

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only

received JUN 30 1980

date entered AUG 6 1980

1. Name

historic

and/or common WESTMINSTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

2. Location

MD 32 and MD 97

West of U.S. Route 140 on Maryland Routes
street & number 97 and 32

not for publication

city, town Westminster vicinity of congressional district Sixth

state Maryland code 24 county Carroll code 013

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
☒ district	☐ public	☒ occupied	☐ agriculture ☒ museum
☐ building(s)	☐ private	☐ unoccupied	☒ commercial ☒ park
☐ structure	☒ both	☐ work in progress	☒ educational ☒ private residence
☐ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	☒ entertainment ☒ religious
☐ object	☐ in process	☐ yes: restricted	☒ government ☐ scientific
	☐ being considered	☒ yes: unrestricted	☒ industrial ☒ transportation
		☐ no	☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Private and Public Owners

street & number

city, town Westminster vicinity of state Maryland 21157

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. New County Office Building

street & number 225 Center Street

city, town Westminster state Maryland 21157

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ nodate ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SUMMARY

Westminster, in the piedmont region of Maryland, is centrally located in Carroll County, at the convergence of major transportation routes connecting to Pennsylvania, Washington, and Baltimore, now U.S. Route 140, and Maryland Routes 97, 32, 31, and 27. Geographically, the area consists of gently rolling hills of fertile soil. Westminster is situated on Parr's Ridge, a north-south oriented ridge that once served as the boundary between Baltimore and Frederick Counties. The district has a dominant linear quality following Main Street, running in a northwest direction and having parallel alleys on both sides. Also parallel to Main Street and to the south of it is Green Street. Arteries perpendicular to Main Street are irregularly spaced along its length, and at the northwest end of the city, there is a fork where Pennsylvania Avenue branches off Main Street to the north. The residential, commercial and industrial district is densely developed, especially in the older, original section on Main Street. The development and growth of Westminster progressed along the Main Street in an east to west movement, a pattern that is relatively discernable in its present townscape. The architecture exhibits a wide variety of vernacular styles ranging from small domestic frame or brick houses at the east and west ends, Victorian commercial structures in the downtown, and scattered twentieth century glass and aluminum facades. However, all of these buildings remain within a four story height, attaining a smooth proportion to a street that is expansive by its length.

The Westminster Historic District contains 1400 principal structures of which one percent are intrusions and ten percent are not now contributing, but have the potential through the passage of time or restoration of becoming contributing structures. The remaining 89% are contributing.

Westminster evidences a continuum of residential architecture reflecting--with a pronounced time lag--the national changes in "high style" architecture. The basic building form is an early 19th century vernacular farm house combining Pennsylvania and Georgian, or English elements. Constructed in brick or frame these buildings have cross gable roofs, symmetrical arrangement of fenestration, simple detailing. As is to be expected, changes through time are reflected in detailing applied to the basic form. The expansion of Westminster--filling in previously laid out neighborhoods--allowed for these incremental additions so that walking the streets of Westminster one can read the evolution and development of the town.

Construction of a distinct commercial architecture occurred only in the mid-19th century. Businessmen along Main Street erected larger scale, imposing buildings which abandoned references to the house form. The commercial buildings demand attention through their height and breadth and the detailing on the facades which follows more closely current national trends: plateglass display windows, Romanesque arches and detailing for upper floors.

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(DESCRIPTION, continued)

The commercial development--unlike the residential--has occurred in the same geographic area so that early commercial buildings have been historically demolished or substantially altered to reflect current needs. The greatest pressure for land use exists in the commercial district: Main Street. The tension and change continues to be evident today--see the sketch map.

The industrial buildings, located along the railroad, are strictly functional and possess no architectural design qualities with the notable exception of the power house on Locust Lane. The existing structures are replacements of earlier shelters on the same site which usually has been occupied by the same firm. Ecclesiastical buildings are uniformly Gothic Revival.

A special feature of Westminster is the frequent occurrence of open spaces which relieve the feeling of density. The incremental "Additions" to Westminster accomplished in rectangular plots of land historically left open space in the midst of development. Although not all of the open space is designated for public park use, access is prohibited in none of the areas. Belle Grove Square, the extensive lawn at City Hall, and the municipal park between Willis and Main Streets are notable examples.

The Westminster Historic District is in good condition. The majority of the buildings continue their original use with few exceptions: the City has converted an in-town barn into a parking garage adaptable to a covered open space area for activity. The residents have a strong and continuing interest in the preservation of Westminster. Restoration and rehabilitation have been underway for several decades, especially along Main Street. The City of Westminster, most notably, is encouraging rehabilitation in their commercial district and has undertaken large scale rehabilitation projects itself chiefly to address housing needs.

NARRATIVE

Predominantly residential, Main Street contains an indiscriminate mixture of wood, frame and brick houses. Most of these are set immediately on the public sidewalk, and a few have small front yards, although at one time they fronted a tree-lined roadway. Usually the Main Street lots extend to the alley behind the property and often dependencies or sheds exists on this land. Some of the side streets serve as residential appendages to the Main Street.

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Larger lot sizes are associated with the late 19th and early 20th century residential developments exist along Green, Westmoreland and Willis Streets.

The east end of Westminster is the oldest section of the community and has retained much of its early character. A good example of a wood frame house is 226 East Main Street. It is a three bay wide by two bay deep clapboard house on a stone foundation and is two and one-half stories high. There is a full-length rear addition also of clapboard. A single brick chimney rests inside the gable end on the west side. The main facade has the doorway in the east bay of the first floor, accompanied by two single-pane sash windows. The second floor has three 6/6 windows. Immediately above the second floor windows is a dentil cornice, while the rest of the window trim is architraves. The doorway frontispiece displays plain pilaster strips with scroll brackets supporting a flat cornice. The sides of the house are nearly plain clapboard. The west side has a 6/6 window on the second floor towards the front of the house, and the east side has an undersized window in the gable.

Beside 226 East Main Street is a house of the same design but with slightly smaller proportion. This house, 224 East Main Street, is two and one-half stories, three by two bays, and wood frame with clapboards. The brick chimney is in the west gable and the doorway is in the east bay of the main facade. It has a less ornate doorway frontispiece than its neighbor. Alongside 224 East Main Street is 220 East Main Street which has the same doorway frontispiece and same scale but a different plan. 220 East Main Street is five bays wide with a central doorway and two gable end chimneys. In its wood frame and other characteristics, it is similar to 224 East Main Street except that it has a double-tiered porch in the rear.

The wood frame house with a hall and parlor or central hall plan was a popular early style in Westminster and was used throughout the city during the 1800s. Other examples are scattered along the streetscape, e.g., 317 East Main, 311 East Main, and 38-40 Carroll Street. These demonstrate the small intricate scale of the houses, and, in regard to the symmetry of the main facade and other style characteristics, shows a continuity with traditional vernacular forms of the mid-Atlantic region.

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A larger domestic home, and one typical of brick craftsmanship found in Westminster, is the Shellman House at 206 East Main Street. Built in 1807, it is a two and one-half story structure in an ell shape. The main facade is five bays, the narrow side is two bays, and the ell side is six bays deep. The main facade has a central doorway, and double hung sash 6/6 windows with gauged brick flat arches and blinds in the other bays of the first and second floors. In the roof are three symmetrically placed gable dormers with 6/6 windows. The floor plan is central hall with an open-well stairway and a parlor to one side. The brick masonry is Flemish bond on an uncoursed fieldstone foundation. The gable ends have inside end brick chimneys at both ends of the main section and in the ell. The ell has a double-tiered porch on its inner side (a frequent feature on mid-Atlantic region homes) which faces a garden area. The trim, both interior and exterior, is influenced by Federal-style woodwork. The entrance frontispiece consists of single columns on either side of the paneled double doors and sidelights supporting a paneled entablature and a flat cornice. The Shellman House is presently a museum for the Carroll County Historical Society.

Also owned by the Carroll County Historical Society is the Kimme House at 210 East Main Street. Built about a decade after the Shellman House, it was originally a three-bay, three-story house to which a two-bay, two-story addition was later added to the east side. Twentieth century additions were made to the rear and side to accomodate a library and auditorium for the Historical Society. The original structure was built of Flemish bond on the main facade and American common bond elsewhere. A gable end chimney is on the west side and the doorway is to the east indicating the hall and parlor floor plan.

The doorway has a triangular pediment frontispiece supported by columns. Of particular notice, in comparison to the Shellman House, are the sash windows of the main facade: square windows of the third floor have brick rounded arches, while the smaller square windows of the third floor have flat brick arches. The eaves contain a wooden box cornice.

Across the street from these two houses and built about the same time is another brick home, the Jacob Sherman House at 211 East Main Street. This house is three bays wide, and two and one-half stories high of white painted brick. The main facade is Flemish bond and elsewhere the brick is laid in American common bond. Built in an ell

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shape, the gable end chimney is placed on the west side, and the doorway is in the east bay of the main facade. The 6/6 sash windows have flat brick arch lintels and the cornice has mousetooth brickwork. The comparison of these three houses reveals basic characteristics and differences that are found in other brick structures of Westminster. Some of the other closely related homes are located at 299 East Main, 266 East Main, and 12 Church Street.

228 East Main Street, considered to be the oldest standing domestic structure, serves to show some of the change that has occurred in the east end. This house has had three sections of development. The first section, to the east side, had a three-bay side facade and is built of wide, uneven clapboards covering the logs of a house built circa 1775. (There were several log houses built in Westminster, four known examples which are now clapboard covered are 288 East Main Street, 236 East Main Street, 128 East Main Street, and 65 West Main Street). The brick chimney is in the west side, which is now the center of the building. The main facade has a central doorway and windows with narrow wood sills and trim in the other bays of the west side of the original structure, is Flemish bond brick presently in rough condition. The doorway is in the east bay of the three-bay facade. The two first floor windows have the east bay of the three-bay facade. The two first floor windows have plain block lintels and over the second floor windows is a double jettison of brick rows which rise to the roofline. The third change to the house, occurring in the 20th century, is the addition of a mansard-style roof with dormers and a rear, concrete block of one-bay length. This structure shows some of the prominent, aged construction features found on some of the east end houses, and serves as a model of how, in some instances, these characteristics have been abused.

These buildings indicate several characteristics that dominate the early domestic architecture of Westminster. The settlers brought with them a diverse assortment of backgrounds and architectural ideas--there was even a saltbox house on Main Street (site of 172 East Main Street) that was replaced by a brick house in 1896. However, the basic style derivation is a mid-Atlantic folk style with pervading Pennsylvania German influences and can be classified as follows: brick or wood frame construction; generally two or two and one-half stories; three to five bays wide; gable end chimneys that are usually inside end at the ridge; floor plans that are a variation of the central hall plan;

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and door and window arrangements that are basically symmetrical. Additions to these early structures are frequently present.

