

Name/Address: House, 7817 Bellona Avenue
Construction Date: 1923
Town/Vicinity: Ruxton
County: Baltimore County
Access: Private

Summary Description:

The house at 7817 Bellona Avenue is one of a handful of modest early- and mid-twentieth-century houses in the Ruxton community. Tax records place its date of initial construction as 1923. Passenger train service, which served the area between 1883 and 1959, enabled the area's development into one of Baltimore's northern suburbs. The is a frame, one-and-one-half-story bungalow on a solid rusticated concrete block foundation. The windows are paired 1/1 metal replacement sashes. The house is sided in shingles and has an asphalt shingle roof. A single-leaf entry door sheltered by an integral porch with brick piers and battered wood posts. A frame, hip-roofed garage is located southeast of the house. Though the address is Bellona, the driveway is located on Maywood.

Statement of Significance:

This house dates to the 1920s, a time at which Ruxton Heights was established and developing as a Baltimore suburb. The architecture of Ruxton Heights, the area east of Bellona Avenue and bracketed by the former Ruxton and Riderwood stations, reflects its period of development. It is a cohesive and homogenous community developed between 1883 - 1950s. This house is not associated with people or events significant in local, state, or national history, and it is a well-preserved but typical example of an architectural type or period, therefore it does not appear individually eligible for listing in the National Register. Though this house does not appear individually eligible for listing in the National Register, the Ruxton Heights area should be more thoroughly surveyed to determine its potential as a National Register Historic District.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. BA-2893

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic House, 7817 Bellona Avenue

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 7817 Bellona Avenue

not for publication

city, town Ruxton (Baltimore)

vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland

county Baltimore

3. Classification

Category

- district
 building(s)
 structure
 site
 object

Ownership

- public
 private
 both

Public Acquisition

- in process
 being considered
 not applicable

Status

- occupied
 unoccupied
 work in progress

Accessible

- yes: restricted
 yes: unrestricted
 no

Present Use

- agriculture
 commercial
 educational
 entertainment
 government
 industrial
 military

- museum
 park
 private residence
 religious
 scientific
 transportation
 other:

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

name Taylor and Maureen Cook

street & number 7817 Bellona Avenue

telephone no.:

city, town Baltimore

State and zip code MD 21204-3633

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Maryland Department of Real Estate and Taxation

liber 8128

street & number accessed online at <[http:// www.DAT.state.md.us](http://www.DAT.state.md.us)>

folio 350

city, town

state

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Cultural Resources Investigations for Proposed Construction of Double Track, North Half, Central Light Rail, Baltimore & Baltimore Co., MD

date 1999

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

federal state county local

city, town Crownsville

state MD

7. Description

Survey No. BA-2893

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.

Summary

The house at 7817 Bellona Avenue is one of a handful of modest early- and mid-twentieth-century houses in the Ruxton community. Tax records place its date of initial construction as 1923. Passenger train service, which served the area between 1883 and 1959, enabled the area's development into one of Baltimore's northern suburbs.

General Description

The house at 7817 Bellona Avenue is a frame, one-and-one-half-story bungalow on a solid rusticated concrete block foundation. The windows are paired 1/1 metal replacement sashes. The house is sided in shingles and has an asphalt shingle roof. A single-leaf entry door sheltered by an integral porch with brick piers and battered wood posts. A frame, hip-roofed garage is located southeast of the house. Though the address is Bellona, the driveway is located on Maywood.

8. Significance

Survey No. BA-2893

Period

- prehistoric
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1999
- 1700-1799
- 1800-1899
- 1900-

Areas of Significance-

- archeology-prehistoric
- archeology-historic
- agriculture
- architecture
- art
- commerce
- communications

Check and justify below

- community planning
- conservation
- economics
- education
- engineering
- exploration/settlement
- industry
- invention
- landscape architecture
- law
- literature
- military
- music
- philosophy
- politics/government

Specific dates: ca. 1923

Builder/Architect: unknown

- check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
- and/or
- Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G
- Level of Significance: national state local

Statement of Significance

This house dates to the 1920s a time at which Ruxton Heights was established and developing as a Baltimore suburb. The architecture of Ruxton Heights, the area east of Bellona Avenue and bracketed by the former Ruxton and Riderwood stations, reflects its period of development. It is a cohesive and homogenous community developed between 1883 - 1950s. This house is not associated with people or events significant in local, state, or national history, and it is a well-preserved but typical example of an architectural type or period, therefore it does not appear individually eligible for listing in the National Register. Though this house does not appear individually eligible for listing in the National Register, the Ruxton Heights area should be more thoroughly surveyed to determine its potential as a National Register Historic District.

