

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #79-9 Building Date: ca. 1922

Building Name: Wells Corner

Location: 16007 Marlboro Pike, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772

Private/Commercial/Occupied/Good/Restricted

Description:

Wells Corner consists of two adjoining frame structures located on the southwest corner of Old Crain Highway and Marlboro Pike. Both are on cement foundations. The west structure is two stories, 35 x 45 feet, with a hip roof of painted shingle, sided with German siding. The east structure is one-story, with a shed roof and false cornice. It connects to the west building along its western wall. The west building is rectangular in plan with a five-bay north facade covered by a hip roof, two-story, three-bay porch. The upper story of the porch is enclosed and screened. The first story of the porch has chamfered wood posts and a bracketed cornice. It continues across the front facade of the east building. The first story front facade of the west building is covered with wood shingles, with central entrance flanked by a single pane, commercial window and on the west by a modern projecting bay window. The main facade was remodeled in 1983. Centered above the plain boxed cornice is a hip roof dormer with a double eyebrow window. The west facade is five bays with asymmetrical spacing of 1/1 and 2/2 windows and a central dormer identical to the north dormer. South of center is an interior brick chimney. The south facade is four bays with a corbelled brick interior chimney at the third bay. The east structure at Wells Corner measures 15 x 45 feet. The north (front) facade has a high false cornice hiding the southward sloping shed roof. The facade is three bays with a central entrance and a circular window beneath the cornice on the first and third bay. The north facade has German siding. The rest of the east building is sided with asphalt shingle. A high exterior brick chimney is on the east facade. A gable roof barn, sided with German and board and batten siding is situated to the west.

Significance

The southwest corner of the intersection of Old Crain Highway and Marlboro Pike has had commercial uses serving area farmers since the 1870's. The 1878 Hopkins Atlas shows a blacksmith shop located there. During the late 19th century, until 1899, there was a general store there, run by Joseph L. Martin. The old store building burned in the early 1920's and the present two-story structure was built by Albert M. Wells, and operated as a store and apartments. The present one-story east wing may have been an addition to the two-story west building. The site continues to be owned by the Well's family and the buildings are still in use as a store. The intersection of Marlboro Pike and Old Crain Highway is known regionally as Well's Corner. It is marked as such on maps of the County. The store structures are simple, 20th century commercial vernacular in style.

Acreage: 30,941 square feet

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Wells Corner

2. Location

street & number 16001 Marlboro Pike (Maryland Route 725) ___ not for publication

city, town Upper Marlboro, ___ vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

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

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

name Nancy Ellen Wells

street & number 16001 Marlboro Pike telephone no.:

city, town Upper Marlboro, state and zip code MD. 20772

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 4166

street & number Main Street folio 550

city, town Upper Marlboro, state MD. 20772

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Historic Sites and Districts Plan for Prince George's County

date 1981 ___ federal ___ state county ___ local

depository for survey records History Division, M-NCPPC, c/o Calvert Mansion

city, town Riverdale, state MD. 20737

7. Description

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

Wells Corner consists of two adjoining frame structures located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Old Crain Highway and Marlboro Pike. Both structures are on cement foundations. The west structure is two stories, 35 x 45 feet, having a truncated hip roof of painted shingle, and sided with German siding. The east structure is one-story, with a shed roof and false cornice. It is connected to the west building along its western wall.

The two story west building is rectangular in plan. The five-bay north (main) facade is covered by a hip roof, two-story, three-bay porch. The upper story of the porch is enclosed and screened. The first story of the porch has chamfered wood posts and a bracketed cornice. It continues across the front facade of the adjoining building. The first story front facade of the west building is covered with wood shingles. There is a central entrance flanked on the east by a single pane, commercial window and on the west by a modern projecting bay window. The first floor exterior and interior were remodeled in 1983. Centered on the north facade, above the plain boxed cornice, is a hip roof dormer with a double eyebrow window.

The west facade is five bays with asymmetrical spacing of 1/1 and 2/2 windows. There is a central dormer identical to the dormer on the north facade. South of the dormer is an interior brick chimney. An entrance on the fourth bay was covered by a gable roof porch which has been removed.