In 1836 Westminster was appointed the seat of government for the newly designated Carroll County. To fulfill their responsibilities the citizens erected a courthouse the following year. Located not far from Main Street on Court Street, the Courthouse donated to the townscape a public buildings designed around the then popular Greek Revival style. Two and one-half stories, seven by two bays, and constructed of Flemish bond brick, the Courthouse's main facade is embellished by a two-story, three-bay wide portico with a double porch and supported by four large plain columns. An interesting feature is the wood, rural interpretation of a volute in the capital of the columns. Additions have been built (symmetrical wings in 1882 which were enlarged by one-half story in 1935) that retain the essential character of the style. Painted white and topped by an octagonal shaped cupola, the Courthouse presents a monumental yet pleasing atmosphere to the rural county seat.

North of the Courthouse is the Carroll County Jail, built in 1837, utilizing an indigenous vernacular form. The Jail is built of green fieldstone masoned in uncoursed bond with strong quoin-like patterns at the corners. Two and one-half stories with a high foundation, its plan is T-shaped. The main section is five by two bays and the wing is four bays deep and three bays wide. The main facade has five 6/6 sash windows at the foundation level, a central doorway and four 6/6 sash windows on the main floor, 6/6 windows in all of the second floor bays, and three symmetrically placed gable dormers with 6/6 windows in the roof. However, in these sets of windows, the size of the window panes used changes from floor to floor. An elevated wooden porch on brick piers with a shed roof exists in the central three bays of the main floor. One gable end has an inside end chimney and the other gable has an exterior chimney that was a later addition to the inside end chimney.

The founding of Carroll County contributed greatly to Westminster's growth. Side streets that had formerly served as alleys were developed for domestic use. These contained single houses intermittently spaced, and some double houses were built. The Courthouse Square area became a principal residential section through the late 1800's. Major development also occurred on Green Street, Liberty Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. Smaller extensions of home building followed on Bond, John, Carroll and Union Streets.

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The architecture of the mid-1800s did not depart much from the earlier forms, but there is a broadening of style evident in the houses, and the introduction of some new forms. Ell shapes and porches are more frequent and ornament becomes much more important. For example, 13 John Street, built around 1875, continues the pattern begun 50 years earlier at the Jacob Sherman House. The John Street house is, like the Sherman House, ell-shaped, three bays wide, two and one-half stories tall and is laid in Flemish bond on the front and American common bond on the sides and rear. Only a slight elongation of the windows and a general overall increase in mass would enable one to discern the generations' difference between the two. The same is true of 55 Liberty Street (c. 1870), 16 Bond Street (c. 1875) and 36 Liberty Street (c. 1875) all of which are heavier in massing and larger in scale than the Shellman House or the Sherman Houses, and all of which depend on porches and bracketed cornices for visual relief. Also, the full third story is more commonly found on houses and businesses, especially on three-bay, brick structures as in 233, 100, 101, and 105 East Main Street; 140 and 152 West Main Street; and 30 and 34 Green Street.

The single pitch roof became popular, as a domestic form as well as for business establishments. 32 Bond Street is a good example of the style. The three bay wide main facade is of stretcher bond with brick, rounded arches over the windows. The doorway is to one side, establishing a hall and parlor floor plan. The most conspicuous element of this form is the upper cornice and trim, which in this example repeats the brackets from the frontispiece and uses applied wood entablatures under the bracket cornice. The chimney is within the wall to the opposite side of the doorway. This style was often employed in rows of buildings. Examples of this are 28-30 West Main Street and three five-bay buildings alongside each other at 58½-60½, 62-64, and 66-68 West Main Street. Double houses of six bays using the single pitch roof are located at 39-41, 43-45, and 47-49 John Street. Also on John Street are two houses that combine the single pitch roof with a mansard-style facade (21 and 23 John Street). 229 East Main Street is an example of the single pitched roof in a wood frame clapboard house.

The Greek and Gothic Revivals in American architecture had a limited but clear influence on the Westminster streetscape. The Gothic Revival in particular and as elsewhere was favored for ecclesiastical architecture. Westminster successfully employs Gothic design as early as the 1840s when Robert Cary Long, Jr., designed the Ascension Episcopal Church (1844) on Court Street.

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The Episcopal complex was later expanded by a Gothic inspired rectory at 35 Court Place (1876) and a small chapel at 30 North Court Street (c. 1870). Both of these later buildings have enjoyed successful adaptations in use: the Rectory now houses law offices and the Chapel is a private residence. The Lutheran and Methodists also made successful forays into Gothicism. Lutherans came to Westminster with the earliest German settlers but they did not build a separate church until 1866 when they located at 25 Carroll Street. That church burned, but the congregation rebuilt a fine Gothic church on the same lot in 1885. This building ranks as one of the eclectic beauties of the city and abounds in decorative brickwork details. The Brethern and United Church of Christ congregations built somewhat more restrained Gothic churches that flank Belle Grove Square on Bond Street.

There is also one house, 156 West Main Street, that appears to be a local interpretation of the Greek Revival style built during the mid-1800s. It is of board and batten construction and has an octagonal cupola. A significant feature in the Westminster streetscape is the mansard roof. Sometimes the mansard roof was added to earlier buildings, as at 295 East Main Street. Houses that were built with mansard or hipped roofs are 133 East Main Street, 100 Liberty Street, 154 Green Street, and 53 Pennsylvania Avenue. Another example is 181 East Main Street where the mansard roof contains extravagant Victorian-style dormers that are curiously juxtaposed with the neon signs and pent roof below.

Another popular style in the mid to late 19th century is the ell-shaped house with the gable end of the ell as part of the main facade. This form usually includes a porch as part of the main facade, and often the gable end contains window variations such as bay windows. The decorative potential inherent in this form is evident. Westminster homes show a variety of craftsmanship in the porch trim and bargeboard ornamentation. 289 East Main Street displays the basic characteristics of the form, with the two story bay windows in the gable end and the porch with a bracket cornice and pendant trim. 46 Liberty Street has an ell-shaped porch which extends around the side opposite the gable ell. This house also has a doorway on the second floor above the main doorway which opens onto the porch roof. 146 West Main Street shows the gable end with a regular two-bay arrangement of windows and a bargeboard pattern which is repeated on the porch cornice. The apotheosis of this form in Westminster is 109 East Main Street where the ell shape is extended to form a floor plan in this shape:  which is appropriately ornamented.

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The trim of these houses often contains a rural flavor, a rural craftsman's interpretation of the current style. Yet it is the diversity of ornamental details that brings to each building its unique character and contributes in an outstanding way to Westminster's identity. The wealth of decorative details is found in both the brickwork and the applied wood ornamentation. In the woodwork the Courthouse volute has already been mentioned, and other areas are the bargeboard and designs of porch trim. Brickwork is evident in the cornices: mousetooth in the Sherman House, Greek crosses at 15 Carroll Street and 259 East Main Street and Latin crosses at 80 West Main Street. 107 Liberty Street uses glazed headers in Flemish bond on the main facade and has a stepped brick cornice. The culmination of Westminster brickwork is 47 East Main Street where the brick facade contains an assortment of patterns.

The esteem of ornament in the Westminster streetscape provided for a smooth evolution to the Victorian period. As in other eras, the prevalent public taste dictated the updating of trim on the older buildings. Many of the early forms and styles were adapted to incorporate Victorian motifs in new buildings. In Westminster, the new features include rounded towers, central high-peaked gables, and broad porches with a new flourish of decoration. Ornamental effects were also attained by innovative uses of shingles on both roofs and walls. 55 Pennsylvania Avenue (c. 1895), 53 Pennsylvania Avenue (c. 1880) and 21 Park Avenue illustrate how eagerly the city's builders adapted these "innovations" to embellish their basic five or three bay ell-shaped houses.

The transformation of architecture in Westminster to a style influenced by the Victorian period is depicted by a comparison on the houses at 97 West Green Street and 179 East Main Street. Prospect Hill, at 97 West Green Street, was built in the 1850s and is two and one-half stories, five by two bays of stretcher bond with a central wing in the rear. The main facade has a central doorway and 6/6 windows with brick, flat arch lintels and gold-painted architraves and blinds in the other bays. Centrally located on this facade is a gable containing a wood quatrefoil window embellished by a surrounding circle of bricks. The eaves have a bracket, dentil and molded cornice. There is an inside end double chimney at each gable end and these facades have two windows spread wide apart on each floor. The distance between these windows and the wide flare of the gables at the ends and in the front give the house a very low profile. This is accentuated by a

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high-roofed porch around three sides of the house and by the central bay on the main facade which is offset by a wider margin of space separating it from the other bays. All of these features combine to give the house a short, squat appearance. Not far from Prospect Hill is 179 East Main Street, a house of similar design. Five bays by two bays and laid in stretcher bond, this house repeats the central gable on the main facade, the sharp contrast of the painted trim to the surface of the house, the 6/6 windows and blinds, and the porch extension. However, this house is three and one-half stories high, in the gable. The slimmer proportion of 197 East Main Street gives an effect of soaring verticality in comparison with Prospect Hill. Minor differences, as in the bracket details of the cornice and window lintels, indicate 197 East Main Street as a later house. This comparison displays the continuation as well as the variations in form and detail as the 19th century progressed.

A Victorian domestic dwelling of note is located at 33 West Main Street. Two and one-half stories and Flemish bond brick on a high foundation, it is L-shaped with an inside end chimney in the west gable. The five-bay main facade had double doors in the central bay on the main floor and on the second floor the central bay has a double sash window with a pattern of small, square, stained glass panes. The east side of the main facade has 6/6 sash windows in both bays on both floors; however, the west side has a three-sided bay window extending for two floors. This bay window is repeated in the second bay of the west gable end of the house. The bay windows have colored glass patterns similar to those in the second floor central bay. The east gable has a central oriel window in the upper one and one-half floors with similar colored glass windows. The one-story porch extends across the house front, the west gable and along part of the ell. It is lavishly ornamented with a pattern of Oriental influence supporting the bannister, broad brackets supporting the lattice, smaller scroll brackets at the molded cornice, and a row of iron motifs along the porch roof. The roof cornice consists of a large wood entablature, with brackets and dentils under the eaves. All of the trim is painted in strong contrast to the painted brick. The eclectic procedure with which the Victorian-style architecture was formulated produced in 33 West Main Street an unbalanced, somewhat bulky, yet lively building.

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The Victorian period also influenced the commercial buildings in the downtown area, such as the Babylon Building and the Wantz Buildings. The Babylon Building uses polychrome bricks (yellow and red) within an imposing form of large arches with inset windows. The Wantz Building is a three-story structure whose facade is divided into the upper two floors showing the original styling of the building. On the second and third floors each section contains a close grouping of windows with white trim and millions of ornamental brackets. The two eastern sections have four windows in each grouping, and the two western sections have three windows. The third floor windows' upper sash have leaded, stained glass windows. Between the second and third floor windows is a frieze of naturalistic motifs in a brick texture. Above the third floor windows are iron plates reading, "WANTZ BUILDINGS." The roofline is curved and tile-covered, with large bulb finials.

