

T.B. (85A-033)

T.B., located in southern Prince George's County, is named for two of the largest nineteenth-century landowners in the area: William Townshend and Thomas Brooke. Tradition maintains the name was derived from a boundary stone carved with T and B, marking Townshend's property to the west and Brooke's property to the east.¹ The community was first called Tee Bee Junction for the number of roads that converged in the village.² T.B. was the crossroads for several old roads including Accokeek Road, Old Branch Avenue/Brandywine Road (Route 381) and several other east-west roads that ran between the important ports of Piscataway on the Potomac River and Nottingham on the Patuxent River. Today, T.B. is still at the junction of several important roads including Maryland Route 5 (Branch Avenue), Dyson Road, Brandywine Road, and Old Brandywine Road. U.S. Route 301 runs north to south and is located east of T.B.

T.B. developed as a small crossroads community in the early nineteenth century. The first documented building was not constructed until circa 1830 and served as a dwelling for a member of the Townshend family. The family later constructed a small store adjacent to their property. Family tradition recounts that subsequent houses such as the J. Eli Huntt Residence (PG: 85A-017) were built by William Townshend as a carpentry exercise for his sons.³ Townshend had subdivided his property, creating building lots that were then improved by the construction of houses and commercial buildings.

The 1861 Martenet map documents only a few structures in T.B. Residences of the Grimes, Gibbons, Gwynn, and Marlow families are shown, as well as the carpentry shop of J.H. Marlow and William Murray's tavern.⁴ By 1878, the Hopkins map demonstrates growth in the community with several new families living in the area. New buildings included a blacksmith shop, a store and post office, and a school house.⁵ In the late 1880s, the population of T.B. peaked at 150 residents. At the time, the village supported two schoolhouses (one for African-American students and one for white students), two churches, two blacksmith shops, two undertakers, two general stores, and two doctor's offices. As other communities were established and continued to grow around the turn of the twentieth century, T.B. remained stagnant and later lost residents to Brandywine, the site of two railroad lines and a larger commercial area. In the mid-twentieth century, construction of Route 5 and the expansion of Old Crain Highway further reduced T.B.'s importance as a commercial center and residential area.⁶

There is one Historic Site in T.B.:

- PG: 85A-033-14, Marlow-Huntt Store/J.E. Huntt Casket Shop, 13700 Old Brandywine Road

There are currently no designated Historic Resources in T.B.

¹ Susan G. Pearl, "T.B.," Maryland Historical Trust, Historic Sites Inventory Form (1986-1987).

² Prince George's County Community Renewal Program, *Neighborhoods of Prince George's County* (1974), 435-435.

³ Susan G. Pearl, "J. Eli Huntt Residence," (PG: 85A-17) Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form (1985), 8:1. The Huntt Residence, one of the oldest buildings in T.B., has a Brandywine mailing address.

⁴ Simon J. Martenet, "Atlas of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1861, Adapted from Martenet's Map of Prince George's County, Maryland" (Baltimore: Simon J. Martenet C.E., 1861).

⁵ G.M. Hopkins, "Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington, Including the County of Prince George Maryland" (Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, C.E., 1878).

⁶ Susan G. Pearl, "T.B.," Maryland Historical Trust, Historic Sites Inventory Form (1986-1987).

Windshield Survey

A windshield survey of T.B. was conducted in July 2007. T.B. is currently a small community with a few commercial establishments including a liquor store and ice cream shop/restaurant. One former commercial building is currently being used as a church and several residences are located on Old Brandywine Road. Two vacant barns located off of Brandywine Road are reminders of T.B.'s agricultural past. Buildings in the community are sited close to the roads. The topography of T.B. is flat. A sand and gravel extraction site is located north of the crossroads. Nearby public buildings include Gwynn Park Junior High and Gwynn Park Senior High School, located northeast of the village.

