Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

PHO 300063

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK 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

Harley's Post Office; Burkittsville

AND/OR COMMON

Town of Burkittsville (preferred)

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Intersection Md. Rt. 17 & Jefferson-Boonsboro County Road
_NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Burkittsville
___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Sixth

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Maryland	24	Frederick	021

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
X DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	x OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
__BUILDING(S)	__PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	X COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	X BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	__ENTERTAINMENT	X RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	x YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__ YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Multiple Public and Private Owners

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN		STATE
Burkittsville	___ VICINITY OF	Maryland

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.   Frederick County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN	STATE
Frederick	Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE
___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN   STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Burkittsville, Maryland, is located in the southwest corner of Frederick County, at the intersection of Maryland Route 17 and the Jefferson-Boonsboro county road. Its buildings line both sides of the latter road, called Main Street through the town, for a distance of about one mile. At either end of the street, within the town limits, there is approximately three-tenths of a mile of open land. There are many trees and several open lots in the center of town, and the lots lining the main street all back onto open fields.

The townscape is quite consistent in scale, with the exception of the churches and the Seminary Building. The houses for the most part are two and one half stories, having the same roof ridge and cornice line. Slate, tin and asphalt shingles are the common roof covers. A few smaller, earlier houses have one and a half stories with exposed basements making usable quarters.

The facades present a slightly undulating line of varying window heights and porch levels along the straight, tree-lined street. Many original door and window openings have been enlarged over the years, reflecting new styles and the desire for more light and air.

The street is the visible and practical line of communication upon which the neighborly free standing buildings are placed. Each house has a set of outbuildings reflecting the owner's needs and occupation, e.g., summer kitchens and law offices.

Most of the approximately seventy buildings in Burkittsville are used as dwellings, but there are handsome Victorian commercial buildings and shops on the east side of town, most with their original fenestration and wood detailing.

Most of the structures in the town are in sound condition. There are virtually no intrusions in this townscape. The town has had only two or three new buildings constructed since 1900, and its gas station consists of two pumps in front of the small frame post office.

The most distinctive quality about Burkittsville is its setting among the fields with open vistas to the hills. This village is a wonderful survival of the small, self-sustaining, self-contained communities so common in the early nineteenth century. Here we still have the one long street and the long, narrow lots bordering that street, with back yards answerable only to the rolling fields and meadows. Time has stood still in this place, leaving a remarkable visual picture of a past way of life.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	X_RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X_ARCHITECTURE	X_EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
_X1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X_1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
X_1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	X_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		American town-scape-Civil War History

SPECIFIC DATES   BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Burkittsville is a well preserved, virtually unchanged example of the American townscape of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The churches, houses, and shops strung along Main Street are bordered at the rear by the fields surrounding the town. This open landscape at the corporate boundaries and the rural approaches to the town still demonstrate visually Burkittsville's historic position as a service center for the neighboring countryside. The town has never grown and thus retains its original visual integrity.

The village of Burkittsville began as a settlement of a few cabins before or about the time of the Revolutionary War. The land was a part of the original "Merryland Tract" granted to the family of Governor Thomas S. Lee. Henry Burkett (or Burkitt, as it was later spelled) bought a tract called "Friends Goodwill" in 1810. Joshua Harley, who served with the Continental Army, then settled on a tract of land adjoining Burkitt's farm.

Soon a village grew on parts of the Harley and Burkitt properties, located at the intersection of the Middletown-Brunswick and Jefferson-Boonsboro Roads, at that time the main routes of travel between these points. A store was opened by Joshua Harley (circa 1820) and was operated by him and his descendants for more than a half century. Harley became the first postmaster of the village in 1824, at which time it was called Harley's Post Office. In 1829 Henry Burkitt commanded a survey of his land and from this made a plat of what was to become the present village. Burkitt died in 1836, and the lots he had laid out were sold off.

Industry flourished in the village during its early years. Local merchants operated a tannery and a nearby distillery. Carpenter, harness, and blacksmith shops, as well as other trades of the time, were represented in the village.

