HO-395
St. Clement's Hall
Ellicott City
Private

Circa 1875

St. Clement's Hall faces east on a high slope of ground on the west side of Old Columbia Pike. It is basically a square frame, covered with yellow stucco, hipped roof building, three bays wide, three bays deep and two and a half stories high. Fenestration in all end bays on each elevation are identical.

It is in the central bays we find variety but even here themes are repeated such as the repetition on the west elevation of the second floor oriele window on the east elevation which rests on the one story high, open porch, running around more than half of the eastern side of the building. The east oriele window is decorated with a cornice, similar to that of the roof and porch, on which is placed a projecting closed pediment, holding a roman arched attic window. The oriele window on the west is not surmounted by such a pediment but by a tripartite attic window, each component a four light casement, which rests in the west wall above the flat roof of the oriele window. Central entrances appear on each elevation. The cornices of the one story high open porch, the oriele windows repeat the treatment of the building's main cornice which is held by a row of scrolled brackets.

The building is eclectic in character; its lovely cornice and square building profile are reminiscent of the Italianate, while its six-over-one light windows and varied roofed dormers have a suggestion, of the Queen Anne Style. This is only a suggestion for each elevation is treated with a regularity and continuity not evidenced in the Queen Anne.

Noted historically for its association with the prominent Talbott family,it was initially "St. Clement's Hall", an Episcopal Boy's School.

HO-395
Dist. 2
MAGI # 1403955504

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC: St. Clement's Episcopal Boy's School

AND/OR COMMON: Dr. Taylor's House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: 3876 Old Columbia Pike (MD 987)

CITY, TOWN: Ellicott City ___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 6th

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Howard

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
X DISTRICT	___ PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	___ AGRICULTURE	___ MUSEUM
___ 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	X OTHER office

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME: Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Taylor Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER: 3876 Old Columbia Pike

CITY, TOWN: Ellicott City ___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code: Md. 21043

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Tax Map 25, p. 237 Hall of Records

Liber #: 697
Folio #: 748

STREET & NUMBER: Howard County Court House

CITY, TOWN: Ellicott City

STATE: Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE: Howard County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE: 1978 ___ FEDERAL X STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN: 21 State Circle, Annapolis

STATE: Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
X EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
GOOD	RUINS	X ALTERED	MOVED DATE
FAIR	UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Clements faces east on a high hill on the west side of Columbia Pike one and 1/10 miles north of its intersection with Route 103 It is a three bay wide, three bay deep, two and a half story high, hipped roof, frame covered with stucco building set on an ashlar granite block foundation with four wide brick chimneys and gabled roof and hipped roof dormer windows adding to the building profile. A cornice runs around the entire building, adorned with a row of scrolled brackets.

East Elevation: Its east facade holds a central rectangular, cross paneled entrance, flanked by leaden paned side lights and surmounted by a graceful leaden paned segmental arch fanlight. This arrangement is encased in a segmental arched wooden archivolt, decorated with key stone. Above projects an oriel window which rests on the one story high, flat roofed open porch which runs along the entire east elevation and two thirds of the north and south elevations. Seven wide wooden steps, flanked by great square knewel posts and a gracefully curved bannister lead to the open bible and cross paneled entrance door. This balustrade continues along the perimeter of the open porch whose flat roof is supported by sixteen square posts and whose cornice is decorated with a row of dentils.

This oriel window or projective bay holds two double hung, rectangular, four-over-one light windows on its east face and one on its north and south facades. A platform surrounding the oriel window and on level with the bottom lines of the windows has a balustrade along its perimeter. This oriel window is surmounted by a projecting gabled roof closed pediment which holds a leaden paned, roman arch fan light.

The first and second floor windows in the north and south bays are similar to those located in the east and west bays of the north and south elevations. A gabled roof dormer window, similar to those on the south elevation, rests on each side of the projecting pediment.

South Elevation: Its south elevation appears to have been altered for there are outlines around the rectangular central entrance, now unadorned, which indicate there may have been more elaborate entrance decoration here at one time. First floor double windows, each tall, rectangular, double-hung component holding six-over-one lights and separated and flanked by flat pilasters, surmounted by a single flat wooden lintel and holding projecting wooden sills rest in the east and west bays. Similar single, second floor, rectangular, double-hung windows, holding six-over-six lights, lie above, while the central bay of the second floor is taken up by a double window similar to those of the first floor but smaller in scale.

