

CAPSULE SUMMARY

BA-3093

Troyer Road African American Survey District

Baltimore County, MD

1798-1953

Troyer Road African American Survey District is located in the Tenth District of Baltimore County. The 1850 Sidney Atlas of Baltimore County shows several residences in the area of what is to become the hamlets of Shepperd and Troyer. The Martin Fugate House (BA-617) appears to be on the 1850 map as a dwelling belonging to Sparks. Both the Mount Joy African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church and Union United Methodist Chapel was established between 1850 and 1877 according to the maps of Baltimore County depicting the area. The Martin Fugate house, just south of Shepperd Road, does not appear on the 1877 map. Between the two hamlets of Shepperd and Troyer are very few additional residences from 1877 to 1915. A school house is at the location of the ‘colored’ church. Sometime before 1915, the Mount Joy African M.E. Church moved to a site on Shepperd Road. It has since moved back to its original location.

The Troyer Road African American Survey District is an entirely rural area containing 15 historic residences augmented with two churches. The closest village is Monkton approximately 3.5 miles to the southwest. Beginning at Harford County to the north, Troyer Road extends approximately 2.5 miles. Several of the residences are sited slightly back from the road with a paved driveway leading to the house. Two houses are not visible from the road. The oldest building within the survey district is sited approximately .15 miles south of Shepperd Road and is listed in the Baltimore County Historic Inventory as BA-617 dating prior to 1798.

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Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-3117

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Troyer Road African American Survey District
 other

2. Location

street and number Troyer Road not for publication
 city, town Monkton X vicinity
 county Baltimore County

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

name Multiple Ownership
 street and number telephone Not Available
 city, town state zip code

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse tax map and parcel: tax map 23
 city, town Towson liber folio

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	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
			Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture		
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<u>17</u>	<u>4</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense		<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic		<u> </u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education		<u> </u> objects
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> funerary	<u>17</u>	<u>4</u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry		
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape		
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion		
		<input type="checkbox"/> social		
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
			<u>4</u>	

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 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 Troyer Road African American Survey District is an entirely rural area containing 15 historic residences augmented with two churches. The closest village is Monkton approximately 3.5 miles to the southwest. Beginning at Harford County to the north, Troyer Road extends approximately 2.5 miles. Several of the residences are sited slightly back from the road with a paved driveway leading to the house. Two houses are not visible from the road. One is sited a quarter of a mile from the road and the second is set behind a row of trees to the rear of two dwellings. The land is level and grassy with several properties surrounded by fields or woods.

The oldest building within the survey district is sited approximately .15 miles south of Shepperd Road and is listed in the Baltimore County Historic Inventory as BA-617 dating prior to 1798. This random-rubble stone building is one-and-a-half stories high, measures two bays across, and was capped with a side-gable roof, which has collapsed. At the time of the survey the Martin Fugate House was in an advanced state of deterioration. According to the inventory its measurements of 18 x 24 feet correspond to the dimensions found in the 1798 tax for the property. At that time, Martin Fugate was the owner and possibly the builder. A blacksmith was recorded to have been working in the building in the 1798 tax assessment. This building most likely served as a slave house prior to 1865.

Dating to circa 1840, the second oldest building in the survey district is the Richard Cromwell House (BA-896) at 17239 Troyer Road. This two-story single-pile log dwelling measures three bays across and faces southeast. Both the front and rear elevations have a central entry flanked by two windows. The second story is pierced with two windows. Each of the openings are boarded over. Access to this house was limited so the foundation and notching was not visible at the time of the survey. The side-gable roof is sheathed with corrugated sheet-metal and exhibits an interior-end brick chimney.

Built in 1874, the Union United Methodist Chapel (BA-2100) is a wood-frame building clad with vinyl siding standing adjacent to Troyer Road. It is sited on a level lot with a paved driveway and a cemetery sited to the northeast. Facing northwest, the church stands one-story high, one-bay wide, and two-bays deep. It appears to have a replacement parged foundation. A gable portico covers the single-leaf entrance. Rising above the front-gable roof is one interior-side parged brick chimney. Two 6/6 vinyl-sash windows pierce the southeast elevation and two 2/2 vinyl-sash windows pierce the northwest elevation. Of similar width as the church, is a concrete-block gable addition on the rear elevation.

Surrounded by a chain-link fence, the cemetery to the rear contains approximately 50 grave markers. The cemetery dates as early as 1883 and appears to still be in use. The variety of stones range from upright, rounded, non-historic angled, obelisks, and flat. Several of the markers are in poor condition having been broken and the engravings being worn away by weather. The markers are constructed of either granite or marble and both headstones and footstones are used. The markers are somewhat organized in rows but more in family clusters. A few of the family names listed include Whye, Johnson, Williams, Jones, Hamilton, Jackson, Scott, Govans, and Cromwell. Members of Mt. Joy A.M.E. Church, and St. Luke's M.E. Church as well as Union Chapel members are buried in this cemetery.

