PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #68-37 Building Date: ca. 1896

Building Name: Randall-Dimes House

Location: 4508 Rhode Island Avenue, North Brentwood

Private/Residence/Occupied/Fair/Inaccessible

Description:

The Randall-Dimes house is a two-story gable roof frame structure covered with stucco. It has an ell-shaped plan with a centerfront cross gable and a two-story semi-octagonal projecting bay on the southeast corner. It is situated on a small town lot fronting on the west side of Rhode Island Avenue. The three bay main facade has a central entrance. The first story is sheltered by a hipped-roof screened porch with turned and chamfered posts and jig-sawn brackets. Windows are 2/2 double-hung-sash with wide board surrounds. Centered above the main facade is a cross gable with a centered diamond-shaped window. The Dimes house has a boxed cornice with overhanging eaves and returns in the gable ends. It is set high on a rock-faced cement block foundation which has full size windows The south gable end is dominated by a two-story hipped roof semi-octagonal projeting bay. The west facade has a two-story, one-by-one bay gable roofed ell projecting from the southwest corner. An entrance to the basement is at ground level on the west gable end of the ell. Filling in the ell and covering the first two bays of the west (rear) facade is a shed roof, two-story addition, also stucco covered. A shed roof rear porch encloses the north bay on the first story.

Significance:

The Randall-Dimes house is significant as one of the earliest dwellings constructed in North Brentwood. It is an early 20th century suburban dwelling with late Victorian stylistic elements; such as its two-story semi-octagonal south bay, cross gable with diamond window and porch with turned posts and brackets. It is also significant for association with the Randall family, one of the first families residing in North Brentwood, and who served in the town's early government. In 1896 Peter Randall, a black man listed as a day laborer in the 1900 U.S. Census, acquired Lot 4 in Block 20 he house was constructed soon after. The block in which the house is situated contained the residences of brothers Henry, Arthur and Thomas Randall, as well as Peter Randall, and for a short time North Brentwood was known as Randallstown. The first school was constructed in 1910, with Peter and Henry Randall serving as trustees. The town was incorporated in 1924, with Peter Randall serving as Councilman in Ward 1.

Acreage: 3,087 square feet

Survey No. PG #68-37

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic: Randall-Dimes House

and/or common:

2. Location

street & number: 4508 Rhode Island Avenue (U.S. Route 1) ___ not for publication

city, town: North Brentwood ___ vicinity of congressional district: 5

state: Maryland county: Prince George's 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	___ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	X not applicable	X no	___ military	___ other:

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

name: Clement W. and Mamie A. Dimes

street & number: 4508 Rhode Island Avenue telephone no.:

city, town: North Brentwood state and zip code: Maryland 20722

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: Prince George's County Courthouse liber 897

street & number: Main Street folio 186

city, town: Upper Marlboro state: MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title: N. A.

date: ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records: Historic Preservation Commission, Room 4010, County Administration Building

city, town: Upper Marlboro state: MD

7. Description

Survey No. P.G.#68-37

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	X unaltered	X original site
___ good	___ ruins	___ altered	___ moved date of move _____
X fair	___ unexposed		

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

The Randall-Dimes house in North Brentwood is a two-story gable roof frame structure covered with stucco. It has an ell-shaped plan with a center-front cross gable and a two-story semi-octagonal projecting bay on the south-east corner. It is situated on a small town lot fronting on the west side of Rhode Island Avenue.

The three bay east (main) facade has a central entrance surmounted by a rectangular transom. The first story is sheltered by a hipped-roof screened porch with turned and chamfered posts and jig-sawn brackets. A half-wall of vertical boarded wainscotting encloses the porch, and it is set on rock-faced cement block piers infilled with wood lattice. Windows are 2/2 double-hung-sash with wide board surrounds. Centered above the main facade is a cross gable with a centered diamond-shaped window.

The Dimes house has a boxed cornice with overhanging eaves and returns in the gable ends. The roof is covered with deteriorated diamond-shaped asphalt shingles. It is set high on a rock-faced cement block foundation which has full size 2/2 sash windows covered with metal grill work.

