

F: 7-1-2
Comstock School
Mt. Ephraim Community
Private

1910s

This one story, three bay, frame school with neo-classical porch and other details was built by Gordon Strong, for the children of the Black community of Mt. Ephraim at the base of Sugarloaf Mountain, which Strong owned. Its construction and architecture are evidence of his paternalism. Standing close to the church, the two buildings constituted the center of the Mt. Ephraim community.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

SEE FREDERICK COUNTY SITES SURVEY F-7-25 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Comstock School

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

West side of Mt. Ephraim Road

CITY, TOWN

Mt. Ephraim community

VICINITY OF Dickerson

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Frederick

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

No

STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Stronghold, Inc.

Maintained; not used

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

Telephone #:

CITY, TOWN

Dickerson

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20753

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Frederick County Courthouse

Liber #: 697

Folio #: 64

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Frederick

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE
 UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE
 ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This one story, frame school is unlike other schools of Black communities that have been surveyed in Montgomery County. While its size is similar, none of the others displays such neo-classical details in the construction. Like the other schools, the general form is Greek Revival in that the principal facade is located in a gable end. The doorway is sheltered by a half round roof supported by circular pilasters in the Tuscan style with carved brackets above the capitals.

The building is three bays in width and three, (much longer) bays in depth. The frame is sheathed with weatherboards painted yellow, and the roof is covered with wood shingles. In the center of the roof line is a short bell tower with pyridimal roof, similar to the one on the church nearby. At the rear of the school is a brick stove flue. Like the other schools in Black communities built in the 19th or early 20th centuries, it contained one room in which all seven grades were taught.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

F-7-1-2

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Black History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1920s BUILDER/ARCHITECT _____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This school was constructed on land owned by Gordon Strong for the children of the Black community of Mt. Ephraim. Before building the school, he had owned the land for some time. According to Paul Wilson, the school was constructed in the 1910s. His father had attended school in the log church in the 1890s.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land Records of Montgomery County, Rockville, Md. Deed: 697/64.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

George McDaniel, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

DATE

5/79

TELEPHONE

926-4510

STATE

Maryland

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.

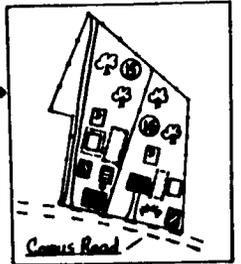
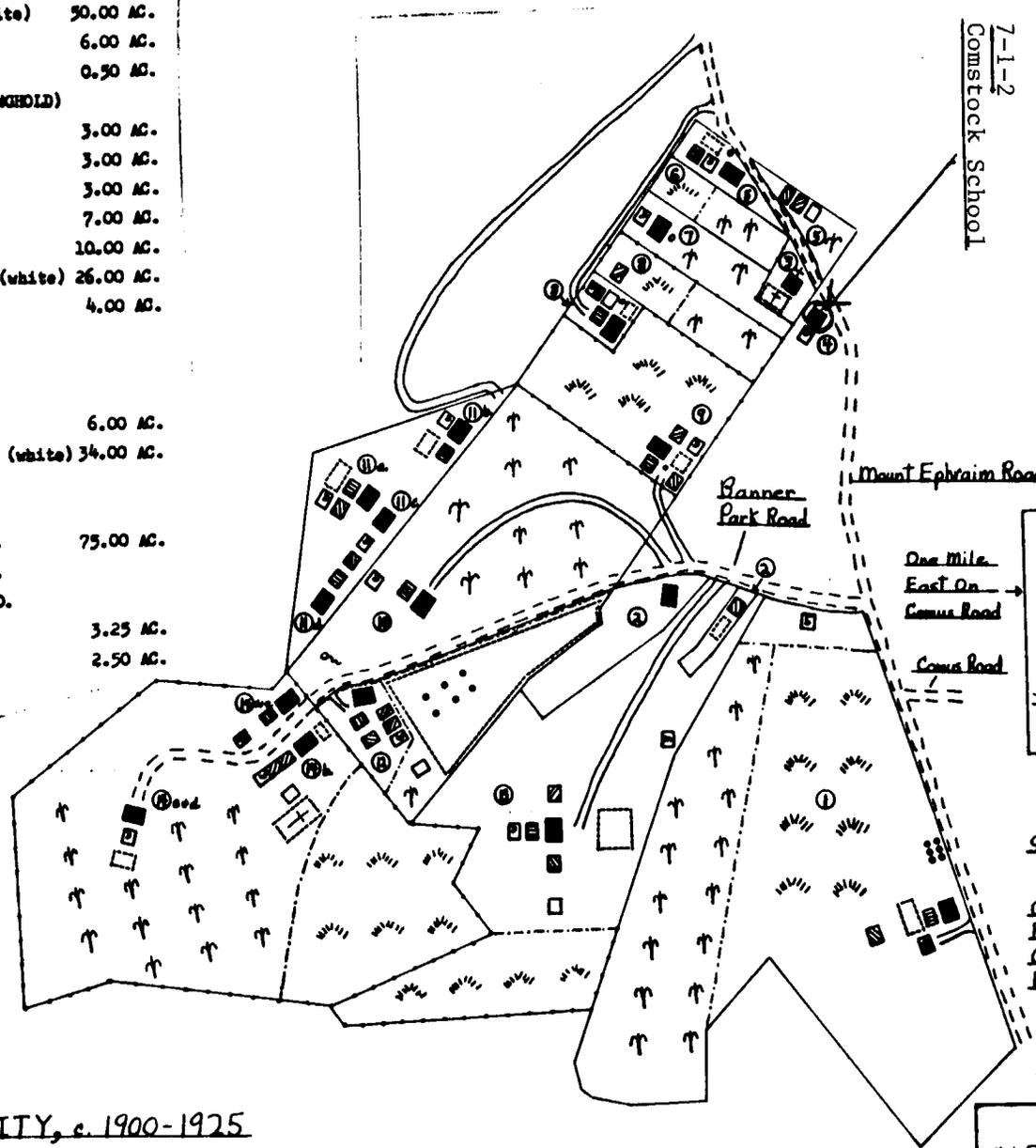
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

