

HO-235
St. Stephen's A.M.E. Church
Ellicott City
Private

St. Stephen's AME Church faces north on the south west corner of Mayfield Avenue and Meadowridge Road. It is a three bay wide, five bay deep, gabled roof (running north-south) country gothic style, frame church set on a full foundation, with semi-circular, semi-conical roofed one story high romanesque apse on its south wall and a tent roofed square belfry over its north entrance. The central, double, open bible and cross paneled entrance is recessed, providing shelter for those who enter. It is surmounted by an architrave decorated with a row of dentils above which is inset a gothic arched transom within a gothic arched row of purple, light and dark blue stained glass.

The land on which this church sits was donated to the congregation by an ex-slave, Mr. William H. Jackson who fought for the Union during the Civil War. Descendants of many of the original families are still active in the Congregation and in Howard County.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC St. Stephen's AME Church
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER SW corner of Meadowridge Road and Mayfield Avenue
CITY, TOWN Ellicott City — VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
STATE Maryland COUNTY Howard

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" 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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME St. Stephen's AME Church Telephone #:
STREET & NUMBER SW corner of Meadowridge Road and Mayfield Avenue
CITY, TOWN Ellicott City, — VICINITY OF Maryland STATE, zip code 21043

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Hall of Records Liber #: 35
STREET & NUMBER Howard County Court House Folio #: 243 Tax Map 37, p. 499
CITY, TOWN Ellicott City STATE Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Howard County Historic Sites Inventory
DATE 1977 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Maryland Historical Trust
CITY, TOWN 21 State Circle, Annapolis STATE Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

Ho-235
Dist 6

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

St. Stephen's AME Church faces north on the south side of Mayfield Road 1/3 miles east of Waterloo Road. It sits on a gentle hill amidst a stand of trees with a parking area located in front and a driveway around the church. It is a three bay wide, five bay deep, one story high, gabled roof (running north-south), asbestos shingled frame structure built on an old face block foundation. It replaces an earlier frame building located west which faced east.

NORTH ELEVATION

A tent roofed, bell tower is centered over the north central entrance, which is recessed up to the eave line, creating a covered entrance. Nine wide cement steps, flanked by an iron railing lead to the double, open bible and cross paneled door which is surmounted by an architrave decorated with a row of dentils. A gothic arched transom is decorated with a gothic arched row of light and dark blue and purple stained glass inset into a simple gothic arched wooden door frame. A rectangular vent is located above the recessed entrance which is flanked by east and west bays holding single gothic arched, double-hung windows holding one-over-one lights inset into a row of stained glass (See photograph). All the windows from the exterior are gothic arched and inset into gothic arched wooden window frames underlined by projecting wooden sills. On the interior, however, the gothic windows are inset into rectangular frames.

EAST AND WEST ELEVATIONS

Four similar gothic windows are located in the east and west walls. Additionally, a rectangular, open bible and cross paneled entrance, approached by three granite block steps, takes up the first south bay of the east wall. A square brick exterior capped chimney is located between this first and second gothic window north of the door.

Two two light and one four light basement windows rest in the foundation of the east wall, while three four lite basement windows rest in the foundation of the west wall. In addition the west wall holds three entrances to the basement. A gable roof vestibule holds a four light rectangular paneled door in the second north bay of this wall. A simple rectangular entrance rests in the first north bay and a cellar door in the second south bay. The northwest corner of the building holds two corner stones. One is the original laid in 1921 indicating the original church stood here in 1874, while the other notes the rededication of the church in September 1973 when the present north front of the church was added, creating additional space for rest rooms on either side of the central vestibule.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

SOUTH ELEVATION

The south wall holds a similar gothic arched window on each side of the semi-circular, semi-conical roofed, one story high apse which holds a roman arched, double-hung window similar in decorative detail to the others. The eave line is decorated with rounded barge boards.

The front extension was constructed in 1973.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1921 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Stephen's AME Church is significant to Howard County historically, architecturally and in the field of religion. It was established in 1874. The first building was of frame, facing east, located just west of the present building.

It consists of a half acre of land-more or less and was given to Nicholas Jackson, Wilson H. Jackson, and John Carter, Trustees by William H. Jackson and Susan A. Jackson on September 19, 1874.