Westminster remained a small town through the 19th century and the need for open space was always satisfied by the rural countryside setting. The town plan acknowledged this by not setting aside a "commons" central to the plat. However, the need for common space has grown, especially since the familiar walkway "Gooseberry Lane" was claimed by the Western Maryland Railway Company for its track bed (1862) and the "Old Commons" was given over to the establishment of Western Maryland College (1867). In 1877, Belle Grove Square was donated to the city and is presently being restored by the local Woman's Club. Belle Grove Square and the municipal playground fulfill the open space requirement for the city today.

The culmination of the development along Main Street in Westminster is Western Maryland College. The land once served as the commons for Westminster residents where political rallies, July Fourth, celebrations and other outdoor events took place. During the Civil War Union troops camped on the grounds. This section of Western Maryland College displays the oldest campus buildings, examples of revival architecture commonly popular in the late 19th century (separate National Register nomination). Less expensive residential building took place on the east end of town on the former Fair Grounds. Subdivided and annexed into the city in the late 19th century, "Evenhart's addition," "Fingling's Addition" fleshed out the Westminster street system to the northeast, while "Mitten's Addition" did the same to the southeast. The former additions are bounded by Manchester Road, Colonial Avenue, and East Main Street, are bisected by Webster Street, and are characterized by modest one and one half and two story frame houses.

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(DESCRIPTION, continued)

These small, gable roofed dwellings are distinctly rural vernacular in style and rely on modest trim and porches for variety. Note for example 39 Webster Street, a pleasant small scaled two story, two bay gable roofed house whose ambitions are reserved for the well carved brackets on the front porch. The continuation of West Green Street from Belle Grove Square to Old New Windsor Road (Doyle Avenue) and for the streets that run parallel (Westmoreland and Chase) and perpendicular (Anchor and Maryland) are also characterized by modest residences that date from the early to mid-20th century. These dwellings are not intrusive; on the contrary they contribute to the continuation of Westminster's vernacular experiments into this century and create in the city a two century long continuum of vernacular styles. But the 20th century houses of Westminster are not all modest, vernacular structures. Westminster experienced, albeit in a restrained limited way, several of the more academic nationally popular styles. These "experiments" in domestic design tend to be found in the middle and upper middle class additions to the city to the north (along Willis Street) and west (along Ridge and Doyle Avenues). Note for example the bungalow style at 121 Willis Street and 7 Ridge Avenue, the Georgian Revival at 145 and 174 Willis Street and 7 Doyle Avenue and the shingle style at 131 Willis Street. Nationally popular styles are successfully used in non-residential design as well. The builders of the City Garage at 116-120 East Main Street employed a form of Romanesque Revival, the Maryland National Guard favored the castellated form then gaining favor for armory design for the Westminster Armory on Longwell Avenue (1917), theatre owners employed Art Deco at the Carroll Theater on West Main Street (c.1935) with its yellow and black glazed tiles. Possibly the most advanced structure in the city is the Bauhaus influenced factory at 22 Locust Street (c.1945).

Some of the 20th century building has blended well with Westminster's streetscape. The main intrusions are the aluminum siding facades that were constructed over some of the downtown shops during the 1960s. Another economic group that has built with total disregard for the architectural environment of Westminster is the local banks. However, these structures are scattered along a streetscape with much potential to reflect the social and cultural heritage of the community.

¹See Henry Glassie, Pattern in the Material Folk Culture of the Eastern United States. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1968.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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Westminster Historic District
Carroll County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 12

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

ACREAGE JUSTIFICATION

Several factors contributed to the selection of boundaries of the Westminster National Register Historic District as a result of a two-year, intensive historic sites survey. First, Westminster historically has a conception of self-identity which was defined physically through a series of town plans which date from the mid-18th to the mid-19th century and were filled in and developed by the mid-20th century. The architectural fabric of the town retains its integrity reflecting the evolutionary development. The topography and physical features further support the boundaries. Westminster is located on rolling terrain terminated at its ends by promontories which provide a physical termination of the district as well as panoramic views inward.

A review of the sketch map may raise questions on the choice of boundaries. A building by building analysis of the contribution of individual components to the whole further supports the choice of boundaries. This was not the sole criteria, however. In making decisions on boundaries along major transportation routes where buildings of similar style continue beyond the city limits other considerations (see above) took precedence over stylistic considerations. Secondly the city limits, since the 19th century have arbitrarily delineated the city-county division sometimes cutting through buildings. ~~The idiosyncratic nature of the city limits contributes to the significance of Westminster;~~ The city limits provided a starting point for the historic district boundaries. However, as a practical matter, the National Register district either includes or excludes individual structures.

The boundaries were drawn so as to exclude intrusions and the campus of Western Maryland College which is listed separately on the National Register. The sketch map indicates the location and contribution of the principal structures, not of secondary structures particularly located along alleys.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below					
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☐ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☒ religion		
☐ 1400–1499	☐ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science		
☐ 1500–1599	☒ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture		
☐ 1600–1699	☒ architecture	☒ education	☐ military	☒ social/		
☒ 1700–1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	humanitarian		
☒ 1800–1899	☒ commerce	☐ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	theater		
☒ 1900–	☐ communications	☐ industry	☒ politics/government	☒ transportation		
		☐ invention		other (specify)		

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SIGNIFICANCE

The Westminster Historic District incorporates most of the town of Westminster, a community of about 8500 population in Carroll County on the Piedmont plateau of west central Maryland. As the county seat, Westminster is and has been the political, financial, and commercial center of Carroll County since the county was established in 1837. The district reflects both this role and the evolution and development of the town and contains excellent examples of vernacular and formal residential, commercial and ecclesiastical architecture through the 19th century and into the early 20th century.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

William Winchester laid out Westminster in 1764 and the area, then in Frederick County, continued its growth in a fashion typical of towns in central Maryland. Settlers prior to Winchester were mainly farmers who left the tidewater region of Maryland for the rich land of the Piedmont plateau. The first settler in the immediate Westminster vicinity was Joseph White who established a farm in 1733 on a land patent called "White's Level" granted in 1738. From White, Winchester bought the tract "White's Level" in 1754 and ten years later mapped out the town (Frederick County Land Records liber 472). At that time, Westminster was a nucleated village of a few scattered farms, but it was situated on a road that was to become a major highway in the westward movement of settlers. Winchester's plat provided forty-five lots along this single road with side streets that were alleys.

The degree of later development was influenced by elements characteristic of other slowly burgeoning towns, i.e., water, terrain, economic propensities, and land speculation. In 1764, White purchased "Timber Ridge," the tract on the west boundary of "White's Level" and drew a plat for the development of this land in 1765, naming it "New London" and thus enacting the first addition to Westminster. Winchester added eighty-three lots south of his original plat in 1788, but most of the major development of Westminster came along the main road to the west—"Bedford" in 1812 by John Winters and Logsdon's Tavern Land in 1825 sold in lots at an estate auction. In 1830, these villages were incorporated into one town with a "space between"—"Bond's Meadow" a tract that had been willed by its owner, Ragenia Gradadam, to her Negro slave in 1812.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #13

9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #16

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreege of nominated property 235 acres +

Quadrangle name New Windsor and Westminster Quads.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	8
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3	2	8	3	8	0
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4	3	8	3	7	1	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

1	8
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3	2	9	7	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	3	8	1	1	6	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

1	8
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3	2	9	2	6	0
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4	3	8	0	8	4	0
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D

1	8
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3	2	7	5	9	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	3	8	2	5	3	0
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E

1	8
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3	2	8	1	6	0
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4	3	8	3	7	2	0
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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

As delineated on the enclosed Photogrammetric map of Carroll County, Westminster area, which is drawn to scale (1":100').

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joseph Getty, Nancy A. Miller, Christopher Weeks

organization Maryland Historical Trust

date June 1980

street & number 21 State Circle

telephone (301) 269-2438

city or town Annapolis

state Maryland 21401

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☒ state ☐ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

J. Miller 6-23-80

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

date

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Bruce A. Dwyer
Keeper of the National Register

date 8.6.80

Attest: *Emma Jane Saxe*
Chief of Registration Regional Coordinator

date 7-31-80

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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Westminster Historic District
Carroll County
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

8

PAGE

13

(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

The earliest buildings were log houses which were expanded or replaced when time and money allowed. The early architecture of the town was a mixture of wood frame and brick houses, all possessing basically similar characteristics--two-and-one-half stories; three to six bays wide, gable end chimneys, floor plans of hall and parlor or central hall arrangement; and symmetrical placement of openings in the facade.

In 1836 the State of Maryland elected to provide a new county for the convenience of the citizens in the extreme regions of Frederick and Baltimore Counties and named it in honor of the recently deceased Charles Carroll. Westminster, being centrally located in this new division, was chosen the county seat. This event generated new activity in the town and an influx of new residents. The history of this period displays the coming together of the common people to unite in the enthusiasm of self-rule, an expression of Jacksonian democracy. The effect was a new vitality to the streetscape, but one which retained the characteristics of a country town influenced by its turnpike location.

The changes in the streetscape were mainly the construction of new and larger domestic houses and several hotels which used the same basic style of design as the houses. The architecture continued the same themes of the earlier building, especially in the symmetrical organization. Changes included the addition of a third story, the central doorway was more commonly found, and in a few instances there is a central chimney. Ornamentation becomes more significant, utilizing a variety of wood and brick patterns. Popular forms included the single pitch roof and the L-shaped house with the gable end facing the street.

The tranquility of Westminster was jolted by the conflict of the War Between the States. Maryland being a border state, the issues were hotly contested and sharply divided the citizenry. Confederate forces entered the town on two instances: the first was a raid by the Fifth Virginia Regiment under Colonel Rosser on September 11, 1862; and on June 29, 1863, J.E.B. Stuart, en route to meet General Robert E. Lee at Gettysburg, was attacked by the 1st Delaware Cavalry on the Main Street of Westminster, delaying Stuart's advance by almost a day. Westminster, because of its train depot and facilities, served as a major supply base for the Union Army.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #14.

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Westminster Historic District
Carroll County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 14

(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

The railroad line, an extension of the Western Railway Company, was built by public subscription in 1861 and had the largest effect on the development of Westminster. This represents a prevalent transformation occurring throughout the American countryside, affecting not only the growth and physical terrain, but also the cultural and social mores and the everyday life of the population. The railroad as a force in the community brought together the leading citizens to financially support and operate the venture and the businessmen and farmers whose production would profit by the efficient and quick means of transport. The railroad effectuated an increase in the population by offering rebates to persons who moved and built homes within a short distance of the railway station. It was a dominant factor in the increasing prosperity of the town through the latter part of the 19th century, attracting business establishments to the downtown sector and contributing to the popularity of Westminster as a summer resort.