The roof holds a central hipped roof dormer window holding a double window, each component a four light, square casement, separated by a flat pilaster and set into a wooden frame. This is flanked by gabled roof dormer windows with open pediments, holding roman arched, double-hung windows with three gothic arched glass insets, six lights -over-one light. These windows are flanked by flat wooden,

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

pilasters and surmounted by a roman arched woodon lintel decorated with a keystone, which are so unified they might be called an archivolt. A two light basement window rests beneath the first floor window of the west bay.

WEST ELEVATION: This elevation is identical in treatment to the east elevation with its projecting, flat roofed, oriel window in the central bay of the second floor. It, too, is adorned with a wooden cornice, decorated with a row of dentils, but is not surmounted by the projecting closed pediment of the east elevation but by a tripartite window, each component a nine light casement window. Beneath this window, however, lies a shed roofed enclosed porch which extends north and south to the double first floor windows similar to those already described, above which lie second floor windows similar to those described on the end bays of the second floor. Its rectangular four light entrance is flanked by two six-over-six light rectangular windows on the north and one similar one on the south. Five wooden steps lead to the entrance. This porch is supported by brick piles joined with lattice work. A cellar door lies beneath the first floor window in the south bay.

NORTH ELEVATION: The central bay of this elevation is taken up by a semi-octagonally shaped,two story high,bay window which holds a six-six light french door surmounted by a one light transom and flat wooden lintel and decorated with green shutters. Six-over-one light, rectangular, double hung windows rest on each side of the bay window's first floor and four-over-one light similar windows on the second floor. A wooden course runs around the base of these second floor windows and the central two windows which are identical to the others. The first and second floors of the east and west bays are identical to those bays on the south elevation. This is also true of the one story high open porch which runs along two-thirds of this elevation.

INTERIOR: The downstairs interior once held a hall in a cruciform plan which radiated out to each of the central entrances on each elevation. The north and south axis of this hall have been created into additional rooms; that on the south a modern kitchen, that on the north, one of three rooms used as office space. The center of the hall and its segmentally arched openings, decorated with key stones, now form a kind of pendentive with a dome effect, which is very pleasing. The south arch has been blocked in and paneled very artistically as well as the north arch which holds a rectangular door.

West of the house is a two story high, gabled roof (running north-south), three bay wide, two bay deep, carriage house with square, central, tent roofed cupola decorated with roman arched vents on each of its four sides. A central interjecting gabled roof dormer lies flush with its east wall and holds a similar roman arched vent. The building is further characterized by wide rectangular sliding barn doors and second floor, rectangular vents. A tent roofed frame spring house lies on the southwest corner of the house.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	X ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	X EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__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 circa 1875 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Clements Hall is significant historically, architecturally and in the field of education.

Historically it stands on a tract of land which was acquired by Avery and Evelyn Shepherd in the following three transactions: 1) a piece of ground acquired from A.J. Isaac on May 19, 1866 (25-284) 2) another piece of land acquired from William A. Scott on September 16, 1869 (29-415) and 3) a final piece of land acquired from Andrew A. Kraft on Feb. 1, 1870 (30-75). These together comprised some 18 acres of land upon which was built a rather simple square frame structure with no ornamentation, which was used as a boy's Episcopal School, called "St. Clement's Hall".

On November 1, 1875, J. Avery Shepherd and his wife Evelyn sold the property and its building for $20,000 to Charles A. Spencer (35-578). A Circuit Court case between James Mackubin and Charles A. Spenser in August, 1877 resulted in William A. Peter becoming a trustee for the property and selling it to James Mackubin, who two years later sold it to William A. Hammond for $6,000 (41-297).

William A. Hammond of Baltimore City held the property until September 19, 1892, when he bequeathed all his estate to Alice Hammond and Rufus Gill. (179-359). Not quite one year later on March 29, 1893, they sold the property to Edward A. Talbott of Talbott Lumber Company, a notable business firm of Howard County. The Talbott family owned the house up to the early twentieth century. Sallie E. Talbott acquired the property March 6, 1915 (98-478). Dr. Robert B. and Mary J. Taylor are the present owners of this exceptionally fine landmark which has grown more beautiful through the years.