William H. Jackson was an exslave who fought on the Union side during the Civil War. He had a farm at this location. Mrs, Snell, his granddaughter, is a present member.

Originally the land belonged to the Pierce family who owned a large tract of land in this area. Jessup was once call Pierceland.

The deed to the church is dated September 24, 1900. William Howard Philip Gardner, Daniel Turner, George Brown and Plummer Daily acquired 2 acres of land more or less to be used as a cemetary for the congregation. The Church has 2 cornerstones.

1. Old Cornerstone Built
April 7, 1874
Newly built
Aug. 7, 1921

2. New Cornerstone St. Stephens AME Church
Built 1921
Re dedicated Sept. 1973
J. E. Dorsey
Pastor

The following are decendants of the original founders of the church who are still active in the congregation and in Howard County: Jackson, Matthews, Rollins, Turner, Blackstow, Howard, Gandner., Sparrow, Nelson, Chambers, Snell (decendants of William Jackson) Raglees.

Ho-235
Dist 1

Architecturally it is representative of the simple gothic county church which dots the Howard County landscape. Additionally it provides an important page in the black history of Howard County Maryland, furnishing many leads to the community.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview with Mr. James Howard, member of St. Stephen's
AME Church.

December 8, 1977.

Interview with and notes by Mrs. John Mason, Jr., member of Howard
County Maryland Historical Trust Committee.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .50 Acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 37

