

Easement

HO-50

HOWARD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1894

Private

Ellicott City

This marvelous granite Gothic revival style building constructed in a cruciform plan once housed the First Presbyterian Church and now serves as headquarters and repository for the Howard County Historical Society. It is characterized by steeply pitched intersecting gable roofs, double-hung Gothic stained and leaden glass paned windows featuring curvilinear patterns and a tall square entrance and bell tower which rises to a height of a hundred feet. The Gothic arched double entrance and all the fenestration of the building are characterized by stretcher stone gothic arched lintels. The central projecting bay (north axis) of the north wall holds a rose window picturing two cherubs, the east-west transept holds identical east-west tripartite windows featuring a central rose and three gothic windows within a large gothic arch, while the south axis which holds a reception room gives the outward feeling of an ambulatory in a medieval church with its semi-hexagonal south end crowned by a semi-conical roof giving an almost Romanesque feeling to what would otherwise be characterized as neo-Gothic in style.

Easement

14005D4603

HO-50
District 2

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:
Howard County Historical Society Building
AND/OR HISTORIC:
First Presbyterian Church

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
8328 Court Avenue
CITY OR TOWN:
Ellicott City,
STATE: Maryland COUNTY: Howard

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"/> 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	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" 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) _____ _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Howard County Historical Society
STREET AND NUMBER:
8328 Court Avenue
CITY OR TOWN:
Ellicott City STATE: Maryland 21043

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Hall of Records
STREET AND NUMBER:
Howard County Court House
CITY OR TOWN:
Ellicott City STATE: Maryland 20143
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): Tax Map 25A, p 231

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS 348/547 .201 acres

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Howard County Historic Sites Inventory
DATE OF SURVEY: 1977 Federal State County Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Maryland Historical Trust
STREET AND NUMBER:
21 State Circle
CITY OR TOWN:
Annapolis STATE: Maryland 21401

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

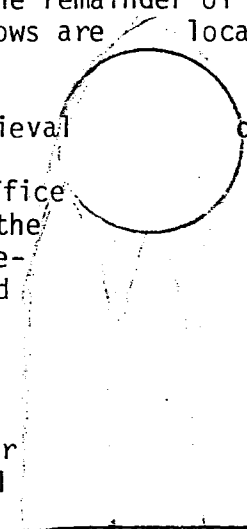
This marvelous granite Gothic revival style structure built in a cruciform plan once housed the First Presbyterian Church and now serves as headquarters for the Howard County Historical Society. The building is characterized by steeply pitched intersecting gabled roofs, double-hung Gothic stained and leaden glass paned windows featuring curvilinear patterns and a tall square entrance and bell tower from whence rises to a hundred feet, a tall church spire. The Gothic arched entrance way is decorated with a stretcher stone Gothic arched lintel.

The north wall has a central projecting bay which holds a rose window picturing two cherubs and circular stone decoration along with a basement casement window holding six-six lites surmounted by a flat stone lintel and centered into this projecting bay.

The east and west bays of the north wall each hold two double-hung Gothic arched windows, similar to those already described decorated with stretcher stone gothic arched lintels. A basement door, holding nine lites, is located in the east bay surmounted by a flat stone lintel.

The east and west walls of the transept hold identical tri-partite gothic windows composed of a rose window in the upper portion of the gothic arch with three gothic windows fitted into the remainder of the space. See Figure 1. In addition two two lite cellar windows are located in the east wall of this transept.

What would ordinarily be an ambulatory in a medieval church becomes a reception room for the congregation. It is wide (one bay is used as an entrance into a small office on the west and into the entrance foyer on the east) while the remaining bays hold gothic windows similar to those described. The east and west walls of the reception room extend inward and meet at a south wall forming a semi-hexagon at this the large medieval square of the element, building used as an entrance foyer. (see Plan) Each of the four walls of the bell tower are opened by a gothic archway and crowned by a tall, conical roofed spire. A corner stone on the south east corner of the entrance has the date 1842, which must be the date of the formation of the first church and not the building of today which was constructed in 1894.



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 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) 1894

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | | <u>Historical Society</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1837 a Presbyterian Church was founded in Thistle Mills now Ilchester. The congregation was composed of Scotch and English residents of the Patapsco Valley, who lived between Union Mills, now known as Oella and Thistle Mills. In 1839 twenty-three charter members formed the church. In 1842-44 an ediface was built on the site of the present building but collapsed when excavations were made to enlarge a basement Sunday School room and declared a total loss because of it. The building was completely rebuilt in 1894 with George Archer as architect and completed within six months, a notable accomplishment to say the least.