Grown more beautiful through the years - this can truly be said of "St. Clement's Hall", which according to Dr. Taylor, was a very simple, unadorned, square frame box from early photographs in the Maryland Historical Society.

It is believed that the architectural features we see today were accomplished in 1922. These include covering the frame house with stucco and adding the beautiful wooden cornice, which runs around the entire perimeter of the building and is decorated by a row of scrolled brackets.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

The building is electic in character; its lovely cornice and square building profile are reminiscent of the Italianate, while its six-over-one windows and varied roofed dormer windows have a suggestion of the Queen Anne style. This is only a suggestion for each elevation is treated with a regularity and continuity which is not evidenced in the Queen Anne style. Fenestration in all end bays on each elevation is identical. The segmental arched leaden pane fan light over the open bible and cross paneled door is unusually graceful and elaborately encased within a wooden archivolt with key stone.

It is in the central bays we find variety but even here themes are repeated, such as the repetition on the west elevation of the second floor oriel window on the east elevation which rests on the one story high, open porch, running around more than half of the eastern side of the building, surmounted by a projecting closed pediment holding a roman arched attic window.

This oriele window on the west elevation of the house is not surmounted by a projecting closed pediment but by a tripartite attic window, each component a fourlight casement, resting in the west wall above the flat roof of the oriel window.

Cornices of the oriele windows and open, flat roofed, one story porch repeat the theme of the building's main cornice.

There is a gracefulness, continuity and repetition of stylistic elements which results in an unusual basic architectural integrity and harmony, and provides Howard County with one of its most outstanding architectural landmarks.

In the field of education it was short lived. Its influence can only be known by those whoknew the boys attending the school. It was Howard County's attempt to found an Episcopal Boy's School and to follow the fine Angelican traditions in the field of education, so notable in other geographic areas.

It operated as such for only a few years,but is noteworthy as an attempt by Episcopalians in the Howard County area to found a religious school. Four saints by the name of Clement were found in researching St. Clement, after whom the school was initially named. Interestingly enough, the most prominent saint was Pope Clement I who followed third after Peter and wsa believed to be the same Clement mentioned by Paul. He is renowned for a letter written from the church at Rome to the Corinthians which emphasizes the need to be humble minded, desiring to be subject rather than to govern and to give, rather than to receive; certainly helpful precepts for the teachers to inculcate in unruly choir boys.

In conclusion, St. Clement's Hall is significant historically, architecturally, and in the field of education and as such should be considered for inclusion to the National Register and the State Critical Areas Program as perhaps an extension of the present Ellicott City Historic District.

HO-395
Dist. 2

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview with Mr. Taylor on April 28, 1978.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 12.000 Acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 25, parcel 237

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records Liber 697, Folio 748

