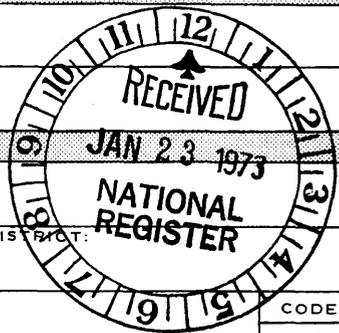


NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Allegany
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE FEB 20 1973



1. NAME

COMMON:

(Allegany County League for Crippled Children)

AND/OR HISTORIC:

Bell Tower (Bell Tower Building)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Southwest corner of Bedford and Liberty Streets

CITY OR TOWN:

Cumberland

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

COUNTY:

Allegany

CODE

001

3. CLASSIFICATION

Table with columns: CATEGORY (Check One), OWNERSHIP, STATUS, ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC. Includes checkboxes for District, Building, Site, Structure, Object, Public, Private, Both, In Process, Being Considered, Occupied, Unoccupied, Preservation work in progress, Restricted, Unrestricted, No.

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Table with columns: Agricultural, Commercial, Educational, Entertainment, Government, Industrial, Military, Museum, Park, Private Residence, Religious, Scientific, Transportation, Comments, Other (Specify). Includes handwritten entry: Crippled children's clinic.

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

Mayor and City Council of Cumberland, Maryland

STREET AND NUMBER:

City Hall

CITY OR TOWN:

Cumberland

STATE:

Maryland

CODE

24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:

Hall of Records

STREET AND NUMBER:

St. John's College Campus

CITY OR TOWN:

Annapolis

STATE:

Maryland

CODE

24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

Maryland Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY:

1971

Federal

State

County

Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

2525 Riva Road

STREET AND NUMBER:

94 College Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Annapolis

STATE:

Maryland

CODE

24

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Vertical form on the right side containing STATE: Maryland, COUNTY: Allegany, ENTRY NUMBER: FEB 20 1973, DATE, and FOR NPS USE ONLY.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bell Tower Building, occupied by the Allegany County League for Crippled Children, is located on the southwest corner of Bedford and Liberty Streets, Cumberland, Maryland. The entrance door is in the south facade.

The exterior of the Bell Tower, with the possible exception of the entrance door and the projecting porch above it, appears to have remained substantially unchanged since its erection (the date on the wall says "1876" while Allegany County records indicate that the building was built in the 1880's) thus retaining its original appearance-- that of a small, solid, "General Grant" period structure. Approximately square, with ten brackets along each side of the main cornice, this two story brick building has tall double windows, simple molded lintels decorated with a scroll-saw motif shaped as a crude swag or festoon. The north side fenestration is identical and symmetrical, while the east facade with evenly spaced windows is not identical. A simple cornice, supported by large decorative brackets, projects some distance from the main roof, which, in turn, is a squat version of a Second Empire Revival roof. In the center of the metal roof is a square, wooden bell tower supported by brackets similar to those on the main cornice; the tower roof spans an open belfry, now devoid of its bell.

The notable feature of this building is this small wooden tower which adds an interesting visual element to an already pleasing late nineteenth century building, and is one that is part of the public building complex near City Hall.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

after 1884 before c. 1898

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | local history |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This was the first separate building used as a police headquarters and station house (jail) in Cumberland, Maryland.

Important primary source material on this structure comes from the vaults of the Clerk's Office, City Hall, where the Cumberland City Council minutes from 1874 have been preserved. On June 30, the council "...moved that a special committee of three be appointed to look out for site for [a] Police Station..." On July 6 the committee "...recommended the purchase of a site for New Police Station a lot belonging to Asahel Willison and a part of a lot belonging to the heirs of Jacob Snyder desc [sic.]..."

The price was unsatisfactory and the Council haggled until the public petitioned against the old Station House and fire hose company in old Pioneer Hall citing the nuisance of the sewage. Council ordered in 1882 "...to remove Police and Station House from Pioneer Hall; and fit up space in Market House for Police Headquarters and Station House." The price for a new lot had been too high.

Finally, on February 25, 1884, the order to purchase the Snyder lot was rescinded and instead the same property, on the corner of Liberty and Mill (now Bedford), was leased. The Street Superintendent was ordered to remove the frame and old brick buildings on the Snyder lot.

Some structures were retained, however, for Council ordered the "... Snyder property to be painted, ...and roof to be painted, not over \$40." And a damaged brick wall of the building was also rebuilt. A newspaper clipping pasted into the minutes carries the text of the Mayor's annual report, wherein he states the remaining Snyder building on the lot can be leased for enough income to pay the property rents. On May 5, 1884, Council ordered the "...committee on Police and Station House to prepare plan for a new station House and ascertain cost." On May 5, 1885, the newspaper clipping has again been faithfully pasted into the minutes, with Mayor Hopewell Herb's annual statement that lists among the accounts that the "new station house, \$3,000 levied; \$1,605 expended," Mayor Herb continues; "the new police station house has been completed and is now ready for occupancy." On January 5, 1885, the minutes had recorded an order "to pay Geo. D. Landwehr \$1,500 on his contract for building new station house."

