

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



1. Name

historic Stanton School
and/or common Stanton Center (preferred)

2. Location

street & number 92 West Washington Street n/a not for publication
city, town Annapolis n/a vicinity of congressional district Fourth
state Maryland code 24 county Anne Arundel code 003

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Anne Arundel County
street & number Arundel Center, Calvert Street
city, town Annapolis n/a vicinity of state Maryland 21401

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anne Arundel County Record Office
street & number Anne Arundel County Courthouse, Church Circle
city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust
Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date 1983 federal state county local
depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle
city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The Stanton Center is a two story (plus basement), brick masonry building with a one story addition located on the north side of West Washington Street in Annapolis, Maryland. The principal, West Washington Street, facade has a central entry projection with flanking 3 bay walls; the addition is a one story, stucco building. The brick is laid in Flemish Bond with dark headers, there is a brick belt course at the second floor level and the window openings have flat brick arches, some with exaggerated brick keystones and ends. The windows are double hung (6/6) except for the stair hall window which has gothic arched mutins in the upper sash. The entry has modern metal doors in a classical pedimented frame. The plan consists of four corner classrooms on each floor with a central stairhall. The building's present form is the result of four building efforts: the main building was originally 2½ stories with no central projection and was constructed between 1897 and 1903; the ½ story attic burned and was demolished along with an earlier wooden cornice between 1913 and 1921 at which time the projecting entry was added to accommodate a second interior stairway; between 1921 and 1930 a one story addition was made to the western side of the building; and, in 1974 a concrete block addition was made to the rear.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Stanton Center is a rectangular, flat roofed, two story building located at 92 West Washington Street in the 4th Ward of Annapolis, Maryland. The building includes two additions, a one story stucco on masonry addition along West Washington Street, and a one story concrete block addition to the rear.

Preceding the present buildings, the lot was occupied by the original Stanton Public School, a 40' X 35' wood frame, 2 story building, built between 1881 and 1893. No evidence of this building remains.

The building's present appearance is the result of three different construction efforts carried out between 1893 and 1930. The main block of the building, a 75' by 45', 2½ story masonry building, was built between 1897 and 1903. The brick wall is in flemish bond with dark headers; there is a 5-brick deep, projecting belt course between the 1st and 2nd floors; and the window openings have flat arches with various brick details; the 2nd floor windows have exaggerated keystones and imposts the first floor window arches abut the belt course, and the basement window openings (now bricked up) have exaggerated keystones only. Each classroom, flanking the hall, has three large double hung wood windows. Originally there was a wooden cornice along West Washington Street elevation. The plan, identical for both principal floors, consists of 4 large classrooms with a central stairhall, originally with one staircase to the rear. (These large classrooms have been subdivided into smaller spaces with partitions.) There is no evidence of the original ½ story attic, but oral recollections suggest it had the same 4 room plan as the other floors.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1893-1903; 1913-1921 ~~1821-1930~~ Builder/Architect unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Applicable Criterion: A

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The Stanton Center is significant for its association with the development and establishment of an educational system for black children in Annapolis and Anne Arundel County. Before the Civil War, the education of black children was left to the efforts of various community organizations and churches. In 1869 a site on Washington Street in Annapolis was purchased by the Board of Trustees of the Stanton School as a site for "...a school for the colored children of the City of Annapolis." The present building is the second school building on the site and was first used as an elementary school and later became the first black high school in Anne Arundel County. The building was in use until the desegregation of the Anne Arundel County school system in the 1960's. Throughout its history and use as a school and community center, the Stanton School/Center has been an important part of the black community.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

In 1865 a Freedman's Bureau School was established at Mill Swamp in southern Anne Arundel County as the county's first public school for black children. Between 1867 and 1868 the Stanton School was founded in Parole outside of Annapolis. In 1869, in Annapolis, William H. Butler, William Dorsey, William Bishop, Moses Lake, Charles Shorter, Charles Johnson and Nobel Watkins, as the Trustees of the Stanton School, purchased property on Washington Street for \$900 as a site for "...a school for the colored children of the City of Annapolis and its vicinity."¹ The school was to be under the control of the Trustees until "...a system of public schools for the colored children of the State shall have been established by Act of Assembly."² The trustees were to be directed by the patrons, supporters and subscribers of the school.

