M:26-15-1
(date entered 5-12-80)

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

MAGI #1651385604
(#assigned 11/86)

1. Name: Lincoln Park

2. Planning Area/Site Number: 26/15/1 3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 15 Coordinate H-11

4. Address: East of B & O Railroad Tracks
Rockville, Md.

5. Classification Summary

Category District
Ownership private
Public Acquisition N/A
Status occupied
Accessible no
Present use park; private residence; religious

Previous Survey Recording MNCPPC
Title and Date: Historic Sites Inventory 1976

Federal ___ State x County x Local ___

6. Date: late 19th century 7. Original Owner: William Wallace Welsh

8. Apparent Condition

a. good b. altered c. original site

9. Description: This is a mostly residential area that contains a mixture of housing types. Building material is most often frame, although there are a number of modern brick structures.

Probably the best group is situated on Horner's Lane opposite Southlawn Lane. The focal point here is Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, a Gothic Revival building with some sophisticated details. Immediately south of the church are two frame dwellings; one has a gable facade with inset open porch on the second story, the other is L-shaped with three-bay main facade, brick foundation, open Victorian porch, and stamped patterned tin roof material.

Other notable buildings are 302 Lincoln Avenue, a three-bay two-story detailed brick row house; 327 Lincoln, a three bay by two bay, cross gable 2½ story house with German siding and open porch; 319 Lincoln, a small two bay by one bay, 2½ story stuccoed house; 615 Douglass, with hipped roof and porch; Lincoln high School; and the Fishermen's Cemetery at Horner's Lane and Frederick Avenue.

10. Significance:

Lincoln Park is one of the first real estate ventures in Montgomery County intended for sale to blacks.

To Rockville in 1865 came William Wallace Welsh, a former Hyattstown resident and Union soldier. By 1884 he had saved enough to open his own business, a general store near the railroad tracks. In 1891 he purchased 8.06 acres at $100 per acre, buying another 7.1 acres the following year. He subdivided the property into quarter-acre lots, and sold them to blacks for $80 each.

By the time of Welsh's death during WW I, most lots had been sold, and about 30 houses had been constructed, among them rental units belonging to Welsh. Fourteen pre-1920 structures remain. Workers from Lincoln Park were employed on surrounding farms, on the railroad or mills or in town, and at large homes and hotels in Rockville. The community was bound by friendship, blood, and marriage. The children attended a segregated 2-room school. Two black churches and fraternal and social organizations served the area and the cemetery was begun in 1917.

Lincoln Park was enlarged by several additions and subdivisions. The first black high school in the County was opened here in 1935. Lincoln Park became part of the City of Rockville in 1949, enabling them to acquire City water and sewer, paved streets and recreational facilities.

11. Researcher and date researched: Sharyn Duffin/June 1979 Michael Dwyer/Eileen McGuckian Arch. Desc.

12. Compiler: Eileen McGuckian 13. Date Compiled: 10/79 14. Designation Approval ___

15. Acreage:

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 26/15/1
MAGI #
1651385604

# INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

## 1 NAME

HISTORIC: Lincoln Park

AND/OR COMMON:

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: East of B & O Railroad Tracks

CITY, TOWN: Rockville ___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 8

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Montgomery

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | PRESENT USE | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| X DISTRICT | ___ PUBLIC | X OCCUPIED | ___ AGRICULTURE | ___ MUSEUM |
| ___ BUILDING(S) | X PRIVATE | ___ UNOCCUPIED | ___ COMMERCIAL | X PARK |
| ___ STRUCTURE | ___ BOTH | ___ WORK IN PROGRESS | ___ EDUCATIONAL | X PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| ___ SITE | **PUBLIC ACQUISITION** | **ACCESSIBLE** | ___ ENTERTAINMENT | X RELIGIOUS |
| ___ OBJECT | ___ IN PROCESS | ___ YES: RESTRICTED | ___ GOVERNMENT | ___ SCIENTIFIC |
| | ___ BEING CONSIDERED | ___ YES: UNRESTRICTED | ___ INDUSTRIAL | ___ TRANSPORTATION |
| | | X NO | ___ MILITARY | ___ OTHER: |

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME: Multiple Owners

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER:

CITY, TOWN: ___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #:
Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER:

CITY, TOWN: Rockville

STATE: Maryland 20850

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE: M-NCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE: 1976

___ FEDERAL X STATE X COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN: Rockville

STATE: Maryland 20855

# 7 DESCRIPTION

M:26-15-1

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|---|---|---|---|
| __EXCELLENT | __DETERIORATED | __UNALTERED | X_ORIGINAL SITE |
| X_GOOD | __RUINS | X_ALTERED | __MOVED DATE_____ |
| __FAIR | __UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is a mostly residential area that contains a mixture of housing types. Building material is most often frame, although there are a number of modern brick structures.