Historic District Evaluation

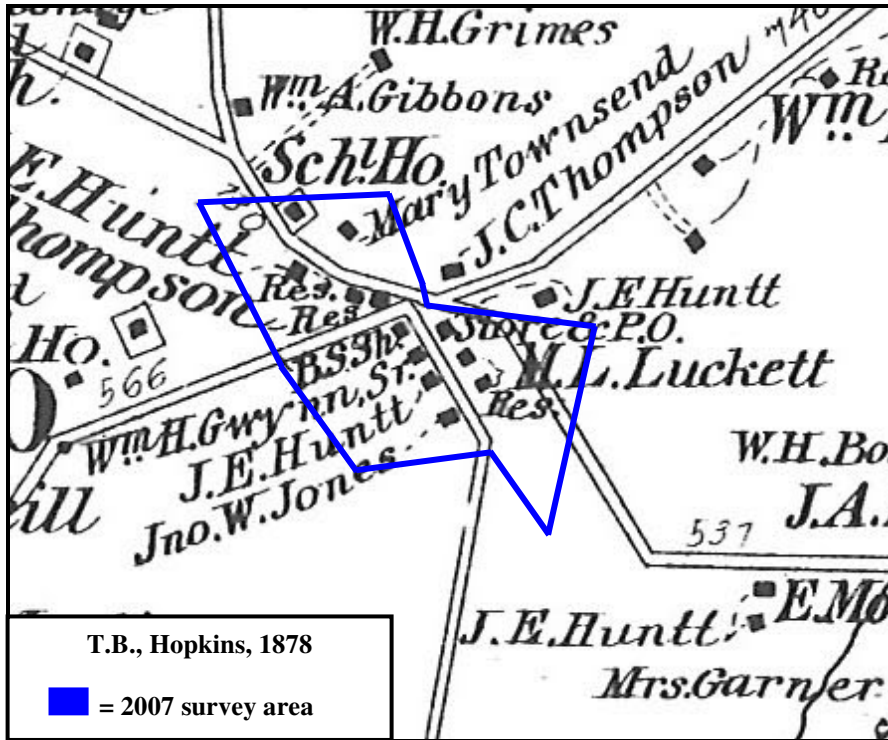
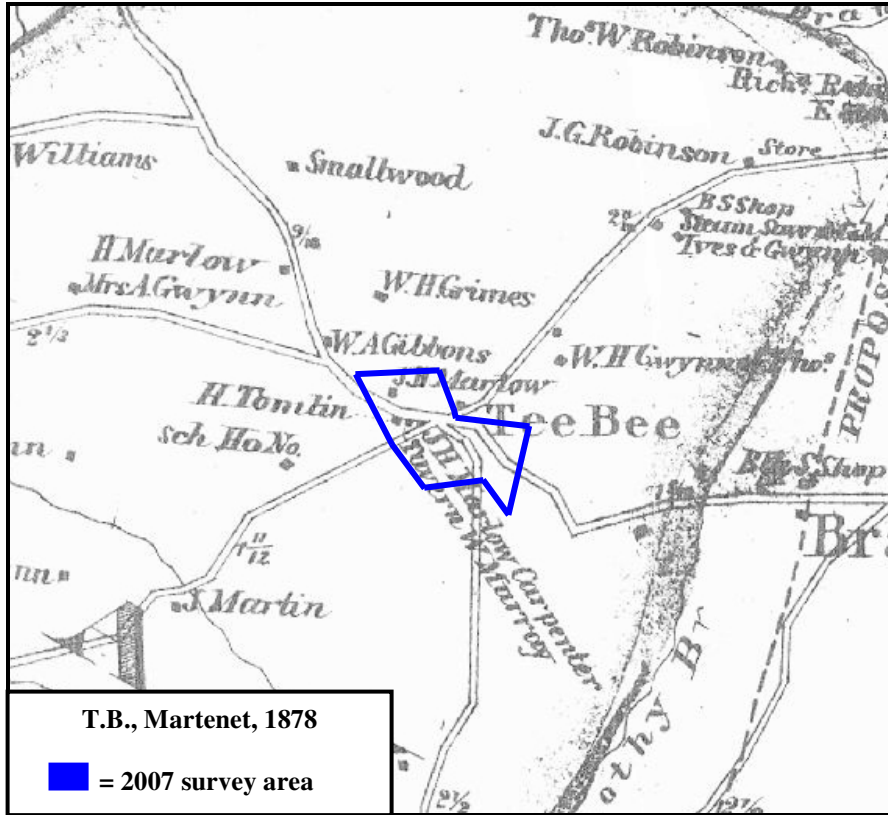
The village of T.B. has been the subject of several surveys, including one completed in 1986 – 1987 by M-NCPPC and one in 1996 by P.A.C. Spero & Company. In 1998, Maryland Historical Trust determined that T.B. is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places because of the significant amount of modern infill and highway development.⁷