The people of Burkittsville from its earliest days have been very devoted to their churches. Services were held in homes prior to the building of the German Reformed Church in 1829. The congregations of the Reformed and Lutheran Churches both met in the Reformed Church until the Lutherans built their own in 1859. Both of these buildings are still standing and are well preserved. In 1866, the Lutheran Church

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 13 & 14)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____ 300 _____

UTM REFERENCES

UTM OK - Wn-
12-22-75

A |1,8| |2|7,4|2,0,0| |4,3|6,3|8,8,0| B |1,8| |2|7,4|2,4,0| |4,3|6,2|6,0,0|
　　ZONE EASTING　　　　NORTHING　　　　　ZONE EASTING　　　　NORTHING
C |1,8| |2|7,3|2,0,0| |4,3|6,3|0,8,0| D |1,8| |2|7,3|0,6,0| |4,3|6,3|9,4,0|

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point on the east adjacent to Maryland Route 17 on a line
fence post; thence on a straight line to the midpoint of the intersection
of Gapland Road and Mt. Church Road; thence on a straight line to the
intersection of the Morris Grossnickle farm land and the Maryland Route
17 at the south; thence to a line fence corner post at the intersection
of Mill Lane and Gapland Road at the east of the town square; thence on
a straight line to the beginning.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY   _SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

NAME / TITLE   Lawrence A. Way, Mayor; Rev. H. Austin Cooper;
Walton D. Stowell, AIA NSID; Barbara Winslow; Mary K. Winslow   (cas)

ORGANIZATION   DATE

Town of Burkittsville   May, 1975

STREET & NUMBER   TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN   STATE

Burkittsville   Maryland

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___   STATE ___   LOCAL X

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE *John N Pearce*   9/15/75

TITLE   State Historic Preservation Officer   DATE

GPO 888-445

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Frederick County-Burkittsville,
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DESCRIPTION CONTINUED #7

There are, in general, three architectural types in
Burkittsville. About one-third of the buildings are of the Federal
style, some of them sporting classical Greek Revival details. Com-
peting on a friendly basis with the Federal shapes are those of the
early Victorian era (1860's - 1870's). The Federal buildings are for
the most part brick, and the Victorian ones are wooden. Percentage-
wise, approximately 54 percent of the structures in the town are of
wood, 40 percent of brick, and 6 percent of stone. The stone
buildings are largely farmhouses built before the town was established.
There are still several farms within the town limits today.

The first part of the David Arnold House, built in 1790, is a
rectangular, two and a half story, five bay farmhouse of stone laid
in a random ashlar pattern with wide mortar joints. A wide stone
center chimney on the west side of the gable roof is shingled in tin.
The 1873 addition, rising three and a half stories from a lower
ground level, has matching stonework. It is hip-roofed, with a brick
end and a brick center chimney. This addition extends beyond the
original building to the south and incorporates first and second
story porches on the west.

The north facade has five 6 over 6 second floor windows and
four first floor windows with a centered entrance. The longer
elevation on the east has evenly spaced 6 over 6 windows on the
third floor and five on the second floor with two doorways giving
onto a porch. The first story has four small windows and two doors.

The mortar in the older part of the Arnold House is made
with creek sand. The color of the mortar changes abruptly on the
north facade where the 1873 addition is joined. There is an unusual
18th century cornice under the roof of the 1790 structure on the ·
north side. Instead of a large crown molding, there is only a small
molding above the Roman ovolo molding adjacent to the underside of
the roofboards. The two 1790 windows on both the first and second
floors have brick jambs, apparently added to bring these windows
into conformity with the narrower 1873 windows. The windows through-
out the house have stone lintels.

The centered entrance door on the north side is Classic Revival
with side and over lights. The board lintel is trimmed with dentils.
The wooden railed and columned porch is a Victorian addition, as is

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the second story porch on the east.

Between the house and the main street, on the lowest level, is a stone springhouse with tin shingling. The spring still flows, as it did when President Abraham Lincoln drank from it in 1862. The spring-house stands between a pair of huge, 200 year old white oak trees.

A stone smokehouse (1790) stands to the south of the house. Two large barns of rough sawmill board and a board storage shed are to the west and southwest.

The many stone fencing walls on the property are fine examples of the post-Revolutionary and pre-Civil War period. They are of dry wall construction with no mortar used.

From September 14 to 16, 1862, the David Arnold House was the headquarters of Major General William B. Franklin and the center of his operations for taking Brownsville Pass and Pleasant Valley. The outbuildings and basement of the house were used to house the wounded from the Battle of Crampton's Gap as were most of the buildings in Burkittsville. Civil War artifacts are still found on the Arnold farm property, where many Confederate soldiers were buried.

