MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

Property Name: Army Map Service Historic District; National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA) Inventory Number: Dalecarlia Site M:35-133 Sumner Site M:35-134

Address: Dalecarlia Site: 6005 MacArthur Blvd Sumner Site: 4600 Sangamore Rd City: Bethesda Zip Code: 20816-5003

County: Montgomery USGS Topographic Map: Washington DC West, DC-MD-VA (1983)

Owner: Dalecarlia: Washington Aqueduct, US Army Corp of Engrs, Washington, DC; Sumner US Army Garrison Cmdr, Fort Myer, VA Is the property being evaluated a district? X yes

Tax Parcel Number: N/A Tax Map Number: _____ Tax Account ID Number: _____

Project: None – Section 110 identification Agency: National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA)

Site visit by MHT Staff: X no ___yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Is the property located within a historic district? ____yes ____no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: _____

NR-listed district ____yes Eligible district ____yes District Name: _____

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ___yes ___no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ____

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ____yes ____no

Criteria: X A ____ B X C ____ D Considerations: ____A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G X None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: *Cultural Resources Survey of National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency-Bethesda, Montgomery Co, MD, Feb 2004*

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

The proposed AMS Historic District includes resources on two discontiguous parcels, the Dalecarlia Site and the Sumner Site. The Dalecarlia Site buildings and land are owned by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Washington Aqueduct (WA). The Sumner Site buildings and land are owned by US Army Garrison Fort Myer. The district, which encompasses approximately 16.5 acres (ac) (6.7 hectares [ha]) of the Dalecarlia Site, straddles the east and west sides of MacArthur Boulevard. The eastern parcel consists of two main buildings and an outbuilding built before or during World War II, and is flanked to the north, south, and east by the Dalecarlia Reservoir and to the west by MacArthur Boulevard. The western parcel consists of one World War II-era building and multiple outbuildings, and is flanked to the north and east by MacArthur Boulevard, to the south by WA buildings, and to the west by the former Baltimore & Ohio (B&O) Railroad right-of-way, which has been converted into a footpath. The Sumner Site, located 0.5 miles (mi) (0.8 kilometers [km]) northwest of the Dalecarlia Site, is connected to the Dalecarlia Site via MacArthur Boulevard and Sangamore Road. The district piece of the site encompasses approximately 4.2 ac (1.7 ha). The entire Sumner site is bounded to the north by Montgomery County property housing a private school, to the south by the Brookmont residential neighborhood, to the east by Sangamore Road, and to the west by steeply sloped land and MacArthur Boulevard.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended X **Eligibility not recommended** _____

Criteria: X **A** ___ **B** ___ **C** ___ **D** **Considerations:** ___**A** ___**B** ___**C** ___**D** ___**E** ___**F** ___**G** ___**None**

Comments: _____

Andrew Lewis — 11/19/04
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

Peter E. Gantz — 11/22/04
Reviewer, NR Program **Date**

2004016311

The AMS Historic District possesses historic significance at the national level because it is related to the history of military involvement in World War II, which had significant impacts on affairs of the nation (National Register Criterions A and C). The period of significance of the district spans from the establishment of AMS at the Dalecarlia Site in 1942 to the post-World War II years concluding in 1951. The district consists of four contributing buildings and one contributing structure at the Dalecarlia Site (Ruth, Warren and Fremont buildings, Film Vault and Flagpole), and one contributing building and one contributing structure at the Sumner Site (Erskine Hall and Flagpole/Globe Memorial). Seven non-contributing buildings are located at the Dalecarlia Site and two non-contributing building is located at the Sumner Site. There are no significant interior spaces, as renovations have greatly altered the original design.

Description of the Physical Features of the Contributing Resources

Ruth Building, Dalecarlia Site (1942): The Ruth Building is a large, rectangular-plan building that was constructed as the primary building at AMS during World War II. It was designed by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) as a bomb-proof, blackout-type structure with windowless steel façades, was punctuated by a main Deco-style entry on the west façade and loading dock on the north façade. The two-story, 155,200- sq ft (14,418-sq m), rectangular-plan building, known as the Reproduction Plant (Bldg No. 1), was supported by regularly spaced cement columns that would protect the structural integrity of the building in the event of an indirect bomb attack. Extensive interior renovations have converted this building into office space. Significant exterior renovations include construction of a steel addition along the east façade, application of drivet sheath, blocking of windows, and altered entrances.

Warren Building, Dalecarlia Site (<1941): The Warren Building is believed to have been constructed by the WA prior to 1941. With the transfer of the Dalecarlia Site to AMS in the early 1940s, the Warren Building was used as a warehouse to store crucial supplies for the agency. After World War II, this plain, rectangular-plan, brick building became the primary area where relief maps were produced. Interior modifications converted the use of this building into general office space. Exterior modifications include brick and wood-sided additions to the north façade.

Fremont Building, Dalecarlia Site (1943; 1945): The largest building constructed on the west side of MacArthur Boulevard during the war was Bldg No. 6, the Dalecarlia Distribution Depot, renamed the Fremont Building. The 48,400-sq ft (4,496-sq m) building was designed by the USACE in 1943 to provide a space exclusively devoted to maintenance and shipping. The depot was ten bays long and four bays wide, pierced by industrial steel sash windows. Each bay was separated by concrete panels, lending a grid-like appearance to the façades. A loading dock was located across the rear or west façade, and a railroad siding was built along the dock, extending from the B&O Railroad, which traversed the western edge of the AMS property. Soon after completion of the building, it was deemed inadequate in size to store the increasing number of maps being produced for the war effort. As a result, plans were prepared in mid-1945 to add two stories to the building, totaling 36,408 sq ft (3,382 sq m). Completed that same year, the addition was stylistically similar to the existing building. While the fourth floor maintained the brick-and-concrete grid pattern established on the first three floors, the fifth floor consisted of a plain brick façade pierced by industrial sash windows. Exterior renovations include the modification of the main entrance, addition of an elevator, and closure of the railroad siding and tracks. Significant interior renovations have converted this warehouse to administrative office space.

Film Vault, Dalecarlia Site (1943): The Film Vault was most likely designed by the USACE and was constructed to store film in a cool environment. During World War II and afterward, this earth-covered building stored crucial cartographic material used in the map-making process and was located near the Ruth Building to facilitate easy film retrieval. In recent times, the building has been used for general storage.

Flagpole, Dalecarlia Site (1940s): The flagpole at the Dalecarlia Site is located west of the Ruth Building. The pole has a decorative base embellished with a Greek fret and vegetative ornament, and sits upon a landscaped circle.

Erksine Hall, Sumner Site (1945): Designed by the US Engineers Office, the building was completed in 1946 and was a 15-bay-long, 11-bay-wide, 328,000-sq ft (30,471-sq m) five-story brick building pierced by multi-pane windows accented by limestone sills. Decorative features included door canopies and concrete entry blocks embellished with an ornamental pattern. Original USACE plans indicate that an exterior stairway was constructed from the west façade of the building, extending down a steep slope to the Cabin John streetcar line located west of MacArthur Boulevard. Provision of these steps, which are now abandoned, indicates that many employees used the trolley to commute to work. The building functioned as headquarters of AMS, US Army Topographic Command, and Defense Mapping Agency Hydrographic/Topographic Command after World War II. It continues to play a major administrative role as the headquarters of NGA. Exterior renovations include changing main entrances, alterations to the current entrance, addition of a walk-way to the adjacent building, and blocking windows.

Flagpole Installation, Sumner Site (ca. 1945): The flagpole installation at the Sumner Site supports three flags on a triangular-shaped concrete base. Landscaping surrounds the flagpoles, which are set within a semi-circular grass panel. The flagpole,

located directly east of Erskine Hall, was constructed to emphasize the important role that AMS played as the primary mapping agency for the US Army. The globe memorial, installed adjacent to the flagpole in 1969, is considered part of the contributing flagpole installation.

Non-Contributing Resources (9)

Dalecarlia Site

- Destructor Building (Bldg No. 5);
- Motor Pool (Bldg T-4);
- Facilities Engineering Equipment Storage (1980s);
- Guard House near Ruth Building (1980s);
- Guard House near Fremont Building (1970s);
- Guard House in Fremont Building parking lot; and
- Maintenance Equipment Shed next to the Fremont Building.

Sumner Site

- Guard Houses (2) near Flagpole/Globe Memorial (1998).

At the Dalecarlia Site, the Destructor Building and the Motor Pool do not contribute to the AMS Historic District because they do not convey the historic feeling and association of World War II-era buildings. The storage buildings and five modern guardhouses (including two at the Sumner Site) do not contribute to the district because they are less than 50 years old and are not exceptionally significant.

At both the Dalecarlia and Sumner Sites, contemporary features such as security turnstiles, vehicle inspection tents, detached cooling towers, outbuildings and trailers, chain-link fence lines, bus-stop shelters, the Fremont Building parking lot, and public roads, such as MacArthur Boulevard at the Dalecarlia Site, do not contribute to the significance of the historic district because they are unrelated to the World War II historic context.

Prepared by: Barbara Horton Date Prepared: 2 February 2004

Army Map Service (AMS) Historic District
Inventory Nos. 35-133; 35-134
Bethesda, Montgomery County, Maryland
1942-51
Restricted Public Access

The proposed district includes resources on two discontiguous parcels, the Dalecarlia Site and the Sumner Site. The Dalecarlia Site buildings and land are owned by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Washington Aqueduct (WA). The Sumner Site buildings and land are owned by US Army Garrison Fort Myer. The district, which encompasses approximately 16.5 acres (ac) (6.7 hectares [ha]) of the Dalecarlia Site, straddles the east and west sides of MacArthur Boulevard. The site includes 5 contributing and 7 non-contributing resources. The Sumner Site, located 0.5 miles (mi) (0.8 kilometers [km]) northwest of the Dalecarlia Site, is connected to the Dalecarlia Site via MacArthur Boulevard and Sangamore Road. The district piece of the site encompasses approximately 4.2 ac (1.7 ha), with 2 contributing and 2 non-contributing resources. The district topography varies from level terraces with gentle slopes to very steep slopes that have been modified through landscaping to broad level areas that were likely more undulating in the past. Analysis of topographical maps of the area from the 19th and 20th centuries shows that only a few remnants of the original topography are still present; the current topography is generally a product of significant landscape modifications over the past 50 years.

During World War II, the newly organized AMS developed the Dalecarlia Site on property originally associated with the WA. Between 1941 and 1943, AMS constructed six permanent buildings or structures: the Ruth Building (1942), Fremont Building (1943), Film Vault (1943), Pump House (1943), Destructor Building (1943) and the Flagpole (1942-43), and four temporary buildings: the Motor Pool (1942), Oil Storage House (1942-43), and two warehouses (1942-43).

M: 35-133
M: 35-134

With the exception of the temporary Oil Storage House and the warehouses, all of the buildings survive at the site.

Throughout the course of the war, the Dalecarlia Site functioned as the headquarters of AMS, which was responsible for producing, storing, and supplying the US Army with maps for theater operations around the world. Branch offices were established throughout the US to assist AMS in its efforts. During the height of the war, the Ruth Building housed the map production center and the primary map repository for the US armed forces. The brick Fremont Building functioned as a storage warehouse and distribution depot, from which maps and related products would be shipped, via the B&O Railroad siding, to ports of embarkation. The Warren Building and other minor buildings played a supplementary role in AMS operations, assisting the service in meeting its mission of supplying maps to troops stationed around the world. By the end of the war, AMS secured funding to establish the Sumner Site, and built Erskine Hall and the semi-circular lawn with flagpole as the new headquarters in the post-World War II-era. The construction of Erskine Hall enabled the growing agency to use the additional space for administrative, technical map-making, and library functions, while the buildings at the Dalecarlia Site were dedicated to production and storage.