It was constructed of granite quarried locally, supposedly from a quarry at the foot of Main Street. An extremely fine example of the Gothic revival style which flourished at that time, it is constructed in the cruciform plan and characterized by steeply pitched intersecting gabled roofs and double-hung Gothic stained and leaden paned glass windows featuring curvilinear patterns. The transept or arms of the cross and the north axis hold the original worship area, now used for meetings, while the south axis, the base or foot of the cross, holds a reception room. This south axis appears on the exterior as a sort of medieval ambulatory with its semi-hexagonal south end crowned by a semi-conical roof giving an almost Romanesque feeling to what would otherwise be characterized as neo-Gothic in style.

In 1960 the parish outgrew the existing building and Mrs. James Clarke, Sr. bought it and presented it to the Howard County Historical Society. It now serves as a repository for various historical documents, records and books and is used as the headquarters of the Society, which opens periodically to the public.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Holland, Celia - Ellicott City, Maryland 1772-1972. Bladensburg, 1972.
 American Association of University Women. Mimeographed paper on Historic Ellicott City. Ellicott City, 1972.
 Map of Historic Ellicott City, 1867. Mrs. Jean Hannon - Ellicott City 1972.

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:

Please see Tax Map 25A, p. 231
 348/547

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist

ORGANIZATION: Office of Planning and Zoning DATE:

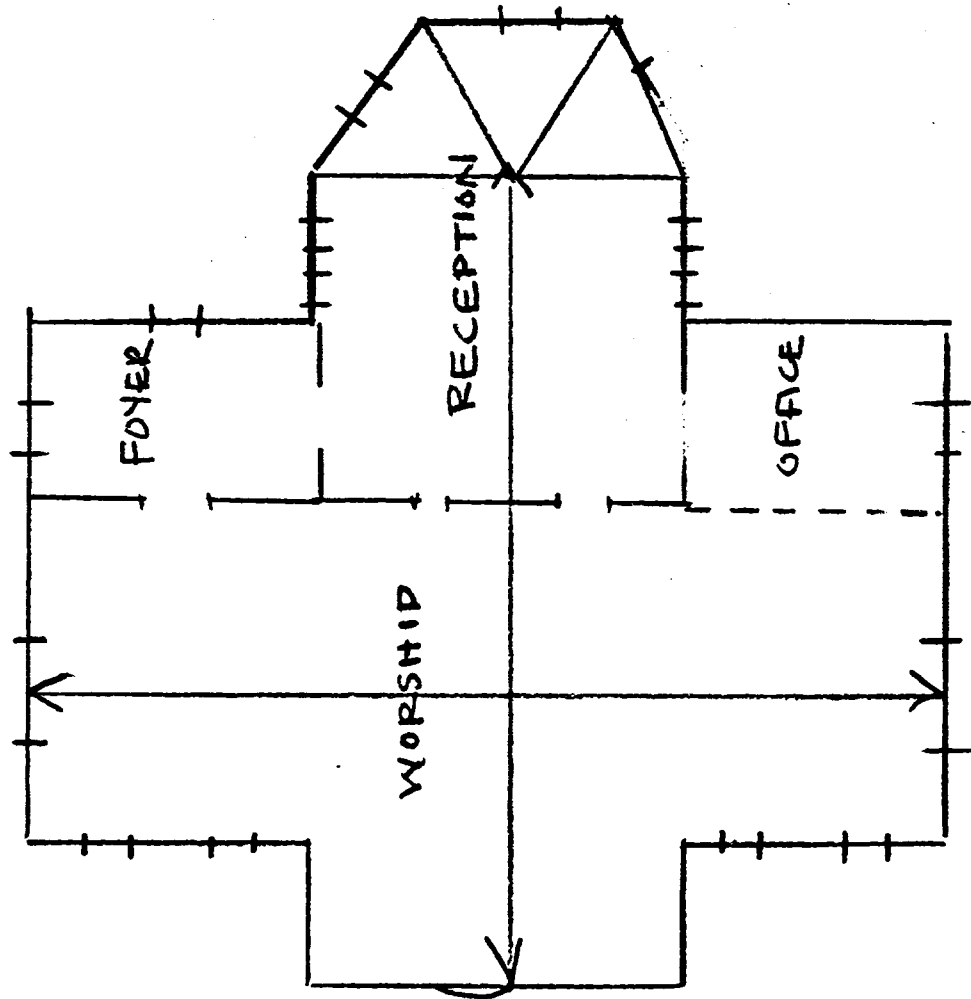
STREET AND NUMBER:
 3450 Court House Drive