Probably the best group is situated on Horner's Lane, opposite Southlawn Lane. The focal point here is the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, a Gothic Revival building with a number of sophisticated details. The building is now covered with a modern, yellow-tile type of brick veneer. The central entrance is in the east gable facade. The door is flanked by slim pilasters, and narrow stained glass windows. Above the door is a large, circular stained glass window. Immediately south of the church are two frame dwellings. The first of these (606 Horner's Lane) is a white, two-story, gable-facade structure, with an inset open porch at the upper level. There is a rail with turned posts here. There is a central chimney. South of this, also facing east, is a two-story house with an A-roof and clapboard siding (604 Horner's Lane). It sits on a brick foundation and has a three-bay main facade, with the door in the north-end bay. An open Victorian porch crosses the front. A two-story ell extends to the rear (north). The chimneys are stove-types, and the roof is covered with stamped, patterned tin.

Nearby, at 302 Lincoln Ave., is a three-bay, two-story brick building with a flat roof and interior chimney. (It is now painted pink.) It resembles a detailed row or town house, such as those seen in Washington, Baltimore or Laurel. It has a number of ornamental features highlighted by molded brick work, such as in the window arches. The window sills appear to be of stone.

327 Lincoln is a three bay by two bay, cross-gable 2½ story house. The central door with sidelights opens onto a porch with simple vertical detailing. Windows are two-over-two double-hung, and there is a half moon decorative ventilator in the center gable. The walls are covered with German siding capped by a patterned tin roof. There is an interior end chimney in the main block and another in the rear addition. There is a cinderblock and wooden barn behind the house.

319 Lincoln is a small two bay by one bay, 2½ story house. It is frame covered with stucco, and has a gable roof. Windows are six-over-six double-hung, and the front porch has three chamfered posts. There is a two bay by two bay rear addition, and a small one story shed roof addition with chimney. A barn/garage sits behind the house.

615 Douglass is three bays by two bays, 2½ stories with a hipped roof. The house and roof are sheathed in asbestos. There is a porch around two sides of the house, and a small side addition with complementary roof.

Montgomery County's first Negro high school (later junior high school) is located at the corner of Lincoln and Stonestreet Avenues; this brick building is now used by the school's maintenance department.

The Fishermen's Cemetery is located on a hill at the junction of Horner's Lane and Frederick Avenue.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

M:26-15-1

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| __PREHISTORIC | __ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | X COMMUNITY PLANNING | __LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | __RELIGION |
| __1400-1499 | __ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | __CONSERVATION | __LAW | __SCIENCE |
| __1500-1599 | __AGRICULTURE | __ECONOMICS | __LITERATURE | __SCULPTURE |
| __1600-1699 | __ARCHITECTURE | __EDUCATION | __MILITARY | __SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| __1700-1799 | __ART | __ENGINEERING | __MUSIC | __THEATER |
| X 1800-1899 | __COMMERCE | __EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | __PHILOSOPHY | __TRANSPORTATION |
| __1900- | __COMMUNICATIONS | __INDUSTRY | __POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | X OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | __INVENTION | | Black History |

SPECIFIC DATES late 19th century BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Lincoln Park is significant as one of the first real estate ventures in Montgomery County intended for sale to blacks. The origins of Lincoln Park, therefore, differ from those of earlier black settlements which usually trace their origin to a gift or purchase of land by freed slaves.

Prior to the Civil War, there were few black land owners in the County, and most of these were located in the Quaker Community of Sandy Spring. The majority of Montgomery County black communities were established after the War. By 1880 the Rockville area had five major concentrations of blacks -- on Falls Road, Janetta, along Dover Road, and in Avery near Rock Creek, and in the central part of the Town itself.[1]

To Rockville in 1865 came William Wallace Welsh, a former Hyattstown resident and Union soldier. He clerked in John H. Higgins' general store and by 1884 had saved enough money to start his own business. He constructed a store near the railroad tracks and employed a number of blacks. Some of Welsh's employees and regular customers were to become early residents of Lincoln Park.

