

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #80-21 Building Date: 1890s

Building Name: Friendly School

Location: 10115 Old Fort Road, Friendly, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Excellent/Inaccessible

Description:

The Friendly school building is a small one-and-one-half-story frame gable-roofed structure, converted from a one-room schoolhouse into a modern residence. The entrance is through the central bay of the three-bay north gable end, which is covered by a modern porch. Above the porch in the gable end is a diamond-shaped window. The sides of the building are four bays wide, and the siding is covered with white abestos shingle. There are two chimneys at the ridge. In recent years, the building was lifted and placed on a cinder-block foundation. The interior has been completely altered, leaving scarcely any of the original fabric. Ten-by-ten inch floor beams, believed to be original, remain in place.

Significance:

A schoolhouse has stood at this location since before the Civil War. The one-acre lot almost certainly came out of the considerable landholdings of the Thorne family, members of which served as school trustees throughout the school's existence. Members of the Taylor family, which also provided school trustees, note that William F. Taylor helped with a major rebuilding of the school in the 1890s. This is confirmed by school Commission reports which indicate that all of the County's original school buildings were rebuilt during this period. The school at this location was officially designated as School #5 in District #5 (Piscataway); by the 1890s it came to be known as Friendly School.

In 1925 the Oxon Hill Consolidated School opened, and took in students who had formerly attended the Oxon Hill, Fort Foote, Friendly, Silesia and Fort Washington schools; in January 1926, Friendly School was sold to E. J. Thorne, and subsequently converted into a residence. Although it has been considerably altered, its exterior retains much of its structural integrity. It is one of only two surviving schools in Prince George's County constructed in the 1890's.

Acreage: 1 acre

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Friendly School

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 10115 Old Fort Road not for publication

city, town Friendly 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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name David Wockley

street & number 10110 Old Fort Road telephone no.:

city, town Friendly, state and zip code Maryland

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber #3031

street & number Main Street folio 643

city, town Upper Marlboro, state Md. 20772

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Sites

date 1974 federal state county local

pository for survey records History Division, M-NCPPC

city, town Riverdale, state Md. 20737

7. Description

Survey No. P.G. #80-21

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input 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.

The Friendly school building is a small, one- and-one-half-story frame gable-roofed structure, converted from a one-room schoolhouse into a modern residence. The entrance is through the central bay of the three-bay north gable end, which is covered by a modern porch. Above the porch in the gable end is a diamond-shaped window.

The sides of the building are four bays wide, and the siding is covered with white asbestos shingle. The cornice is returned at the gable ends. There are two chimneys at the ridge.

In recent years, the building was lifted and placed on a cinder-block foundation. The interior of the building has been completely altered, leaving none of the original fabric. The ca. 10" by 10" floor beams do remain, however, and are believed to be original.

It is probable that the south portion of the schoolhouse was added in one of the several construction phases.

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

Specific dates	1890's	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria:	<input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	
and/or		
Applicable Exception:	<input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input type="checkbox"/> local	

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

A schoolhouse has stood at this location since before the Civil War. Because the first schoolhouse was constructed before the Board of County School Commissioners was officially established, however, the original deed for the school lot has not been discovered. This one-acre school lot almost certainly came out of the considerable land-holdings of the Thorne family, and it was to Edgar J. Thorne that the house and lot were sold in 1926, when the school was closed. Members of the Thorne family served as school trustees throughout the school's existence. Another family closely associated with the school is the Taylor family, which also provided trustees for the school throughout its history.¹ Present-day members of this family, although they believe the building to be original, note that William F. Taylor (who served as trustee in the 1920's) helped with a major rebuilding of the school in the 1890's. This is probably the case, since school commission reports indicate that all of the County's original school buildings were rebuilt during this period.²

After the establishment of the Board of County School Commissioners in 1865, the school at this location was officially designated as School #5 in District #5 (Piscataway). By the 1890's, it came to be known as the Friendly School. It served seven grade levels, each class sitting on an individual bench. The building was warmed by a coal stove. Although the schoolhouse was expanded several times, it always remained a one-room structure.³

As early as 1922, plans were begun to establish a larger school to serve the students then attending the Oxon Hill, Fort Foote, Friendly, Silesia and Fort Washington schools. The Oxon Hill Consolidated School opened in 1925, and in January 1926, the Friendly school and lot were sold to E. J. Thorne for \$331.⁴ Since that time it has (like so many other vacated County school buildings) been converted into a residence. Although it has been considerably altered, it does reflect a long history of education in Prince George's County.