The Burkitt House, located at 103 East Main Street, was built in 1807 (according to the date inscribed near the kitchen fireplace). It is a rectangular, two and a half story, six bay Federal style structure of brick coated with painted stucco, with a gable metal roof. The broad facade facing on Main Street has six asymmetrically placed second floor windows and five first floor windows with an entrance. The broad front porch on the first floor and the center gable on the third floor, with its German siding and sawn work, are later Victorian additions. The northwest elevation, which is extended by an ell covered with German siding, has three windows on the first and second floors and two small attic windows. There are broad chimneys at each end of the main house.

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The northeast side of the main part of the house has wooden
porches on the first and second stories.

To the northwest of the main part of the house is a native
stone, one and a half story milkhouse with a large fireplace at the
north end, and a slate roof. This is a working farm with barns and
other appropriate farm buildings. The old stone slave quarters lie
to the east of the house.

This entire 163-acre farm lies within the boundaries of the
town, partially encircling it on the northeast, north and northwest.
It preserves a natural link between the townscape and its rural
surroundings. The house was the home of Henry Burkitt, one of the
founders of Burkittsville, for whom the town was later named.

The Emmanuel Slifer House at One East Main Street was built in
the early 1820's (Church records give the date as 1821). It is
a two and a half story, 3 bay, L-shaped brick structure, laid in
Flemish bond on the south (front) facade and in common bond on the
other three walls. There are brick chimneys at the ends of the
gable roof. The back ell on the north has two stories, with
porches on each level to the east. The roof is of molded metal.

Double entrance doors facing Main Street are Classic Revival
with raised ovals within rectangular panels. The entrance is at
the southeast corner. There are two 6 over 6 shuttered windows to
the west of the entrance and three on the second story. There are
five shuttered windows on the west elevation and two small attic
windows.

The Emmanuel Slifer House stands at the junction of the old
Conococheague and Seneca Indian trails, and a French and Indian
trading post once stood on this site (circe 1740). Arrowheads and
other artifacts have been found on the property. The Reverend
Emmanuel Slifer, who moved with his bride into this house built by
his father in 1821, was a descendant of both a pioneering and a
religious family who came to the Middle Valley in 1771. The Reverend
Slifer himself was pastor of the Pleasant View Church of the Brethren,

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and a man of many facets. He was minister, music teacher, tailor
and clockmaker. He was considered one of the finest tailors in
Maryland, and reportedly made President Lincoln a suit, which he
presented to him at the White House. He served on the Committee for
Religious Objectors and Exemption during the Civil War, and
visited the President several times while preparing Exemption Papers
for Christian Objectors. Mr. Slifer used to play his beloved violin
in secret in the attic of this house, as his Dunkard Church would not
allow its ministers to play such worldly instruments.

Also located on the lot at One East Main Street is a Tailor Shop
built about the same time as the Emmanuel Slifer House. It is a
rectangular building built of red brick (fired at the onetime local
brickworks) and laid in common bond. The center entrance facing
on Main Street is flanked by two large 9 over 6 windows with paneled
wood shutters. One 6 over 4 window is in each of the east and west
elevations. The rear (north) elevation has an entrance and two 9
over 6 windows.

The foundation, rising above street level, is of native lime-
stone. The roof is shingled and there is a vaulted brick chimney on
the east.

On September 9, 1862, when CSA cavalry occupied Burkittsville,
Col. Thomas Munford commandeered the Tailor Shop as his headquarters.
On September 13, when he left it to establish headquarters at the
Wiener Tannery, the shop became headquarters for Union forces.

The Tailor Shop was used as the medical supply building by the
Christian Women's Association, a community women's nursing group
organized in Antietam, Burkittsville, Frederick, and Middletown
to nurse wounded soldiers following battles. Mrs. Emmanuel Slifer
was the local president of this organization.

The Tailor Shop later became a clock shop (two of the clocks
made here are extant), a barber shop, a store, and an attorney's
office.

There is a large stone chimney just north of the Tailor Shop,
the workmanship of which appears to be pre-Revolutionary.

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The Michael Wiener House and Tannery, 109 West Main Street, was built before 1830. It is a two and a half story, five bay, Federal style, L-shaped structure of painted brick laid in common bond, with a metal shingled pitched roof.