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber 35, folio 243

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

STATE Maryland COUNTY Howard

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist

ORGANIZATION

Office of Planning & Zoning-Comprehensive Planning Section 465-5000 x257

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

3450 Court House Drive

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

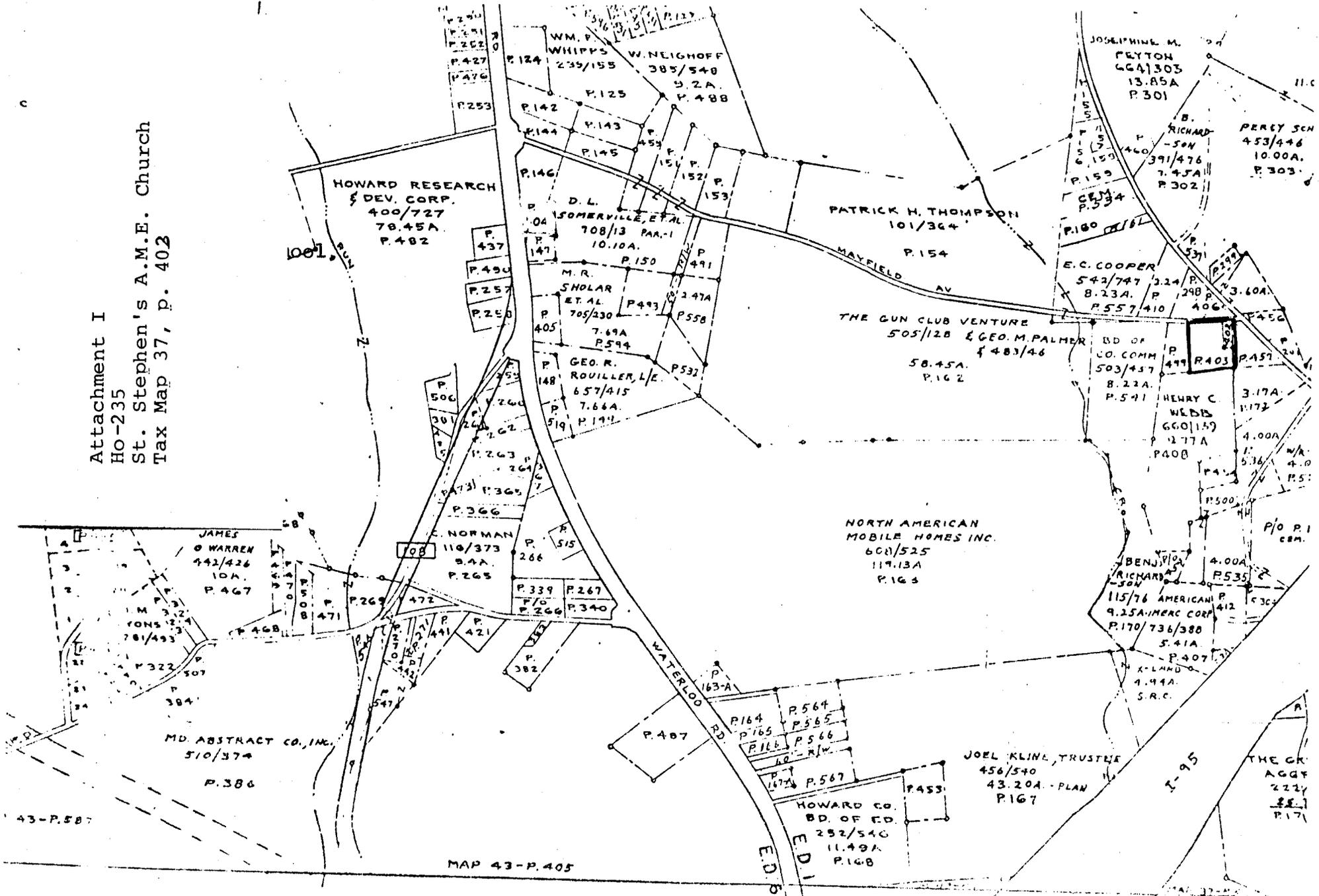
Maryland

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.

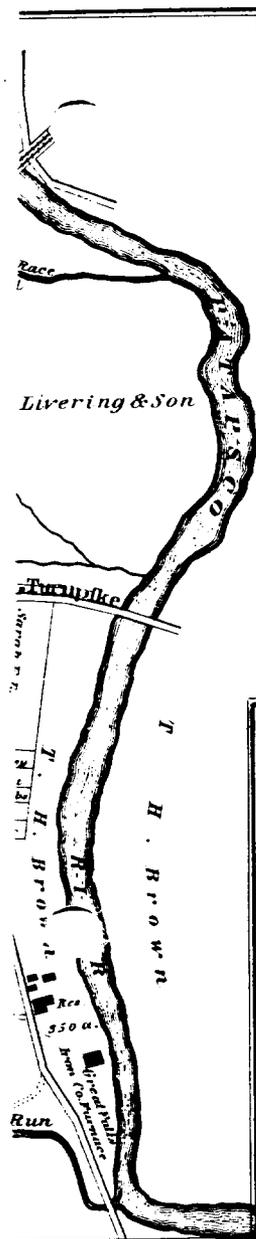
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information
and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringe-
ment of individual property rights.