In general, the Ruth, Fremont, and Warren Buildings at the Dalecarlia Site and Erskine Hall and the lunette-shaped lawn with flagpole at the Sumner Site represent the World War II context through Criterion A for the role they played as AMS headquarters, charged with map production, map collecting, and maintenance of the primary map repository for US armed forces during the war. They also represent the World War II context through Criterion C because they represent a significant, distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction, but possess significance when viewed together.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory Nos.
Dalecarlia Site M:35-133
Sumner Site M:35-134

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Army Map Service Historic District (preferred district name); Defense Mapping Agency Hydrographic/Topographic Center

other National Imagery & Mapping Agency (NIMA)-Bethesda; National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA)-Bethesda (pref)

2. Location

street and number 6005 MacArthur Blvd; 4600 Sangamore Road — X not for publication

city, town Bethesda, MD 20816-5003 — __ vicinity

county Montgomery County

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

name Dalecarlia Site: Washington Aqueduct Sumner Site: US Army Garrison Fort Myer

street and number 5900 MacArthur Blvd; 204 Lee Ave — telephone 202-764-0031; 703-696-3250

city, town Washington; Fort Myer — state DC; VA — zip code 20016; 22554

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. N/A — liber — folio

city, town — tax map — tax parcel — tax ID number

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

_____ Contributing Resource in National Register District
_____ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
_____ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
_____ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
_____ Recorded by HABS/HAER
_____ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
X Other: *Cultural Resources Survey of National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency-Bethesda, Montgomery Co, MD, Feb 2004*

6. Classification

Category
X district
_____ building(s)
_____ structure
_____ site
_____ object

Ownership
X public
_____ private
_____ both

Current Function
_____ agriculture
_____ commerce/trade
_____ defense
_____ domestic
_____ education
_____ funerary
X government
_____ health care
_____ industry
_____ landscape
_____ recreation/culture
_____ religion
_____ social
_____ transportation
_____ work in progress
_____ unknown
_____ vacant/not in use
_____ other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
5	9	buildings
		sites
2		structures
		objects
7	9	Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
0

7. Description

Inventory No. M:35-133 & 134

Condition

___ excellent	___ deteriorated
_X_ good	___ ruins
___ fair	_X_ altered

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

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General Site Description

NGA-Bethesda is largely characterized by mid-to-late 20th century institutional development at the Dalecarlia Site, flanking the east and west sides of MacArthur Boulevard, and the Sumner Site, located on the west side of Sangamore Road. In addition to buildings, the properties also contain a road network, pedestrian walkways, and a series of walls and similar minor structures. The topography varies from level terraces with gentle slopes to very steep slopes that have been modified through landscaping to broad level areas that were likely more undulating in the past. Analysis of topographical maps of the area from the 19th and 20th centuries shows that only a few remnants of the original topography are still present in portions of NGA-Bethesda; the current topography is generally a product of significant landscape modifications over the past 50 years.

Description of the Physical Features of the Contributing Resources

Ruth Building, Dalecarlia Site (1942): The Ruth Building is a large, rectangular-plan building that was constructed as the primary building at AMS during World War II. It was designed by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) as a bomb-proof, blackout-type structure with windowless steel façades, was punctuated by a main Deco-style entry on the west façade and loading dock on the north façade. The two-story, 155,200- sq ft (14,418-sq m), rectangular-plan building, known as the Reproduction Plant (Bldg No. 1), was supported by regularly spaced cement columns that would protect the structural integrity of the building in the event of an indirect bomb attack. Extensive interior renovations have converted this building into office space. Significant exterior renovations include construction of a steel addition along the east façade, application of drivet sheath, blocking of windows, and altered entrances.

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Fremont Building, Dalecarlia Site (1943; 1945): The largest building constructed on the west side of MacArthur Boulevard during the war was Bldg No. 6, the Dalecarlia Distribution Depot, renamed the Fremont Building. The 48,400-sq ft (4,496-sq m) building was designed by the USACE in 1943 to provide a space exclusively devoted to maintenance and shipping. The depot was ten bays long and four bays wide, pierced by industrial steel sash windows. Each bay was separated by concrete panels, lending a grid-like appearance to the façades. A loading dock was located across the rear or west façade, and a railroad siding was built along the dock, extending from the B&O Railroad, which traversed the western edge of the AMS property. Soon after completion of the building, it was deemed inadequate in size to store the increasing number of maps being produced for the war effort. As a result, plans were prepared in mid-1945 to add two stories to the building, totaling 36,408 sq ft (3,382 sq m). Completed that same year, the addition was stylistically similar to the existing building. While the fourth floor maintained the brick-and-concrete grid pattern established on the first three floors, the fifth floor consisted of a plain brick façade pierced by industrial sash windows. Exterior renovations include the modification of the main entrance, addition of an elevator, and closure of the railroad siding and tracks. Significant interior renovations have converted this warehouse to administrative office space.

Film Vault, Dalecarlia Site (1943): The Film Vault was most likely designed by the USACE and was constructed to store film in a cool environment. During World War II and afterward, this earth-covered building stored crucial cartographic material used in the map-

8. Significance

Inventory No. M:35-133&134

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
__ 1600-1699	__ agriculture	__ economics	__ health/medicine	__ performing arts
__ 1700-1799	__ archeology	__ education	__ industry	__ philosophy
__ 1800-1899	__ architecture	__ engineering	__ invention	__ politics/government
X 1900-1999	__ art	__ entertainment/ recreation	__ landscape architecture	__ religion
__ 2000-	__ commerce		__ law	__ science
	__ communications	__ ethnic heritage	__ literature	__ social history
	__ community planning	__ exploration/ settlement	__ maritime history	__ transportation
	__ conservation		X military	__ other: ____

Specific dates 1942-1951 **Architect/Builder** – see individual building descriptions

Construction dates 1942-1945

Evaluation for:
___X___ National Register ___X___ Maryland Register _____ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Army Map Service (AMS) Historic District possesses historic significance at the national level because it is related to the history of military involvement in World War II, which had significant impacts on affairs of the nation (National Register Criterions A and C). The period of significance of the district spans from the establishment of AMS at the Dalecarlia Site in 1942 to the post-World War II years concluding in 1951. The district consists of four contributing buildings and one contributing structure at the Dalecarlia Site (Ruth, Warren and Fremont buildings, Film Vault and Flagpole), and one contributing building and one contributing structure at the Sumner Site (Erskine Hall and Flagpole/Globe Memorial). Seven non-contributing buildings are located at the Dalecarlia Site and two non-contributing building is located at the Sumner Site. There are no significant interior spaces, as renovations have greatly altered the original design. The National Register boundary for the AMS Historic District encompasses 16.5 ac (6.7 ha) at the Dalecarlia Site and 4.2 ac (1.7 ha) at the Sumner Site.

History

The history of the NGA-Bethesda Dalecarlia and Sumner Sites is linked to the military mapping exploits of the USACE. Since the 19th century, the USACE has been responsible for producing military maps for the US armed forces. In 1910, the Army Corps of Engineers Reproduction Unit was provided space in a warehouse at the Army War College at Fort Leslie J. McNair in Washington, DC. The unit, eventually renamed the Central Map Reproduction Plant, experienced great activity during World War I, when they produced 9 million copies of maps for the US military.

Following World War I, the Central Map Reproduction Plant was reorganized into the Engineer Reproduction Plant at Fort McNair. In the 1940s, the plant was merged with the Library and Cartographic section of the War Department to facilitate map reproduction in anticipation of US involvement in World War II.

Following the bombing of Pearl Harbor and US entry into the war in 1941, the War Department was suddenly faced with an unprecedented demand for maps to be distributed to the Army, Army Air Corps, Navy, Marines, and other branches of the armed forces. The responsibility for map production fell to the newly merged Engineer Reproduction Plant. However, the confined quarters of the plant's shared warehouse space at Fort McNair soon became restrictive, and steps were taken to establish a freestanding plant to meet wartime production demands.

During World War II, the newly organized AMS developed the Dalecarlia Site on property originally associated with the WA. Between 1941 and 1943, AMS constructed six permanent buildings or structures: the Ruth Building (1942), Fremont Building (1943), Film Vault (1943), Pump House (1943), Destructor Building (1943) and the Flagpole (1942-43), and four temporary buildings: the Motor Pool (1942), Oil Storage House (1942-43), and two warehouses (1942-43); the Warren Building is thought to have been on the site when AMS took over the property. With the exception of the temporary Oil Storage House and the warehouses, all of the buildings survive at the site.

Throughout the course of the war, the Dalecarlia Site functioned as the headquarters of AMS, which was responsible for producing, storing, and supplying the US Army with maps for theater operations around the world. Branch offices were established throughout the US to assist AMS in its efforts. During the height of the war, the bombproof, steel-paneled Ruth Building housed the map production center and the primary map repository for the US armed forces. The brick Fremont Building functioned as a storage warehouse and

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. 35:133&134

Anonymous. 1956. "American Military Mapping – 1777 to 1956." National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) Office of Corporate Relations, History Division (OCRH), Historical Research Center (HRC), Bethesda, MD.

Army Map Service (AMS). Fiscal Years 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945. *Annual Reports.* HRC, Bethesda, MD.

AMS. 1947. *Plot Plan, Army Map Service and Surrounding Area, Dalecarlia Site.*

AMS. 1947. *Plot Plan, Army Map Service, Fort Sumner Site.*

AMS. 1960. *The Army Map Service: Its Mission, History and Organization.* Washington, DC: US Army Corps of Engineers.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 48.85
Acreage of historical setting 20.7
Quadrangle name Washington West, DC-MD-VA Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The proposed National Register boundary for the discontiguous AMS Historic District encompasses 16.5 ac (6.7 ha) at the Dalecarlia Site and 4.2 ac (1.7 ha) at the Sumner Site. At the Dalecarlia Site, the boundary includes five contributing resources and seven non-contributing resources and largely follows the permitted property boundary because it reflects the historic layout of the facility initially constructed during World War II. A portion of MacArthur Boulevard, which separates the east and west parcels of the Dalecarlia Site, is included in the district for ease of establishing the district boundary but does not contribute to the significance of the district. The proposed boundary at the Sumner Site includes two contributing resources and two non-contributing guardhouses. The contributing resources include Erskine Hall and the Flagpole/Globe Memorial located within the semi-circular lawn east of Erskine Hall. The district boundary follows the inner edge of the roadway along the north façade of Erskine Hall, excludes the modern pedestrian bridge between Erskine Hall and Abert Hall, curves east and southward along the inner edge of the semi-circular lawn, meets the inner curb line at the southeast corner of Erskine Hall, follows the curb line and Erskine Hall loading dock footprint to the western fence line located west of Erskine Hall, travels north along the fence line, turns east to meet the inner edge of the roadway along the north façade of Erskine Hall, and travels to the place of beginning. The four buildings constructed after 1960 and three contemporary guardhouses at the Sumner Site are excluded from the district because they do not qualify as exceptionally significant resources at this time.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title Barbara Horton, Environmental Protection Specialist

organization NGA-SIIF date 29 September 2003

street & number12310 Sunrise Valley Drive telephone 703-735-3142

city or town Reston state VA

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

making process and was located near the Ruth Building to facilitate easy film retrieval. In recent times, the building has been used for general storage.

