

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic WILLY BEHLKE HOUSE

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 3900 Germantown Road ___ not for publication

city, town Whitemarsh Creek ^{Mayo} vicinity of congressional district

state MD county AA

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Helen E. Parris Map 60/parcel 183 (.50 acre)

street & number 3900 Germantown Rd. telephone no.:

city, town Edgewater, state and zip code MD. 21037

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. liber 3298

street & number folio 661

city, town state

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. AA-2076

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

A charming frame bungalow with jerkin-head roof and hipped dormers.

Weatherboard siding.

2/2 windows.

Mostly unaltered.

Situated on a bluff above the water at the mouth of Whitemarsh Creek.

Faces SE.

8. Significance

Survey No.

AA-2076

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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Willy Behlke, one of five brothers who grew up south of Germantown Road at the site of the present Rhode River Marina, built this house in 1915, according to his daughter Helen Parris, owner.

Background
information on
"Germantown" in Mayo:

Oral history 7/87

Bernice Witt Cummings' mother was a Behlke. Her mother's parents came from Germany and settled west of Carr's Wharf in 1888 on land purchased from Sam Carr. They had at least 6 children: Bernice's mother plus 5 sons (Albert, Fritz, Henry, John and Willy.)

Next door, to the east, there lived another German family, the Witts (Bernice's father's family) who settled there in the 1890's (per Helen Taylor Harris, owner of the orig. Witt family house).

This area, west of Carr's Wharf, became known as "Germantown". Bernice's 5 uncles stayed in the area when grown: Fritz married and lived in the ¹⁸⁸⁸ family house and operated a marine railway for hauling/repairing work boats (he didn't like pleasure ~~yachts~~ yachts! Today his waterfront property is site of the Rhode River Marina which caters to pleasure-boaters!) His son Ralph's 1937

(cont'd)

jerkin^{head}-roofed bungalow is ^{Behlke} marine property; the old, family house has been torn down. Ralph lives in a new brick rancher next door (to the west).

② Albert never married and lived at home in family house until his death in 1930.

③ Henry bought a small, ^{pre-1906} house at end of Germantown Rd (AA-2075) and enlarged it; he bought it sometime after 1906.

④ Willy married and built a jerkin-roofed bungalow in 1915 when his oldest child was 6 mos. His daughter Helen Parris lives there now. (AA-2076)

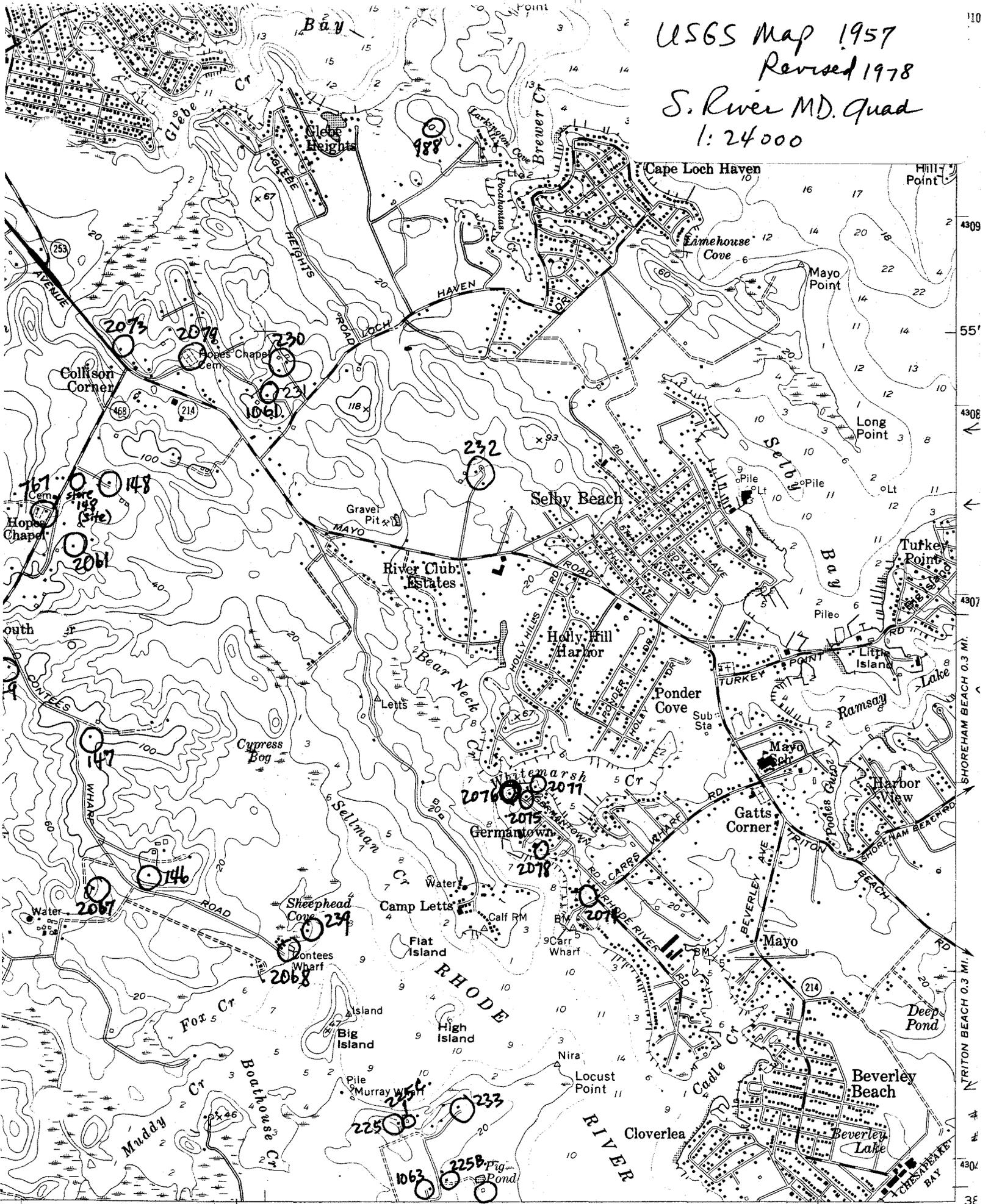
⑤ John built his house in 1915 too, per Ralph Behlke. It is a side-gabled 1-story with protruding cross-gable wings front and back, now quite substantially altered. (South of Willy's hse.)

The Behlke family gravestones are in St. Andrews Church cemetery, corner of Carrs Wharf Rd. and Mayo Rd.

[The above oral information comes from interviews with Bernice Witt Cummings, Ralph Behlke, and Helen Taylor Harris, owner of the Witt Hse. AA-2078.]

Notes by S. Wehrull 6/30/87

USGS Map 1957
 Revised 1978
 S. River MD. Quad
 1:24000



AA 2076 - Willy Behlke House
 658 H 1012

INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA-1978
 3690000E
 76° 30'

1 MILE

ROAD CLASSIFICATION



AA-2076

WILLY BEHLKE HOUSE

Germanstown, Mayo

G.A.Co. MD

J. Wetherill 6/87

Facade, SE elev.



AA-2076

WILLY BEHLKE HOUSE

German town, Mayo

A.A.Co. MD

S. Wetherill 6/87

E. corner



AA-2076

WILLY BEHLKE HOUSE

germantown, Mayo

Q.A.Co. MD

S. Wetherill 6/87

W. corner