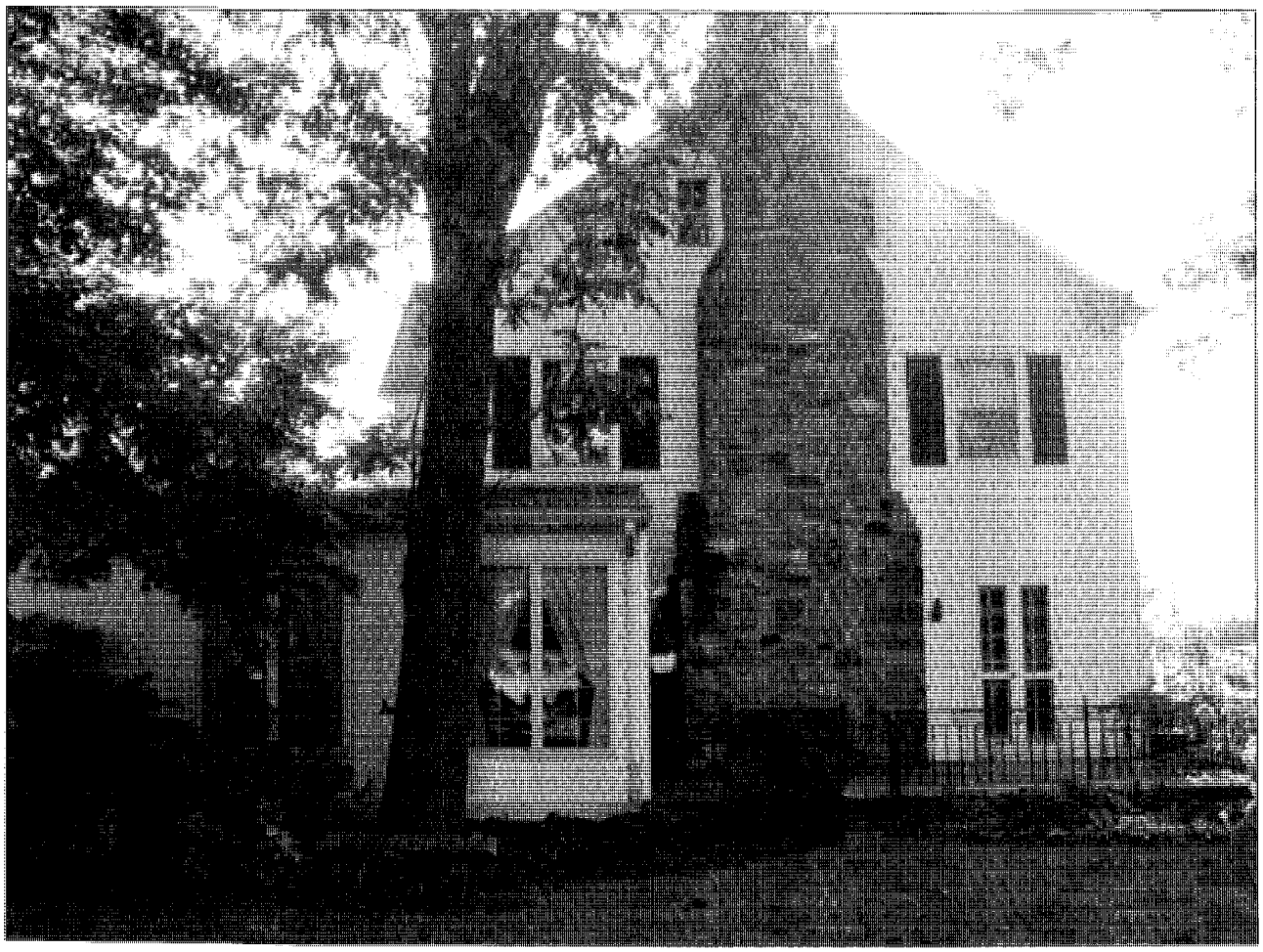
Name of Property: Morris and Julia Quill Property
MIHP Number: PG:60-14
Location: 7300 Old Sandy Spring Road
Surveyed by: Alison J. Ross
Date: July 2008

