

CAPSULE SUMMARY

BA-3088

Cuba Road African American Survey District

Butler

Baltimore County, MD

1852-1950s

The Cuba Road African American Survey District is located near the historic village of Butler in the Eighth District of Baltimore County. The small village of Gentsville was the original name of the area to which the southern end of the African American survey district extended. The 1877 Hopkins Atlas of the area depicts a Mrs. Gent on the east side of Cuba Road sitting directly at the road. Mrs. Gent's house is most likely 14029 Cuba Road. Slightly further south of this property is the residence of A.J. Gent.(2) The Gough United Methodist Church was founded in 1875. Similar to many African American communities at the time, the church served a dual purpose as the public school for its residents. In 1906, a fire destroyed this building and a year later the present church was constructed. Between 1915 and 1930 the area encompassed by the Cuba Road African American survey district grew slightly reaching a population of approximately 60 residents. A total of ten households existed according to the 1930 U.S. census.

The Cuba Road African American Survey District has a total of seventeen buildings are within the survey district, twelve of which are contributing. The Cuba Road survey district is an entirely residential district augmented by the Gough United Methodist Church. The built fabric along Cuba Road within the survey district ranges in date from the mid-19th century to 1980s. The houses are all wood-frame construction and include roof types as side gable, front gable, cross gable, and pyramidal. Many of the houses have brick chimneys either center interior or interior-end. Foundations for the historic buildings are random-rubble stone and the non-historic foundations are either concrete block or poured concrete. Several of the houses maintain their original (or historic) siding; wood shingle, board-and-batten, and weatherboard. Replacement materials include aluminum siding, vinyl siding, and asbestos shingles.

7. Description

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Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

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

The Cuba Road African American Survey District is located southeast of the small village of Butler and runs parallel to Falls Road in Baltimore County. The African American community along Cuba Road is stretched out nearly eight tenths of a mile from a point north of Miller Road running south to Gardiner Road. A total of seventeen buildings are within the survey district, twelve of which are contributing. The community is centered around the Gough United Methodist Church at 14200 Cuba Road.

The Cuba Road survey district is an entirely residential district augmented by the Gough United Methodist Church. The linear quality of the district in this section of Baltimore County gives it a sense of cohesion although it maintains a rural appearance and character. The landscape is hilly and many of the lots are sloping surrounded by trees and shrubs. Many of the houses have driveways either paved, dirt or gravel. The scattering of houses between Gough U.M. Church and Gardiner Road to the south have varied set backs. Several are sited away from the road, such as 14102 Cuba Road and 14034 Cuba Road, and several stand along Cuba Road such as 14024 Cuba Road and 14028 Cuba Road.

The northernmost section of the African American community along Cuba Road consists of three houses along a gravel drive north of Miller Road. Two houses, 14317 and 14319 Cuba Road, face northwest towards the gravel drive and the third house, 14315 Cuba Road, is oriented towards Cuba Road. Each house maintains a similar set back close to the road and gravel drive. Trees and shrubs surround each house, and woods are located at the northeast end of the drive.

The Gough U.M. Church is slightly set back from Cuba Road and is sited on a hill with its associated cemetery located north of the church. The church has an asphalt-paved driveway leading to the church and the parking area to the south and rear of the church building. The location of the Church appears to the highest of the entire survey district.

The built fabric along Cuba Road within the survey district ranges in date from the mid-19th century to 1990. Almost entirely composed of vernacular dwellings this community consists of fourteen historic houses, one historic church, one historic cemetery, and four non-historic dwellings. The houses are all wood-frame construction and include roof types as side gable, front gable, cross gable, and pyramidal. Many of the houses have brick chimneys either center interior or interior-end. Foundations for the historic buildings are random-rubble stone and the non-historic foundations are either concrete block or poured concrete. Several of the houses maintain their original (or historic) siding; wood shingle, board-and-batten, and weatherboard. Replacement materials include aluminum siding, vinyl siding, and asbestos shingles.