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

Attachment I
 HO-235
 St. Stephen's A.M.E. Church
 Tax Map 37, p. 402



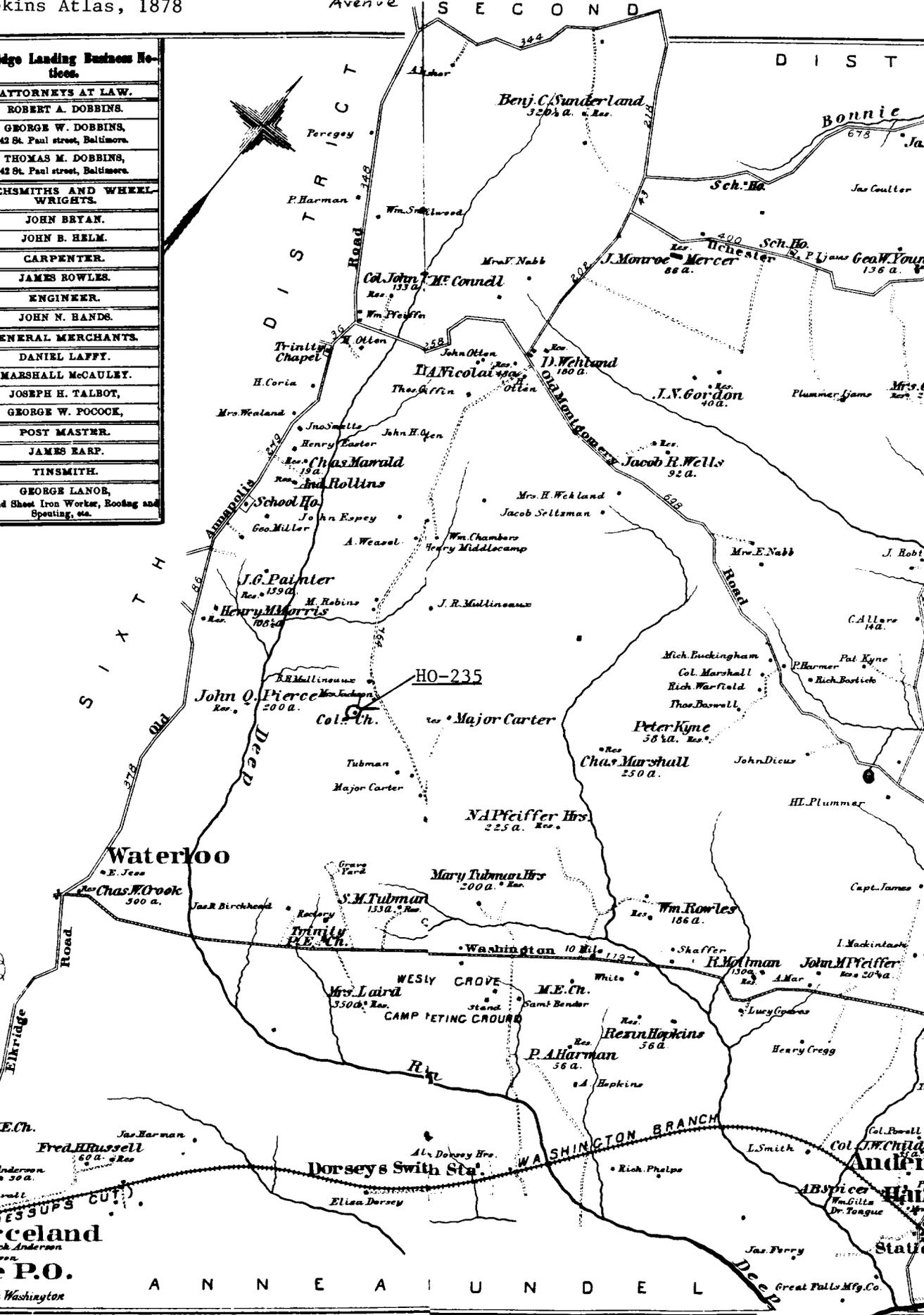
Elkridge Landing Business Notices.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW.
ROBERT A. DOBBINS.
GEORGE W. DOBBINS, 42 St. Paul street, Baltimore.
THOMAS M. DOBBINS, 42 St. Paul street, Baltimore.
BLACKSMITHS AND WHEEL- WRIGHTS.
JOHN BRYAN.
JOHN B. HELM.
CARPENTER.
JAMES ROWLES.
ENGINEER.
JOHN N. HANDS.
GENERAL MERCHANTS.
DANIEL LAPPY.
MARSHALL McCAULEY.
JOSEPH H. TALBOT,
GEORGE W. POCOOCK,
POST MASTER.
JAMES RASP.
TINSMITH.
GEORGE LANOB, Tin and Sheet Iron Worker, Roofing and Spouting, etc.



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1 MI.

Pierceland
dooverville P.O.

