

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Property Name: State Highway Administration Inventory Number: H-0059 CH-633

Address: Washington Avenue, Charles County - in the vicinity of La Plata

Owner: State Highway Administration, Maryland Department of Transportation

Tax Parcel Number: 5 Tax Map Number: 33

Project MD 301 Agency State Highway Administration (SHA)

Site visit by SHA Staff:  no  yes Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility recommended  Eligibility **not** recommended

Criteria  A  B  C  D Considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  None

Is property located within a historic district?:  no  yes Name of District: \_\_\_\_\_

Is district listed?:  no  yes

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project Review and Compliance Files

**Description of Property and Eligibility Determination** *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The State Highway Administration building is a one-story, front-gable, utilitarian designed building. Constructed with rock-faced concrete blocks, a large main entrance with a garage door faces Washington Avenue. The window and door openings of the building have simple lintels and the building is in good condition.

Towards the end of the first quarter of the 20th century, road improvements and developments contributed to the suburbanization of Charles County. In particular, the Robert Crain Highway, later expanded as part of U.S. 301, attracted new development to older communities along its corridor. Crain Highway brought commercial development on La Plata's west side and contributed to the Charles County seat's overall growth in the 1920s and 1930s. The State Highway Administration played an indisputable role in the County's development and the improvements of the road system throughout southern Maryland.

World War II and the increasing dependence upon motor vehicles played a very important role in La Plata's community development. Charles County continued its relative isolation from large-scale residential and commercial

Prepared by EHT Tracerics, Inc.

<b>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW</b>	
Eligibility recommended <input type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Consideration <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
<u>RE-SIGNED REVISED FORM 4/19/2000 OHS</u>	
<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>10/28/99</u>
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	Date
<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>10/28/99</u>
Reviewer, NR Program	Date

*2004*

development until after Crain Highway was dualized and designated U.S. 301 in the 1960s. Earlier trends in travel-related services and entertainment along the Crain Highway grew somewhat when the highway was extended across the Potomac River to Virginia through southern Charles County and over the new Harry W. Nice Bridge in 1940, thus completing a route from New York to Florida.

Built c. 1930, the building is not eligible for the National Register. The resource lacks significance related to events, persons, or architecture. Criterion D, information potential, was not assessed for this study.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Property Name: State Highway Administration Inventory Number H-0059 CH-633

Address: Washington Avenue, Charles County - in the vicinity of La Plata

Owner: ~~Underwood, Francis W. & Dorothy J.~~ State Roads Commission SHA, Maryland DOT

Tax Parcel Number: 5 Tax Map Number: 33

Project MD 301 Agency State Highway Administration (SHA)

Site visit by SHA Staff:  no  yes Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility recommended  Eligibility **not** recommended

Criteria  A  B  C  D Considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  None

Is property located within a historic district?  no  yes Name of District: \_\_\_\_\_

Is district listed?:  no  yes

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project Review and Compliance Files

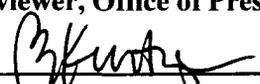
**Description of Property and Eligibility Determination** *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The State Highway Administration building is a one-story, front-gable, utilitarian designed building. Constructed with rock-faced concrete blocks, a large main entrance with a garage door faces Washington Avenue. The window and door openings of the building have simple lintels and the building is in good condition.