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

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS
Box 87, Stronghold
Dickerson, Md. 20753
(301) 926-4510

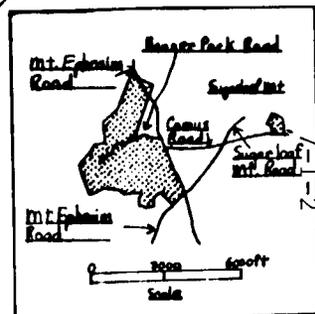
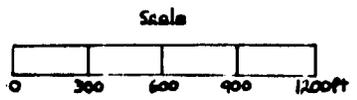
CHURCH	
CEMETERY	
LODGE	
COMMUNITY CENTER	
STORE	
POST OFFICE	
SCHOOL	
DWELLING	
PRIVY	
STABLE	
MEAT HOUSE	
HEN HOUSE	
MILK HOUSE	
CORN/FEED HOUSE	
PIG PEN	
GARDEN	
PASTURE	
CORNFIELD	
HAY FIELD	
ORCHARD	
FOREST	
THICKET	
WELL	
SPRING	
STREAM	
POND	
PARCEL BOUNDARY	
FENCED PARCEL BDY.	
FENCE	
DIRT ROAD	
LANE	
PATH	
STREAM FLOW	

- Key**
1. WILL TURNER HSTD. (white) 50.00 AC.
 2. FRED NICHOLS HSTD. 6.00 AC.
 3. BELL'S CHAPEL 0.50 AC.
 4. COMSTOCK SCHOOL (STRONGHOLD)
 5. WILLIAM HALLMAN HSTD. 3.00 AC.
 6. HANNAH HALLMAN HSTD. 3.00 AC.
 7. JAMES HALLMAN HSTD. 3.00 AC.
 8. BENE HALLMAN HSTD. 7.00 AC.
 9. MOSES HALLMAN HSTD. 10.00 AC.
 10. CHARLIE HARRIS HSTD. (white) 26.00 AC.
 - 11a. DAVID PROCTOR HSTD. 4.00 AC.
 - b. RACHEL PROCTOR HSTD.
 - c. LAURA PROCTOR HSTD.
 - d. CHARLIE PROCTOR HSTD.
 12. FRANK PROCTOR HSTD. 6.00 AC.
 13. CLINTON NICHOLS HSTD. (white) 34.00 AC.
 - 14a. WOODY FAMILY HSTD.
 - b. MORRIS POSEY HSTD.
 - c. WILLIAM PROCTOR HSTD. 75.00 AC.
 - d. LINWOOD PROCTOR HSTD.
 - e. HARRISON RAWLINS HSTD.
 15. ARTHUR WOOD HSTD. 3.25 AC.
 16. ARTHUR NAYLOR HSTD. 2.50 AC.