Flagpole, Dalecarlia Site (1940s): The flagpole at the Dalecarlia Site is located west of the Ruth Building. The pole has a decorative base embellished with a Greek fret and vegetative ornament, and sits upon a landscaped circle.

Erksine Hall, Sumner Site (1945): Designed by the US Engineers Office, the building was completed in 1946 and was a 15-bay-long, 11-bay-wide, 328,000-sq ft (30,471-sq m) five-story brick building pierced by multi-pane windows accented by limestone sills. Decorative features included door canopies and concrete entry blocks embellished with an ornamental pattern. Original USACE plans indicate that an exterior stairway was constructed from the west façade of the building, extending down a steep slope to the Cabin John streetcar line located west of MacArthur Boulevard. Provision of these steps, which are now abandoned, indicates that many employees used the trolley to commute to work. The building functioned as headquarters of AMS, US Army Topographic Command, and Defense Mapping Agency Hydrographic/Topographic Command after World War II. It continues to play a major administrative role as the headquarters of NGA. Exterior renovations include changing main entrances, alterations to the current entrance, addition of a walk-way to the adjacent building, and blocking windows.

Flagpole Installation, Sumner Site (ca. 1945): The flagpole installation at the Sumner Site supports three flags on a triangular-shaped concrete base. Landscaping surrounds the flagpoles, which are set within a semi-circular grass panel. The flagpole, located directly east of Erskine Hall, was constructed to emphasize the important role that AMS played as the primary mapping agency for the US Army. The globe memorial, installed adjacent to the flagpole in 1969, is considered part of the contributing flagpole installation.

Non-Contributing Resources (9)

Dalecarlia Site

- Destructor Building (Bldg No. 5);
- Motor Pool (Bldg T-4);
- Facilities Engineering Equipment Storage (1980s);
- Guard House near Ruth Building (1980s);
- Guard House near Fremont Building (1970s);
- Guard House in Fremont Building parking lot; and
- Maintenance Equipment Shed next to the Fremont Building.

Sumner Site

- Guard Houses (2) near Flagpole/Globe Memorial (1998).

At the Dalecarlia Site, the Destructor Building and the Motor Pool do not contribute to the AMS Historic District because they do not convey the historic feeling and association of World War II-era buildings. The storage buildings and five modern guardhouses (including two at the Sumner Site) do not contribute to the district because they are less than 50 years old and are not exceptionally significant.

At both the Dalecarlia and Sumner Sites, contemporary features such as security turnstiles, vehicle inspection tents, detached cooling towers, outbuildings and trailers, chain-link fence lines, bus-stop shelters, the Fremont Building parking lot, and public roads, such as MacArthur Boulevard at the Dalecarlia Site, do not contribute to the significance of the historic district because they are unrelated to the World War II historic context.

distribution depot, from which maps and related products would be shipped, via the B&O Railroad siding, to ports of embarkation. The Warren Building and other minor buildings played a supplementary role in AMS operations, assisting the service in meeting its mission of supplying maps to troops stationed around the world.

By the end of the war, AMS secured funding to establish the 39-ac (15.8-ha) Sumner Site, and built Erskine Hall and the semi-circular lawn with flagpole as the new headquarters in the post-World War II-era. The construction of Erskine Hall enabled the growing agency to use the additional space for administrative, technical map-making, and library functions, while the buildings at the Dalecarlia Site were dedicated to production (Ruth Building) and storage (Fremont Building). Therefore, the buildings and structures at the Dalecarlia and Sumner Sites are linked to the role of military map-making in the US during World War II.

In general, the Ruth, Fremont, and Warren Buildings at the Dalecarlia Site and Erskine Hall and the lunette-shaped lawn with flagpole at the Sumner Site represent the World War II context through Criterion A for the role they played as AMS headquarters, charged with map production, map collecting, and maintenance of the primary map repository for US armed forces during the war. They also represent the World War II context through Criterion C because they represent a significant, distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction, but possess significance when viewed together.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M:35-133 & 134

Name NGA-Bethesda
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

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M:35-133

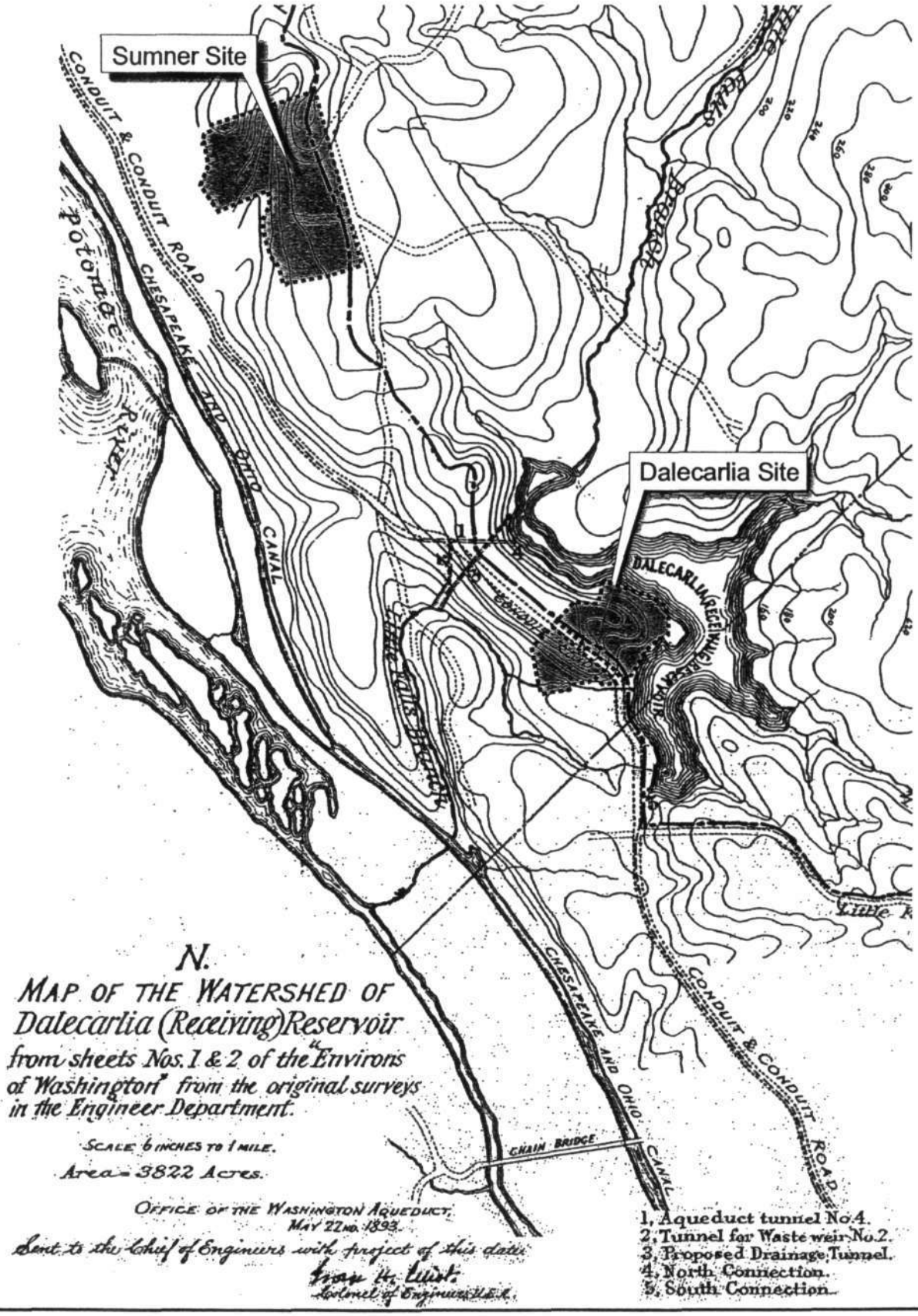
Bethesda, 1878

AMS Historic District
Bethesda, Montgomery County
M:35-133 & 134

Source: G. M. Hopkins, CE, 1879.

M:35-133

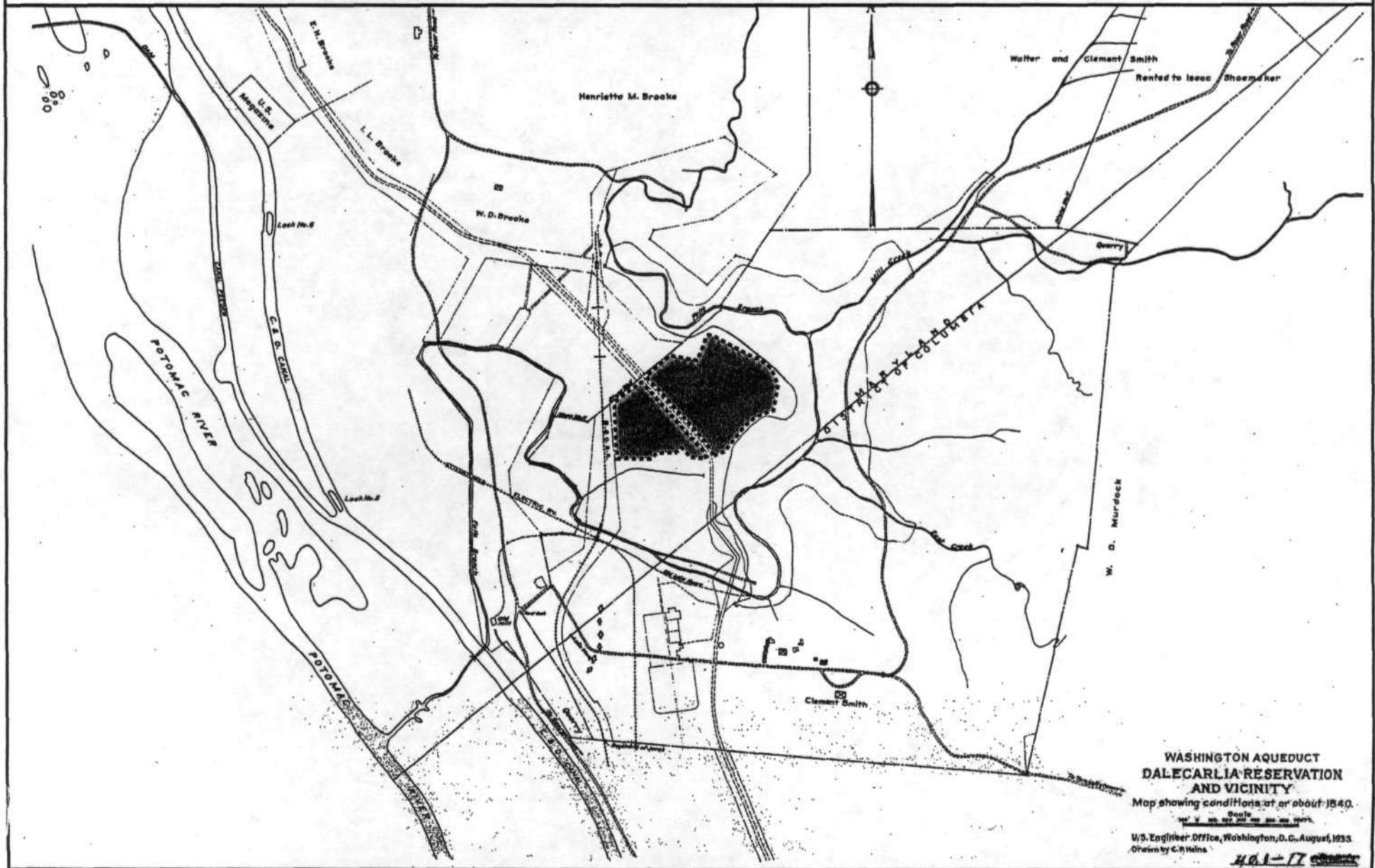
Dalecarlia and Sumner Sites, 1893



AMB Historic District
Bethesda, Montgomery County
M:35-133 & 134

Source: US Army Corps of Engineers, Washington Aqueduct Division.

Dalecarlia Site, 1933 (c. 1840 conditions)

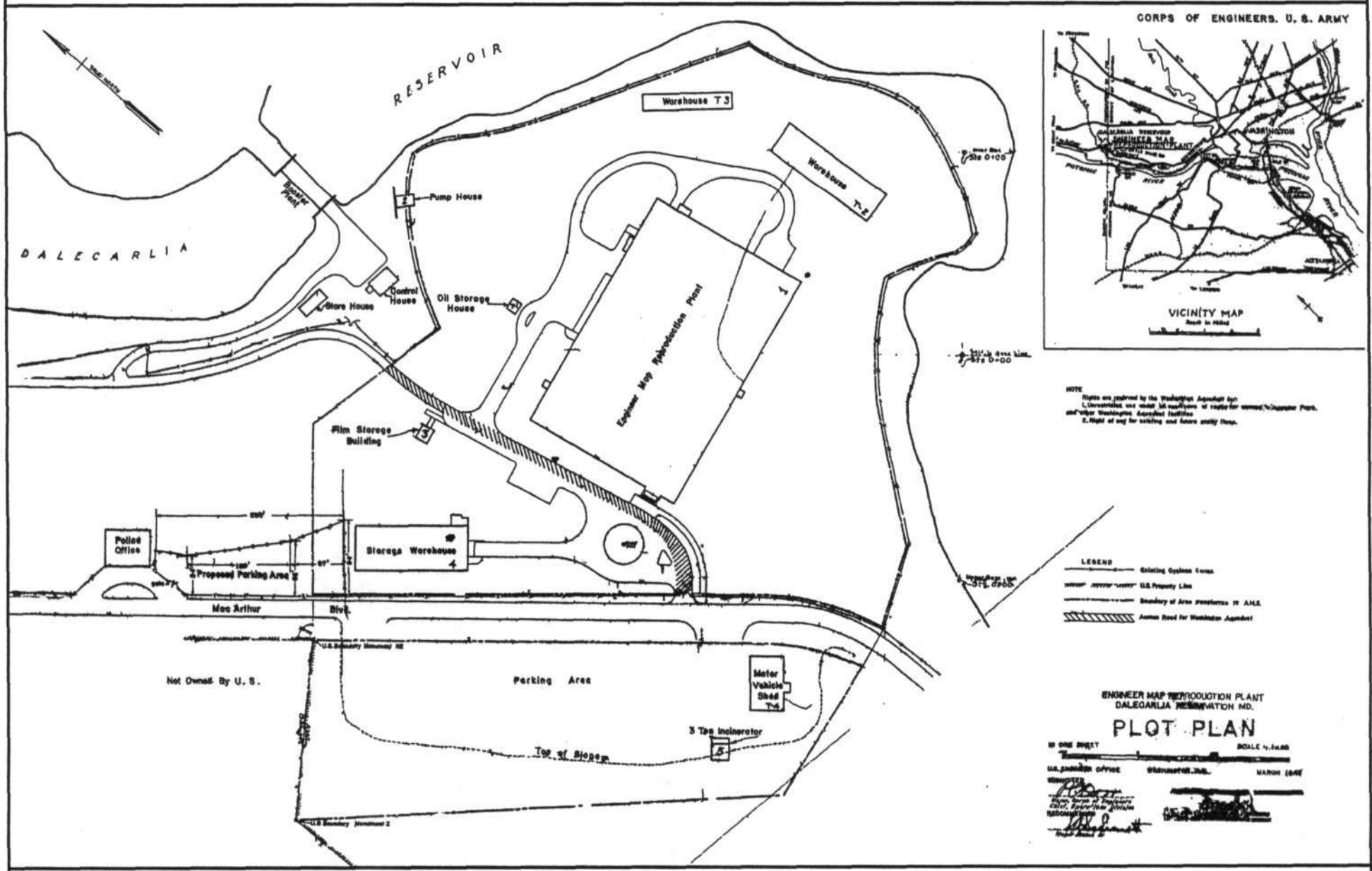


AMS Historic District, Bethesda, Montgomery County
M:35-133 & 134

Source: US Army Corps of Engineers, Washington Aqueduct Division.

M: 35-133

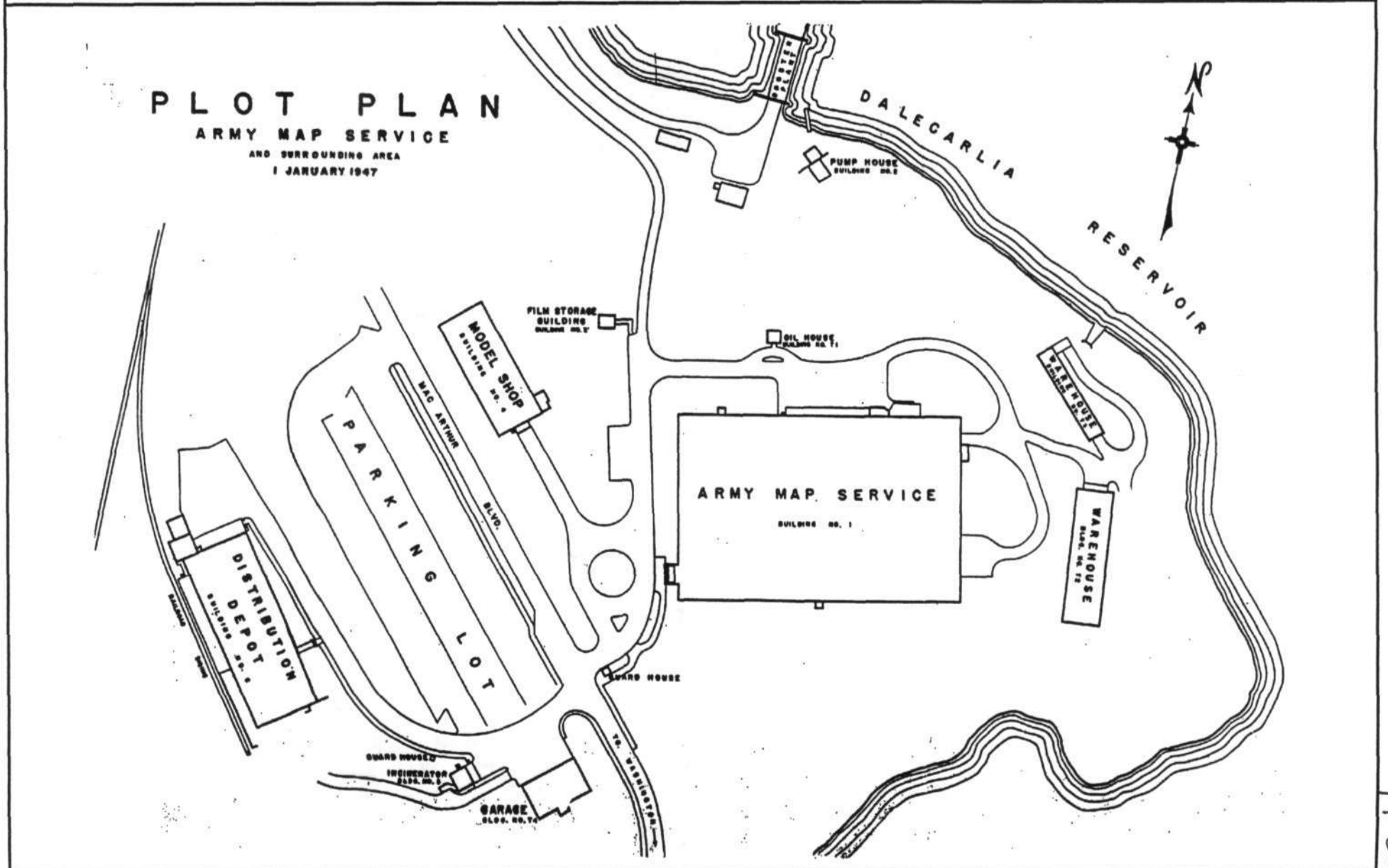
Dalecarlia Site, 1943



AMS Historic District, Bethesda, Montgomery County M:35-133 & 134

M:35-133

Dalecarlia Site, 1947

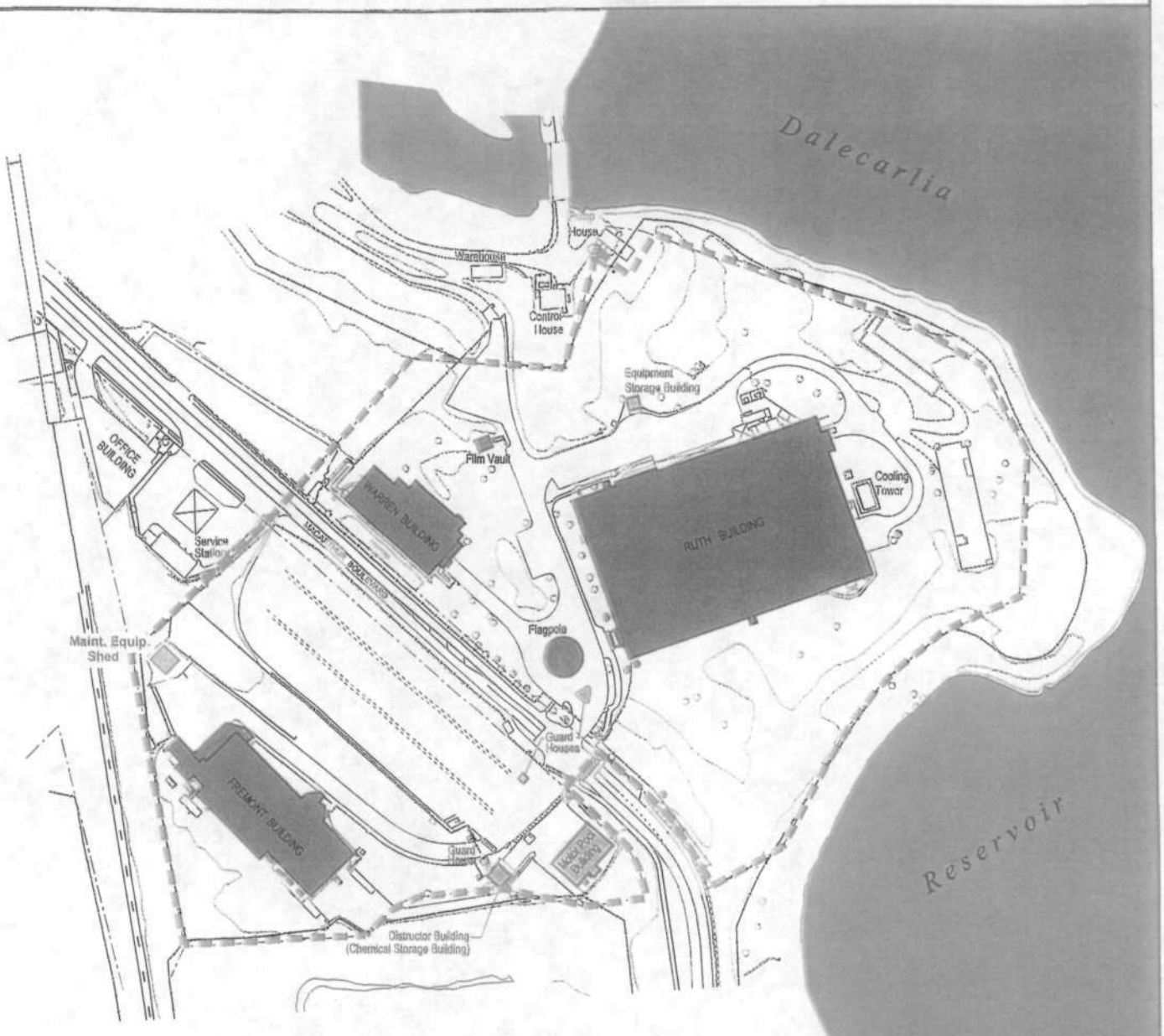


AMS Historic District, Bethesda, Montgomery County M:35-133 & 134

M:35-133

M:35-133

RESOURCE SKETCH MAP



M:35-133
Proposed AMS Historic District
Dalecarlia Site
Bethesda, Montgomery County

Contributing Resource
Non-Contributing Resource
Proposed AMS Historic District Boundary
Building
Property Boundary
Fenceline

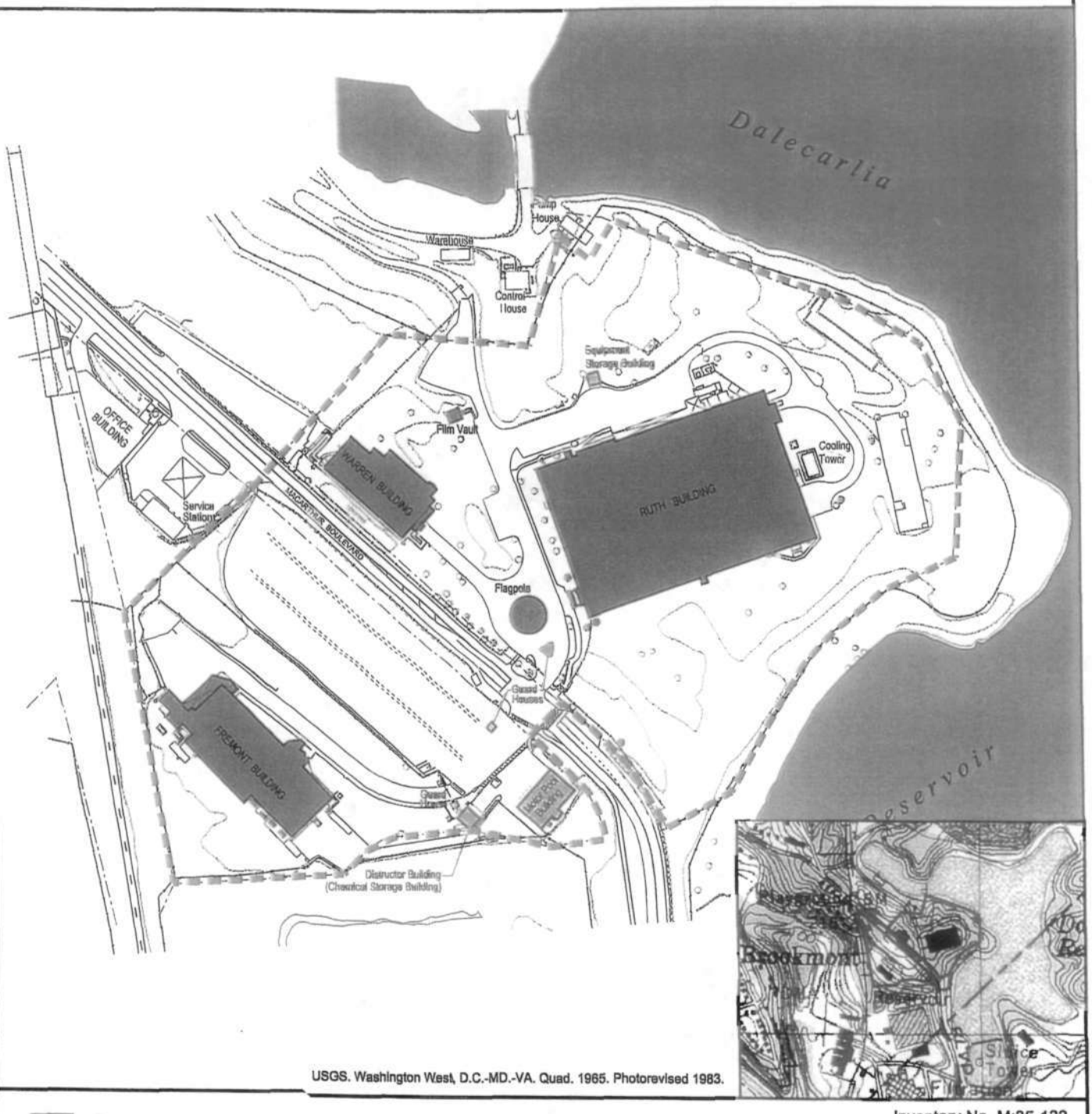
200 0 200
Scale in Feet

100 0 100
Scale in Meters

N

M: 35-133

Proposed AMS Historic District – Dalecarlia Site



USGS. Washington West, D.C.-MD.-VA. Quad. 1965. Photorevised 1983.

Inventory No. M:35-133

- Contributing Resource
- Non-Contributing Resource
- Proposed AMS Historic District Boundary
- Building
- Property Boundary
- Fenceline

200 0 200
Scale in Feet

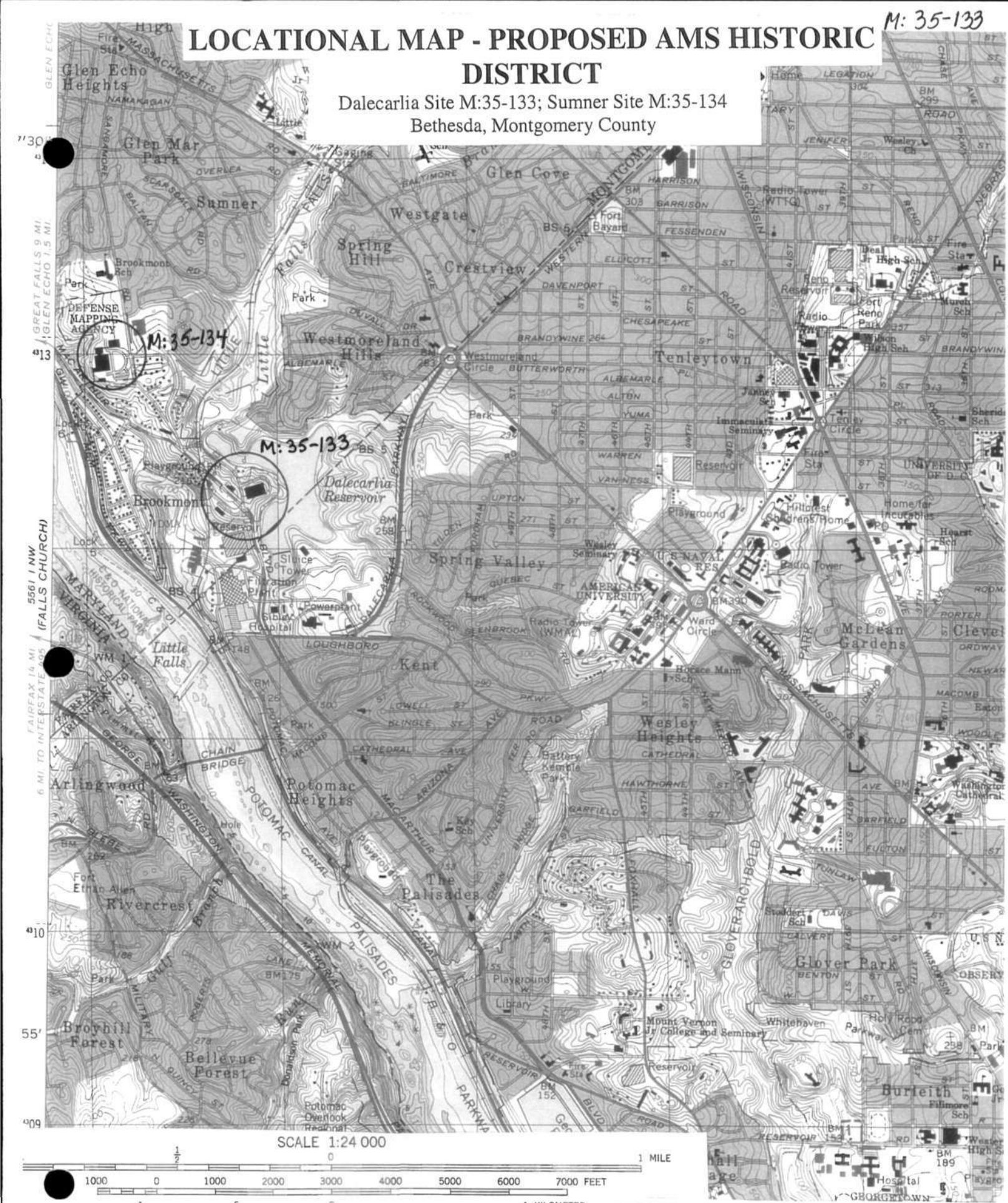
100 0 100
Scale in Meters

N

M: 35-133

LOCATIONAL MAP - PROPOSED AMS HISTORIC DISTRICT

Dalecarlia Site M:35-133; Sumner Site M:35-134
Bethesda, Montgomery County



SCALE 1:24 000

1/2 0 1 MILE

1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET

1 .5 0 1 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
BATHYMETRIC CONTOUR INTERVAL 1 METER WITH SUPPLEMENTARY
0.5 METER CONTOURS—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 0.4 METER

WASHINGTON WEST, D. C.—MD.—VA.
38077-H1-TB-024

1965

PHOTOREVISED 1983
BATHYMETRY ADDED 1982

DMA 5561 I NE—SERIES V833

MIHP 35-133

Ruth Bldg, Dalecarlia site (east parcel)
Army Map Service Historic District
6005 MacArthur Blvd
Montgomery County, MD

Larry Franklin

9/17/03

MDSHPO

West façade. Contributing resource.

1/20

MIHP 35-133

Ruth Bldg, Dalecarlia Site (East parcel)
Army Map Service Historic District
6025 MacArthur Blvd

2

Montgomery County, MD

Allison Rachleff

2/01

MD SHPO

North facade. Contributing resource.

2/20

FEB. 2001 FRK

MIHP 35-133

3

Flagpole, Dalecarlia site (east parcel)
Army Map Service Historic District
6005 MacArthur Blvd

Montgomery County, MD

Allison Rachleff

2/01

MD SHPO

View east toward contributing flagpole.

3/20

FEB. 2001 FRK
FEB. 2001 FRK
FEB. 2001 FRK

35-133

Flagpole, Dalecarlia site (east parcel)
Army Map Service Historic District
6005 MacArthur Blvd

Montgomery County, MD

Larry Franklin

9/17/03
MD SHPO
Metal base embellished with a Greek fret and vegetative ornament.
Contributing resource

4/20

PRO<No. 27 >027 BNO
3865 052 N N N-3-19 AC+01 AS+07 SA110 GR03 Z126.3/100.0

35-133

Warren Bldg Dalecarlia Site (east parcel)
Army Map Service Historic District
6005 MacArthur Blvd.

Montgomery County, MD

Larry Franklin

9/17/03

MD SHPO

SE facade. Contributing resource.

5/20

PRO<NO. 32 >032@ BNO
3865 052 N N N-6 26 AC+01 A3+07 SA110 GR03 Z126.3/100.0

35-133

Warren Bldg, Dalecarlia site (east parcel)
Army Map Service Historic District
6005 MacArthur Blvd

Larry Franklin
9/17/03

MD SHPO

NE facade. Contributing resource.

6/20

PRO<NO.-35 >015@ BNO
3865 052 N N N N ZI AC+01 AS+07 SA110 GR03 Z126.3/100.@

35-133

Film Vault, Dalecarlia Site (east parcel)
Army Map Service Historic District
6005 MacArthur Blvd

Montgomery County, MD

Alan King/Larry Franklin

10/8/02

MD SHPO

East facade Contributing resource.

7/20

<No.17A>034 74+00 N1NNN+04AU 5148

35-133

3

Film Vault, Dalecarlia site (east parcel)
Army Map Service Historic District
6005 MacArthur Blvd

Montgomery County, MD

Allison Rachleff

2/01

FEB. 2001 FRK FEB. 2001 FRK FEB. 2001 FRK

MD SHPO

Looking east towards film vault roof.
Contributing resource.

8/20

35-133

Facilities Engineering Equipment Storage, Dalecarlia site (east parcel).

Army Map Service Historic District

6005 MacArthur Blvd

Montgomery County, MD

Larry Franklin

9/17/03

MD SHPO

South facade. Non-contributing resource.

9/20

35-133

5

Modern Guard House, Dalecarlia site (east parcel)
Army Map Service Historic District
6005 MacArthur Blvd

Montgomery County, MD

Allison Rachteff

2/01

FEB. 2001 FRK FEB. 2001 FRK FEB. 2001 FRK

MD SHPO

View south toward guard house and site entrance.
Non-contributing resource.

10/20

35-133

Dalecarlia site (east parcel)
Army Map Service Historic District
6005 MacArthur Blvd

Montgomery County, MD

Larry Franklin

9/17/03

MD SHPO

View northeast from southwest corner of the Ruth Bldg.

11/20

35-133

MacArthur Blvd, Dalecarlia site
Army Map Service Historic District
6005 MacArthur Blvd

Montgomery County, MD

Alan King/Larry Franklin

10/8/02
MD SHPO
View northwest, taken from the west parcel entrance.

12/20

35-133

Fremont Bldg, Dalecarlia Site (west parcel)
Army Map Service Historic District
6005 MacArthur Blvd.

Montgomery County, MD

Larry Franklin

9/17/03

MD SHPO

SE corner. Contributing resource.

13/20

35-133

Fremont Bldg, Dalecarlia site (west parcel).
Army Map Service Historic District
6005 MacArthur Blvd.

Montgomery County, MD

Allison Rachleff

2/01

FEB. 2001 FRK FEB. 2001 FRK FEB. 2001 FRK

MD SHPO

Looking northwest from Fremont Bldg roof towards former B&O RR outside historic district.

14/20

35-133

Fremont Bldg, Dalecarlia site (west parcel).
Army Map Service Historic District
600 5/8 MacArthur Blvd.

Montgomery County, MD

Larry Franklin

9/17/03

MD SHPO

Southeast corner. View shows topography of the parking lot and non-contributing security turnstile.

15/20

35-133

Parking lot, Dalecarlia site (west parcel)
Army Map Service Historic District
6005 MacArthur Blvd

Montgomery County, MD

Alan King / Larry Franklin
10/8/02

MD SHPO

<NG.4A>00C 74+00 NNNNN-02AU 5148

View northwest taken from former Motor Pool.

16/20

35-133

Maintenance equipment storage shed, Dalecarlia site (west parcel)
Army Map Service Historic District
5 MacArthur Blvd
Montgomery County, MD

Larry Franklin

9/17/03

MD SHPO

View north west from northeast corner of Fremont Bldg.
Non-contributing resource.

17/20

OVERFILL ALARM
ACTIVATES AT
25 680 GALLONS

35-133

Destructor Bldg, Dalecarlia site (west parcel)
Army Map Service Historic District
6005 MacArthur Blvd

Montgomery County, MD
Larry Franklin

9/17/03

MD SHPO

East facade. Non-contributing resource.

18/20

35-133

Former Motor Pool, Dalecarlia Site (west parcel)
Army Map Service Historic District
6005 MacArthur Blvd

Montgomery County, MD

Alan King / Larry Franklin

10/8/02

MD SHPO

<No.SA>010 74+00 NNNNN+02AU 5148

NW facade. Non-contributing resource.

19/20

35-133

Security Checkpoint Dalecarlia site (west parcel)
Army Map Service Historic District
6005 MacArthur Blvd

Montgomery County, MD
Larry Franklin

PRO<NO.24 >024@ END
3865 052 N N N N-50 AC+01 AS+07 SA110 GR03 Z126.3/100.0

9/17/03

MD SHPO

Modern guard house + vehicle inspection station at site entrance. Non-contributing resource.

20/20

M:35-134

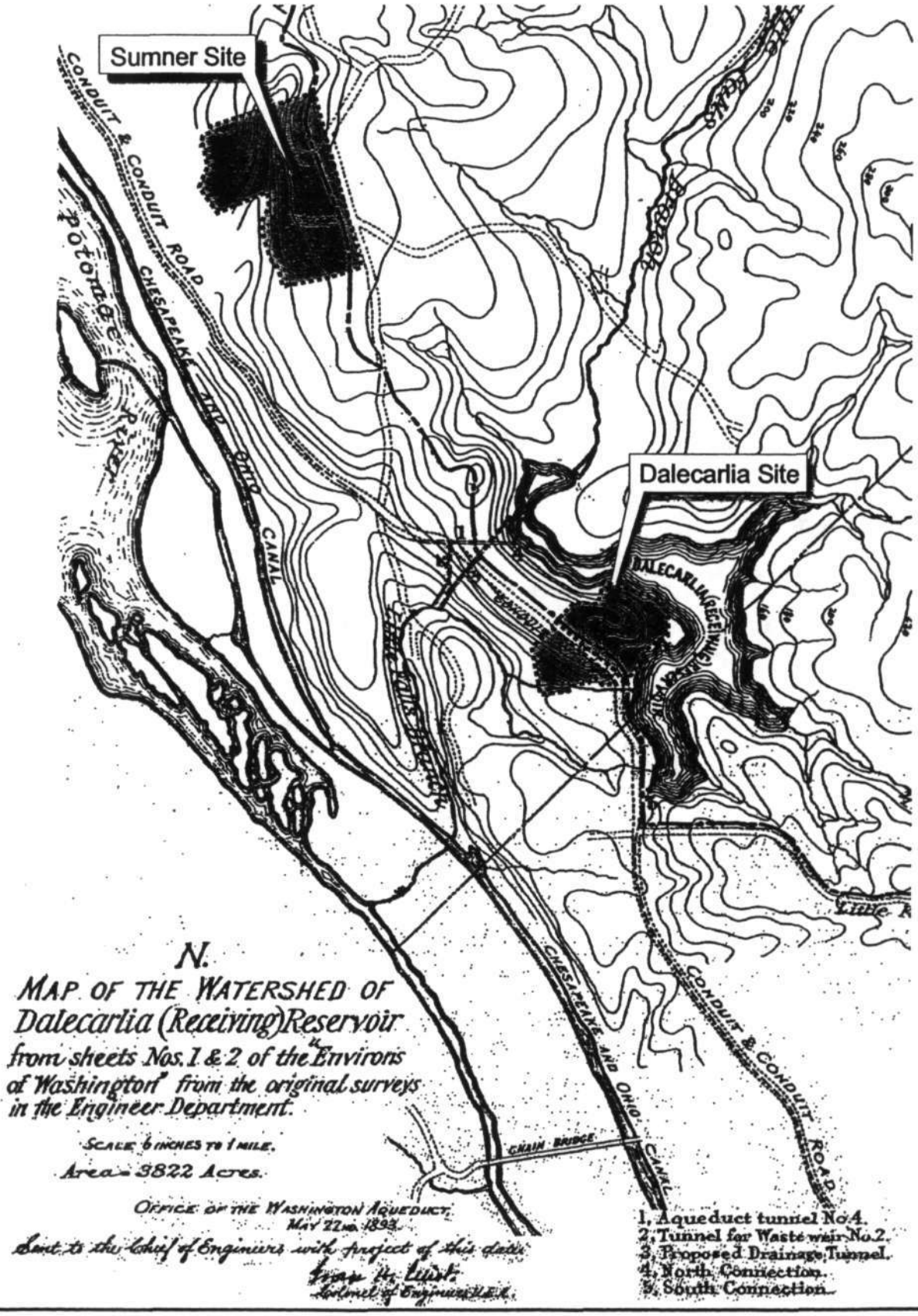
Bethesda, 1878

AMS Historic District
Bethesda, Montgomery County
M:35-133 & 134

Source: G. M. Hopkins, CE, 1879.