Addendum

Photographs

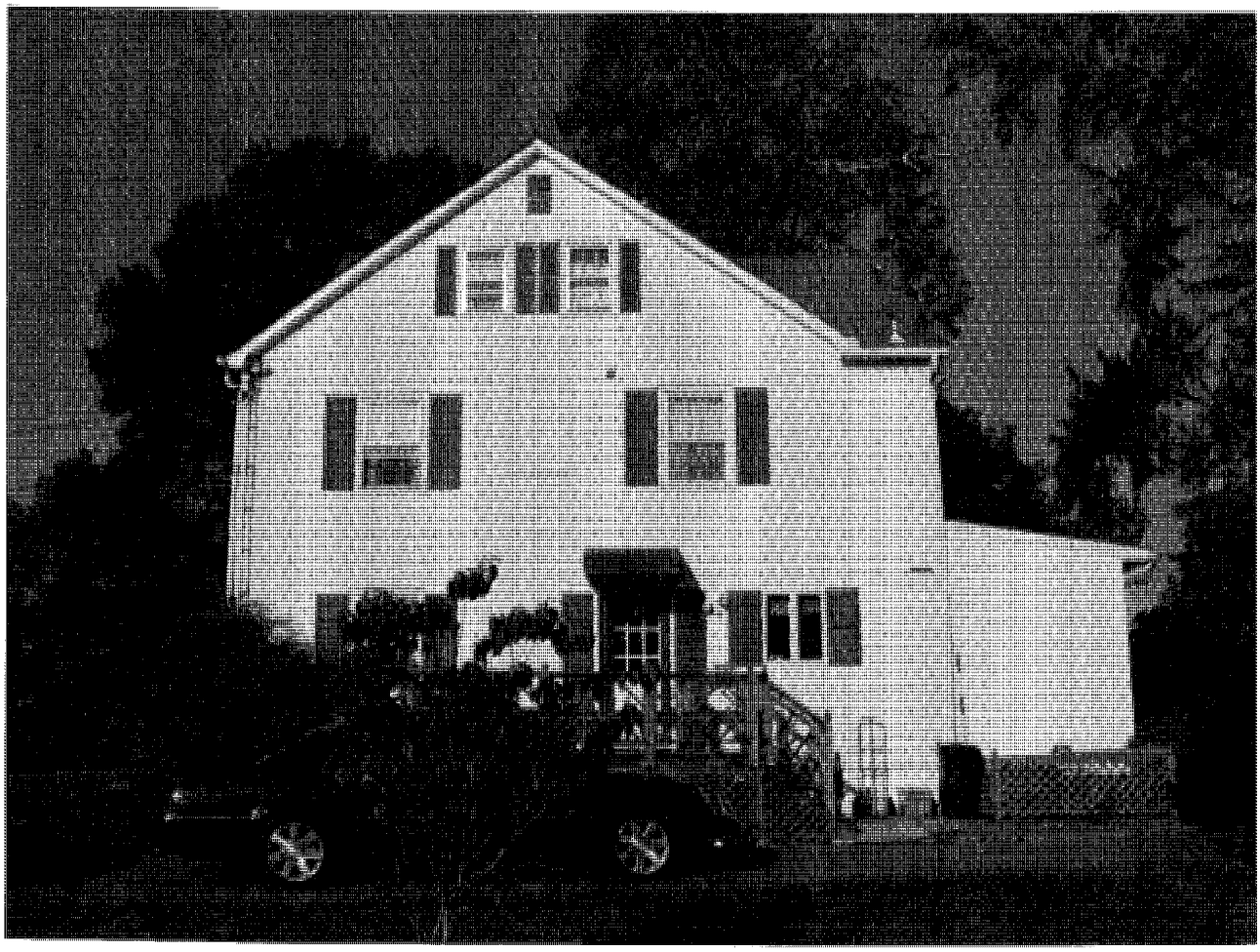


MIHP # PG:60-14
Morris and Julia Quill Property
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front elevation of resource, facing N
Photo #1 of 6