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

DATE

TELEPHONE
465-5000 x257

STREET & NUMBER
3450 Court House Drive

CITY OR TOWN
Ellicott City

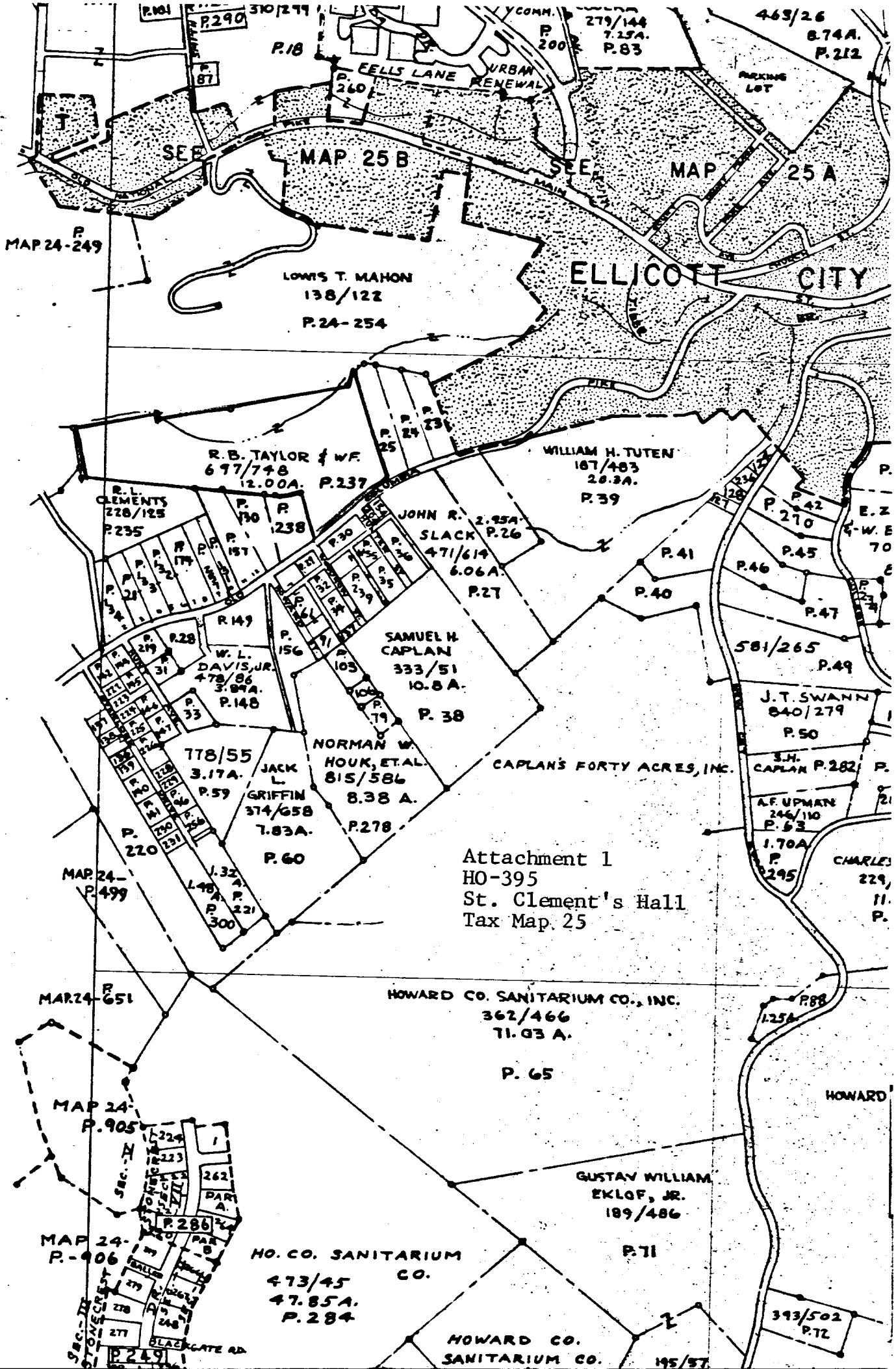
STATE
Maryland