One type of vernacular dwelling exhibited throughout the Cuba Road survey district is two-and-a-half stories in height with a raised stone foundation, measuring from two to five bays wide. This common form is capped with a side-gable roof featuring one interior brick chimney and overhanging eaves. One of the oldest houses within the community, 14102 Cuba Road, dating to circa 1877, exhibits this form. Three bays wide, this dwelling stands on a parged stone foundation and is distinguished by its two-story half-hipped roof porch on the façade. The porch covers the first story and the basement. This house form with two entries on the façade, one each at the basement level and first story, is common throughout Baltimore County particularly with stone dwellings. This house, however, is wood-frame clad with wood shingles. It is supported with Tuscan posts and square balusters and features 6/6 wood-sash windows on the first story. Rising above the standing-seam metal roof is one interior-end brick chimney. Other examples of this particular type of house are 14319, 14029, 14028, and 14024 Cuba Road. The latter example, circa 1852, is two-and-a-half stories high, two bays wide, clad with board-and-batten siding, and features 6/6 wood-sash windows. The house at 14029 Cuba, circa 1880, is two-stories high, four bays wide, clad with aluminum siding, and features 6/6 wood-sash windows, and an interior-center brick chimney. The cross-gable house at 14028 Cuba Road, circa 1882, originally was three bays wide with a center entrance and two brick chimneys. Alterations to this dwelling include the removal of the front entry, replacement vinyl windows, and vinyl replacement siding. Constructed circa 1930, the dwelling at 14319 Cuba Road is similar to others except that it measures two bays wide and is clad with German weatherboard siding. Features of this house include cornerboards, square-edged wood sills and surrounds, 6/6 wood-sash windows, and exposed rafter tails.

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Early 20th-century examples of houses within the Cuba Road African American Survey District include 14101 Cuba Road, 14105 Cuba Road, 14115 Cuba Road, 14317 Cuba Road, and 14319 Cuba Road. The wood-frame vernacular dwelling standing at 14317 Cuba Road dates from the early 1920s. Unlike the majority of the houses along Cuba Road, this dwelling features a front-gable roof orientation. It is two-stories in height, two-bays wide, clad with German vinyl siding, and stands on a parged random-rubble stone foundation. Across the full width of the façade is an enclosed shed-roof porch. Features of the house include 3/1 wood-sash windows, a gable-roof wall dormer on the side elevation, an interior-end brick chimney, exposed rafter tails, and overhanging eaves. A similar example to the previously described dwelling is 14113 Cuba Road (BA-803). Facing north, this 1890's dwelling rises one-and-a-half stories in height and is set away from the road. It rests on a raised, random-rubble stone foundation, and is clad with vinyl siding. Rising above the front-gable roof is one interior-center parged chimney. This dwelling features overhanging eaves, 2/2 wood-sash windows, a shed-roof porch on the façade, and two shed-roof dormers on the side elevation. Interesting to note, the orientation of this house is away from the road. The double-pile house at 14105, circa 1910's, is two-stories high and two bays wide. Rising above the pyramidal roof is an interior-center brick chimney. Covering the full-width of the façade is a half-hipped roof porch supported with square posts and a solid balustrade. This wood-frame dwelling is clad with weatherboard siding.

Later examples of 20th century dwellings along Cuba Road in the survey district stand at 14106 Cuba Road and 14108 Cuba Road. The circa 1940s Cape Cod house at 14137 Cuba Road is one-and-a-half stories in height with a side-gable roof and an exterior-end brick chimney. It is five bays wide with a center single-leaf entry covered by a shed-roof porch. The house is clad with German vinyl siding and features two gable-roof dormers.

The cornerstone of the community is the Gough United Methodist Church (BA-847) standing at 14200 Cuba Road. Two stories high and one bay wide with a center entry this vernacular church is capped with a front-gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. Lacking any stylistic detailing, this rectangular building features a single-leaf entrance, 6/6 wood-sash windows, and double-hung windows with stained glass diamond-shaped panes. The wood-frame Gough U.M. Church is re-clad with German vinyl siding restricting visibility of the foundation. Previous documentation records the church stands on a random-rubble stone foundation.