The one-bay north gable end has a 6/6 sash window on the second story. The south gable end is dominated by a two-story hipped roof semi-octagonal projeting bay.

The west facade has a two-story, one-by-one bay gable roofed ell projecting from the southwest corner of the main block. The ell is set on the same foundation and has the same cornice, wall and window treatment as the main block. An entrance to the basement is at ground level on the west gable end of the ell. Filling in the ell and covering the first two bays of the west (rear) facade is a shed roof, two-story addition, also stucco covered. A shed roof rear porch encloses the north bay on the first story.

8. Significance

Survey No. P.G.#68-37

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	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
___ 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
X 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	X politics/government	x other (specify) local history
		___ invention		

Specific dates 1896 **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.

The Randall-Dimes house is significant as one of the earliest dwellings constructed in the incorporated town of North Brentwood. It is a modest, but representative example of an early 20th century suburban dwelling with late Victorian stylistic elements; such as its two-story semi-octagonal south bay, cross gable with diamond window and porch with turned posts and brackets. The house is also significant for its association with the Randall family, its builders, who were one of the first families residing in North Brentwood, and who served in the town's early government.

The Town of North Brentwood was developed on a part of a 100-acre tract acquired in the early 1890's by a land syndicate called the Holladay Company. The syndicate platted the areas which eventually became Brentwood, North Brentwood, Mt. Rainier and a southern section of Hyattsville.[1] Captain Wallace A. Bartlett, a company partner, had served in the Civil War commanding the 19th Infantry of U.S. Colored Troops, composed of Black men from Southern Maryland and the eastern shore. In subdividing the North Brentwood area, it was Captain Barlett's desire that black families occupy the tract, in tribute to the soldiers who had served in his regiment.[2]

In 1896 Peter Randall, a black man listed as a day laborer in the 1900 U.S. Census, acquired Lot 4 in Block 20 from Captain Barlett.[3] The Randall-Dimes house was constructed soon after.[4] The block in which the house is situated, fronting on the electric trolley line, later became an extension of Rhode Island Avenue. It contained the residences of brothers Henry, Arthur and Thomas Randall, as well as Peter Randall, and for a short time North Brentwood was known as Randallstown. In 1905 there were 15 houses in the community, sheltering 65 people.[5]

The first school in North Brentwood was constructed in 1910, with Peter and Henry Randall serving as trustees. The town was incorporated in 1924, with Peter Randall serving as Councilman in Ward 1.[6]

Randall and his wife sold the Randall-Dimes house to their daughters, Ethel Johnson, Bertha Lee and Bessie Randall, in 1940. In 1947 the Randall daughters sold the house and property to Clement W. and Mamie Dimes, who presently reside there.[7]

Notes

1 "Vicinity of Washington, D.C.," Published by Griffith M. Hopkins, 302 Walnut Street, Philadelphia. A ca. 1894 map available at Martin Luther King Public Library, Washingtoniana Room, Washington, D.C.

2 "Bible, Book and Voting Booth: Early Black Institutions and Political History, 1870-1920," Final Report for Fiscal Year 1984-85, Bianca P. Floyd, History Division, M-NCPPC.

3 Land Records of Prince George's County, JWB 35:815.

4 Tax Assessments, Prince George's County, 1898, District 2. Available at Maryland State Archives, Volume 12230.

5 Floyd, op. cit., Section Four, page 2.

6 Ibid., page 10.

7 Land Records, 579:303, 897:186.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. #68-37

See Notes, #8

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 3,087 square feet

Tax Map 50 B-2

Quadrangle name Washington East E

Quadrangle scale

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
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	Marina King, Architectural Historian		
organization	Historic Preservation Commission	date	September, 1987
street & number	14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive	telephone	952-4609
city or town	Upper Marlboro	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.