M: 35-134

Dalecarlia and Sumner Sites, 1893

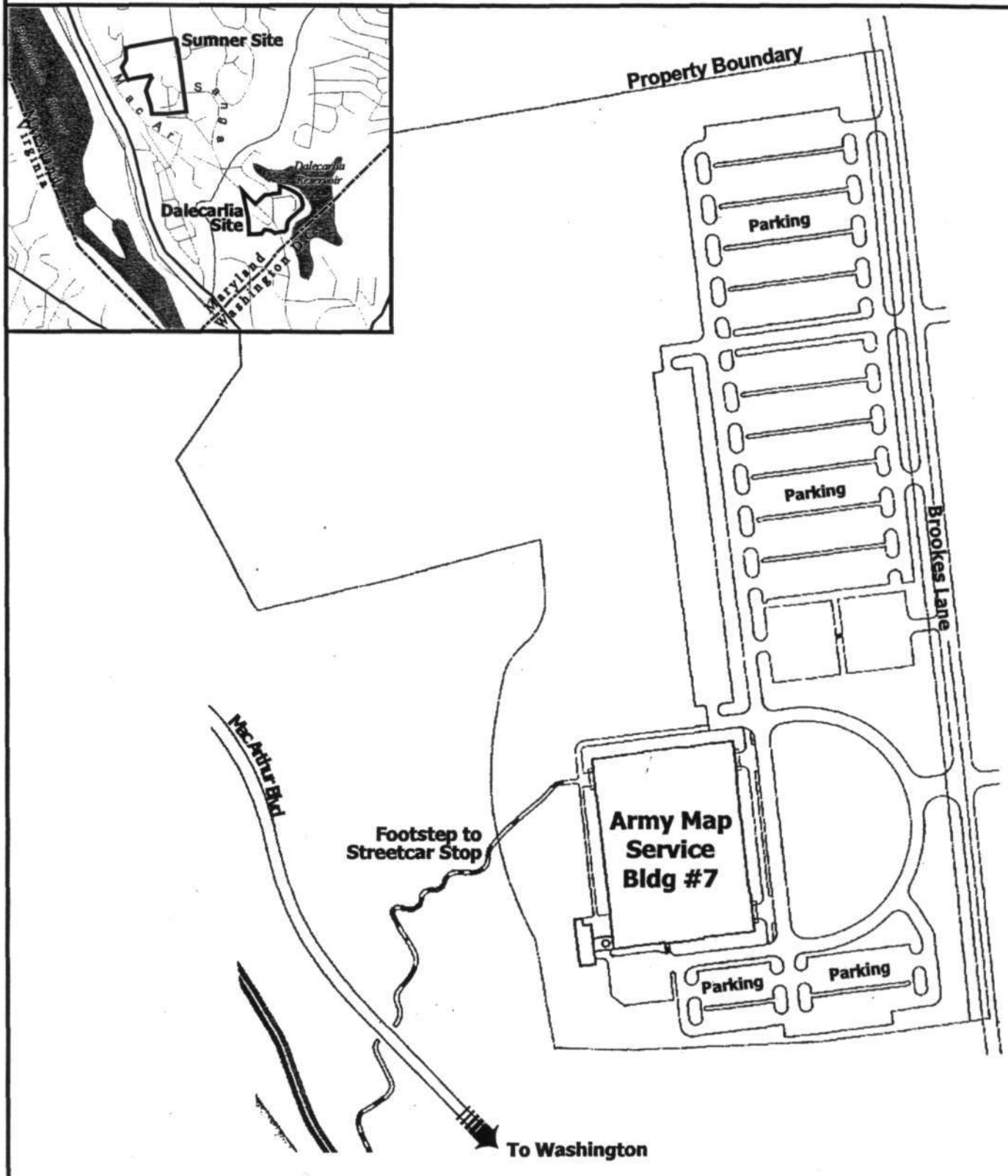


AMB Historic District
Bethesda, Montgomery County
M:35-133 & 134

Source: US Army Corps of Engineers, Washington Aqueduct Division.

M:35-134

Sumner Site, 1947

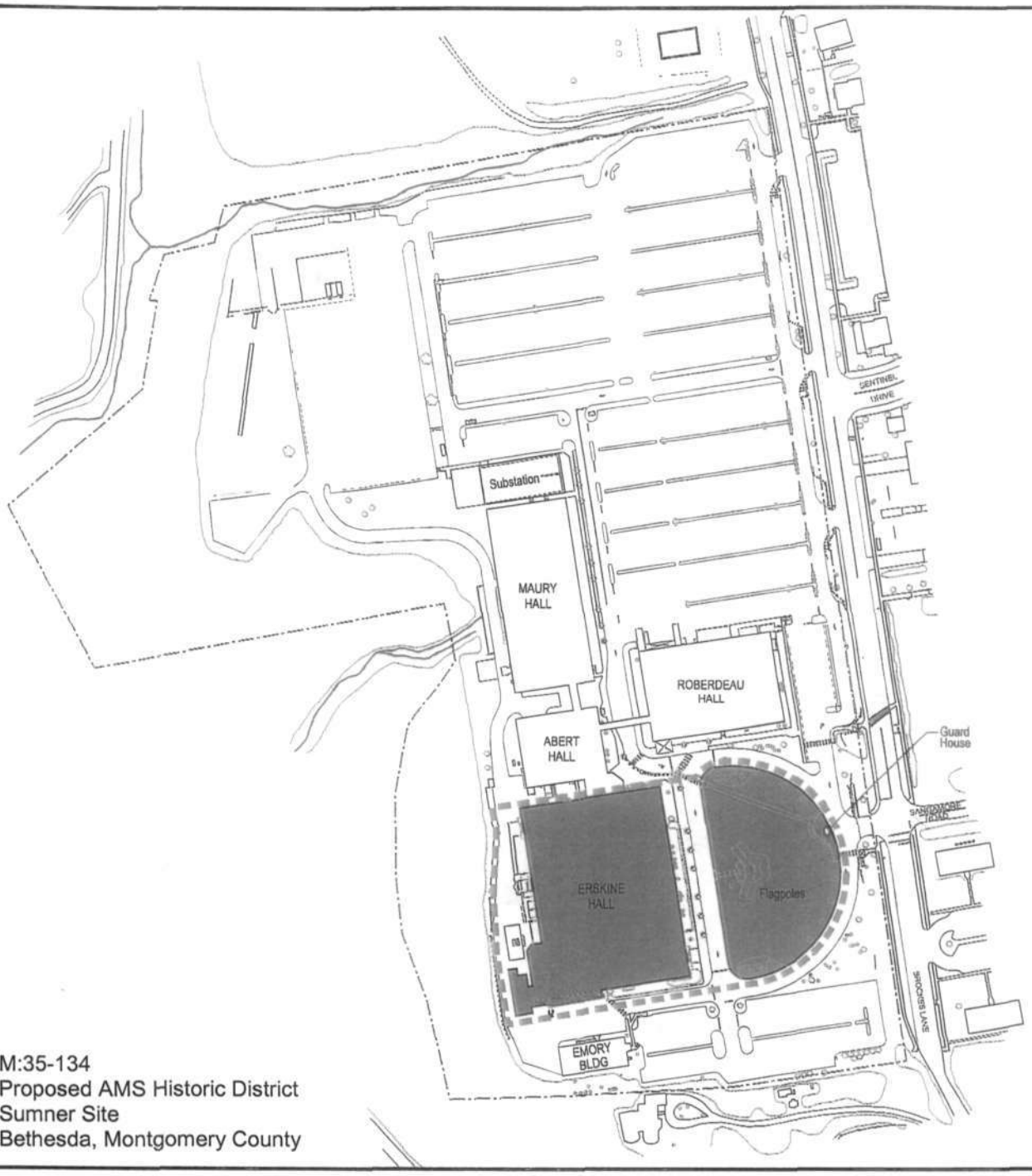


Source: Army Map Service Plot Plan, Fort Sumner Site, 1947,
NGA – Bethesda, Maryland

AMS Historic District
Bethesda, Montgomery County
M:35-133 & 134

M:35-134

RESOURCE SKETCH MAP



M:35-134
Proposed AMS Historic District
Sumner Site
Bethesda, Montgomery County

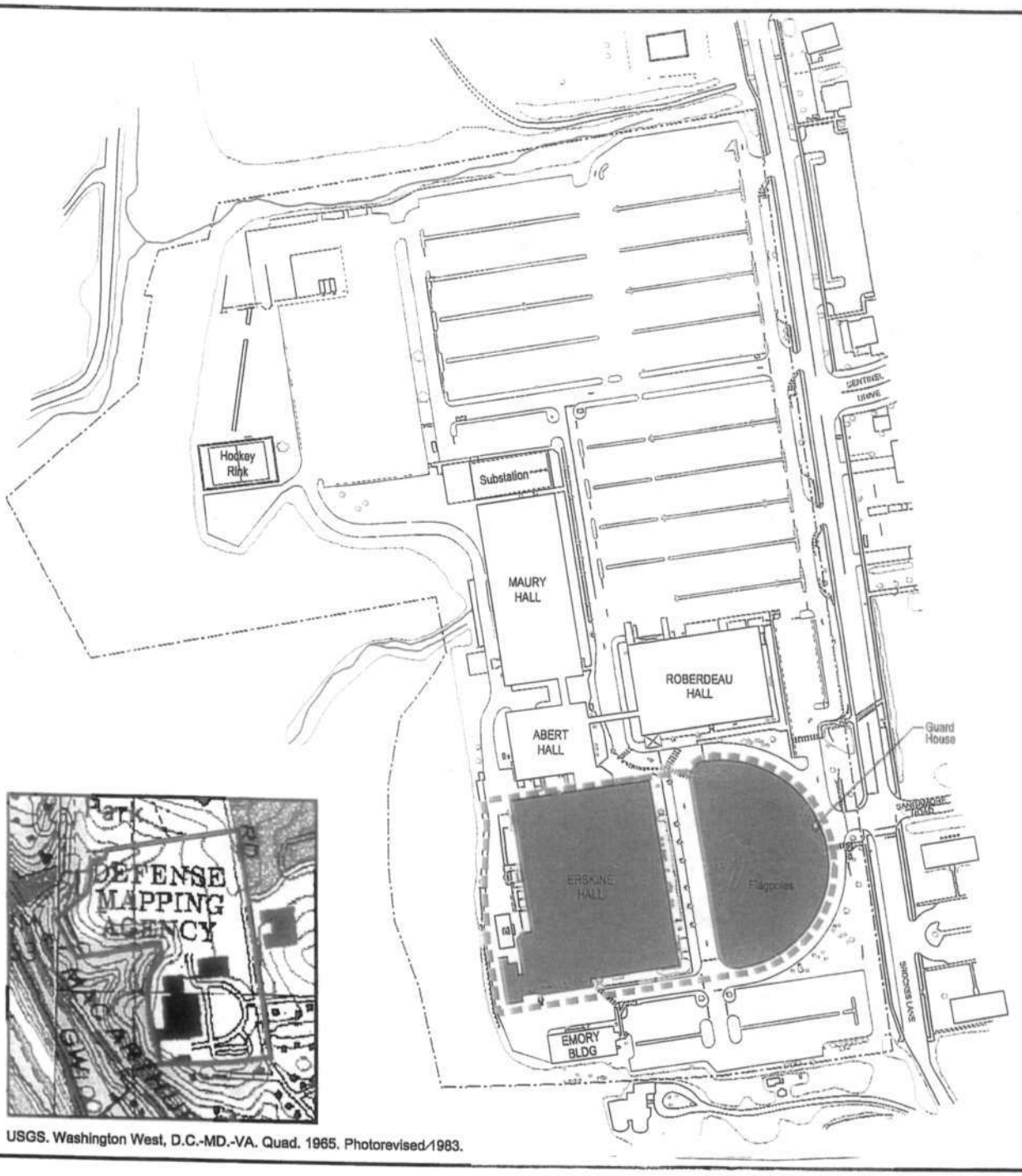
Contributing Resource
Non-Contributing Resource
Proposed AMS Historic District Boundary
Approximate Property Boundary
Building
Stream

300 0 300
Scale in Feet
100 0 100
Scale in Meters

N

M: 35-134

Proposed AMS Historic District – Sumner Site



USGS. Washington West, D.C.-MD.-VA. Quad. 1965. Photorevised 1983.

