

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historical Sites Inventory Form**

Survey No. PG #68-13-2

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (Indicate preferred name)

historic Prince George's Bank Building

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 3800 34th Street

city, town Mount Rainier

vicinity of

congressional district 4

state MD

county P.G.

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 checked="" 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	both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Clarence and Mary Crutchfield

street & number 14632 Chesterfield Road

telephone no.

city, town Rockville

state MD

zip code 20853

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Administration Bldg. liber 5671

street & number 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive

folio 171

city, town Upper Marlboro

state MD

zip code 20772

6. Representation in Existing

title Prince George's County Historic Sites and District Plan

date 1992

federal state county local

depository for survey records Planning and Preservation Section, M-NCPPC

City, town Upper Marlboro

state MD

7. Description

Survey No. PG #68-13-2

Condition		Check One		Check One	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	Date of move _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed				

Prepare both a summary and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today

Description

The Prince George's Bank Building is a two-story brick, multi-use commercial building. The building has three facades set at obtuse angles to one another. Its irregular plan was designed to fit its corner location, and it faces the principal intersection of the Mount Rainier community. The building is built of brick laid in Flemish bond and painted white, highlighted by five regularly spaced belt courses; each belt course consists of two recessed courses of brick headers. The cornice of each of the three primary elevations is detailed with corbelled bricks giving the appearance of dentils, above which a molded brick parapet conceals a flat roof covered with slate shingles. The most distinguishing feature of the building is its ten-sided cupola/rotunda; this cupola is lighted by ten round-arch eight-pane windows, and is surmounted by a ten-plane pyramidal roof covered with synthetic shingles.

The principal (southeast) facade fronts on the intersection of Rhode Island Avenue and 34th Street, while the two secondary facades front on 34th Street to the east and on Perry Street to the south. The principal entrance is in the central southeast facade through a projecting portico. The double door of wood and glass is surmounted by a large round arch detailed by a dentillated wood molding and keystone. This round-arched space was originally a large fanlight filled with sectioned glass, and the portico was illuminated by a hanging lantern. The entrance is flanked by Tuscan-style columns painted gray. On each side of the centered portico is a narrow one-over-one double-hung-sash window. (Originally, a large rectangular bank clock with the legend *Prince George's Bank* projected from the second-story southeast corner of the building.)

To the east, in the one-bay facade which fronts on 34th Street, a door leads to second-story offices; the door is flanked on each side by a full-height plain glass panel. Above the east door is a three-part double-hung-sash window. An early photograph indicates that there was a three-part window in both the first and second stories. The above-described door has replaced that original first-story window.

The south facade is lighted by two similar three-part windows on each of the two stories. The early photograph indicates that the westernmost window on the first story was originally of plate glass and undivided, and that there was an entrance immediately north of this window. The door was removed and the brickwork was very carefully filled in before 1940. All of the windows have modern aluminum-framed exterior storm windows.

The principal southeast entrance leads into a irregular shaped foyer, from which one turns left (south) into the principal office space. The smaller space to the right (east), which can also be accessed by the east exterior door, leads to an enclosed staircase which rises toward the west to the second-story spaces. The principal and largest second-story space is centered beneath the cupola/rotunda and lighted not only by a set of three-part windows on each side, but also by the ten round-arch windows of the rotunda. The domed ceiling is deeply pierced by ten wedge-shaped openings for these ten windows, making a very impressive space. The remainder of the second story is taken up by three smaller spaces.

The building occupies one of the principal corners of the community of Mount Rainier, facing southeast toward the new roundabout and municipal building.

8. Significance

Survey No. PG 68-13-2

Period	Areas of Significance- check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archaeology-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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
2000		invention		
Specific Dates 1922		Builder/Architect: Frederick E. Hill		
check: Applicable Criteria	A	B	C	D
and/or				
Applicable Exception	A	B	C	D
Level of Significance	national	state	local	

The Prince George's Bank Building, located at the intersection of 34th Street, Rhode Island Avenue and Perry Street, is significant for both the architectural and historical contribution it makes to the National Register Historic District of Mount Rainier, particularly as an integral part of the community's downtown commercial area. This prominently sited building is also significant as the only building in the commercial area, other than several nearby churches, known to have been designed by a professional architect. It is also important to the history of local banking as the first branch of the Prince George's Bank.

Prince George's Bank was founded in Hyattsville by a group of local businessmen in 1915, and opened in a frame building on Johnson (now Farragut) Street. By 1921, the bank was successful enough to consider expansion, and the bank's president, J. Enos Ray, Jr., proposed establishment of a branch in the nearby community of Mount Rainier. One of the bank Directors, Perry Boswell, was to take over operation of the new Mount Rainier branch. Property for the branch bank was purchased in March 1922 from Edgar H. and Helen L. BonDurant for \$15,000.¹ This site was prominently located at the corner where 34th Street intersected the line of the Washington and Suburban Streetcar line, the center of Mount Rainier's commercial area. The bank engaged architect Frederick E. Hill to design their new branch bank.

Architect Frederick Elmer Hill (1860-1929) was born in Minnesota and studied architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He began his architectural career in New York City, but moved his practice to Kansas City, Missouri, in 1885. He designed churches and residences there, and was the designer of the New York Life Building, the tallest building in Kansas City at the time of its completion in 1888.² Hill was best known for his design of Kansas City's Convention Hall, which opened in February 1899 with John Philip Sousa's band as the main attraction. The Convention Hall became even better known when it was selected to be the site of the Democratic National Convention, to be held 4 July 1900.

¹ Prince George's County Deed #178:426

² Kansas City, Missouri, Public Library, Special Collections, Vertical File on Frederick E. Hill.

It became more famous still when, on 4 April 1900, exactly three months before the scheduled convention, it was totally destroyed by fire. Architect Hill was called in to effect the redesign and reconstruction, which he accomplished at a cost of \$500,000. The Democratic National Convention opened in the new fireproof Convention Hall, exactly on schedule, and the Convention Hall came to be known as Kansas City's "90 day wonder."³

In 1919, Frederick Hill retired from the practice of architecture, and took a position in Washington, D.C., with the government Housing Corporation, so he was in the Washington area when Prince George's Bank president J. Enos Ray was looking for architectural designs for the new Mount Rainier branch. At that time, Hill opened an architectural office in Washington (at 734 15th Street, N.W.) and began designs for the new bank.⁴ Hill died in Washington, D.C., in April 1929.⁵

The Prince George's Bank building, an excellent example of neo-classical inspired commercial architecture, was completed by contractor F. H. Karn at a cost of \$15,000. It opened 9 September 1922 with stories in the principal newspapers of the District of Columbia. The following story appeared in *The Washington Evening Star* (9 September 1922): "The Officers and Directors were on hand early to welcome stockholders and visitors, and escorted them on a tour of inspection. The Mount Rainier branch of the Prince George's Bank is located at 34th and Newton Streets [now Perry Street], a site most convenient to residents of Mount Rainier and Brentwood alike and in close touch to persons living along the car line from Washington to Laurel."⁶

The success of the Prince George's Bank continued, and the Directors soon began plans for replacing the old frame building in Hyattsville. A lot was purchased at the corner of Maryland Avenue and Marion Street (now Baltimore Avenue and Hamilton Street), and the new concrete and stone building opened on 21 August 1926; it still stands at Baltimore Avenue (Historic Resource #68-41-2).⁷ The Prince George's Bank continued to grow, and its success was such that, immediately after the Crash of 29 October 1929, it was able to take over and buy the failing First National Bank of Mount Rainier, which had been one of its few competitors. On 7 November 1929, all of the belongings of the First National

³ *Convention Hall Collection (KC269)*, Western Historical Manuscript Collection - Kansas City. (Convention Hall was demolished in 1936/37 to make way for a parking lot for the new Municipal Auditorium.)

