

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #60-1 Building Date: ca. 1918

Building Name: Timanus-Supplee House

Location: 16904 Supplee Lane, Laurel, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description:

The Timanus-Supplee House is a two-and-one-half-story frame house which stands on open farmland ca. 1/4 mile south of the Rocky Gorge Reservoir of the Patuxent River, west of the town of Laurel. The house is cross-gabled, L-shaped, and has main entrances in both the south and east facades. The south facade is an irregular four bays wide, with entrance in the second bay. Surmounting the central two bays is a pedimented gable, with a round-arched four-pane single sash window. The east facade consists of three irregular bays in the east gable end, and a fourth in the north ell. Entrance is in the third bay, through a door with five-pane sidelights. A one-story porch with slim Tuscan columns wraps around the south and east facades. The building is covered with German siding painted white. Cornices are plain, and the roof is covered with asphalt shingle. Windows are 2/2 double hung sash, and have narrow molded surrounds. There are no shutters. The building rests on brick foundations.

Significance:

The Timanus-Supplee House is a good example of an early twentieth century vernacular farmhouse. It was built by Gustavus Timanus circa 1918 on part of a tract known as Welches Discovery. There had been a house on this tract early in the nineteenth century, home of the Edmonston family. The Edmonston farm was purchased in 1871 by Joseph Darby, and in 1897 by Gustavus Timanus. Timanus worked as superintendent at the Laurel Cotton Mill; in 1894 and again in 1904, he served as Mayor of the town of Laurel. Circa 1918, he built the subject house, using part of the foundation of the old Edmonston-Darby house which had burned down. The new house was a plain but handsome vernacular farmhouse with standard side-gable plan and pedimented facade, in a beautiful setting near the Patuxent River. During the Great Depression, Timanus defaulted in his mortgage payments and the farm was repossessed by a Baltimore Bank. It was purchased in 1931 by William and Grace Supplee. Parts of the farm have since been sold off, but the Supplee family still owns the house and approximately 16 acres. The house stands in good condition in a secluded rural area, adjoined by recreation areas and open parkland.

Acreage: 15.71 acres

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Timanus House

and/or common Supplee House (Joseph Darby House)

## 2. Location

street & number 16904 Supplee Lane  not for publication

city, town Laurel  vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

## 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Grace L. Supplee

street & number P.O. Box #3312, Pojoaque Station telephone no.:

city, town Santa Fe state and zip code New Mexico 87501

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber #4501

street & number Main Street folio 444

city, town Upper Marlboro state Md.

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Sites

date 1974  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records History Division MNCPPC

city, town Riverdale state Md.

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

The Timanus-Supplee House is a two-and-one-half-story frame house which stands on open farmland ca. 1/4 mile south of the Rocky Gorge Reservoir of the Patuxent River, west of the town of Laurel. To the south is a community park, and to the north a public picnic area and fishing pier at the river's edge. The house, accessible by a long lane, is cross-gabled, L-shaped, and has main entrances in both the south and east facades. The south facade is an irregular four bays wide, with entrance in the second bay, and the fourth bay filled with (double) French doors. Surmounting the central two bays is a pedimented gable, with a round-arched four-pane single sash window. The east facade consists of three (irregular) bays in the east gable end, and a fourth in the north ell. Entrance is in the third bay, through a door with five-pane sidelights. At loft level in both east and west gable ends is a round-arched window similar to that in the south pediment. A one-story porch with slim Tuscan columns wraps around the south and east facades. There is an interior chimney at the ridge, between third and fourth bays of the main block.

The fenestration on the first story of the west gable end has been modernized; the first bay is filled with a small six-window projecting bay, while the second is a tri-partite picture window. The northwest corner formed by the main block and the ell is filled by a one-story enclosed porch.

The building is covered with German siding painted white. Cornices are plain, and the roof is covered with asphalt shingle. Windows are 2/2 double hung sash, and have narrow molded surrounds. There are no shutters. The building rests on brick foundations.

There is an old shed on the north side of the lane to the house, but other than that there are no outbuildings.