CITY OR TOWN: Ellicott City STATE: Maryland ZIP: 21043

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

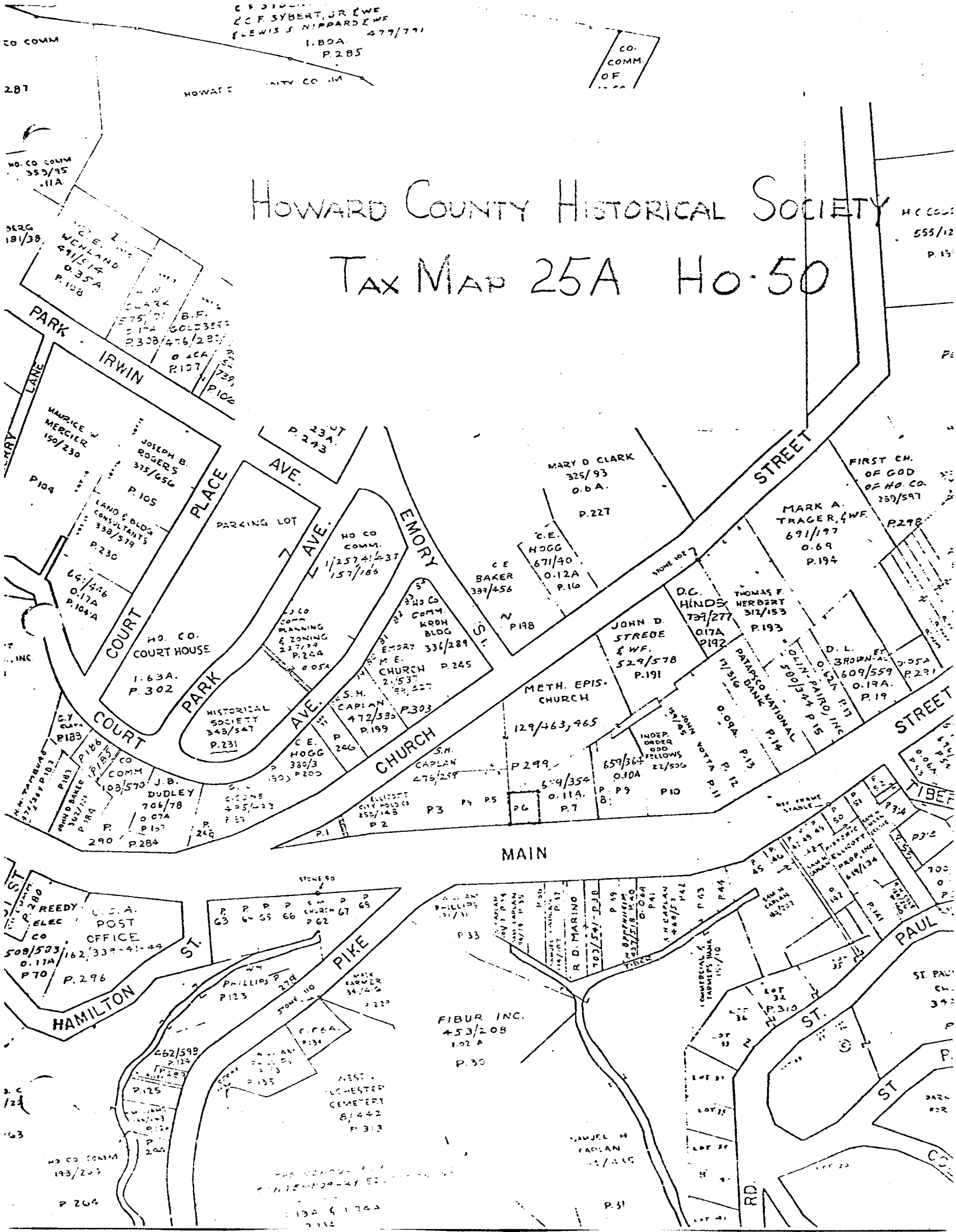
Significance of this property is:
 National State Local