⁴ *Ibid*: Polk's *Directory of the City of Washington*, 1922. Although it is not known how Hill was selected for the project, it is likely that bank president J. Enos Ray had attended the 1900 convention in the rebuilt Convention Hall in Kansas City, and would have been informed about that building's fame. Ray is known to have been a delegate to the Maryland State Democratic Convention in 1900, and to have served as an elector at later Democratic National Conventions. He remained very active in Democratic politics, serving in the Maryland House of Delegates for several sessions, and as its Speaker in 1908.

⁵ Obituary in *Technical Review*, January 1930, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

⁶ *The Washington Evening Star*, 9 September 1922, page 24; *The Washington Post*, 10 September 1922, page 3.

⁷ The *Washington Daily News* of 21 August 1926 called the new Hyattsville building of the Prince George's Bank "one of the finest banking homes in rural Maryland" and went on to say that it was a "classical structure of Bedford stone" and had a "portico with two Ionic columns, between which bronze doors lead into a marble vestibule. The banking room is of colonial type with a gallery in the rear and a modern vault in the center. The decorative scheme is ivory and white, with fixtures of green and white marble."

Bank were carried across the street to the branch of the Prince George's Bank in Mount Rainier, thus preserving the savings of many local patrons.⁸

In April 1930, Prince George's Bank merged with the First National Bank of Hyattsville to become the Prince George's Bank and Trust, with J. Enos Ray still serving as president, the only bank between Upper Marlboro and Laurel.⁹

The Prince George's Bank and its successor, the Suburban Trust Company, continued to operate from the building in Mount Rainier until 1949 when a new and larger building was constructed at 3716 Rhode Island Avenue. The 1922 building in Mount Rainier was purchased by bank director Perry Boswell, who located his real estate and insurance business there until his death in 1953. The bank building remained in the ownership of the Boswell family for another two decades, and since 1983 has been owned by Clarence and Mary Crutchfield who operate an insurance business there.¹⁰ It is currently being converted into a center of the Latin American Folk Institute.

The Prince George's Bank building retains much of its early character and detail. There have been several changes over time, including the closing of the small door on the south, the opening of a door on the east facade, the painting (white) of the natural brick walls, and the filling in of the entrance fanlight. But the principal features of the building, the classical portico and the decagonal rotunda, remain essentially intact. The Prince George's Bank Building is very important in the history of local commerce and banking, and a significant element in the development of the community of Mount Rainier. It is a fine example of a neo-classical commercial building, and one of few in the community known to have been designed by a prominent architect. It is a very noticeable and unique landmark in the historic community of Mount Rainier.

⁸ Dooly, William G., Jr., *Fifty Years of Suburban Banking: a History of the Suburban Trust Company, 1915-1965*, 1965.

⁹ Dooly, *ibid.* J. Enos Ray, Jr., served as president until his death in September 1934.

¹⁰ See Chain of Title.

9. Major Bibliographical Sources

Survey No. PG #68-13-2

See notes, Item 8

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property: 0.0392 acre

Quadrangle name: Washington East

Quadrangle scale: 1:24.00

A				B				
	Zone	Easting		Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D				
E				F				
G				H				

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name title	Susan G. Pearl, Research/Architectural Historian; Howard Berger, Architectural Historian		
organization	Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission	date	November 2001
street & number	c/o M-NCPPC, 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive	telephone	(301) 952-3521
city or town	Upper Marlboro	state	MD 20772

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
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023

Chain of Title
3800-3800A 34th Street
PG #68-13-2

5671:171
23 March 1983
Deed
Erwin Peter Reed to Clarence and Mary Cruthfield. Grantor conveys parts of Lots 1, 2 and 27 in Block 7, Roger's Second Addition to Mt. Rainier. Plat recorded BDS1:48. Same obtained from Francis A. Borelli and Salvatore A. Daniello, 11 February 1977, 4726:377.

4726:377
11 February 1977
Deed
Francis A. Borelli and Salvatore A. Daniello to Erwin Peter Reed. Grantors convey parts of Lots 1, 2 and 27 in Block 7. Same obtained from The Perry Boswell Company, 24 January 1973, 4179:767.

4179:767
24 January 1973
Deed
The Perry Boswell Company to Francis A. Borelli and Salvatore A. Daniello. Grantor conveys part of Lots 1, 2 and 27 in Block 7. Same obtained from Perry Boswell, Inc., 22 April 1955, 1854:577.

1854:577
22 April 1955
Deed
Perry Boswell, Inc. to The Perry Boswell Company. Grantor conveys part of Lots 1, 2 and 27 in Block 7. Same obtained from Prince George's Bank and Trust Company (successor to Prince George's Bank), 15 July 1949, 1146:256.

1146:256
15 July 1949
Deed
Prince George's Bank and Trust Company to Perry Boswell, Inc. Grantor conveys part of Lots 1, 2 and 27 in Block 7. Same obtained from E. H. and H. L. BonDurant, 6 March 1922, 178:426.