Another 19th century residence in the Troyer Road African American Survey District is at 17332 Troyer Road facing northwest towards the road. Typical of many late 19th century African American dwellings, this house rises two-stories high and measures two bays wide. The wood-frame structural system rests on a random-rubble stone foundation and is clad with wood shingles. A shed-roof porch covers the full-width of the façade and is supported with turned posts. The side-gable roof is sheathed with asphalt roll and features a boxed aluminum cornice. A one-story shed-roof addition is located on the rear elevation.

Constructed in 1917, the Shepperd School is a one-story, asbestos-shingled wood-frame school on a solid poured concrete foundation. The structure is five bays wide with a projecting central bay and a side gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. Two stretcher bond brick chimneys rise above the gable-end walls of the building. The façade, or southeast elevation, is centrally

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pierced by a flush double-leaf wood door sheltered by the enclosed porch. Flanking the entry are two tripartite window openings containing a central one-light fixed vinyl sash with 1/1 vinyl-sash sidelights. Four paired 1/1 vinyl-sash windows pierce the outer two bays of the façade. A shed-roof addition, one bay wide, was constructed on the northeast elevation circa 1960. Circa 1960, a one-story addition with a shed roof was built on the rear elevation. Circa 1970, a one-story, wood frame shed clad in pressed vertical board with a front gambrel roof clad in asphalt shingles was added to the property. The façade is pierced by one double-leaf plywood door. The building sits on a concrete pier foundation.

Constructed circa 1920, the dwelling at 17419 Troyer Road is a wood-frame house rising two-and-a-half-stories high and three bays wide. Covering the first story of the façade is a shed-roof enclosed porch. Features of this house include a central interior brick chimney, 6/6 wood-sash windows, and a lancet-arch 4-light casement window in the upper half story. The foundation is not visible due to the aluminum siding.

Across Union Chapel at 17340 Troyer Road is a 1935 Colonial Revival-style dwelling. Slightly back from the road, this two-story wood-frame house measures two bays across and is capped with a hipped asphalt-shingle roof. Features include 6/6 wood-sash windows, a half-hipped roof porch across the façade, replacement aluminum siding, and an interior-side brick chimney.

In 1936, the Mt. Joy A.M.E. Church (BA-2101) moved to its original location after being sited on the southwest side of Troyer Road. The wood-frame church was placed a small distance away from the road and has a paved driveway leading to the building. This front-gable-roof church, similar to many other vernacular African American churches in Baltimore County, rises one-story high, one-bay wide, and two-bays deep. The church rests on a random-rubble stone foundation and the structural system is clad with German-vinyl siding. The windows on the side elevations are 1/1 stained-glass. In the west corner of the foundation is a marble cornerstone with the construction date of 1936. A large almost full-width vestibule covers the façade. This section is non-historic and rests on a concrete-block foundation. A non-historic one-story gable-roof addition is located on the rear elevation

The Mt. Joy A.M.E. Church cemetery is located to the rear of the church. Containing approximately 50 headstones, this church most likely contains non-marked burials. The burials are slightly organized in a linear fashion with family clusters. The interments are not situated close together except for family members. Headstone markers include large upright rounded stones, slightly arched upright stones, flat, and wooden crosses. The headstone and footstone markers are constructed of either granite or marble. Several of the historic markers are detailed with a rope engraving on the edges. The oldest marker appears to be of Albert Tittle who died in 1889. Burial dates range from the late 19th century throughout the 20th century and appears to still be in use. Family names exhibited in the cemetery include Berry, Tittle, Whye, Miller, Saunders, Cromwell, Hall, and Gover.

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 checked="" 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	1798-1953	Architect/Builder	Unknown
Construction dates	1798-1953		

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.)

Troyer Road African American Survey District is located along Troyer Road in the Tenth District of Baltimore County. The Tenth District is highly agricultural with over 48 square miles within its boundaries. In 1881, it was noted to having a population of 2,374, which was down by 192 since the 1870 census.(1) The district is bounded by Harford County on the east, the Eleventh District on the south, Seventh and Eighth Districts on the west, and Seventh District on the north.

The 1850 Sidney Atlas of Baltimore County shows several residences in the area of what is to become the hamlets of Shepperd and Troyer.(2) The Martin Fugate House (BA-617) appears to be on the 1850 map as a dwelling belonging to Sparks. Interesting to note, Shepperd Road is not in place at this time, however, it does appear on the 1877 map.