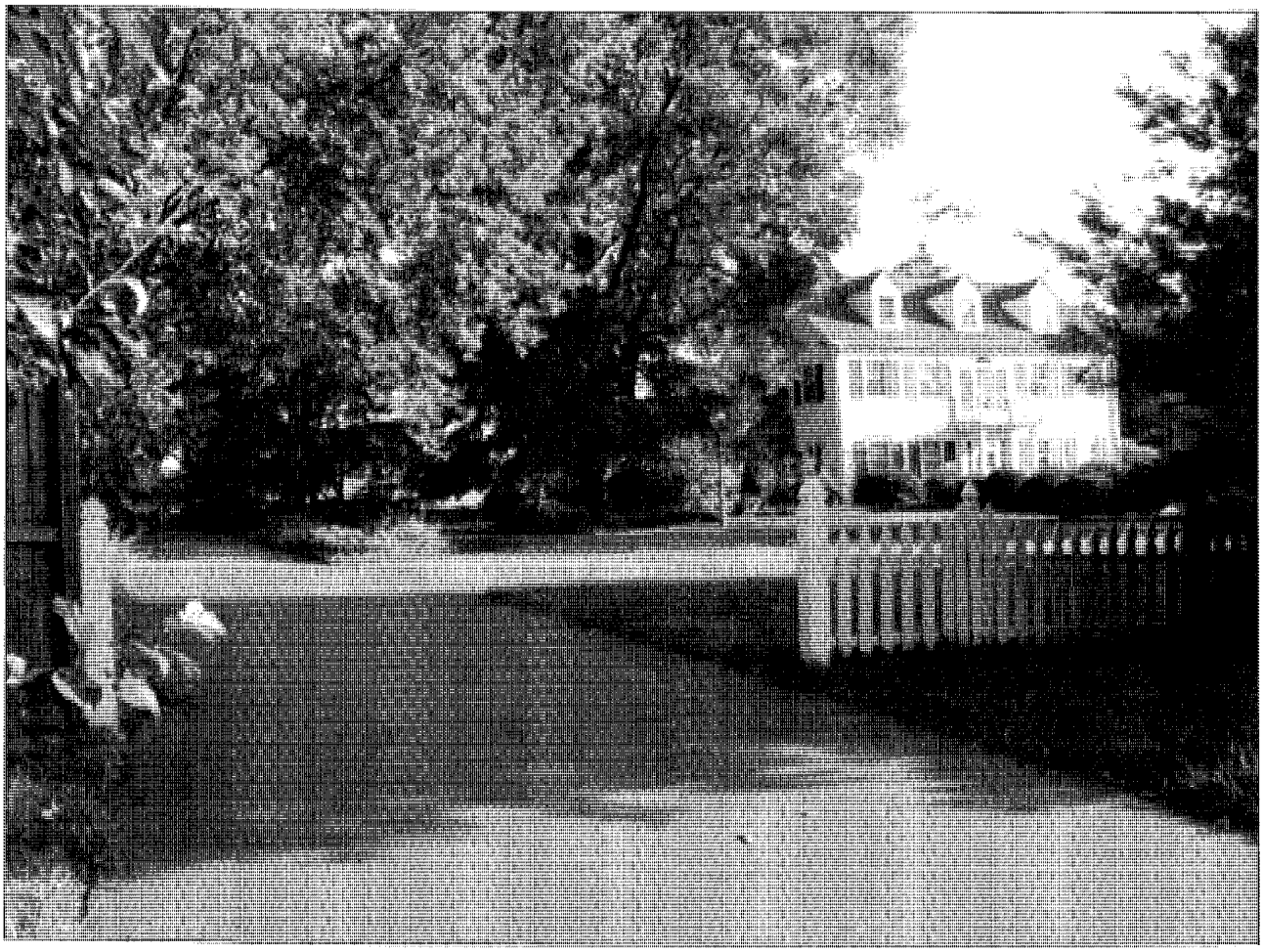


MIHP # PG 60-14
Morris and Julia Quill Property
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing E
Photo #2 of 6