The Victorian influences on the architecture of the late 19th century coalesced mainly in ornamentation and architectural detail. Vernacular elements were retained with emphasis now placed on asymmetrical facades highlighted by towers, bay windows and large gable dormers. Mansard roofs were added to older buildings and used on new structures. Examples of trim include colored glass windows, lattice and woodturned members on porches, and ornamental uses of shingles. Westminster also has a few examples of the colorful Victorian businesses, especially in the Wantz Buildings and the Babylon Building.

The first complete Rural Free Delivery System in the United States was established in Carroll County by the Post Office Department on December 20, 1899 with Westminster chosen as the central distributing point. An experimental system had been set up in the county in 1896 which proved successful and the "Carroll County Plan" was then instituted in other states. In 1899 a special U.S. Postal Wagon was designed and constructed in Westminster. Known as the "post office on wheels," it went through a several-month experimentation period and then was cancelled by the Post Office Department.

The visual environment of Westminster today provides tremendous resources for its citizens and for the historian. Portions of the sectionalized development of the city are relatively unchanged from an architectural point of view and present a variable feast of ornamentation. The long, expansive Main Street contains well-coordinated

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #15.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 15

(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

proportions that are enhanced by residential side streets. The profusion of vernacular styles and ornamental details are intricately bound to the social and cultural growth of the agrarian heritage of Westminster.

¹Additional data on the founding of Westminster can be found in "The Five Villages That Became A Town," by Dr. Grace L. Tracey, published in Two Hundred Years Ago--Memories of Westminster 1764-1964, Westminster Bicentennial Commission, 1964.

²Frederick Shriver Klein has compiled a history describing Carroll County's role in the Civil War, see Just South of Gettysburg edited by Frederick Shriver Klein, The Civil War Centennial Committee of the Historical Society of Carroll County, Maryland, 1963.

³The November 1956 issue of the "Bulletin of the Historical Society of Carroll County, Maryland" (Vol. 3, No. 1) is devoted entirely to the history of Rural Free Delivery in Carroll County.

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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Westminster Historic District
Carroll County
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 16

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Property

Westminster Historic District90001804

State

MD, Carroll

Working Number

6,30,80,1691

TECHNICAL

Photos

47

Maps

2, 2

CONTROL

HISTORIAN

Located at convergence of historically important westward major transportation routes. Westminster has been county seat + regional economic, political + social center since 1836. Has dominant linear plan along Main St., Green St.,

Accept.
Saxe
7-31-80

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

and perpendicular side streets. Architecture is significant as representation of wide variety of vernacular building types including early 19th C. Federal form of traditional design, Gothic Churches + rich Victorian embellishments of later 19th C. domestic bldgs. + additions. Only 1% N.C. Open spaces are historically significant. Strong influence of railroad seen in late 19th C. commercial development.

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept.
Saxe
7-31-80

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up

Federal Register Entry

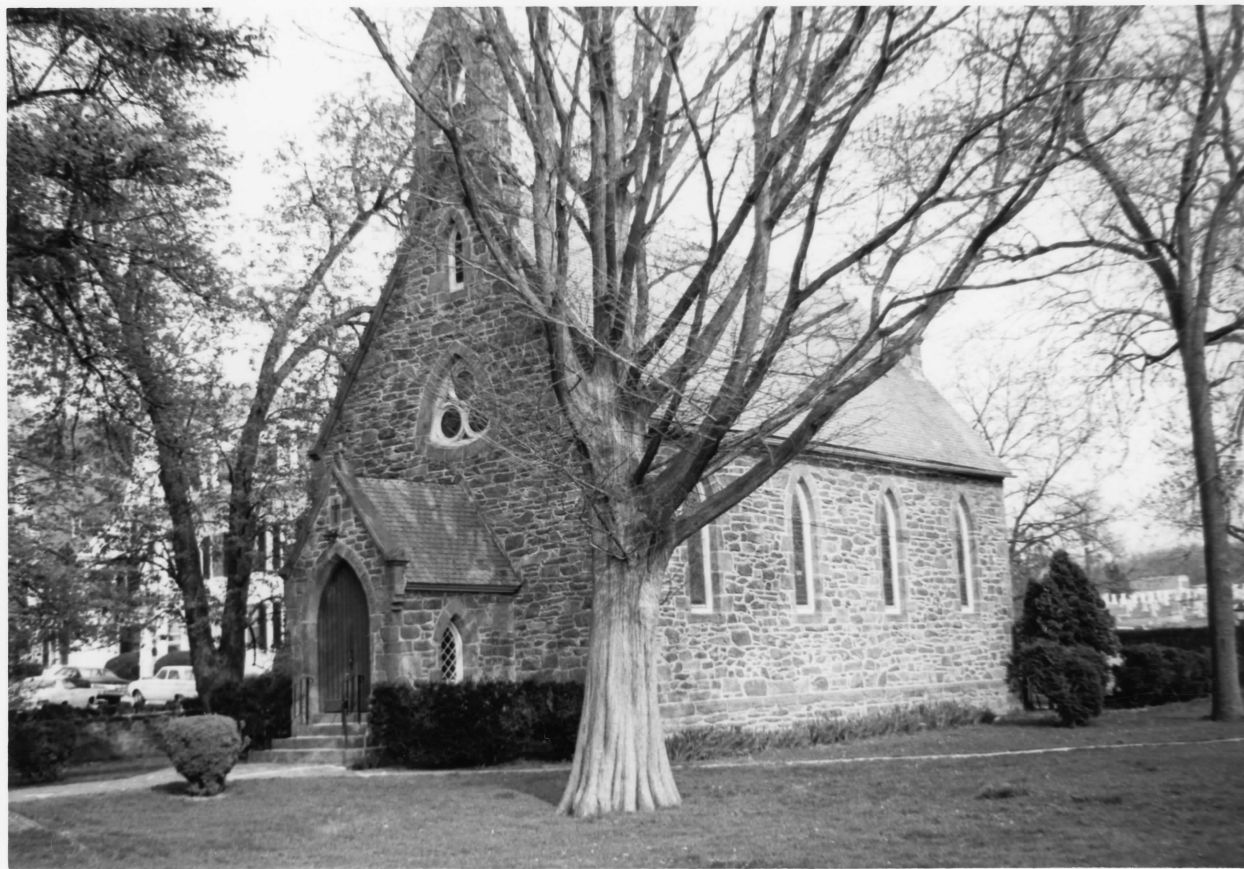
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Send-back _____

Re-submit _____

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AUG 6 1980



Ascension Church
23 N. Court St.

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978
Negative at Westminster City Hall
Ascension Church-23 N. Court St.

JUN 30 1980
10647



55 Liberty Street

AUG 6 1980

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978
Negative at Westminster Cty. Hall

55 Liberty Street 2 of 47



36 Liberty Street

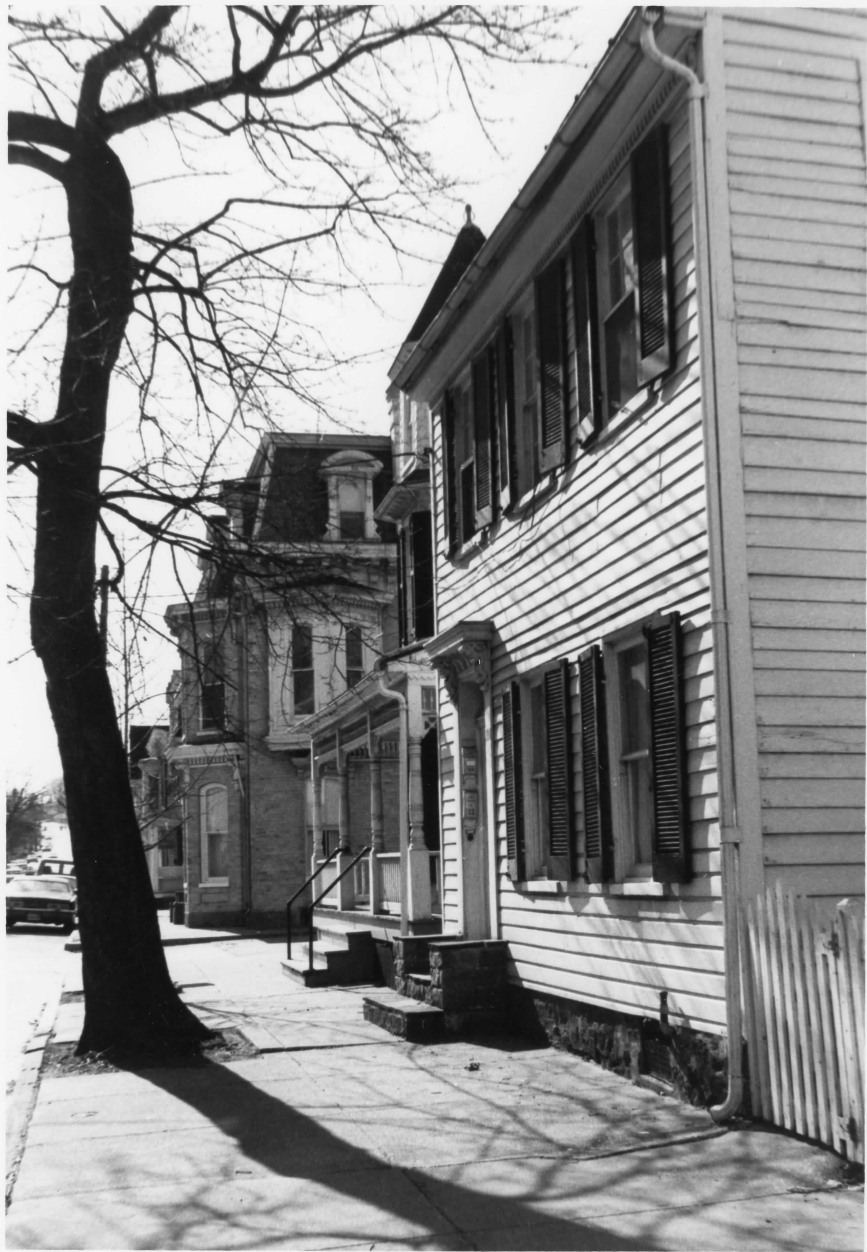
Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978
Negative at Westminster Cty. Hall

36 Liberty Street

3 of 47

AUG 6 1980

JUN 30 1980



226 E. Main St.

AUG 6 1980

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978
Negative at Westminster Cty. Hall

