MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
SHORT FORM FOR INELIGIBLE PROPERTIES

Property Name: 4850 Washington Boulevard

Address: 4850 Washington Boulevard

City: Halethorpe Zip Code: 21227 County: Baltimore County

USGS Quadrangle(s): Baltimore West

Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 0369 Tax Map Number: 0108

Project: US1 over CSX Agency: MDOT/SHA

Agency Prepared By: MDOT/SHA

Preparer's Name: SHA Consultant Architectural Historian Rebecca Crew Date Prepared: 10/25/2016

Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: X Eligibility not recommended

Complete if the property is a non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:

Name of the District/Property:

Inventory Number: Eligible: yes Listed: yes

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

The building at 4850 Washington Boulevard, Halethorpe, Maryland (Baltimore County) is a single-story, flat-roofed, concrete-masonry automotive-related commercial structure. Built ca. 1935, it is a typical example of a ubiquitous commercial building type. The building faces southeast towards Washington Boulevard (US 1); Clarke Boulevard is located south of the property. The majority of the 0.2-acre parcel is paved.

The three-bay concrete-masonry structure has a brick veneer on the façade (southeast elevation). The façade's center and southwest bays have pull-down metal doors with vehicular-sized openings. A faded plastic sign hangs evenly-spaced above the vehicle bays.

The façade's northeast bay forms a storefront comprised of a half-glazed door flanked by two windows. A continuous ribbon of lights fills the transom level; two lights are above each side window and one light is above the door. Brick soldier courses serve as window sills and above the store-front opening as well as above the vehicle openings in the center and southwest bays.

The southwest elevation has two bricked in window openings. The brick sills still project from the wall.

The northeast elevation is partially obscured by fencing. The southeast end of the northeast elevation has a window similar in fenestration to those on the northeast part of the primary façade: two lights above a single larger light.

The former gas station building was constructed ca. 1935 as an automobile-related business. Several forces altered the landscape along Washington Boulevard in the 1930s. Washington Boulevard was known as a busy, but dangerous roadway leading between Baltimore and Washington, DC. The Maryland State Roads Commission (SRC) sought to make roads safe and built many new bridges to replace at-grade crossings of railroad tracks. The SRC built Bridge 030080 (MIHP BA-2781) carrying Washington Boulevard over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad (now CSX) in 1930 as part of the grade-elimination program. Meanwhile, the prohibition of alcoholic beverages ended in 1933 with the ratification of the 21st Amendment. The Maryland Distillery, just south

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended **Eligibility not recommended**

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

Reviewer, National Register Program **Date**

of the bridge over the Pennsylvania Railroad, was begun in 1935 and features a streamline factory aesthetic (MIHP BA-3268). The construction of a gas and service station in close proximity to a large place of employment shows the growing prominence of the automobile in twentieth century culture, as many workers chose to commute to work by personal automobile.

Gas stations and service stations became common purpose-built building types in the 1920s. With the economic conditions of the 1930s, the style became less decorative than those built in the preceding decade. The sparse and efficient design of 4850 Washington Boulevard reflects the changes in automobile-related buildings built in the 1930s.

The property at 4850 Washington Boulevard is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Research did not reveal associations with significant historic events or persons, and it is not eligible under Criteria A or B. The building is a typical, unadorned example of a ubiquitous building type. It is an unremarkable example, similar to many found throughout the country, and it is not eligible for listing under Criterion C. The property at 4850 Washington Boulevard was not evaluated under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

The surveyed boundary consists of Baltimore County Tax Map 108, Parcel 369 consisting of 0.2 acres.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ **Eligibility not recommended** _____

MHT Comments:

_____ _____

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

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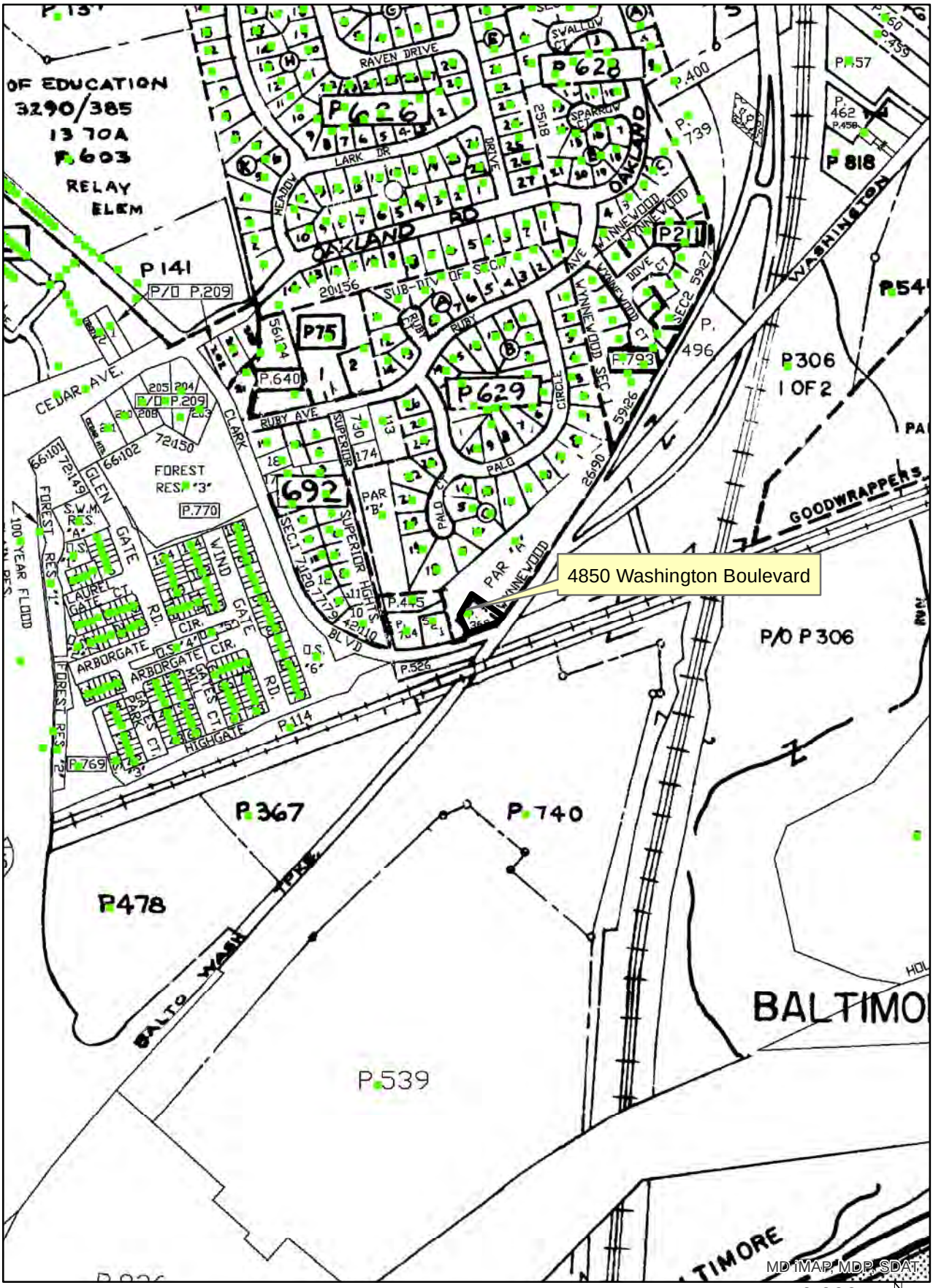
Reviewer, National Register Program **Date**



4850 Washington Boulevard
Halethorpe, MD 21227
Baltimore County, Relay Quad

1:12,000

N



4850 Washington Boulevard
Halethorpe, MD 21227
Baltimore County, Relay Quad

1:6,000



View facing north towards 4850 Washington Boulevard.



View facing northwest towards 4850 Washington Boulevard.



View facing west towards 4850 Washington Boulevard.



View facing northwest towards Washington Boulevard from 4850 Washington Boulevard.