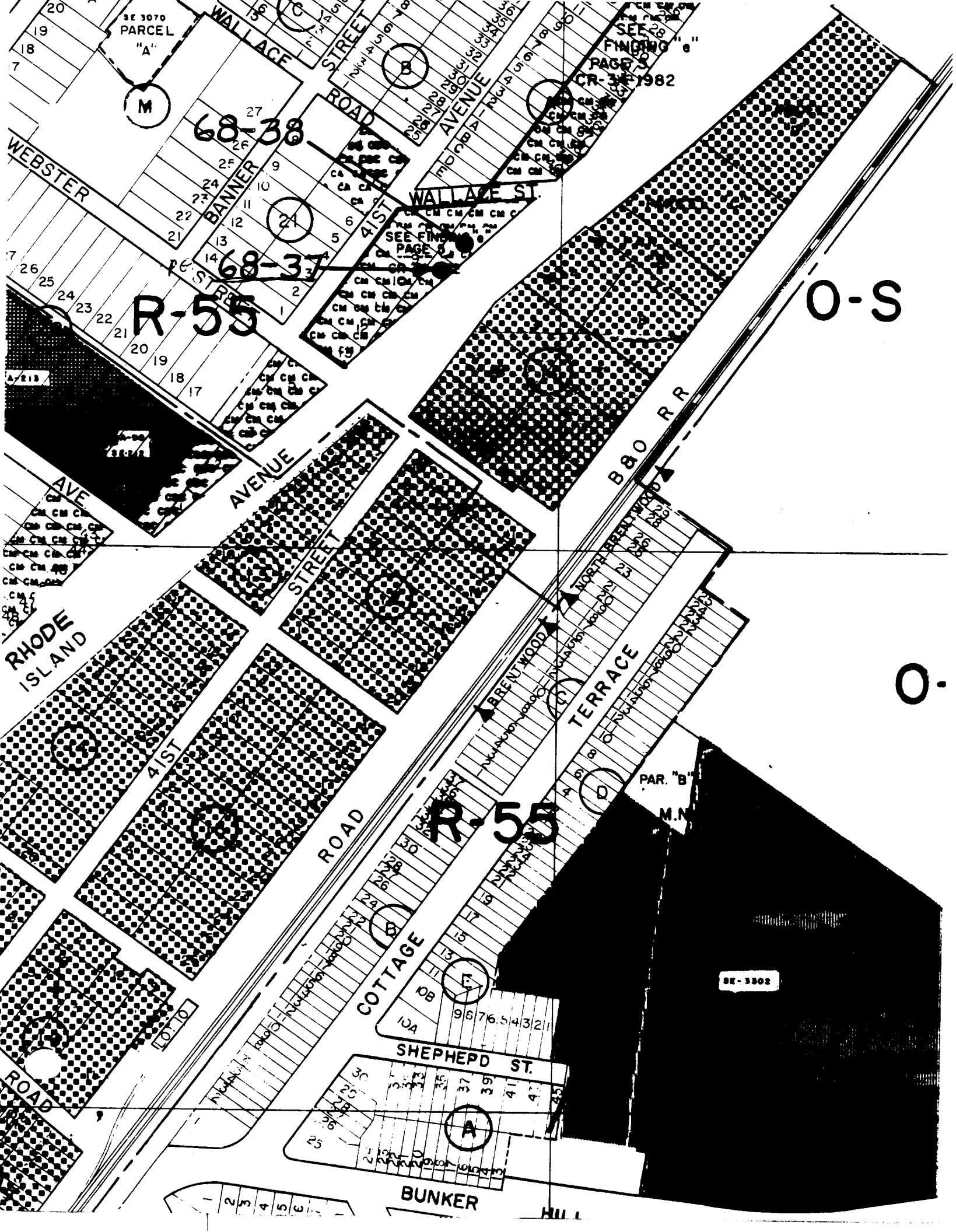
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

