

**CAPSULE SUMMARY**  
**BA-1202**  
**Methodist Parsonage**  
**1725 Church Road**  
**Baltimore, Baltimore County**  
**Ca. 1890**  
**Private**

The Methodist Parsonage was constructed circa 1890 on land donated to the Methodist Episcopal Church by Charles and Eloise Lynch in 1889. The Queen Anne style frame dwelling has two-story gable end bay windows, a two-story ell, and Gothic Revival style details that were added to the building circa 1895. The parsonage remained in the possession of the church until 1942, when it was sold as a private dwelling. The Methodist Parsonage is one of the few remaining late 19th century buildings in this mid-20th century residential neighborhood.

The Queen Anne style dwelling is located in the middle of a late 20th century residential neighborhood on the edge of a commercial corridor near the city of Dundalk on the east side of Baltimore. The two-and-a-half story, five-bay wide, single-pile dwelling was augmented in 1894 by the addition of a two-and-a-half story, one bay square ell flush with the northeast elevation of the main block. In addition, two-story bay windows were constructed on the gable ends of the main block. At this time, a box bay was constructed on the center of the façade's second story above the full-width, one-story screened porch. A one-story addition, dating to the late 1890s or early 1900s, was constructed on the southwest elevation of the ell. All window and door openings that pierce the building feature wood sills and reeded wood surrounds. In 1916, the original wood siding was covered with stucco. Two central interior stretcher bond brick chimneys flank the central passage of the main block. An interior gable end stretcher bond brick chimney rises through the roof of the ell. The interior is currently undergoing renovation for use as a single dwelling. The side gable roof of the main block and the gable roof of the ell are clad in asphalt shingles, while the one-story screened porch and the addition have half-hipped roofs clad in standing seam metal. Immediately to the south of the house there is a circa 1890 one-story shed.



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## 7. Description

Inventory No. BA-1202

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### Condition

excellent       deteriorated  
 good             ruins  
 fair               altered

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

The Methodist Parsonage is a circa 1890 Queen Anne style dwelling located in the middle of a late 20<sup>th</sup> century residential neighborhood on the edge of a commercial corridor near the city of Dundalk on the east side of Baltimore. The two-and-a-half story, five-bay wide, single-pile dwelling was augmented in 1894 by the addition of a two-and-a-half story, one bay square ell flush with the northeast elevation of the main block. In addition, two-story bay windows were constructed on the gable ends of the main block. At this time, a box bay was constructed on the center of the façade's second story above the full-width, one-story screened porch. A one-story addition, dating to the late 1890s or early 1900s, was constructed on the southwest elevation of the ell. All window and door openings that pierce the building feature wood sills and reeded wood surrounds. In 1916, the original wood siding was covered with stucco. Two central interior stretcher bond brick chimneys flank the central passage of the main block. An interior gable end stretcher bond brick chimney rises through the roof of the ell. The interior is currently undergoing renovation for use as a single dwelling. The side gable roof of the main block and the gable roof of the ell are clad in asphalt shingles, while the one-story screened porch and the addition have half-hipped roofs clad in standing seam metal. Immediately to the south of the house there is a circa 1890 one-story shed.

### EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The symmetrical, five-bay wide façade, or northwest elevation, features a central entry with a sash-and-paneled door with a three-light fixed transom and three-light sidelights over paneled dado. A boxed bay with paired 1/1 windows dominates the central bay of the second story. Four 1/1 windows flank the central bay of each story. The five-bay wide screened porch features scroll-sawn corner brackets with a quatrefoil/trefoil piercing that terminates at the center of each bay in a scroll-sawn pendant pierced by a quatrefoil.

A two-story bay dominates the southwest elevation of the main block. At each story, the three sides of the bay are pierced by three 1/1 windows. A round-arched 2/2 window pierces the wood shingle-clad gable peak. The shingle pattern begins with three rows of square butt shingles at the base and continues with three rows of octagonal shingles and then three rows of cove shingles. A decorative eave bracket ornaments the gable peak of the roof. The southwest elevation of the ell is pierced at the first story by one sash-and-paneled single-leaf door. Two 1/1 windows pierce the second story of the ell.

The southeast elevation of the main block is pierced at the first story by one 1/1 window. Two 1/1 windows pierce the second story of the main block. A single 1/1 window pierces the one-story addition to the ell. Based on architectural survey, it appears as though this window was originally a door opening that was later shortened for the placement of a window. One 1/1 window on each of the first two stories of the ell. A flush single-leaf wood bulkhead door at the base of the ell provides exterior access to the basement. The gable peak of the ell is clad in rows of square butt, octagonal, and cove shingles.