8. Significance (Continued)

Footnotes

1 Journal of the Board of County School Commissioners, 1865-1921;
Journal of the Board of Education, 1921-1940.

2 Public Schools of Prince George's County, Retired Teachers
Association, 1976.

3 Journal of Board of County School Commissioners, 1865-1921; interview
with owner, February 1984.

4 Journal of the Board of Education, 1921-1926; Prince George's County
Deed, #260:166.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

1703395904
P.A. 80-21

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Friendly School

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Allentown Road and Old Fort Road (W. Quadrant)

CITY OR TOWN:
Oxon Hill

STATE: Maryland COUNTY: Prince George's

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

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 Courthouse

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

8. SIGNIFICANCE

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house, once the Friendly School House, is now a private residence. The main (north) facade is three bays with a central doorway. Along the side-walls are four, double hung sash windows. Under the eaves, a wide board serves as a frieze.

PERIOD (Check

15

SPECIFIC DATE

AREAS OF SIGNI

Aborigin

Pr

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Arch

Art

Comr

Comr

Cons

STATEMENT OF :

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
- 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/> Historic <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> Art <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> Communications <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> Industry <input type="checkbox"/> Invention <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> Literature <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Political <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/> Science <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/> Theater <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ |
|--|--|---|--|

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

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

STATE:	COUNTY:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: MNCPPC DATE: 12 Dec 73

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 _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Chain of Title