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Recorders: William D. Morgan, Field Surveyor, Maryland Historical Trust, April 1971. Orlando Ridout IV, Director, Maryland Historical Trust, April 1971.

Allegany County Deeds, Administration Accounts, Orphans Court Proceedings, and Patents, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland. Liber 85, folio 120.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		39° 39' 10"	78° 45' 49"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: c. 1/4 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Mrs. Preston Parish, Keeper of the Maryland Register

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust

DATE: May 13, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: 2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis

STATE: Maryland

CODE: 24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Orlando Ridout IV
Orlando Ridout IV

Title State Liaison Officer for Maryland

Date May 14, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Peter H. Utley
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 2/20/73

ATTEST:
Com [Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date 2.16.73

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Allegany	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 20 1973

(Number all entries)

Allegany County League for Crippled Children

#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

The square, brick structure served as police headquarters and jail from its completion in the late 1880's until 1936. At that time the police department moved into its 1971 location--the 1902 U. S. Courthouse and Post Office--purchased by the City of Cumberland in 1934 after the Federal government abandoned it for larger quarters. The old police headquarters building stood vacant from 1936 until 1941 when the Allegany County League for Crippled Children, established in 1934 as a local branch of the Maryland League for Crippled Children (founded in Baltimore in 1927), began using the building as a clinic.

The site on which this building stands is part of Lot #277, one of the original town lots dating from the formal founding of Cumberland in 1805. Lot #277 as well as most of Cumberland east of Wills Creek initially comprised Walnut Bottom, a five hundred acre tract patented in 1756 to George Mason (1725-1792), an author of the Bill of Rights.

In the second half of the nineteenth century Thomas Jefferson McKaig, a lawyer for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and a state politician, owned this lot. In 1861, in a futile effort to preserve the Union, McKaig traveled to Montgomery, Alabama, hoping to dissuade Jefferson Davis from forming the Confederate States of America, organized in February 1861 as government in rebellion against the United States.

The last private owner of Lot #277, Jacob Humbird, made his fortune as a railroad contractor. During the 1850's his company laid the Baltimore and Ohio tracks over the Allegany Mountains. Humbird served as Mayor of Cumberland during the early negotiations for the purchase of a site for a new police headquarters. Humbird, having purchased Lot #277 in 1883, leased it in 1884 to the City of Cumberland with the stipulation that within two years the city would build a "good and substantial" structure on the property. As of 1883, when Humbird acquired the land, two, two-story brick houses stood on the lot. On December 1, 1898, Humbird's heirs conveyed this property to the city following a provision written into the original lease.

After receiving the lease of Lot #277 the city continued to use Pioneer Hall as police headquarters. By the middle of May 1885 the new police station had been built on the then leased lot. Although a map of 1898 of Cumberland indicates only the police headquarters on the lot, the city had previously rented the already existing structure on Lot #277 which in turn helped to pay their rent to Humbird.



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Allegany	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 20 1973

(Number all entries)

Allegany County League for Crippled Children

9. REFERENCES continued

Hinkle, Helen E. (Mrs. William), Chairman, and Hazel G. Hansrote (Mrs. Charles), Co-chairman, Allegany County Committee of the Maryland Historical Trust, Cumberland, Maryland. National Register draft form, March 20, 1971. Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Maryland.

Laws of Maryland. November Session 1805. Chapter XCII.

Records of the Supervising Architect, Department of Social and Economic History, National Archives, Washington, D. C.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Western Maryland . . . 2 vols. Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1882.

Sheriff and Taylor's Cumberland City Directory Including Frostburg and Lonaconing, for 1884-5 . . . Cumberland, Maryland: John A. Fulton, 1884.

Sparks, Francis C. (comp.). Appendix to Report of Public Records Commission of Maryland. (Annapolis): Hall of Records Commission, n.d.

The State Gazette and Merchants' and Farmers' Directory for Maryland and District of Columbia. Baltimore: Sadler, Drysdale and Purnell, 1871.

Thomas, James W. and T. J. C. Williams. History of Allegany County, Maryland . . . 2 vols. n.p.: L. R. Ttsworth, 1923.

Washington County Deeds, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland

Ridout, Orlando IV. Notes.