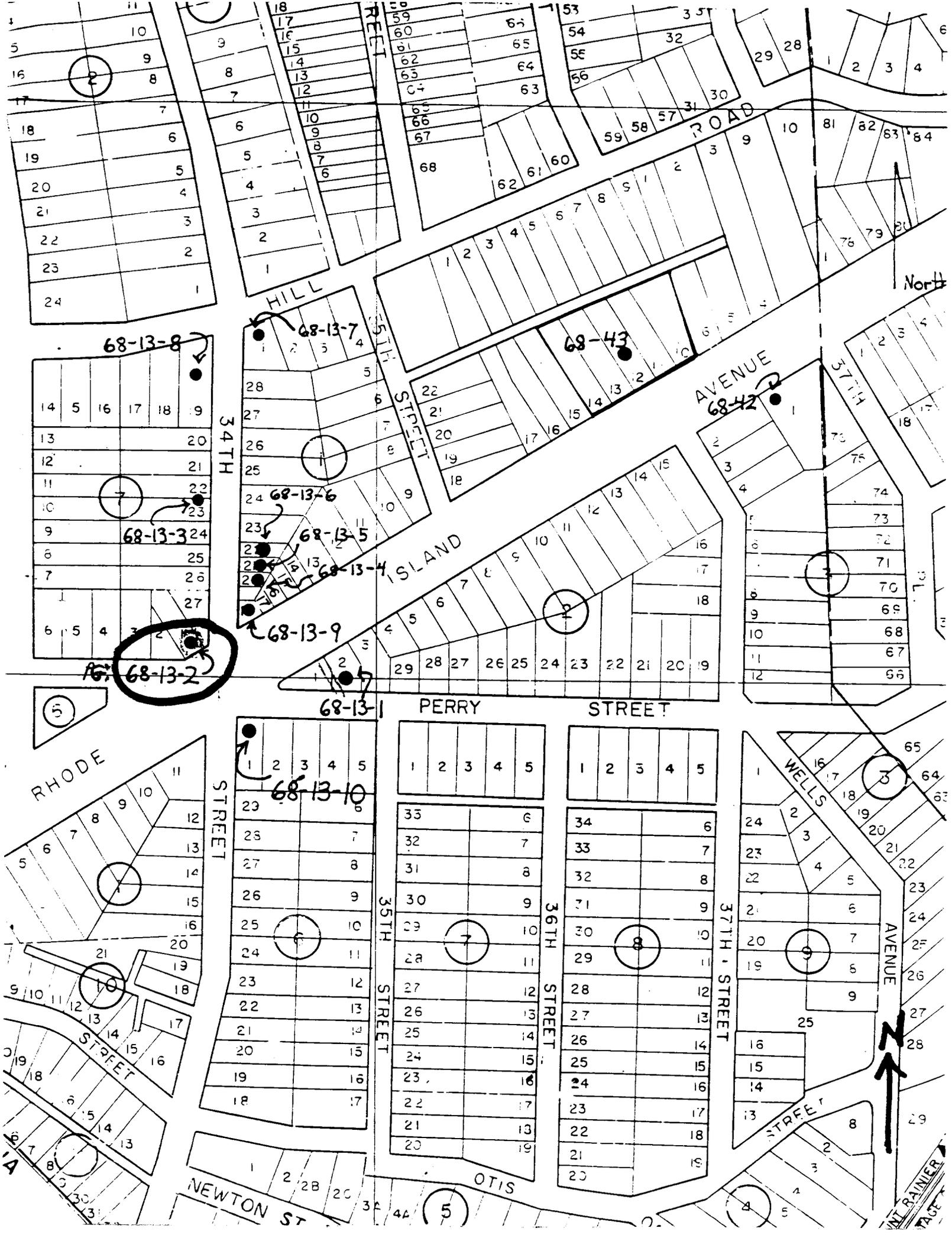
178:426
6 March 1922
Deed
Edgar H. and Helen L. BonDurant to Prince George's Bank. Grantors convey all of Lots 1, 2 and 27 in Block 7. Lots 1 and 2 obtained from William C. and Rachel R. Bengel, 10:365. Lot 27 possibly obtained from Katherine L. Spalding. Deed not found.

10:365
19 November 1902
Deed
William C. and Rachel R. Bengel to Edgar H. and Helen L. BonDurant. Grantors convey Lots 1 and 2 in Block 7. Lot 1 obtained from American Security and Trust Company, 17 November 1902, 11:165. Lot 2 obtained from same, 29 March 1902, 8:500.

11:165
17 November 1902
Deed
American Security and Trust Company to William C. and Rachel R. Bengel. Grantor conveys Lot 1 in Block 7.

8:500
29 March 1902
Deed
American Security and Trust Company to William C. and Rachel R. Bengel. Grantor conveys Lot 2 in Block 7.

44:4
29 November 1907
Deed
W. D. Bigelow, E.S. Spalding and J. H. Rogers to Katharine L. Spalding. Grantors convey Lot 27, in Block 7. Conveyed to BonDurants or others by 1922. No deeds found. To clear title, this deed is made.