# 8. Significance

<b>Period</b>	<b>Areas of Significance—Check and justify below</b>			
<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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) local history
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** ca. 1918 **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.

The Timanus-Suplee House is a good example of an early twentieth century vernacular farmhouse. It was built by Gustavus Timanus circa 1918 on part of a tract known as Welches Discovery. There had been a house on this tract early in the nineteenth century, home of the Edmonston family.<sup>1</sup> The 338-acre Edmonston farm was purchased in 1871 by Joseph Darby, who then sold off several parcels including 11-1/2 acres on the Patuxent River to Alvin Bond to be used as a mill.<sup>2</sup> From that time on, the farm property was known as the Bonds Mill Farm. This 280-acre farm was purchased by Gustavus Timanus in 1897.<sup>3</sup>

Timanus owned several other properties in the town of Laurel, and worked as superintendent at the Laurel Cotton Mill. In 1894 and again in 1904, he served as Mayor of the town of Laurel. Circa 1918, he built the subject house on Bonds Mill Farm, using part of the foundation of the old Edmonston-Darby house which had burned down.<sup>4</sup> The new house was a plain but handsome vernacular farmhouse with standard side gable plan and pedimented facade, in a beautiful setting near the Patuxent River.

During the Great Depression, Timanus defaulted in his mortgage payments and the farm was repossessed by a Baltimore Bank. It was advertised for sale as a "farm ...located in a good farming region, two miles north from Laurel, ...improved by a main dwelling, two barns and other outbuildings."<sup>5</sup> It was purchased in 1931 by William and Grace Suplee.<sup>6</sup> Parts of the farm have since been sold off, but the Suplee family still owns the house and approximately 16 acres. The house stands in good condition in a secluded rural area, adjoined by recreation areas and open parkland.



MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

#60-1 PG:60-1  
PG # 4

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1700045604

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON: Supplee House				
AND/OR HISTORIC: JOSEPH DARBY HOUSE				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: Supplee Lane				
CITY OR TOWN: Laurel				
STATE: Maryland		COUNTY: Prince George's		
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC				
Yes:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No				
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> Police <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: Grace L. Supplee				
STREET AND NUMBER: 101 Supplee Lane				
CITY OR TOWN: Laurel			STATE: Maryland	
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Prince George's County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY: None				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
	(Check One)			(Check One)	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house is a 2½ story L-shaped farmhouse with shiplap siding. There is a center gable on the main (south) facade; this gable and the east and west gables have arched windows. A porch runs across the south and east facades; the entrance has sidelights.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Empty box for Major Bibliographical References.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

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

STATE:	COUNTY:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: M-NCPPC DATE: 2/15/73

STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring STATE: Maryland

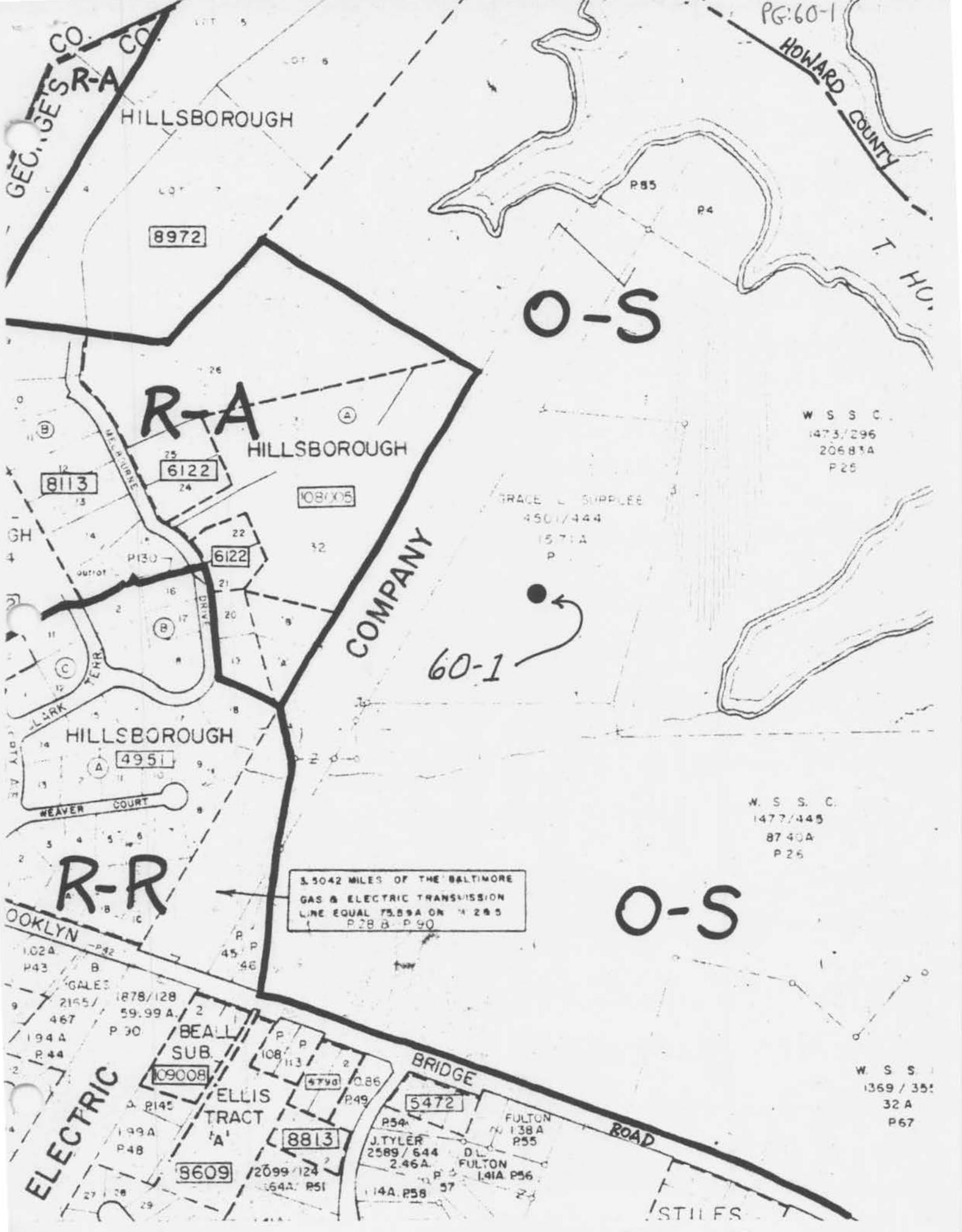
12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National  State  Local

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



GEORGE'S R-A

PG-60-1  
HOWARD COUNTY

HILLSBOROUGH

8972

O-S

R-A

HILLSBOROUGH

W S S C  
1473/296  
20683A  
P25

8113

6122

108105

TRACE L. SUPPLEE  
4501/444  
1571A  
P

COMPANY

60-1

HILLSBOROUGH

4951

W S S C  
1477/445  
8740A  
P26

R-R

3.5042 MILES OF THE BALTIMORE  
GAS & ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION  
LINE EQUAL 75.89A ON 1 28 5  
P28 & P90

O-S

OOKLYN

ELECTRIC

BEALL  
SUB

ELLIS  
TRACT

BRIDGE

ROAD

STILES

W S S C  
1369/351  
32 A  
P67

109008

8813

5472

9609

2099/124  
164A, R51

J. TYLER  
2589/644  
2.46A

FULTON  
138A  
P55

D.L. FULTON  
141A  
P56

114A, P58

57

## 8. Continued

Notes

1 A small graveyard southeast of the house included one stone, inscribed with the name "Susan Edmonston" and the date 1814. (Letter, 19 February 1985 from Grace L. Supplee to Susan G. Pearl). The stone has not been discovered in recent years.

2 Prince George's County Land Records HB #5:238; HB #12:75.

3 ibid. JWB #41:495.