The main elevation, which faces on Main Street, has four 9 over 6 shuttered windows and an entrance on the first floor and five 6 over 6 shuttered windows on the second floor. The long northwest elevation has three shuttered windows on each story. Brick chimneys rise at the center of the southeast and northwest ends on the main part of the house; the ell has a center and a back chimney. Extending the ell is a one story brick summer kitchen and milk cooling room.

The northeast elevation has wide wooden porches on both floors of the ell.

On December 25, 1890, the house was gutted by fire. It was rebuilt in 1891; some renovation work was carried out in 1972.

The northwest windows face the remains of the Michael Wiener Tannery, which cover about 500 square feet of the original 1,250 square feet of the main building. Built between 1834 and 1840, the Tannery is a two and a half story rectangular structure, the first story of stone, the second of red brick with a slate roof. The southeast elevation has three windows one above the other, and the southwest elevation has two windows remaining on the second floor and an entrance and window on the first floor. The northwest part of the building has collapsed.

Michael Wiener, an immigrant German tanner, came to Burkittsville in 1834 and established a tannery where he made officers' saddles for the Austrian army. The Tannery, due to its location on the Boonsboro-Jefferson road, became a stopping place for turkey and cattle drovers traveling from the Shenandoah Valley to the Baltimore markets, and for oxcarts and wagons carrying charcoal from Pleasant Valley and Elk Ridge and iron ore from South Mountain to the Catoctin Iron Works.

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A small industrial complex grew up about the Tannery. There was
a pottery kiln; a shed and holding pens for butchering horses for
their hides; wheelwright, carpenter and blacksmith shops; a large
building where harnesses and finished leather goods were made; a
loom-house; open air vats for processing leather; and a magistrate's
office and courtroom. Of these buildings, only a part of the
magistrate's office, where Magistrate Wiener once presided, remains
standing.

The commander of the Confederate Cavalry was quartered in the
Wiener House on September 9, 1862. The Wiener family remained; the
ladies to cook and the men to run the Tannery, wheel shop, wagon
shop, and smithy, and to patch up wagons and gear broken down after
the long march into Maryland. In the late afternoon of September 12,
General Robert E. Lee was brought here by ambulance to meet General
J. E. B. Stuart, who took him on in a fresh ambulance.

The Tannery suffered extensively under Confederate occupation.
When the forces departed, gone also were fifty-two finished
Austrian army saddles ready for shipment to the port of Baltimore;
wagons and spring wagons; heavy harness; wheels for the Home Guard
in Frederick; sole leather for the Union Army; and hundreds of
horseshoes. Also gone were a large forge, bellows, tools, lumber,
nails, bolts, wheelbands, barrels, crockery, and fifty horses.

On October 4, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln, accompanied
by Generals McClellan and Burnside, and McClellan's staff, stopped
at the Wiener House where they were given a meal on the side porch.

The Daniel Zecher House located at 5 West Main Street, was
built in about 1845. It is a two and a half story, four bay, L-
shaped house of brick laid across the front (south) in Flemish
bond and along the side walls in common bond. There are four
shuttered windows on the second story, two on the first story and
two side by side entrances in the two center bays on the front
facade. A Victorian gable with fish scale siding and an elongated
window was added to the center of the attic story. A two and a half
story ell extends from the north side of the house, with railed
wooden porches on both first and second levels on the east side. A
one story summer kitchen continues the house on the north side.

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The east wall of the house is pierced only by two small attic windows and by a door which was cut through in the 1860's for the use of students when the house was a girls' school. A part of the lower porch on the ell was bricked in for a laundry room.

A barn and a blacksmith shop are also located on this property.

The Daniel Zecher House is associated with both the economic and educational trends of the 19th century in Burkittsville. The Zecher family, and later the Hightman family, catered to the community as a "fixit shop" where residents brought machinery, household tools, pots and pans, etc., to be mended. Horses were shod at the blacksmith shop.

The Reverend William C. Wire, pastor of St. Paul's   Lutheran Church started a school for girls in this house while his Seminary was being built across the street. The Seminary was constructed in 1866.

Between September 9 and 14, 1862, the blacksmith shop shod horses of the Confederate Army until the iron supply was exhausted and more had to be brought from another blacksmith shop.