The south (rear) facade is four bays. A first-story porch across the facade was removed, leaving 3 pyramidal cement piers which supported its roof. A second story porch on the southeast two bays has been filled in. A corbelled brick interior chimney is at the third bay.

The east structure at Wells Corner is one-story, measuring 15 x 45' feet. The north (front) facade has a high false cornice hiding the southward sloping shed roof. The facade is three bays with a central entrance and a circular window beneath the cornice on the first and third bay. The north facade has German siding. The rest of the east building is sided with asphalt shingle. There is a one-story porch across the facade. The window openings at the south and east side of the building have been boarded over. A high stove pipe interior brick chimney is on the east facade.

A gable roof, frame barn lies to the west. It is sided with a combination of German and vertical board and batten siding. Two entrances on the north facade are covered by a pent, which divides the first from second story. There is a central opening covered by wooden shutter-doors on the second story. The north section of the barn rests on a cement foundation. It is roofed with asphalt shingle.

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 type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input 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-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Local History
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates	1922	Builder/Architect
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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 southwest corner of the intersection of Old Crain Highway and Marlboro Pike has had commercial uses serving area farmers since the 1870's. The 1878 Hopkins Atlas shows a blacksmith shop located there. During the late 19th century, until 1899, there was a general store there, run by Joseph L. Martin.¹ The old store building burned in the early 1920's and the present two-story structure was built by Albert M. Wells, and operated as a store and apartments. The present one-story east wing may have been an addition to the two-story west building.² The site continues to be owned by the Wells family and the buildings are still in use as a store.

The intersection of Marlboro Pike and Old Crain Highway is known locally as Wells Corner, and is marked as such on maps of the County. The store structures are simple, 20th century commercial vernacular in style.

Notes

¹ Land Records of Prince George's County. Wills. Inventory of Joseph L. Martin, Administration #1738.

² Conversation with Russell Buck, June 17, 1985. Conversation with Fred Wyvill, June 11, 1985.

1702895711

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Wells Corner Store

AND/OR HISTORIC: Wells Corner/Blacksmith Shop

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Marlboro Pike and Crain Highway (SW Quadrant)

CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro

STATE: Maryland COUNTY: Prince George's

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work In progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify) _____ Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Prince George's County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro STATE: Maryland

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: None

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered
	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>The older part of the building is a one-story, frame section with a "square" facade hiding the gabled roof. There is a small chimney for a stove flue on the east side wall. The facade has two round windows on either end above the porch roof.</p> <p>The main section is a square, two-story, colonial revival building with a hipped-roof.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)			
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	losophy	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	itarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Christopher Owens, Park Historian		DATE 3 Oct 74
ORGANIZATION M-NCPPC		
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue		
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring	STATE Maryland	