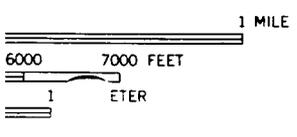
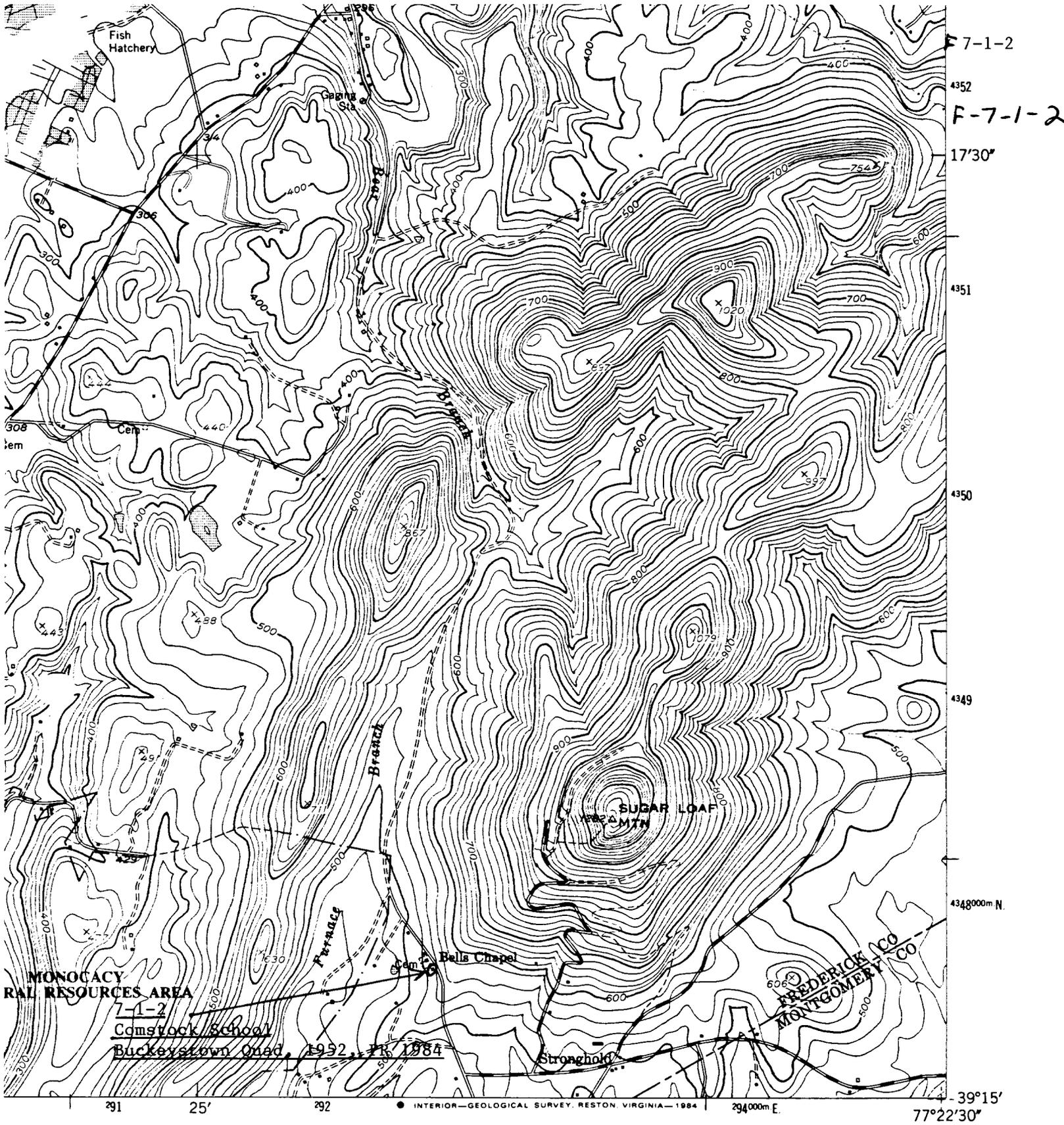


Source:
 Steven Daulton
 Sugarloaf Regional Trails
 Oral Informants:
 Charlotte Ambush
 Frances Bowie
 Clarence Naylor
 Paul Wilson

MT EPHRAIM COMMUNITY, c. 1900-1925



7-1-2



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty		Light-duty	
Medium-duty		Unimproved dirt	
	Interstate Route		U. S. Route
	State Route		



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ORDS
 VIA 22092
 LE, VIRGINIA 22903
 FILE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled by the Geological Survey in cooperation with Commonwealth of Virginia agencies from

BUCKEYSTOWN, MD. - VA.
 39077-C4-TF-024

1952

(GERMANTOWN)
 5562 1/1 NE



Cornstock School and Ed. Chapel
Sally E. Gibson
7-1-2

Mt. Ephraim Community
photo by Joyce McDonald
5/77

ADL 190502.2 512
2-705061 704