BA 1969

BUENA LODGE No. 109, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS 1872-75

MARYLAND LINE

PRIVATE

This two-story frame lodge building, now converted to apartments, was originally the home of an obscure fraternal order, the Maryland Line Circle, N.E.C., Brotherhood of Union, Encircled in the H.F. of the Continent of America. The lodge hall certainly existed by April 1875, when the members took out a mortgage. The group was unable to pay for the place and it was sold at public auction in 1884, and in 1888 passed to the Knights of Pythias, who themselves went out of business in 1954. The present owners adapted the place for residential use. Even with fireescapes, this functional-style, gable-roofed rectangular building has the earmarks of a small-town lodge hall.

VII-NEW-BA 1969

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST MAGI 0319695610

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC BUENA LODGE NO. 109, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
21,434 York Road

CITY, TOWN
Maryland Line ___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
2nd

STATE
Maryland

COUNTY
Baltimore County

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Alvah H. Hoffheiser & wife

Telephone #: 357-8316

STREET & NUMBER
21,434 York Road

CITY, TOWN
Maryland Line ___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. County Courts Building

Liber #: 2565
Folio #: 73

STREET & NUMBER
401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN
Towson

STATE
Maryland 21204

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
NONE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

BA-1969

BUENA LODGE NO. 109,
KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The former Buena Lodge No. 109 is a functional style, two-story frame building perched on a high basement, its gable end to the street. This was probably a prominent feature of the town when new and decorated with the appropriate symbols. Some time after the disbanding of the lodge in 1954, the building was transformed into living space and treated to some adequate but unimaginative improvements. The structure had been advertised as measuring about 22 by 40 feet in 1884 and it has not been enlarged.

The main facade is three bays wide. There is a street-level entrance to the basement, centrally located under the porch; the basement door is paneled, protected by an 8-light contemporary storm door. There is a small window opening north of this basement entrance, filled in with wooden panels.

The main entrance is via a tall, one-story, one-bay, hip-roofed porch. There is a rectangular transom above the porch door. The door is paneled, protected by a contemporary glass and metal outer door. The porch has two square wooden posts that rise to the architrave and cornice of its roof. The low-pitched porch roof is topped by the steel railings of a fire escape that descends to the ground via a straight steel ladder fastened to the north end of the porch.

The two windows flanking the porch door and the three windows at second-story level of the main facade, as well as the six windows placed in three bays on each side of the hall, are double-hung sash windows of 6-over-6 layout.

The gable peak of the street facade contains twin windows of four panes each. There is a plain cornice following the eaves; there is no formal pediment facing the street. The eaves overhang on the street side and are provided with heavy eave returns. Along the side walls of the lodge hall, the eaves overhang slightly and blend with the soffits and side cornices.

The roof, as mentioned before, is gabled, covered with green rubber tile roofing material. The brick inside chimney rises through the north slope of the roof between first and second bays west of the street facade. The entire structure is covered with green-grey composition shingles.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY (continued)

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Foundation is stone, as advertised in 1884, but has been coated with concrete which is painted white. The basement is almost a full story above grade and gives the hall a tall, awkward look.

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	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	X SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1872-1875 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

What is called the Knights of Pythias Lodge in Maryland Line actually started as the headquarters of another benevolent order. Scharf's 1881 county history included the following information:

> The Maryland Line Circle, N.E.C., Brotherhood of Union, encircled in the H.F. of the Continent of America, was instituted May 18, 1869 with the following charter members: Joshua Rutledge, Joseph Miller, A. H. Krout, Jr., H. Atwell, J. Standiford, W. T. Bond ... J. W. Keys was "C. W." ... There are eighty-two members. It is a benevolent and beneficial order, paying money to sick members and the families of those who die in good standing. (1)

On New Year's Day of 1872, the lodge took title to a lot for which they paid $100 to Dr. Ephraim Bell, owner of the hotel and much town land. The Society's name was abbreviated to "Maryland Line Circle BWHA CA." (2)