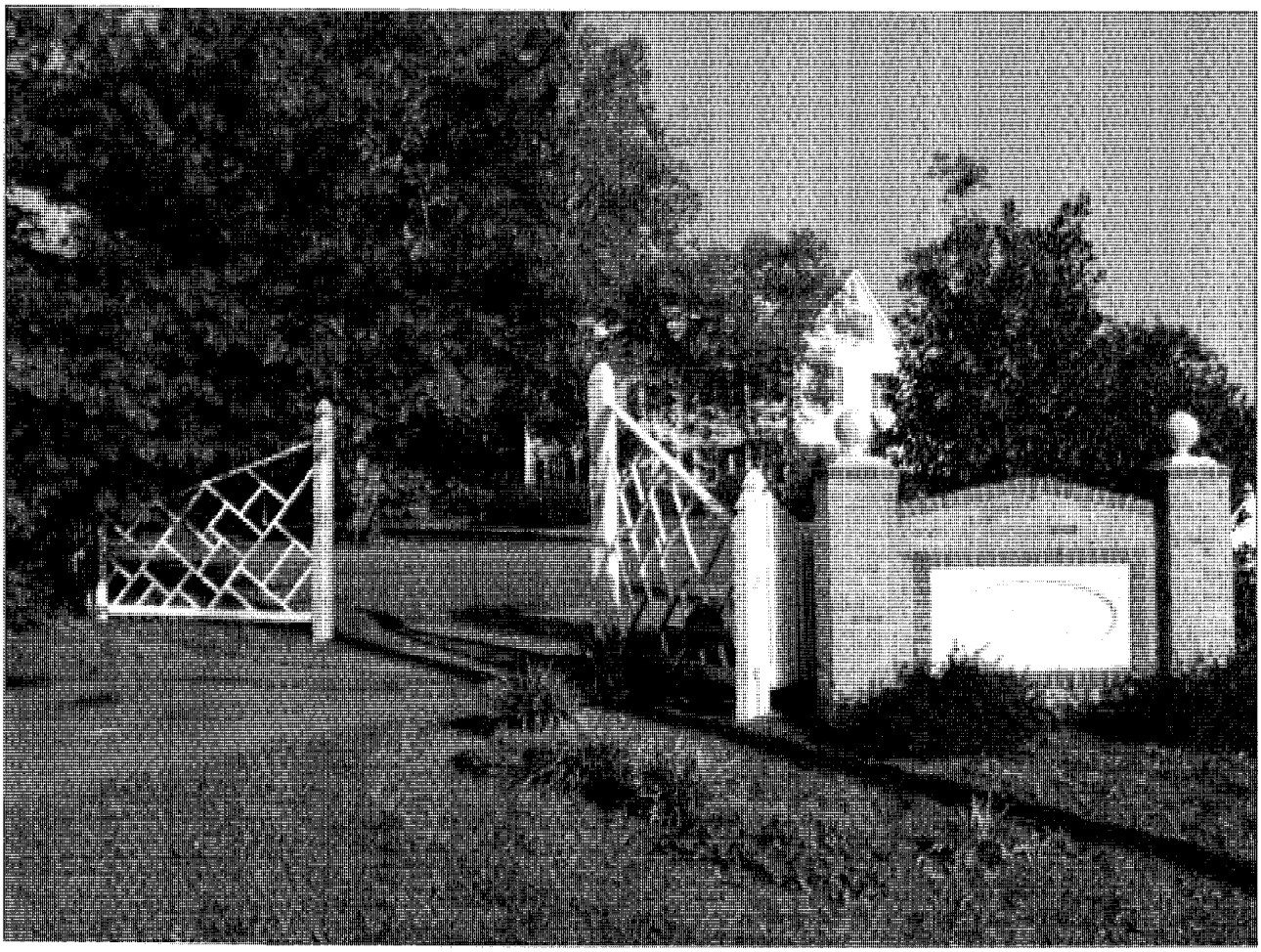
MIHP # PG 60-14
Morris and Julia Quill Property
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of back elevation, facing south
Photo #3 of 6



MIHP # PG:60-14
Morris and Julia Quill Property
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of side elevation, facing W
Photo #4 of 6



MIHP # PG:60-14
Morris and Julia Quill Property
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of front yard and driveway, facing NE
Photo #5 of 6



MIHP # PG:60-14
Morris and Julia Quill Property
Prince Georges County, Maryland
Frederick Kohler
September 2008
MD SHPO
View of driveway and adjacent development monument, facing NW
Photo #6 of 6