The cemetery associated with the Gough U.M. Church is located on the hill adjacent to the north side of the church. The cemetery lacks any strict adherence to order or symmetry. The markers are not consistently lined in rows, and similar to the entire neighborhood it maintains a rural character and landscape. The landscape is not level but rather hilly with mature trees throughout the cemetery. The majority of the identified graves are marked with upright rounded limestone headstones with a scattering of small obelisk markers. Several of the historic graves are marked with marble upright stones whereas the majority have limestone and granite markers, both headstones and footstones. Peter Gough and his wife Ellen G. Gough, organizers of the Gough U.M. Church, are interred near the church and have paired marble headstones. Peter Gough died February 6, 1888 and Ellen G. Gough passed away five days after her husband. Other markers indicate the family names of Madden, Cole, Johnson, Smith, and Wallace. The oldest internment appears to be the Goughs with the most recent marker dating from the 1980s.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates	1852-1990s	Architect/Builder	Unknown
Construction dates	1852-1990s		

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

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 Cuba Road African American Survey District is located near the historic village of Butler in the Eighth District of Baltimore County. The Eighth District is bounded on the north by the Fifth and Seventh Districts, on the east by the Ninth and Tenth, on the south by the Ninth and Third, and on the west by the Fourth and Fifth Districts. It is the third largest district of the county covering over 62 square miles. In 1881, it had a population of approximately 6000, which was down over a thousand from a decade prior. During this period, its primary source of income was its mining for iron ore, marble, and limestone. It also maintained numerous mills grist and saw mills in addition to paper factories.(1)

The small village of Gentsville was the original name of the area to which the southern end of the African American survey district extended. The 1877 Hopkins Atlas of the area depicts a Mrs. Gent on the east side of Cuba Road sitting directly at the road. Mrs. Gent's house is most likely 14029 Cuba Road. Slightly further south of this property is the residence of A.J. Gent.(2)

Founded in 1875, the Gough United Methodist Church is not depicted on the Hopkins Atlas. The leading founder for the church was Peter Gough, an life-long employee of the Oregon Furnace Company. The reason for this is that the small congregation met in the house of Daniel Parker at 14113 Cuba Road. According to the previous survey of the Gough U.M. Church (BA-847) built a building in the late 19th century. Similar to many African American communities at the time, the church served a dual purpose as the public school for its residents. In 1906, a fire destroyed this building and a year later the present church was constructed. This new church was built to accommodate both the public school students and the congregation. A few of the details of the church reveal this duality such as the location and number of entrances and the multiple types of windows. Clear windows in the basement were used for the classrooms and stained glass windows were in the upper story used by the congregation. The basement rooms were leased by the County Board of Education prior to desegregation. This space has since been converted to a fellowship hall.

The Gents are no longer at these properties by 1915 according to the Bromley Atlas. At this time, the Gough M.E. Church is shown. Just north of the church on the east side of Cuba Road is the residence of L. Rourfax. Immediately south of the church on the east side of the road is 14113 Cuba Road owned by C. Johnson and further south is W. Hooper at 14029 Cuba Road. The west side of Cuba Road depicts two dwellings owned by J. Johnson.(3)

Between 1915 and 1930 the area encompassed by the Cuba Road African American survey district grew slightly reaching a population of approximately 60 residents. A total of ten households existed according to the 1930 U.S. census. Family names these residents include Beard, Parker, Johnson, Madden, Smith, Wilhelm, and Howard. Many of these names are shown in the cemetery with the Gough U.M. Church. The households range in numbers from one to eleven with the larger houses holding extended family members. Interesting to note, seventy percent of the residents own their property and thirty rent their dwellings. Of the ten dwellings within this rural community, George Beard is the only African American noted as living on a farm. Occupations of these African Americans include farm laborer, general contractor, horse trainer at a riding school, quarryman, laborer of odd jobs, and a

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public school teacher. Katheryn Madden, the wife of Harry Madden and the school teacher, is the only female noted with a job.(4) This community retained its rural integrity and integrated cohesiveness as seen through the repetition of several family names and the Maryland origin of all but the Johnson family. By 1930, many of the enclaves that were located nearer to the waterways of the Chesapeake Bay or larger urban neighborhoods attracted many African Americans from the southern states.