The setting up of a board of Trustees under the direction of the community is a significant step in the establishment of a school system for black children. Earlier, education had been an ad hoc process taken care of by churches and fraternal community organizations in the black community. Such organizations as the Gallilean Fisherman's Hall on Fleet and East Streets in Annapolis would act in a benevolent capacity for its members not only for education, but also for the welfare and support of aged people and widowed families as well as burials and funerals.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet #2

source, T. Norwood Brown, Stanton Center Commission: former director of Urban Renewal, City of Annapolis; former student at Stanton School.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Annapolis, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

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4	3	1	5	4	0	0
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Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet #2. and attached Site Plan.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	n/a	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michael Justin Dowling

organization Annapolis City Committee/MHT date 1 August 1983

street & number Post Office Box 226 telephone (301) 268-5497

city or town Annapolis state Maryland 21404

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *J. Mittle* 10-13-83

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u><i>J. Alford Byer</i></u>	Entered in the National Register date <u>12/1/83</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Stanton Center
Anne Arundel County, MD Item number 7 and 10 Page 1

The second building effort took place between 1913 and 1921 after a fire destroyed the $\frac{1}{2}$ story attic classrooms. At this time the wooden cornice was removed and a four foot (approximately) projection was added to the West Washington Street elevation to accommodate the addition of a second, larger stairway. This projection continues the bond pattern and brick detailing of the original building. The second story of the stairhall has an interesting double hung window with gothic style muntins in the upper sash; this window contrasts with the classical, pedimented entry trim of an unknown date.

The third major building effort occurred between 1921 and 1930 when a one story, stucco on masonry addition was added to the western side of the building. This domestic science addition has double hung windows and a simple box cornice.

To these earlier building efforts additions have been made to provide new stairs and ramps for the entry, and in 1974 a one story concrete block addition was made to the rear (north) for use as an indoor basketball court and recreation hall. This rear addition does not contribute to the significance of the resource.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

As recorded in Liber 2364, Folio 495 of the land records of Anne Arundel County, all that part of lot #5 on the plat of the real estate of the late Nicholas Brewer, Senior, of the City of Annapolis, fronting on Washington Street in Annapolis, and commencing on said street at the northern corner of the lot of ground heretofore sold by the said Elias G. Hyde and Frances A. Hyde, his wife to one Andrew Meek, and running from thence in a northwesterly direction fronting on and with the line of said Washington Street for the distance of ninety feet, thence at right angles with said line through said lot #5, seventy-seven and two thirds feet to intercept the line of lot #4 on said plat, thence with the division line of said lots numbers 4 & 5 in a southeasterly direction ninety feet to the corner of the lot so as before stated sold to said Meek, and with the line of said Meek's lot to the beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property consists of a single lot, first conveyed to the Stanton School. The original building and addition are contained on the lot, while the 1974 addition spans the rear property line.

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Sometime between 1881 and 1893 a 2 story wood frame building was built on the Stanton School property on Washington Street. This first building was used as an elementary school. Around the turn of the century, the first stage of the present brick building was completed. This building had 8 classrooms and cost \$9,000 to build. The building was used as an elementary school until 1919 when the first black high school in Anne Arundel County was established in the Stanton School building.

Between 1921 and 1930, a one story addition was built along the western side of the building. This building was constructed with funds raised by the women of St. Philip's and St. Anne's Episcopal churches. This addition housed the domestic science curriculum.

The Stanton School remained a combination elementary and secondary school until the construction of Bates High School on Smithville Street in Annapolis in 1932. The Bates High School was built on property donated to the school and deeded to the County by the community and Wiley Bates, Annapolis' third black Alderman. From 1932 to 1938 the Stanton school remained in use as an elementary school, and in 1938 it became Bates Junior High School when Adams Park Elementary School opened. It remained in use as a Junior High School until the desegregation of the Anne Arundel County School system in the mid 1960's.

The property remained with the Board of Education and was used as a storage building until it was turned over to the City of Annapolis for use as a Community Center. In 1974, under a U. S. Housing and Urban Development grant, the concrete block addition was constructed to the rear for use as a recreation and athletic hall.

The Stanton School building remains as a monument to the support of the black community has provided in the recognition of the importance of education, and in its continued use as a community center it remains an active part of the community.

Notes

¹Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber SH3, Folio 165.

²Ibid.

WEST WASHINGTON STREET

NW 90' (WITH THE LINE OF WASHINGTON ST.)

AT RIGHT ANGLES

77 2/3'

1921-1930 ADDITION

1913-1921

1897-1903 BLDG.

SE 90'

1974 ADDITION

77 2/3'

LOT 5

LOT 4

PLAT OF THE REAL ESTATE OF
NICHOLAS BREWER



SITE PLAN

SCALE: 1" = 40'-0"

2A
JULY 1983

STANTON CENTER
92 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, ANNAPOLIS, MD

MICHAEL JUSTIN BOWLING, AIA, ARCHITECT, ANNAPOLIS, MD