Pumps for the Civil War were manufactured here, using the "sand form" method. There are several of these pumps extant in the area.

The house was occupied by Confederate Army cavalrymen before the battle of Crampton's Gap and the barn was used by a temporary hospital following the battle.

The Female Seminary is located at 4 West Main Street on the southwest corner of the intersection of Main Street and Maryland Route 17, diagonally across from the Reformed Resurrection and St. Paul's Lutheran Churches. Built in 1866, the three and a half story, eight bay, L-shaped building is of brick laid in common bond. The front foundation stones are finished limestone cut by local masons. The brick gable ends rise about ten feet above the roof with a step at the eave. There are two very large brick center chimneys and two end chimneys and a gable roof of dark slate.

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   The long elevation facing Main Street has a row of eight windows
on the third and second stories, and six windows and two entrances on
the first story. The large wooden lintels over the four east windows
on each floor have Classic Revival rosettes. The main entrance door
is Classic Revival with overlights and sidelights.

   The south elevation has a two and a half story gable-roofed
brick ell on the west side. Wide wooden porches run the length of
the main building on the first and second stories of the rear facade
and partly across the third story. They are connected by wide
wooden stairs without risers at the southeast corner.

   The Seminary building is at present divided into several roomy
apartments.

   The Female Seminary was founded under the auspices of the Lutheran
Church and conducted by a Lutheran pastor, as were many other such
schools of the time. Although the formal opening of its large new
building on October 15, 1866, reflected a contemporary concern with
education for girls, Pastor Wire's school was still only a "finishing
school for young ladies," featuring "classical instruction and social
graces."

   The Seminary, the largest structure in the town, was architecturally
planned for its purpose. The basement was divided into kitchens with
large fireplaces where kettles were set for meat, soup, etc. The en-
trance from Main Street on the first floor led to a center hallway
off of which were the reception and music rooms and the stairway and
landing leading to the girls' rooms on the second and third floors.
The porches across the back of the building, with the fine view to
the south and west of South Mountain and the rolling farmlands at
its foot, were used as sun porches for the young ladies and huge
canvas shields used to be put up on stretchers to hide them from the
gaze of the village citizens.

   The two center chimneys vented huge fireplaces on each floor
for warmth. The two end chimneys vented smaller fireplaces on each
floor which actually housed Franklin stoves.

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The full attic was used for trunk storage, and it contained a laundry drying room and living quarters for maids.

The office and library were in the ell at the back. Many of the original outbuildings to the south and west have disappeared, but horse stables, carriage house, oven and drying house did exist. The original meat house is still standing, in good condition.

The Resurrection Reformed Church located at 3 East Main Street was built in 1829. It is a two and a half story, rectangular building of white painted brick, with a square wooden tower and four sided steeple which was added in 1896. Aged English boxwoods border the original brick sidewalk leading to the steep stone steps of the church porch.

The south facade, facing Main Street, has a Classic Revival portico in antis, distyle, with Ionic fluted columns, three Gothic pointed windows and an Italianate cornice with curved brackets with dropped pendants.

The long east and west elevations have four evenly spaced Gothic pointed windows divided by a vertical mullion branching at the top, and two horizontal mullions.

The Victorian tower and steeple have sawn-wood details and are shingled in wood.

A one and a half story brick church school building was added to the north in 1894.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is located next to the Reformed Church at 5 East Main Street and was built in 1859. It is a rectangular, three and a half story painted brick structure with a tower, belfry and steeple rising approximately 60 feet. A two and a half story brick church school has been added to the north of the main church building.

The four story square central tower on the south elevation has a Romanesque Revival front with rounded windows and trim. The corners of the tower protrude as pilasters, terminating in a crude capital of brick dentils and crown moldings. From the pilasters at the

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corners of the tower spring semi-circular arches cut back to the depth
of the pilaster in two levels, giving two shadow lines and making the
arch appear more delicate.

The octagonal brick belfry has pilasters at each corner and
alternating closed and open arches set in each face. The cardinal
sides of the spire have gables over each of the closed arches. The
tower and spire have bracketed cornices. The iron weathervane is an
arrow on a slender rod between two spheres.

Flanking either side of the tower are wings enclosing stairways.
These wings have the same pitch as the main roof but are only one and
a half story. The arched windows of the south facade are decorated
with protruding brick architraves at the spring of the arches.

