



# **AQUASCO-WOODVILLE**

## **CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY**

### **TECHNICAL REPORT**



THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION  
Prince George's County Planning Department



**2022**

# ABSTRACT

Date: March 2022

Title: Aquasco-Woodville Cultural Resources Inventory Technical Report

Author: The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission  
Prince George's County Planning Department

Subject: Aquasco-Woodville Historic Community, Prince George's County, Maryland

Source of copies: The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission  
14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Series Number: 623222405

Number of pages: 73

Abstract: Aquasco-Woodville, a rural village in the principally agricultural southeast part of Prince George's County, Maryland, retains numerous late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century buildings, cemeteries and sites that are clustered along both sides of MD 381 (Aquasco Road). This report examines seven previously undocumented properties, six of which were found to be associated with the African American middle class that emerged in the area after the Civil War: the Cemetery for Enslaved African Americans at Eastview, the Whitehall Tenant House, and the Delilah Waters House.

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Prince George's County Planning Department  
14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772  
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management guidance and by facilitating effective intergovernmental and citizen involvement through education and technical assistance.

Our vision is to be a model planning department of responsive and respected staff who provide superior planning and technical services and work cooperatively with decision makers, citizens, and other agencies to continuously improve development quality and the environment and act as a catalyst for positive change.

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# Woodville

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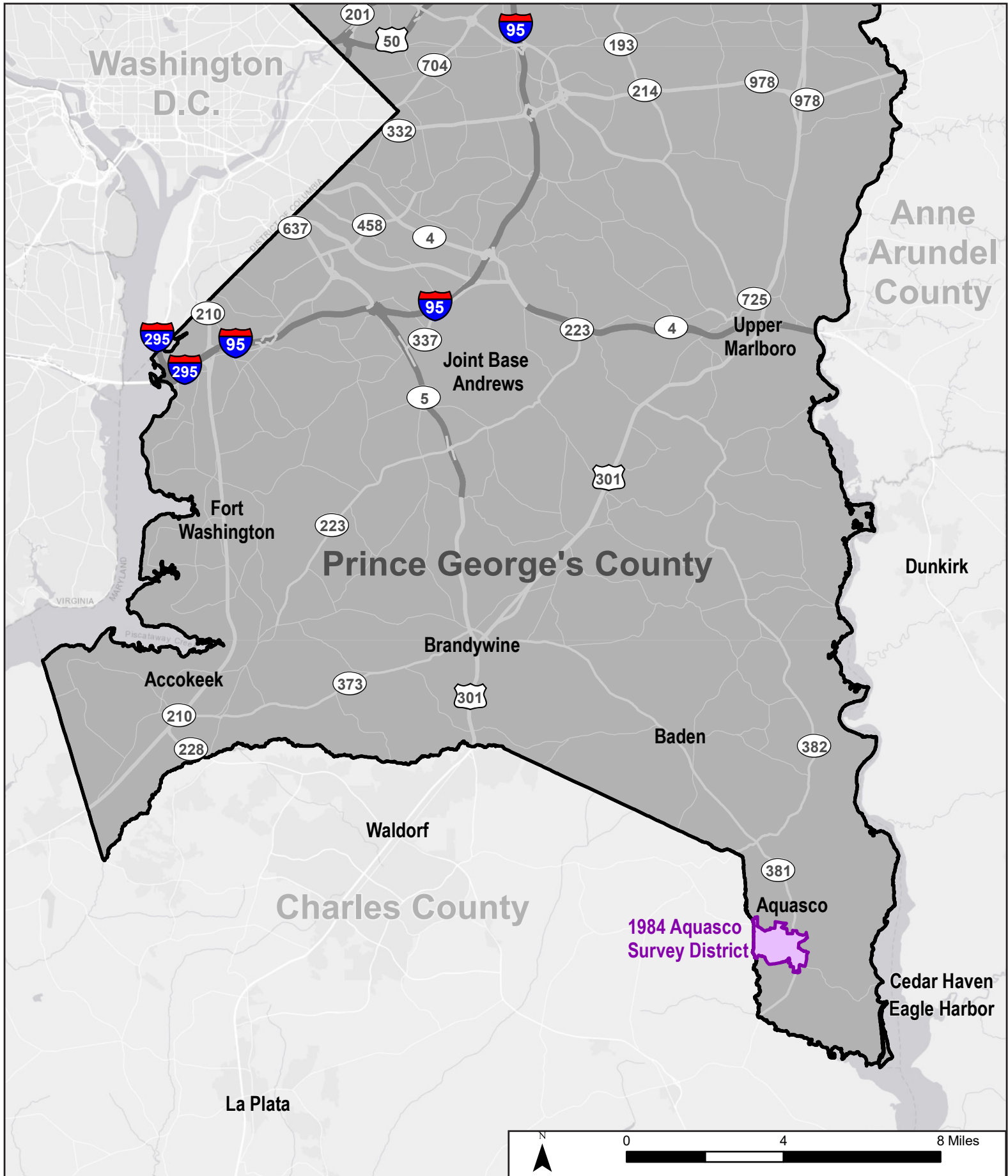






# INTRODUCTION

*Map 1. Aquasco Vicinity Map*



In 1984, a 680-acre area centered on the village of Woodville in Aquasco was documented for the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties as the Aquasco Survey District (PG:87B-36).<sup>1</sup> The 2010 *Approved Historic Sites and Districts Plan for Prince George's County, Maryland* identified the area as the Woodville/Aquasco Historic Community (a historic community being an area having historic significance but not currently regulated by the County's historic preservation ordinance, Subtitle 29 of the County Code). At the start of this project, 27 resources in and around the Aquasco community had documentation on file or pending with the Maryland Historical Trust (see Table 1). Some have been designated as County historic sites or historic resources, and some have only been inventoried. The resources largely consist of late-nineteenth and early-twentieth-century dwellings, places of worship, and farm-related buildings and structures that represent an eclectic mix of Victorian and vernacular styles, and cemeteries. The wide spacing between houses reflects the primacy of farming in the village's economic development—and despite some late-twentieth-century suburban development, the spacing largely remains.

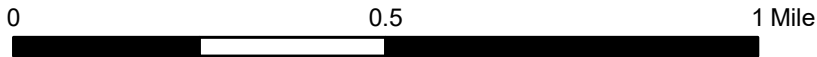
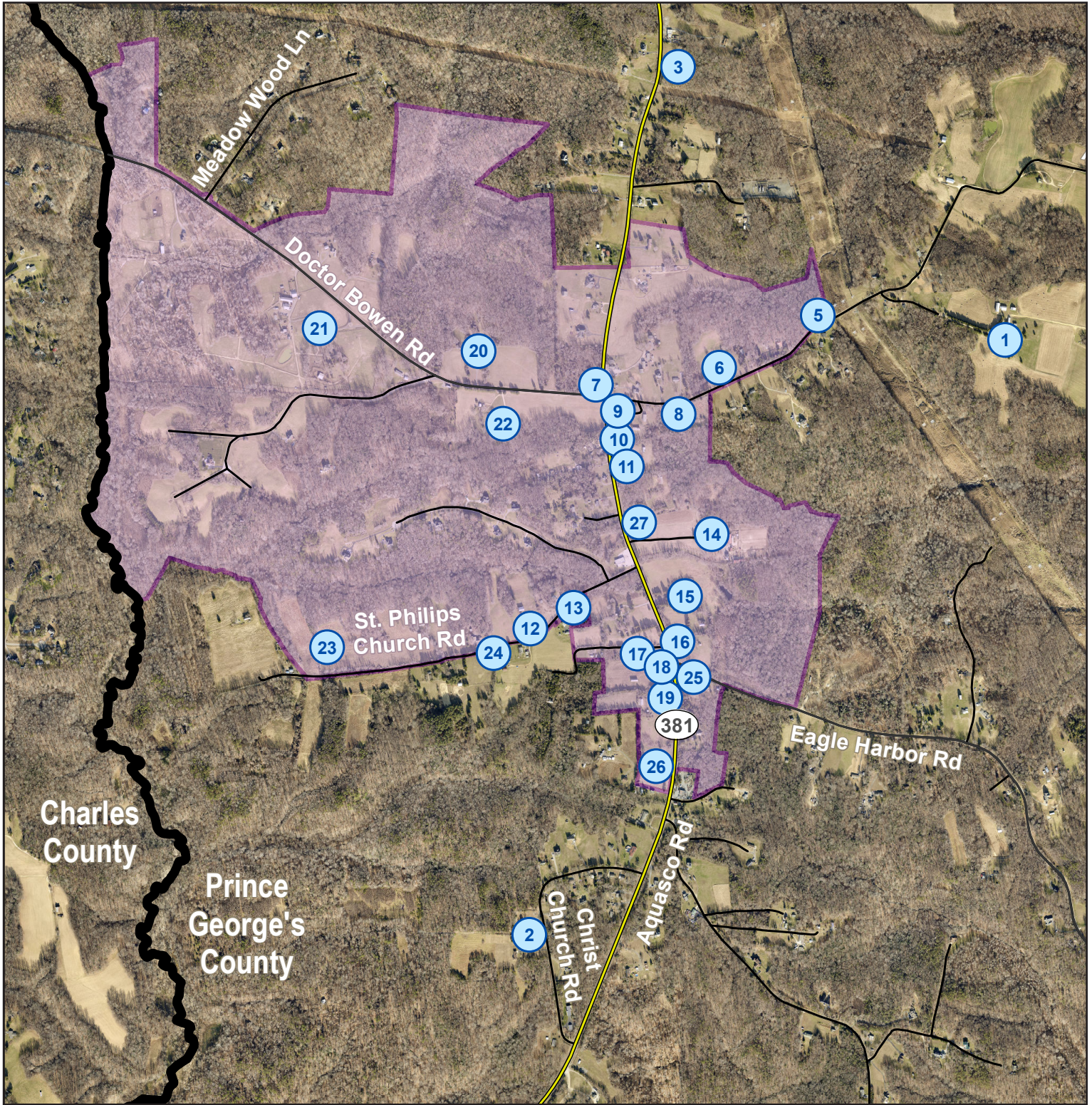
In spring 2019, the Cedar Haven on the Patuxent Civic Association applied to the Prince George's County Planning Department to fund a project that would, in part, augment Aquasco's existing historic and cultural resource inventory to support heritage tourism and, in particular, highlight the diversity of the area's historic properties. Funding

for the project was approved by the Prince George's County Planning Board on April 11, 2019 through the Community Planning Division's Planning Assistance to Municipalities and Communities (PAMC) program.

The Prince George's County Planning Department's Historic Preservation Section identified seven potentially significant Aquasco properties that had not yet been researched or surveyed (see Table 2). Five properties (the Cemetery for Enslaved African Americans at Eastview, the John Wesley Church Parsonage Site, the Dent-Brooks House, Wheeler Tabernacle, and the Samuel Gray Farmstead) were found to be highly significant to African American historic and cultural heritage. A sixth, the Whitehall Tenant House, was found to, at one time, have been part of the large land holdings of an African American farmer, Samuel Stamp. A final resource, the Delilah Waters House, expands the inventory of properties that are significant in general. A chain of title for each property is included in the appendices.

This reports explains the historic evolution of Aquasco-Woodville, and explores the seven properties, paying particular attention to those significant to African American heritage. These open a window to our understanding of this heritage, and the evolution of African-American property acquisition and ownership that flowered after the close of the American Civil War. Further research and documentation will be needed to tell this important story more fully.

## Map 2. Previously Inventoried Properties



1984 Survey District (PG:87B-36)

**Table 1. Previously Inventoried Properties In and Adjacent to the Aquasco Survey District, PG:87B-36**

Map Key	Resource Name	County Historic Designation or Inventory #	MHT MIHP	Address	Type
1	Eastview Site and Cemetery	Historic Resource 87B-003	PG:87B-3	16990 Saint Mary's Church Road	Plantation site and cemetery
2	John Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church and Cemetery	Historic Site 87B-033	PG:87B-33	22919 Christ Church Road	Church and cemetery
3	Knights of St. John Commandery No. 3/ Woodville School	Historic Site 87B-034	PG:87B-34	21500 Aquasco Road	African American school; social hall
4	Somerville-Turner Farm and Outbuildings	Historic Resource 87B-036-02	PG:87B-2	21110 Aquasco Road	Farmstead
5	Aquasco Schoolhouse	87B-036-04	PG:87B-4	16606 Saint Mary's Church Road	Schoolhouse
6	J. E. Turner House	Historic Site 87B-036-05	PG:87B-5	16410 Saint Mary's Church Road	House and associated outbuildings
7	J. C. Thomas House	Historic Resource 87B-036-07	PG:87B-7	22109 Aquasco Road	Dwelling
8	St. Mary's Rectory	Historic Site 87B-036-08a	PG:87B-8A	16305 St Mary's Church Road	Dwelling
9	St. Mary's Episcopal Church	Historic Site 87B-036-08b	PG:87B-8B	22200 Aquasco Road	Church building
10	Hall's Store	Historic Resource 87B-036-09	PG:87B-9	22208 Aquasco Road	Store
11	Miss Sarah Hall House	Historic Resource 87B-036-10	PG:87B-10	22300 Aquasco Road	Dwelling and associated outbuildings
12	Scott Farmhouse	Historic Resource 87B-036-11	PG:87B-11	16100 Saint Phillips Road	Dwelling and associated outbuildings
13	St. Phillip's Chapel Site and Cemetery	Historic Site 87B-036-12	PG:87B-12	16205 Saint Phillips Road	Church and cemetery

# INTRODUCTION

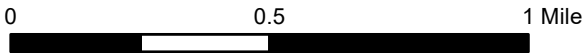
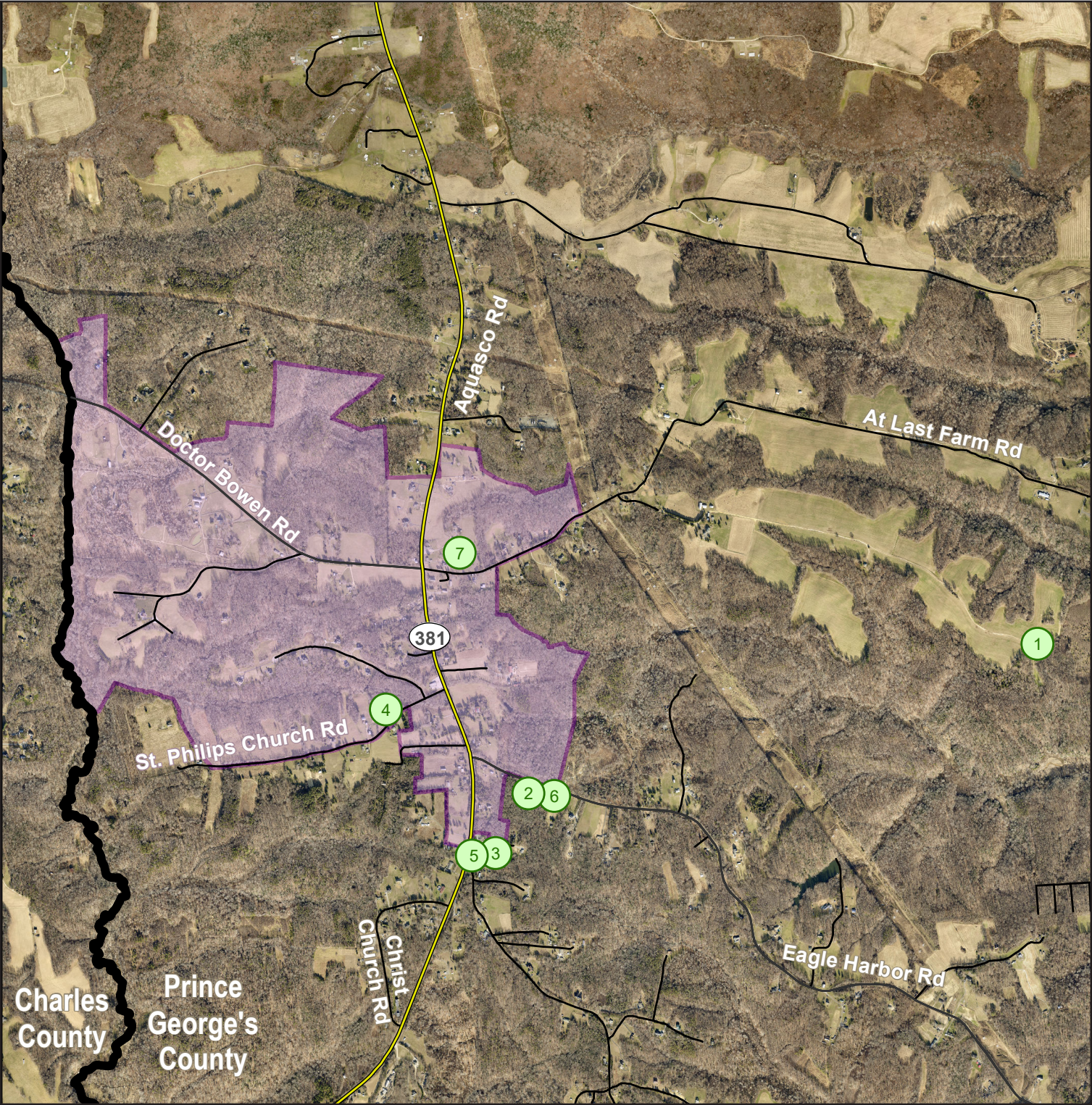
*Table 1. Previously Inventoried Properties In and Adjacent to the Aquasco Survey District, PG:87B-36*

Map Key	Resource Name	County Historic Designation or Inventory #	MHT MIHP	Address	Type
14	Villa de Sales	Historic Site 87B-036-13	PG:87B-13	22410 Aquasco Road	Dwelling and associated outbuildings
15	William R. Barker House	Historic Site 87B-036-14	PG:87B-14	22600 Aquasco Road	Dwelling and associated outbuildings
16	Wood House	Historic Site 87B-036-15	PG:87B-15	22606 Aquasco Road	Dwelling and associated outbuildings
17	Selby-Grimes House	Historic Site 87B-036-16	PG:87B-16	22609 Aquasco Road	Dwelling
18	James A. Cochrane Store	Historic Site 87B-036-17	PG: 87B-17	22609 Aquasco Road	Store
19	Mrs. M. Cochran's House	Historic Resource 87B-036-18	PG:87B-18	22705 Aquasco Road	Dwelling and associated outbuildings
20	Adams-Bowen House	Historic Site 87B-036-19	PG:87B-19	16002 Doctor Bowen Road	Dwelling and associated outbuildings
21	P. A. Bowen Farmstead	Historic Site 87B-036-20	PG:87B-20	15701 Doctor Bowen Road	Dwelling and associated outbuildings
22	Sunnyside	Historic Site 87B-036-21	PG:87B-21	16005 Doctor Bowen Road	Dwelling and associated outbuildings
23	Selby Tobacco Barn Site	Historic Resource 87B-036-22	PG:87B-22	15900 Saint Phillips Road	Site of tobacco barn
24	Scott Cemetery	Historic Resource 87B-036-23	PG:87B-23	16203 Saint Phillips Road	Family cemetery
25	Keech House	Historic Site 87B-036-35	PG:87B-35	22700 Aquasco Road	Dwelling and associated outbuildings
26	Woodville Methodist Church Site and Cemetery	87B-036-36	PG:87B-36-36	Aquasco Road; Tax Account 3280930	Cemetery
27	St. Dominic's Roman Catholic Church Cemetery	87B-036-37	PG:87B-36-37	22400 Aquasco Road	Cemetery

*Note: The middle number (36 or 036) is applied in the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties only to those properties within the boundary of the Aquasco Survey District (PG:87B-36).*



# Map 3. Newly Documented Properties



1984 Survey District (PG:87B-36)

# INTRODUCTION

*Table 2. Newly Documented Properties Documented in and Adjacent to the Aquasco Survey District, PG:87B-36*

Map Key	MIHP	Resource Name	Address
1		Cemetery for Enslaved African Americans at Eastview*	17501 Eastview Farm Road
2		John Wesley Church Parsonage Site†	Eagle Harbor Road; Tax Account 0836296
3	PG:87B-36-38	Dent-Brooks House	22820 Aquasco Road
4	PG:87B-36-40	Whitehall Tenant House	16200 Saint Philips Road
5	PG:87B-41	Wheeler Tabernacle Mt. Pisca No. 14	22830 Aquasco Road
6	PG:87B-42	Samuel Gray Farmstead	16603 Eagle Harbor Road
7	PG:87B-36-41	Delilah Waters House	16300 St. Mary's Church Road

*\*A Maryland Inventory of Historic Property form was not completed because there is not yet enough information.*

*† A Maryland Inventory of Historic Property form was not completed because there are no above-ground resources.*

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# HISTORIC OVERVIEW



Figure 1. 1608 John Smith Map of Virginia.

This map of colonial Virginia, attributed to Captain John Smith, one of the first English settlers, contains extraordinary geographic detail as well as the locations of Native American settlements, including “Acquaskack.”

Source: Library of Virginia, Original Author: William Hole based on John Smith's description, compiled 1608; published 1624, <https://encyclopediavirginia.org/>.

European exploration of North America in the latter part of the sixteenth century culminated with the English settlement of the Chesapeake region, beginning with the establishment of Jamestown in 1607. Settlement in what is now the State of Maryland was initiated in the 1630s, as Cecil Calvert, second Lord Baltimore, began exercising the proprietary rights granted to his father by Charles I. In 1634, 150 English colonists settled St. Mary's City on the lower Potomac River.<sup>2</sup> The early success of tobacco cultivation in Virginia encouraged settlers in Maryland to adopt this agricultural pursuit. To undertake the labor-intensive cultivation of tobacco, large numbers of indentured servants and, later, enslaved Africans were brought to the colony.

Captain John Smith was the first European to record and map the territory that would later become Prince George's County. During his exploration of the Potomac River, Smith encountered members of the Native American Piscataway tribe. Other traders from the Jamestown settlement visited the region periodically during the next 25 years, but no colonists settled within the Upper Potomac River drainage during that time.<sup>3</sup>

Settlement soon spread north from St. Mary's City into what is now Prince George's County. The first European land patents in Prince George's County were concentrated along major rivers and streams, as early tobacco culture required proximity to water routes. The Patuxent and Potomac Rivers and their tributaries served as the most important transportation routes for the County during the seventeenth century, and English families

patented numerous tracts of land along the two river systems. By 1696, nearly 500 patents had been issued in Prince George's County.<sup>4</sup>

The population of the colony grew steadily during the seventeenth century, but towns and communities did not coalesce at the same rate, primarily because each major plantation tended to trade directly from its own wharves with foreign markets. Charles County originally included the land between the Potomac and the Wicomico Rivers, but after financial difficulties and reorganization by the governor and his council, the present Charles County boundary was established in 1658.<sup>5</sup> Soon after, in 1683, the General Assembly sought to mandate town formation legislatively. The General Assembly of the Province of Maryland established Charles Town on the Patuxent River. Its importance as a tobacco port led to its designation in 1696 as the county seat of the newly formed Prince George's County.<sup>6</sup> Upper Marlborough was one of the additional towns identified by the General Assembly in 1704. It was located centrally in the county and gradually rivaled Charles Town in social and political importance.<sup>7</sup> In 1721, Upper Marlboro was named the county seat of Prince George's County.<sup>8</sup> Other river towns were important as tobacco inspection points and as the locations of shipyards. Prince George's County grew rapidly during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Maryland colonists had embraced the tobacco culture begun in Virginia. Tobacco became the chief export of Prince George's County and the major form of currency for the entire colony. However, because the tobacco market was volatile, many counties in other areas of Maryland turned to the production of wheat during

## HISTORIC OVERVIEW

the eighteenth century. Nonetheless, the availability of suitable soils, labor, and higher prices for tobacco on the Western Shore ensured the continuation of Prince George's County tobacco production.<sup>9</sup> Because tobacco production required large amounts of land and labor, and the soils in Prince George's County were considered ideal for the production of yearly tobacco crops, additional patents for small interior parcels were issued during the early eighteenth century. Labor was provided by a combination of indentured servants and enslaved people. Initially, indentured servants who completed their terms of service purchased their own farms in the County but by the late eighteenth century, land had become so expensive that newly freed indentured servants moved out of the county. Tobacco planters increasingly turned to slave labor. By 1790 enslaved people comprised 52 percent of Prince George's County's population.<sup>10</sup>

Leading up to the Civil War (1861–1865) Prince George's County remained the largest producer of tobacco in Maryland. Enslaved people provided the labor, and their population continued as a majority. The economic success of Prince George's County depended upon the Patuxent, Anacostia, and Potomac Rivers as important shipping routes. Steamboat service in the early nineteenth century provided reliable passenger and commercial transportation between Prince George's County and Baltimore via the Patuxent River and Chesapeake Bay.<sup>11</sup> From 1817 on, the tobacco produced in the County tended to move through Baltimore. The relationship between the people of Prince George's County and the slowly growing, but noncommercial, District of Columbia remained weak due to the lack of adequate transportation.<sup>12</sup> Turnpikes were eventually constructed to meet the need for reliable overland transportation during the first half of the nineteenth century.<sup>13</sup> Railroads followed. By 1832, the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad had reached Bladensburg.<sup>14</sup>

By the 1850s the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad had been completed through the eastern and southern sections of the County.<sup>15</sup> However, these transportation improvements did not change the County's, rural character.<sup>16</sup> By 1860, Prince George's County produced one-third of Maryland's tobacco crop, a quantity larger than that produced in any other county in the Union.<sup>17</sup> Corn, rye, wheat, and oats also became staple crops, and the sale of sheep and swine constituted another major component of the County's agricultural output.<sup>18</sup>

The Civil War (1861–1865) profoundly altered the social and economic fabric of Prince George's County. White public opinion turned sharply against the Union after the Emancipation Proclamation in 1862. Enslaved African Americans, on the other hand, took advantage of opportunities afforded by the war to gain freedom. Many escaped to the District of Columbia after slavery had been abolished there, and many enlisted in the Union Army.

Reconstruction (1865–1877) forced elemental changes in the tobacco-based economy. Emancipation created a severe labor shortage and increased the cost of production.<sup>19</sup> Some impoverished landowners were forced to sell or mortgage portions of their real and personal property. The availability of credit in the adjacent urban financial centers of Baltimore and Washington, D.C. prevented the slide into tenant farming and sharecropping systems that characterized post-Civil War agriculture in many former Confederate states. The average size of County farms declined steadily during the late-nineteenth century, while the total amount of acreage under cultivation increased, peaking between 1880 and 1900.<sup>20</sup> Tobacco declined to the status of a specialty crop. Wheat, corn, and other grains became the predominant commodities. Truck farms and orchards also produced goods that were marketed primarily in Washington, D.C.<sup>21</sup>



## VILLAGE OF AQUASCO (WOODVILLE)

Before Europeans settled the Chesapeake Bay region, the village of Aquasco was home to Native American groups occupying and traversing the uplands between the Patuxent River and Swanson Creek. Their populations would have been drawn to Aquasco for the terrestrial food resources available in its upland setting and its easy access to the Patuxent River and other freshwater streams. John Smith recorded several settlements along the west bank of the Patuxent River during his exploratory voyages in 1608–1609, including one in the vicinity of the modern village of Aquasco called “Acquaskack.”

The earliest patents in Aquasco were made in the mid- to late-seventeenth century, including “Dove’s Nest” in 1664<sup>22</sup> and “Dove’s Perch” in 1679.<sup>23</sup> Two newly documented properties, the Dent-Brooks House (PG:87B-36-38) and the Wheeler Tabernacle (PG:87B-41), would comprise portions of these patents. Other early patents in the vicinity included “Hatchet” (or Hachette), “Digg’s Lodge,” and “Ledford Gift.” These patents were also made in what was then Charles County, which had been organized by an Order of Council in 1658. The most prominent of the early landowners was the Trueman family, who lent their name to the main landing on the Patuxent River. Trueman Point was used to ship local produce to foreign markets and bring in goods that could not be manufactured locally.<sup>24</sup> In 1696, Prince George’s County was formed from parts of Charles and Calvert Counties, with the Aquasco area falling within a subdivision called Prince Frederick Hundred. Like the rest of Prince George’s County, Prince Frederick Hundred was characterized by large farms and plantations during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. These farms tended to stay in families across multiple generations, which would remain the norm in Aquasco for over two centuries. While there are limited

records, it can be surmised that these planters primarily grew tobacco supplemented by small-scale grain or vegetable cultivation. The plantations were accessed by private roadways connecting them to the main road leading north to Horsehead, which was reportedly in place during the eighteenth century.<sup>25</sup> Trueman’s Point continued to be the primary point of departure for the tobacco crops coming out of Prince Frederick Hundred.

Over the course of the eighteenth century, an influx of new landowners settled in the Aquasco area, including members of the Bowling and Morton families. The most well-known of the new landowners was Walter Hoxton, a British ship captain and cartographer, who acquired 600 acres near the center of Aquasco in 1728.<sup>26</sup> Hoxton’s plantation would pass to his son, Stanislaus, who also inherited sheep, cattle, hogs, poultry, horses, plantation utensils, and fishing equipment; the plantation was supported by five enslaved African Americans.<sup>27</sup> The list indicates a high degree of self-sufficiency. Part of Hoxton’s land would later be known as Eastview, where the cemetery for enslaved African Americans is located.

By the early nineteenth century, a small population center had begun to coalesce around the intersection of the main road linking Upper Marlboro with Charles County and the road linking inland plantations along Swanson’s Creek with Trueman’s Point. Although these roads are not shown on Dennis Griffith’s 1794 Map of Maryland, the location of Aquasco is indicated. This population center became known as Woodville after the Wood family, who owned large tracts of land around the crossroads. George Morton also held significant amounts of property in the early nineteenth century, and smaller holdings were owned by families that would become well-established after the Civil War, including the Bowen, Canter, Forbes, Hall, McPherson, Selby, Thomas, and Turner families.

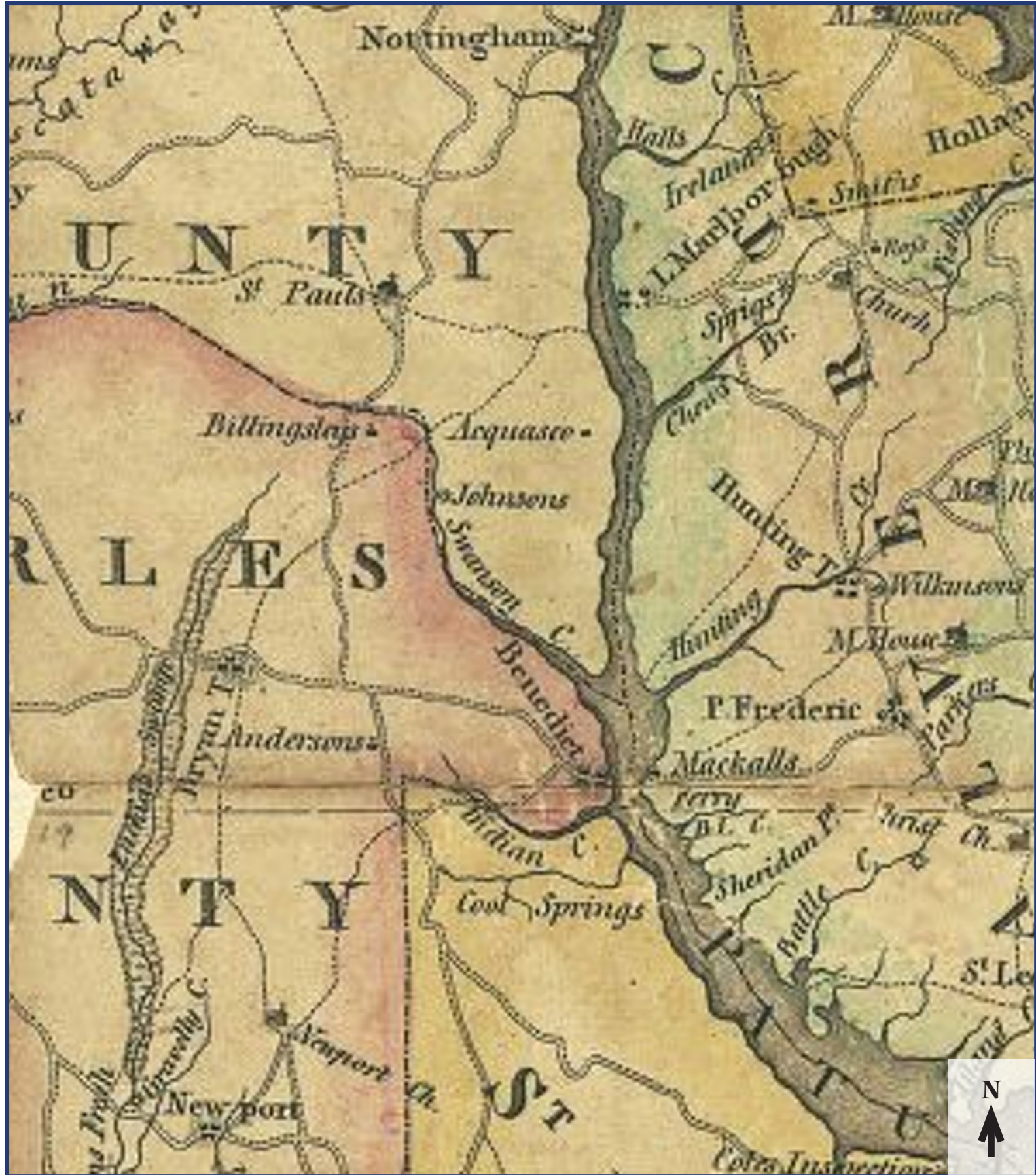


Figure 2. 1794 Dennis Griffith Map of Maryland

Aquasco is clearly shown in the center of this late-eighteenth century map.

Source: Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/>.

In addition to many farmers and farm laborers, by 1850 Woodville boasted a miller, a cooper, two merchants, a blacksmith, two physicians, a tavern keeper, a postmaster, and a schoolteacher.<sup>28</sup> Many structures associated with these trades are shown on Martenet’s 1861 Map of Prince George’s County.

The Civil War and the adoption of Maryland’s new constitution in 1864 marked a turning point for Woodville-Aquasco. Several historic properties, such as the P. A. Bowen Farmstead (PG: 87B-20) and John E. Turner House (PG: 87B-5) are documented as having maintained tenant houses for African Americans. In the case of the John E. Turner House, family tradition relays one such house was originally a quarter for enslaved people, which suggests that other earlier quarters were likely repurposed as tenant housing rented by the village’s African Americans. Interdependence is demonstrated in census records by the number of households that include one or more African American farm laborers or servants. A community of landowning African Americans flourished in the southwest quadrant of the village, visible in the 1878 Hopkins *Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington* between the “M. E. Church” to the north and “African M. E. Church” to the south.

The earliest churches were Episcopalian and Methodist. By 1848, the population had grown to the point that St. Paul’s Episcopal Parish, established in Baden in 1733, founded a mission chapel, St. Mary’s, at the crossroads in the center of Aquasco. The church was constructed in 1848 (replaced in 1920) and the rectory in 1849 (PG: 87B-8a; 87B-8b). A Methodist Episcopal Church built on Aquasco Road in the 1830s or 1840s is no longer standing. Both of these denominations stem from the Anglican tradition: Methodists left the Anglican communion after the movement’s founder, John Wesley, died in 1791.<sup>29</sup> In

addition, a Roman Catholic congregation was established at St. Dominic’s in Aquasco in 1879; a significant number of African American in the area are Roman Catholics.<sup>30</sup>

A way for African Americans to assert their independence was to form their own congregations, and two new churches were established in Aquasco following the Civil War. The first was the John Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church, on land donated by freedman James Gray in 1866.<sup>31</sup> The Freedman’s Bureau would subsequently build a school for Aquasco’s African American children on the church grounds, with the trustees of the church, including Gray, serving as trustees for the school. The congregation now meets in a new building under the name Christ United Methodist Church.<sup>32</sup>

The second was St. Phillip’s Episcopal Chapel in 1878 (PG:87B-12), which had split from St. Mary’s Episcopal Chapel—the congregation was integrated up to this point. St. Phillip’s was built on property purchased by the parish from Alice Hall<sup>33</sup> and the burial ground occupied part of a property donated by Michael Scott.<sup>34</sup> The first rector for the St. Phillip’s congregation was Joseph Bryant, and the church remained in the local parish until it became a diocesan mission supervised by the Bishop of Washington in 1946. The church building was destroyed in a 1976 fire, and afterward the congregation bought the old St. Michael’s church in Baden, where it continues to meet.

Aquasco-Woodville retained its rural character through the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries partly because it was not located along a railroad line, which tended to stimulate economic development at stations and service depots. Farms and estates were increasingly divided among heirs and purchased by others, including African Americans, starting in the 1870s and 1880s. Landowner Harriet Wood, daughter of Aquasco merchant George W. Morton (who is recorded as having a household

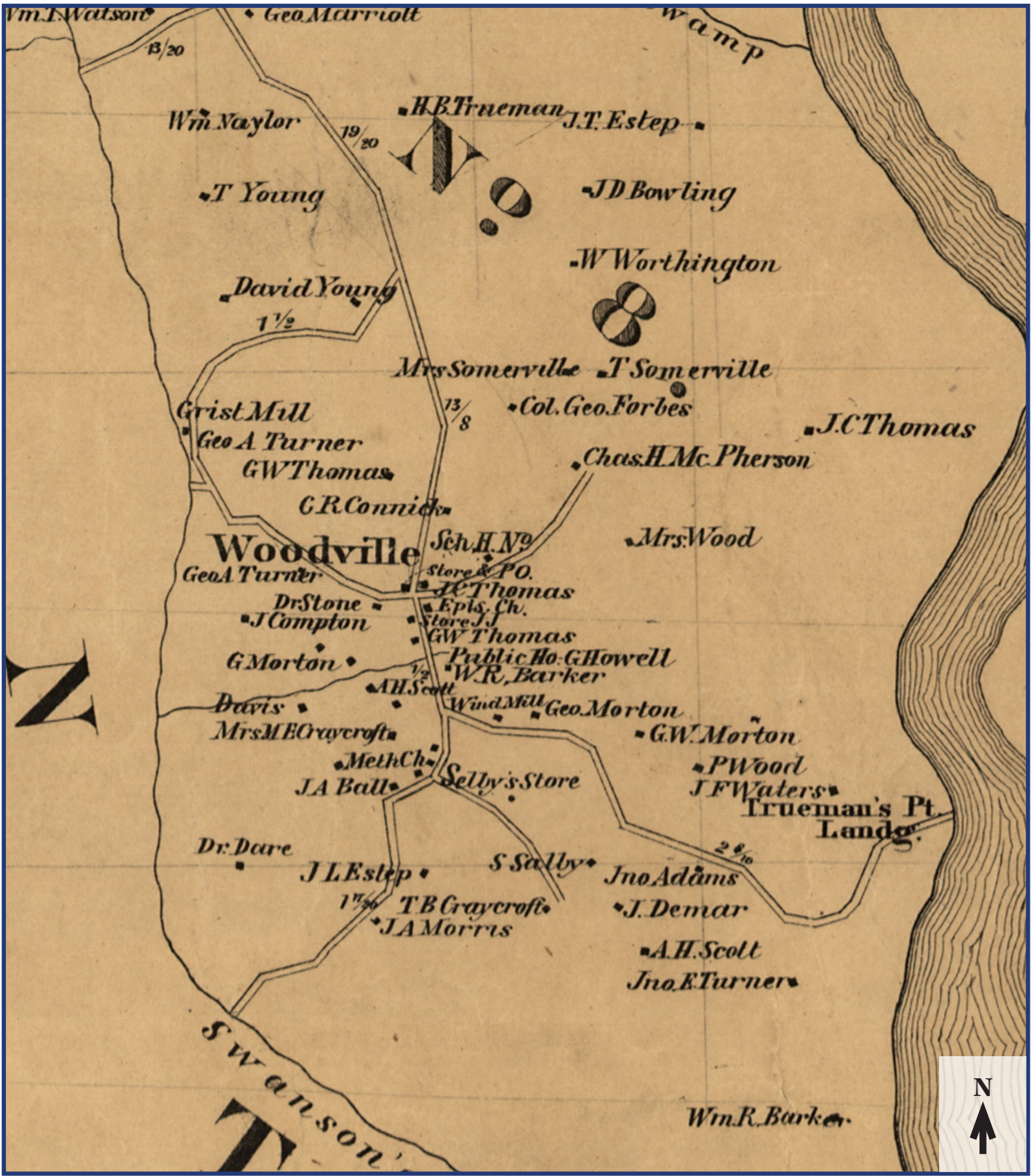


Figure 3. 1861 Simon Matenet's Map of Prince George's County

Woodville shown on the map itself reveals additional resources, such as the grist mill. The mill was discussed in the overall project's oral history interviews.

Source: Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/>.

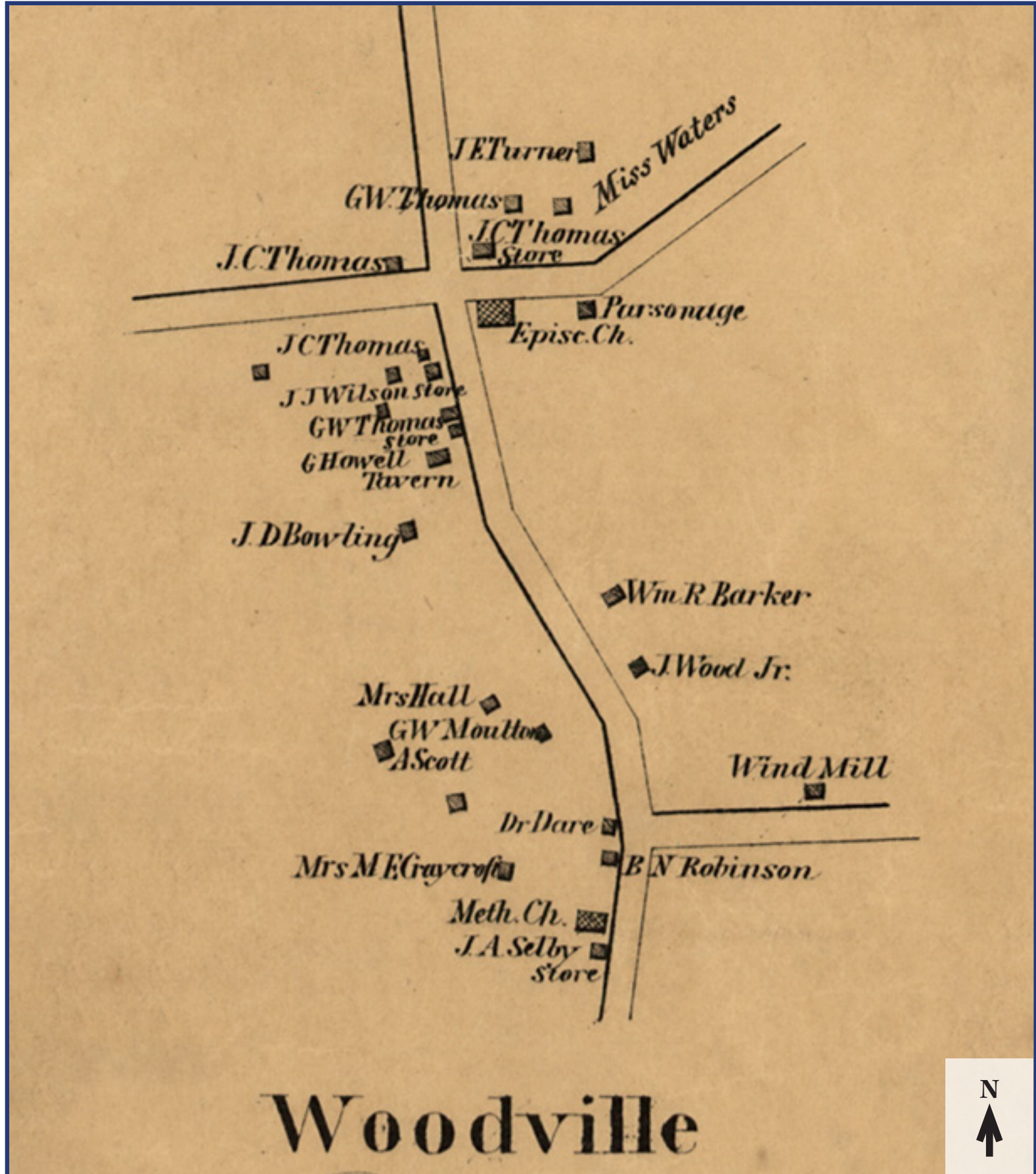


Figure 4. Detail, 1861 Simon Martenet's Map of Prince George's County

Woodville, as Aquasco was being called then, is one of six towns or villages that are shown enlarged on the margins of this map.

Source: Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/>.

## HISTORIC OVERVIEW

with 20 enslaved people and holdings of about \$37,000)<sup>35</sup> in particular transferred a great deal of her property to new African American owners. This evolution in property ownership is examined in detail herein for the John Wesley Church Parsonage Site, the Dent-Brooks House, the Wheeler Tabernacle, the Whitehall Tenant House and the Samuel Gray Farmstead.<sup>36</sup>

The 1878 *G. M. Hopkins Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington, D.C.* shows a large number of residences and businesses in Woodville (Aquasco P.O.). A detail of the northern part of the village shows St. Mary's Episcopal Church, four stores, a blacksmith, and the Grange Hall, attesting to a prosperous community with a vibrant economic, social, and spiritual life. In addition, the early twentieth century saw two resort communities for African American families established on the Patuxent River: Eagle Harbor (PG:87B-38) and Cedar Haven (PG:87B-39).

Despite the fact that Aquasco was the largest population center in its district, a railroad was never built near the village, making it difficult to get perishable crops to urban markets quickly. Eventually, automobiles would provide easier access to Washington, D.C., Baltimore, and other large population centers where goods were cheaper and easier to find. An Aquasco native, Clinton Holland, related his memories of the early days of automobiles: "I can remember when cars were very scarce...in this area and most of older folks called them machines . . . My great grandmother, she'd say 'sonny, there go one of those old machine going up the road' . . . Cars didn't really come into existence [here] until World War II. A lot of people were commuting back and forth to DC to work for the government . . . Down on this area the only thing was farming."<sup>37</sup>

A combination of factors caused Aquasco to decline in economic prosperity over the course of the twentieth century, but also enabled retention of the village's nineteenth- and twentieth-century buildings. Today, Aquasco is still largely rural, with a population of 837 mainly engaged in office, administrative support, and sales occupations; construction and repair occupations; or transportation occupations.<sup>38</sup> The majority of the current population is African American, followed by white residents.

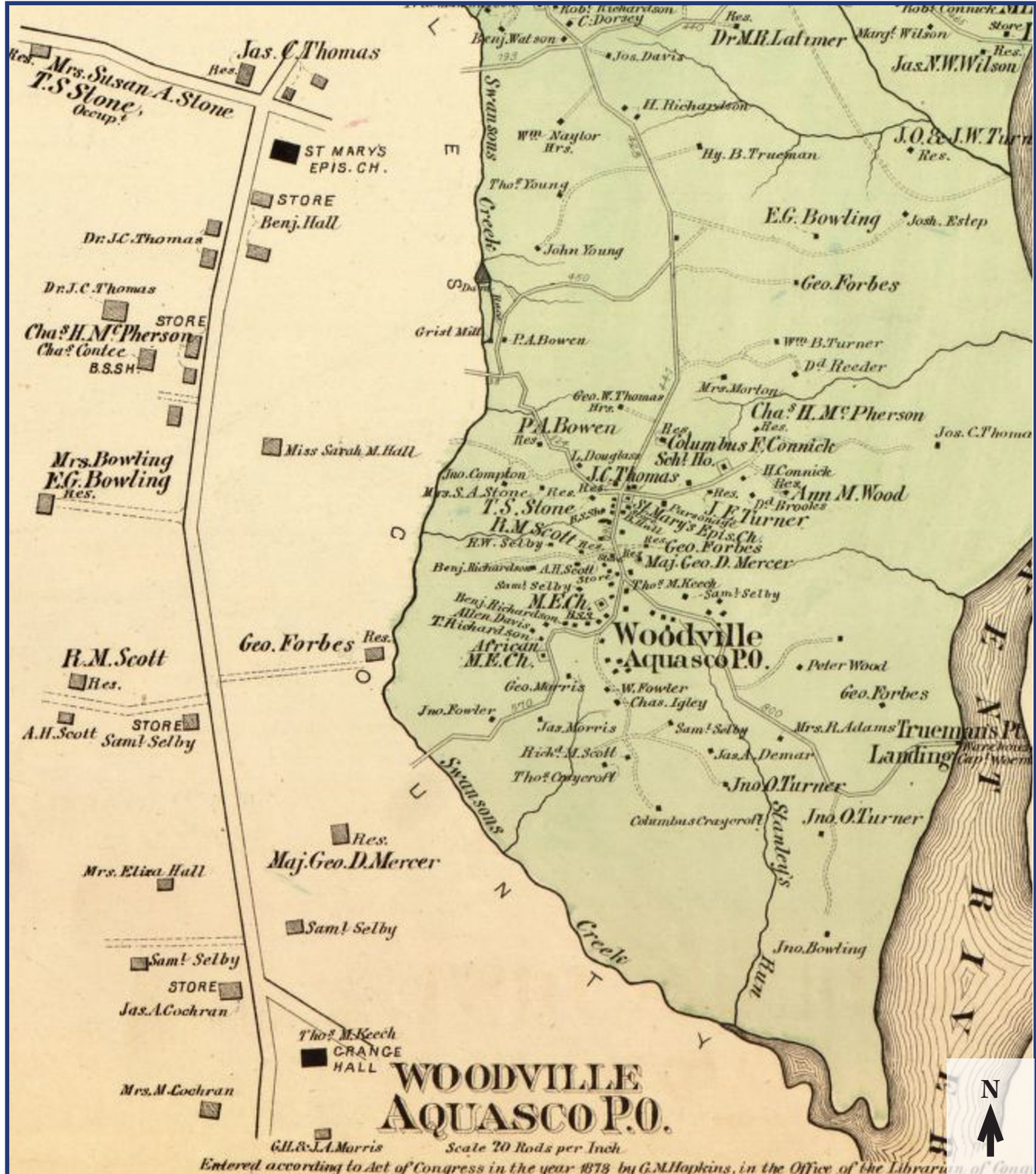


Figure 5. 1878 G.M. Hopkins Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington, D.C.

Hopkins' Atlas shows the most detail, including the John Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church.

Source: Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/>.

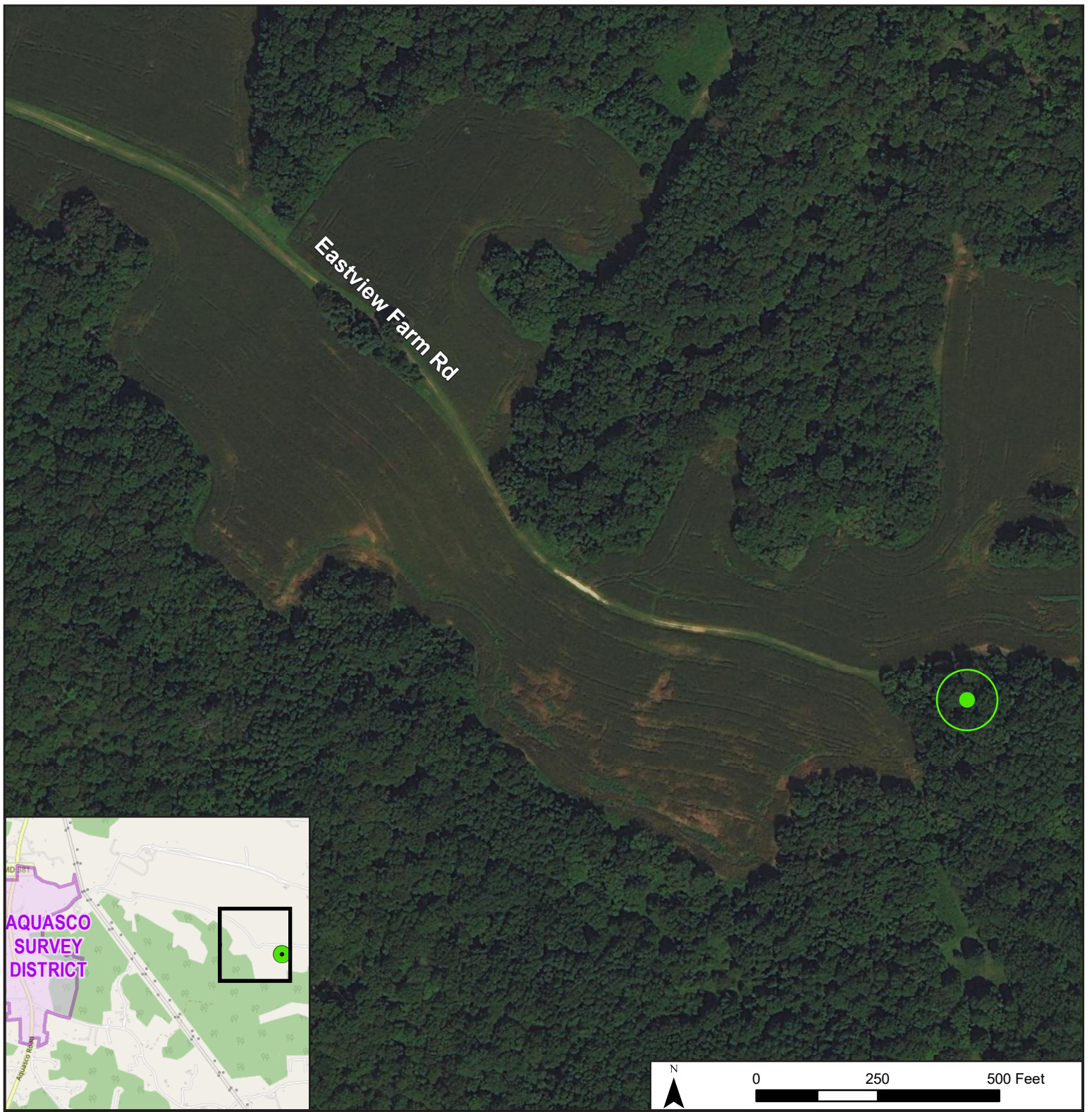






NEWLY INVENTORIED PROPERTIES

# Map 4. Cemetery for Enslaved African Americans at Eastview



# CEMETERY FOR ENSLAVED AFRICAN AMERICANS AT EASTVIEW

## 17501 EASTVIEW FARM ROAD

A cemetery for enslaved African Americans is located on the eastern edge of Parcel 86 of the Eastview Plantation, which is an approximately 332-acre parcel east of the Aquasco Survey District, reaching from the village's eastern edge to nearly the west bank of the Patuxent River. The northern half of the parcel is under cultivation, while much of the southern half is wooded. The consolidation of this property was a relatively recent development, and it appears to be made up of parts of several different historic plantations. The now-demolished plantation house stood on a separate 6.66-acre parcel connected to St. Mary's Church Road by a private right-of-way, and was documented as Eastview (or Wood's Joy, PG:87B-3) but another residence is located in the approximate center of the modern parcel.

The modern parcel, containing the Eastview plantation, represents the twentieth-century consolidation of several properties varying significantly in size and presents a complicated title history. These parcels were largely consolidated by John and Dorothy Yerkie in the 1970s and only about half of the Yerkies' total area lies within the modern parcel. The Yerkies sold the property in 1979.<sup>39</sup>

The two largest parts of their property can be traced the furthest back in time, including a 422-acre portion of the property owned by the once-prominent Wood family in 1860 (that would later pass to matrilineal descendants in the Chichester and Mende families), and a 219-acre portion originally owned by Stanislaus Hoxton and conveyed to the McPherson family in 1820. A minor portion of the Yerkies' property originally belonged to the Morton family and passed through the McPhersons and Brooks in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries (see Appendix 1 for the Hoxton Purchase, the

Morton Purchase, and the Wood Purchase chains of title). A January 1969 plat shows the location of the cemetery for enslaved African Americans on the east side of Parcel 86 ("Wood Purchase," Eastview Lot 2) in the Aquasco District of Prince George's County. This plat is on file with the Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation. Further research should be undertaken to document, preserve, and protect this cemetery.

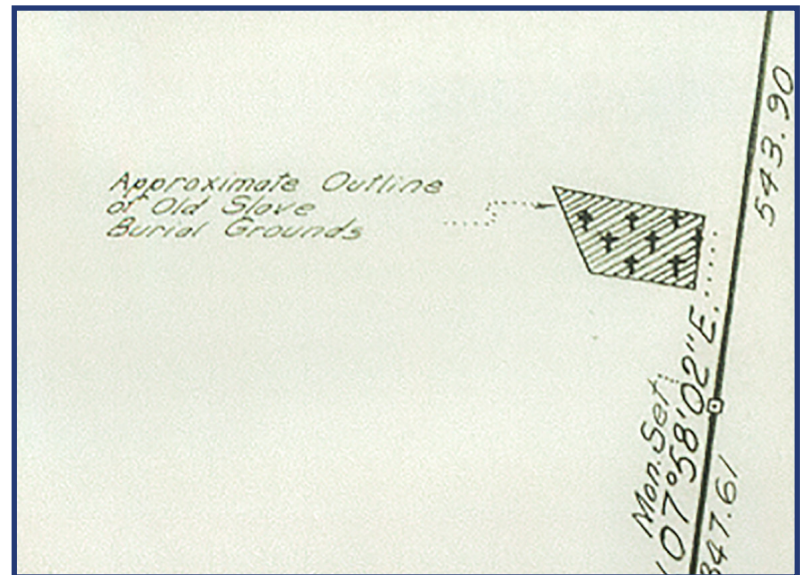
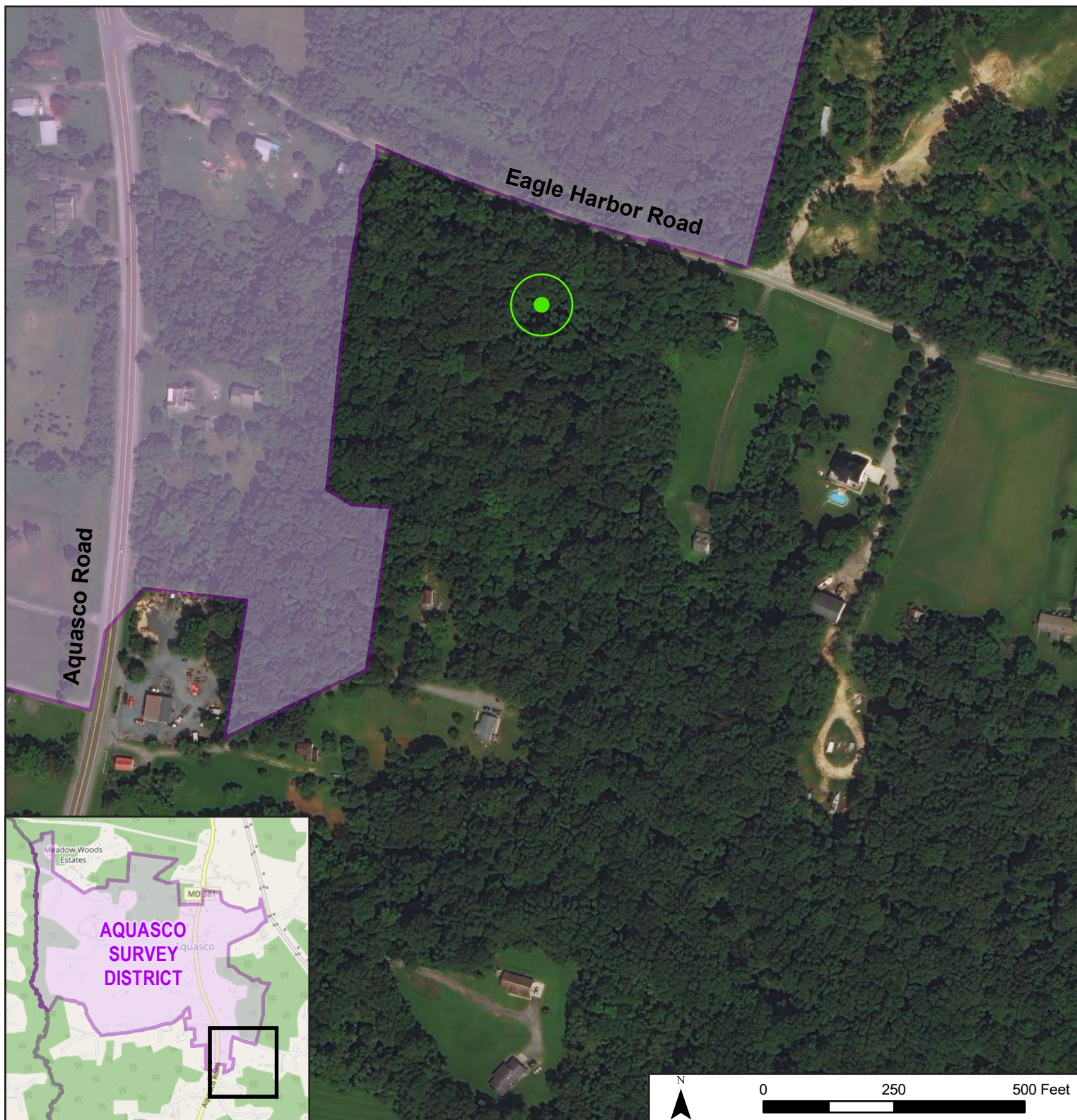


Figure 6. Slave Cemetery Plat - Eastview Property

A group of crosses identifies the cemetery.

Source: "Parcel A, Plat of Survey, Part of Priscilla Mende Dyson Property, Part of Patuxent River Watershed Park," January 1969, Collection of M-NCPPC's Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation

# Map 5. John Wesley Church Parsonage Site



## EAGLE HARBOR ROAD; TAX ACCOUNT 0836296

The John Wesley Church Parsonage Site is an eight-acre wooded lot south of Eagle Harbor Road. Once known as “Aquasco-Trueman Point Road,”<sup>40</sup> it historically connected Aquasco to the landing at Trueman’s Point and later Cedar Haven and the Town of Eagle Harbor. The parcel has no standing structures.

Originally part of a tract called “Ledford Gift and the Hatchette,”<sup>41</sup> the property passed through the hands of the McPherson, Morton<sup>42</sup>, Wood, and Keech families before Philemon and Bessie Keech sold it in 1914 to the Trustees of the Woodville Charge<sup>43</sup> Methodist Episcopal Church: Thomas Adams, Edward B. Gray, Joseph C. Holland, Isaiah Gray, James Slater, Henry Gross, Lewellen Gross, Joseph M. Douglas, and William Contee.<sup>44</sup> It is not clear from the deed if the property included any dwellings at that time, although it must have as a May 2, 1910 deed for the property to the south references the “... Methodist Rectory lot.”<sup>45</sup> It may be that the church was renting the property and using a dwelling for a number of years until purchasing it.

This was not the first land set aside for a Methodist Episcopal parsonage. In 1886, Lidia and Richard Douglas (of Henry) sold a narrow, quarter-acre lot to the Woodville Circuit of the Washington Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church “in trust that the said premises shall be held, kept, and maintained as a place of residence for the use and occupancy of the preachers of the Methodist Episcopal Church who may from time to time be stationed in said place subject to the uses and discipline of said church...”<sup>46</sup> It is not yet known what land is represented by this 79- by 20-yard parcel.

The Woodville Methodist Episcopal Church (also known as the John Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church) is now known as Christ United Methodist Church. At 22919 Christ Church Road, it is almost a mile’s walk along the roads from the parsonage. The origins of the congregation date to 1866, when James Gray, a Freedman, purchased the property from George Morton for the purpose of erecting a house of worship for members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.<sup>47</sup> The first church on the site was known as Christ Church; the second, built in 1906, was known as John Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church. The present structure was built in 1961 and is now known once again as Christ Church. The trustees of the 1914 transaction appear, in several instances, to be descendants of the original 1866 trustees.<sup>48</sup> The John Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church and Cemetery (Historic Site 87B-033) is significant as one of the earliest churches established by Freedmen in Prince George’s County.

The parsonage was home to clergymen of varied and distinguished backgrounds, some of whose lives can be illuminated by census records. No fewer than three village clergy are listed in 1900. The Reverend Elijah Ayers (b. 1826) was almost certainly the Methodist Episcopal minister, since he is listed (with wife Maria and four sons) near the Dent family,<sup>49</sup> whose property joined the parsonage land to the south.<sup>50</sup>

Although the enumerator for the Aquasco district in 1910 was the village’s own Joseph Young, Jr., he lists no clergy, and no man who seems to otherwise fit that description on Aquasco-Trueman Point Road. But, by 1920, the Reverend Dr. Robert Ferguson Coates (1882–1944)<sup>51</sup> was serving as the Methodist Episcopal minister and lived with his wife Beardina in the parsonage.<sup>52</sup> Dr. Coates<sup>53</sup> later became superintendent of the Washington district of the Washington Conference.

# JOHN WESLEY CHURCH PARSONAGE SITE

The Reverend Charles Ernest Smallwood (1891–1972),<sup>54</sup> his wife Mildred, and their three daughters are listed in the 1930 census record for Aquasco.<sup>55</sup> His occupation is given as “preacher.”<sup>56</sup> Ten years later the Smallwoods—now with six daughters—had moved on to Chapel Hill-Piscataway Road where Smallwood ministered to another congregation.<sup>57</sup> By 1940 the Reverend Joseph N. Yearwood, Sr. (born circa 1880) had moved from Washington, D.C. and was serving as the John Wesley Methodist Church’s minister and living in the parsonage on what was, by this time, called Eagle Harbor Road.<sup>58</sup> The Reverend Yearwood and his wife Lillian were natives of what was then the British West Indies, and today the Commonwealth Caribbean, although their (by that time adult) sons Joseph Jr. and Edward were born in Washington, D.C. and West Virginia, respectively.<sup>59</sup>

Further research should be undertaken with the United Methodist Church and other records to determine the location of the original Douglas parcel, which other clergy and their families lived in the parsonage on Eagle Harbor Road, and how it came to be acquired, used, and ultimately demolished by 1977.<sup>60</sup>



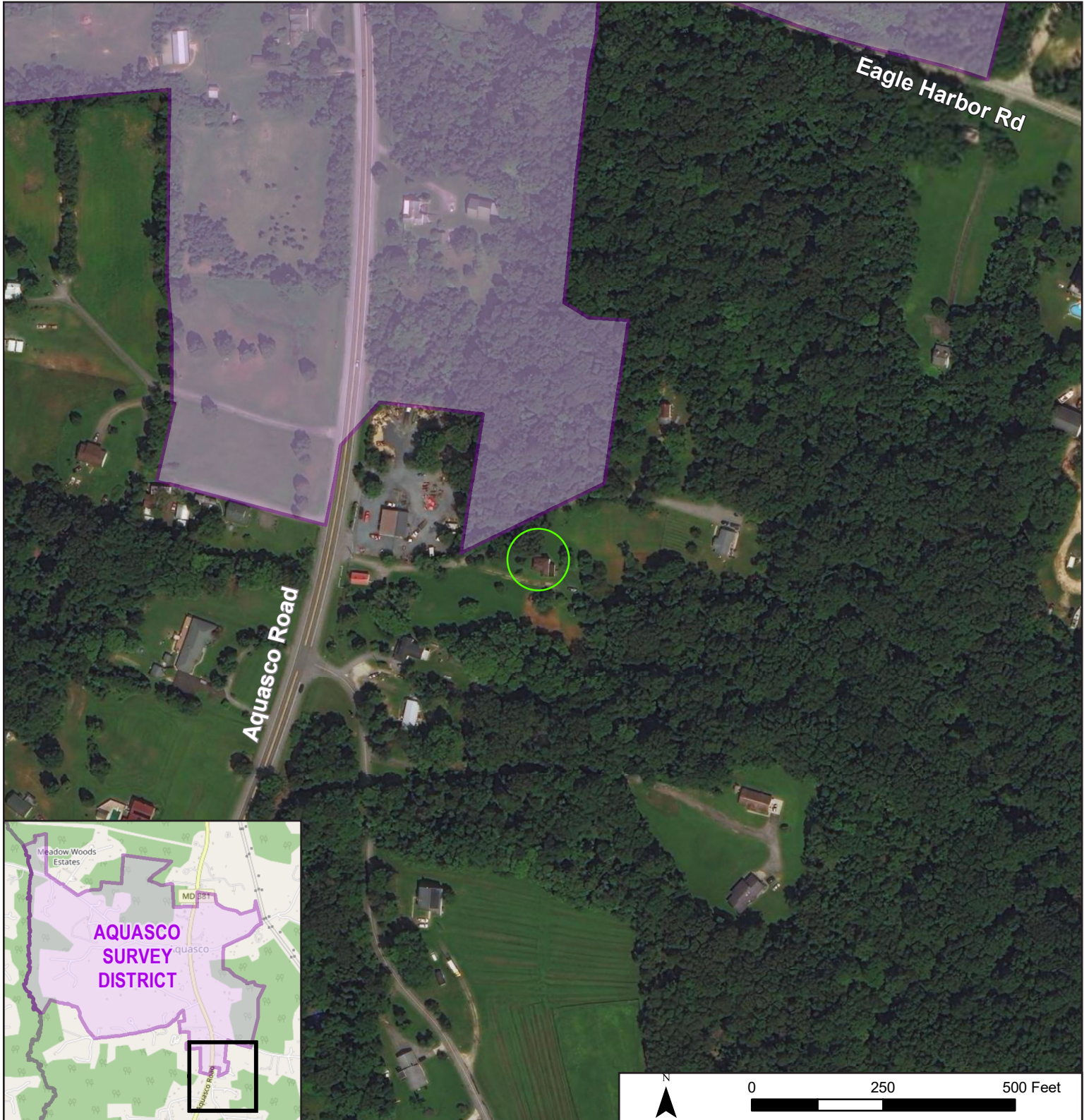
*Figure 7. 1968 Aerial, John Wesley Church Parsonage Site*

The clearest aerial photograph of the parsonage is from 1968, which shows that the part of the property fronting Eagle Harbor Road was well-cared-for, not wooded, and that a two-story, pyramidal-roof house with an east wing and full-width back porch was situated near the northeast corner of the property, at the end of a short driveway. Two outbuildings can be seen to the west and south of the house.

Source: pगतlas.com.

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# Map 6. Dent-Brooks House





**22820 AQUASCO ROAD (PG:87B-36-38)**

The Dent-Brooks House at 22820 Aquasco Road is located on an irregularly shaped parcel that extends from its northeast boundary at the back of the John Wesley Church Parsonage Site to Aquasco Road, dividing itself in two “prongs” to reach that road on either side of the Wheeler Tabernacle (PG:87B-41). The belt of trees to the north and east grows in a stream bed that separates the property from the parsonage site, but historically the house was fronted by more open land. Although it is not now visible from Aquasco road, the house is connected to it by a paved driveway that runs east in a wooded area past the Marlboro Trading Post, a farm equipment supplier at 22818 Aquasco Road. The driveway continues past the house to the north and east to connect to a second, later house on the property and to a modern-era house of unknown acreage or title.

Possibly dating from the late-nineteenth century, the house is a two-story, hipped-roof, and rectangular (almost square) dwelling with a two-story, hipped-roofed south wing creating an L-shaped footprint. A hipped dormer with a four-light casement window is centered on the front of the main roof. An unpainted wood stair with exposed framing leads to the main entrance. The east elevation has a large porch that extends the full width of the rear façade. It is likely the house originally featured a full-width front porch, now demolished.

The window sashes vary with both two-over-two lights and six-over-six lights, but all are double-hung. The front door features a Greek Revival- or Federal-style multi-light door surround with a one-by-eight-light transom window, the sidelights of which have been covered by boards. The front door has four lights over three horizontal panels.

Doors and windows have rectangular board casings. The unpainted eaves have a flat soffit, undecorated fascia boards, and cyma recta crown moldings.

The walls are clad in later fiber-cement shingles with a decorative wave edge. The roof is covered in metal shingles with rolled ridges. Stubby metal finials (acroteria) are located at roof apexes. Square, two-brick by two-brick interior brick chimneys with terra-cotta flue liners are located near the center of the house on the north side of the east-west ridgeline, and on the south slope of the south wing, and are likely twentieth-century replacements for earlier chimneys.

***Wood, Douglas, Gray and Tubman Ownership***

The land on which the Dent-Brooks House stands is composed of portions of properties that were sold by Peter and Harriet Wood to the Douglas family, the Gray family, and Jane Tubman in the 1870s.<sup>61</sup> The current parcel (then 5.25 acres) was assembled by African American native Marylanders Sarah (Sallie) Gross Dent (1853-1917) and her husband Albert (1858-1926) over the period of 1883–1910.<sup>62</sup>

***Dent Ownership***

It seems likely the Dents built the house that is still on the property. Sarah worked as a homemaker and later a dressmaker. Albert worked as a painter, paperer, and plasterer and was active in the Republican party, serving on the state central committee in 1898.<sup>63</sup> They had nine children: Gertrude (1875), Viola Mary (1878), Theodore (1880), Richard (1882), Lillian (1884), Herbert (1886–1901)<sup>64</sup>, Marie (1889), Ethel (1891), and William Marbury (1896).<sup>65</sup> Sarah died in 1917 (she was buried in the John Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church Cemetery)<sup>66</sup> and Albert went to live with his daughter Marie (Mrs. Thomas E. Wilson) in Upper Marlboro,<sup>67</sup> although he continued to own the Aquasco Road property. After Albert

# DENT-BROOKS HOUSE

died with no will in 1926,<sup>68</sup> a dispute in the circuit court between Lillian C. Dent Green and Marie's daughters Ethel and Marie<sup>69</sup> resulted in a decree to sell the real estate in the proceedings—and it was to African American Peter Brooks in 1936 for \$500.

## ***Brooks Ownership***

Like many Aquasco residents, Peter Brooks (1896–1983) was a farmer and had originally worked as a farmhand for Henry Contee. Brooks was raised in his much older brother George's large Aquasco household at the turn of the twentieth century.<sup>70</sup> His World War I draft registration card indicates that he was both "short" and "slender."<sup>71</sup> He and his wife Alice had two children: Fanny and Jeremiah. It

is not clear if Brooks ever occupied this house; the Brooks' farm, consisting of about three acres, was located near St. Mary's Church Road and was the land David Brooks purchased from George Morton in 1866<sup>72</sup> and inherited by his brother George.<sup>73</sup> The farm can be seen on the 1878 Hopkins Atlas, between the land of Ann Wood and J. E. Turner.<sup>74</sup> The Brooks are a prominent Aquasco family, and descendants of Peter Brooks have owned the Aquasco Road property ever since; although, the original 5.25 acres was reduced to 4.19 acres in 1957 when Peter and Alice deeded a 1.05-acre parcel (Parcel 86) and a right-of-way to their son Jeremiah and his wife Sylvia.<sup>75</sup>



*Figure 8. Dent-Brooks House Roofline*

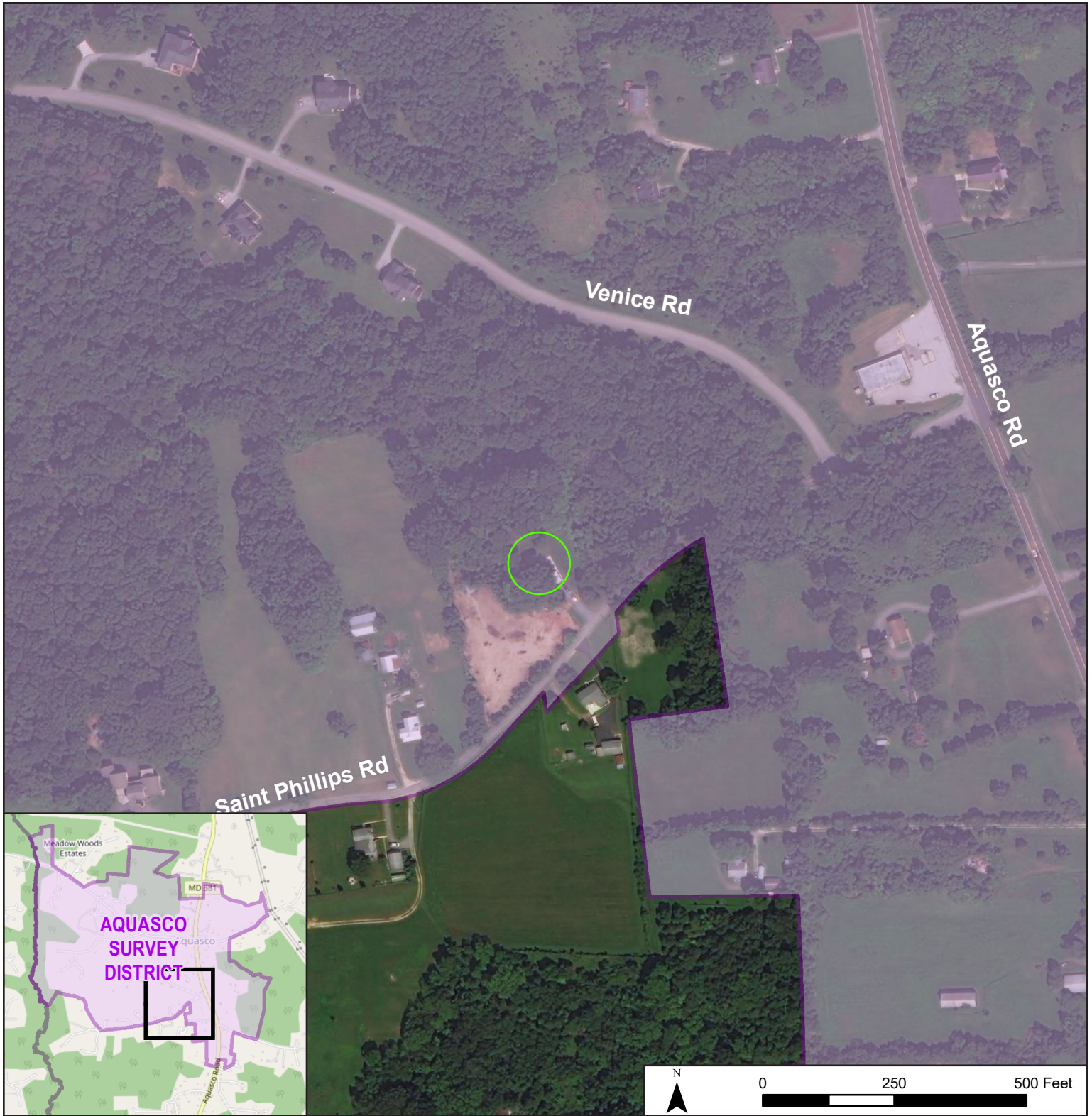
Looking northeast, showing acroteria, 2019.



*Figure 9. Dent-Brooks House Looking Northeast*

Showing rear wing, 2019.

# Map 7. Whitehall Tenant House



## 16200 SAINT PHILIPS ROAD (PG:87B-36-40)

The Whitehall Tenant House at 16200 Saint Philips Road is a late-nineteenth or early-twentieth-century frame “I-house”<sup>76</sup> farmhouse located on a 4.3-acre thickly wooded triangular parcel that slopes northeast to the Collins Branch. The house was built on a rise equal in height to, and approximately 840 feet from, Aquasco Road which it faces, and from which it would have been visible when it was built. The house is a three-bay, two story frame dwelling with a full-width front porch (now enclosed). The front (facing Aquasco Road) features a center roof gable with a brick chimney to the south near the ridgeline. Rear additions enlarge the footprint and the windows are evenly spaced. Turn-of-the-twentieth-century-era iron and glass ball lightning rods suggest the house once stood in open fields.

The land on which the tenant house sits was originally part of a 70-acre tract called “Cole Brook” or “Poplar Hill” and was included in the nineteenth-century estate of John Lynch, a white man. The tract faced Aquasco Road for about 1,000 feet north of St. Philip’s Church Road and continued back about 3,000 feet, containing what was then farmland and is now the Cedar Farms subdivision on Venice Road. One of Lynch’s heirs, John D. Bowling, purchased it in 1855.<sup>77</sup> It devolved to his son E. G. Bowling, who died there shortly before the turn of the twentieth century. The Bowling dwelling house was located on Parcel 84, exactly where the house at 22411 Aquasco Road is today.<sup>78</sup> It was demolished in 1993.

The name “Whitehall” for the 70-acre tract first appears in 1913 on a conveyance from its white owner, Reverend Charles Ernest Smith, to Robert Cunningham.<sup>79</sup> Notably, African American Samuel Stamp (1863-1941), purchased the 70-acre Whitehall tract in 1917 and owned it until



Figure 10. Whitehall Tenant House (1984)

This photo from the 1984 Aquasco survey shows how the house would have appeared in the early twentieth century before the porch was enclosed.

Source: Aquasco Survey District (PG: 87B-36), Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form, (Crownsville: The Maryland Historical Trust, 1984).



Figure 11. Whitehall Tenant House (2019)

The Whitehall Tenant House today, looking northwest, 2019.

# WHITEHALL TENANT HOUSE

1925.<sup>80</sup> It is not clear if Stamp and his family ever occupied the property. A purchaser and seller of hundreds of Aquasco acres in the early part of the twentieth century, Stamp sold the property (and another 105-acre tract in a separate deed) to Shelby and Mae Young, a white couple, in 1925.<sup>81</sup> The name Whitehall disappeared from the land records with this deed.

In 1934, the Youngs conveyed the 4.3-acre parcel on which the tenant house sits to Leigh and Ruth Keech.<sup>82</sup> This is the parcel as it exists today. No census records corroborate the property's owners ever living there. It is assumed the house was built at some point between 1878 and 1934 (although the style suggests circa 1900 or earlier) for a tenant farmer and the property eventually subdivided to accommodate the dwelling. The tenant house is not shown on the 1878 Hopkins Atlas of that year, though the very similar Scott Farmhouse (16100 St. Philip's Church Road, PG:87B-36-11) is shown on the atlas and is mentioned in its own and neighboring deeds.

The 4.3-acre property passed through a number of hands following Ruth Keech's death in the late 1960s, with each owner selling it after less than a decade.



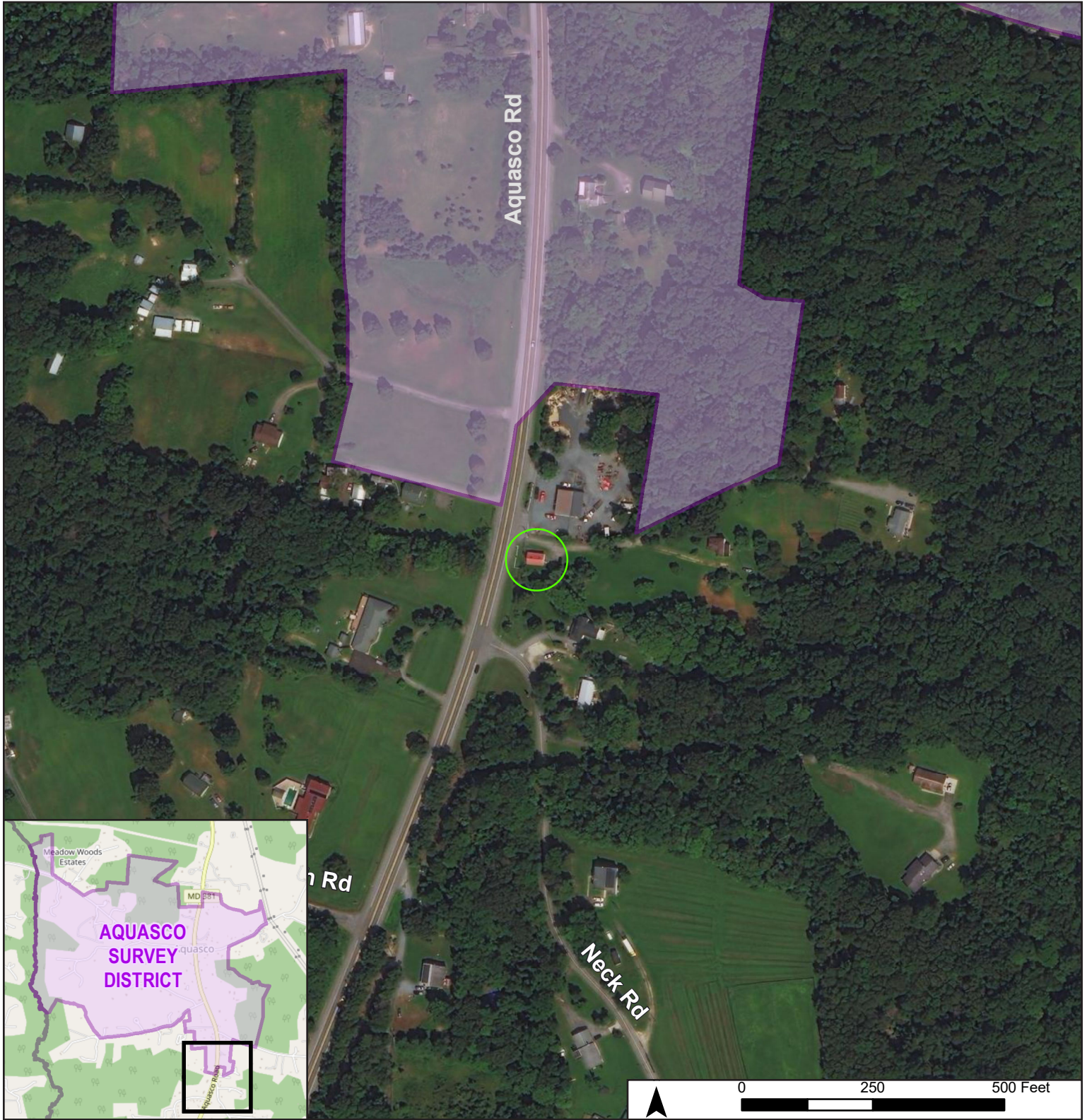
*Figure 12. Whitehall Dwelling House (1984)*

The nineteenth-century Whitehall dwelling house, where E.G. Bowling died, and so apparently named by 1904–1913 owner, the Reverend Charles Ernest Smith, as it appeared in 1984. Although an I-house itself, it featured more exuberant decoration and modulation. Note the two-story bay windows and double front doors.

Source: Aquasco Survey District (PG: 87B-36), Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form, (Crownsville: The Maryland Historical Trust, 1984).

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# Map 8. Wheeler Tabernacle





## 22830 AQUASCO ROAD (PG:87B-41)

The Wheeler Tabernacle is a front-gabled frame building with a later irregular door and window arrangement facing the road and two evenly spaced sash windows on each side. A later octagonal window pierces the gable. Two interior square brick chimneys are found on the north side of the roof near the ridge. The building is clad in a mixture of drop siding and fiber-cement shingles, and the roof is painted steel.

The land on which the Wheeler Tabernacle is located was originally part of the “Dove’s Rest” or “Dove’s Perch” mid-1600’s patent that eventually became the property of Harriet Morton Wood. Wood sold 1.25 acres of this land fronting Aquasco Road to Richard Douglas (of Henry), an African American, in 1876. There were several men named Richard Douglas in Woodville at the time, so he was referred to by his father’s name.

Richard Douglas (born about 1844) worked as a cobbler and his wife Lidia (or Lydia) kept house and cared for their daughter, Betsy.<sup>83</sup> In 1897, Lidia, now a widow, joined with several other landowners to convey, for \$50, a quarter acre of the late Richard Douglas’ property to the “Wheeler Tabernacle Mt. Pisca No. 14 Sons and Daughters of Israel jointly and equally with the Sea Tone Society No. 4079 Grand United Order of Odd Fellows of Woodville.”<sup>84</sup>

Very little could be discovered about the organizations that owned the property for 35 years (until 1932). It may be that the first was named for the Reverend David Wheeler, who was appointed as Woodville minister in 1888 by the Washington Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.<sup>85</sup> “Mt. Pisca” is a variation of the Bible’s Mount Pisgah.<sup>86</sup> Orders, societies, and organizations such as these were popular in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries and would have provided social outlets and

economic assistance to African American members of the Aquasco community. A similar organization is the Knights of St. John, whose commandery is located at 21500 Aquasco Road in the Woodville School (Historic Site 87B-034). This organization is affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church.

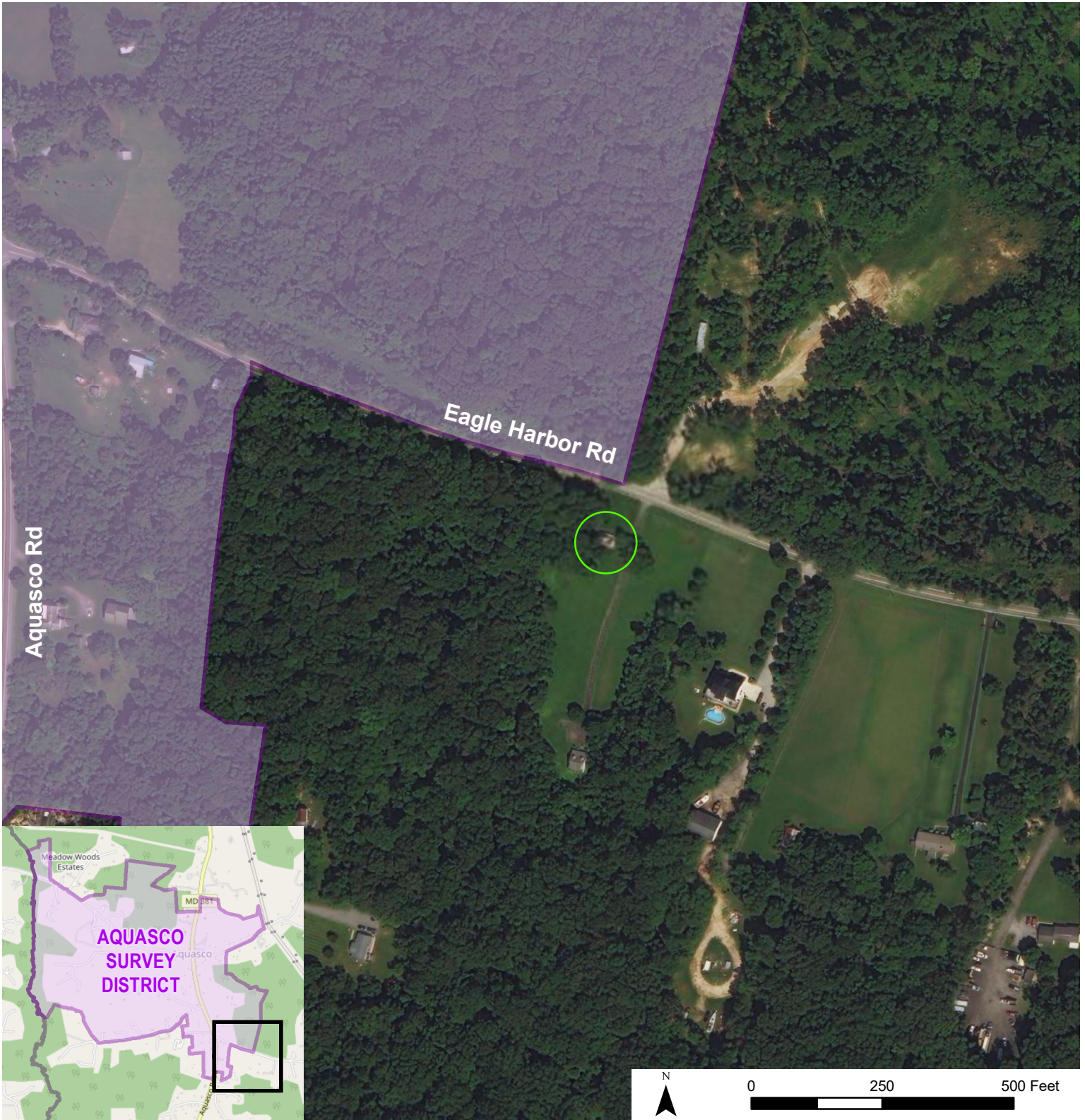
In 1932, the property was transferred to the John Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church, which had purchased it at auction.<sup>87</sup> After an interim sale, the property was conveyed to African American Anderson M. Butler (1906–1985) in 1947.<sup>88</sup> Butler, and later his estate, owned the property until 1988, and likely used it as a rental property.



Figure 13. Wheeler Tabernacle

The Wheeler Tabernacle, shown here looking southeast from Aquasco Road in 2019 has been used as a residence for some time.

# Map 9. Samuel Gray Farmstead



## 16603 EAGLE HARBOR ROAD (PG:87B-42)

The Samuel Gray Farmstead is located on the south side of Eagle Harbor Road, which historically connected Aquasco to the landing at Trueman's Point and later the waterside communities of Eagle Harbor and Cedar Haven. It lies just outside the eastern boundary of the Aquasco Survey District, east of the John Wesley Church Parsonage Site.

The two-acre farmstead is characterized by the dwelling house, located approximately 80 feet from Eagle Harbor Road in the northwest corner of the parcel. Once accompanied by rear outbuildings and a second bungalow-like dwelling to the west, it now stands alone, sheltered by woods from the same direction. The rear (south) cleared half-acre is still planted with crops.

The chain of title can be traced to a grant from Henry and Elizabeth McPherson to George W. Morton and Harriet E. Morton Wood (1826–1911) from George Morton's estate.<sup>89</sup> Elizabeth was the daughter of George Morton, and Harriet and George W. Morton were the children of her deceased brother, Joseph. Harriet married Peter Wood, another large Aquasco landowner from whom the village's other name of Woodville is derived. In the late nineteenth century, Wood moved her residence to Washington, D.C., and began parceling out her property, selling portions of it to African Americans like farmer Samuel Gray, to whom, in 1876, she sold a little over two acres.<sup>90</sup>

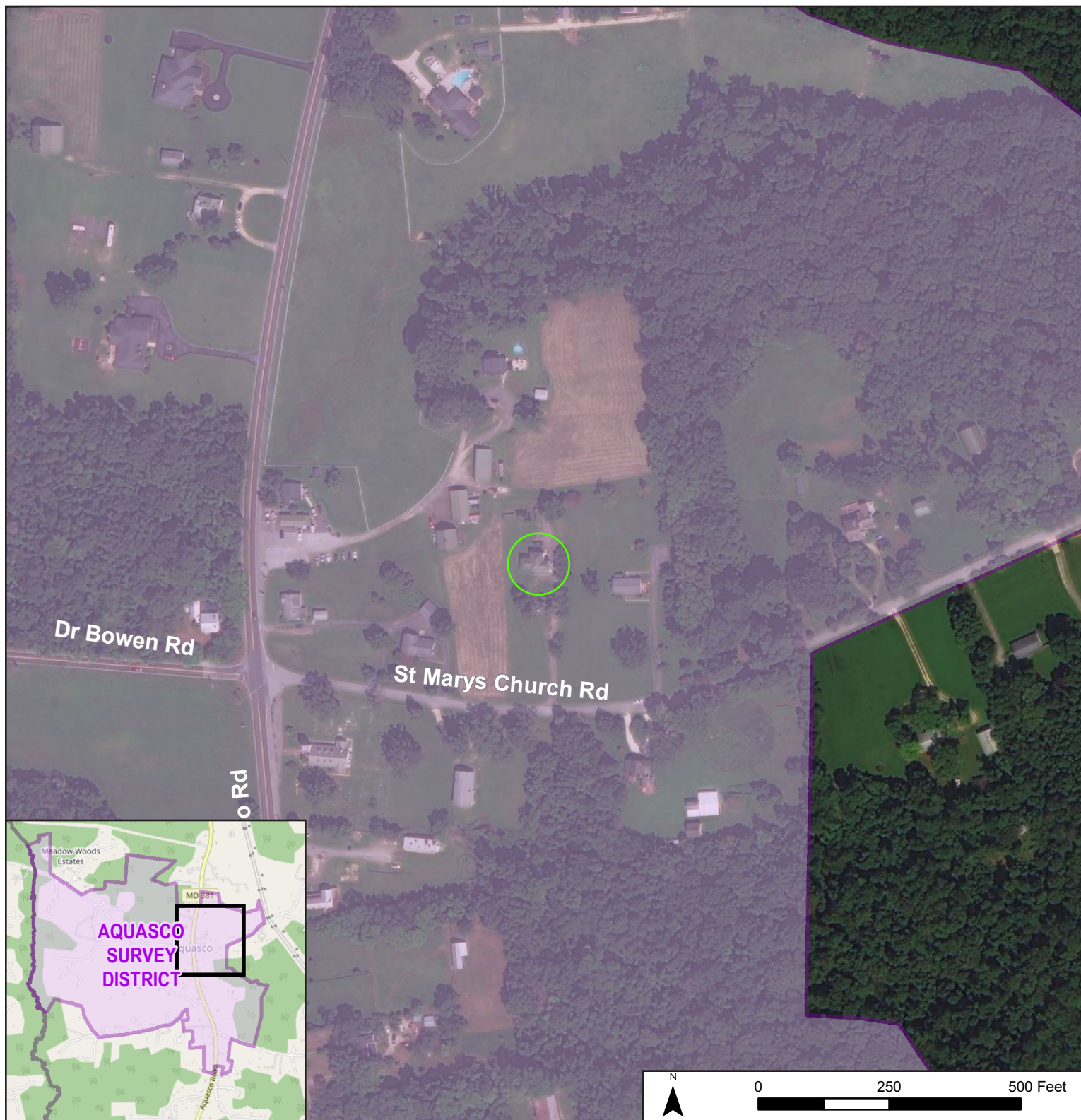
There was more than one Samuel Grey (or Gray) in Aquasco in the late-nineteenth century. Samuel F. Gray (born 1848) was 21 years old in 1870 and working on the farm of Robert Scott.<sup>91</sup> He is next listed in 1900 at age 52,<sup>92</sup> with wife Elizabeth and daughters Annie (1888–1970) and Ida (born 1890), heirs who conveyed the farmstead

amongst themselves in 1948.<sup>93</sup> These family members are also listed together at the farm on Aquasco-Trueman Point Road in 1910.<sup>94</sup> The property remains in the Gray family.



Like the Whitehall Tenant House (PG:87B-36-40), the Gray Farmstead is of classic I-house form with a center gable. It has regularly spaced fenestration, a center front door, and brick interior chimneys at either end. The roof and full-width front porch are covered with steel panels, and the original wall cladding is covered with wide aluminum siding. This is the northwest elevation, taken from Eagle Harbor Road in 2019.

# Map 10. Delilah Waters House



## 16300 SAINT MARY'S CHURCH ROAD (PG:87B-36-41)

The land on which the Delilah Waters House sits was originally part of the Digg's Lodge land patent. In 1857, landowners George and Ellen Morton deeded a 4.125-acre tract (corresponding to today's Parcels 36 and 107) to (white) sisters Mary and Delilah Waters.<sup>95</sup> Soon after, the sisters built the house that is still on the property, set well back and slightly west of center from the "road from Woodville to the Primary School House"—soon to be known as St. Mary's Church Road.<sup>96</sup>

This two-story, hipped-roof, and wood-framed 2,400-square-foot dwelling was built circa 1860. The front façade (south elevation) is accessed via a gravel walk from a circular gravel driveway that is accessed from St. Mary's Church Road. The drive loops in front of the house and continues to the garage at the rear. The yard surrounding the building is primarily lawn and has large trees to the south and east. The northern section of the property (rear yard) contains a wood-frame garage. The rectangular, two-story, three-bay main block has a smaller rectangular, two-story, two-bay wing on the west side, and a one-story porch on the front (south) façade. All roof surfaces are modern standing-seam metal, and chimneys are no longer present. The exterior walls are covered in horizontal vinyl siding. All visible facades have six-over-six vinyl windows with vinyl shutters. The entrance door is centered in the main block and has a nine lite glass panel with sidelights.

Maryland natives Mary and Delilah Waters lived in Woodville as early as 1850, according to the year's census, and with substantial real estate holdings of \$300. At that time both were around 40 years old.<sup>97</sup> Mary's occupation is listed as gardener in the 1860 census.<sup>98</sup> Delilah had no listed occupation. It is possible that they were women of some independent means.<sup>99</sup>

Mary died at some point before 1877 and surviving sister Delilah deeded the property to the Vestry of St. Paul's Parish while retaining a life tenancy.<sup>100</sup> St. Paul's Parish was established in 1692 and the church in Baden (Historic Site 86B-014) was built in 1735. St. Mary's Episcopal Church (Historic Site 87B-08a), across the road from the Delilah Waters' House, was founded as a mission chapel in 1848. The current church building was constructed in 1920; the two churches share the same rector.<sup>101</sup> Waters' gift to the parish demonstrates a strong affiliation; further research (for example, vestry minutes) could shed light on the Waters' sisters' lives and their ownership of the property. In several deeds, the property is referred to as "the Delilah Waters' Lot."

It is not clear when Delilah Waters died; however, in 1882, St. Paul's Parish sold two acres, improved with the house, (now known as Parcel 36) to Dr. William Marbury.<sup>102</sup> The property changed hands several times and was held by the prominent Keech and Baden families. In 1963 the property was acquired by the Goad family, who still own it.<sup>103</sup>



Figure 14. Delilah Waters House

Delilah Waters House, looking north from St. Mary's Church Road, 2019.





# APPENDIX

# APPENDIX: EASTVIEW CEMETERY LAND ACQUISITION

## *The Hoxton Purchase*

In 1820, Henry McPherson purchased a tract of land from Stanislaus Hoxton for \$3,545. Hoxton's father had acquired 600 acres of property centered on a tract called "Brook Court Manor" in 1748, which had passed to Hoxton in the late-eighteenth century. The grant to Henry McPherson contained part of "Joseph and Mary," part of "Brook Court Manor," part of "Blackwell," and part of "Thomas and Anthony's Choice." In 1820, census records indicate McPherson's household included twelve enslaved people.<sup>104</sup> After his death in 1851, it is likely that the property was passed to his son Charles Henry McPherson, but no probate record or will could be located. Charles H. McPherson is shown in the vicinity of the Eastview Plantation on the 1861 Martenet map of Prince George's County and the 1878 Hopkins Atlas. In the 1880 United States census, Charles Henry McPherson is recorded as living in the Aquasco district with his wife Julia, five children, and four African American servants.<sup>105</sup> In 1900, Charles Henry McPherson is still recorded in Aquasco with two daughters, one grandchild, and one African American servant, in a dwelling that he owns.<sup>106</sup> Charles Henry McPherson died in 1907 and the property passed to his son, Charles Alexander McPherson.

In the 1900 census, Charles Henry's son Charles Alexander McPherson is also listed in the Aquasco District in a dwelling that he is renting.<sup>107</sup> By 1910, Charles Alexander McPherson is listed in a household with his wife Evelyn, two children, two sisters, and four African American servants in a dwelling that he owns.<sup>108</sup> It is surmised that this is the property left to him by his father. In September 1934, Charles Alexander sold the property to his son Charles Henry Adams McPherson.<sup>109</sup> In a deed from 1966 that transfers the title to Charles Henry Adams and his

wife Ruth, the residue of the property contains 219.5 acres.<sup>110</sup> The property remained in the McPherson family until 1977, when Ruth sold 1.358 acres to the Yerkies.<sup>111</sup>

## *The Morton Purchase*

Three acres from the Eastview Plantation property can be traced to George Morton, who owned large tracts of land in and near Aquasco prior to his death in the mid-nineteenth century. George inherited most of the property from his father, Thomas Morton, who reportedly purchased "Wood's Joy" and "Cross Gutt" from London mariner Captain Alexander Jolly for 120 pounds in 1750. George Morton did not live on the property after 1772.<sup>112</sup> George also purchased a tract of land called Ledford Gift and the Hatchett from James Kemp.<sup>113</sup> After George's death in 1826, his son George inherited Wood's Joy, Cross Gutt, Timberneck, and his daughter Elizabeth inherited Ledford Gift and the Hatchett.<sup>114</sup>

Prior to 1838, Elizabeth and her husband Henry McPherson sold approximately 30 acres of Hatchett to her brother, the younger George Morton. In an 1820 census record George Morton is living in Aquasco with one other white male and 13 enslaved people. By 1860 George Morton was living with his wife Ellen in Aquasco with a personal estate of \$40,000.<sup>115</sup> In 1866 George and Ellen Morton sold four acres of "Diggs Lodge" to David Brooks.<sup>116</sup> The property was eventually devised to Peter Brooks in 1932.<sup>117</sup> Peter Brooks retained the entire property until 1977, when he sold 3 acres to John and Dorothy Yerkie for \$4,500.<sup>118</sup>



# APPENDIX: EASTVIEW CEMETERY LAND ACQUISITION

## *The Wood Purchase*

An approximately 420-acre portion of the current Eastview Plantation property can be traced to the Wood family, which had acquired the property by 1850. The head of the family was Thomas Wood, 55, and he probably had inherited the property from his father. Thomas Wood and his wife, Eliza, lived on the property with their adult children John, Owen, Peter, Ann Mary, and Edgar along with an African American family of four African American, the Butlers.<sup>119</sup> Thomas died in 1854 and his real estate passed to his heirs, each of whom received a 1/5 interest. In 1857, Owen sold his 1/5 interest in the property called “Diggs Lodge” to his siblings Eliza, John, and Edgar for \$3,000, independent of his remaining interest in the dower rights of his mother.<sup>120</sup> At this point, the property contained 430 acres.

In 1860, siblings Ann Mary Wood and Edgar Wade Wood purchased the remaining interest in the Diggs Lodge property from their mother, Eliza, and their brothers John, Owen, and Peter Wood for \$19,000.<sup>121</sup> They acquired the approximately 420 acres of land as tenants in common, though it would be divided into two equal-sized lots after they both died. Ann Mary Wood left 211 acres of the property to her niece Priscilla Skinner Wood Chichester, the daughter of her brother Peter.<sup>122</sup> This property became known as Eastview Lot 1. Edgar Wade Wood left the remaining 211 acres, now known as Eastview Lot 2, to his children. Both lots came into the Chichester family by 1907, when Priscilla’s husband, William S. Chichester, purchased Eastview Lot 2 from the heirs of Edgar Wade Wood for \$2,100.<sup>123</sup> In 1926, Priscilla sold a half-acre to her son Frederick Chichester and his wife Maud.<sup>124</sup> After the death of Priscilla in 1933, William sold Eastview Lot 2 to their son Frederick and his wife Maud<sup>125</sup> and Eastview Lot 1 passed to Priscilla’s other heirs. The cemetery for enslaved African Americans is located on Eastview Lot 2.

Both properties were sold to Frederick and Maud’s daughter and her husband, Priscilla and Gus M. Mende, Jr., in 1956.<sup>126</sup> By 1967, Priscilla Chichester Mende Dyson had acquired the entirety of the original Eastview property when she and her brother Frederick S. Chichester, Jr., obtained the approximate half-acre from Maud, now widowed, that Maud and Frederick S. Chichester, Sr., purchased in 1926.<sup>127</sup> Mende owned the property until 1976, when she sold the entire 422-acre Wood property to John and Dorothy Yerkie.<sup>128</sup>

# APPENDIX: EASTVIEW CEMETERY LAND ACQUISITION

## CHAIN OF TITLE FOR HOXTON PURCHASE

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Liber/Folio	Notes
September 6, 1966	Peggy Jo Schumann, Trustee	Charles H. A. McPherson and Ruth S. McPherson, his wife	219.499	3420:691	Nominal consideration. Being the same land obtained from Charles A. McPherson
September 17, 1934	Charles A. McPherson, widower	Charles H. A. McPherson		419:116	Nominal consideration.
November 23, 1820	Stanislaus Hoxton	Henry McPherson		AB1:477	Consideration of \$2545

## CHAIN OF TITLE FOR MORTON PURCHASE

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Liber/Folio	Notes
January 19, 1932	George and Ida Brooks	Peter Brooks	3	376:103	Consideration of \$150. George Brooks obtained the land under the Will and Testament of David Brooks
February 22, 1866	George and Ellen H. Morton	David Brooks	4 and 2 roods	FS3:673	Consists of a portion of a property known as "Diggs Lodge"

## CHAIN OF TITLE FOR WOOD PURCHASE

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Liber/Folio	Notes
<b>EASTVIEW LOT 1</b>					
December 15, 1966	C.R.B., Inc.	Priscilla Chichester Mende, widow		3433:486	Nominal consideration. 211 acres of Eastview Lot 1 saving and excepting 5.9 acres conveyed to PEPCO in 1959 and .5 acre conveyed to Frederick S. Chichester in 1926.

# APPENDIX: EASTVIEW CEMETERY LAND ACQUISITION

## CHAIN OF TITLE FOR WOOD PURCHASE (CONTINUED)

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Liber/Folio	Notes
<b>EASTVIEW LOT 1</b>					
December 15, 1966	Priscilla Chichester Mende	C.R.B., Inc.		3433:480	Nominal consideration. 211 acres of Eastview Lot 1 saving and excepting 5.9 acres conveyed to PEPCO in 1959 and .5 acre conveyed to Frederick S. Chichester in 1926. Property became solely vested in Priscilla after the death of her husband Gus in 1964.
February 6, 1956	Peter Wood Chichester, et al.	Gus M. Mende, Jr. and Priscilla Chichester Mende, his wife		1961:321	Consideration of \$15,000. 211 acres, saving and excepting the family graveyard in the will of Ann Mary Wood and .5 acre conveyed to Frederick S. Chichester in 1926. Property devised to the heirs of Priscilla Skinner Chichester after her death in 1933, according to the will of Ann Mary Wood
April 10, 1860	John Thomas Wood, O. Sullivan Wood, Peter Wood, Jr. and Margaret J. Wood, his wife, Eliza Wood	Ann Mary Wood and Edgar Wade Wood, and tenants in common	420 to 425	CSM3:440	Consideration of \$18,000. Siblings Ann Mary and Edgar Wade Wood are purchasing their siblings and mother's interest in the property that their father Thomas owned.

# APPENDIX: EASTVIEW CEMETERY LAND ACQUISITION

## CHAIN OF TITLE FOR WOOD PURCHASE (CONTINUED)

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Liber/Folio	Notes
<b>EASTVIEW LOT 1</b>					
September 14, 1857	Owen Sullivan Wood	Eliza Wood, John T. Wood, Edgar W. Wood		CSM2:68	Consideration of \$3000. O. S. Wood is conveying his 1/5 interest in a part of land known as "Diggs Lodge" independent of the dowry right of his mother Eliza Wood
<b>EASTVIEW LOT 2</b>					
February 12, 1956	Frederick S. Chichester and Maud C. Chichester, his wife	Gus M. Mende and Priscilla Chichester Mende, his wife	211	1961:325	Consideration of \$10,000.
October 10, 1933	William S. Chichester, widower	Frederick S. Chichester	211	401:287	Nominal consideration.
March 9, 1907	Thomas Clagett Wood, et al	William S. Chichester	211	31:390	Consideration of \$2100. The grantors inherited the property from their father Edgar Wade Wood
April 10, 1860	John Thomas Wood, O. Sullivan Wood, Peter Wood, Jr. and Margaret J. Wood, his wife, Eliza Wood	Ann Mary Wood and Edgar Wade Wood, and tenants in common	420 to 425	CSM3:440	Consideration of \$18,000. Siblings Ann Mary and Edgar Wade Wood are purchasing their siblings and mother's interest in the property that their father Thomas owned.
September 14, 1857	Owen Sullivan Wood	Eliza Wood, John T. Wood, Edgar W. Wood		CSM2:68	Consideration of \$3000. O. S. Wood is conveying his 1/5 interest in a part of land known as "Diggs Lodge" independent of the dowry right of his mother Eliza Wood.

## APPENDIX: CHAIN OF TITLE FOR JOHN WESLEY CHURCH PARSONAGE SITE

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Liber/Folio	Notes
March 17, 1914	Philemon Wall Keech	Thomas Adams, et al, Trustees of Woodville Charge Methodist Episcopal Church	8	91:37	
March 21, 1912	George L. Tasker and Courtney L. Tasker his wife	Philemon Wall Keech	8	82:61	
May [n.d.] 1907	David Tasker et ux, et al, heirs of Jane Tasker	George L. Tasker	8	82:58	
Feb. 22, 1876	Harriet E. Wood	Jane Tasker	8	HB 11:248	Consideration of \$200.
June 7, 1838	Henry McPherson and Elizabeth McPherson	George W. Morton and Harriet E. Morton		AB11:522	All that tract of land called "Ledford Gift and the Hatchett"

## APPENDIX: CHAIN OF TITLE FOR DENT-BROOKS HOUSE

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Liber/Folio	Notes
October 5, 1983	Alice Brooks, Sylvia E. Brooks, Kenneth Brooks, Joan Brooks and Gail Brooks	Alice Brooks, Fannie and Joseph Graham	4.1940	5792:928	Same as previous; includes all the interest
October 5, 1983	Sylvia E. Brooks, personal representative of the estate of Jeremiah Brooks	Sylvia E. Brooks, Kenneth Brooks, Joan Brooks and Gail Brooks	4.1940	5792:924	Same as previous; this is Sylvia Brooks' undivided 1/4th interest
October 14, 1983	Thomas F. Graham, personal representative of the estate of Peter Brooks	Fannie Graham, 1/4th interest; Alice Brooks, ½ interest and Sylvia E. Brooks, personal representative of the estate of Jeremiah Brooks, 1/4th interest	4.1940	5792:920	Parcel I: 3.5-acre tract described in JWB2:247 (August 4, 1883). Parcel II: 1 acre described in 66:317 (May 2, 1910). Parcel III: .75-acre tract described in 66:318 (September 13, 1910). Saving and excepting 1.056-acre parcel and right-of-way described in 2095:555 (April 23, 1957).
April 23, 1957	Peter Brooks, Alice Brooks, Anderson Butler, Estelle Butler	Jeremiah and Sylvia Brooks	1.056	2095:555	Includes right-of-way to Aquasco Road
November 16, 1936	George T. Burroughs, Trustee	Peter Brooks	5.25	467:394	\$500; References deeds 66:317;318 and JWB2:247; sold per a court case.
July 26, 1912	Albert Dent, Sarah Dent (AKA Sallie S. Gross)	Carol V. A. Wilson and Elizabeth S. Wilson		86:33	Mortgage of \$350 on Parcel I, Parcel II and Parcel III (released July 16, 1921 86:36)

## APPENDIX: CHAIN OF TITLE FOR DENT-BROOKS HOUSE

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Liber/Folio	Notes
<b>PARCEL III</b>					
September 13, 1910	Charles L. Turner, administrator of Mary E. Morris	Sarah Dent and Albert Dent	.75	66:318	Parcel III near Odd Fellows Hall. The sale was contested in Equity 3169.
October 3, 1894	John T. Moland and Eliza E. Moland	Mary E. Morris	6 +	JWB31:229	\$65. "Assessed in the name of Mrs. Jane R. Tubman"
September 29, 1894	Andrew J. Schwartz, Sr., and Mary A. Schwartz	John T. Moland	9	JWB31:227	"Assessed in the name of Mrs. Jane R. Tubman"
March 10, 1892	F. Nelson Jarboe, late Treasurer of Prince George's County	Andrew Schwartz	9	JWB20:748	Tax sale. "Two lots of land assessed in the name of Jane R. Tubman."
July 3, 1878	Joseph K. Roberts, Jr., Trustee	Jane R. Tubman	12	14:2	Tax Sale; \$310; land of John Estep.
Dec. 2, 1873	Peter Wood and Harriet E. Wood	Jane R. Tubman	6 acres one rood and 39 perches	HB9:165	\$156.85. "Part of Dove's Nest" or "Dove's Perch."
<b>PARCEL II</b>					
May 2, 1910	Lydia Louis, Samuel Grey [sic], and wife Elizabeth Grey [sic], Edward B. Grey and wide Matilda Grey, Anne Rebecca Magruder and Rinaldo Magruder, her husband	Sarah Dent	1	66:317	"Same property sold by Harriet E. Wood to the late Richard Douglas[s of Henry], husband of Lydia Louis" [HB 12:26]

## APPENDIX: CHAIN OF TITLE FOR DENT-BROOKS HOUSE

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Liber/Folio	Notes
January 6, 1897	Lidia Douglass, widow of Richard Douglass (of Henry), Samuel Gary and Martha A. Gray his wife, Sallie Dent and Albert Dent her husband, Rebecca Magruder and Rinaldo J. Magruder her husband	Wheeler Tabernacle Mt. Pisca No. 14 Sons and Daughters of Israel jointly with the SeaTone Society N. 4079 Grand United Order of Odd Fellows of Woodville	.25 acre	JWB 40:99	References incorrectly the earlier deed of HB12:26 in 1876 as “HB13:26 in 1887.” Although the deeds consistently refer it being “one-fourth of an acre, more or less” the actual land area is 3,920 square feet, or .089 acre.
July 24, 1876	Harriet Wood	Richard Douglass (of Henry)	1.25 acres	HB12:26	
<b>PARCEL I</b>					
August 4, 1883	James Gray, Richard Douglass, Little Douglass, Samuel Gray, E.B. Gray, Lizzie Fowler, James Fowler, Anne Rebecca Glascoe, Leonard Glascoe, George W. Gray, Jennie A Gray	[Sarah Dent, née] Sallie S. Gross	3.5	JWB2:247	\$75
Nov. 8, 1879	Richard Douglass, Little Douglass (his wife), Edward B. Gray, Lizzie Fowler, James fowler (her husband), Sallie S. Gross and Albert B. Gross (her husband) [sic], Anne Rebecca Glascoe and Leonard Glascoe (her husband),	Matilda Gray	3.5	WAJ1:175	\$75. “Three and one-half acres which a certain Stephen Gray purchase from Harriet Wood on June 4, 1977.” The remaining two acres were sold to Henry Contee WAJ1:176.
June 4, 1877	Harriet Wood	Stephen Gray	5.5	HB12:369	\$105. The description includes mention of ravines and streams that border the property.



## APPENDIX: CHAIN OF TITLE FOR WHITEHALL TENANT HOUSE

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Liber/Folio	Notes
June 3, 2019	Wei-Kai Chang	Christine M. Haenn		42200:43	Consideration of \$315,000
January 29, 2018	Bayview Loan Servicing	Wei-Kai Chang	4.358	40648:394	Consideration of \$135,000
July 21, 2017	Diane S. Rosenberg, et al, Substitute Trustees, individually or collectively	Bayview Loan Servicing	4.358	40072:78	Consideration of \$198,000. Substitute Trustees are acting in place of Robert W. Kraft. Grantee purchased property at auction pursuant to foreclosure after Michael C. Jordan and Heidi M. Jordan defaulted on their mortgage
April 8, 2008	Michael C. Jordan and Heidi M. Jordan	Access National Mortgage	4.358	29583:153	Consideration of \$279,125. The Jordans are mortgaging their property
March 17, 2000	Michael C. Jordan and Heidi M. Schmidt	Michael C. Jordan and Heidi M. Jordan	4.358	13898:187	Heidi M. Schmidt has married Michael C. Jordan and the couple transfer their ownership to her new name to avoid confusion.
January 19, 1996	Susan C.N. Wilson, surviving tenant by the entirety of Gerald T. Wilson	Michael C. Jordan and Heidi M. Schmidt	4.358	10563:319	Consideration of \$110,000.
January 21, 1983	Arnold C. Marcum and Robin G. Marcum	Gerald T. Wilson and Susan C.N. Wilson, his wife	4.358	5634:562	Consideration of \$74,950
January 6, 1978	The Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Washington	Arnold C. Marcum and Robin G. Marcum, his wife	4.358	4906:283	Nominal consideration. The grantees have a mortgage with the National Mortgage Corporation for \$25,100

## APPENDIX: CHAIN OF TITLE FOR WHITEHALL TENANT HOUSE

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Liber/Folio	Notes
November 21, 1975	Earl T. Buckler and June Lorraine Buckler	The Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Washington	4 8/10 acres	4558:18	Nominal consideration. The property is on the North side of the Public Road leading from the Aquasco-Patuxent City State Road to Church
September 16, 1967	Hilda E. Keech et al	Earl T. Buckler and June Lorraine Buckler	4 8/10	3513:100	Nominal consideration. The grantors obtained the property through the will of Ruth Estelle Keech, the surviving co-tenant of the property
May 1, 1934	Shelby S. Young and Mae M. Young, his wife	Leigh R. Keech and Ruth E. Keech, his wife	4 8/10 acres	404:417	Nominal consideration.
May 4, 1925	Samuel Stamp and Marie Ann Stamp, his wife	Shelby Sinclair Young and Mae M. Young, his wife	70 acres	236:65	\$8,000
July 18, 1917	Robert Cunningham	Samuel Stamp and Marie Ann Stamp, his wife	70 acres "known and called by the name of Whitehall"	128:41	\$1,500; Stamp assumed mortgage of \$2,000
May 20, 1915	Robert Cunningham	Phil H. Tuck	70 acres. "All that tract of land known as "Whitehall"	101:440	Mortgage of \$2,000. "Including three-horsepower gasoline engine now installed in the well house"

## APPENDIX: CHAIN OF TITLE FOR WHITEHALL TENANT HOUSE

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Liber/Folio	Notes
October 1, 1913	C. Ernest Smith	Robert Cunningham	1.70 acres, “now known as Whitehall; 2. 313 acres part of “Cedar Hill” 3. 16.75 acres of “Cedar Hill”	80:476	
September 16, 1904	Henry B. Contee and Edna Contee	Charles Ernest Smith	70 acres; “same property where E. G. Bowling resided on his demise”	22:5	\$1,800
June 21, 1899	Henry B. Contee and Edna Contee	The Rev. Charles Ernest Smith	70 acres	JB6:152	Mortgage, \$1,800
June 20, 1899	Nannie M. Bowling, widow	Henry B. Contee	70 acres; “same property where E. G. Bowling resided on his demise”	JB6:150	\$1,700
June 17, 1899	Marion Duckett, et al, trustees	Nannie M. Bowling	70 acres	JB6:148	\$2,100

## APPENDIX: CHAIN OF TITLE FOR WHITEHALL TENANT HOUSE

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Liber/Folio	Notes
April 1, 1896	E. Gill Bowling and Nannie Bowling	Henry W. Clagett	1. 1,350 acres; 2. 70 acres, dwelling house and lot of land situated in the village of Woodville;" 3. Estep Farm, 400 acres	JWB9:707	(mort.) default
June 5, 1855	Joseph C. Thomas, George W. Thomas, George W. Marriott, George W. Morton	John D. Bowling	70 10/16 acres "Cole Brook or Poplar Hill"	EWB1:190	

## APPENDIX: CHAIN OF TITLE FOR WHEELER TABERNACLE MT. PISCA NO. 14

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Liber/Folio	Notes
April 16, 2020	Wallace J. Proctor and Dorothy Page Proctor	Edward L. Foster	.25 acre [3,920 square feet, or .089 acre]	31900:407	Part of a property also known as "Dove's Rest"
April 8, 2010	Diane S. Rosenberg, Substitute Trustee	Wallace L. Proctor and Dorothy Page Proctor	.25 acre [3,920 square feet, or .089 acre]	31900:403	The proctors purchased at a foreclosure auction after David Lee Proctor defaulted on a loan. Deed also includes an addition 8.5-acre parcel
January 13, 1992	David Lee Proctor	John E. Kazley and Robert Cohen	.25 acre [3,920 square feet, or .089 acre]	8100:491	Deed of trust. Kazley and Cohen are trustees of the property
August 25, 1988	Rachel A. Makle, Personal Representative of the Estate of Anderson Butler	David Lee Proctor	.25 acre [3,920 square feet, or .089 acre]	7070:601	Pursuant to an order of the Orphans' Court
December 16, 1947	Anderson and Estelle Butler	Hughesville Savings Bank	.25 acre [3,920 square feet, or .089 acre]	998:118	Mortgage for \$500. (Released 1955 998:121)

## APPENDIX: CHAIN OF TITLE FOR WHEELER TABERNACLE AT MT. PISCA NO. 14

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Liber/Folio	Notes
December 13, 1947	Maurice A. Young and Juanita A. Young, his wife	Anderson M. Butler	.25 acre [3,920 square feet, or .089 acre]	998:116	
May 3, 1943	The Trustees of John Wesley Methodist Church of Aquasco, MD	Maurice A. Young and Juanita A. Young, his wife	.25 acre [3,920 square feet, or .089 acre]	742:293	Mortgage for \$500. (Released 1955 998:121)
July 14, 1932	Sons & Daughters of Israel, by Thomas N. Magruder, Treasurer	The Trustees of John Wesley M.E. Church	.25 acre [3,920 square feet, or .089 acre]	387:455	The John Wesley Church purchased at auction for \$11 after taxes in arrears from 1929. Equity 7871
January 6, 1897	Lidia Douglass, widow of Richard Douglass (of Henry), Samuel Gary and Martha A. Gray his wife, Sallie Dent and Albert Dent her husband, Rebecca Magruder and Rinaldo J. Magruder her husband	Wheeler Tabernacle Mt. Pisca No. 14 Sons and Daughters of Israel jointly with the Sea Tone Society No. 4079 Grand United Order of Odd Fellows of Woodville	.25 acre [3,920 square feet, or .089 acre]	JWB 40:99	References incorrectly the earlier deed of HB12:26 in 1876 as "HB13:26 in 1887." \$50. Although the deeds consistently refer it being "one-fourth of an acre, more or less" the actual land area is 3,920 square feet, or .089 acre
July 24, 1876	Harriet E. Wood	Richard Douglass of Henry	1.25 acres	HB 12:26	Part of the land known as Dove's Rest "or Dove's Perch."

## APPENDIX: CHAIN OF TITLE FOR SAMUEL GRAY FARMSTEAD

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Liber/Folio	Notes
November 2, 1971	Daniel Gray, Lucy Simms, Clara Gray	Samuel P. Gray, William H. Gray, and Delphine Washington	2.0963	4059:164	Delphine and her children became sole heirs after the death of her husband William Gray in 1966
April 21, 1948	William P. Gray and Delphine Gray, his wife	Ida G. Johnson and Nelson Johnson, her husband	2 acres and 3 roods	1017:475	Grantors retained 9940 square feet of the property
January 29, 1948	Annie Gray et al	Ida G. Johnson	2 acres and 3 roods	1013:65	The grantors are the heirs of the now deceased.
February 22, 1876	Harriet E. Wood	Samuel Gray	2 acres and 3 roods	HB 11:247	Part of the estate formerly owned by George W. Morton. Harriet E. Wood is Harriet Morton from 1838 deed.
June 7, 1838	Henry McPherson and Elizabeth McPherson	George W. Morton and Harriet E. Morton		AB11:522	Elizabeth McPherson transfers property obtained from father George Morton, Sr. to two of her siblings.

## APPENDIX: CHAIN OF TITLE FOR DELILAH WATERS HOUSE

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Liber/Folio	Notes
December 29, 2010	Tony Lynn Goad, Ricky Leon Goad and Donna Leigh Wilkinson, Personal Representative of the Estate of Louisa T. Goad	Ricky Leon Goad	2	32292:220	
September 19, 1963	William T. Baden and Anna May Baden	William C. Goad and Louisa T. Goad	2	2871:493	
November 1, 1946	George F. Forbes and Eugenia H. Forbes	William T. Baden and Anna May Baden	2	905:41	
January 24, 1927	Thomas Martin Keech, Jr. and Louise Keech	G. Frank Forbes	2	288:93	
August 7, 1918	George F. Lawrence	Thomas Martin Keech, Jr.	2	128:469	\$1,200
December 9, 1914	William A. Marbury	George F. Lawrence	2	102:103	
October 11, 1882	The Rector, Wardens, and Vestry of St. Paul's Parish	William A. Marbury	2	JWB1:385	Consideration of \$300. "Being part of the lot known as Miss Delilah Water's Lot." St. Paul's Parish retained ownership of the remaining acreage until 1973.
December 29, 1877	Delilah Waters	Vestry of Saint Paul's Parish	5	HB13:469	Conveyed with a life tenancy.
November 2, 1857	George Morton and Ellen H. Morton	Mary Waters and Delilah Waters	4 1/8 acres	CSM2:67	\$100. Being a part of a tract of land called "Digg's Lodge." Description is roughly equal to that of today's Parcels 36 and 107.



- 1 The documentation took the form of a National Register nomination (undertaken by George Washington University students) that was not pursued. Although the form lists 53 “contributing” resources, a master list was not provided. See Mark Andrich, Rebecca Bartlett, Suzanne Dawson, David Maloney, Kyrstyna Puck, Traise Row, *Aquasco Survey District* (PG: 87B-36), Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form, (Crownsville: The Maryland Historical Trust, 1984).
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- 4 Kit Wesler, Dennis J. Pogue, Alvin Luckenbach, Gordon Fine, Patricia Sternheimer, and Glyn Ferguson. “The M/Dot Archaeological Resource Survey, Volume 2: Western Shore,” Manuscript Series (Crownsville: Maryland Historical Trust, 1981) 138.
- 5 Jack D. Brown, William Diggs, Gladys Jenkins, J. Karpiak, Elwood Leviner, Mary Clare Matthews, Janie MacInnis, Rona R. Schaepman, Frederick Tilp, *Charles County, Maryland: A History*, (La Plata: Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976, 2006) 321.
- 6 Dawson Lawrence, “Historical Sketch of Prince George’s County, Maryland,” *Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington Including Prince George’s County, Maryland*, 1878, edited by G. M. Hopkins (Riverdale: Prince George’s County Historical Society, 1975) 7, [http://slavery.msa.maryland.gov/images/pg\\_atlas\\_1878.pdf](http://slavery.msa.maryland.gov/images/pg_atlas_1878.pdf).
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- 22 Charles County Patent Certificate 12:235.
- 23 Charles County Patent Certificate 20:303.
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- 26 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber M, Folio 721.
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- 32 See the section on the John Wesley Church Parsonage Site for more information.
- 33 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber HB14, Folio 62.
- 34 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber HB14, Folio 248.
- 35 *U.S. Census, population schedule*. (National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C., microfilm publication M653, 1438 rolls). Ancestry.com.
- 36 A discussion of the breaking up of the large farms and subsequent sales to African American families (perhaps some of whom were sharecroppers or tenant farmers before becoming property owners) can be found in the oral historic transcript for the interview with Robert Calvin Magruder, Sr. Source: Robert Calvin Magruder, Sr interview by Ernest Demby, January 2, 2020 in Eagle Harbor, Maryland, transcript, The Maryland National-Capital Park and Planning Commission, available online at <https://www.mncppc.org/5153/Interview-Transcripts---Aquasco-Woodville>
- 37 Clinton Holland, interview by Ernest Demby, January 22, 2020 in Eagle Harbor, Maryland, transcript, The Maryland National-Capital Park and Planning Commission, available online at <https://www.mncppc.org/5153/Interview-Transcripts---Aquasco-Woodville>.
- 38 Datausa.io, 2014, Aquasco, MD. Electronic document, <https://datausa.io/profile/geo/aquasco-md>, accessed December 11, 2019.
- 39 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 5172, Folio 829.
- 40 1910 United States Census, 8th District Aquasco, Prince George's County, Maryland, Enumeration District 68, Sheet 6A, Aquasco-Trueman Point Road, familysearch.org.

## END NOTES

- 41 As spelled in *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber AB11, Folio 522.
- 42 It is the same eight acres that originally was transferred from Harriet Wood to Jane Tasker in 1876: *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber HB11, Folio 248.
- 43 In the Methodist Church, a "charge" is one or more congregations under the spiritual leadership of a minister.
- 44 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 91, Folio 37.
- 45 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 66, Folio 317.
- 46 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber JWB9, Folio 304.
- 47 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber FS3, Folio 673; FS3:674).
- 48 James W. Clark, Historic Sites Surveyor, Maryland Commission on Afro-American History and Culture; Susan G. Pearl, M-NCPPC; and Rosemary Faya Prola, The Ottery Group for M-NCPPC, *John Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church/Christ United Methodist Church*, (PG:87B-33) Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form, (Annapolis: The Maryland Historical Trust, 1981; 1983; 2009).
- 49 1900 United States Census, Aquasco District, Prince George's County, Maryland, Enumeration District 99, Sheet 8, Number of dwelling 131, familysearch.org.
- 50 Also listed is the Rev. Basil B. Tyler, (1900 United States Census, Aquasco District, Prince George's County, Maryland, Enumeration District 99, Sheet 5, Number of dwelling 73, familysearch.org) who likely was the rector of St. Philip's Church, since Basil belonged to the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, D.C. ("Second Annual Meeting of Local Churches," *The Evening Star* (Washington, D.C: May 19, 1897), 14, chroniclingamerica.loc.gov. Further listed is the (white) Dr. Oliver H. Murphy, who became rector of St. Mary's Church in 1899.
- 51 "Coates, Dr. Robert F.," *The Evening Star* (Washington, D.C.: January 17, 1944), A-8, chroniclingamerica.loc.gov.
- 52 1920 United States Census, Aquasco Election District 8, Prince George's County, Maryland, Enumeration District 79, Sheet 2B, Dwelling house in order of visitation 36, familysearch.org.
- 53 "Dr. Coates to Preach," *The Evening Star* (Washington, D.C.: December 15, 1928), 13, chroniclingamerica.loc.gov.
- 54 "United States, GenealogyBank Historical Newspaper Obituaries, 1815-2011", database, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:Q532-KCJ4> : 18 July 2020), Rev Charles E Smallwood, 1972.
- 55 1930 United States Census, Aquasco Election District 8, Unincorporated Place "Woodville," Prince George's County, Maryland, Enumeration District 17-19, Sheet 5A, familysearch.org.
- 56 No other clergy appear to be listed in 1930 in District 18 or 19.
- 57 1940 United States Census, Piscataway Election District 5, Prince George's County, Maryland,

- Enumeration District 17-18, Sheet 17A, familysearch.org.
- 58 1940 United States Census, E[lection] D[istrict] 8, Prince George's County, Maryland, Enumeration District 17-29, Sheet 10B, Eagle Harbor Road, familysearch.org
- 59 1930 United States Census, Precinct No. 11 Washington, D.C., Enumeration District 333, Sheet 4A, 4021 Benning Road, familysearch.org
- 60 Aerial photographs from 1977 show the house and its outbuildings were no longer standing. Source: PGAtlas.com
- 61 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber HB12, Folio 26; 12:369. Parcel I contained 3.5 acres, Parcel II 2.5 acres, and Parcel III .75 acre.
- 62 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber JWB2:247; 66:317; 66:318.
- 63 *The Baltimore Sun Almanac, 1899*, (Baltimore: A. S. Abell Company, 1899), 91.
- 64 "Obituary," *The Prince George's Enquirer*, September 13, 1901, n.p. [chroniclingamerica.loc.gov](http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov).
- 65 1900 United States Census, Aquasco District, Prince George's County, Maryland, Enumeration District 99, Sheet 8, family 165, familysearch.org; 1910 United States Census, Aquasco District, Prince George's County, Maryland, Enumeration District 68, Sheet 1B, number of dwelling house in order of visitation: 33, familysearch.org.
- 66 "Find A Grave Index," database, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QVK7-GPN3>; 29 May 2020), Sarah S Dent, 1917; Burial; citing record ID, [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com).
- 67 1920 United States Census, District 3 Marlboro, Prince George's County, Maryland, Enumeration District 71, Sheet 8B, family 114, familysearch.org.
- 68 Dent died accidentally; see ("Man Asphyxiated in Bed" *The Evening Star*, [Washington, D.C.: January 28, 1926], 2, [chroniclingamerica.loc.gov](http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov)). Marie Dent Wilson became administratrix of her father's estate, although it is not clear to whom the Aquasco Road property was granted. See Maryland Probate Estate and Guardianship Files, 1796-1940, Prince George's, Dent, Albert (RE-03893), county courts, Maryland, familysearch.org.
- 69 The equity case is referenced without a number in *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 467, Folio 394.
- 70 1900 United States Census, Aquasco District, Prince George's County, Maryland, Enumeration District 99, Sheet 10, family 165, familysearch.org.
- 71 "United States World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918," database with images, Maryland, Prince George's County; image 691 of 5783; citing NARA microfilm publication M1509 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.) familysearch.org
- 72 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber FS3, Folio 673.
- 73 The 1910 census lists two dwellings, with Peter's father's Jeremiah's, next to George's on the Eastview-Aquasco Road. 1910 United States Census, 8th District Aquasco, Prince George's County, Maryland,

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- Enumeration District 68, Sheet 6B, dwellings 103 and 104, familysearch.org.
- 74 The Brooks' farm eventually became part of "At Last Farm" when Peter Brooks sold it to John and Dorothy Yerkie in 1977. See *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 4989, Folio 620.
- 75 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 2095, Folio 555.
- 76 Although the I-house form originated in the Mid-Atlantic, it was named by geographer Fred Kniffen in 1965 to identify these houses commonly found in (although not limited to) in Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa. It is a true vernacular form built in many rural regions of America in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Source: Alan Gowans, *The Comfortable House*, (Cambridge: The MIT Press, 1986), 140.
- 77 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber EWB1, Folio 190
- 78 Source: PGAtlas aerial photography.
- 79 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 80, Folio 476.
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- 81 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 236, Folio 65.
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- 83 1870 United States Census, Aquasco District, Prince George's County, Maryland, Page 29, Dwelling house 193, familysearch.org.
- 84 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber JWB 40 Folio 99.
- 85 "Appointment of Ministers," *The Washington Bee*, (Washington, D.C.: March 17, 1888) n.p., [chroniclingamerica.loc.gov](http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov).
- 86 *Holy Bible*, Deuteronomy 3:27.
- 87 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 387, Folio 455.
- 88 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 998, Folio 116.
- 89 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber AB11, Folio 522.
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- 91 1870 United States Census, Aquasco District, Prince George's County, Maryland, Pages 39-40, Post Office: Horse Head, Dwelling House 263, familysearch.org.
- 92 1900 United States Census, Aquasco District, Prince George's County, Maryland, Enumeration District 99, Sheet 8, Dwelling House 144, familysearch.org.
- 93 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 1013, Folio 65.
- 94 1910 United States Census, 8th District Aquasco, Prince George's County, Maryland, Enumeration District 68, Sheet 6, Dwelling House 94, familysearch.org

- 95 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber CSM2, Folio 67.
- 96 The road is named in the 1857 deed description, and a house labeled "Miss Waters" is shown on the 1861 Martentet Map of Prince George's County.
- 97 41 (Mary) and 39 (Delilah). 1850 United States Census, Aquasco District, Prince George's County, Maryland, Dwelling House 63, familysearch.org.
- 98 The occupation Gardener shows up several times in census records of the period and is likely a variant of Farmer, perhaps meaning farming at a smaller scale. "When I come to this area, I always think about my aunts, and uncles who were born and raised here. What they went through, and I think about you know, the farming, the gardening because that's what we used to call it as my uunt used to say, gardening. Go out to the garden." See Robert Calvin Magruder, Sr., interview by Ernest Demby, January 27, 2020 in Eagle Harbor, Maryland, transcript, The Maryland National-Capital Park and Planning Commission, available online at <https://www.mncppc.org/5153/Interview-Transcripts---Aquasco-Woodville>.
- 99 1860 United States Census, 8th Election District, Post Office: Aquasco, Prince George's County, Maryland, Page 37, Dwelling House 288, familysearch.org.
- 100 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber HB13, Folio 469.
- 101 Sources: <https://www.stpaulsbaden.org/worship/> and Marina King, Susan G. Pearl, M-NCPPC, *St. Mary's Episcopal Church*, (PG:87B-08a) Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form, (Annapolis; Crownsville: The Maryland Historical Trust, 1985; 2004).
- 102 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber JWB1, Folio 385. St. Paul's Parish retained the remaining two acres for another 92 years, selling it in 1973 to a vestry member (*Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 4177, Folio 773). Judging from aerial photography, this parcel appears from to have been cultivated until the current house was built in 1976. Source: PGAtlas.com
- 103 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 2871, Folio 493.
- 104 1820 United States Census, Nottingham Election District No. 1, Prince George's County, Maryland, familysearch.org.
- 105 1880 United States Census, Aquasco District, Prince George's County, Maryland, Page 18, Enumeration District 128, line 7, familysearch.org.
- 106 1900 United States Census, Aquasco District, Prince George's County, Maryland, Enumeration District 99, A Sheet 10, line 42, familysearch.org.
- 107 1900 United States Census, Aquasco District, Prince George's County, Maryland, Enumeration District 99, B Sheet 10, line 53, familysearch.org.
- 108 1910 United States Census, 8th District Aquasco, Prince George's County, Maryland, Enumeration District 68, Sheet A 4057, Eastview Farm Road, line 51, familysearch.org.
- 109 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 419, Folio 116.

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- 110 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 3420, Folio 691.
- 111 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 4904, Folio 670.
- 112 "Geo. Morton of Morton's Mill. Southern Maryland Families," <https://willsfamily.com/morton/george-morton/>.
- 113 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber AB11, Folio 522.
- 114 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber AB11, Folio 522.
- 115 1860 United States Census, Schedule 1, 8th Election District, Post Office Aquasco, Prince George's County, Maryland, page no. 43, line 37, [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org)
- 116 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber FS3, Folio 673.
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- 118 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 4989, Folio 620.
- 119 1850 United States Census, Aquasco District 8, Prince George's County, Maryland, page 2, line 6, [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org).
- 120 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber CSM2, Folio 68.
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- 122 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber JBP1, Folio 703.
- 123 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 31, Folio 390.
- 124 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 261, Folio 177.
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- 126 *Land Records of Prince George's County*, Liber 1961, Folio 321; 1961:325.
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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

### SPECIAL THANKS

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THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION  
**Prince George's County Planning Department**

