B-5098

West Hills District

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the "vertical files" at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

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Last Updated: 08-09-2011

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___ no ___

roperty Name: West Hills ~~District~~ Survey District Inventory Number: B-5098

Address: Roughly bounded by Cook's La., Baltimore National Pike, and Baltimore city boundary Historic district: X yes ___ no

City: Baltimore Zip Code: 21229 County: Baltimore City

USGS Quadrangle(s): Baltimore West

Property Owner: various Tax Account ID Number: n/a

Tax Map Parcel Number(s): ___ Tax Map Number: 28

Project: Red Line Corridor Transit Study Agency: Mass Transit Administration

Agency Prepared By: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Preparer's Name: Katherine Larson Farnham Date Prepared: 8/2/2005

Documentation is presented in: Maryland real property tax records

Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ___ Eligibility recommended X Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G

Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:

Name of the District/Property: ___

Inventory Number: ___ Eligible: ___ yes Listed: ___ yes

Site visit by MHT Staff ___ yes X no Name: ___ Date: ___

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

The West Hills residential neighborhood occupies a large swath of land west of Cook's Lane and north of Baltimore National Pike. It has gently curved streets arranged in an asymmetrical grid pattern and lined with trees. The houses have small front lawns and some have rear alley access with detached garages. A small park, West Hills Park, straddles the city line at the western edge of the neighborhood. Most homes in the neighborhood are row houses, with a handful of duplexes in the area along Baltimore National Pike. There are a few churches at the edges of the neighborhood and the West Hills Square garden apartment complex along Cook's Lane, but there are no commercial or public buildings otherwise. The houses are clustered in groups of two to nine. All are two-story brick houses with moderate-height foundations and full basements, and are predominantly of Colonial Revival style. A typical house is two bays wide, with a Colonial Revival door surround or, in a minority of rows, a shed-roofed or front-gabled wooden porch. Porch rooflines typically echo the rooflines of the main roof. Other roof variations include hipped, front-gabled, mansard-front, and shed. Some clusters have one uniform roofline, but more commonly the rows have symmetrically-arranged variations in the rooflines. Front-gabled rooflines, often sheltering two units, are typically centered within the row, with the remainder of the row featuring side-gabled or hipped roofs. Other variations include gable-front single houses anchoring the ends of a row. Gable-fronts are typically ornamented with an oculus or demilunette vent. Houses situated along a slope are

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ___ **Eligibility not recommended** X

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D **Considerations:** ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G

MHT Comments: context lacking

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date 7/26/06

Reviewer, National Register Program Date 8/7/06

2006 01766

erraced. Typically, the houses have alternating floor plans, with the front doors alternating from left to right along each row. Some rows have shared front stoops or porches for adjacent sets of doors. Some original wooden door surrounds are extant, with side pilasters and either a flat lintel or pediment. More common are door surrounds covered with formstone which echo the outline of a pedimented front door. These surrounds are usually gabled, with keystones in the formstone over the doorway. Some have a segmental arch profile, and a few of the gabled surrounds have eagle ornaments in the peak. First-floor front windows are another area with some variation, including paired windows and bay windows. Bay windows typically have curved standing-seam roofs. In a few rows, the bay window and front door are sheltered by an oblong curved standing-seam metal roof similar to a pent roof. The end units of each row are three bays deep and usually have a basement-level entrance on the side. The houses appear to follow a modernized version of a six-room "daylighter" floor plan. They are two rooms deep with a living room and dining room on one side, and the kitchen located behind the stair hall. Upstairs are three bedrooms and a bathroom tucked between the front and rear rooms.

West Hills was built in the early 1950s, at a time when Baltimore's population was shifting and expanding in the wake of World War II. As the automobile proliferated, the suburbs were expanding into formerly rural countryside, including the area along Cook's Lane, west of the older suburbs of Hunting Ridge and Ten Hills. Suburbs developed both within the city limits and in Baltimore County. Large new rowhouse neighborhoods like West Hills and nearby West Edmondale/Edmondson Heights imposed an urban house form on suburban neighborhoods, but in doing so made suburbia affordable for the working class.

When built, these houses had wooden six-over-six windows or steel multipane casement windows, and some had Spanish tile roofs. The majority now have asphalt-shingled roofs and vinly replacement windows. The overall setting and other aspects of integrity are largely intact. These houses are mass-produced and though attractive and well-kept, are not distinctive. The neighborhood does not reflect any particular trend in neighborhood or town planning, and is one of many neighborhoods of this age and type. The West Hills District is recommended not eligible for the NRHP.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ **Eligibility not recommended** _____

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D **Considerations:** ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G