Friendly School P.G. #80-21

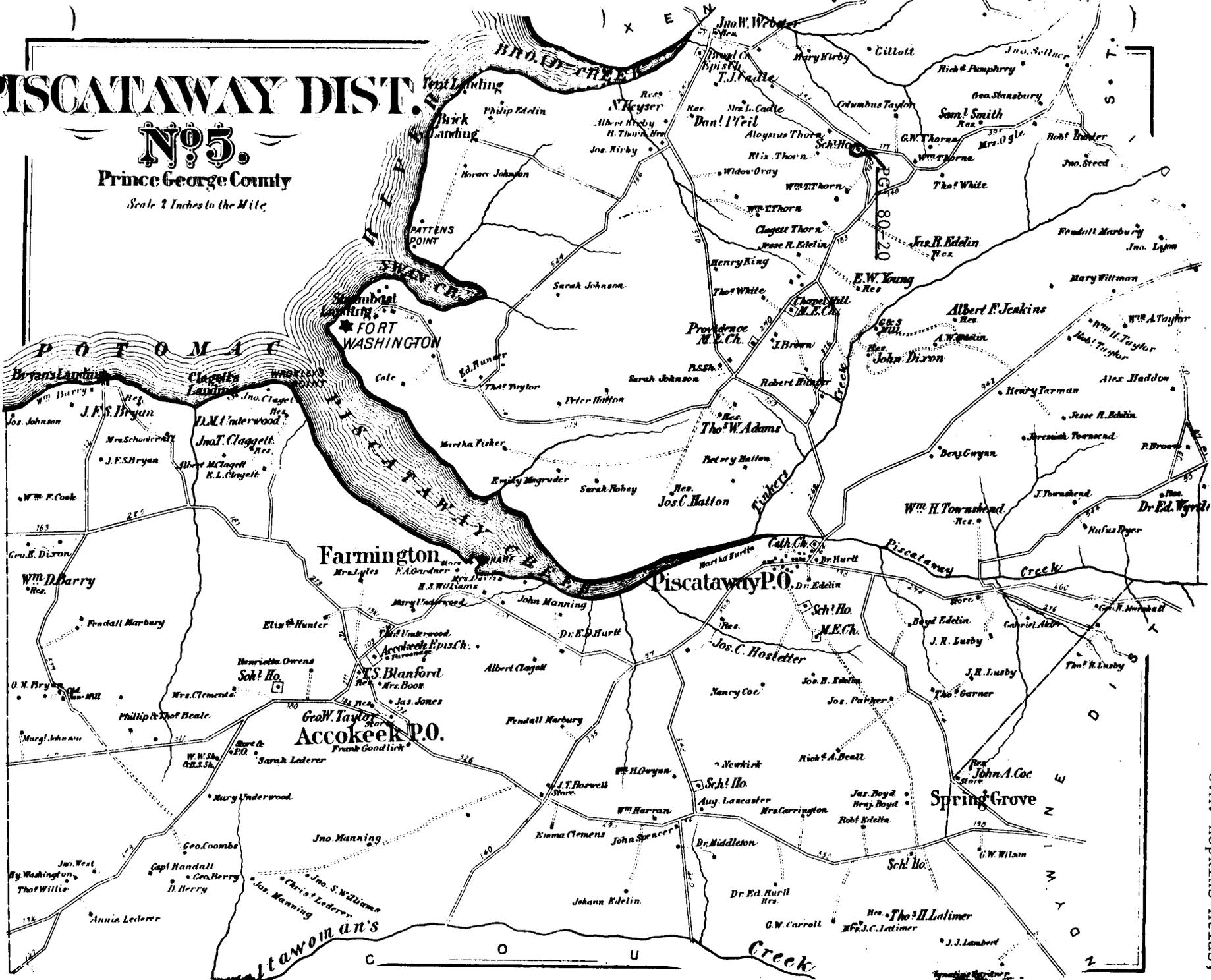
- #3031:643
10 Sept 1964
Deed
Mack Morton Reid et ux to David Wockley et ux, part (20,702 square feet) of lot known as Friendly School property, which grantors acquired by #1065:383.
- #1065:383
30 Sept 1948
Deed
Marie J. Kessel to Mack Morton Reid et ux, lot in Piscataway District, Friendly school property on road from D.C. to Piscataway, 1 acre, which grantor acquired by #855:189.
- #855:189
23 April 1948
Deed
Bernhardt L. Mortensen et ux to Marie J. Kessel, 1 acre, Friendly school property, which grantors acquired by #838:472.
- #838:472
8 July 1946
Deed
William and Virginia Van Cleaf to Bernhardt Mortensen et ux, Friendly School property, which grantors acquired by #710:317.
- #710:317
10 June 1943
Deed
Florence M. Thorne, widow, as representative of will of Edgar J. Thorne (WTD #6:21), to William Van Cleaf et ux, 1 acre, Friendly School property which Edgar J. Thorne acquired by #260:166.
- #260:166
29 Jan 1926
Deed
Board of Education of Prince George's County to E.J. Thorne, Friendly School property, 1 acre, bounded on the east of the public road, on north and west by the land of A.B. Thorne, on south by the land of E.J. Thorne.

PISCATAWAY DIST.