The northeast elevation of the ell is pierced at the first and second stories by two 1/1 windows. The gable end of the main block is marked by a two-story bay identical to the one located on the southwest elevation. Each of the two stories of the bay are pierced by three 1/1 windows.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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### INTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The two primary rooms of the first story flank a central entry/stair hall that features a closed-string framed newel stair with an ornately detailed newel post with raised panels and a ball finial. The newel posts of the second story are smaller, less ornate, and have smaller ball finials and small pendants. The rounded handrail is supported by turned balusters of four different designs. Because the house is undergoing renovation, some of the molding and other decorative elements have been removed. The fireplace surrounds and mantle shelves have been dismantled, as well as some of the door and window casements. The flooring throughout the first floor comprises three-inch wide wood boards. The baseboards in the entry/stair hall and the two parlors are eight inches tall with ogee molding above a flat base. All intact door and window casements are reeded with paterae cornerblocks. The second story features a different room arrangement and ornamentation. The attic is accessible by space in the ceiling of the closets in the northeast and southwest chambers of the second story. The earthen-floored basement, accessible by a stair in the ell, is composed of one primary room below the ell and walkways between earthen underpinnings below the main block.

### OUTBUILDING

The one-story circa 1890 shed to the south of the house has a side gable roof clad in rows of square butt and hexagonal wood shingles. Intersecting cross gables mark the center of the façade and the back of the shed. The wood frame structure, clad in German siding with cornerboards, has a central entry with a paneled single-leaf door flanked by two four-light casement windows. All openings have wood surrounds and sills. The building rests on a wood post foundation.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-1202

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

**Specific dates** 1890 ca, 1894, 1942 **Architect/Builder** Unknown

**Construction dates** 1890 ca, 1894

Evaluation for:

National Register  Maryland Register  not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Methodist Parsonage was constructed circa 1890 on land donated to the Methodist Episcopal Church by Charles and Eloise Lynch in 1889. The Queen Anne style frame dwelling has two-story gable end bay windows, a two-story ell, and Gothic Revival style details that were added to the building circa 1895. The parsonage remained in the possession of the church until 1942, when it was sold as a private dwelling. The Methodist Parsonage is one of the few remaining late 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings in this mid-20<sup>th</sup> century residential neighborhood.

### HISTORIC CONTEXT

The land to the east of Baltimore remained predominantly rural through the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, and historic atlases indicate that the land was owned primarily by members of the Martell, Kimmel, Lynch, and Merritt families. As early as 1850, Patrick and William Lynch owned a large parcel of land lying northwest of Bear Creek, which flowed south into the Patapsco River on the west side of the Back River. By 1877, there were no fewer than three Lynch family houses on the west side of Bear Creek. The Mrs. Lynch House, located south of Trap Road along a road unnamed in the 1877 county atlas, was surrounded by farmland. In the late 1880s, the owners of this property were Charles and Eloise Lynch.

In 1889, the Lynch family donated a parcel of this farmland for the construction of the Methodist Episcopal Church and parsonage. The parsonage reflects the common construction techniques and popular architectural styles of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The eclectic Queen Anne movement focused on the free form, melding elements of many earlier architectural styles.<sup>1</sup> High style buildings featured a variety of roof forms, projecting oriel bays, colored glass windows and turrets, ornate porches, cut-out brackets designs, patterned shingles and spindles<sup>2</sup>. In America, the style was greatly popularized after the 1876 Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia. Craftsmen expressed a wide range of creativity through decorative woodworking exploration. The Methodist Parsonage exemplifies this trend toward surface ornament in its use of quatrefoil and trefoil designs in the porch spandrels and in its two-story projecting bays on the sides of the main block. The building does not display the complex massing and rooflines popular in the Queen Anne style; however its central-passage, single-pile plan is a form more common to rural and middle-class residential areas. Although the two-story bay windows, boxed projection over the porch, and the ell were added to the building approximately five years after its construction, these elements were still influenced by the Queen Anne style.

<sup>1</sup> Carley, Rachel. *The Visual Dictionary of American Domestic Architecture*. (New York, NY: Holt and Co., Inc, 1994). pp. 154-155.