68-13-8

68-13-7

68-43

68-42

68-13-6

68-13-5

68-13-4

68-13-9

68-13-2

68-13-1

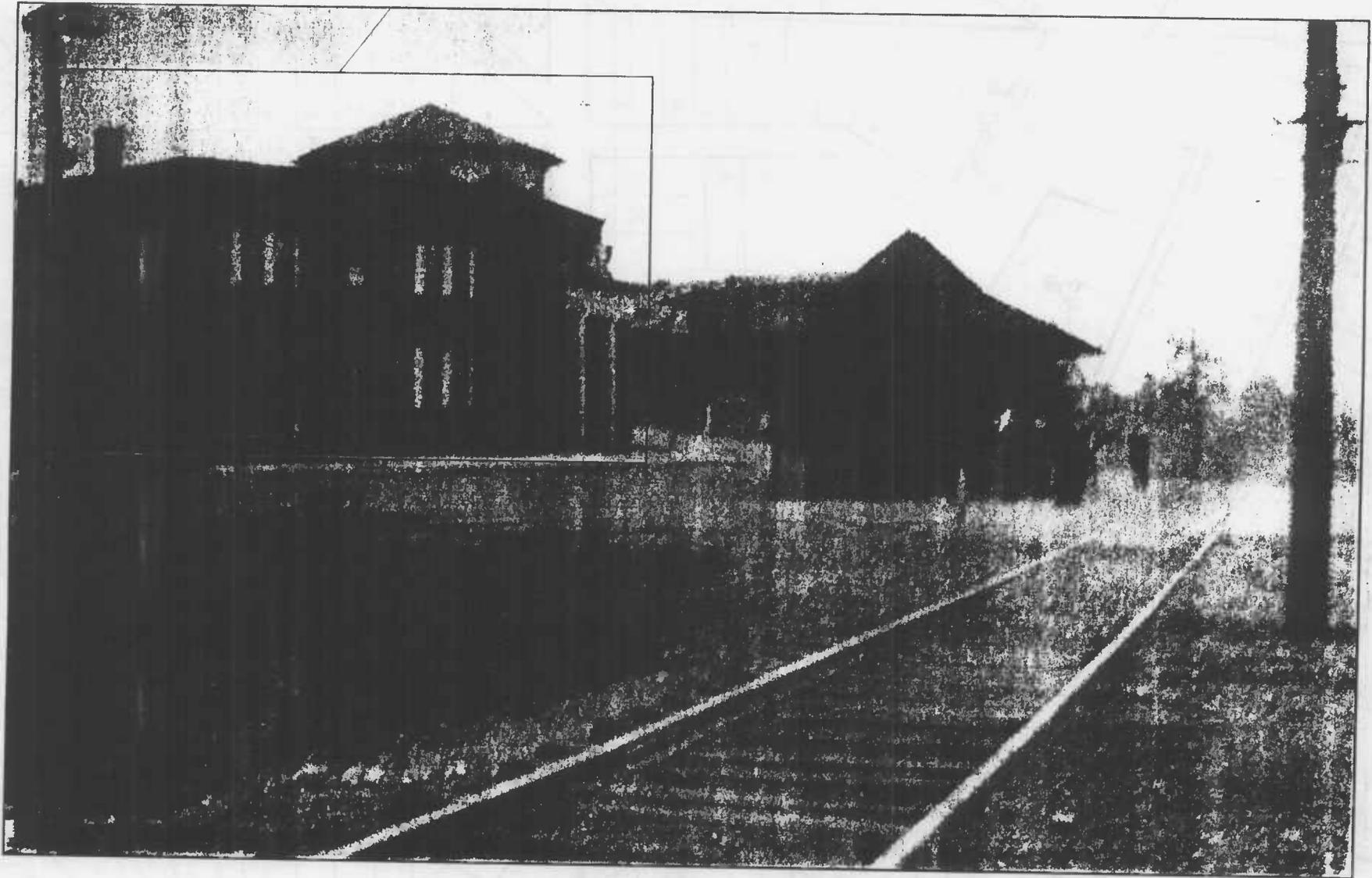
68-13-10

North



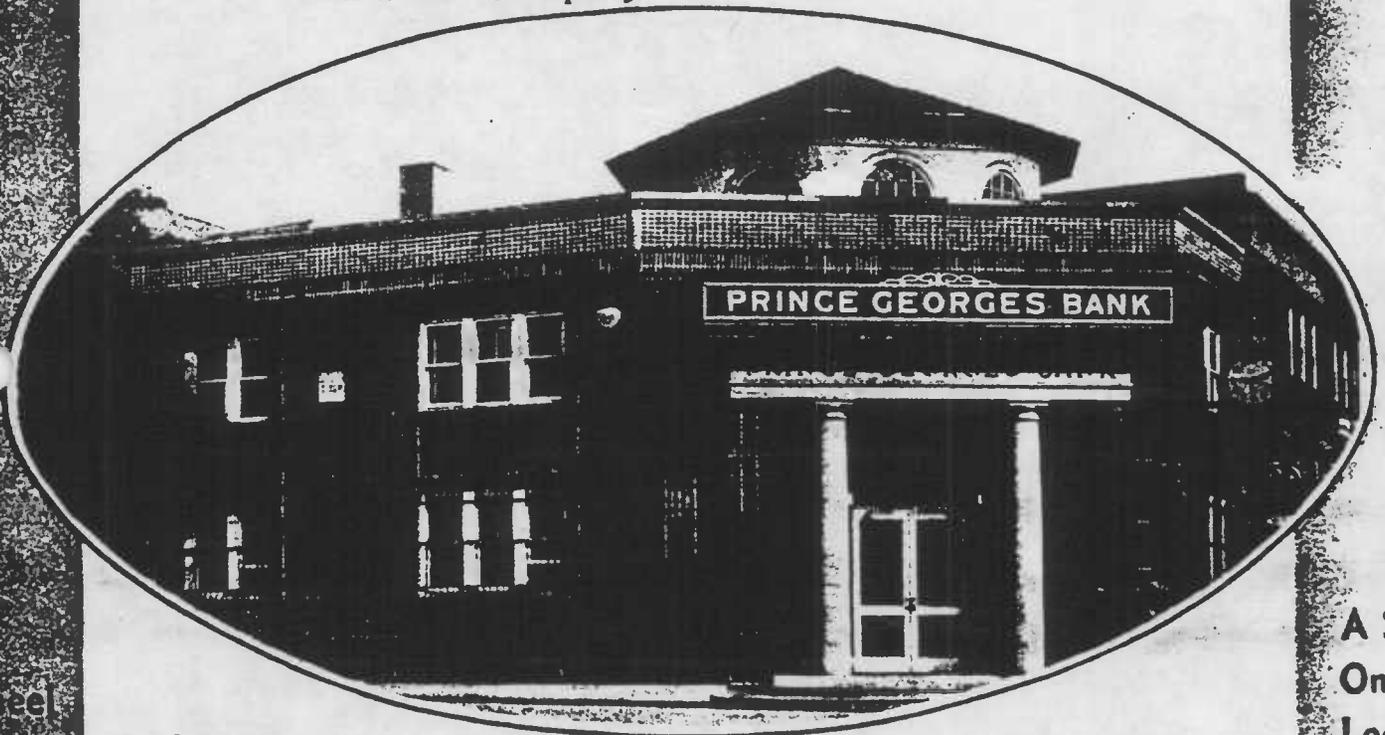
W. RAINIER
FACE

LAFI Building



Plumer's Stop (End of the Line) - Mount Rainier 1920-1922

A view of the general banking rooms of the Hyattsville Office of the Prince Georges Bank and Trust Company.



A view of the Mt. Rainier Office of the Prince Georges Bank and Trust Company.

