

AA-970

1927

Marbury Building

Public

Crownsville Hospital Center

Crownsville

Built for industrial purposes, the Marbury Building rises two stories in height and is constructed of molded concrete blocks. These concrete blocks were manufactured by the patients and the hospital mechanics prepared the plans for the building. The entire building was erected without capital budget funds.

To honor the president of the Board of Managers of Crownsville State Hospital, the hospital named the building after William L. Marbury for his twenty-five years of devoted service.

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Survey No. AA-970

Magi No. 0209704839

DOE yes no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic Marbury Building

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number Crownsville Hospital Center  not for publication

city, town Crownsville  vicinity of congressional district 4

state Maryland county Anne Arundel

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Hospital

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

name Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

street & number 201 West Preston Street telephone no.: 225-6816

city, town Baltimore state and zip code Maryland 21201

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anne Arundel County Courthouse liber

street & number Church Circle folio

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

le

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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

The Marbury Building is a rectangular structure which measures eleven bays wide and five bays deep. Constructed of molded concrete blocks, the building rises two stories in height. Supported by a full basement level, the Marbury Building faces north and is located southwest of the patient complex. The roof of the building is flat though decorated by a stepped parapet.

The North facade displays the dominant features of the building. The foundation is also made of concrete but its surface is smooth. The fenestration consists of the steel projecting windows with a single sash of five panes by five panes. Thick concrete sills and flush lintels provide further detail on the windows. A raised water table separates the wall from the smooth concrete of the foundation and the molded bricks of the first and second floors. The stepped parapet has been inscribed to identify the building as the William L. Marbury Building.

The North facade exhibits a flat roof portico which incorporates the central bay of the wall. Molded concrete blocks form the paired pillars which support the wooden entablature. The entablature culminates in a boxed cornice. A similar but less detailed portico appears on the east face.

Both the south and west walls display the standard features from the water table to the fenestration. The south wall has a wooden boxed cornice instead of stepped parapet. The main distinction on the west wall is the alterations which occurred to accommodate a fire escape. A brick interior wall chimney with a concrete capstone breaks the roof line on the west wall.

# 8. Significance

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

**Specific dates** 1927 **Builder/Architect** Crownsville Mechanics

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
 and/or  
 Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  
 Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Constructed in 1927, the Marbury Building was built for industrial purposes. The building was designed to accommodate industrial classes, a carpenter shop and a cannery. The structure derives its significance from the contributors to its construction. The plans were drafted by the hospital mechanics and the concrete blocks were manufactured by the patients in industrial classes. The Marbury Building provides a good example of the hospital's resourcefulness and self-sufficiency. The hospital employees were often capable of designing a structure that would house some type of support activity. This employee participation was an important economic benefit.

The building was named after William L. Marbury to commemorate his service to the hospital. Marbury served as the president of the Board of Managers of Crownsville State Hospital for twenty-five years (1910-1935).





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Marbury Building  
Crownsville Hospital Center  
Crownsville, Maryland

Don Jewell, 9/86

Negatives at MHT  
North



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Marbury Building

Crownsville Hospital Center

Crownsville, Maryland

Don Jewell, 9/86

Negatives at MHT

Southeast