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TOPOGRAPHY
OF MARYLAND
BY W. M. BULLOCK CLARK
STATE GEOLOGIST

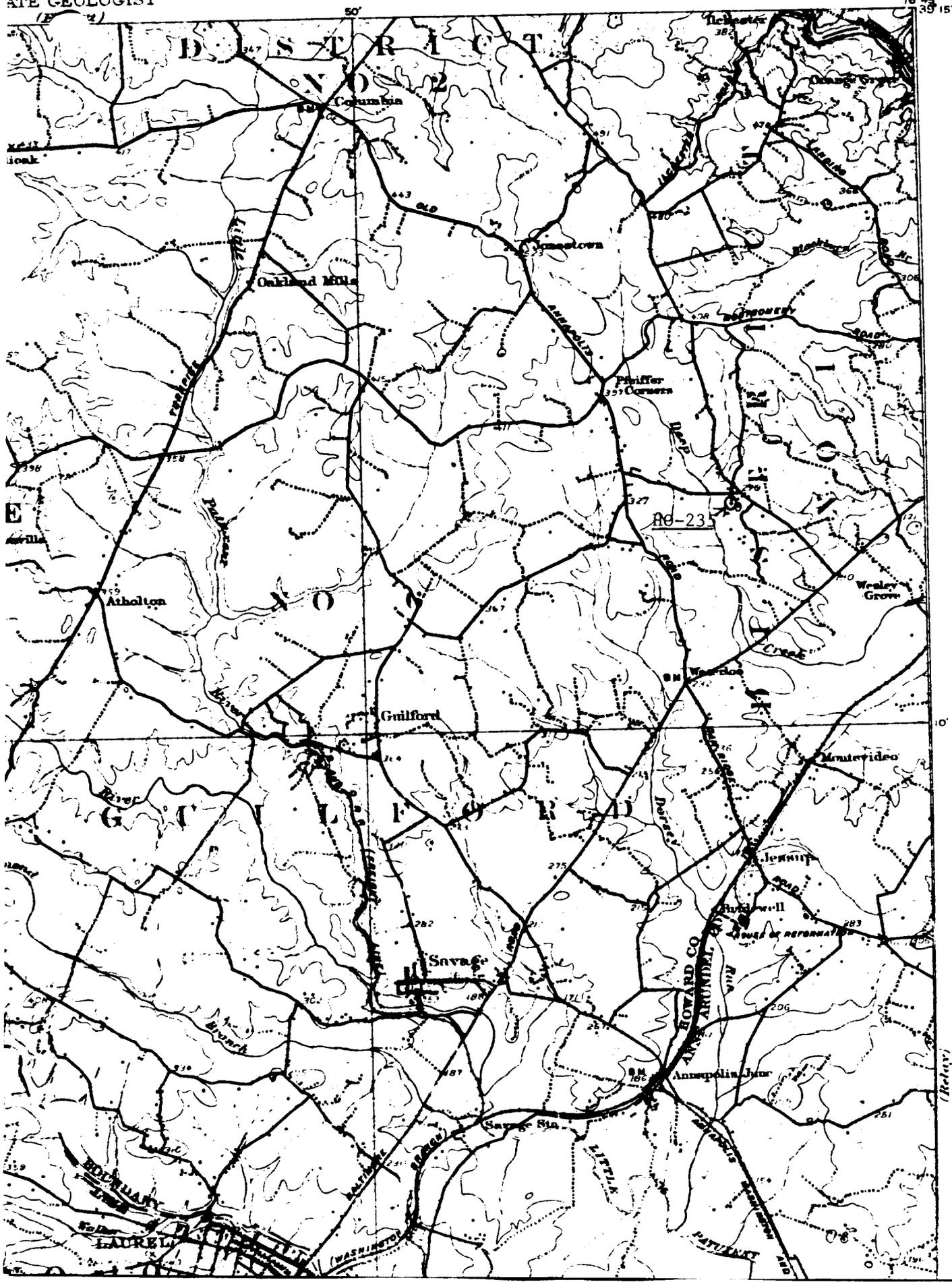
St. Stephen's A.M.E. Church, Mayfield Road, Dorsey
USGS 15' Quad, Laurel, MD, 1907