Welsh purchased 8.06 acres of land at $100 per acre from Chandler Keys in 1891,[2] and another parcel of 7.1 acres from the estate of Mary Dodd the following year.[3] Welsh subdivided the 8.06 acre parcel into 53 lots (each approximately 50' by 200' and sold them for $80 each. The first sale came in May 1891. The Dodd property was platted the following year as "The First Addition to Lincoln Park".[4]

By 1904 over two-thirds of the Welsh property had been sold, many purchasers buying two or more contiguous lots. By 1920 fewer than 30 houses had been constructed in Lincoln Park, among them at least seven rental units belonging to Welsh; 14 pre-1920 structures remain.

Many of the men worked on surrounding farms, on the railroad, at Hickerson's mill, at Welsh's store, or as skilled craftsmen. The women were domestics in the large homes in the West End and in the hotels which accommodated weekend and summer guests from Washington. The community was bound by friendship, blood, and marriage. The children attended a segregated two-room school. Two black churches were available nearby, as were a number of fraternal and social organizations.

In 1906 Lincoln Park was extended north and east to include what was known as the Griffith tract.[5] Part of this tract was purchased by the Order of Galilean Fishermen in 1917 for use as a cemetery;[6] this fraternal order provided disability and death benefits for its members, and buried its dead here. It is still in use.

(Continued on Attachment Sheet A)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

Lincoln Park

The Griffith property was sold between 1910 and 1926. After Welsh's death during the influenza epidemic during World War I, his widow sold all but one of the remaining lots. By 1926 virtually all of Lincoln Park was under black ownership.

In 1926 Harrison L. England, a white landowner, platted "England's Second Addition to Lincoln Park" into 186 lots,[7] and for the next 40 years sold vacant lots and then lots with houses on them. England's Addition more than doubled the area of Lincoln Park and established the present boundaries. (England also developed "Croydon Park", an adjacent community for whites.)

In 1935 the Montgomery County Board of Education moved an abandoned building from Takoma Park to use as Lincoln High School. As a result, for the first time black students in Montgomery County were able to attend school beyond the seventh grade without having to go into Washington, D.C. Black students from all parts of the County were bused to Lincoln. In 1950 Carver High School opened in Rockville, and Lincoln was used as a junior high school until its closure in 1958.

Residents of Lincoln Park in 1949 petitioned the Mayor and Council of Rockville for incorporation into the City, and this was accomplished by spring of that year. In the 1950s streets were paved, houses were attached to the water system, and curbs and gutters were provided to Lincoln Park. Multiple-family housing was constructed in the 1950s and 1960s, and recreational facilities have been added.

Lincoln Park today is a low-to-moderate income, predominantly black, community of approximately 320 households. Most of the residents own their own homes. The community remains close-knit and basically intact physically.

FOOTNOTES:

1. Hopkins Atlas (1879; U.S. Census (1880).
2. Land Records of Montgomery County, Md., JA 23/193 (February 3, 1891).
3. Ibid., JA 33/265 (1892).
4. Ibid., Plats B34 and B35.
5. No plat has been found, but deeds refer to one filed November 17, 1906.
6. Land Records, op. cit., 264/199 (June 12, 1917).
7. Ibid., Plat 342 (October 1926).

M:26-15-1

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

U.S. Census Records
Land Records of Montgomery County, Md.
Duffin, Sharyn, "Lincoln Park Historic District", prepared for The Afro-American Institute for Historic Preservation and Community Development (February 1978).
Hopkins Atlas, 1879

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The community is bordered by the B & O tracks to the west, an industrial zone and a gas field to the north, Southlawn Industrial Park on the east, a residential area on the southeast, and another industrial zone on the southwest.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE | COUNTY |
|---|---|
| STATE | COUNTY |

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

| NAME / TITLE | Michael Dwyer/Eileen McGuckian Architectural Description |
|---|---|
| Sharyn Duffin | |
| ORGANIZATION | DATE |
| Sugarloaf Regional Trails | June 1979 |
| STREET & NUMBER | TELEPHONE |
| Box 87 | 926-4510 |
| CITY OR TOWN | STATE |
| Dickerson | Maryland 20753 |

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

1606965629 M #26-15-1

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON
Lincoln Park-Historic Area

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
approximate boundaries are: Stonestreet Ave. on west, Lincoln Ave.