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:
 National State Local

Signature _____

Chain of Title

Wells Corner
P.G. #79-9

- #4166:550
12/21/1972
Deed
Gladys R. Duvall to Albert W. Jr. and Nancy Ellen Wells. Three parcels in Marlboro District - (1) 2/3 interest in 30,941 sq. ft.; same as obtained by #3300:292 and by the will of Albert W. Wells, dec. (2) 2/3 interest in 3,204 sq. ft.; same land acquired by #2097:572 and rec. in #3300:292 (3) 1/2 interest in 7,038 sq. ft., a lot in U.M..
- #4166:548
12/19/1972
Deed
Albert W. Wells to Gladys S. Duvall. Three parcels in Marlboro District - (1) 2/3 interest in 30,941 sq. ft. (2) 2/3 interest in 3,204 sq. ft. (3) 1/2 interest in 7,038, a lot in U.M.
- #3300:292
3/16/1966
Deed
George L. Wells, to Albert W. Wells, Jr. The grantor's 1/2 undivided interest in two parcels - (1) 30,941 sq. ft., bounded on north by Marlboro Pike, on the east by Chesapeake Beach - Marlboro Road, on south the fence line back of store, running between the store and vacant lot adjoining the property of Albert W. Wells, Jr. and west by property owned by George L. Wells and operated as a gas station and the line continuing the east boundary of said gas station lot from Marlboro Pike until it intersects the back line of property hereinafter devised to said Beatrice A. Wyvill; same land obtained under will of Albert W. Wells, dec. (2) 3,204 sq. ft. beginning at an iron pipe in the frame storage shed at the northwest corner of a prior conveyance to Albert W. Wells, Jr. from Beatrice A. Wyvill of an 11,907 sq. ft. parcel... same land obtained by #2097:572.
- #2097:572
4/29/1957
Deed
Dorothy Wells and Kenneth A. Hook to George L. Wells, Beatrice A. Wyvill and Albert W. Wells, Jr. 3,204 sq. ft. in Marlboro District; same which Dorothy Wells Hook obtained under will of Albert W. Wells, Sr. (plat of 573).
- Admin. #9328
Will
Estate of Albert William Wells, Sr. Will (rec. GSO #1:443) drawn up 2/17/1948, pro 6/7/1949, to daughter Dorothy W. Hook - residence in U.M. and "balance of my real estate at Wells Corner which I have not heretofore conveyed or herein devised" and \$5,000; to daughter Ethel W. Rawlings - \$8,000 and release of mortgage on her property to daughter Beatrice A. Wyvill - 1/3 interest in store and apartment in which is now conducted a mercantile business, including 1/2 interest in stock and 1/2 interest in the lot used in connection therewith, vacant lot on Hills Bridge Road and \$5,000; to

- 2 -

son George L. Wells - 1/3 interest in store, etc. (as above) and \$5,000; to son Albert W. Wells, Jr. - 1/3 interest in store, etc. (as above). Exterior: son George L. Wells. Appraisal of R.E. at Wells Corner: 2-story, frame dwelling and 4 acres of land located about 400 feet west of Wells Corner. Two-story, frame building located at Wells Corner lot in rear of store building.