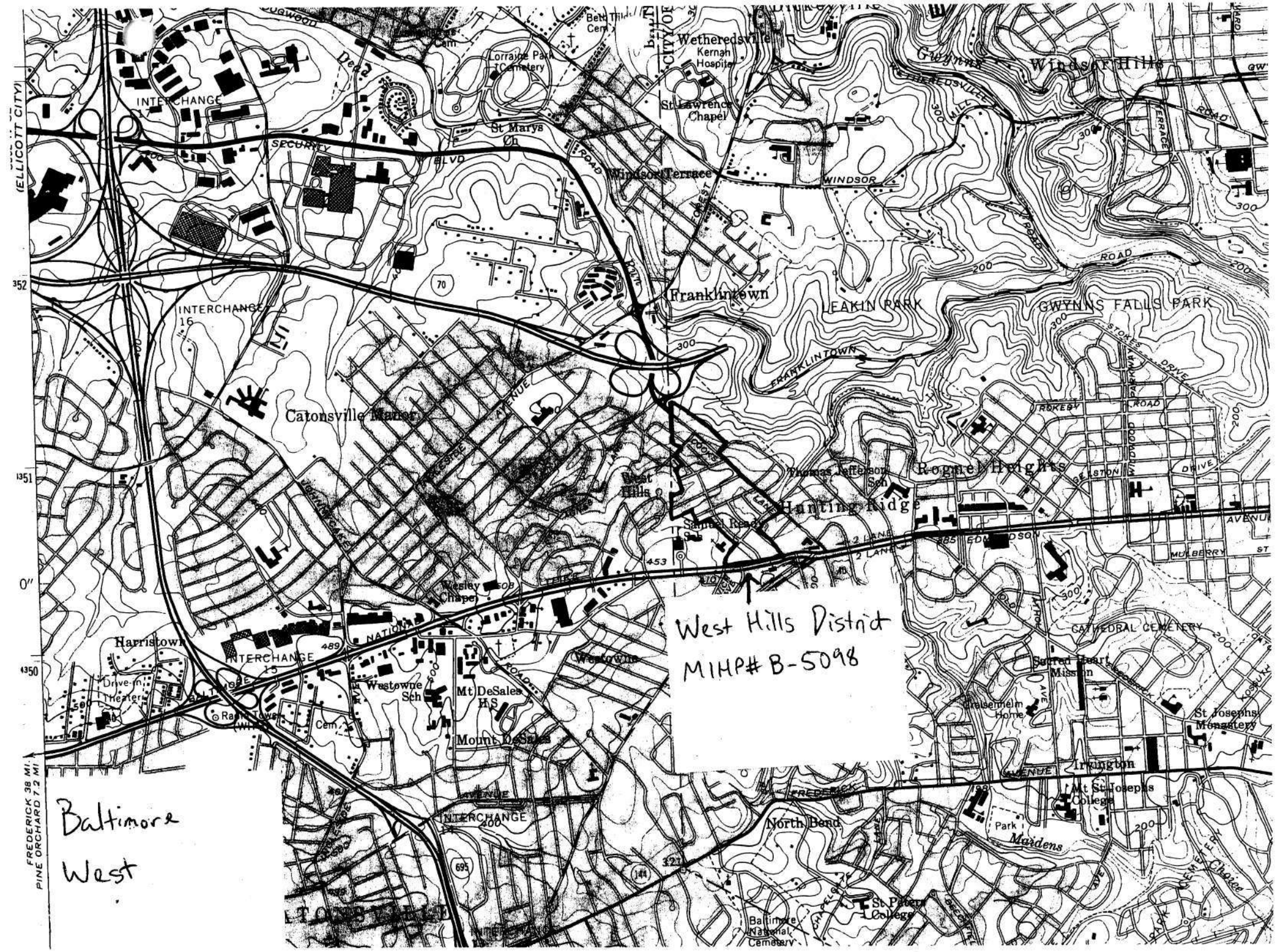
MHT Comments:

_____ _____

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

_____ _____

Reviewer, National Register Program **Date**


West Hills District
MIHP# B-5098
Baltimore
West
Wetheredsville
Kernan Hospital
Windsor Hills
St Lawrence Chapel
St Marys Ch
Lorraine Park Cemetery
Windsor Terrace
Franklintown
LEAKIN PARK
GWYNNS FALLS PARK
Catonsville Manor
West Hills
Thomas Jefferson Sch
Rognel Heights
Hunting Ridge
Samuel Ready Sch
Wesley Chapel
Harristown
Westowne
Westowne Sch
Mt DeSales H.S.
Mount DeSales
Drive-in Theater
Radio Tower
Sacred Heart Mission
Cathedral Cemetery
St Josephs Monastery
Irvington
Mt St Josephs College
North Bend
St Peters College
Baltimore National Cemetery
Maidens
Park
INTERCHANGE 16
INTERCHANGE 15
INTERCHANGE 17
SECURITY BLVD
WINDSOR
FRANKLINTOWN
ROKEBY ROAD
STOKES DRIVE
MULBERRY ST
EDMONDSON AVENUE
FREDERICK AVENUE
NATIONAL
FREDERICK 38 MI.
PINE ORCHARD 7.2 MI.
(ELLICOTT CITY)



B-5098
1000 blk Stamford Rd., West Hills District
Baltimore City, MD
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6/2/2005
MD SHPO
View to E
#1 of 7



B-5098
900 blk. Stanford Rd., West Hills District
Baltimore City, MD
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6/2/2005
MD SHPO
View to W
#2 of 7



B-5078
500 blk. Cooke's La, West Hills District
Baltimore City, MD
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6/8/2005
MD SHPO
View to S
#3 of 7

214 1171



B-5098

4900 blk. Lindsay Rd., West Hills District

Baltimore City, MD

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View to W:NW

#4 of 7



B-5098

800 blk. of Wedgewood, West Hills District

Baltimore City, MD

Kate Farnham

6/8/2005

MD SHPO

View to SE

#5 of 7

009 1166



B-5098

600 blk Chesapeake La. at Alson Dr., West Hills District

Baltimore City, MD

Kate Farnham

6/8/2005

MD SHPO

View to W

#6 of 7