**A Stat
On Ou
Loan P**

**This bank is alwa
money to qualifie
can make sound u
We want to loan**

Illustration from 1940 brochure



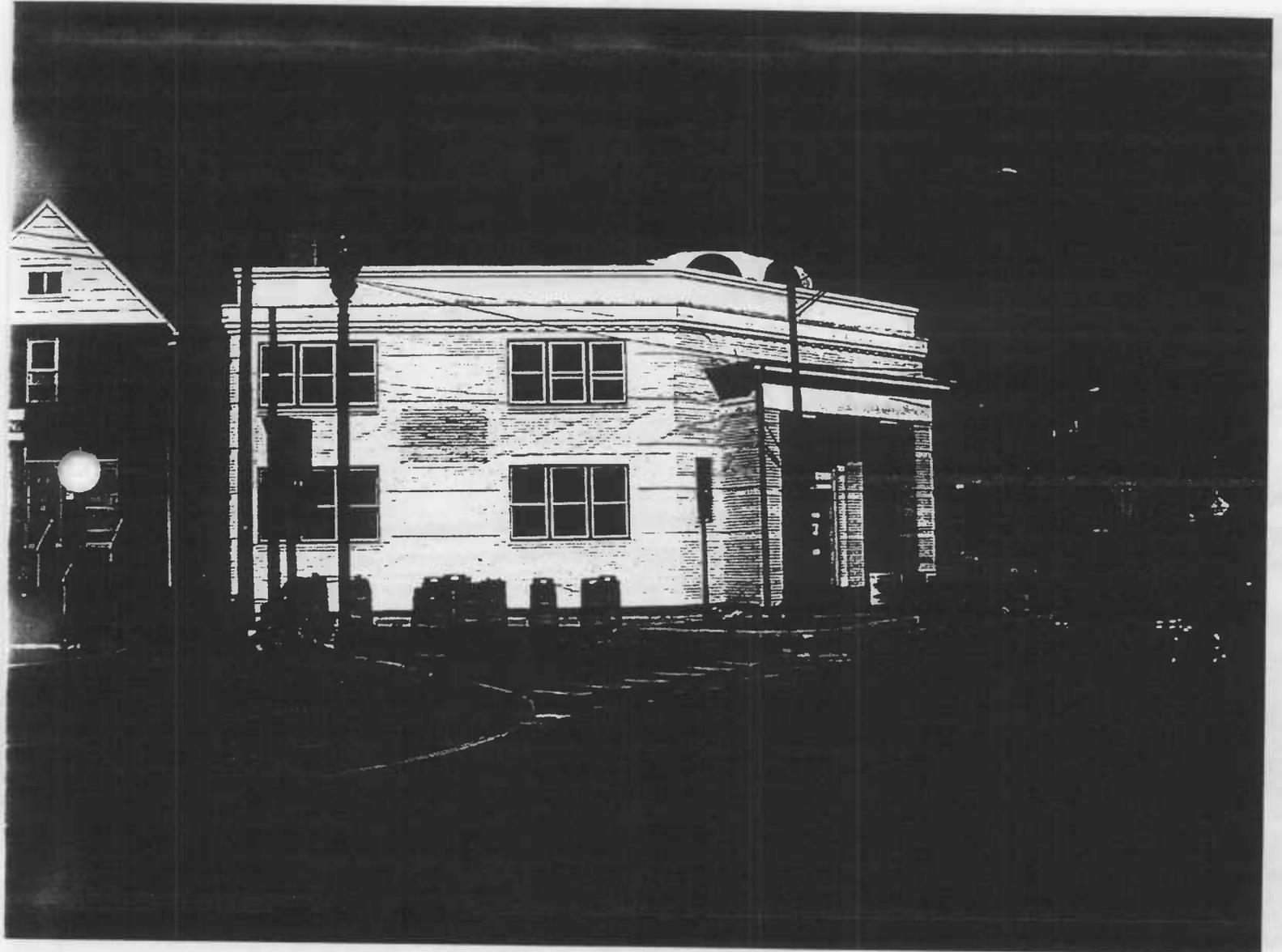
Prince George's Bank, view from east



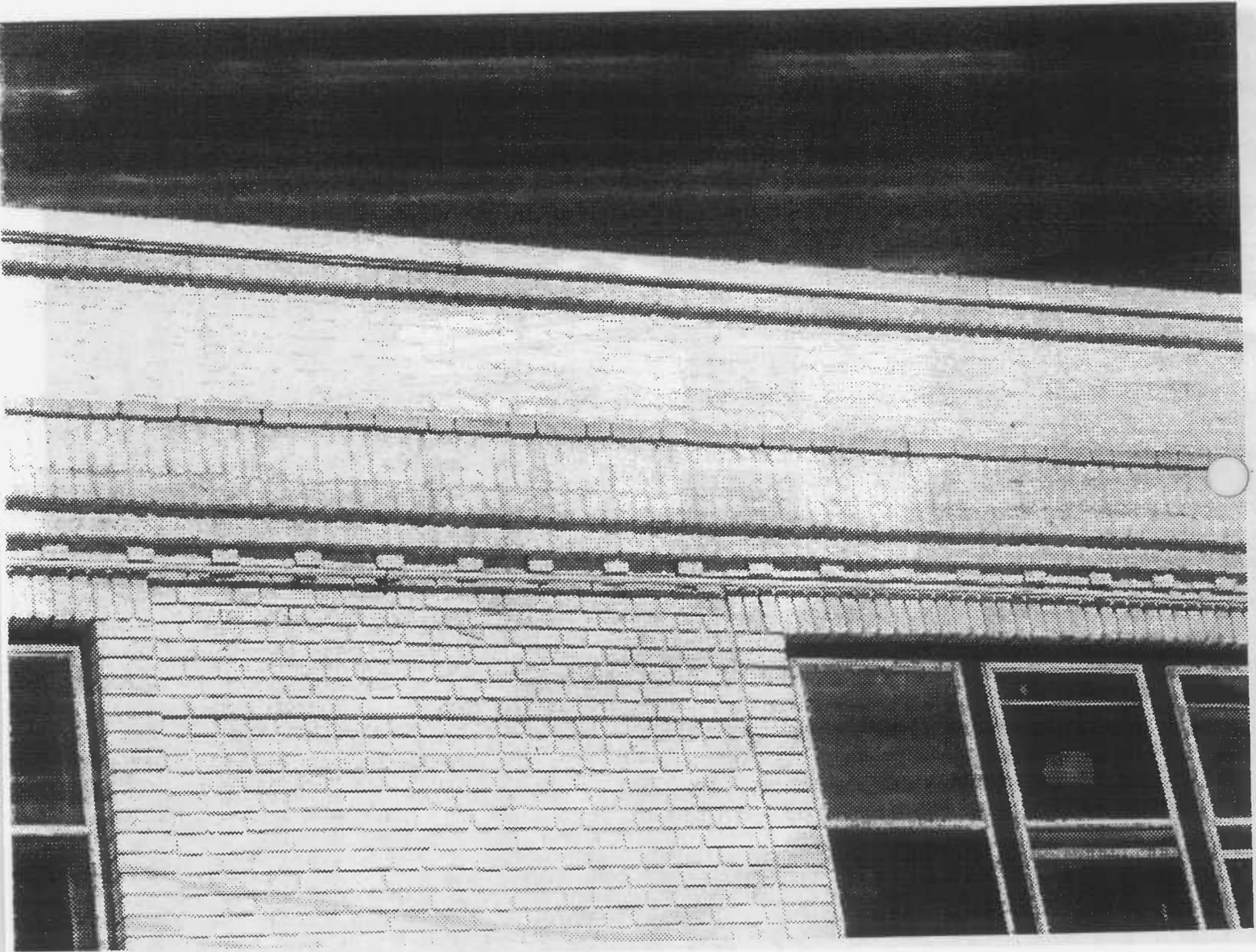
Prince George's Bank building
Southeast entrance



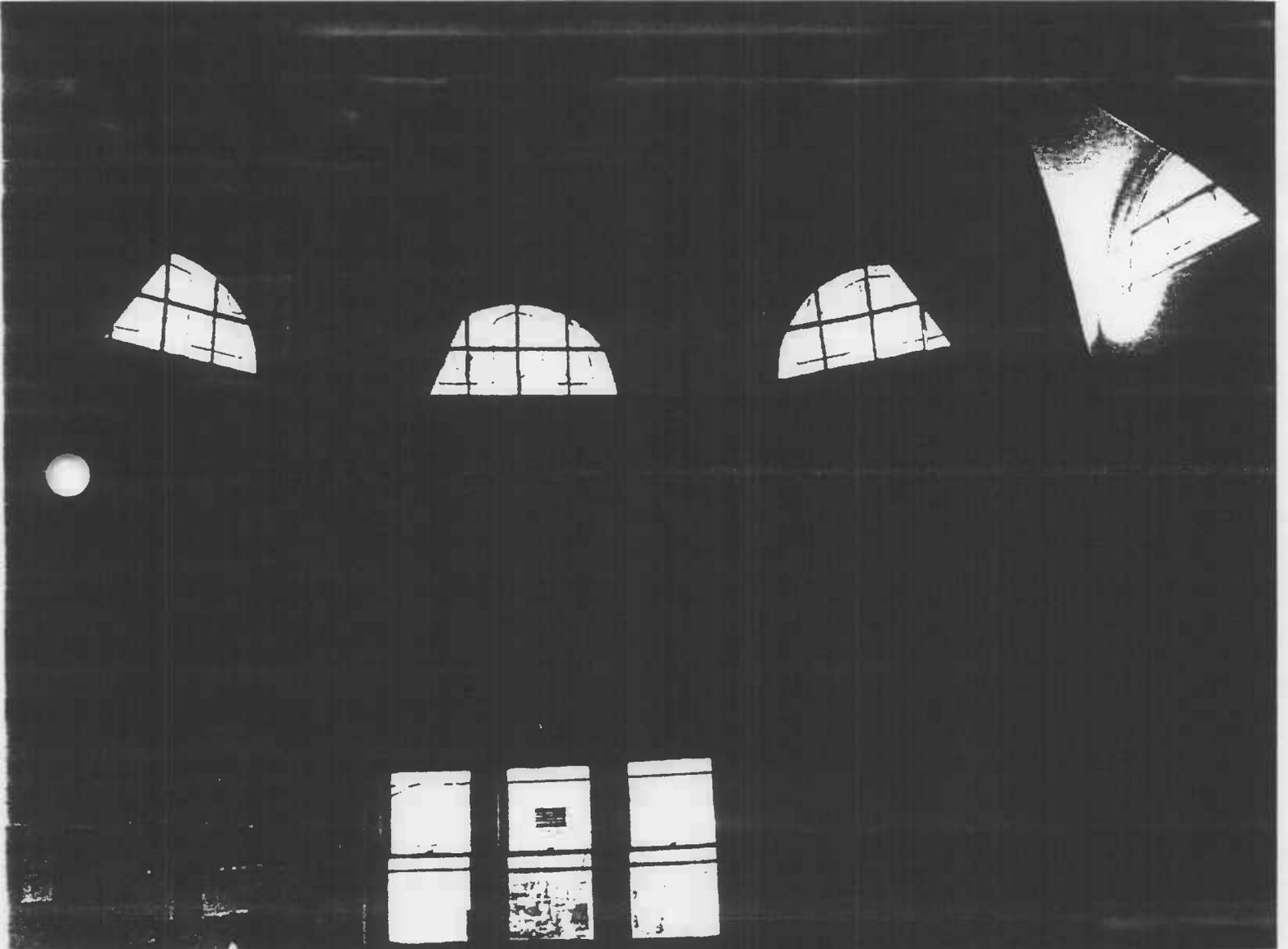
Prince George's Bank building, view from southeast



Prince George's Bank building, view from south southeast



Prince George's Bank building, south cornice detail



Dome room, Prince George's Bank building, view to east

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #68-13-2 Building Date: 1922

Building Name: Prince George's Bank Building

Location: 3800 34th Street, Mt. Rainier, Maryland

Private/Commercial/Occupied/Good/Accessible

Description

The Prince George's Bank Building is a two story brick, multi-use commercial building with an irregular plan and a molded horizontal parapet concealing a flat roof. Surmounting the building, above its entrance and projecting above the high parapet, is a faceted circular cupola with round arch multi-pane windows, topped by a faceted conical roof covered with slate shingles. The corner building has three primary facades united by regularly spaced inset brick courses and a heavy molded metal cornice below the parapet. The corner entrance facade is mitered to face the southeast and contains a large, almost full height projecting entrance portico with a flat roof surmounted by a molded cornice. The portico is supported by rectangular plan brick piers at the outside and two large concrete or stone Doric columns framing the recessed double wood and glass door entry. The entry is surmounted by a rounded arch head with keystones.

Significance

The Prince George's Bank is significant as an important early 20th century commercial building. Prominently sited at the northwest corner of the intersection of 34th Street, Perry Street and Rhode Island Avenues, the building occupies portions of Lots 1, 2 and 27 in Block 7 of Roger's Second Addition to Mt. Rainier. It contributes to the architectural character of the streetscape as well as to the history of Mt. Rainier's early commercial and financial development. The Prince George's Bank was founded in Hyattsville in 1915. By 1922 the successful institution sought to expand its presence with a branch bank in Mt. Rainier. The bank engaged a Washington, D.C. architect named Frederick E. Hill at a cost of \$15,000. Very little is known about Hill. Other than the Prince George's Bank Building, it is not known what additional buildings he may have designed. The building was completed by early September of 1922 and the opening on September 9, was noted by both The Evening Star and The Washington Post with a story and photograph. The Prince George's Bank and its successor, Suburban Trust Company, operated from the building until 1949 when it moved to the present Sovran Bank Building at 3716 Rhode Island Avenue.

Acreage:

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Prince George's Bank Building

and/or common Nationwide Insurance

2. Location

street & number 3800 - 3800A 34th Street: not for publicationcity, town Mr. Rainier vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Clarence and Mary Crutchfield

street & number 14632 Chesterfield Road telephone no.: 301-927-5060

city, town Rockville state and zip code Maryland 20853

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 5671

street & number Main Street folio 171

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Historic Sites and Districts Plan

date 1981 federal state county local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Commission, MNCPPC, CAB, Rm. 4010

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland 20772

7. Description

Survey No. P.G.#68-13-2

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date of move _____

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

The Prince George's Bank Building, 3800-3800A 34th Street, is a two story brick, multi-use commercial building with an irregular plan and a molded horizontal parapet concealing a flat roof. (See Slide #20.) Surmounting the building, above its entrance and projecting above the high parapet, is a faceted circular cupola with round arch multi-pane windows, topped by a faceted conical roof covered with slate shingles.

The corner building has three primary facades united by regularly spaced inset brick courses and a heavy molded metal cornice below the parapet. The two bay south facade fronts Perry Street and Rhode Island Avenue further to the south and contains triple 1/1 sash double-hung windows at the first and second story of each bay. The windows have lintels with vertical stretchers and corbelled brick sills. The corner entrance facade is mitered to face the southeast and contains a large, almost full height projecting entrance portico with a flat roof surmounted by a molded cornice. The portico is supported by rectangular plan brick piers at the outside and two large concrete or stone Doric columns framing the recessed double wood and glass door entry. The entry is surmounted by a rounded arch head with keystones. The one bay east facade fronts 34th Street and contains a double wood and glass entry door at the first story and a triple 1/1 sash double-hung window at the second story, similar to those of the Perry Street facade. The east facade entry door leads to offices at the upper story.

The building appears to retain an early character although the exterior (including the two large columns) has been painted white. There are non-historic signs on the south (Perry Street) and corner entrance facades.

8. Significance

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 checked="" 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1922 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

CONTRIBUTING

The Prince George's Bank Building makes a significant contribution to the character of the survey area as an important early 20th century commercial building. Prominently sited at the northwest corner of the intersection of 34th Street, Perry Street and Rhode Island Avenues, the building occupies portions of Lots 1, 2 and 27 in Block 7 of Roger's Second Addition to Mt. Rainier. The largely intact building contributes to the architectural character of the streetscape as well as to the history of Mt. Rainier's early commercial and financial development. The substantial corner building with its impressive columned entrance portico is one of the few buildings in the survey area that can be attributed to an architect.