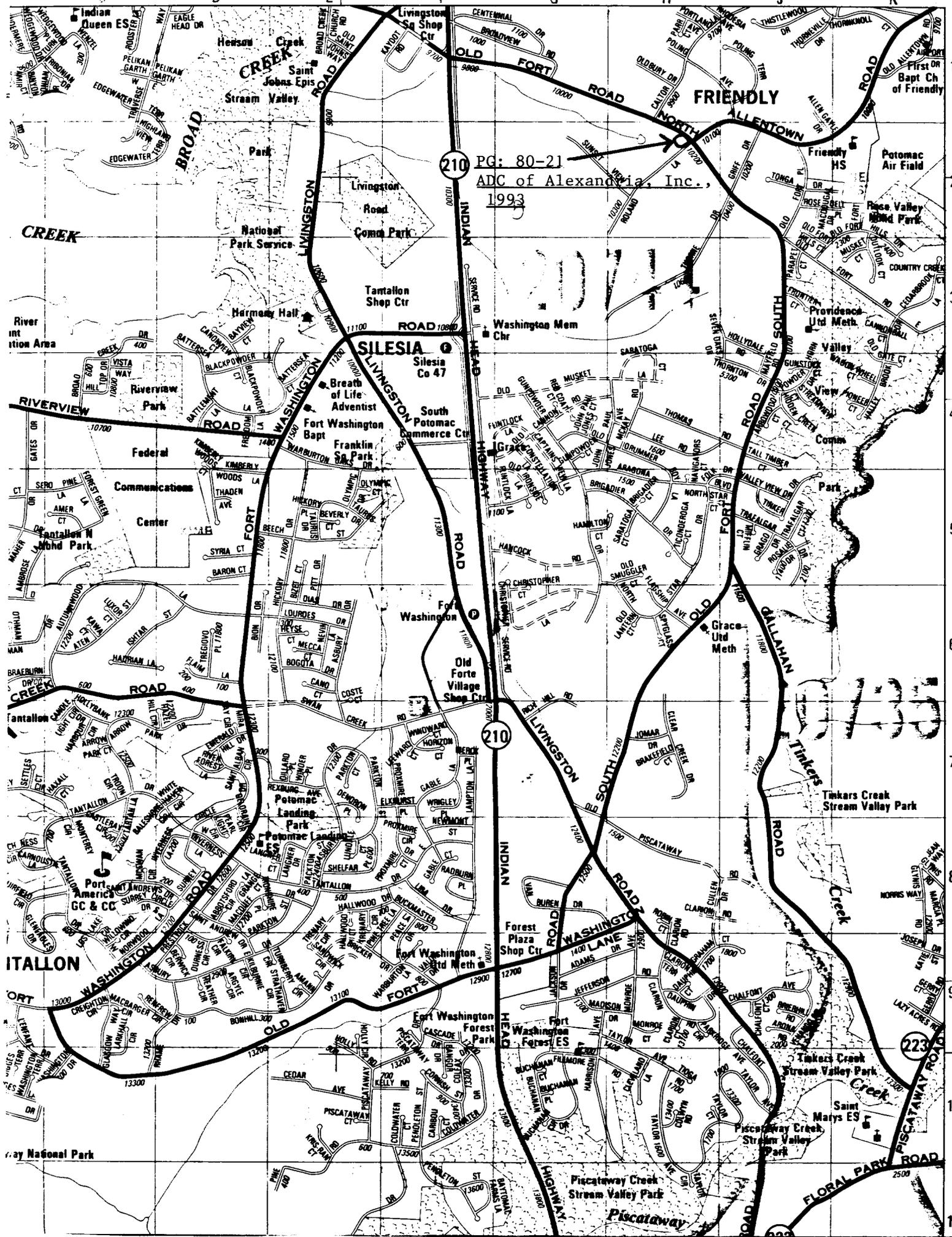
No. 5.