Several the family names mentioned on the 1877 map, the 1915 atlas, and recorded in the 1930 census still are found within the survey district in the early 21st century. These names include Smith, Madden, Howard, and Beard.

OWNERSHIP AS OF FEBRUARY 10, 2003

14012 Cuba Road Henry P. Ackerman, Jr. and Vivian Ackerman -- tax id # 803047700
map 41 parcel 77 1001 Western Run Road, Hunt Valley, MD 21030
Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber 6547 Folio 495

14016 Cuba Road Joseph L. and Adele D. Kroart -- tax id # 823087052
map 41 parcel 72 2900 Sheppherd Road, Monkton, MD 21111
Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber 7203 Folio 321

14018 Cuba Road Alexander and Phyllis Edmonds -- tax id # 805019100
map 41 parcel 70 Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber 11472 Folio 347

14024 Cuba Road Thomas Nicholson -- tax id # 816004450
map 41 parcel 71 Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber 11970 Folio 739

14028 Cuba Road Etta E. Plowden -- tax id # 816055170
map 41 parcel 68 Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber 11559 Folio 714

14101 Cuba Road Thomas G. Harris and Kym M. Harris -- tax id # 819051575
map 41 parcel 65 Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber 10064 Folio 345

14102 Cuba Road Jessie R. and Ruth Radcliffe -- tax id # 818001750
map 41 parcel 75 Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber 6977 Folio 417

14105 Cuba Road Gerald H. and Ann D. Madden -- tax id # 813024050
map 41 parcel 64 Baltimore County Courthouse
Liber 3967 Folio 392

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14106 Cuba Road map 41 parcel 69	Robert C. Smith -- tax id # 819051725 10535 York Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030 Baltimore County Courthouse Liber 1793 Folio 418
14108 Cuba Road map 41 parcel 46	Mandi L. Kirsh -- tax id # 802000375 Baltimore County Courthouse Liber 12846 Folio 175
14115 Cuba Road map 41 parcel 63	Florence E. Madden -- tax id # 813020600 Baltimore County Courthouse Liber 648 Folio 234
14317 Cuba Road map 33 parcel 170	Donald S. and Ethel M. Howard -- tax id # 808070110 Baltimore County Courthouse Liber 6948 Folio 77
14319 Cuba Road map 33 parcel 169	Edwards Beards, Irvin Eugene, George Albert, Effie M. McGhee, et al -- tax id # 802020125 Baltimore County Courthouse Liber 10783 Folio 480

ENDNOTES

1. J. Thomas Scharf, History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men (Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA), p. 876.
2. Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. (Philadelphia: G.M.Hopkins, 1877).
3. Map of Baltimore County (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).
4. U.S. Bureau of the Census, The Census of 1930, Baltimore County, Maryland. (National Archives).

9. Major Bibliographical References

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See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 23.50 acres

Acreage of historical setting Unknown

Quadrangle name Hereford, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Cuba Road African American Survey District is located near the village of Gentsville in the Eighth District of Baltimore County. The properties have been associated with tax map 41 since the communities development in 1852.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kristie Baynard, Architectural Historian

organization E.H.T. Tracerics

date 2/11/2003

street and number 1121 Fifth Street, NW

telephone 202/393-1199

city or town Washington

state DC zip code 20001

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

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Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.

Baltimore County Census, 1990. Baltimore County Planning Office, 1990.

Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. A History of Baltimore County. Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.

Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men. Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.

Sidney, J. C. Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys. Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

U.S. Bureau of the Census. The Census of 1930, Baltimore County, Maryland. National Archives.



2000



2000
Chestnut Street
BATTLE & NOT
2000 Chestnut Street
PHILADELPHIA, PA
215-977-1111



PETER GUNN
DIED
MAY 10 1880
AGED
40

PETER GUNN
DIED
MAY 10 1880
AGED
40

















114027









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Cuba Road African American
Survey District
Butler, Baltimore County
County Base Map