5572/279
26 50A
P 13

301

THEODORE R. HAGENS
5135/175
67 66A
P.11

R-A

HOLMES G. HOPKINS
2167/579
24 45A
P/O P.90

JOSEPHINE H
ADM 157
23 A
P.42

OLD CRAIN HWY

PEERLESS AVE

AGRICULTURAL
FAIR
P/O
384
586 586 788

R-R

HUBERT B
CLARK, ETAL
4354/781
9.48A
P.107

ASSOC.
82

JAMES E. RIDGELY
1062/218
21.00A
P.71

O-S

725

C-M

MARLBORO

PIKE
408

C-O

PLANTERS
TOBACCO
WAREHOUSE
633/25
3.68A
P.26

EDELEN BROS.
WAREHOUSE, INC.
133/311
5.48 A.
P.27

CLARENCE
HALL
1700/765
4.00A P.184

3848

1512

DOROTHY W
HOOK
183/183
5.30A
P.78

JAMES L. REA
713/487
13.70A
P.167

I-1

1752

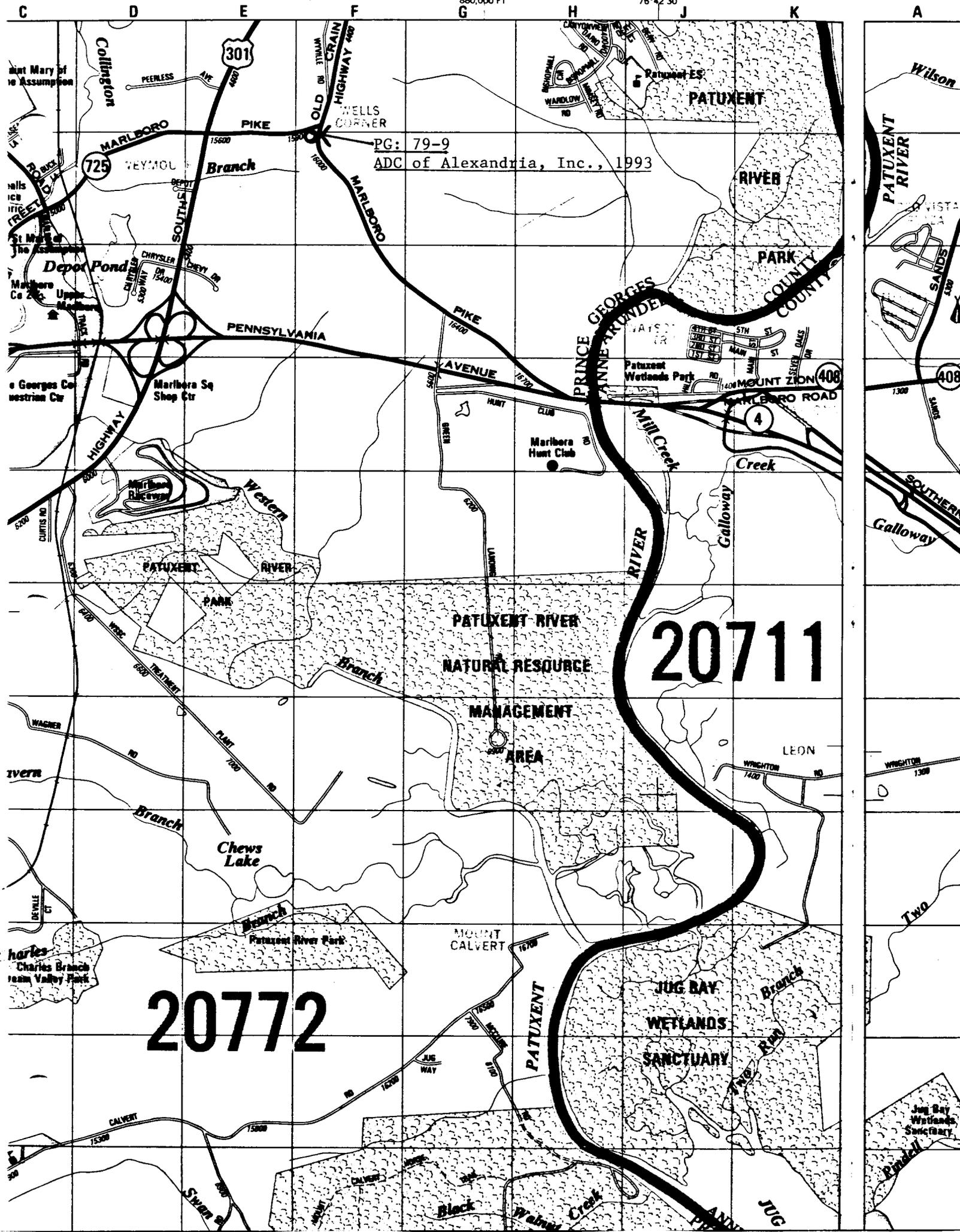
1511

6032

O-S

408

M.102-P.104



PG: 79-9
 ADC of Alexandria, Inc., 1993

20711

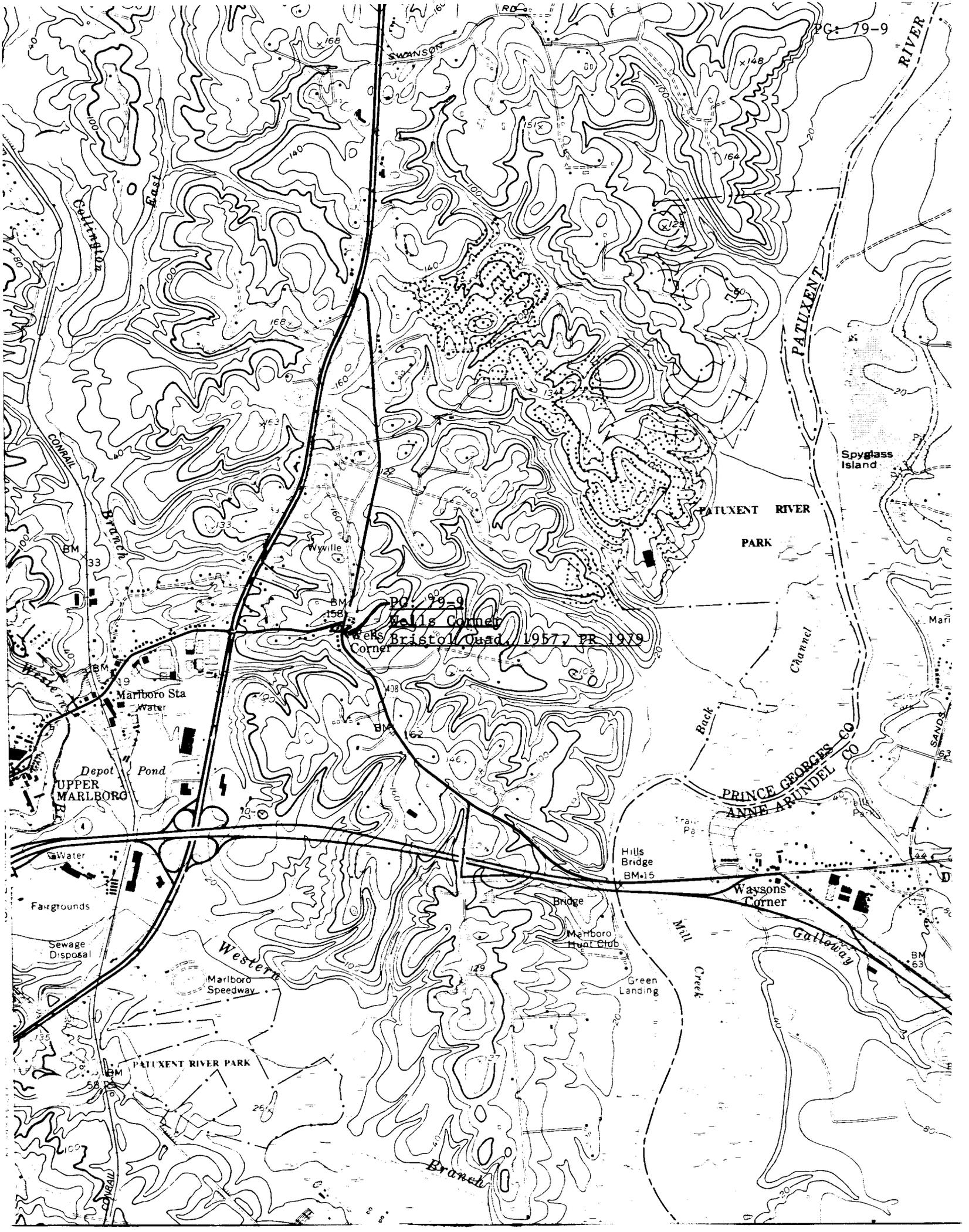
20772

PATUXENT RIVER
 NATURAL RESOURCE
 MANAGEMENT
 AREA

JUG BAY
 WETLANDS
 SANCTUARY

Two

Patuxent



PG: 79-9
Wells Corner
West Branch Bristol Quad, 1967 PR 1979

PG: 79-9

PATUXENT RIVER