226 East Main Street

4 of 47



228 E. Main Street.

AUG 6 1980

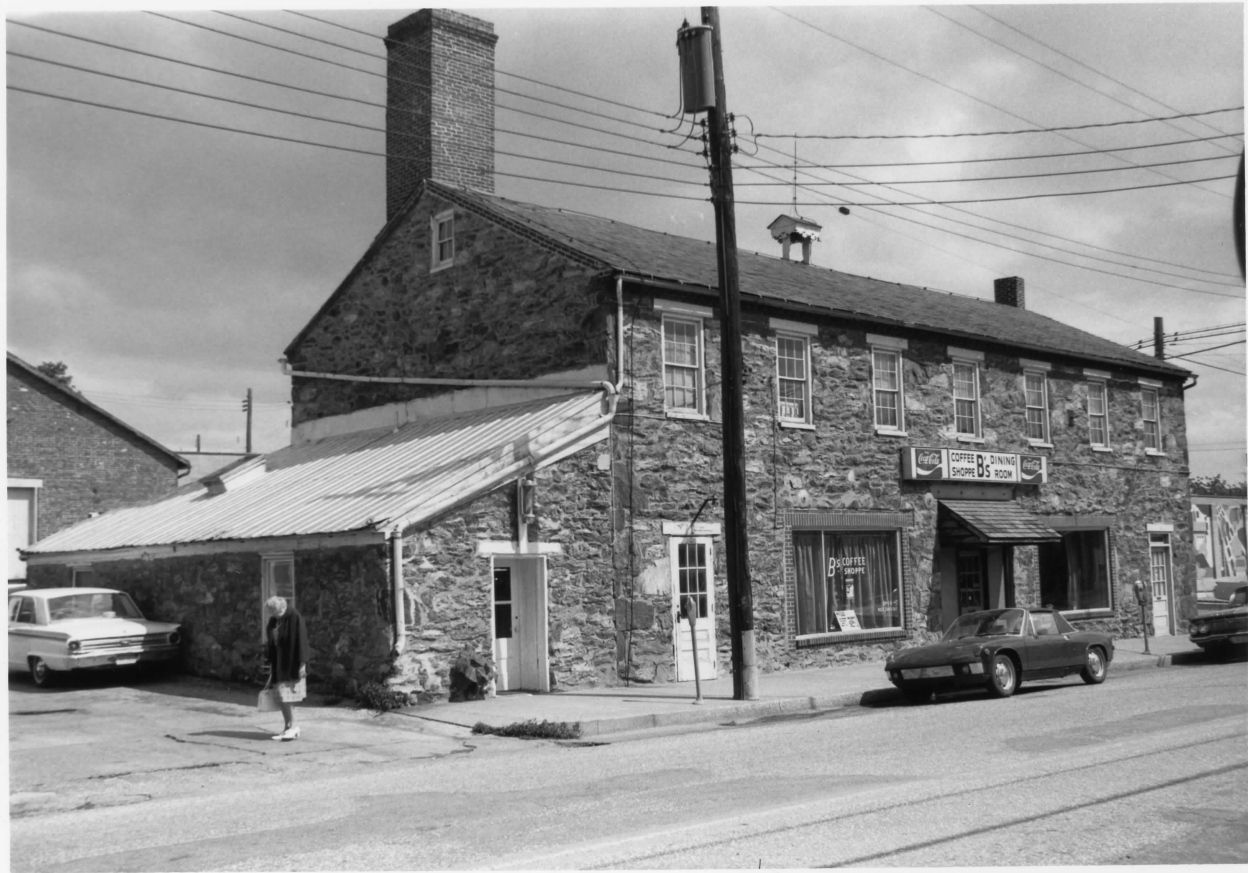
Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978
Negative at Westminster Cty. Hall
228 East Main Street 5 of 47



21-27 East Main Street

AUG 9 1980

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978
Negative at Westminster Cty. Hall
21-27 East Main Street 6 of 47



14 Liberty St.

AUG 6 1980

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978 JUN 30 1980
Negative at Westminster City Hall
14 Liberty Street 70647



12 West Main St.

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978
Negative at Westminster City Hall

12 West Main Street

80647

AUG 1980

JUN 30 1980



91 West Main Street

AUG 6 1980

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978
Negative at Westminster Cty. Hall

91 West Main Street

9 of 47



179 West Main St.

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978 JUN 30 1980
Negative at Westminster Cty. Hall

179 West Main Street

10 of 47

AUG 6 1980



Belle Grove Square

AUG 6 1980

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978
Negative at Westminster Cty. Hall

Belle Grove Square

11 of 47



206 E. Main Street

AUG 6 1980

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978
Negative at Westminster Cty. Hall

206 East Main Street

JUN 30 1980
12 of 49



39 Union Street

AUG 6 1980

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978 JUN 30 1980
Negative at Westminster Cty. Hall

39 Union Street

13 of 47



Ascension Church

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978
Negative at Westminster City Hall

Ascension Church

JUN 30 1980
14 of 47



Willis Street

AUG 6 1980

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978
Negative at Westminster City Hall

Willis Street

15 of 47



Willis Street

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978
Negative at Westminster City Hall

Willis Street 16 of 47

AUG 6 1980

JUN 30 1980



145 Willis Street

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978
Negative at Westminster Cty. Hall

145 Willis Street 17 of 47

AUG 6 1980

JUN 30 1980



67 Pennsylvania Avenue

AUG 6 1980

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978
Negative at Westminster Cty. Hall
67 Pennsylvania Avenue 18 of 47



69 Pennsylvania Avenue

AUG 6 1980

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978
Negative at Westminster Cty. Hall

69 Pennsylvania Avenue 190847



30 N. Court Street

AUG 6 1980

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978
Negative at Westminster Cty. Hall

30 North Court Street 20 of 47



Westminster Historic District
Carroll County, Maryland
Christopher Weeks April 1980
216-202 East Main Street

21 of 47

JUN 3 0 1980

AUG 6 1980



Westminster Historic District
Carroll County, Maryland
Christopher Weeks April 1980
Negative at MHT
East Main Street

22 of 47

JUN 30 1980

AUG 6 1980



Westminster Historic District
Carroll County, Maryland
Christopher Weeks April 1980
Negative at MHT
181-167 West Main Street JUN 30 1980

23 of 47

AUG

AUG 6 1980



Westminster Historic District
Carroll County, Maryland
Christopher Weeks April 1980
Negative at MHT
117-129 East Main Street

JUN 30 1980

24 of 47

AUG 6 1980



Westminster Historic District
Carroll County, Maryland
Christopher Weeks April 1980
Negative at MHT
224-228 East Main Street

JUN 30 1980 25 of 47

AUG 6 1980



Westminster Historic District

Carroll County, Maryland

Christopher Weeks

April 1980

Negative at MHT

1-37 East Main Street

JUN 30 1980

26 of 47

AUG 6 1980



Westminster Historic District
Carroll County, Maryland
Christopher Weeks April 1980
Negative at MHT

AUG 6 1980

Court Street looking north to court-
house

JUN 30 1980

27 of 47



Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks April 1980
Negative at MHT
33-63 Penna. Avenue looking southwest

AUG

6 1980

28 of 47



Westminster Historic District

Carroll County, Maryland

Christopher Weeks April 1980

Negative at MHT

56-88 Penna. Avenue

AUG 6 1980

JUN 3 0 1980

29 of 47



Westminster Historic District
Carroll County, Maryland
Christopher Weeks April 1980
Negative at MHT
181-171 Willis Street

JUN 30 1980

30 of 47 AUG 6 1980



Westminster Historic District
Carroll County, Maryland
Christopher Weeks April 1980
Negative at MHT
97 West Green Street JUN 30 1980

AUG 6 1980

31 of 47



Westminster Historic District

Carroll County, Maryland

Christopher Weeks April 1980

Negative at MHT

47-39 Liberty Street

JUN 3 0 1980

32 of 47

AUG

6 1980



Westminster Historic District
Carroll, County, Maryland
Christopher Weeks Arpil 1980
Negative at MHT
Belle Grove Square looking south

AUG 6 1980 JUN 30 1980 33 of 47



Westminster Historic District
Carroll County, Maryland
Christopher Weeks April 1980
Negative at MHT
51-59 Liberty Street

JUN 30 1980

AUG 6 1980

34 of 47



JUN 30 1980

Westminster Historic District

Carroll County, Maryland

Christopher Weeks April 1980

Negative at MHT

96-92 West Green Street

AUG 6 1980

35 of 47



JUN 30 1980

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County, Maryland
Christopher Weeks April 1980
Negative at MHT
43 Chase Street

36 of 47

AUG 6 1980



Westminster Historic District

Carroll County, Maryland

Christopher Weeks April 1980

Negative at MHT

panorama of city looking west from
above Manchester Ave.

AUG 6 1980

37 of 47



35 Court Place

4

WIN 30 1980
Westminster Historic District
Carroll County Maryland
Christopher Weeks 1978
Negative at Westminster City Hall
35 Court Place 38 of 47



Westminster Historic District

Carroll County, Maryland

Christopher Weeks, 1978

JUN 30 1980

Neg at Westminster City Hall

City Hall, Southwest elevation

39 of 47

AUG 6 1980



Westminster Historic District
Carroll County, Maryland
Christopher Weeks, 1978
Neg. at Westminster City Hall
42-54 John Street
40 of 47

AUG 6 1980

JUN 30 1980



Westminster Historic District
Carroll County, Maryland
Christopher Weeks, 1978
Neg. at Westminster City Hall
13 Milton Avenue
41 of 47

AUG 6 1980

JUN 30 1980



Westminster Historic District
Carroll County, Maryland
Christopher Weeks, 1978
Neg. at Westminster City Hall
13 Milton Avenue
42 of 47

AUG 6 1980

JUN 30 1980



Westminster Historic District
Carroll County, Maryland
Christopher Weeks, 1978
Neg. at Westminster City Hall
452-456 E. Green Street
43 of 47

JUN 30 1980

AUG 6 1980



Westminster Historic District
Carroll County, Maryland
Christopher Weeks, 1978
Neg. at Westminster City Hall
62-74 Winchester Avenur from Ralph and
E. Green looking northwest

44 of 47

AUG

6 1980

JUN 3 0 1980



Westminster Historic District
Carroll County, Maryland
Christopher Weeks, 1978
Neg. at Westminster City Hall
Union Street, south side
45 of 47

AUG 6 1980

JUN 30 1980



Westminster Historic District

Carroll County, Maryland

Christopher Weeks, 1978

Neg. at Westminster City Hall

7 and 9 Ridge Avenue, Southeast side
of the street

46 of 47

AUG

6 1980

JUN 30 1980



Westminster Historic District

Carroll County, Maryland

Christopher Weeks, 1978

Neg. at Westminster City Hall

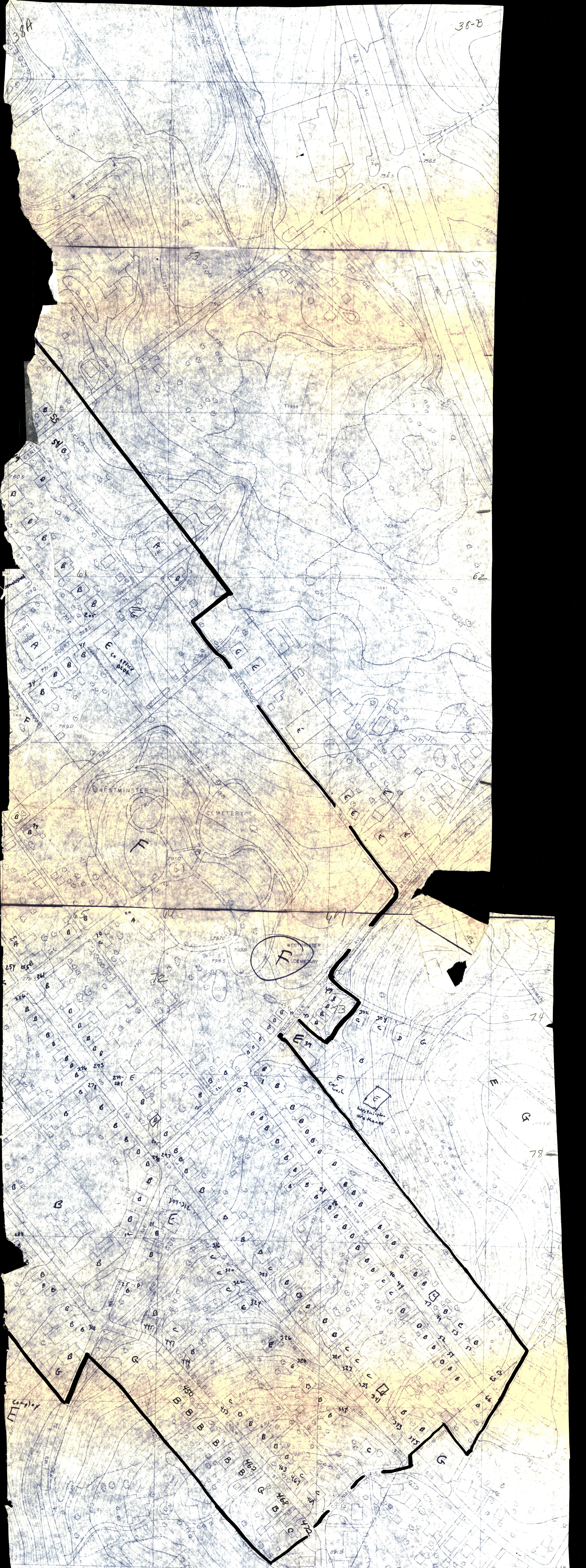
Northwest side of Carroll Avenue at Kemper
Avenue

47 of 47

AUG 6 1980

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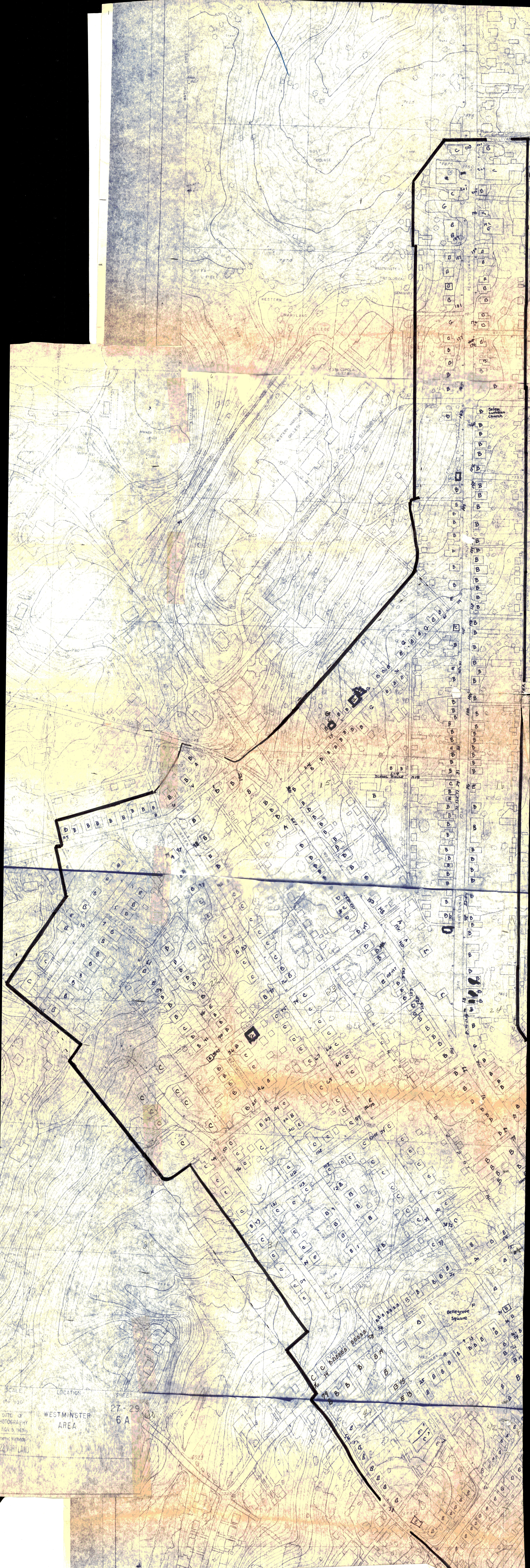
JUN 30 1980



PHOTOGRAMMETRIC MAP OF
CARROLL COUNTY, MARYLAND

REVISION		DATE	SCALE
BY			1" = 100'
		DATE OF PHOTOGRAPHY	
		NOV 10, 1963	
Topography Compiled By Photogrammetric Methods MAPS, INCORPORATED - BALTIMORE 27, MARYLAND			

WESTMINSTER
AREA



SCALE
1" = 100'

LOCATION
WESTMINSTER
AREA

SHEET
27-29
6A

DATE OF
PHOTOGRAPHY
10/15/1963

PHOTOGRAPHY
10/15/1963

PHOTOGRAPHY
10/15/1963

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10/15/1963

KEY

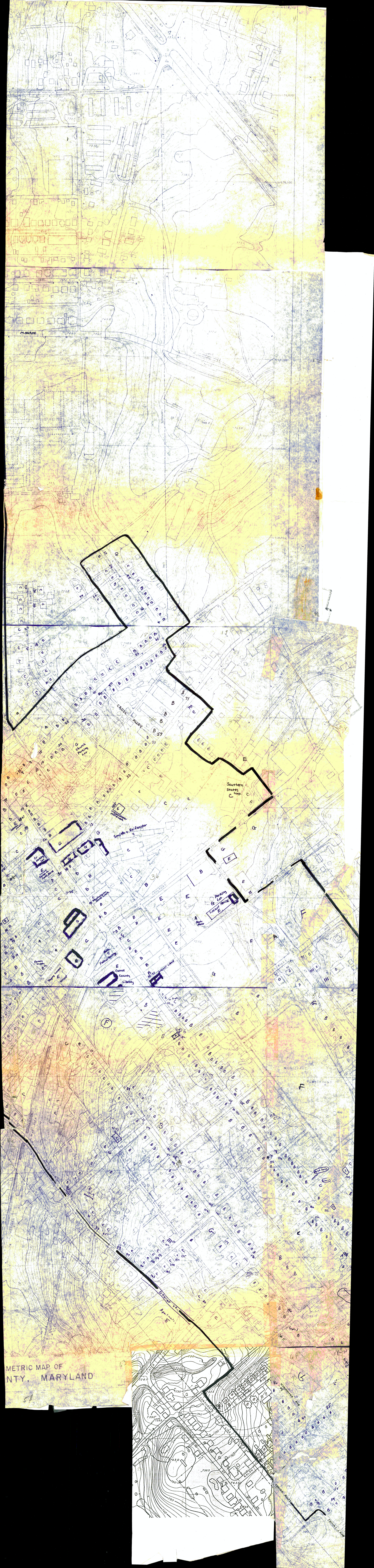
- A Individually significant/National Register eligible
- B Contributing to the character of the district
- C Not presently contributing but may become a contributing property through restoration or the passage of time
- D Possesses historic significance but of a character different from that of the historic district as a whole
- E Non-contributing
- F Contributing open space
- G Non-contributing open space
- H Sensitive in-fill

CHCW/nam 4/80

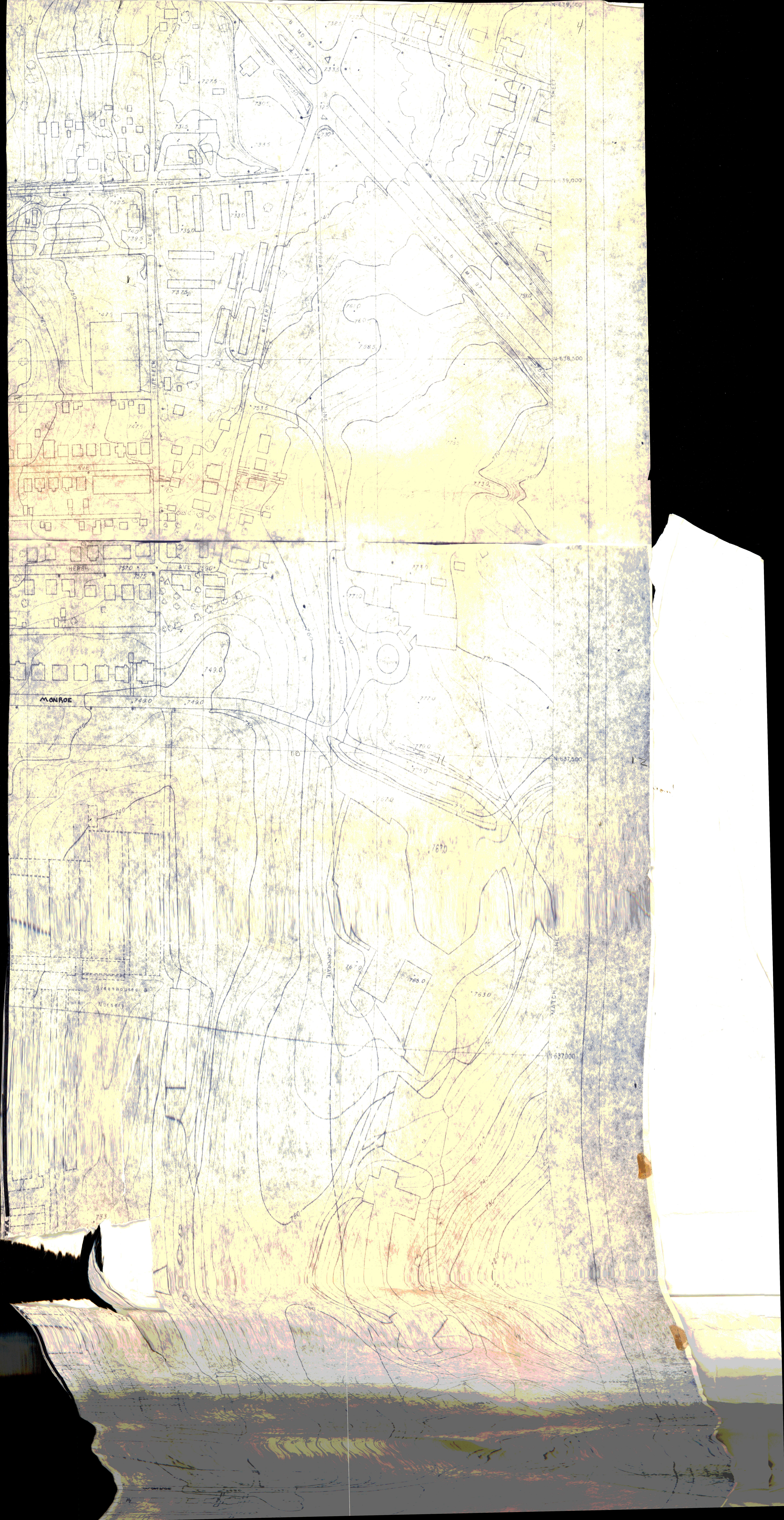
Show House, 21 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (301) 269-2212, 269-2438
Department of Economic and Community Development