4 Supplee letter, op. cit.; Prince George's County Tax Assessments 1900-1926.

5 Prince George's County Land Records #196:223; Equity #8272.

6 Prince George's County Land Records #366:165.

## Chain of Title

Timanus House  
P.G. #60-1

#4501:444 27 June 1975 Deed	Grace L. Supplee, Mary Ethel Gattis and Sarah Supplee Faudi to Grace L. Supplee, Mary Ethel Gattis and Sarah Supplee Faudi; 51.3 acres in 10th E.D.; grantors hold property as joint tenants, with rights of survivorship, and want to change tenancy to tenants in common; same tract which was described in #3411:58.
#3411:60 26 Oct 1966 Deed	Hubert K. Arnold to Grace L. Supplee, Mary Ethel Gattis and Sarah Supplee Faudi, as joint tenants; 51.3 acres in 10th E.D.; same property described in deed immediately prior.
#3411:58 26 Oct 1966 Deed	Grace L. Supplee, devisee of William C. Supplee, to Hubert K. Arnold; 51.3 acres in 10th E.D.; property which grantor received by will GSMcG#1:165.
GSMcG#1:165 31 Jan 1967 Will	William Carleton Supplee, who died 25 July 1966, devised all of his real, personal and mixed property to his widow, Grace L. Supplee.
#366:165 18 Sep 1931 Deed	William P. and Dorothy W. Magruder to William C. and Grace L. Supplee; 283 acres in 10th E.D.; same land conveyed by JWB#41:495.
#374:201 11 Sep 1931 Deed	Federal Land Bank of Baltimore to William P. and Dorothy W. Magruder; 283 acres in 10th E.D.; same grantor acquired by deed immediately prior.
#374:200 10 Sep 1931 Deed	Charles W. Held, assignee of mortgage to Federal Land Bank of Baltimore; same property mortgaged by #193:223 and same which G. B. Timanus acquired by JWB#41:495.
#8272 1931 Equity	Gustavus B. and Lucy O. Timanus defaulted on mortgage to Federal Land Bank of Baltimore which assigned the property involved to Charles W. Held to foreclose; Federal Land Bank purchased property, as highest bidder, at public sale on 29 May 1931; same which G. B. and L. O. Timanus mortgaged by #196:223.

- 2 -

#196:223 8 Sep 1926 Mortgage	Gustavus B. and Lucy O. Timanus to the Federal Land Bank of Baltimore; 283 acres in 10th E.D.; to secure debt of \$5,500; same which grantors acquired by JWB#41:495.
JWB#41:495 28 Sep 1897 Deed	Joseph J. and Mary E. Grindall to Gustavus B. Timanus; 292 acres, excepting 2 parcels, totaling 11-1/2 acres, which were sold by earlier owner Joseph Darby; same property grantors acquired as 2 separate parcels by JWB#3:500 and 502.
JWB #3:502 2 Aug. 1884 Deed	Charles H. Stanley, trustee, to Joseph Grindall, 228 acres, part of land mortgaged in HB #12:75.
HB #12:75 25 Jan. 1877 Mortgage	Joseph Darby to Joseph Grindall, to secure \$2,000 loan, 338 acres of Welches Discovery (except 98-1/2 acres, and 11-1/2 acres previously sold) which grantor acquired from James Herbert in 1871.
HB #5:238 1 Oct. 1871 Deed	James and Rachel Herbert for \$6,900 to Joseph Darby, 338 acres which grantor acquired from Elizabeth W. Edmonston by FS #3:562.



NAME JOSEPH DARBY HOUSE #60-1  
LOCATION SUPLEE LANE (NEAR ROCKY GORGE) LAUREL, MD  
FACADE SE  
PHOTO TAKEN 1/18/73 MDWYER



P.G.#60-1

Timanus-Supplee House

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

April 1985

South elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G.#60-1

Timanus-Supplee House  
Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

April 1985

East elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G.#60-1

Timanus-Supplee House

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

April 1985

West elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G.#60-1

Timanus-Supplee House

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

April 1985

North elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.