HO-800, Mount Moriah Lodge No.7
Guilford Road, Annapolis Junction/Jessup
1897
Private

CAPSULE SUMMARY

The Mount Moriah Lodge No. 7 is a two-story, gable-front, frame building that faces east on the west side of Guilford Road, next to Asbury United Methodist Church. The building is currently vacant and only in fair condition and requires major roof repairs in the very near future. But in spite of the necessary repairs, the Lodge is notable because it remains in largely original condition. The entire building is clad in wood German siding affixed with cut nails and has vertical corner boards. It originally rested on brick piers but the spaces between the piers have now been filled with concrete block. An asphalt shingle roof caps the building, and no modern additions have been made to the structure.

The Mount Moriah Lodge No. 7 is significant under criteria A and C in the areas of architecture, social history, and ethnic history. The Lodge is significant as an intact late 19th century architectural example of a communal meeting space that has survived into the 21st century and it is also significant for its connections to the history of the African American community.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-800

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic: Mount Moriah Lodge No. 7

other:

2. Location

street and number: ___ not for publication

city, town: Annapolis Junction ___ vicinity

county: Howard

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

name: Mount Moriah Lodge, c/o Edna Burley

street and number: 7891 Nordau Court telephone: 301-490-4588

city, town: Jessup state: MD zip code: 20794

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: Howard County Courthouse tax map and parcel: Map 48, P 116

city, town: Ellicott City liber: 66 folio: 11

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

___ Contributing Resource in National Register District
___ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
___ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
___ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
___ Recorded by HABS/HAER
___ Historic Structure Report or Research Report
___ Other

6. Classification

Category
___ district
X building(s)
___ structure
___ site
___ object

Ownership
___ public
X private
___ both

Current Function
___ agriculture
___ commerce/trade
___ defense
___ domestic
___ education
___ funerary
___ government
___ health care
___ industry
___ landscape
___ recreation/culture
___ religion
___ social
___ transportation
___ work in progress
___ unknown
X vacant/not in use
___ other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory: 1

7. Description

Inventory No. HO-800

Condition

___ excellent	_X_ deteriorated
___ good	___ ruins
___ fair	___ altered

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

The Mount Moriah Lodge No. 7 is a two-story, gable-front, frame building that faces east on the west side of Guilford Road, next to Asbury United Methodist Church. The building is currently vacant and only in fair condition and requires major roof repairs in the very near future. But in spite of the necessary repairs, the Lodge is notable because it remains in largely original condition. The entire building is clad in wood German siding affixed with cut nails and has vertical corner boards. It originally rested on brick piers but the spaces between the piers have now been filled with concrete block. An asphalt shingle roof caps the building, and no modern additions have been made to the structure.

The front (east) façade of the Lodge is only one bay wide with a centered door on the first floor and a window vertically aligned above. The door has five horizontal panels and had a small transom which has since been closed up. The exterior door trim is narrow and beaded. The second floor window is a 2/2 double hung unit with the original louvered shutters still in place. A wide, open rake overhang lacks any decoration.

The south side façade has two windows on each floor. The two windows towards the front of the building are not vertically aligned but the two towards the back are. All four windows are 2/2 double hung wood windows and some of the shutters remain. The two windows towards the front of the building are each missing a shutter, and one of the shutters on the second floor window towards the rear of the building is in very bad repair. The exterior window trim is simple and beaded and the window sills are wood. There is an interior brick stovepipe chimney centered on the wall which is leaning precariously inwards. There is a large hole on the south slope of the roof caused by a falling tree several years ago. The wide, open eave overhang lacks decoration.

The rear (west) façade of the building is completely blank with no doors or windows. The materials and rake overhang match the other facades of the building.

The north side façade is three bays deep with three windows on the first story and a window and a door on the second story. The door on the second story is towards the rear of the building and is accessed by an exterior stair that rises along the side of the building. The doorway is covered with plywood and the stair is in very poor repair with many of the treads missing. The windows on this façade are the same 2/2 double hung wood units found on the rest of the building and most of the shutters remain. The second floor window is vertically aligned above the front-most first story window and there is also a first story window vertically aligned below the second floor doorway. The materials and eave overhang on this façade match the rest of the building.