CHAIN OF TITLE
Randall-Dimes House
P.G. #68-37

897:186 29 Jan. 1947 Deed	Ethel Johnson and James Johnson, Bertha Lee, and Bessie Randall to Clement W. and Mamie A. Dimes. For $10 grantors convey Lot 4 and parts of Lots 5, 9 and 10 in Block 20 in Holladay Co's Addition to Highlands, Plat JWB 5:646.
879:292 29 Jan. 1947 Mortgage	Clement W. Dimes and Mamie A. Dimes to Ethel Johnson, Bertha Lee and Bessie Randall. Dimes indebted to parties of second part for $2,500. To better secure debt they deed property, with house.
579:302 4 Sept. 1940 Deed	Peter and Mattie M. Randall of D.C. to Bertha Lee, Ethel Johnson and Bessie Randall of D.C. For $10 grantors convey that parcel, a part of Lot 5 in Block 20 in Holladay's Addition to Highlands. Lot a triangle with base of 5 feet 9 inches.
579:303 8 May 1940 Deed	Peter and Mattie Randall of D.C. to Ethel Johnson, Bertha Lee and Bessie Randall of D.C. For $10 grantors convey Lot 10 in Block 20 together with adjacent strip 5 feet in width by depth of 100 feet from Lot 9 making lot a rectangle of 55 x 100 feet.
579:304 1 Feb. 1941 Mortgage	Ethel Johnson, Bertha Lee and Bessie Randall, shareholders of Perpetual Building Assoc. of D.C. have received $2,000 to pay mortgage - this deed assumes full repayment. Grantors convey to Trustees of Association Lots 4, 5, 9, and 10 in Block 20.
244:314 25 Aug. 1925 Deed	Maryland Guarantee Title, Investment Company to Peter and Barbara Randall. Grantor purchased at tax sale, deed dated 31st March 1924, 217:233. Randall's desire to redeem said property. For $150 grantor conveys Lot 4 in Block 20.
217:233 31 Mar. 1924 Deed	Herman E. Burgess, Treasurer of P.G. County, to Maryland Guarantee Title and Investment Company. On second Monday in January 1921, due to arrears for State and County Taxes for 1920 - assessed in name of Peter Randall, Lot 4, Block 20, see 35:817. Taxes owed $13.54.

13:399 7 May 1903 Deed	Peter and Barbara Randall to Henry Randall. For $10 grantors conveys part of Lot 10 in Block 20, a strip 4-1/2 feet wide by 100 feet extending alongside Lot 11. Together with improvements.
18:197 24 Feb. 1903 Deed	Bartlett, Adams and Mills to Peter Randall. For $125 grantors convey Lot 10, in Block 20 together with strip 5 feet x 100 feet from Lot 9.
JWB:35:817 4 June 1896 Deed	Wallace A. Bartlett, J. Lees Adams and Samuel J. Mills to Peter Randall. For $125 grantors convey Lot 4 in Block 20 in Holladay Co's. Addition to Highland - measures 50 x 100 feet, fronting on Holladay Avenue.


SE 3070
PARCEL "A"
WALLACE
STREET
ROAD
AVENUE
SEE FINDING "e" PAGE 5 CR-3-1982
68-38
WEBSTER
BANNER
WALLACE ST.
4 ST
SEE FINDING PAGE 5
68-37
R-55
O-S
AVE
AVENUE
STREET
B&O R R
NORTH BRENTWOOD
BRENTWOOD
TERRACE
RHODE ISLAND
4 ST
ROAD
R-55
PAR. "B"
COTTAGE
SHEPHEPD ST.
SE-3302
ROAD
BUNKER
HILL

WASHINGTON EAST
PG# 68-37
Chatham
Byrd Stadium
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
University Hills Recreation Center
St Marks Sch
COLLEGE PARK
College Park Airport
Paint Branch Park
Indian Creek
Branch
College Heights Estates
Northwestern High Sch
University Park
Memorial Library
Calvert Park
Erco Field
Riverdale Gardens
Wirt Jr High Sch
Riverdale Recreation Center
RIVERDALE
Riverdale Heights
Riverdale Hills
Leland Memorial Hospital
Fire Sta
Hyattsville
Green Manor
Springbrook Terrace
Anacostia River Park
Magruder Park
Edmonston
Salvation Army Community Center
Pumping Sta
North Brentwood
Brentwood
Peace Cross
Blandensburg
Shopping Center
Cottage City
Villa Heights

Randall Dimes

P.G. #68-37

Randall-Dimes House
Prince George's County, Maryland
Marina King
February 1987
Southeast Elevation
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD

P.G. #68-37

Randall-Dimes House
Prince George's County, Maryland
Marina King
February 1987
Northeast elevation
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD

P.G. #68-37

Randall-Dimes House
Prince George's County, Maryland
Marina King
February 1987
Entrance porch
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD