

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

Historic name Town of Upper Marlboro Residential Area

Other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Area bounded by 14204 Old Marlboro Pike to the north, 14519 Elm Street/14508 Main Street to the east, Western Branch to the south, 5600 Old Crain Highway to the west not for publication

city or town Upper Marlboro vicinity

State Maryland code MD county Prince George's code 033 zip code 20772

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this ___ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ **national** ___ **statewide** ___ **local**

Signature of certifying official _____
Date

Title _____
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official _____
Date

Title _____
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other (explain:)	_____	_____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
 (Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
 (Check only **one** box)

Number of Resources within Property
 (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal
- private

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

	Contributing	Noncontributing	
	71	15	buildings
	3		sites
			structures
	1		objects
	75	15	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
 (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

3: Kingston, Content, and John H. Traband House

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

RELIGION: Religious Facility

RELIGION: Religious Facility

FUNERARY: Cemetery

FUNERARY: Cemetery

OTHER: Utility Building (Telephone and Telegraph)

VACANT

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL

MID-19th CENTURY: Greek Revival, Gothic Revival

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne

LATE 19th and 20th CENTURY REVIVALS:

Colonial Revival, Tudor

LATE 19th and 20th CENTURY AMERICAN

MOVEMENTS: Praire School (American

Foursquare), Bungalow/Craftsman

MODERN MOVEMENT: Minimal Traditional,

Ranch

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: BRICK; STONE; CONCRETE

WOOD: Weatherboard; Shingle;

ASBESTOS; SYNTHETICS: Vinyl,

walls: METAL: Aluminum

roof: WOOD; ASPHALT; METAL

BRICK (Bell Tower); WOOD (Bell Tower);

other: WOOD, CONCRETE, BRICK (Porches)

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Town of Upper Marlboro Residential Area includes approximately 99.41 acres on the western side of Upper Marlboro in central Prince George's County, Maryland. The survey area includes residential property types from the mid-eighteenth century, the nineteenth century, and the twentieth century representing an array of notable property types. These include the eighteenth-century dwellings of Kingston (ca. 1730) and Content (ca. 1787), the Queen Anne-style John H. Traband House (1895), and multiple properties along Rectory Lane dating to the early to mid-twentieth century that represent the Tudor, American Foursquare, Bungalow, Cape Cod, Minimal Traditional, and Ranch styles. In addition, the survey area contains properties exhibiting elements of the I-house, side-gable, and gable-front vernacular plans. The survey area also includes two church properties. The Trinity Episcopal Church was erected in 1846 on the site of an earlier eighteenth-century frame meetinghouse erected by the Presbyterian congregation. An associated cemetery dating to pre-Revolutionary War is located adjacent to the church building, and a larger associated cemetery occupies approximately three acres on the north side of Rectory Lane. In addition, a cemetery located on Valley Lane marks the site of a post-Civil War church and school erected by the African-American community in Upper Marlboro. The congregation still maintains the cemetery; however, the frame church was torn down in the early twentieth century after the construction of the the 1916 Union United Methodist Church, which remains in use to the present day. The survey area also includes one historical monument, erected in 1922, to mark the beginning of construction of the Old Crain Highway, at the intersection of Old Crain Highway and Main Streets.

See Continuation Sheets 7.1 through 7.13.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

ARCHITECTURE

ETHNIC HERITAGE: AFRICAN AMERICAN

Period of Significance

1721-1960

Significant Dates

1721; 1787; 1846; 1870; 1863; 1895; 1916; 1922

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Unknown

Architect/Builder

Multiple

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins in 1721, with the designation of Upper Marlboro as the county seat for Prince George's County, and ends in 1960. The town's status as the county seat has contributed to continued residential development to the present day; therefore, the period of significance extends to the fifty-year age criteria consideration.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria)

The Upper Marlboro Residential Survey Area is significant under Criterion A in the area of community planning and development as a notable collection of residential buildings that reflects development over time, from the eighteenth through the twentieth centuries, as a direct result of Upper Marlboro's designation as the county seat and as a commercial, political, and social center for Prince George's County. The survey area is also significant under under Criterion A as part the *African-American Historic Resources in Prince George's County Multiple Property Theme Study*, because the residential area includes the site of a significant African-American population in the post-Civil War era and demonstrates their transition from slavery to freedom. The survey area is also significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture for its notable examples of eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth century architectural styles and forms, as well as for its exemplification of specific types and periods of construction.

Narrative Statement of Significance (provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance)

Community Planning and Development

The survey area is a notable collection of buildings that reflect development over time, from the eighteenth century through the twentieth century. As the center of governments and politics in Prince Prince George's County since 1721, Upper Marlboro includes a distinctly separate residential community that developed on the outskirts of the town center in direct response to the growth of the political and commercial importance of the town. The residential buildings reflect the continual growth and stability of the community from its designation as the county seat in 1721 through to the mid-twentieth century.

The survey area is also significant under the *African-American Historic Resources in Prince George's County Multiple Property Theme Study*.¹ The residential area includes the site of a significant African-American population in the post-Civil War era and demonstrates their transition from slavery to freedom as reflected in the relocated tenant houses moved from antebellum plantations to the area north of Western Branch as well as the construction of a church and associated cemetery.

Architecture

The survey area is significant in the area of architecture as a notable collection of buildings, sites, and objects that reflects distinct styles, types, forms and periods of construction from the eighteenth to the mid-twentieth century. Kingston and Content were listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1978 for their exemplification of eighteenth-century residential forms that contain Gothic Revival detailing (Kingston) and early nineteenth-century motifs (Content). The John H. Traband House was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1984 as a notable example of the Queen Anne style. Other styles and forms present within the Upper Marlboro Residential Survey Area include nineteenth-century Greek Revival, Colonial Revival, Folk Victorian, and I-house types, as well as early- to mid-twentieth-century Tudor, Cape Cod, American Foursquare, Bungalow, Minimal Traditional, side-gable, and gable-front types. Collectively, these buildings within the survey area are significant as a unique collection of eighteenth-, nineteenth-, and twentieth-century architectural styles, types, and forms.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

See Continuation Sheets 8.1 through 8.20.

¹ Betty Bird, *African-American Historic Resources in Prince George's County, Maryland*. Prepared for the Maryland National-Capital Park and Planning Commission, October 2003.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
 previously listed in the National Register
 previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other

Prince George's County Department of Planning Vertical Files; Frederick S. Demarr

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Name of repository: **Library**

See Continuation Sheets 9.1 through 9.4.

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 99.14
(do not include previously listed resource acreage)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>18</u> Zone	<u>347331</u> Easting	<u>4298210</u> Northing	3	<u>18</u> Zone	<u>347780</u> Easting	<u>4297345</u> Northing
2	<u>18</u> Zone	<u>347806</u> Easting	<u>4297774</u> Northing	4	<u>18</u> Zone	<u>347141</u> Easting	<u>4297380</u> Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

The boundary includes approximately 99.14 acres situated on the west side of Upper Marlboro, west of the intersection of Main and Water streets, north of Western Branch and MD 4, east at the town's municipal boundary, and south of the intersection of Spring Branch Drive and Old Marlboro Pike. The boundary of Town of the Upper Marlboro Residential Survey Area is shown as the dotted line on the accompanying map entitled "Town of Upper Marlboro Residential Survey Area Boundary Map."

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The boundary includes those properties historically located within the town of Upper Marlboro and those that supported the African-American community located on Valley Lane during the period of significance, from 1721 through 1960.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Emma K. Young/Architectural Historian

organization A.D. Marble & Company date February 8, 2010

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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive black and white photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, PO Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.