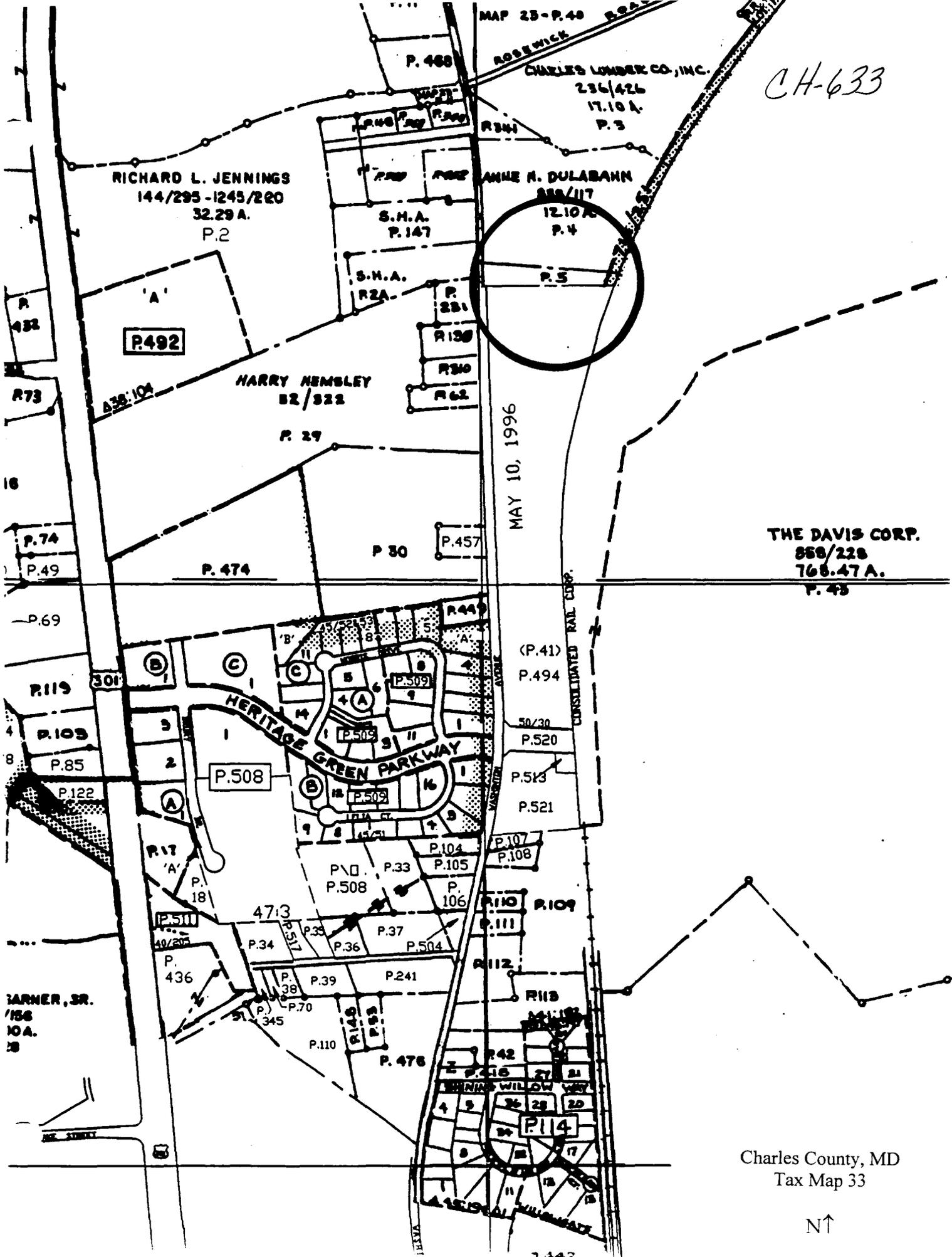
Towards the end of the first quarter of the 20th century, road improvements and developments contributed to the suburbanization of Charles County. In particular, the Robert Crain Highway, later expanded as part of U.S. 301, attracted new development to older communities along its corridor. Crain Highway brought commercial development on La Plata's west side and contributed to the Charles County seat's overall growth in the 1920s and 1930s. The State Highway Administration played an indisputable role in the County's development and the improvements of the road system throughout southern Maryland.

World War II and the increasing dependence upon motor vehicles played a very important role in La Plata's community development. Charles County continued its relative isolation from large-scale residential and commercial

Prepared by EHT Tracerics, Inc.