The Prince George's Bank was founded in Hyattsville by a group of local businessmen in 1915 and located at the intersection of Farragut Street and Rhode Island Avenue.¹ By 1922 the successful institution sought to expand its presence with a branch bank in Mt. Rainier and the site at the corner of 34th Street and Rhode Island Avenue was purchased in March of that year from Edgar H. and Helen L. BonDurant (see Chain of Title) for \$15,000. The bank engaged a Washington, D.C. architect named Frederick E. Hill to design their new branch bank at a cost of \$15,000. Very little is known about Hill except that he is listed in the City directory in 1922 as maintaining an office at 734 15th Street, N.W.² His name appears in the directory's professional listings only that year although he continued to reside in the City for several years thereafter. Other than the Prince George's Bank Building, it is not known what additional buildings he may have designed.

The building was completed by early September of 1922 and the opening on September 9, was noted by both The Evening Star and The Washington Post with a story and photograph.³ The Prince George's Bank and its successor, Suburban Trust Company, operated from the building until 1949 when it moved to the present Sovran Bank Building at 3716 Rhode Island Avenue.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM
Statement of Significance (continued)

Survey No. P.G.# 68-13-2

Section 8 Page 2

The Prince George's Building was purchased by Perry Boswell who located his real estate and insurance business there until his death in 1953.⁴ The bank building remained within the Boswell family until 1973. Since 1983 the building has been owned by Clarence and Mary Crutchfield who operate an insurance business there. (See Chain of Title)

The building appears to have retained much of its early character and detail. An early photograph indicates that the only change to the building's exterior in addition to the present white paint is the reworking of the first story west bay of the south facade and the first story of the east facade.⁵ In the c. 1922 photographs the west bay of the south facade contains a large plate glass window and entry door and the east facade contains a triple window at the first story. Both of these features were subsequently removed. The west bay now contains a triple window at the first story consistent with others on the facade. The triple window at the first story of the east facade has been replaced with a wood and glass entry door leading to the upper story.

Notes

1 The discussion of the Prince George's Bank is drawn from Fifty Years of Suburban Banking, A History of the Suburban Trust Company, 1915-1965, William G. Dooly, Jr., 1965.

2 Polk's Directory of the City of Washington, 1922.

3 The Evening Star, 9 September 1922, p. 24. The Washington Post, 10 September 1922, p. 3.

4 The Evening Star, 17 December 1953.

5 City of Mt. Rainier 75th Anniversary Book, 1985, p. 43.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G.#68-13-2

See Notes, #8

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property _____

Map 49

Quadrangle name Washington East D

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A
 Zone Easting Northing

B
 Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Howard S. Berger, Consultant

organization Historic Preservation Commission date March 1988

street & number 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive telephone 952-4609

city or town Upper Marlboro state Maryland 20772

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

Chain of Title
3800-3800A 34th Street
PG #68-13-2

5671:171
23 March 1983
Deed
Erwin Peter Reed to Clarence and Mary Cruthfield. Grantor conveys parts of Lots 1, 2 and 27 in Block 7, Roger's Second Addition to Mt. Rainier. Plat recorded BDS1:48. Same obtained from Francis A. Borelli and Salvatore A. Daniello, 11 February 1977, 4726:377.

4726:377
11 February 1977
Deed
Francis A. Borelli and Salvatore A. Daniello to Erwin Peter Reed. Grantors convey parts of Lots 1, 2 and 27 in Block 7. Same obtained from The Perry Boswell Company, 24 January 1973, 4179:767.

4179:767
24 January 1973
Deed
The Perry Boswell Company to Francis A. Borelli and Salvatore A. Daniello. Grantor conveys part of Lots 1, 2 and 27 in Block 7. Same obtained from Perry Boswell, Inc., 22 April 1955, 1854:577.

1854:577
22 April 1955
Deed
Perry Boswell, Inc. to The Perry Boswell Company. Grantor conveys part of Lots 1, 2 and 27 in Block 7. Same obtained from Prince George's Bank and Trust Company (successor to Prince George's Bank), 15 July 1949, 1146:256.

1146:256
15 July 1949
Deed
Prince George's Bank and Trust Company to Perry Boswell, Inc. Grantor conveys part of Lots 1, 2 and 27 in Block 7. Same obtained from E. H. and H. L. BonDurant, 6 March 1922, 178:426.

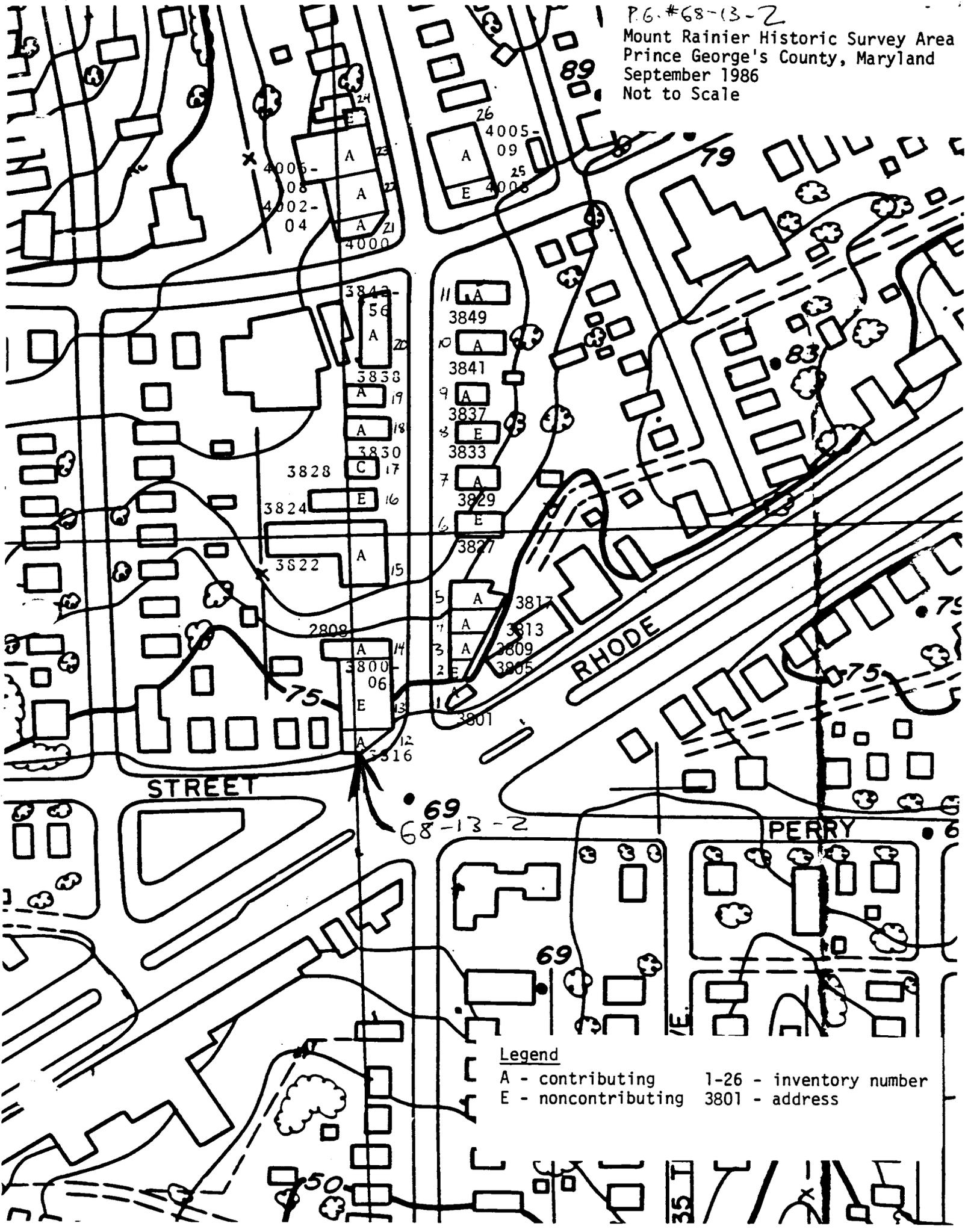
178:426
6 March 1922
Deed
Edgar H. and Helen L. BonDurant to Prince George's Bank. Grantors convey all of Lots 1, 2 and 27 in Block 7. Lots 1 and 2 obtained from William C. and Rachel R. Bengel, 10:365. Lot 27 possibly obtained from Katherine L. Spalding. Deed not found.

