

# African American Historic Context Study

*Discovering Important Places*



# African American Historic Context Study – Phase II

## Discovering Important Places

*Initiative of Frederick County  
Government in partnership with the  
African American Resources Cultural  
and Heritage Society and funded in part  
by the Maryland Historical Trust*



# African American Historic Context Study

## Tonight's Goals

- Introduce the project
- Listen to and connect with the community
- Answer Questions
- Launch the survey

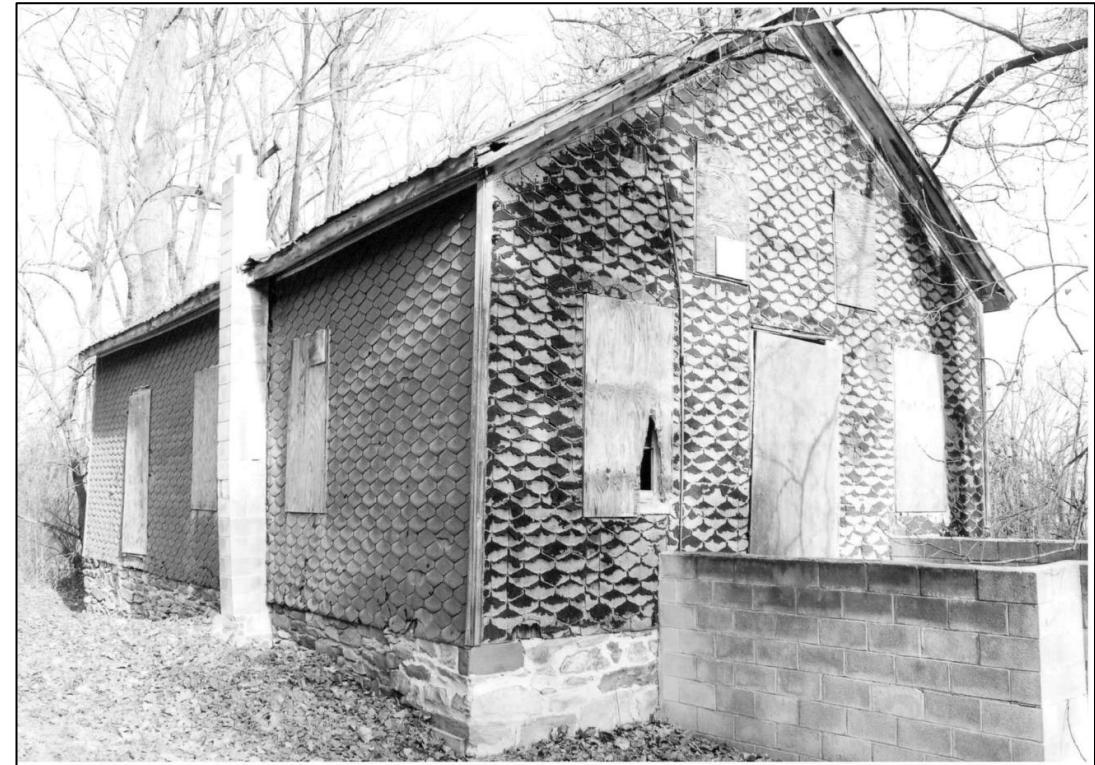


A Rosenwald school, location not specified. From "The Fight to Preserve African American History," *The New Yorker*, Jan. 27, 2020.

# African American Historic Context Study

## Why This? Why Now?

- Local planning efforts should serve all people who live here
- African American stories have been overlooked (as of 2020, 2% of sites on the National Register focus on the experiences of African Americans)
- Currently less than 1% of places in Frederick County are Nationally designated specifically for Black history.



Ceres Bethel A.M.E. Church, Burkittsville, MD, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, 2015 (F-2-55).

# African American Historic Context Study

## What to Expect?

- It focuses on places – buildings and sites that tell the story of the people.
- It is not a definitive, all-encompassing history.



Buckeystown African American School,  
Designated to the County Register of Historic  
Places, November 1, 2022 (CR #22-05)

# African American Historic Context Study

## What are benefits of a Historic Context Study?

- **Honor** influential people and places.
- **Share** collected knowledge with the public.
- **Empower** independent community projects.
- **Guide** future planning efforts through identification of historic places.



Jonathan Street cabin, Hagerstown, Maryland

# What is a historic context study?

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# What is a Historic Context Study?

- **Provides** a comprehensive, high-level overview and historical narrative of a specific theme.
- **Identifies historic places** that are important around a specific theme.
- **Recommends** buildings and sites that may be eligible for historic designation.
- **Provides a way to evaluate** places discovered later.

# Meet Our Consultant

Ms. Kristie Baynard is the Cultural Resources Manager with Marstel Day and will be the lead on this project. Her and her team have extensive experience in historic preservation and cultural resources and have completed similar projects for underrepresented communities.