Avenue

HO-235

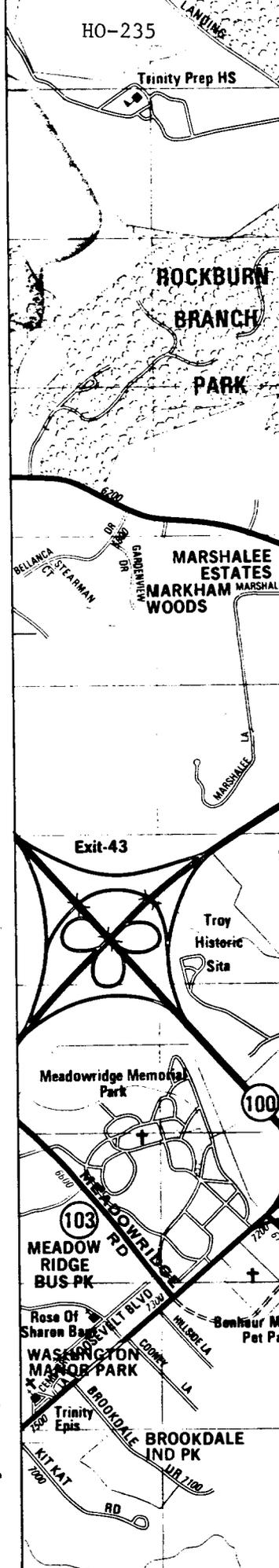
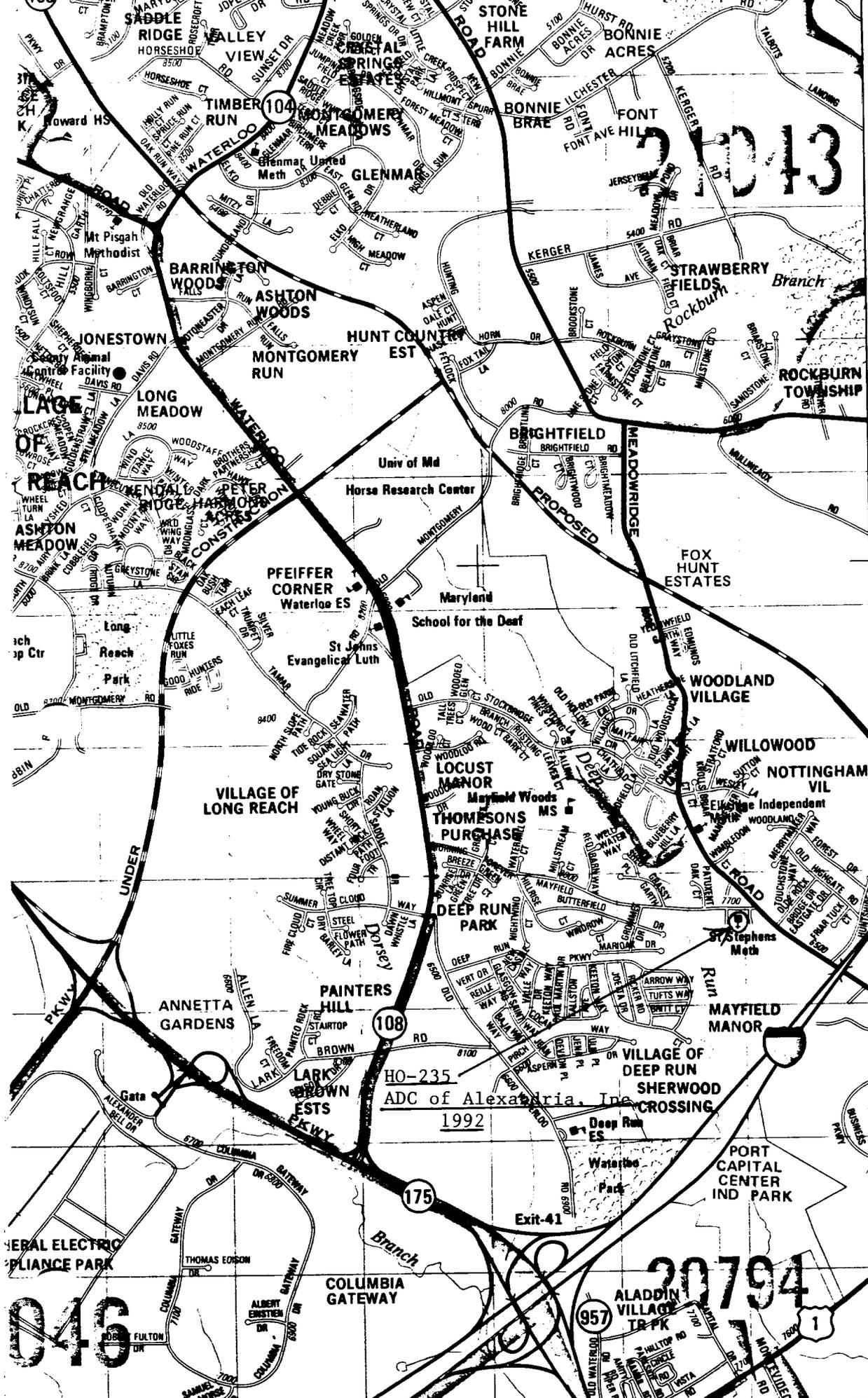
MARYLAND
LAUREL QUADRANGLE

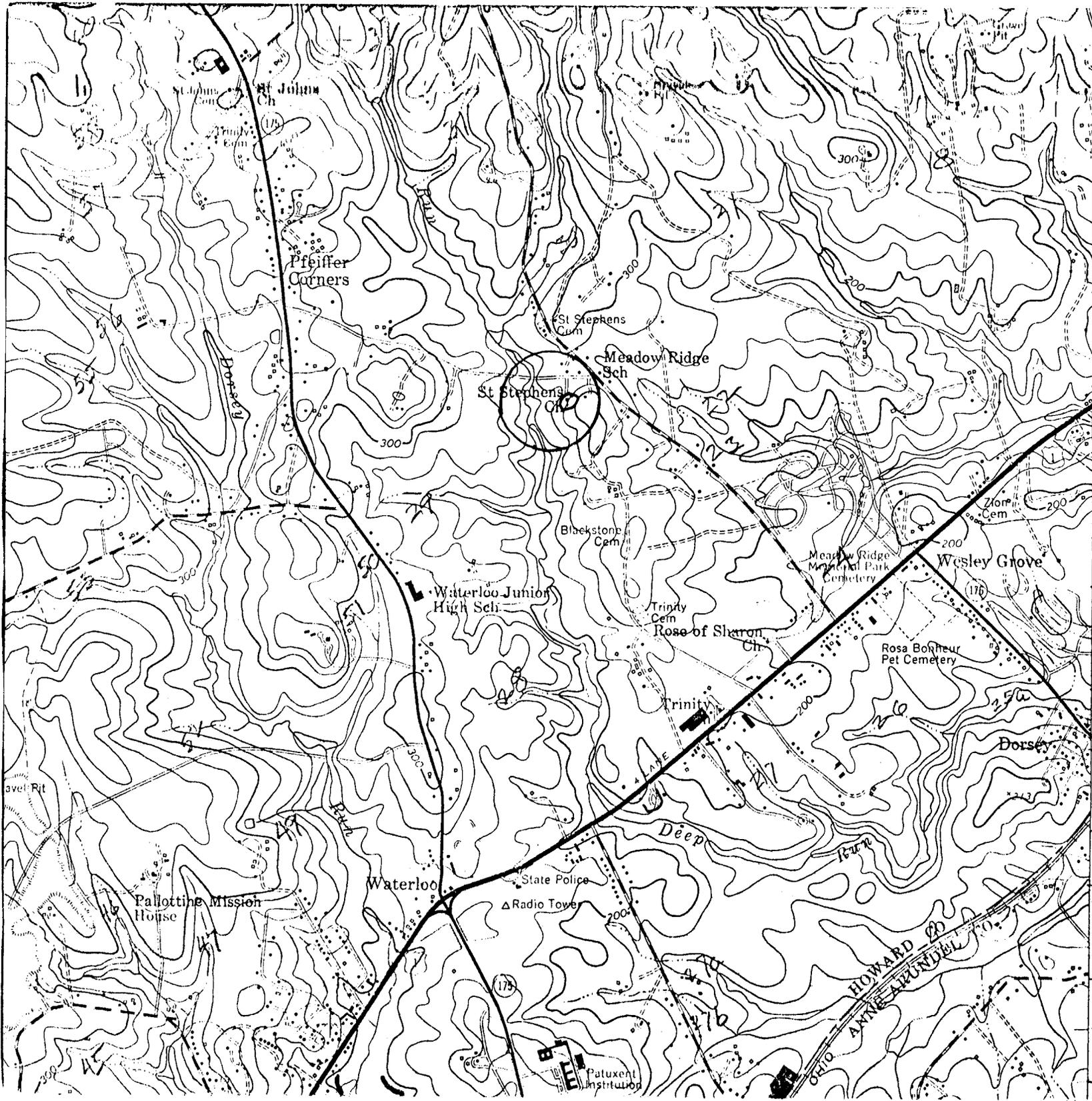
(Baltimore)



HO-235

(Relay)





12401230
 1410120
 15
 115
 1901200
 ELK RIDGE 2.9 MI.
 BALTIMORE 9.4 MI.
 50.5
 45
 27.5
 3901130
 (RELAY)
 56627 NW
 15
 7.5
 3901100
 50.5
 438 45
 37.5
 3901030
 22.5
 15
 7.5
 1029020
 50.5

Attachment 2
 HO-235
 St. Stephen's A.M.E. Church
 U.S. Geological Survey Map
 Savage Quad



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St. Stephens' AME Church
Southwest
C.B. Thompson, A/P
Dec. 1977