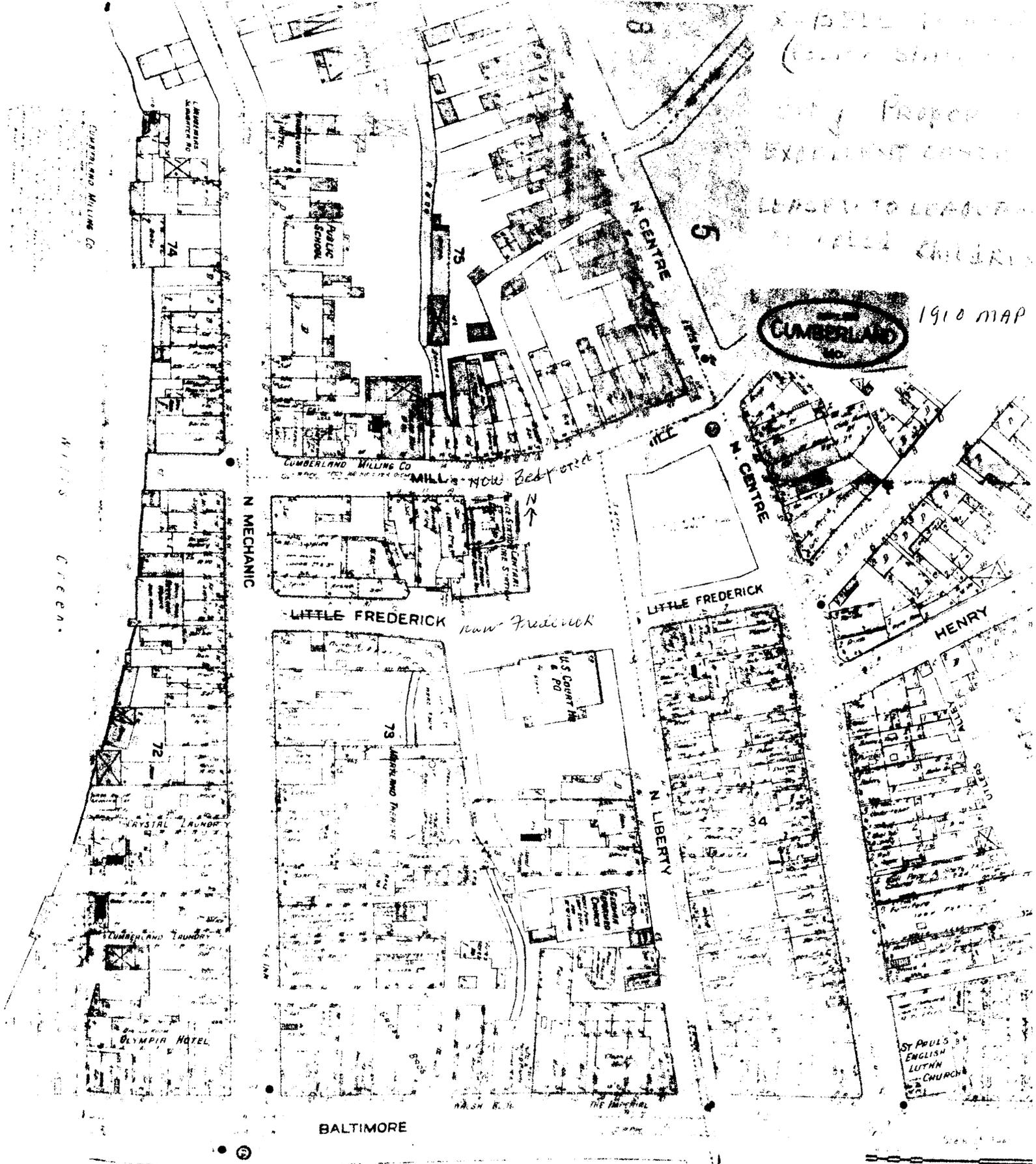
(Mayor and City Council of Cumberland). "Minute Books of the City Council of Cumberland." vol. I. c. 1874 - c. 1885. Office of the City Clerk, Cumberland, Maryland.