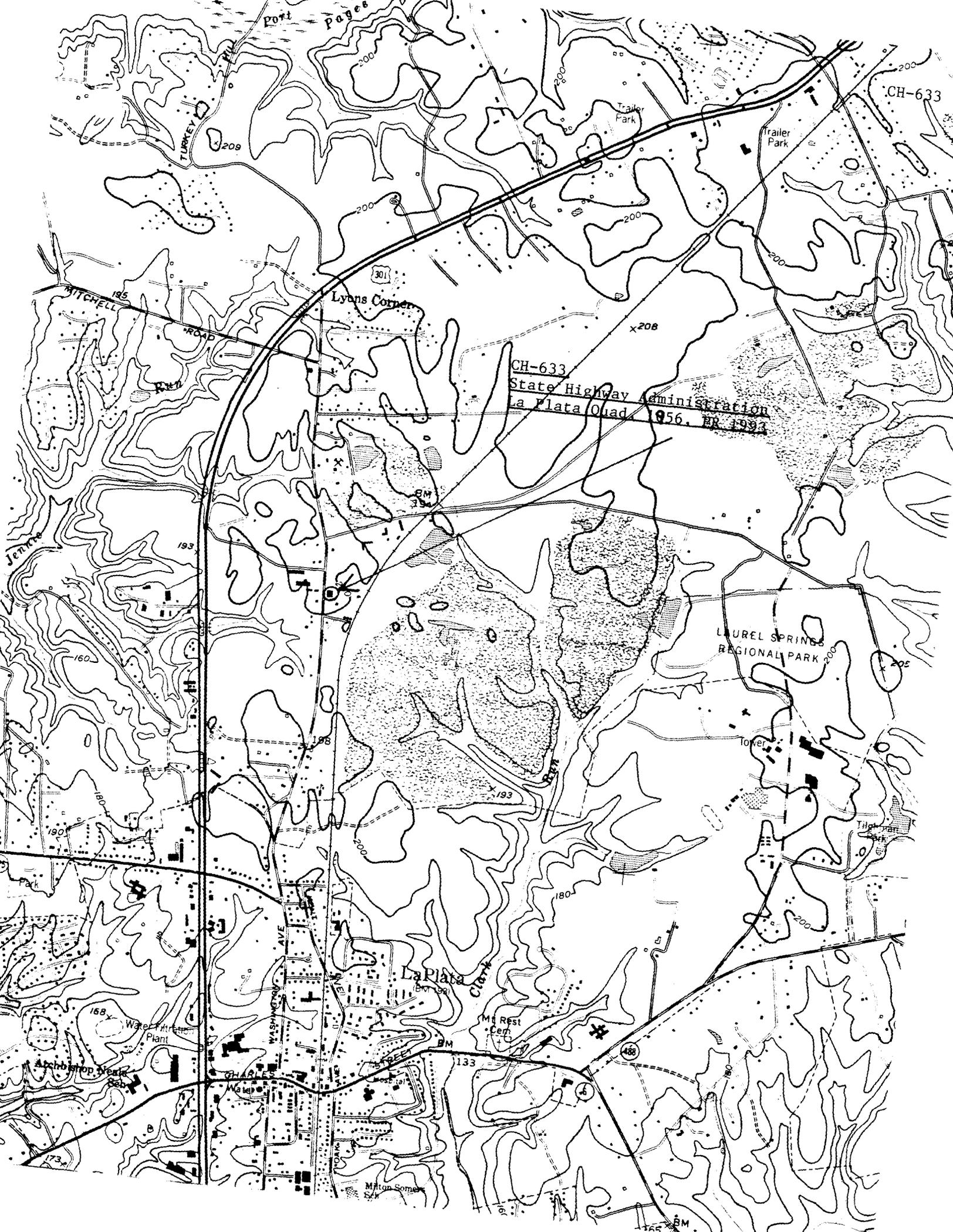
<b>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW</b>	
<b>Eligibility recommended</b> Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	<b>Eligibility not recommended</b> Consideration <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
 _____ Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>10/28/99</u> _____ Date
 _____ Reviewer, NR Program	<u>10/28/99</u> _____ Date

CH-633



Charles County, MD  
Tax Map 33





CH-633

CH-633  
State Highway Administration  
La Plata Quad 1956. PR 1993

LAUREL SPRINGS  
REGIONAL PARK

La Plata

Port Pages

Lyons Corner

MITCHELL ROAD

ROAD

Jennings

WASHINGTON AVE

Clark

Tower

Water Treatment Plant

Abrahamson Park

M. Rest Cem

Milton Somers

Highway Park

BM



CH-633

**CH-633**

H-0059

State Highway Administration, Washington Avenue  
Charles County, MD

Traceries

July 1999

MD SHPD

View looking east

1 of 1