Contributing Resource

Non-Contributing Resource

AMS Historic District Boundary

Approximate Property Boundary

Building

Stream

300 0 300
Scale in Feet

100 0 100
Scale in Meters

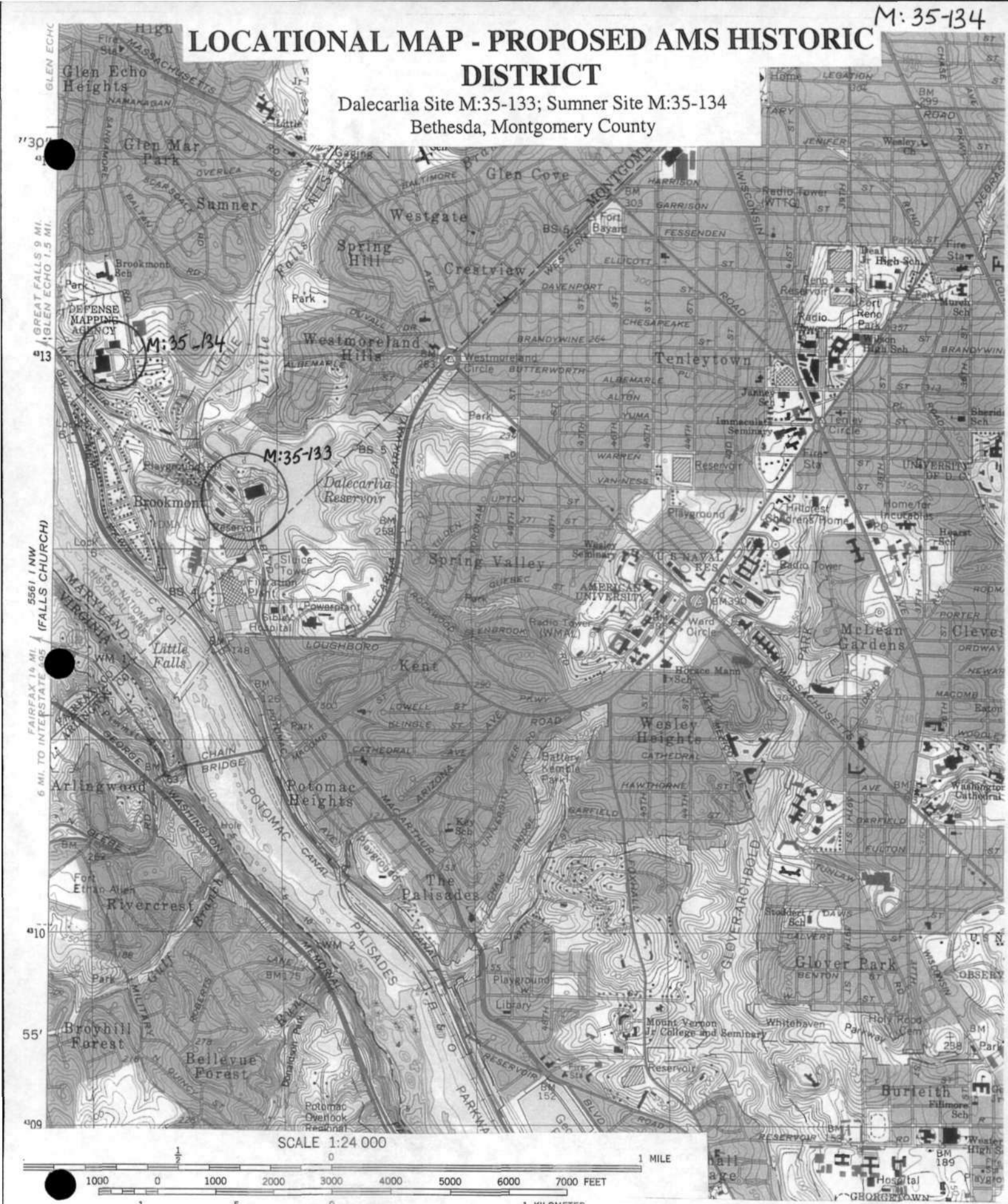
Inventory No. M:35-134

N

M:35-134

LOCATIONAL MAP - PROPOSED AMS HISTORIC DISTRICT

Dalecarlia Site M:35-133; Sumner Site M:35-134
Bethesda, Montgomery County



SCALE 1:24 000

1/2 0 1 MILE

1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET

1 .5 0 1 KILOMETER

N

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
BATHYMETRIC CONTOUR INTERVAL 1 METER WITH SUPPLEMENTARY
0.5 METER CONTOURS—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 0.4 METER

WASHINGTON WEST, D. C.—MD.—VA.
38077-H1-TB-024

1965

PHOTOREVISED 1983
BATHYMETRY ADDED 1982

DMA 5561 I NE—SERIES V833

35-134

Main Entrance, Sumner Site

Army Map Service Historic District

4600 Sangamore Rd

Montgomery County MD

Larry Franklin

9/19/03

MD SHPO

Non-contributing security improvements. Modern guard house. View west

21/9

MIHP No. M:35-134

Erskine Hall, Sumner Site,
Army Map Service Historic District
4600 Sangamore Rd.

Montgomery County, MD

Larry Franklin

9/2003

MD SHPO

East facade w/3 flagpoles on a triangular-shaped concrete base. Landscaping surrounds the flagpoles, which are set w/in a semi-circular lawn.

Contributing resource.

2/9

NATIONAL IMAGERY
AND MAPPING AGENCY
BETHESDA
MAIN ENTRANCE

35-134

Erskine Hall, Sumner Site

Army Map Service Historic District

4600 Sangamore Rd

Montgomery County, MD

Larry Franklin

9/17/03

MD SHPO

Modern entrance north facade.

/29

3/9

PRO<NO 2 >002 BNO
3865 052 N N N N-63 AC+01 AS+07 SA110 GR03 Z126 3/100.0

ARMY · MAP · SERVICE
FORCE PROTECTION
CONDITION

35-134

Erskine Hall, Sumner Site
Army Map Service Historic District
4600 Sangamore Rd

Montgomery County, MD

Larry Franklin

9/17/03

MD SHPO

Northwest Entry.

4/9

PRO<NO. 16 >016 BND
3865 052 N N N N-33 AC+01 AS+07 SA110 GR03 Z126.3/100.0

NATIONAL IMAGERY
AND MAPPING AGENCY
SOUTHEAST
ENTRANCE

35-134

Erskine Hall, Sumner Site
Army Map Service Historic District
4600 Sangamore Rd
Montgomery County, MD
Larry Franklin
9/17/03
MD SHPO
Southeast entry.
5/9

PRO<NO. 4 >004 BNO
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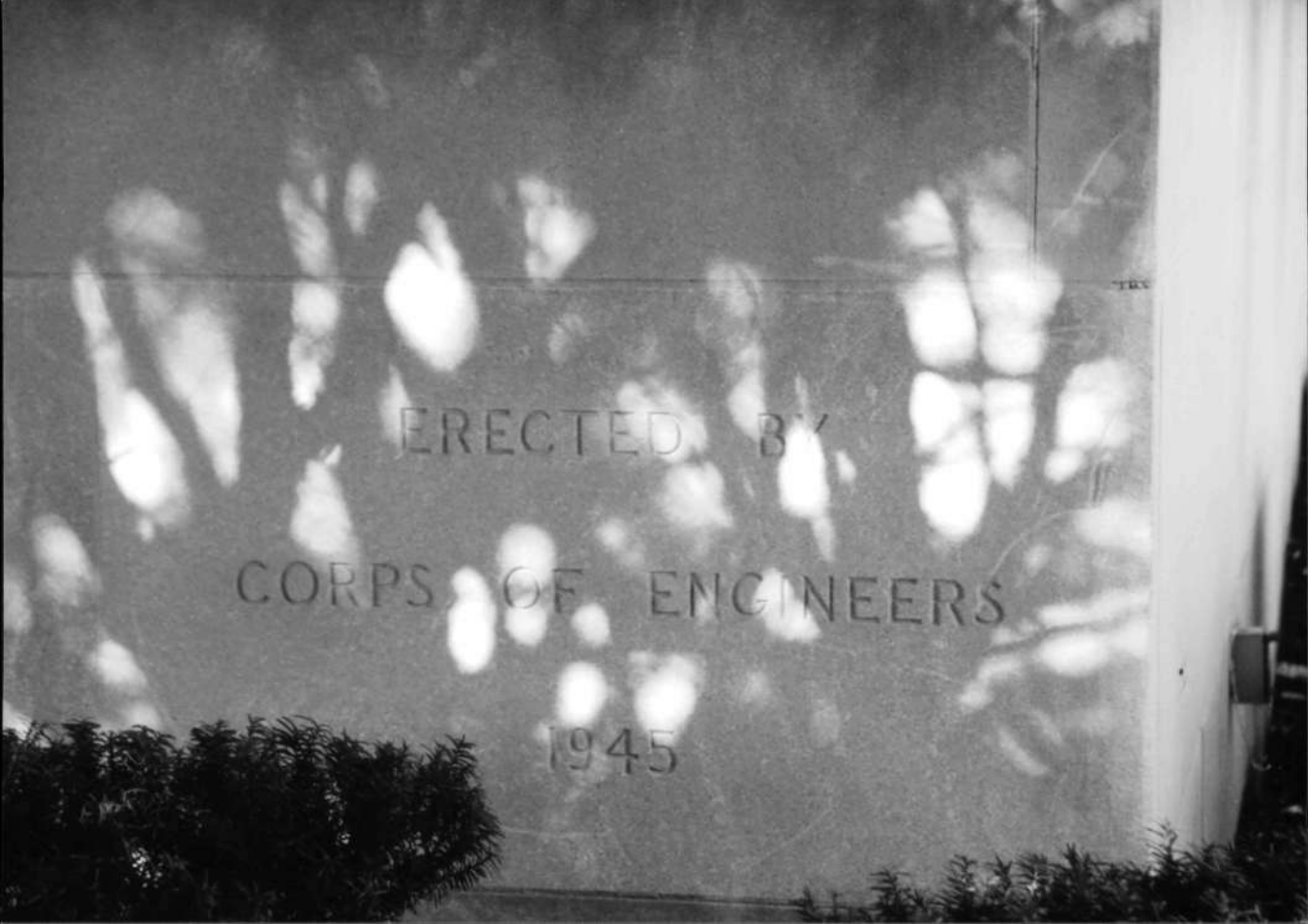
ERECTED BY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
1945

35-134

Erskine Hall, Sumner Site
Army Map Service Historic District
4600 Sangamore Rd.

Montgomery County, MD

Larry Franklin

9/17/03

MD SHPO

Date block, NE corner
6/9

27/09

PRO<NO. 3 >003@ BNO
3865.052 N N N-5 21 AC+01 AS+07 SA110 0R03 Z126.3/100.0

35-134

Erskine Hall, Sumner Site

Army Map Service Historic District

4600 Sangamore Rd

Montgomery County, MD

Larry Franklin

9/17/03

MD SHPO

Concrete entry block embellished with an ornamental pattern, southeast entry.

7/9

25/

35-134

Flagpole, Sumner Site
Army Map Service Historic District
4600 Sangamore Rd
Montgomery County, MD
Larry Franklin
9/17/03
MD SHPO

Globe memorial and flagpole installation, view northeast. Contributing resources.

8/9

PRO<No. 9 >009 END
3865 052 N N N-3-04 AC+01 AS+07 SALIN GR03 Z126.3/100.0

35-134

Globe memorial, Sumner site

Army Map Service Historic District

4600 Sangamore Rd

Montgomery County, MD

Larry Franklin

9/17/03

MDSHPO

Set in semi-circular lawn east of Erskine Hall, adjacent to the flagpole. Contributing resource.

9/9

23/29