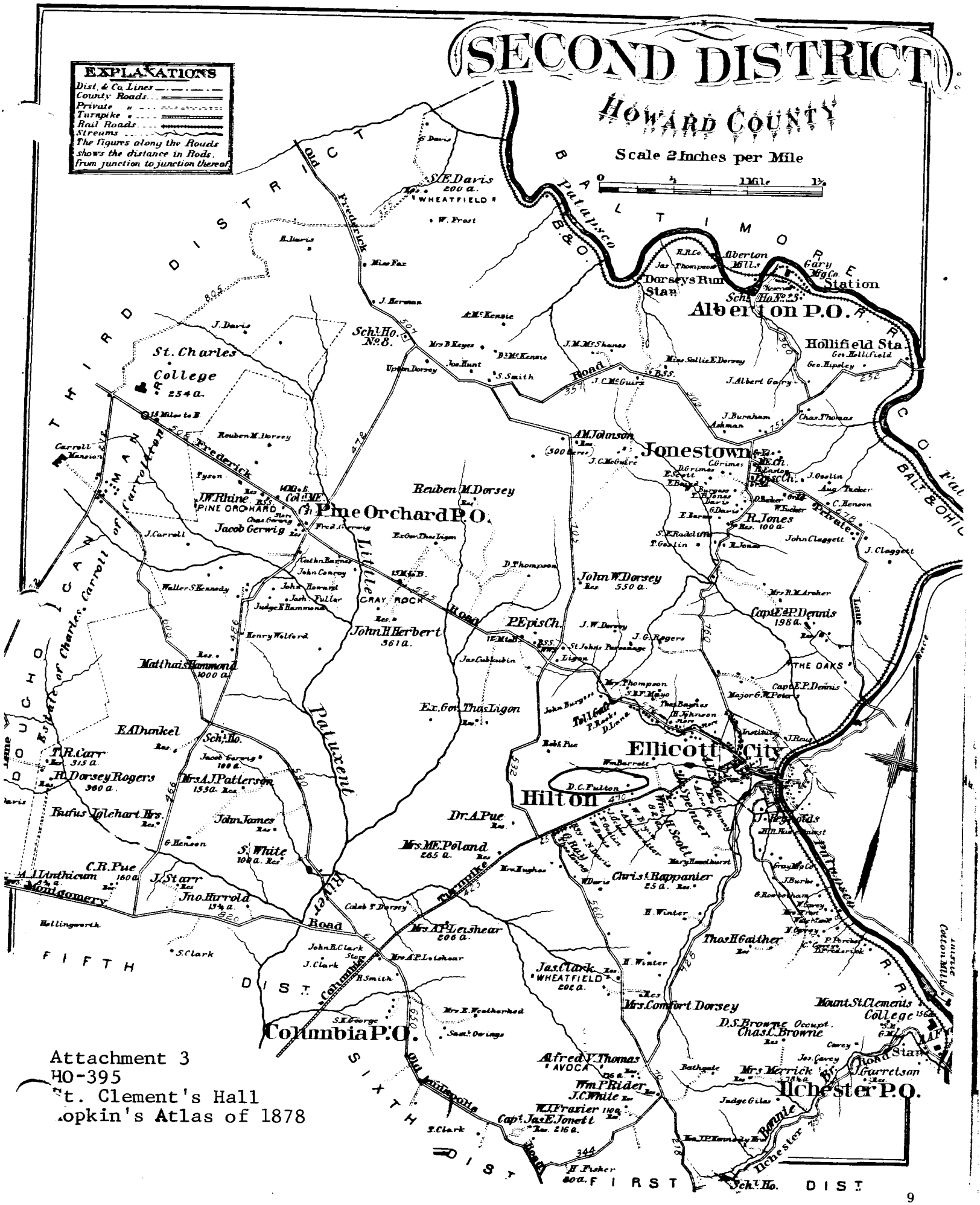
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

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

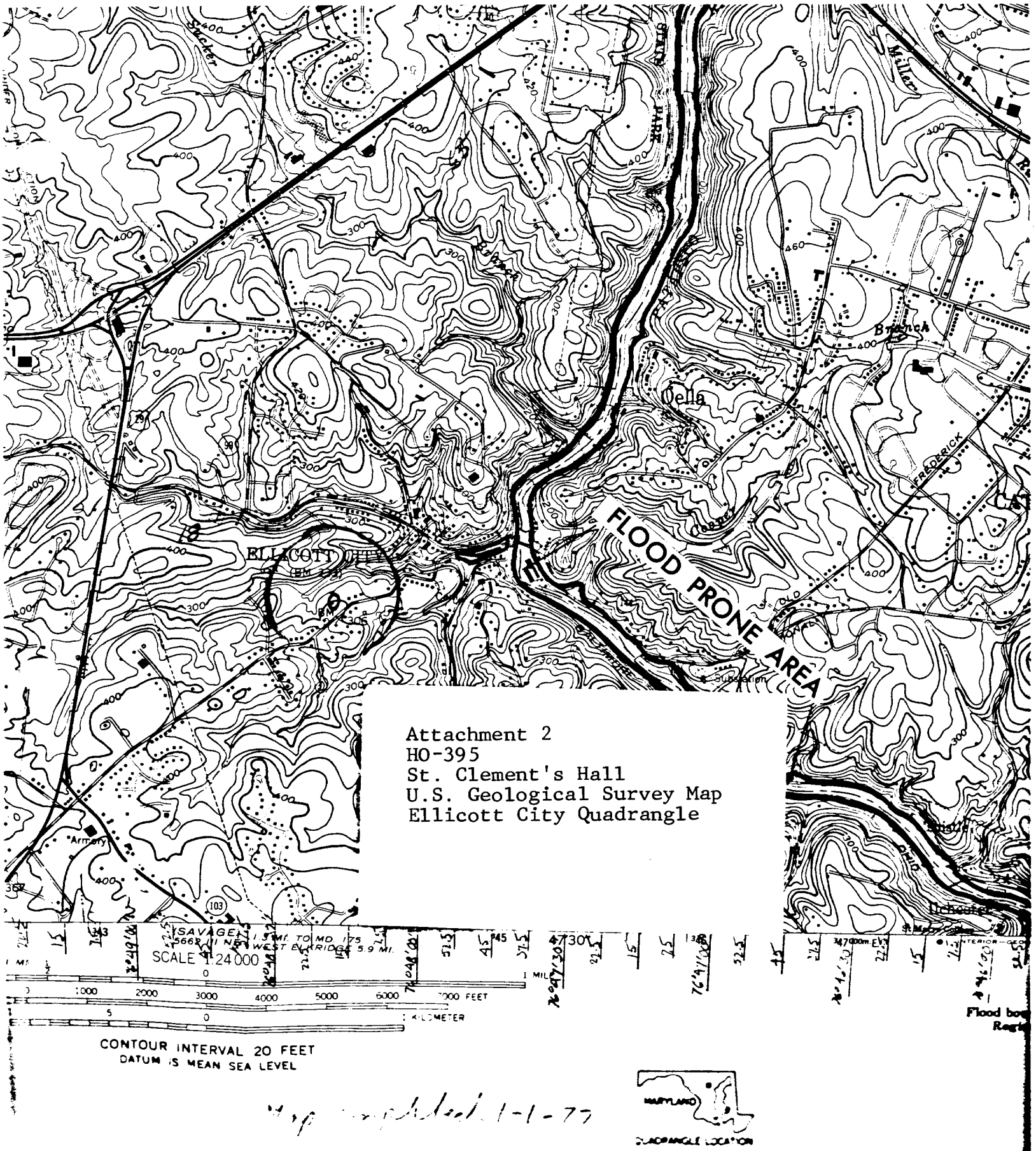
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