Prince George County

Scale 2 Inches to the Mile

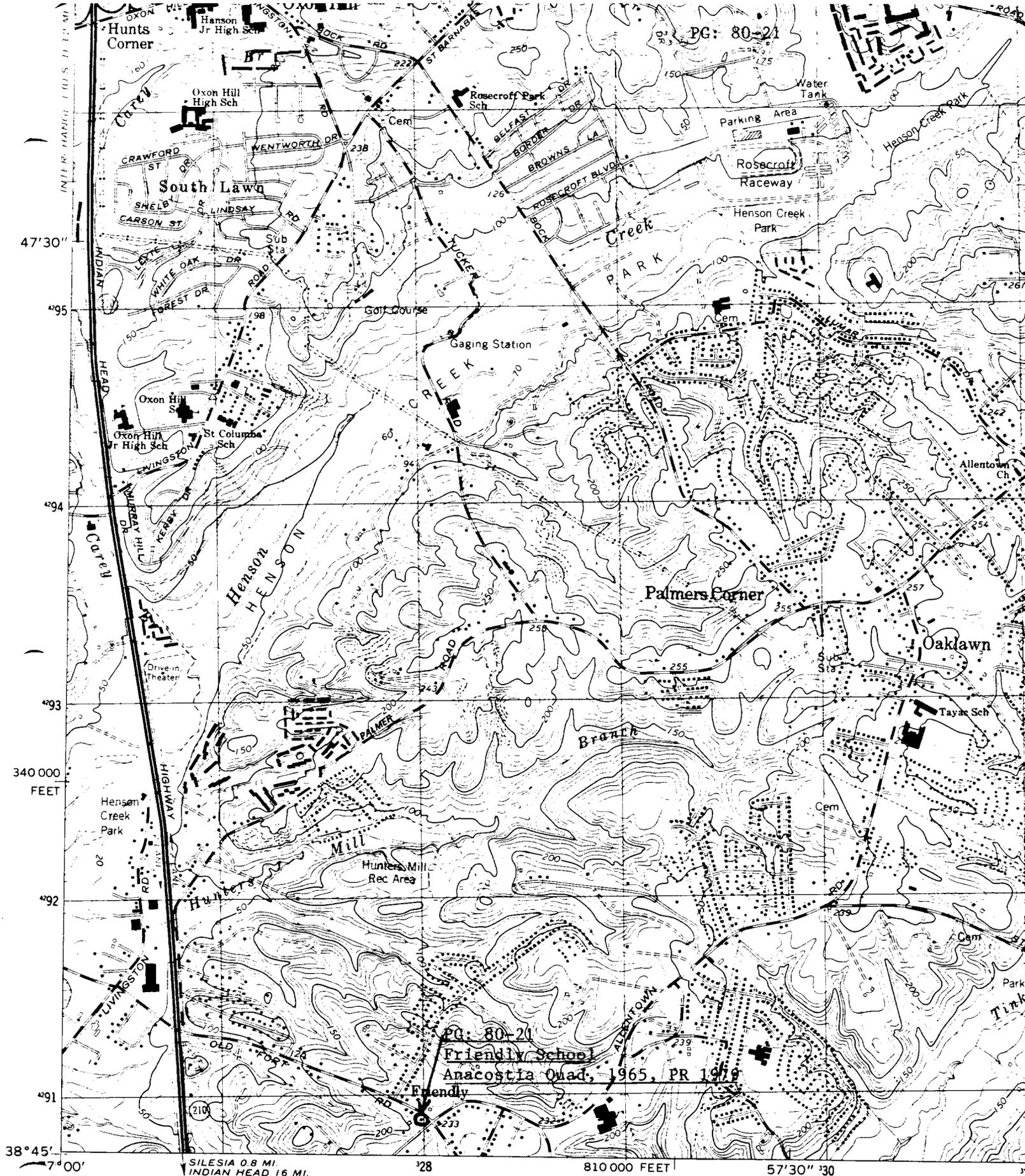


PG: 80-21
Friendly Schoolhouse
C.M. Hopkins Atlas, 1878



PG: 80-21
 ADC of Alexandria, Inc.,
 1993

135



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey and the National Ocean Survey

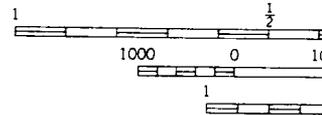
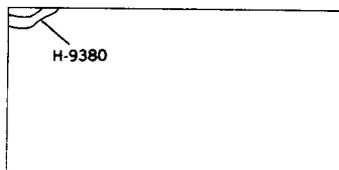
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, USCE, NCPS, and WSSC

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1955. Field checked 1956. Revised 1965

Bathymetry compiled by the National Ocean Survey from tide-coordinated hydrographic surveys. This information is not intended for navigational purposes

Mean low water (dotted) line and mean high water (heavy solid) line

NATIONAL OCEAN SURVEY
HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY INDEX



NAT BATHYMETRIC



P.G.#80-21

Friendly School

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

September 1984

North elevation

Neg: Md. Hist.Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G. #80-21

Friendly School

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

September 1984

Northeast 3/4 elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G. #80-21

Friendly School

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

September 1984

Northwest 3/4 elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG: 80-21

NAME FRIENDLY SCHOOL HOUSE

LOCATION OLD FT. RD. + ROLAND LA. SILESIA, Md (FRIENDLY)

FACADE NW

PHOTO TAKEN 12/12/73 H. DWYER



NAME FRIENDLY SCHOOL HOUSE

LOCATION OLD FT. Rd + ROLAND LA. SILESIA, Md (FRIENDLY)

FACADE E

PHOTO TAKEN 12/12/73 M. DWYER