The 1877 atlas showed a "Hall" at this point. The organization had been chartered as a Maryland Corporation in April 1875, the same day it executed a mortgage for $1000. Thus it can be estimated that the building dates to the years 1872-1875. (3) Valued at $1000, it can be found in the 1876 tax ledger. (4)

The mortgage was held by Abraham McDonald, and in 1884, he brought suit for default and the hall was advertised at public auction and purchased by McDonald for $700. (5)

Towson attorney William S. Keech advertised the structure in the weekly papers:

> Trustee's Sale of Lot and Hall in the 7th District of Baltimore County ... All that valuable

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY (continued)

> property on which the Maryland Line Circle No. 6 B.U. (H.F.) C. of A. Hall is situated in New Market Maryland Line Post Office, fronting on the York Turnpike Road.
>
> The building is three stories high, about 22 by 40 feet and adjoining the property of Messrs. Thos. G. Rutledge, and George Hedrick and others and is in good condition, has a stone basement, the other two structures being frame weather boarding, a pleasant portico on the front story and has been used for the meetings of the above named Association and for other purposes, and can easily be adapted for a dwelling house store or other purposes. The lot contains twenty six perches of land more or less. (6)

Four years later, the property was again sold at auction and passed to William T. Day and wife for $515. (7) About a month later, Day and wife conveyed to a group of trustees who represented Buena Lodge No. 109 of the Knights of Pythias. Trustees included Day himself, A. Henry Krout, and Francis A. Crook. (8) The consideration was again $515.

The 1918 tax ledger gave no dimensions for the building but listed "House and Lot in New Market" at $100. (9)

The lodge went out of business in 1954, and the Grand Lodge Knights of Pythias of Maryland, Inc. and trustees of Buena Lodge, Oscar W. Hendrix and Harry Waltermyer, conveyed to a private party, Alvah M. Hoffheiser and Grace H. Hoffheiser. The hall was subsequently turned into apartments but still has the unmistakable form of a small town fraternal meeting place. (10)

NOTES:

1. Thomas J. Scharf, History of Baltimore City and County (Philadelphia, 1881), pp. 873-874.
2. Baltimore County Deeds, HMF 16:148.
3. Judicial Records, WMI 91:300-301.
4. Tax Assessor's Field Book, District 7, 1876, n.p.
5. Judicial Records, WMI 91:91:307. Deeds, WMI 143:203.
6. Maryland Journal, September 20, 1884, p.3.
7. B.C. Deeds, JWS 178:100.
8. B.C. Deeds, JWS 178:102.
9. Tax Ledger, District 7, 1918, f. 444.
10. B.C. Deeds, GLB 2565:73.

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BUENA LODGE NO. 109,
KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Thomas J. Scharf, History of Baltimore City and County (Philadelphia, 1881), pp. 873-874.

Maryland Journal, September 20, 1884, p. 3.

Baltimore County Deeds, Judicial Records, Tax Ledgers.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 26 square perches

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning on westside of York Road:
S69 3/4W 11 perches
N20 3/4W 2-1/4
N69 3/4E 11 perches to turnpike
S20 3/4E 2-1/4 perches to Beginning.

(Map 3, P68)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
NONE	NONE
NONE	NONE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE: John W. McGrain, Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION: Baltimore County Office of Planning & Zoning