PS-1108


24
P.290
310/299
P.18
P.87
P.260
P.200
279/144
7.25A.
P.83
463/26
8.74A.
P.212
PARKING LOT
BELLS LANE URBAN RENEWAL
SEE MAP 25B
SEE MAP 25A
MAIN ST.
OLD ELLICOTT
MAP 24-249
LOWIS T. MAHON
138/122
P.24-254
ELLICOTT CITY
R.B. TAYLOR & W.F.
697/748
12.00A.
P.237
R.L. CLEMENTS
228/125
P.235
P.238
P.157
P.149
P.156
P.28
W.L. DAVIS, JR.
478/86
3.94A.
P.148
JOHN R. SLACK
471/614
6.06A.
P.27
2.25A.
P.26
WILLIAM H. TUTEN
187/483
28.3A.
P.39
P.41
P.40
P.46
P.45
P.47
P.42
P.270
SAMUEL H. CAPLAN
333/51
10.8A.
P.38
581/265
P.49
J.T. SWANN
840/279
P.50
S.H. CAPLAN
P.282
A.F. UPMAN
246/110
P.53
1.70A.
P.295
CAPLAN'S FORTY ACRES, INC.
778/55
3.17A.
P.59
JACK L. GRIFFIN
374/658
7.83A.
P.60
NORMAN W. HOUK, ET.AL.
815/586
8.38A.
P.278
P.220
MAP 24-P.499
Attachment 1
HO-395
St. Clement's Hall
Tax Map 25
MAP 24-651
HOWARD CO. SANITARIUM CO., INC.
362/466
71.03 A.
P.65
P.88
1.25A.
HOWARD
MAP 24-P.905
SEC. III
262
PART A.
P.286
PART B
MAP 24-P.-906
HO. CO. SANITARIUM CO.
473/45
47.85A.
P.284
GUSTAV WILLIAM EKLOF, JR.
189/486
P.71
393/502
P.72
HOWARD CO. SANITARIUM CO.
195/57
P.249
BLACKGATE RD.



Attachment 3
HO-395
St. Clement's Hall
Hopkin's Atlas of 1878



Attachment 2
HO-395
St. Clement's Hall
U.S. Geological Survey Map
Ellicott City Quadrangle

Map updated 1-1-77

1972

HO-395
ST. CLEMENTS'
EAST
CLEORA THOMPSON, AIP
APRIL-1978