<sup>2</sup> McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Architecture*. (New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, 1988), pp. 263-214.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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At the time of the building's construction, the land between Baltimore and the Middle River was still largely agrarian. As early as the 1910s, the community of Dundalk was considered less a town and more a stop along the railroad line that extended from Baltimore to Sparrows Point on the east side of the city. The town's name derived from Dundalk, Ireland, which was the home of local industrialist Henry McShane. The development of the steel industry on the east side of the city spurred the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century growth of the area. The period between 1916 and 1940 saw an increased growth of the community that was controlled by development corporations establishing residential communities for the growing suburban population. The onset of World War I placed these companies in an advantageous position for the housing of workers in war industries.<sup>3</sup> The twelfth district developed significantly in the post war era as a suburb of Baltimore as that city's population increased dramatically after World War II. Dundalk and other nearby communities burgeoned as a result of this new industrialization.<sup>4</sup>

Throughout this period, the dwelling at 1725 Church Road remained a parsonage. According to the 1915 county atlas, the church, which is no longer extant, was located a short distance to the south of the parsonage along Church Road. Few changes occurred to the building's fabric during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. In 1916, the exterior was covered with plaster over metal mesh that was mounted to the original German siding. The parsonage was not sold by the congregation until 1942, when trustees of the Patapsco River Station of the Methodist Episcopal Church conveyed the property to Thomas and Ruth Thorne. The Thornes retained ownership of the building until 1996, when they sold it to the current owners.

The land around the town of Dundalk and the nearby Methodist Parsonage has continued to develop through the late 1900s. As the outward growth of the city progressed through the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, suburbs close to Baltimore's perimeter began to develop as edge cities, and the Holabird Avenue corridor, located just south of the parsonage has become a primary commercial route on the east side of the city.

### CHAIN OF TITLE

June 18, 1889: Charles E. Lynch and Eloise Lynch to Trustees of the Patapsco Station of the Methodist Episcopal Church  
Land Records of Baltimore County  
Liber JWS 173 Folio 453

January 16, 1942: Trustees of the Patapsco Station of the Methodist Episcopal Church to Thomas F. Thorne and Ruth M. Thorne, wife  
Land Records of Baltimore County

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<sup>3</sup> Neal A. Brooks and Eric G. Rockel, *A History of Baltimore County* (Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979), pp. 327-330.

<sup>4</sup> Brooks and Rockel, pp. 369-370.

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
**Historic Properties Form**

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Name Methodist Parsonage, 1725 Church Road, Baltimore, Baltimore County  
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Liber CHK 1212 Folio 173

August 16, 1996:

Ruth M. Thorne by Phillip R. Thorne, attorney in fact, to Donald P. Brzowsky and Sharon A. Brzowsky, wife  
Land Records of Baltimore County  
Liber 11777 Folio 319

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-1202

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.* Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.  
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel, *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.  
Carley, Rachel. *The Visual Dictionary of American Domestic Architecture.* New York, NY. Holt and Co., Inc, 1994.  
*Map of Baltimore County.* Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.  
Sidney, J. C. *Map of Baltimore City and County, Maryland, from Actual Surveys.* Philadelphia, PA: James M. Stephens, 1850.

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## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 17,500 Square Feet  
Acreage of historical setting Unknown  
Quadrangle name Middle River Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Since 1890, the Methodist Parsonage has been associated with the 17,500 square feet known as grid 12, parcel 189 located on map 103 of the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's Office.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

name/title	R. Weidlich, A. McDonald, and A. Didden Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Inc.	date	February 19, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