DATE: April 3, 1980

STREET & NUMBER: 401 Bosley Avenue

TELEPHONE: 494-3495

CITY OR TOWN: Towson

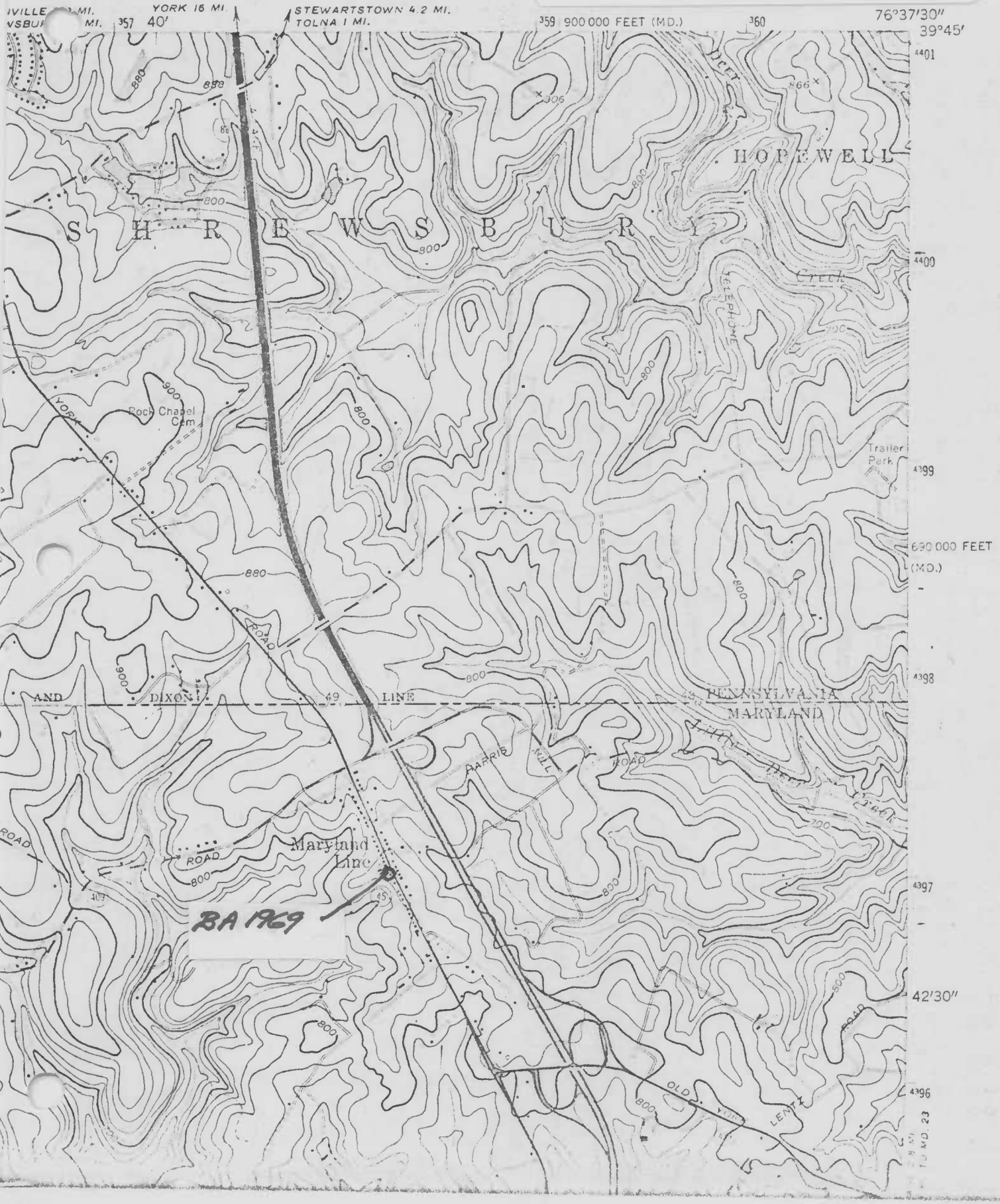
STATE: Maryland 21204

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

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

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

BUENA LODGE NO. 109 K of P
BA 1969
U.S. G.S. QUAD 7.5 Minute Quad
NEW FREEDOM



BUENA LODGE NO. 109 BA-1969
Baltimore County, Maryland
J. McGrain, October 1981
Neg. located at MHT
North side & east end

BUENA LODGE NO. 109 BA-1969
Baltimore County, Maryland
John McGrain, October 1981
Neg. located at MHT
East (facade) and south side

BUENA LODGE NO. 109 K of P BA1969
Baltimore County, Maryland
J. McGrain, Oct 1979
Neg at MHT
Main (east) facade from east