

CAPSULE SUMMARY

Nelson Cottage
1341 Douglass Avenue
Highland Beach, Maryland

c. 1903

Private Residence

The Nelson Cottage is one of the set of original houses in the historically black town of Highland Beach. The house has been substantially altered and it is difficult to appreciate the original architectural elements from the present exterior. However, the cottage is an example of architectural space planning and design in an extant African-American community.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Nelson Cottage
 AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 1341 Douglass Ave.
 CITY, TOWN Highland Beach VICINITY OF Annapolis I CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
 STATE Maryland COUNTY Anne Arundel

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Jack Nelson ET AL Telephone #:
 STREET & NUMBER 1511 Q ST NW
 CITY, TOWN Washington, DC VICINITY OF STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE. 2/411/08678600 Liber #: 2934
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. RI 57 15 0012 Folio #: 695
 STREET & NUMBER Anne Arundel Courthouse
 CITY, TOWN Annapolis, Maryland STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
 DATE
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
 CITY, TOWN STATE

_FEDERAL _STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

1341 Douglass

This cottage was originally a two bay colonial with gabled roof. It was constructed with a pier foundation and an open porch. The finishing details on the house currently detract from the architectural relevance of the original facade.

Highland Beach, Maryland is located approximately ten miles south of Annapolis on the Chesapeake Bay. The Nelson Cottage is located in a block that is bounded by Douglass Avenue on the north, Wilders/Wayman Avenue on the east, the Corporate Limits of Highland Beach on the south, and Walnut Avenue on the west. The lot has been cleared although topography of the area is dense and wooded generally.

The Nelson Cottage has an enclosed porch that encircles three views of the house. The modernized exterior is finished with shingle siding. The fine bay northern view exhibits a porch which has hexagonal arches on the walls. The second storey windows are double hung with multiple lights over a single pane. The trim on the fenestration matches the entrance doorway to the cottage.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1000-1499	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1903 BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

see "Highland Black Settlement"

Highland Beach, Maryland is a historic black town that was founded by the son of Frederick Douglass. The town was conceived by Haley R. Douglass in the late nineteenth century to be a resort community for prominent blacks. Highland Beach is a unique existing reminder of town planning and architectural history as it relates to vernacular and high style design as exhibited by black people. Most of the architecture in Highland Beach is located on the original sites and building expansions were performed within a ten to fifteen year time fram. This provides us with a concise history of design, space planning, and architecture in a homogeneous, extant community.

All of the cottages that were constructed prior to 1930 are important elements related to town planning and design. It is important that these houses retain their originality in terms of plan design, lot orientation, interior decoration, and architectural aesthetics in order to preserve to concept of space and the dynamics of community development in this historic black town.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

see "Highland Beach Settlement"

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot 2 Blk 12 Highland Beach

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Barbara Collins Turner

April 1982

ORGANIZATION

Morgan State University

DATE

301-444-3225

STREET & NUMBER

Center for Built Environment Studies

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore, MD

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

GW 16 426
2/19/00 (1900)

Charles R. Douglass

To

2934 695
12/9/76

William F. Nelson (Wife Annie C. Nelson)

To

3450 538
2934 695

Jack Nelson



AA 830 Nelson House
1341 Douglass Avenue
Highland Beach, Maryland
General View
Fern Eisner, Photographer
March 1982