The Richard Cromwell House (BA-896) at 17239 Troyer Road is depicted on the map but not labeled with an owners name. Prior documentation states that it was constructed by a freed slave circa 1866, however, the 1850 map and architectural evidence suggests this building was constructed circa 1840. The Baltimore County Inventory claims the first African American school teacher in the district resided here for a short period.(3)

Troyer Road on the 1877 Hopkins Atlas depicts a 'colored' church at the location of Union Chapel. South of Union Chapel along Troyer Road is J. Johnson, and John Wye. Sited along a lane south of the Wye residence is the African M.E. Church (Mt. Joy), G. Hillen, and R. Johnson.(4)

Both the Mount Joy African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church and Union United Methodist Chapel was established between 1850 and 1877 according to the maps of Baltimore County depicting the area. The Martin Fugate house, just south of Shepperd Road, does not appear on the 1877 map. However, further south of its location is the residence of F.M. Sparks. According to an interview with Mary Gardner, Union Chapel was established in 1874 and Mount Joy A.M.E. was established after 1874.(5) Mt. Joy A.M.E. Church was originally called Johnson's Chapel. The church was led by brothers John and Joshua Johnson, the latter of which donated the land from Johnson's Delight in order to build the church.(6)

The African Methodist Episcopal Church was started in 1787 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This church was established by African American congregates that seceded from St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia. Richard Allen (1760-1831), the founder of the newly established church, was born a slave in 1760 and purchased his freedom prior to 1780. It was in 1780 that Allen began preaching and then in 1799 he was officially ordained a minister. The Blacksmith Shop Meeting House was the first church that was organized by Allen and other African American men that left the St. George's M.E. Church. Sited on 6th Street between Lombard and Pine Streets in Philadelphia, the first A.M.E. Church was established and has remained since. The first church was called the Bethel A.M.E. Church beginning in 1791. The African Methodist Episcopal denomination was officially organized in 1816 in Philadelphia and Allen was elected as the first Bishop of the General Conference. Eighteen active Bishops

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reside over the conferences of the A.M.E. Church and more than a million members are in the church throughout the United States, Canada, South America, West Africa, South African, and the West Indies.(7)

Between the two hamlets of Shepperd and Troyer are very few additional residences from 1877 to 1915. A school house is at the location of the 'colored' church, along with a Mrs. Dennison with 117 acres, R. Huston, and N. Johnson with six acres. South of these four residences is a L. Troyer, and John Wye (as seen on the 1877 map). Sometime before 1915, the Mount Joy African M.E. Church moved to a site on Shepperd Road. It has since moved back to its original location. The other two residences in the immediate area as Mount Joy's original location were G. Hillen, and E. Williams.(8)

In 1872, to encourage the establishment of African-American schools, the School Board of Baltimore County appropriated money to every "colored school" in the county having twenty or more pupils enrolled.(9) The Shepperd School was not constructed until 1917 on land leased by the county from the trustees of the Union Chapel, located to the north of the extant school.(10) Prior to the construction of the Shepperd School in the 20th century, Union Chapel served as the school for the area's African American children. Shepperd School is representative of the many rural district schools constructed throughout Baltimore County in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Based on existing written information, the school was segregated and served the local African American community. Indeed, the church from which the county leased the grounds belonged to an African American congregation.(11) During the 20th century this building housed grades one through seven. In order to continue their education, black children could attend high school in Baltimore City.

The community of Shepperd, although traversed by small farms, did not take shape until the turn-of-the-20th century. By 1915, the community acquired its name, and the village of Troyer had also formed to the north of Shepperd along Troyer Road. These two communities experienced a modest increase in population and construction, and have remained rural through the 20th century.(12) In 1959, the Shepperd School was sold by the county into private ownership after desegregation was mandated.(13) It is labeled as a schoolhouse on 1957 Phoenix, Maryland USGS map. The USGS map shows a total of 33 buildings along Troyer Road dating at the latest to 1957. By 1974, at the time of the map's revision, there were eleven additional buildings on Troyer Road. As stated in section seven, the total number of historic buildings along Troyer Road has dropped to 17 buildings.

ENDNOTES

1. Thomas J. 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), p. 907.
2. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys*, (Baltimore, MD: J.C. Sidney, 1850).
3. *Baltimore County Historic Inventory*, Office of Planning (Towson).
4. *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).
5. Kristie Baynard, Interview with Mary Gardner on May 31, 2003.
6. Kristie Baynard, Interview with Mary Gardner on May 31, 2003.
7. "The African Methodist Episcopal Church: An Historical Note," African Methodist Episcopal Church [home page on-line]; available from <http://www.ame-church.org/amehist.html>; Internet; accessed 13 June 2003.
8. *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).
9. Amy C. Crewe, *No Backward Step Was Taken*, (Baltimore, MD: Teachers Association of Baltimore County, MD, Inc., 1949), p. 209-211.
10. *Baltimore County Historic Inventory*, Office of Planning (Towson).
11. *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).
12. *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).

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13. Baltimore County Historic Inventory, Office of Planning. (Towson).