COPYRIGHT 1964
CARROLL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

PHOTOGRAMMETRIC MAP
CARROLL COUNTY, MARYLAND



METRIC MAP OF
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND



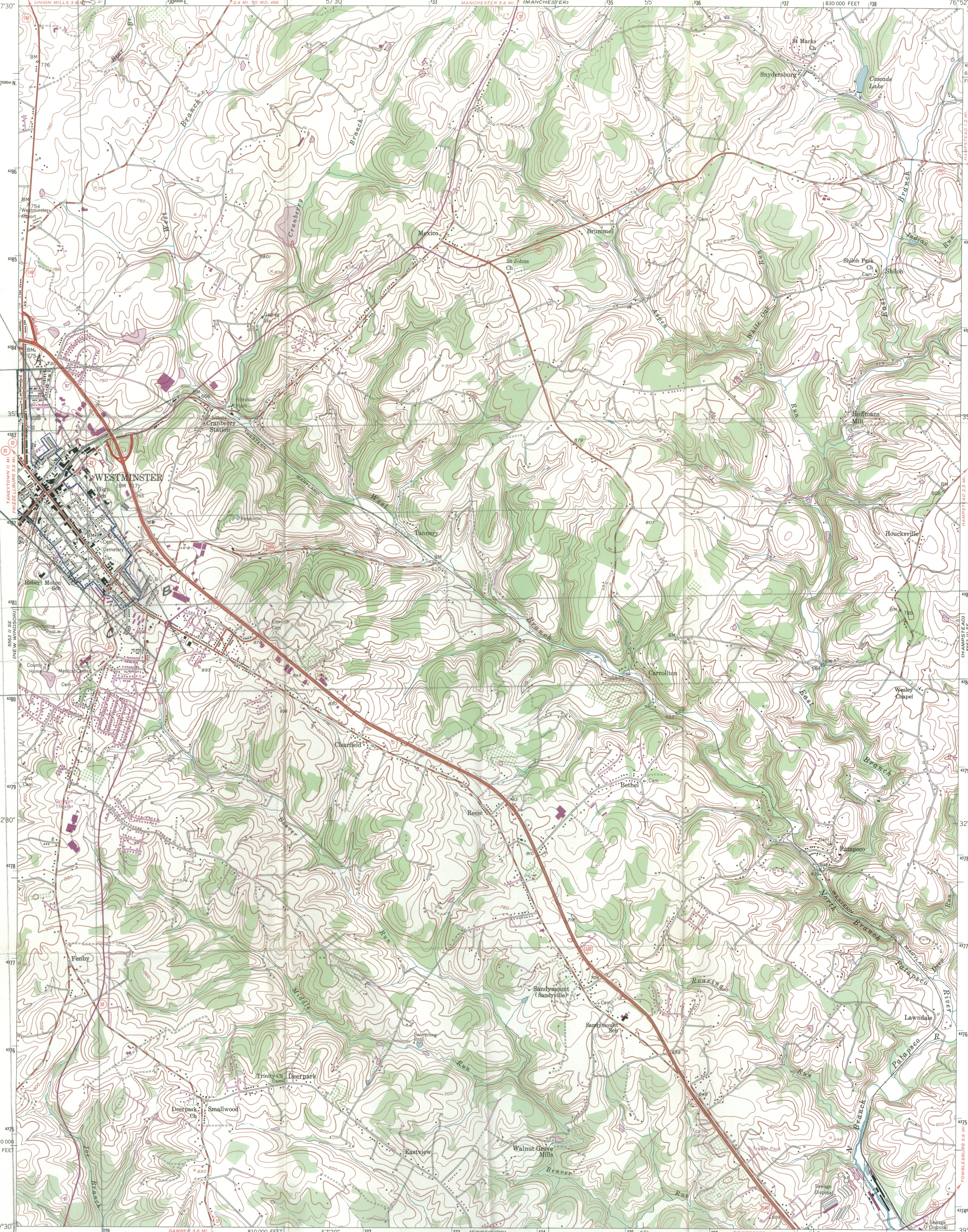
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS

WESTMINSTER QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND—CARROLL CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

New
Westminster
Historic District
A. 18/328 380
4383710
B. 18/329720
4381140
C. 18/329710
4380840

AUG 6 1980



Maped by the Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army
Edited and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USSCS
Topography from aerial photographs by stereophotogrammetric
methods. Aerial photographs taken 1943
Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1953
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue
Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological
Survey from aerial photographs taken 1971. This
information not field checked

SCALE 1:24,000
1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET
1 KILOMETER
CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty 4 LANE 16 LANE Light-duty
Medium-duty 4 LANE 16 LANE Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route State Route

WESTMINSTER, MD.
N3930-W7652.5/7.5
1953
PHOTOREVISED 1971
AMS 5663 III SW-SERIES V833

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS.
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS

NEW WINDSOR QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



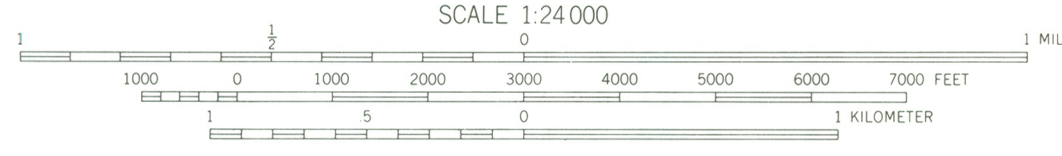
Westminster
Historic District
D 18/327590
4382530
E 1328160
4383720

New
4383
AUG 6 1980

4382

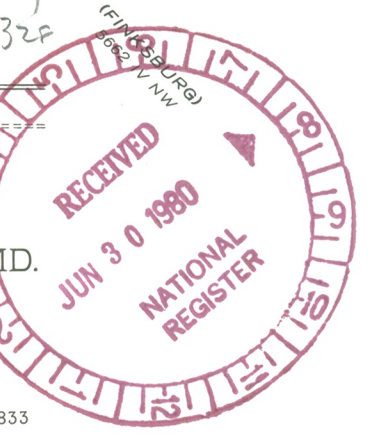
Mapped by the Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army
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1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue
Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological
Survey from aerial photographs taken 1971. This
information not field checked

UTM GRID AND 1971 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty 4 LANE 16 LANE Light-duty
Medium-duty 4 LANE 16 LANE Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route State Route

NEW WINDSOR, MD.
N 3930-W 7700/7.5
1953
PHOTOREVISED 1971
AMS 5563 II SE-SERIES V833



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

NAME Westminster Historic District
 NAME _____

STATE Maryland COUNTY Carroll County

ADDRESS 43-45 East Main Street

FEDERAL AGENCY/REQUESTER
CD-Leroy L. Conaway, Mayor

DATE DETERMINED ELIGIBLE _____

☒ FA ☐ CD ☐ OTHER ☐ SI ☐ HABS ☐ HAER

DATE OF REQUEST 2-10-76
 DATE OF DOCUMENTATION REQUEST _____

DATE DOCUMENTATION RECEIVED _____

SHPO OPINION ☒ YES ☐ NO

DATE REQUESTED _____

DATE RECEIVED _____

REMARKS:

*Have memo of agreement & are doing
 survey 10-5-76*

NATIONAL REGISTER DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY CONTROL

WASO-167A
 (9/75)

USDI-NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NAME Westminster Historic District
 NAME _____

CITY Westminster STATE MD COUNTY Carroll

ADDRESS _____

FEDERAL AGENCY/REQUESTER
USDA/FARMA/John D. Daniello

DATE DETERMINED ELIGIBLE 7-30-80 A.C

REMARKS _____

DATE OF REQUEST 1/7/80
 DATE OF DOCUMENTATION REQUEST _____

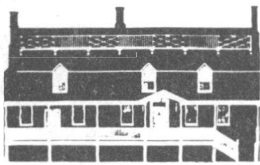
DATE DOCUMENTATION RECEIVED _____

SHPO OPINION ☒ YES ☐ NO

DATE REQUESTED _____

DATE RECEIVED _____

NATIONAL REGISTER DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY CONTROL



Maryland Historical Trust

June 23, 1980

Ms. Carol Shull
Acting Keeper
DOI
W434
Washington, D. C. 20243

Dear Carol:

Please find enclosed the National Register nomination form for the following historic district:

Westminster Historic District
Carroll County
Maryland

We appreciate your interest and will look forward to the acceptance of this historic district on the National Register.

Sincerely,

J. Rodney Little
State Historic
Preservation Officer

JRL/lkm

Enclosures: (1) U.S.G.S. Map
(1) National Register Form
(47) Photographs



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

DATE 7-24-80

TELEPHONE REPORT

TIME OF CALL

AM
PM

1. CALL ☒ TO: ☐ FROM (Name)

Ron Andrews

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

MD SHPO

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

Westminster HD, Both NR nam
+DOE

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

Need clarification on BJ.

7, p 12 of form submitted

Delete sentence in 2nd #:

area in west along Carroll St is where
district lies outside of corp limit +
selected for inclusion because bldgs
contribute to significance of district.

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

Saps

TITLE

OFFICE

Advisory Council On Historic Preservation

1522 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

September 23, 1980

*Carroll Co.
Md.*

listed 8/6/80

Mr. John D. Daniello
State Director
Farmers Home Administration
Department of Agriculture
151 East Chestnut Hill Road
Suite 2
Newark, Delaware 19713

Dear Mr. Daniello:

This is in response to your letter of August 18, 1980, requesting the Council's comments pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, on the proposed FmHA project in Westminster, Maryland. Your agency made a determination that this project, requiring the demolition of six contributing buildings in the Westminster Historic District, a National Register property, will adversely affect the property.