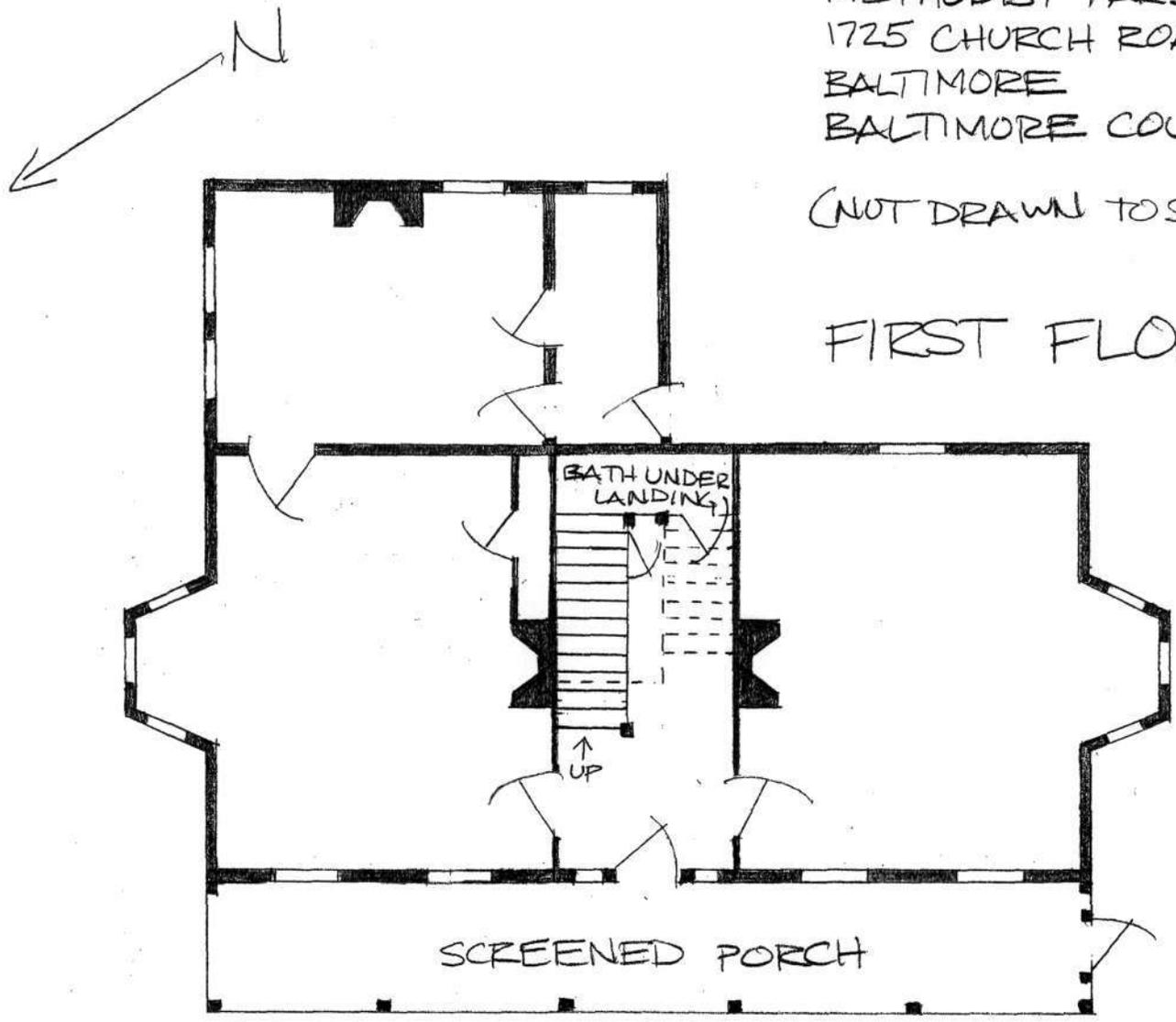
return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600

RESOURCE SKETCH  
MAP