9. Major Bibliographical References

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See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 85 acres
Acreage of historical setting Unknown
Quadrangle name Phoenix, MD Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Troyer Road African American Survey District is located near Monkton in the Tenth District of Baltimore County. The buildings included in the district have historically been associated with tax map 23 since their construction.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Kristie Baynard, Architectural Historian		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Inc.	dat	6/20/2003
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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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.

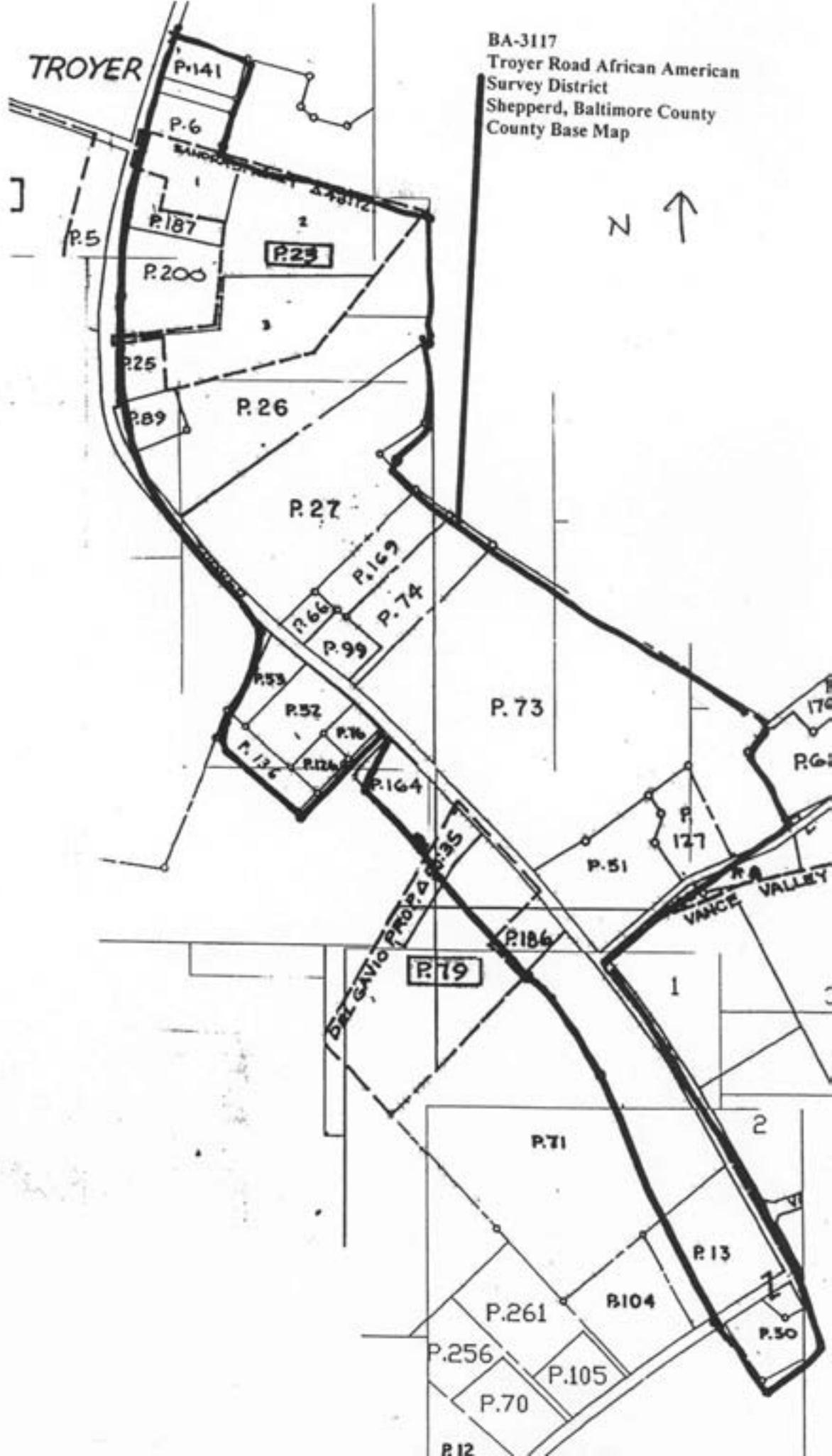
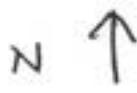
Sidney, J. C. Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys. Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.





TROYER

BA-3117
Troyer Road African American
Survey District
Sheppard, Baltimore County
County Base Map



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
5663 11 NE
(NORRISVILLE)

NORRISVILLE 6.3 MI
SHAWSVILLE 1 MI

32°30' 168

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Troyer Road African American
Survey District
Shepperd, Baltimore County
Phoenix, MD USGS Map