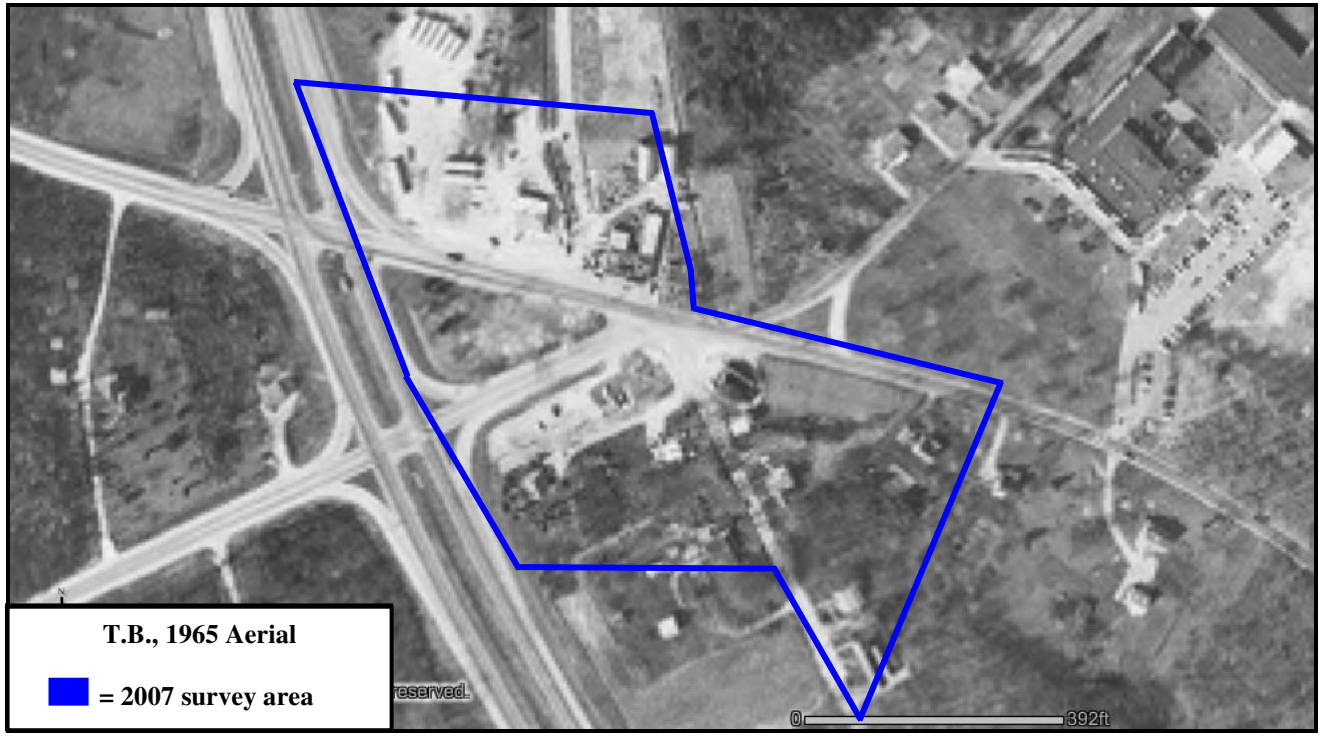
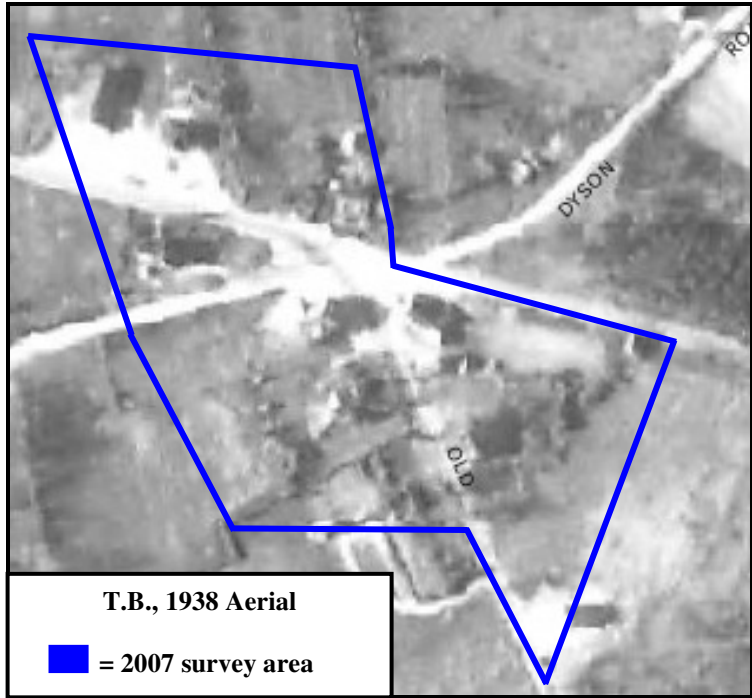
T.B. does not meet Prince George's County criteria for designation as a historic district. T.B. was a small crossroads community, but little is left of the once cohesive nineteenth-century village. The majority of buildings that remain in T.B. date from the late nineteenth to the early twentieth century and have been heavily altered. Only two buildings, the Marlow-Huntt Store and the Casket Shop remain relatively intact and reflective of their original design. T.B. also suffers from a lack of integrity and no longer retains integrity of design, location, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling, or association.

Prepared by EHT Tracerics, Inc.
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⁷ P.A.C. Spero & Company, "Brandywine Road/Old Brandywine Road, T.B., Prince George's County," Maryland Historical Trust Addendum Sheet (September 1998), 2.









Looking northeast, 13704 Brandywine Road (*EHT Traceries, 2007*)



Looking southeast, Marlow-Huntt Store and J.E. Hunt Casket Shop (PG: 85A-033-14), 13700-13702 -13704 Old Brandywine Road (*EHT Traceries, 2007*)



Looking southeast, 13700-13702 Old Brandywine Road – 7611 Accokeek Road (*EHT Traceries, 2007*)



Looking northeast, 13708 Brandywine Road (*EHT Traceries*, 2007)



Looking south, 7611 Accokeek Road (*EHT Traceries, 2007*)



Looking north, 13704-13702 Old Brandywine Road (*EHT Traceries*, 2007)