The interior space is undivided with one large room on the first floor. There is a small closet in the front left corner of the room made out of bead board. The interior window and door trim is surprisingly fine with bulls eye corner blocks and reeded architraves. The original pot bellied heat stove is still in place. There does not appear to be an interior stair to the second floor meaning that at this point the second floor is completely inaccessible. It does appear as if the second floor has sustained heavy damage from the falling tree and the unrepaired hole in the roof.

The Lodge sits fairly close to the road and is sheltered by many large mature trees. There is a cemetery, associated with the church next door, behind (west of) the parking lot on the north side of the Lodge and there is a cemetery associated with the Lodge on the south side of the Lodge building. The boundaries of the cemeteries are not delineated and many of the graves in the church cemetery are overgrown. There also appear to be a fair number of unmarked graves judging by the mounding of the terrain, and there are many graves marked only with uncarved fieldstone or granite stones. According to the current owner of the Lodge property, the Lodge cemetery is for Lodge members, their families, or anyone that they wish to 'sponsor' to be interred there.

Beyond the church and Lodge properties, the surrounding area has become increasingly industrial in the last 25 years and the construction of Route 32 immediately to the southwest had a detrimental effect on the historic character of the area.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-800

Name Mount Moriah Lodge No. 7
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

Note: The Mount Moriah Lodge No. 7 was previously listed in the inventory along with HO-337, Asbury M.E. Church. The Lodge building was mistakenly identified as the earlier church building. This form, along with a newly completed form for HO-337 should replace the earlier HO-337 form.

8. Significance

Inventory No. HO-800

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
__ 1600-1699	__ agriculture	__ economics	__ health/medicine	__ performing arts
__ 1700-1799	__ archeology	__ education	__ industry	__ philospohy
X 1800-1899	X architecture	__ engineering	__ invention	__ politics/government
__ 1900-1999	__ art	__ entertainment/ recreation	__ landscape architecture	__ religion
__ 2000-	__ commerce		__ law	__ science
	__ communications	X ethnic heritage	__ literature	X social history
	__ community planning	__ exploration/ settlement	__ maritime industry	__ transportation
	__ conservation		__ military	__ other:

Specific dates 1897 **Architect/Builder** unknown

Construction dates 1897

Evaluation for:

__ National Register __ Maryland Register X not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

The Mount Moriah Lodge No. 7 is significant under criteria A and C in the areas of architecture, social history, and ethnic history. The Lodge is significant as an intact late 19th century architectural example of a communal meeting space that has survived into the 21st century and it is also significant for its connections to the history of the African American community.