Signature _____

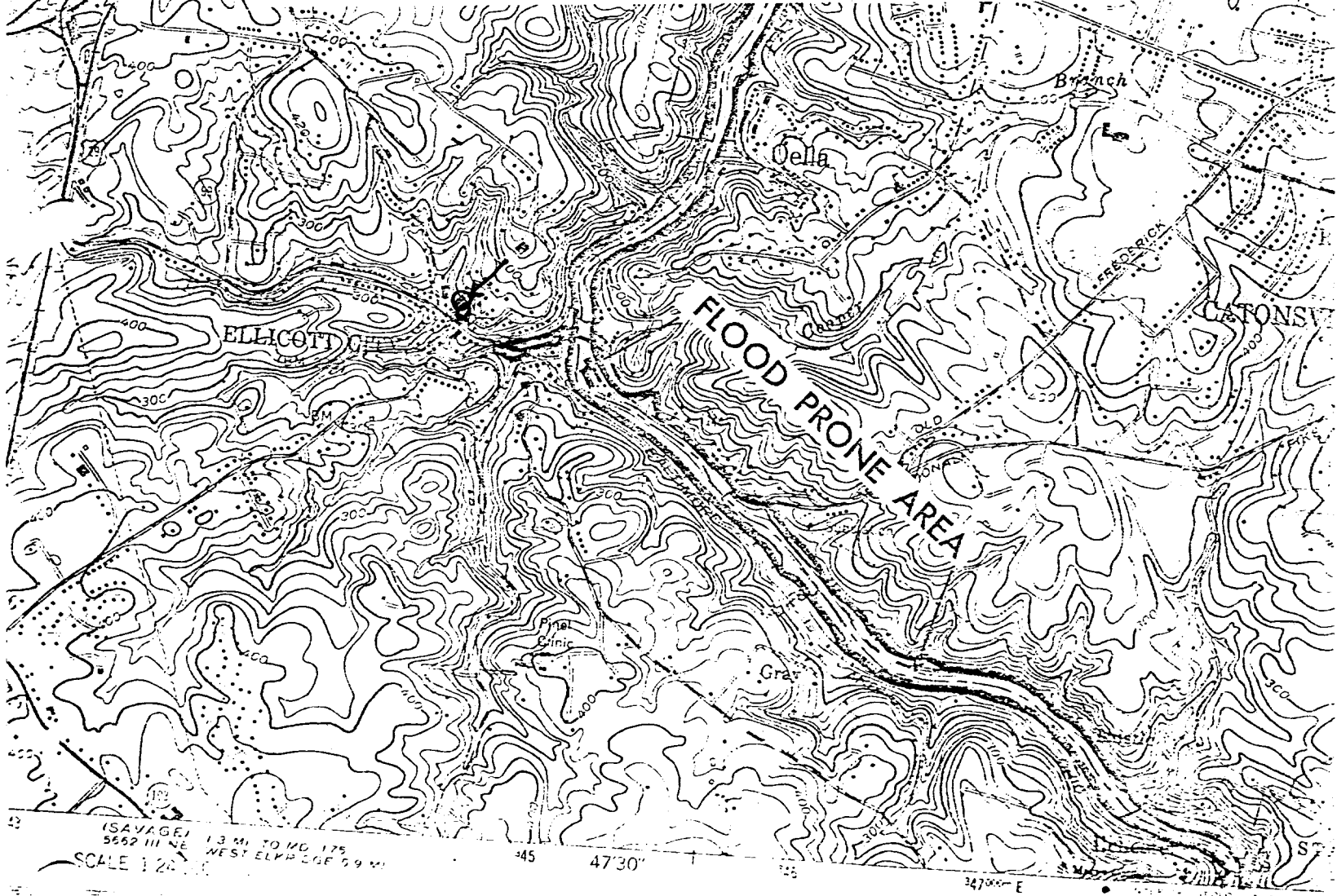


HOWARD COUNTY HISTORICAL
SOCIETY PLAN

HOWARD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY TAX MAP 25A HO-50



HOWARD COUNTY HISTORICAL
SOCIETY BUILDING HO-50
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY MAP
ELLICOTT CITY, MD. QUAD



EXPLANATION

Flood boundaries were
Regional stage-fre



CLEORA BARNES THOMPSON
PLANNING CONSULTANT
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY

Ho. 50 HOWARD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
(WEST)
MAR. 77