CITY, TOWN
(Rockville)

__ VICINITY OF

on south, Frederick Ave. on north, and Horner's Lane on east.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE
Maryland

COUNTY
Montgomery

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | PRESENT USE | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ✓ DISTRICT | __ PUBLIC | ✓ OCCUPIED | __ AGRICULTURE | __ MUSEUM |
| __ BUILDING(S) | ✓ PRIVATE | __ UNOCCUPIED | __ COMMERCIAL | ✓ PARK |
| __ STRUCTURE | __ BOTH | __ WORK IN PROGRESS | __ EDUCATIONAL | ✓ PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| __ SITE | **PUBLIC ACQUISITION** | **ACCESSIBLE** | __ ENTERTAINMENT | ✓ RELIGIOUS |
| __ OBJECT | __ IN PROCESS | ✓ YES: RESTRICTED | __ GOVERNMENT | __ SCIENTIFIC |
| | __ BEING CONSIDERED | __ YES: UNRESTRICTED | __ INDUSTRIAL | __ TRANSPORTATION |
| | | __ NO | __ MILITARY | __ OTHER: |

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Various private owners

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

__ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #:
Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Rockville

STATE
Maryland

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__ FEDERAL __ STATE __ COUNTY __ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

M:26-15-1

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|---|---|---|---|
| ___EXCELLENT | ___DETERIORATED | ___UNALTERED | ___ORIGINAL SITE |
| ✓GOOD | ___RUINS | ✓ALTERED | ___MOVED DATE_____ |
| ___FAIR | ___UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is a mostly-residential housing area that contains a mixture of housing types. Most of the present buildings date from the mid-20th Century period, but there are a number of notable earlier structures scattered throughout the area. Probably the best group is situated on Horner's Lane, opposite Southlawn Lane. The focal point here is the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, a Gothic Revival building with a number of sophisticated details. The building is now covered with a modern, yellow-tile type of brick veneer. The central entrance is in the east gable facade. The door is flanked by slim pilasters, and narrow stain-glass windows. Above the door is a large, circular stained-glass window. Immediately south of the church are two frame dwellings. The first of these is a white, two-story, gable-facade structure, with an inset open porch at the upper level. There is a rail with turned posts here. The siding is German siding. South of this, also facing east, is a two-story house with an A-roof and clapboard siding. It sits on a brick foundation and has a three-bay main facade, with the door in the north-end bay. An open Victorian porch crosses the front. A two-story ell extends to the rear (north). The chimneys are stove-types, and the roof is covered with stamped, patterned tin.

Nearby, at 302 Lincoln Ave., is a three-bay, two-story brick building with a flat roof. (It is now painted pink.) It resembles a detailed row or town house, such as those seen in Washington, Baltimore or Laurel. It has a number of ornamental features highlighted by molded brick work, such as in the window arches. The window sills appear to be of stone.

#8-SIGNIFICANCE:

A large community cemetery is situated on Horner's Lane, at Frederick Ave.

This is probably the largest and best-known black community in Mont. Co. While there is no evidence of pre-Civil War housing here, this was one of the earliest and most highly-developed Negro settlements in the area. The County's only Negro high schools (Carver, followed by Lincoln) were located here, and students came from all over the County to attend.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

M:26-15-1

| PERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| __PREHISTORIC | __ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | __COMMUNITY PLANNING | __LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | __RELIGION |
| __1400-1499 | __ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | __CONSERVATION | __LAW | __SCIENCE |
| __1500-1599 | __AGRICULTURE | __ECONOMICS | __LITERATURE | __SCULPTURE |
| __1600-1699 | __ARCHITECTURE | __EDUCATION | __MILITARY | __SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| __1700-1799 | __ART | __ENGINEERING | __MUSIC | __THEATER |
| ✓1800-1899 | __COMMERCE | __EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | __PHILOSOPHY | __TRANSPORTATION |
| ✓1900- | __COMMUNICATIONS | __INDUSTRY | __POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | __OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | __INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

M:26-15-1

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1) MONT. COUNTY JOURNAL, April 17, 1975.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian

ORGANIZATION
M-NCPPC

DATE
Summer, 1975

STREET & NUMBER
8787 Georgia Ave.

TELEPHONE
589-1480

CITY OR TOWN
Silver Spring

STATE
Maryland

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Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

PS-1108

NAME #26-15 LINCOLN PARK

LOCATION HORNER'S LANE AT SOUTHLAWN LANE, ROCKVILLE, Md.

FACADE E

PHOTO TAKEN 5/27/76 MOWYER