The Lodge was constructed in late 1896 or 1897 by the Trustees and Directors of Mount Moriah Lodge No. 7 Benevolent Sons and Daughters of Abraham. The quarter acre parcel on which the Lodge sits was granted to the trustees by Cornelius and Catherine Mack (Cornelius was also one of the Trustees) for the sum of $16 in June of 1896. The deed states that the quarter acre is "land on which to build a suitable Hall for the use of the aforesaid Lodge." One of the boundaries of the lot, the northwest line, is described as bordering "the New School Lot" which was additional land granted to the Asbury Methodist Church by Cornelius Mack in 1892, probably for a school addition. The church had already been in place for many years by the time the Lodge was built and it seems as if the two institutions were associated. A deed executed in December of 1888 between Henrietta White, Executrix for Thomas J. White and The Trustees of Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church, Colored indicates that Thomas White had "during his life time" donated land to the Trustees for church and school purposes but had neglected to execute a "good and sufficient deed" for the property. The deed states that the parcel of ground had "for a long time" been in the possession of the Trustees by virtue of Mr. White's donation. The 1888 deed confirms Thomas White's donation to the church trustees. And in fact a church building was already standing in 1886 when Cornelius Mack bought the parcel of ground that he later donated to the Trustees of the Lodge. That deed, from Dorsey and Peyton Brown to Cornelius Mack, describes the metes and bounds of the 19 acre parcel and refers to a "stone planted at the southwest corner of the colored church fence" as one of the property markers. The "Asbury ME Church" is indicated on the 1878 Hopkins map of Howard County and the "Asbury Cold. ME Church" is indicated on the 1860 Martenet map of the county. Given the long history of African American church and school activities on the property, it is probably no accident that the Mount Moriah Lodge was built where it was. The site had long been a place where the African American community could gather together to celebrate their religion and their community. The construction of the Mount Moriah Lodge was therefore a logical outgrowth of the burgeoning efforts within the African American community in the 1890's to uplift the race. The influence of the Black Churches were felt far beyond their walls, and the social gospel of Methodism "encouraged Christians to put their faith to work on behalf of the physical, everyday needs of African Americans" (1). The formation of a variety of African American fraternal organizations had their basis in this social gospel and were important parts of the community, providing education, job training, meeting space and self esteem to their members. The Mount Moriah Lodge was probably one such organization with its roots in the Methodist religion but its main concern the everyday needs of the local community.

(1) Anne H. Pinn and Anthony B. Pinn, FORTRESS INTRODUCTION TO BLACK CHURCH HISTORY, (Fortress Press, Minneapolis: 2002), 133.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO-800

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property .25

Acreage of historical setting .25

Quadrangle name Savage

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Tax map 48, parcel 116. Same property boundaries that it had in 1896. Located beside the Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Kristin Hill, Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning	date	10/2/03
street and number	3430 Court House Drive	telephone	410-313-4335
city or town	Ellicott City	state MD	zip code 21043

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust
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Historic Properties Form

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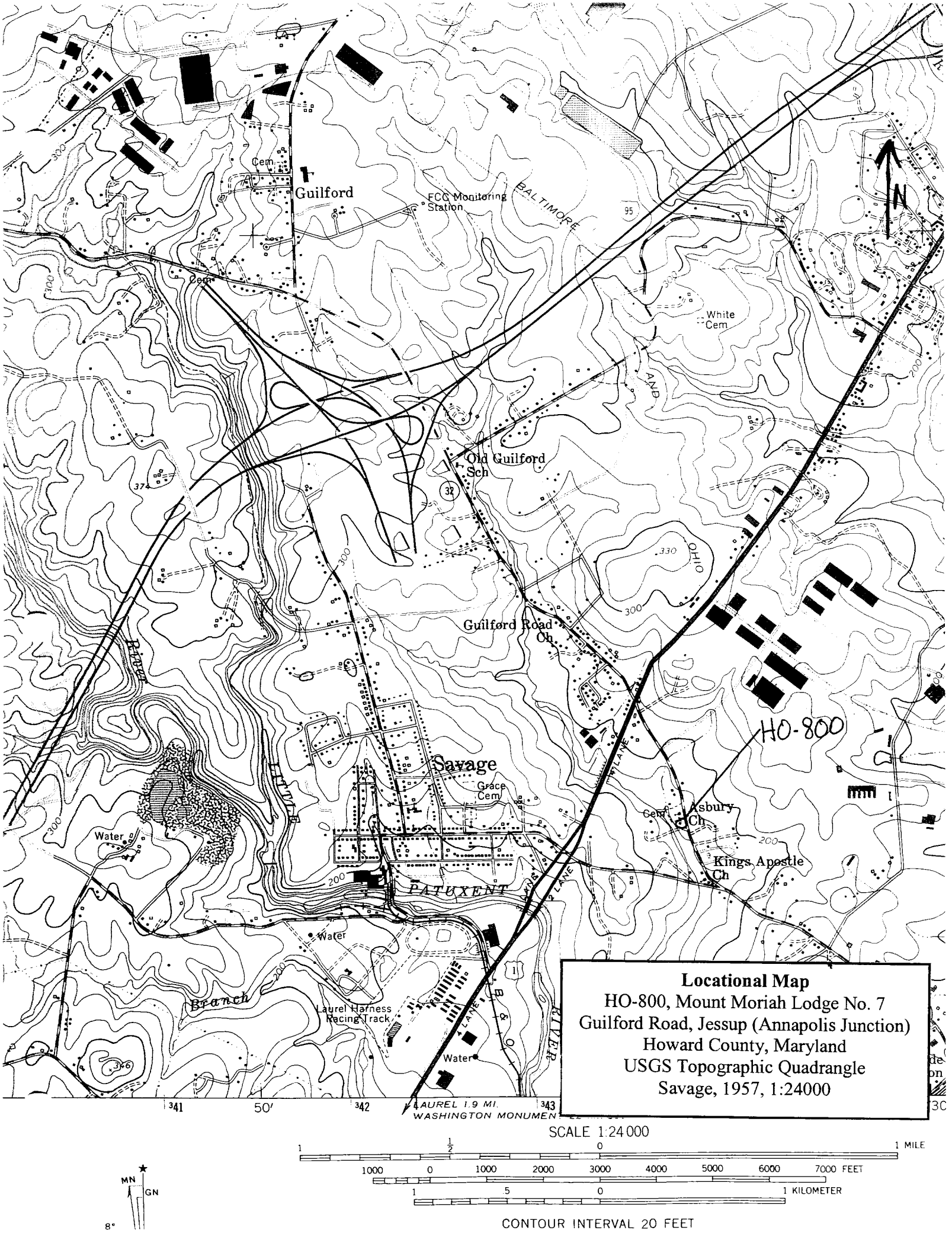
Name Mount Moriah Lodge No. 7
Continuation Sheet
Number 9 Page 1