The letter and its attached map give a brief project description. As discussed with Mr. W. Drew Clendaniel, of your staff, this material does not fulfill the requirements of Section 800.13(b) of the Council's regulations, "Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties" (36 CFR Part 800). Please submit the following information to enable us to complete our review.

1. An indication of the status of this project in the FmHA approval process.
2. A description of the project location, and the structure located on the project site, as part of the Westminster Historic District. Our staff has reviewed the available documentation at the Office of the Keeper of the National Register, but this does not provide us with photographs of the structures to be demolished. In addition, the map submitted does not illustrate where the project site is in relation to the historic district. Please provide us with graphic documentation, such as a locational map, showing this relationship.
3. The evidence of consideration given by FmHA and the applicant that alternative sites are neither more prudent nor feasible than the favored site.
4. The reports prepared by the FmHA engineer that illustrate why it is neither cost effective nor structurally possible to rehabilitate the structures for housing.

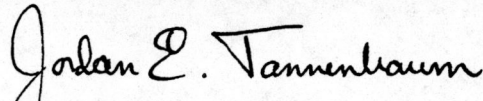
We will be pleased to work with you and your staff in developing this information.

Upon receipt of this information we will complete our review of your preliminary case report and continue with the consultation process set forth in Section 800.6 of the Council's regulations. Pending receipt of the Council's comments, you should refrain from taking or sanctioning any action or making any irreversible or irretrievable commitment that could result in an adverse effect on the National Register property or that would foreclose the consideration of modifications or alternatives to the proposed undertaking that could avoid, mitigate, or minimize such adverse effects.

Should you have any questions, please call Ms. Amy Schlagel at 202-254-3495.

The Council appreciates your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jordan E. Tannenbaum". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Jordan E. Tannenbaum
Chief, Eastern Division
of Project Review

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
SEP 26 1980

DATE REC'D _____

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED) _____

REF. RM FIVE MATERIAL SENT _____

TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED) _____

DATE ACTION TAKEN _____

INITIALS _____



mark beck
associates, inc.

Mark H. Beck, AIA, AICP
Peter C. Powell, AIA

W. Howard Garrett, Jr., AIA
Alan B. Glass, AIA
A. Allen Hitchcock, AIA
Anne M. Parsons
Melissa J. Scheitler
George E. Vonderheide
Roderic C. Wilson, RA

11 December 1980

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
1522 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20005

Attn.: Ms. Hat Russell

Re: Townhouse Development by HOPE, Inc./FmHA, Westminster, MD.

Dear Ms. Russell,

This letter is to confirm our discussion last week relative to the new houses on Union Street and their relationship to the existing dwellings thereon.

1. Clause 5 of specification page 0740.1 has been amended to read: "from manufacturer's standards ranging from white to pastel colors. Provide ..." As I mentioned to you, the exact color(s) cannot be selected until a manufacturer is known; with a public bid, we cannot predetermine manufacturers.
2. All references on drawings and in specifications to window muntins and window shutters have been deleted. We are in agreement that since neither shutters nor 6/6 window panes are used on a majority of the existing houses, there is no compelling need to add non-functioning shutters or muntins to the new houses.
3. As I mentioned to you last week, all houses on Union Street, as well as throughout most of Westminster, have flush entrances. Some of the Union Street houses have porches, but many on both sides of the street do not. The site topography has already set the houses above grade, requiring stairs that create an entrance progression. Unfortunately, the houses fronting on Union Street suffer from those at the rear of the lots, because of the negative externalities that would occur to the neighboring properties because of the different site drainage conditions. For these reasons we have not changed the entrance conditions from those found on the contract drawings dated 20 August 1980.

I appreciate the cooperative spirit which you have shown in these matters, as we all are attempting to intrude as lightly as possible upon the character of Union Street.

If you have further questions, do not hesitate to call.

Very truly yours,

MARK BECK ASSOCIATES, INC.:

Robert K. Fritzsche, AIA

RKF/aem

architecture

planning

interiors

energy management

engineering

762 fairmount avenue
(301) 828-6000

towson, maryland 21204

2204 maryland avenue
baltimore, maryland 21218
(301) 235-9500

cc: HOPE, Inc.

Advisory Council On Historic Preservation

1522 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA), Department of Agriculture, proposes to assist in the construction of 20 housing units in Westminster, Maryland; and,

WHEREAS, FmHA, in consultation with the Maryland State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), has determined that this undertaking as proposed would have an adverse effect upon the Westminster Historic District, a property eligible for the National Register of Historic Places; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. Sec. 470f, as amended, 90 Stat. 1320) and Section 800.4(d) of the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Council), "Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties" (36 CFR Part 800), FmHA has requested the comments of the Council; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 800.6 of the Council's regulations, representatives of the Council, FmHA, and the Maryland SHPO have consulted and reviewed the undertaking to consider feasible and prudent alternatives to avoid or satisfactorily mitigate the adverse effect;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is mutually agreed that implementation of the undertaking in accordance with the following stipulations will satisfactorily mitigate adverse effects on the above-mentioned property.

Stipulations

The Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) will ensure that the following measures are carried out.

1. The new construction will be undertaken in accordance with the drawings submitted, amended by the letter of December 11, 1980, from the project architect to the Council (attached).
2. Prior to demolition of the three Union Street buildings, FmHA will record these buildings so that there will be a permanent record of their history and present appearance. FmHA will first contact the National Architectural and Engineering Record (NAER), Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, William J. Green Federal Building, Room 9310, 600 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106, to determine what documentation is required. All documentation must be accepted in writing by NAER and the Council notified of its acceptance, prior to demolition.

3. Within 90 days of demolition, FmHA will notify the Keeper of the National Register so that three buildings to be demolished can be removed from the Westminster Historic District nomination form.

Robert Garry Feb 3, 1981
Executive Director
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

John D. Harrell 7/9/81
(date)
Farmers Home Administration

(date)
Maryland State Historic Preservation Officer

(date)
Chairman
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION

51 East Chestnut Hill Road, Suite 2
Newark, Delaware 19713

February 10, 1981

Ms. Carol D. Schull
Chief of Registration
Keeper of the National Register
Pension Building
440 G Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

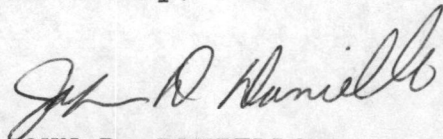
Dear Ms. Schull:

Enclosed is a copy of the Memorandum of Agreement for the 20-unit rural rental housing project HOPE Inc., that will be located in the Westminster Historic District, Westminster, MD. In accordance with Item 3 of this agreement, FmHA is hereby notifying the keeper of the National Register so that the 3 buildings to be demolished can be removed from the Westminster Historic District nomination form. We anticipate demolition to take place in approximately 90 days.

Also attached is a description of those building to be demolished.

If you have any further questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,



JOHN D. DANIELLO
State Director

Enclosures

cc: District Director, FmHA, Annapolis, MD
Robert Fritzsche
HOPE Inc.
Tom Doerr
Jordan E. Tannenbaum

WDC:bjd

RECEIVED BY THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
FEB 26 1981

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
FEB 26 1981
DATE REC'D _____
_____ IN RESPONSE (ATTACHED)
_____ INFORM LIVE MATERIAL SENT
_____ TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)
DATE ACTION TAKEN _____
INITIALS _____

NRG 12108

TO: DIRECTOR, NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
FROM: [illegible]
SUBJECT: [illegible]

RE: [illegible]

DATE: [illegible]

BY: [illegible]

[Handwritten signature]

RE: [illegible]

[illegible]

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[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Susan m



The City of Westminster

OFFICE OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

(Public Housing Agency)

City Hall

Westminster, Maryland 21157

TELEPHONE:

Local 848-2261

Baltimore Line 876-6322

June 24, 1981

LEROY L. CONAWAY
Mayor

CITY COUNCIL
David S. Babylon, Jr.
President

Elder J. W. Hare
James R. Mann
Ray D. Riley
Philip E. Wampler

Thomas Wm. Doerr
Administrator

Carroll R. Dell
Director Planning and Public Works

John D. Dudderar
City Clerk

Robert W. Myers
Director of Finance - Treasurer

Ms. Amy Schlagel
National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Room 430
1522 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Westminster Hist. Dist.

*8/6/80 listed
Carroll Co.*

Dear Ms. Schlagel:

As part of our ongoing community development program, the City of Westminster is contemplating the acquisition and disposition of a small group of row houses in our National Register district. These homes, as you may see from the attached photos, are seriously delapidated and fail to provide decent, safe, and sanitary housing for its occupants. The City's plan is to acquire the property with pending Community Development Block Grant funds (Small Cities Discretionary Grant B-81-DS-24-0112). We shall relocate the tenants and sell the building to a developer who will agree to rehabilitation according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. The completed dwellings will then be made available to eligible Farmer's Home Administration mortgagees as three single family homes.

We anticipate the following expenses:

- 1) \$65,000 acquisition - CDBG
- 2) \$35,000 relocation - CDBG
- 3) \$60,000 rehabilitation - FmHA 502IC

The subject property is known as 283-285-287 E. Main Street. It is located at the eastern edge of the historic district. The buildings are painted brick built circa 1850. They carry a register designation of contributing structure. Attached please find a copy of the building description from our historic building survey, performed by Christopher Weeks.

JUN 10 1981



THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE REC'D JUL 10 1981

____ INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)

____ INFORMATIVE MATERIAL SENT

____ TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)

____ ACTION TAKEN

Ms. Amy Schlager
National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

June 24, 1981

The State Historic Preservation Officer of Maryland has concurred in our determination of No Adverse Effect (letter attached). No adverse effect shall occur, as defined by 36 CFR 800.3 (b) because:

- 1) The property shall not be destroyed or significantly altered.
- 2) The property's surrounding environment will not be altered.
- 3) No visual, audible, or atmospheric elements which are out of character with the property will be created.
- 4) The project will reverse the neglect which the property has been subject to.
- 5) The property will not be transferred without adequate conditions of sale protecting its historic character.

We hope that the Advisory Council can review this project expeditiously and concur in the State Historic Preservation Office's and the City's determination of no adverse effect.

We look forward to hearing from you regarding this matter at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully,

OFFICE OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Thomas W. Doerr

Administrator

TD/ef

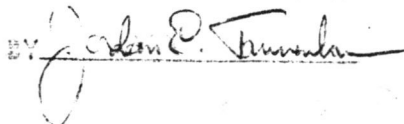
Enc.

cc: Nancy Miller
Charles Halm
Robert Herbert

CONCUR

JUL - 1 1981

ADVISORY COUNCIL
ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

BY 

BJ.

1. physical plan - mid-18 to mid-19th,
filled in by mid-20
2. topography, phys. features
3. bldg by bldg - if C.
4. exclude intrusions along edges
+ College