History

This house appears to date to the 1920s, a time at which Ruxton Heights was established and continually developing as a Baltimore suburb. The Ruxton and Riderwood passenger stations of the Northern Central Railway (NCR) and later Pennsylvania Railroad are located directly south and north of this part of Ruxton Heights. The railroad provided area residents with efficient transportation to downtown Baltimore. A rail stop had been located at Riderwood, or Sherwood, since the mid-nineteenth century, at which time the railroad provided excursion trains for Baltimoreans to enjoy a day in the country. The first Ruxton station was built between 1883-1886, followed by a substantial stone station at Ruxton in 1892 (now demolished). The present Riderwood Station (BA-2141) was built ca. 1903.

Developers William and Charles Fisher purchased farmland between Lutherville and Lake Roland in 1884, relying on regular railroad service to bring settlers to their suburban subdivision. By 1887, Ruxton was reportedly in the process of being planned, surveyed, and built. In the Fisher development more than 200 lots were sold for prices ranging from \$200 to \$500 dollars. The 1892 Ruxton passenger station was built as a centerpiece to the actively-developing Ruxton community. Ruxton Heights, east of the railroad tracks, soon followed Ruxton in suburban development.

Passenger service continued along the NCR and Pennsylvania line until 1959, after which the Ruxton Station was demolished. Ruxton remains a thriving suburb, though commuters use I-83 rather than the rail line. Light rail service was established in 1992 on the railroad alignment; however, there are no stations in the Riderwood/Ruxton areas.

8. Significance (Continuation)

Survey No. BA-2893

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D

Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None

Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, NR Program

Date

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. BA-2893

Bromley, G.W. & Company

1898 *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.* G.W. Bromley & Co., Philadelphia. Copy on File, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, MD.

1915 *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.* G.W. Bromley & Co., Philadelphia. Copy on File, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, MD.

Gunnarsson, Robert L.

1991 *The Story of the Northern Central Railway.* Greenberg Publishing Company, Sykesville, Maryland.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property: 11,845 sq. ft.

Quadrangle name Cockeysville 7.5'

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM Reference do NOT complete UTM references

zone easting northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

Boundaries correspond to the legal parcel associated with the building. Map 69, Grid 10, Parcel 829, Lots 60 and 61.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kerri Culhane/Project Architectural Historian

organization John Milner Associates, Inc.

date 10/1999

street & number 5250 Cherokee Avenue, Suite 410

telephone 703/354-9737

city or town Alexandria

state Virginia

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
DHCP/DHCD
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032

**PRESERVATION VISION 2000; THE MARYLAND PLAN
STATEWIDE HISTORIC CONTEXTS**

I. Geographic Region:

- Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
- Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
- Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
- Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
- Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
- Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
- Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
- Unknown Period (prehistoric; historic)

III. Historic Period Themes:

- Agriculture
- Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
- Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
- Government/Law
- Military
- Religion
- Social/Educational/Cultural
- Transportation

IV. Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Suburban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Known Design Source: none

