

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 For	ms
Type all entries—complete applicable sections	

1. Name

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and/or common	Stanton C	enter (p	referred)-9				
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city, town	Annapolis		<u>n/a</u> vi	cinity of	congressional	district	Fourth	
state	Maryland	code	24	county	Anne Arund	el	code	003
3. Clas	sificatio	on						
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name	Anne Arun	del Coun	ty					
street & number	Arundel C	enter, C	alvert S	treet				
city, town	Annapolis		n/a vi	cinity of		state	Maryland	21401
5. Loca	tion of	Lega	l Des	criptie	DN			
courthouse, regis	stry of deeds, etc.	Anne Ar	undel Co	unty Reco	rd Office			
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city, town		Annapol	is			state	Maryland	21401
6. Repr	esentat	ion iı	n Exis	sting S	Surveys	;		
	l Historical			has this are				
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date 1983					federal	_X_ state	county	local
depository for su	rvey records	Marylan	d Histor	ical Trus	t, 21 State	Circle		
city, town		Annapol	is			state	Maryland	21401

Description

Condition

Condition		Check one
excellent	deteriorated	unaltered
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fair	unexposed	

Check one _X_ original site moved date _

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

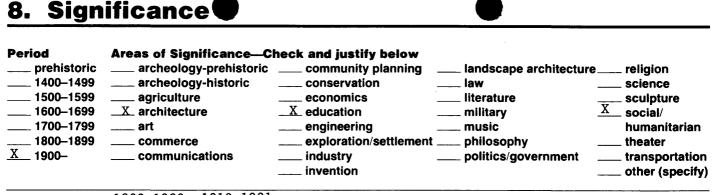
The Stanton Center is a two story (plus basement), brick masonry building with a one story addition located on the north side of West Washington Street in Annapolis, Maryland. The principal, West Washington Street, facade has a central entry projection with flanking 3 bay walls; the addition is a one 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 The plan consists of four corner classrooms on each floor with a central frame. stairhall. The building's present form is the result of four building efforts: the main building was originally $2\frac{1}{2}$ stories with no central projection and was constructed between 1897 and 1903; the $\frac{1}{2}$ 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', 2¹/₂ 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 imposts the first floor window arches abut the belt course, and the and 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 $\frac{1}{2}$ story attic, but oral recollections it had the same 4 room plan as the other floors. suggest



Specific dates 1893–1903; 1913–1921 Builder/Architect unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Applicable

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.

Major Bibliog phical References 9.

See Continuation Sheet #2

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

Geographical Data 10.

Acreage of nominated property <u>less than one acre</u> Annapolis, Maryland Quadrangle name.

UMT References

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Quadrangle scale <u>1:24,000</u>

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet #2 and attached Site Plan.

List all states a	nd counties for pro	nerties ove	vlanning state		
state n/a		code	county		code
state		code	county		code
11. For	m Prepare	ed By			·
name/title	Michael Justi	n Dowlin	lg		
organization	Annapolis Cit	y Committ:	ee/MHT	date	1 August 1983
street & number	Post Office P	lox 226		telephone	(301) 268-5497
city or town	Annapolis			state	Maryland 21404
12. Stat	te Histori	c Pres	servatio	n Offic	er Certification
As the designated		_ state vation Office	<u>X</u> local		ervation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89–
	inate this property for riteria and procedures				ty that it has been evaluated Recreation Service.
State Historic Pres	ervation Officer signation	ature <i>A</i>	Mixte		18-13-83
title	STATE HISTORI	C PRESERV	ATION OFFICE	R	date
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Keeper of the Na	tional Register			~~ #	•
Attest:			· · ·		date
Chief of Registrat	tion				



OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-34

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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_	Stanton Center			_	
Continuation sheet	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.

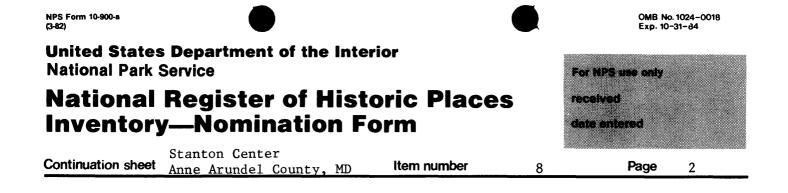
To these earlier building efforts additions have been made to provide new stairs and ramps for the entry, and in 1974 a one story concrete block addition was made to the rear (north) for use as an indoor basketball court and recreation hall. This rear addition does not contribute to the significance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



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.