BELL...
...
Proposed
...
LEASING TO LEADOUT
... CHILDREN



1910 MAP



CUMBERLAND MILLING CO

W. H. GREEN

N MECHANIC

CUMBERLAND MILLING CO

MILL - now Better off

LITTLE FREDERICK

now Frederick

LITTLE FREDERICK

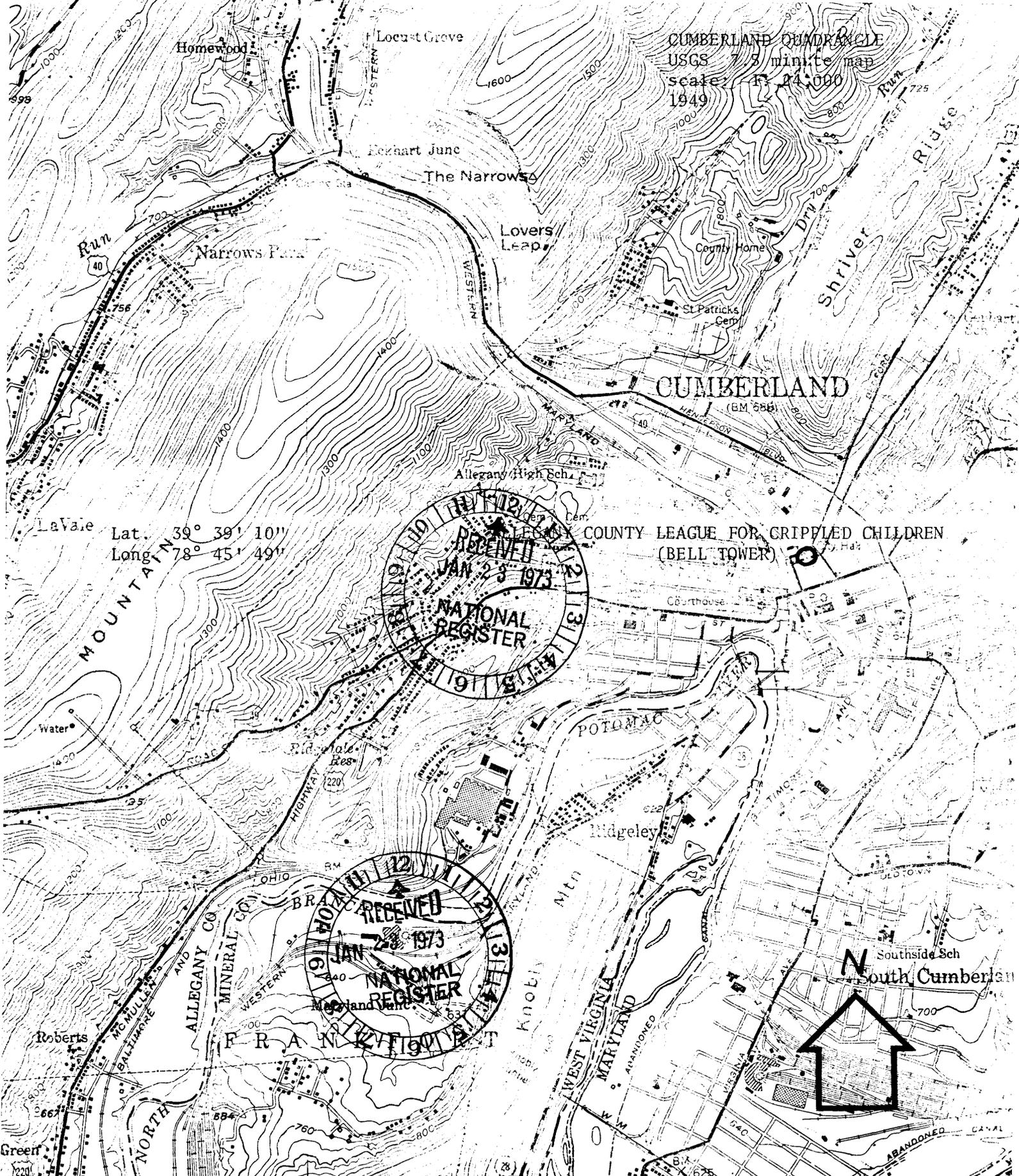
HENRY

N LIBERTY

BALTIMORE

ST PAUL'S
ENGLISH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

CUMBERLAND QUADRANGLE
 USGS 3 minute map
 scale 1" = 24,000'
 1949



Lat. 39° 39' 10"
 Long. 78° 45' 49"

RECEIVED
 JAN 23 1973
 NATIONAL REGISTER

RECEIVED
 JAN 23 1973
 NATIONAL REGISTER



COUNTY LEAGUE FOR GRIPPLED CHILDREN
 (BELL TOWER)

POTOMAC PARK 1.2 MI.
 KEYSER, W. VA. 17 MI.

47°30' W

1 710 000 FEET (P.A.)

691

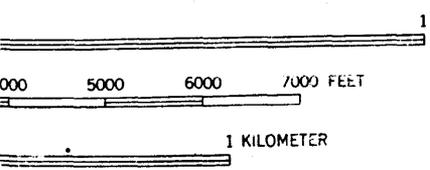
66°20'00" E. 2 210 000 FEET (W. VA.)

● INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C.—1967

SHORT GAP 6.2 MI.
 FORT ASHBY 11 MI.

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Heavy-duty
- Medium-duty
- Light-duty
- Unimproved dirt
- U. S. Route
- State Route



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

CUMBERLAND, MD.-PA.-W.V.
 NE/4 FROSTBURG 15' QUADRANGLE
 N2937.5—W7845/7.5