**MARSTEL**  **DAY**



**Kristie Baynard**  
Cultural Resources Manager

# Deliverables

- Context Narrative
- List of Places Eligible for Designation
- Oral Histories
- Community Meetings
- Recommendations/Future Study

# African American Historic Context Study

## Project Schedule

- Initial Community Meeting – September 27, 2023
- Research and Identify Themes – December 2023
- Second Community Meeting – Spring 2024
- Draft Historic Overview – June 2024
- Third Community Meeting – Fall/Winter 2024/2025
- Draft Historic Context Study – December 2024
- Final Historic Context Study – July 2025

# African American Historic Context Study

## For More Information

- Project Page: <https://frederickcountymd.gov/8582/Recovering-Identity-Project>
- Survey: [www.frederickcountymd.gov/RecoveringIdentitySurvey](http://www.frederickcountymd.gov/RecoveringIdentitySurvey)
- Historic Preservation Team: [historic@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:historic@frederickcountymd.gov) or 301-600-1138

# Contribute to the Survey!

**Recovering Identity Survey**

Recovering Identity is a project in Frederick County to create the first countywide African American Historic Context Statement and a complete Cultural Resource Survey of the County. Please share places associated with African American history and culture that are important to you and your community.

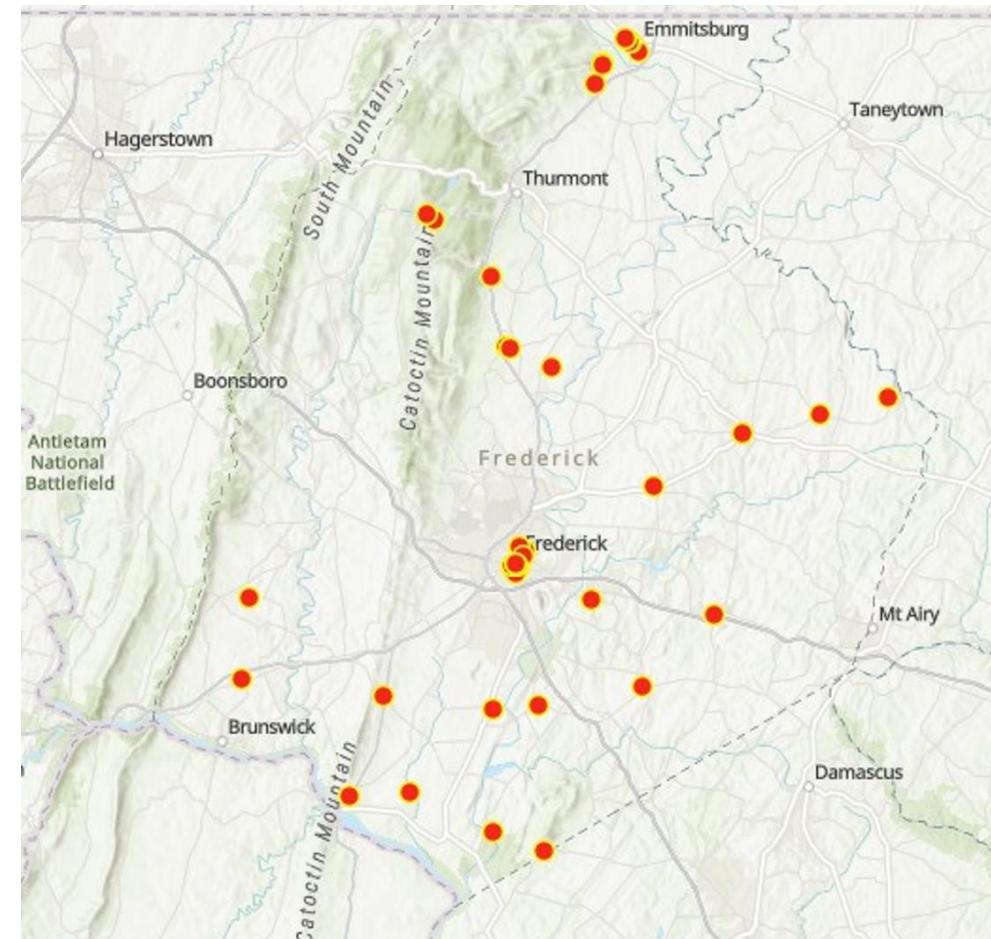
**Place Name\***

**Address\***

**Address**  
If there is no address number or the above prompt doesn't work, enter in the nearest street name above and briefly describe the location here

**Type\***  
What type of place is this?

**Description\***



Survey: [www.frederickcountymd.gov/RecoveringIdentitySurvey](http://www.frederickcountymd.gov/RecoveringIdentitySurvey)

# Questions?