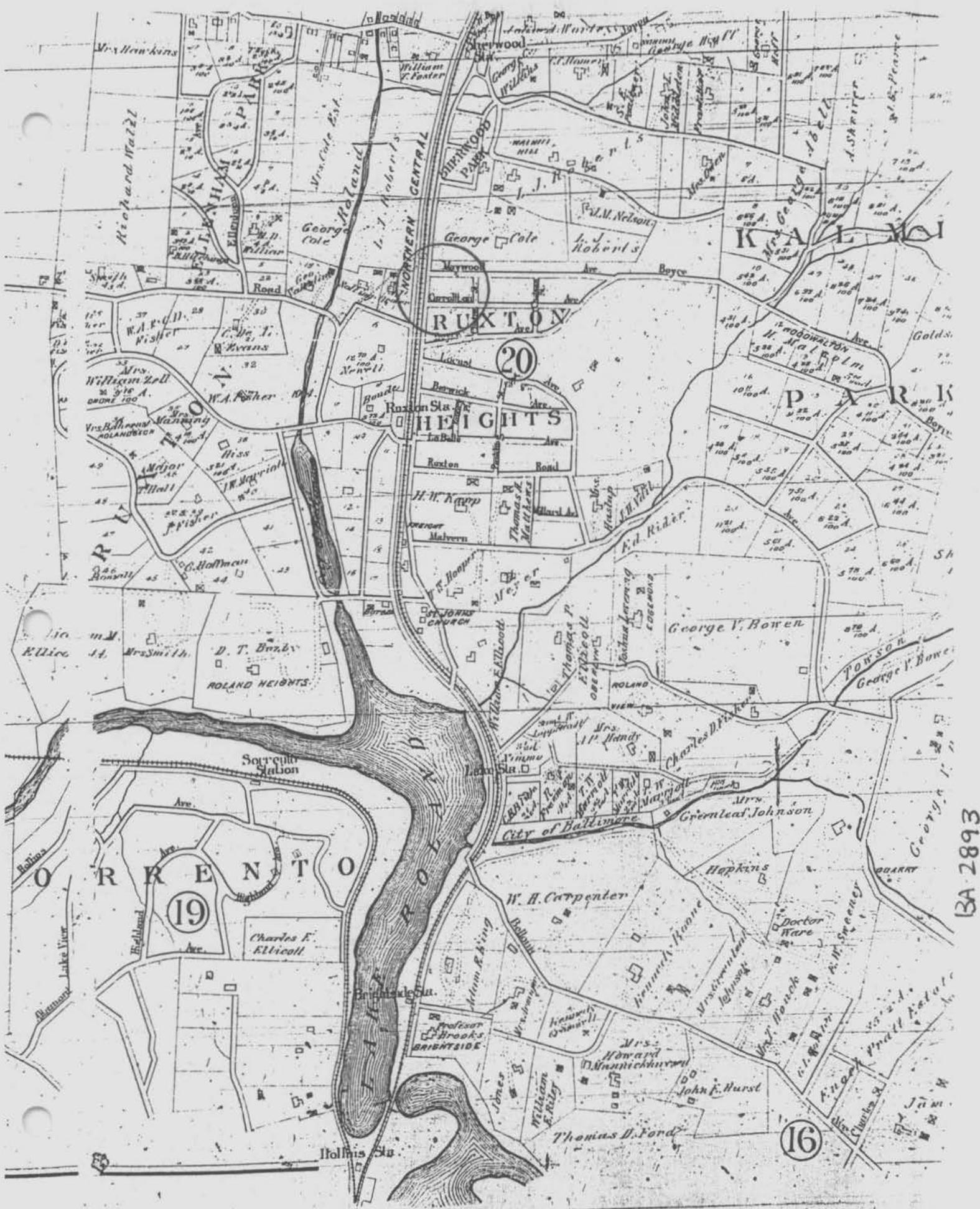


scale: vertical 1"=50'
horizontal 1"=10'

