

Phase II and Phase III Project Cover Sheet

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REPORT INFORMATION:

1984 Weber, C.A.
Orchard Street Church Archaeological Monitoring.
Submitted to the Randolph Phipps Construction Company, Inc.
Library ID No: 00005603 Catalog/Shelving ID: BC 33

Research Firm/Institution:

Baltimore Center for Urban Archaeology
800 E. Lombard Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

Sites examined:

18BC54

Project Details:

Phase I
Phase II
Phase III

Project Justification:

This report describes the monitoring of excavation in the basements of Orchard Street Church, a historic AME Church in Baltimore Maryland. The extant standing structure (built in 1882) is in the same location as two earlier church buildings. It was decided by the Maryland State Historic Preservation Office (MHT) that areas to be excavated in the basement for building renovation of the current structure should be monitored by archeologists to determine if any intact remains of the earlier structures were still present.

Project Objectives:

-Monitor the excavation of areas that will be impacted by the underpinning of existing walls, stabilizing of brick piers, and other activities in the basement of the Orchard Street Church.

Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18BC54.

REPORT INFORMATION:

1992 Otter, E.
A Well at the Orchard Street Church, Baltimore, Maryland.
Submitted to the Baltimore Urban League and Kelly, Clayton, and Mojzisek
Library ID No: 00005650 Catalog/Shelving ID: BC 78

Research Firm/Institution:

Edward Otter - Consulting Archeologist
111 West Montgomery Ave.
Rockville, MD 20850

Sites examined:

18BC54

Project Details:

Phase I
Phase II
Phase III

Project Justification:

In February 1992 restoration workers at the Orchard Street Church in Baltimore found a well during the course of excavation for the underpinning of a foundation for the Sunday School addition. The Maryland Historical Trust was notified of the find in accordance with an historical easement held by MHT. The architects and owners of the property were instructed that an archeologist was needed to document the find and, if the well was to be destroyed during underpinning, to excavate the fill. The architects were able to alter the foundation support plan and, once documented by an archeologist, construction was able to continue while avoiding disturbance to the well.

Project Objectives:

-Map and document the well exposed during restoration of the Orchard Street AME Church.

Research Potential:

The architects renovating the Sunday School building were able to alter the foundation support plan so that construction could continue without impacting the well further. The decision was made to preserve the well in place and it should retain its archeological integrity. The well fill could potentially date back to the late 18th or early 19th century and is preserved by easement until such a time as excavation becomes unavoidable.