The two leaf wood entrance door is set in a similar semi-circular
arch.

There are three tall, narrow windows, divided symmetrically by
horizontal and vertical wooden mullions, on the west and east elevations.
The denticulated cornices are brick along the rake of the roof and
horizontal eaves. The asbestos shingle roofing replaced original
slates.

The Lutheran School (now the Parish Hall) stands to the east of
the Church. Built in 1859, it is a one story, rectangular painted
brick building with two story bell tower on the south elevation
facing the main street. The bell tower is square, with a hip roof
and two pointed arch windows with triangular architraves. There are
four windows in the building on this elevation. Entrance to the
school house is in the west gable end.

The cluster formed by the Resurrection Reformed Church and St.
Paul's Lutheran Church and School is a typical geographical grouping
of such structures at the heart of the town.

A number of Union and Confederate dead were buried in Union
Cemetery when the churches were used as hospitals in 1862. The
cemetery has a broad and peaceful location on the hill rising to the
north of the two churches, with views over the Middle Valley and over

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the gently curving main street of Burkittsville.

The street addresses of the buildings in the Burkittsville historic district are as follows:

1-7	West Main Street
2-8	West Main Street
101-111	West Main Street
102-110	West Main Street
1-4	North Potomac Street
1-7	East Main Street
2-16	East Main Street
101-103	East Main Street
102-120	East Main Street
201-207	East Main Street
202-212	East Main Street
301-309	East Main Street
302	East Main Street
401-403	East Main Street
501	East Main Street
2	Wiener Lane
1	Cemetery Lane

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built the Burkittsville Female Seminary. Prior to this the school had
been held in a local residence, now owned by Mayor and Mrs. Lawrence
A. Way, (5 West Main Street).

On September 13 and 14, 1862, the forces of the Union and Con-
federate armies engaged in the Battle of Crampton's Gap, a bloody
prelude to the battle of Antietam. More than fifty Confederate
wounded were brought into Burkittsville following a preliminary
skirmish to the north of the town. Colonel Munford (CSA) used the
Reformed Church and parsonage as hospital and headquarters. All
sheets, linens, and kitchen utensils were commandeered for use in
the hospital. At the beginning of the fighting, the inhabitants of
Burkittsville fled for safety to nearby villages, but most of them
returned on September 15. Both churches and the schoolhouse had
become large hospitals, and they remained so until long after
Christmas 1862. The schoolhouse was the amputation room, and the CSA
wounded lay on the ground floor, and Union on the second floor in the
church classroom. The women organized the Christian Women's Relief
Organization and took over the nursing of the wounded. Women and
men of the village cooked meals, cared for the wounded, held
religious services, wrote letters and helped bury the dead. The
barns and sheds and shops of Burkittsville were also filled with the
wounded and dying. Following the battle, the people of the village
responded immediately to the desperate situation with compassion and
hard work; work which went on for several months after the battle, and
for which the two churches were the natural center.

In 1865, George Alfred Townsend, the noted Maryland author, came
to the area. Eleven years later, in 1876, he had the War Correspondents'
Arch built. This memorial to the newspapermen of the Civil War is a
federally owned war memorial. It stands at Crampton's Gap and together
with Townsend's complex of buildings constitutes Gathland State Park,
approximately one mile north west of Burkittsville.

Burkittsville was first incorporated in 1896, and its streets
were lit with kerosene lamps. The corporation failed after one
year. Incorporation was tried again in 1917, but failed within a
year. Finally, in 1939, through the efforts of J. Christian
Skidmore, the village was reincorporated and remains so.

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     This village is truly a step back into the past, as only two
or three new buildings have been built in the last fifty years and
it is still laid out as Henry Burkitt designed it in the nineteenth
century.

     In 1972 by an ordinance of the municipal government, under the
direction of Lawrence A. Way, Mayor, and Paul M. Smith, Garland S.
Guyton, and Hubert Gordon, Councilmen, the entire village was zoned
as a historic district.

     An attitude survey made in 1973 revealed that the residents of
Burkittsville wish to preserve the town as it is, as they deeply
cherish their town's heritage.

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FORM PREPARED BY

Pamela James, Assistant Historian, Maryland Historical Trust, 21
    State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland. (301) 267-1438