10:365
19 November 1902
Deed
William C. and Rachel R. Bengel to Edgar H. and Helen L. BonDurant. Grantors convey Lots 1 and 2 in Block 7. Lot 1 obtained from American Security and Trust Company, 17 November 1902, 11:165. Lot 2 obtained from same, 29 March 1902, 8:500.

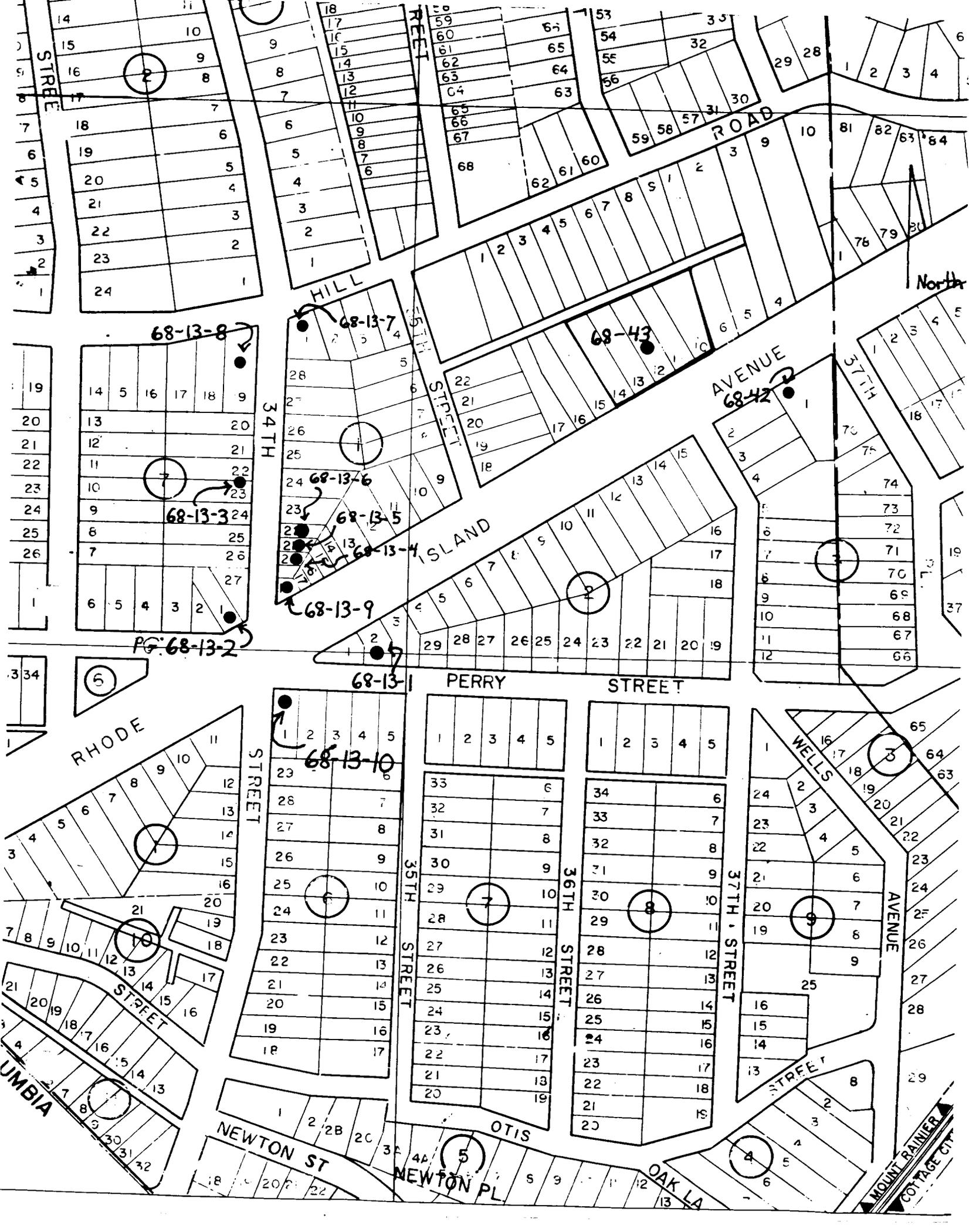
11:165
17 November 1902
Deed
American Security and Trust Company to William C. and Rachel R. Bengel. Grantor conveys Lot 1 in Block 7.

8:500
29 March 1902
Deed
American Security and Trust Company to William C. and Rachel R. Bengel. Grantor conveys Lot 2 in Block 7.

44:4
29 November 1907
Deed
W. D. Bigelow, E.S. Spalding and J. H. Rogers to Katharine L. Spalding. Grantors convey Lot 27, in Block 7. Conveyed to BonDurants or others by 1922. No deeds found. To clear title, this deed is made.



Legend
 A - contributing 1-26 - inventory number
 E - noncontributing 3801 - address



STREET

HILL

ROAD

North

68-13-8

68-13-7

69-43

68-42

68-13-3

68-13-6

68-13-5

68-13-4

68-13-9

PG 68-13-2

68-13-1

68-13-10

PERRY

STREET

RHODE

STREET

35TH

STREET

36TH

STREET

37TH

STREET

WELLS

AVENUE

UMBIA

NEWTON ST

NEWTON PL

OTIS

OAK LA

MOUNT RAINER
COTTAGE CITY



P.G. # 68-13-2

Prince George's Bank

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

Summer 1986

SE

Neg: MD Historical Trust

Annapolis, MD