BA-2887

BA-2893

BA-2893

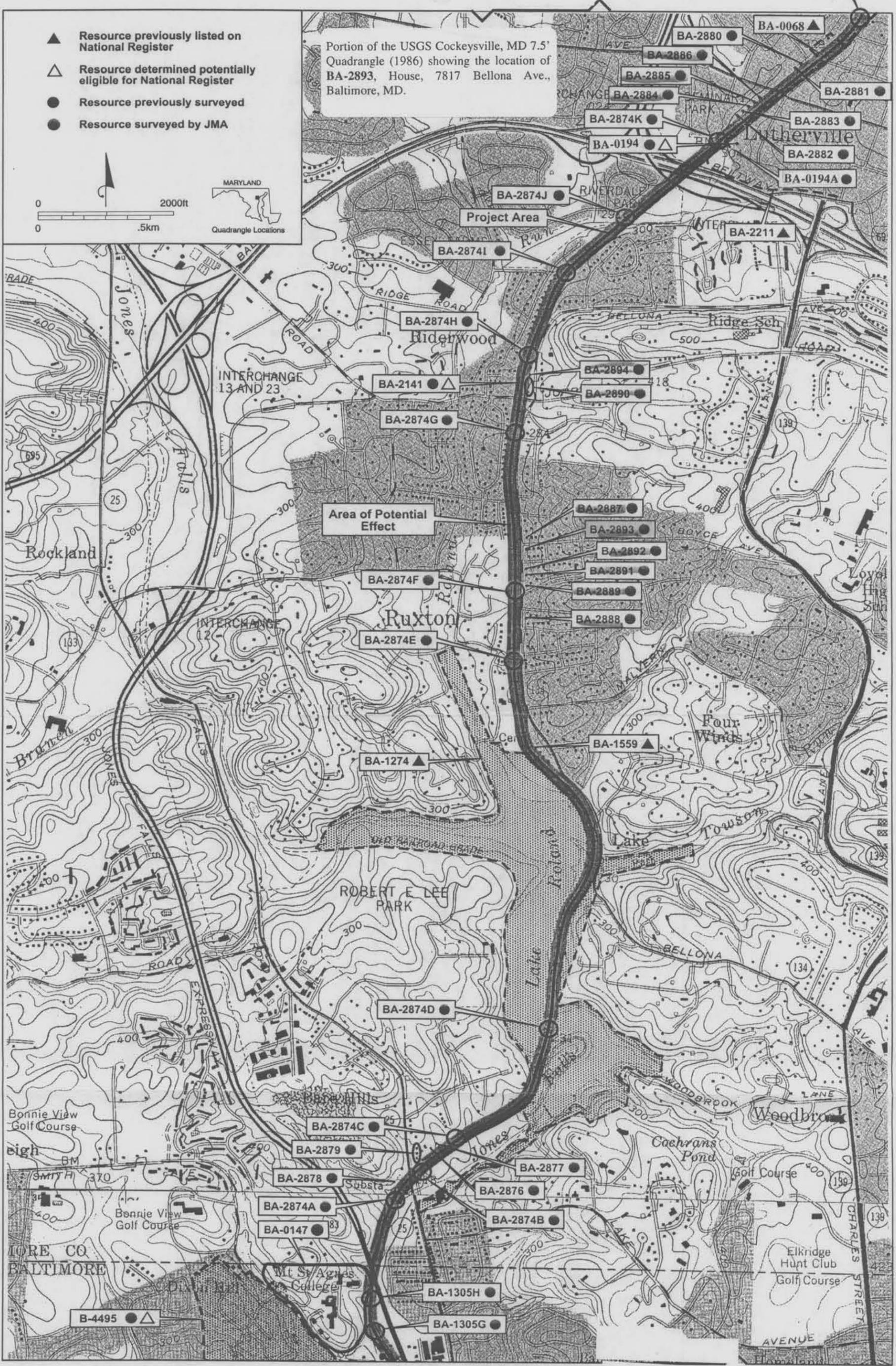
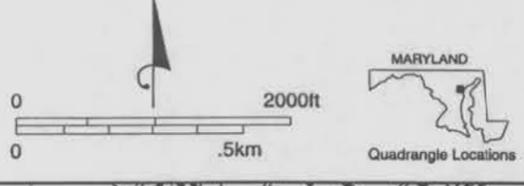


BA 2893

BA-2874L

- ▲ Resource previously listed on National Register
- △ Resource determined potentially eligible for National Register
- Resource previously surveyed
- Resource surveyed by JMA

Portion of the USGS Cockeysville, MD 7.5' Quadrangle (1986) showing the location of BA-2893, House, 7817 Bellona Ave., Baltimore, MD.



BA-2893



BA-2893

HOUSE, 7817 Bellona Ave.

Baltimore Co., MD

K-CULHANE

8/1999

MDSHPD

3/4 view of facade (w) and north elevation.
view to south east



BA-2893

HOUSE, 7817 BELLONA AVE.
BALTIMORE CO., MD

K. CULHANE

8/1999

MDSHPD

N elevation. view to South.



BA -2893

HOUSE, 7817 BELLONA AVE.
BALTIMORE CO., MD

K. CULLANE

8/1999

MD SHPO

Garage, located southeast of main house. view to
south