Hopkins, G.M. ATLAS OF FIFTEEN MILES AROUND BALTIMORE INCLUDING HOWARD COUNTY MARYLAND. Philadelphia, 1878.

Martenet, Simon. MARTENET'S MAP OF HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND. Baltimore, 1860.

Howard County Land Records, Howard County Courthouse, Ellicott City. See attached chain of title for specific libers and folios.

Pinn, Anne H. and Anthony B. Pinn. FORTRESS INTRODUCTION TO BLACK CHURCH HISTORY (Fortress Press, Minneapolis: 2002).



Locational Map
HO-800, Mount Moriah Lodge No. 7
Guilford Road, Jessup (Annapolis Junction)
Howard County, Maryland
USGS Topographic Quadrangle
Savage, 1957, 1:24000

40

HO-800, Mount Moriah Lodge No. 7
Guilford Rd
Howard County, MD
Kristin Hill, 9/03
Negative at MDSHPO
Looking south from North side of Guilford Rd.

1/7

HO-800, Mount Moriah Lodge No. 7
Guilford Rd.
Howard County, MD
Kristin Hill, 9/03
Negative at MDSHPO
North elevation

2/7

HO 800, Mount Moriah Lodge No. 7
Guilford Rd.
Howard County, MD
Kristin Hill, 9/03
Negative at MDSHPO
Front (northeast) elevation
3/7

HO-800, Mount Moriah Lodge No. 7
Guilford Rd.
Howard County MD
Kristin Hill, 9/03
Negative at MDSHPO
East elevation
4/7

HO-800, Mount Moriah Lodge No. 7
Guilford Rd.
Howard County, MD
Kristin Hill, 9/03
Negative at MDSHPO
Southeast Elevation

5/7

HO-800, Mount Moriah Lodge No. 7
Guilford Rd.
Howard County, MD
Kristin Hill, 9/93
Negative at MDSHPO
south elevation
6/7

HO-800, Mount Moriah Lodge No. 7
Guilford Rd.
Howard County, MD
Kristin H. 11, 9/03
Negative at MDSHPO
Window, NW facade
7/7