PARK

Spyglass Island

Mariboro Sta

Pond

Depot
UPPER
MARLBORO

PRINCE GEORGES CO
ANNE ARUNDEL CO

Hills
Bridge
BM.15

Waysons
Corner

Western
Mariboro
Speedway

Mariboro
Hunt Club

Green
Landing

PATUXENT RIVER PARK

Branch



P.G. #79-9

Wells Corner

Prince George's County, MD.

Marina King

April 1985

Northeast elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, annapolis, MD.



SSV'S
DOORS

FURNITURE

CHAMPAGNE
CIGARETTES
WINE
IN ASSORTED
PACKETS
CALLER WELCOME

The
Winters
Cafe

FURNITURE

16001

GOLD OPENING
SOLD BY
APR 1971

167

1971

1971

1971

P.G. #79-9

Wells Corner

Prince George's county, MD.

Marina King

April 1985

North elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Anna olis,MD.



WELLS
LIQUORS
ICE COLD BEER

LIQUORS

FURNITURE
NEW - USED

FURNITURE

NAME # 79-9 WELL'S CORNER / BLACKSMITH SHOP (BLDG. AT LEFT)
LOCATION Rt 408 (WELL'S CORNER) UPPER MARLBORO, MD
FACADE NE
PHOTO TAKEN 10/3/74 MOWYER