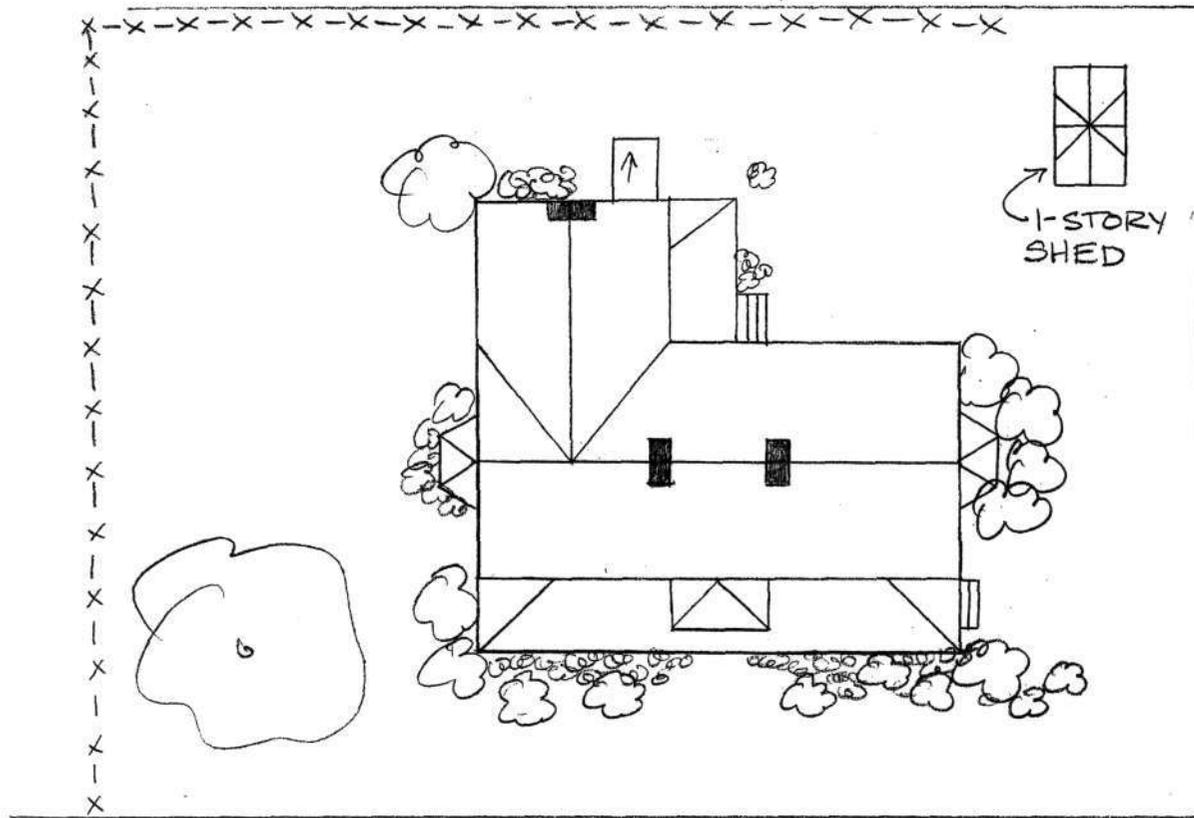
BA-1202  
METHODIST PARSONAGE  
1725 CHURCH ROAD  
BALTIMORE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

(NOT DRAWN TO SCALE)

FIRST FLOOR PLAN



ASPHALT PAVED ALLEY



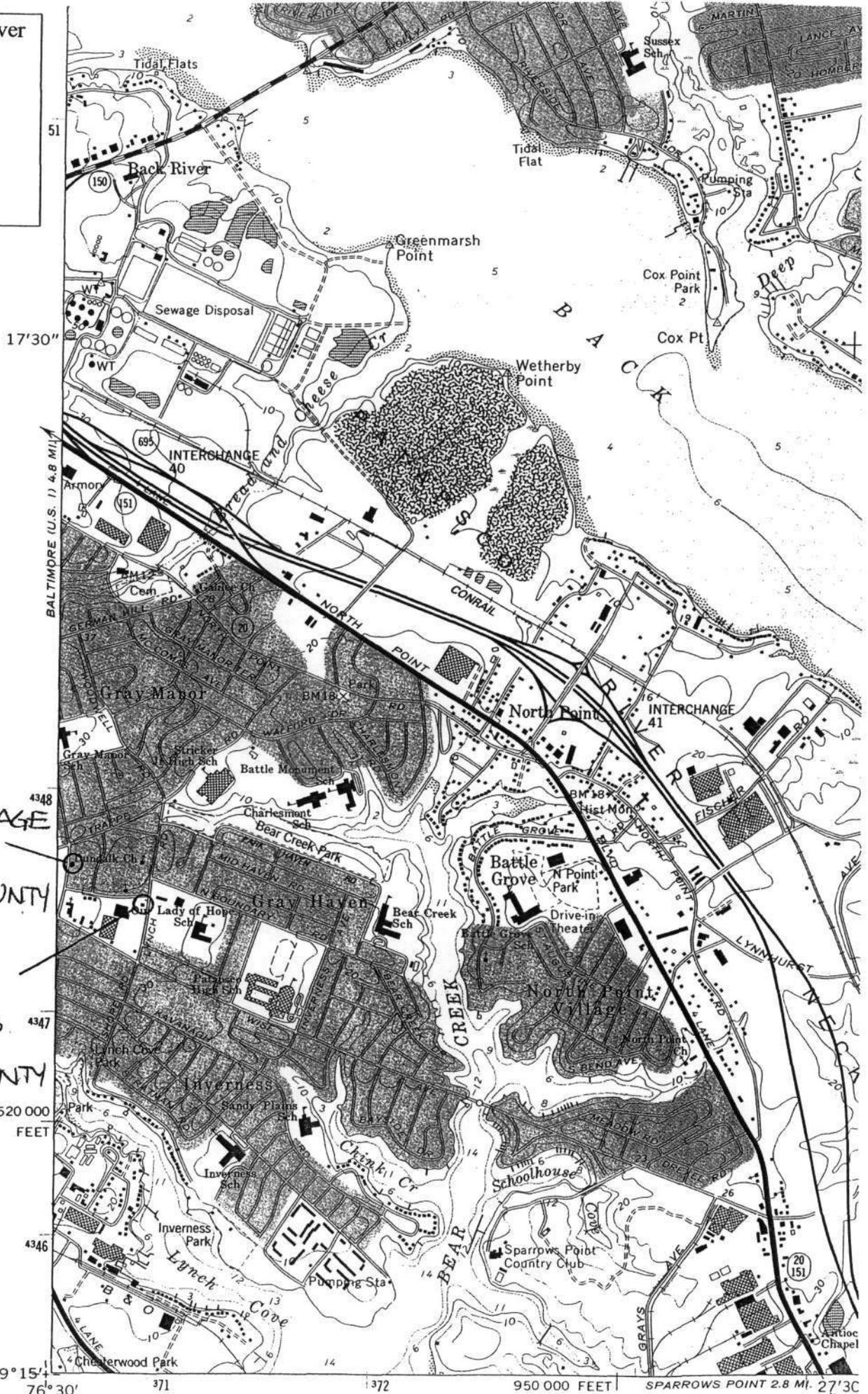
CHURCH ROAD

— RESOURCE SKETCH MAP —

BA-1202  
METHODIST PARSONAGE  
1725 CHURCH ROAD  
BALTIMORE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY  
(NOT DRAWN TO SCALE)



USGS Quad: Middle River  
Scale: 1:24,000



EA-1202  
METHODIST PARSONAGE  
1725 CHURCH ROAD  
BALTIMORE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

EA-1218  
LYNCH HOUSE  
1734 LYNCH ROAD  
BALTIMORE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial

IRTS BAY  
2 11 NE

MN 1



BA-1202

METHODIST PARSONAGE

1725 CHURCH ROAD, BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES

10/2000

MID SHPO

MAIN HOUSE, NORTHWEST ELEVATION,  
CAMERA FACING SOUTHEAST



BA-1202

METHODIST PARSONAGE  
1725 CHURCH ROAD, BALTIMORE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES  
10/2000

MD SHPO

MAIN HOUSE, SOUTHWEST ELEVATION,  
CAMERA FACING NORTHEAST



BA-1202

METHODIST PARSONAGE

1725 CHURCH ROAD, BALTIMORE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES

10/2000

MD SHPO

MAIN HOUSE, SOUTHEAST ELEVATION,  
CAMERA FACING NORTHWEST



BA-1202  
METHODIST PARSONAGE  
1725 CHURCH ROAD, BALTIMORE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES

10/2000

MID SHPO

MAIN HOUSE, NORTHEAST ELEVATION,  
CAMERA FACING SOUTHWEST

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BA-1202

METHODIST PARSONAGE

1725 CHURCH ROAD, BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES

10/2000

MD SHPO

SHED, EAST CORNER, CAMERA  
FACING WEST

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BA-1202

METHODIST PARSONAGE

1725 CHURCH ROAD, BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES

10/2000

MD SHPO

MAIN HOUSE INTERIOR, FIRST

FLOOR STAIR/ENTRY HALL, CAMERA

FACING NORTH

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BA-1202

METHODIST PARSONAGE

1725 CHURCH ROAD, BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES

10/2000

MD SHPO

MAIN HOUSE INTERIOR, STAIR/  
ENTRY HALL, CAMERA FACING  
NORTHWEST FROM LANDING

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BA-1202  
METHODIST PARSONAGE  
1725 CHURCH ROAD, BALTIMORE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

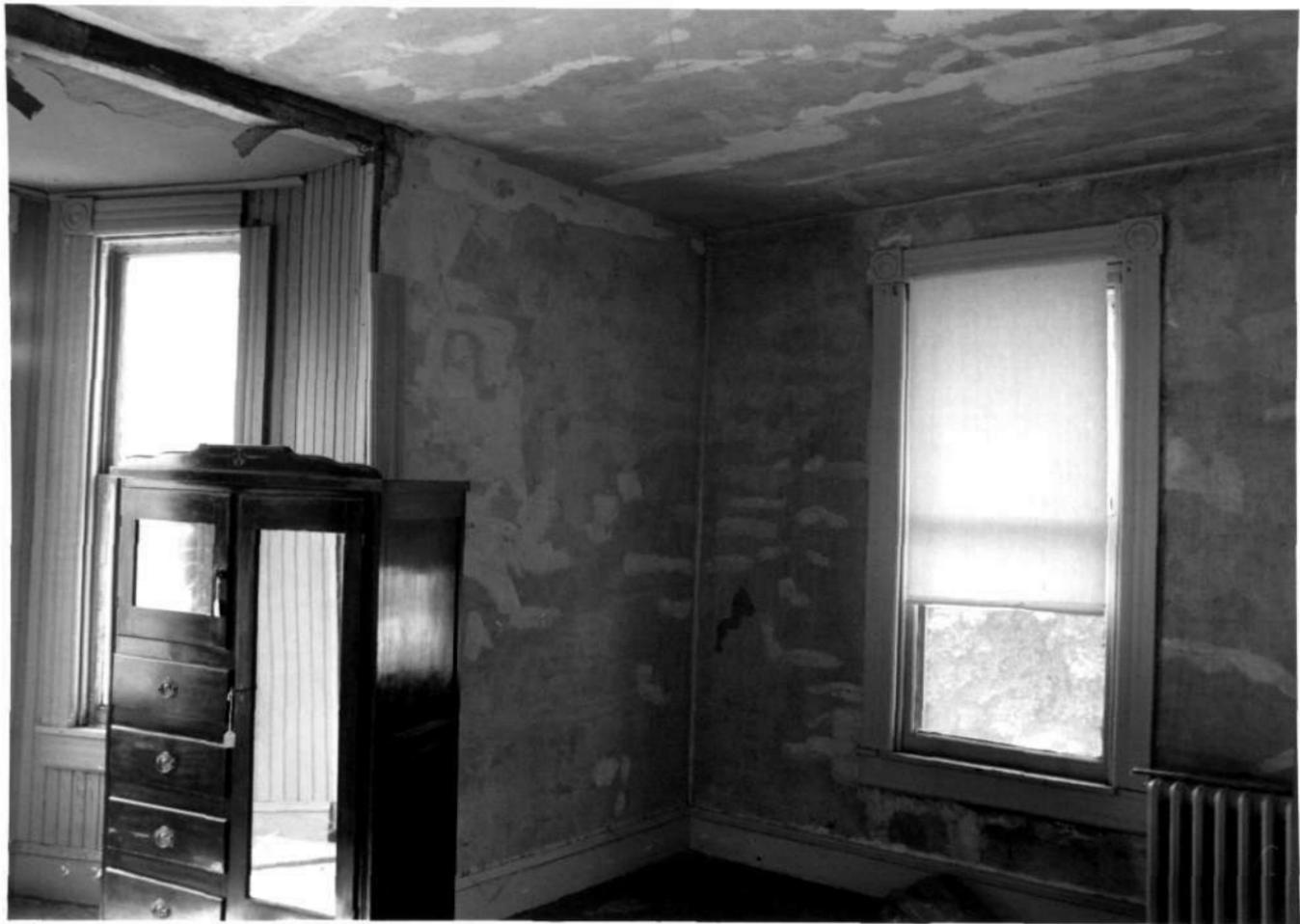
TRACERIES

10/2000

MD SHPO

MAIN HOUSE INTERIOR, FIRST FLOOR  
NORTHEAST PARLOR, CAMERA  
FACING WEST

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BA-1202

METHODIST PARSONAGE  
1725 CHURCH ROAD, BALTIMORE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

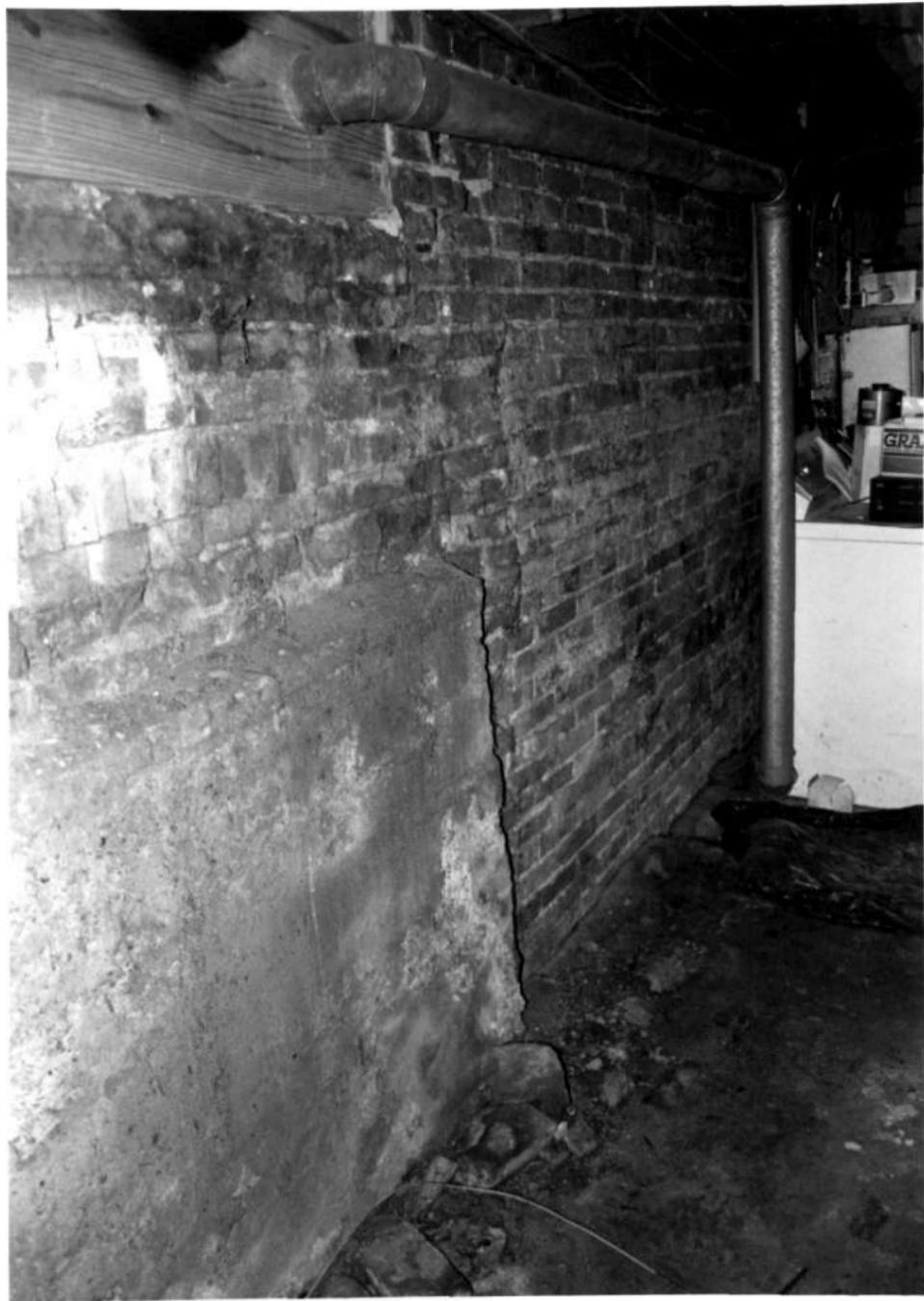
TRACERIES

10/2000

MD SHPO

MAIN HOUSE INTERIOR, SECOND  
FLOOR SOUTHWEST CHAMBER,  
CAMERA FACING WEST

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BA-120Z

METHODIST PARSONAGE

1725 CHURCH ROAD, BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES

10/2000

MD SHPO

MAIN HOUSE INTERIOR, BASEMENT  
FOUNDATION WALL, SEAM

BETWEEN THE C. 1890 HOUSE AND  
1894 ELL, CAMERA FACING EAST

10 of 11



BA-1202  
METHODIST PARSONAGE  
1725 CHURCH ROAD, BALTIMORE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES  
10/2000

MD SHPO

REMNANTS OF SLATE FIREPLACE  
SURROUNDS AND MANTLE SHELVES

BA-1202

**METHODIST PARSONAGE** - 1894 - 1725 Church Road, north of Eddylynch Road, Dundalk. Built at a cost of \$2,400 on land donated by the Lynch family. Frame house in Victorian style originally featured German siding, but in 1916 it was covered with pebble-dash plaster of tan color. Two-stories, 5 bays wide, L-shaped, gable-roofed. With twin chimneys in main block and chimney in back building. Center-hall plan: 10-foot ceilings. Used as parsonage until 1941. Photo in Baltimore County library calendar for January 1978. Owner: Patapsco Station M.E. Church.

**DISTRICT 12 - continued -**

BA-1202A

**DIEHL PAY MASTER HOUSE** - 1875-1900 - 1725 Church Road, Dundalk, to rear of Site BA 1202. Frame paymaster's office or house moved here from the large Diehl truck farm when that acreage was developed. Functional style building of one-story on concrete block foundation; covered with German siding; gable roof. Used for storage. Good condition.