

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form
Intercounty Connector Project

DOE yes no1. **Name:** (indicate preferred name)

historic George Sellers Property

and/or common Harrison Management Property

2. **Location:**

street & number 6300 Sandy Spring Road

 not for publication

city, town Laurel

 vicinity of

congressional district

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input 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 checked="" 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"/> other:
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	

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

name Harrison Management

street & number 6300 Sandy Spring Road

telephone no.:

city, town Laurel

state and zip code Maryland 20707

5. **Location of Legal Description**

Land Records of Prince George's County

liber 3422

street & number Prince George's County Judicial Center

folio 797

city, town Upper Marlboro

state Maryland

6. **Representation in Existing Historical Surveys**

title N/A

date

 federal state county local

depository for survey records

.ty, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. PG: 60-11 (PACS D1.15)

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> _excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> _deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> _unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _x original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> _good	<input type="checkbox"/> _ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _x altered	<input type="checkbox"/> _moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> _fair	<input type="checkbox"/> _unexposed			

Resource Count: 1

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

The George Sellers Property is a 1-story, 3-bay log building on the south side of Sweitzer Lane in the Laurel vicinity of Prince George's County. Constructed in 1938, the building has a wood frame addition.

The structure has a side gable, asphalt shingle roof with exposed wood rafters. The original building has an exterior stone chimney on the west facade. The addition has an asphalt shingle gable roof, and an exterior concrete masonry chimney at the center of the north facade. The original building is of log construction and chinked with concrete, and its foundation is not visible. The windows are double-hung wood sash. The building has an entry porch on the south elevation. The porch has a gable roof and is supported by two log posts bearing on concrete masonry.

The south, or front, elevation of the original building has a centered wood door with one large light with a wood screen door. The fenestration pattern is symmetrical, with two 1/1 double-hung windows on the first story. Alterations to the elevation include the addition of a gable entry bearing on log posts and concrete masonry.

The east elevation of the original building has a wood frame, hipped roof porch. The porch has a wood half wall and wood posts supporting the roof. The fenestration is one 1/1 double-hung window on the first story. Alterations to the elevation include the wood frame porch.

The north, or rear, elevation of the original building has a wood frame addition. The fenestration pattern is irregular. There are two 1/1 double-hung windows on the first story of the original building.

The north elevation of the addition has one 1/1 double-hung window. The addition has a centered concrete masonry chimney and clapboard siding. Deterioration is evident in peeling paint.

The west elevation of the original building has a centered exterior stone chimney. The fenestration pattern is symmetrical with two 1/1 double-hung windows on the first story.

The west elevation of the addition has a concrete patio. There is one 1/1 double-hung window and a wood door with four lights adjacent to the original building. The door has an aluminum storm door and an aluminum awning.

The south elevation of the addition is adjacent to the east porch and has one 6-light casement window. The east elevation of the rear addition has a wood paneled, 6-light door.

The property is located on the south side of Sweitzer Lane with residential property to the east. The building is located at the edge of a ridge, high above the intersection of Sweitzer Lane and Sandy Spring Road. The lot is wooded on the west and south side. The property's setting is suburban and has not been significantly altered.

8. Significance

Survey No. PG: 60-11 (PACS D1.15)

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archaeology-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 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 type="checkbox"/> x1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communication	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1938

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or
Applicable Exceptions: 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 George Sellers Property was originally on 17 hectares (42½ acres) of land conveyed by Louis Wootten to George T. and Bertha M. Sellers on January 24, 1927. Deed records indicate that Louis Wootten and his wife acquired the land from Lucretia Roby on December 18, 1917. Lucretia Roby inherited the land from her father William. Tax records indicate that the building was constructed in 1938, the time when the Sellers owned the land and several adjacent parcels. The reference to the property is a deed dated June 9, 1961, in which Luther E. Bounds conveyed 0.22 hectares (0.556 acres) of land to James A. Harrison. No reference detailing the conveyance of land from George T. and Bertha M. Sellers to Luther E. Bounds was found. The next reference to the property is a deed dated June 30, 1966. This deed details a large transaction, where James A. Harrison and Edna R. Harrison conveyed various parcels of land to Maureen M. Moran. Maureen M. Moran conveyed these parcels of land back to James A. Harrison and Edna R. Harrison on the same day. James A. Harrison is the current owner of the property.

The George Sellers Property is located near Laurel, on land originally patented to Richard Snowden in 1715 as "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" in Prince George's County. "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" was approximately 1214 hectares (3000 acres) from Old Columbia Pike to the present city of Laurel, and from south of Greencastle and Van Dusen Roads to north of Sandy Spring Road. The 1715 patent increased the already substantial Snowden land holdings, and later additions to Snowden land eventually covered 3749 hectares (9265 acres) by 1743. (Geraci, 1976: 4; Cook, 1976: 270-271).

The Snowden family had established a grist mill at Laurel about 1810. In 1824, the grist mill was adapted to spin cotton yarn that was shipped to textile mills. In 1835, the mill was converted back to a grist mill. Snowden family members and the O.C. Tiffany company of Baltimore established the Patuxent Cotton Manufacturing Company. Factory buildings were built along the river, and the town of Laurel developed as a manufacturing town along Main Street running between the factory and the B&O Railroad station (Prince George's County 1974: 283; Prince George's County Historical Society 1980: 37). Laurel became the largest town in the county. The textile mill provided the basis for Laurel's economy into the twentieth century. When textile output began to decline early in the century, Laurel began to develop as a suburb for both Washington and Baltimore. Located halfway between the two cities, Laurel was accessible to commuters by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and by U.S. 1 (Prince George's County 1974: 284).

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM
RESOURCE NAME: George Sellers Property
SURVEY NO.: PG: 60-11 (PACS D1.15)
ADDRESS: 6300 Sandy Spring Road, Laurel, Prince George's County

8. Significance (Continued)

The George Sellers Property is a log cabin, a twentieth century example of a building type constructed in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Historically, log cabins were constructed to serve many purposes. A cabin with one or two rooms provided temporary protection from the elements and from hostile Indians. The timber was readily available and the construction techniques were rudimentary; round, roughly finished logs were laid in horizontal tiers for the walls and the roof was covered with wood shingles. Packed dirt formed the floor and the chimney was constructed of wood with a clay-lined flue. Log construction was also used for schools, churches, courthouses, forts, and mills (Stotz 1936:27). More spacious log buildings continued to be constructed even after the ascendancy of other construction techniques:

The erection of log buildings continued long after the close of the pioneer period and even well into the middle of the nineteenth century; they remained the simple, direct, and economical answer to living needs in isolated districts abounding in timber (Stotz 1936:12).

Frequently, early log houses were covered with clapboards or stucco during the later nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, thus disguising their construction technique. During the 1930s, log cabins were built around the country in parks and other natural areas. Machine cut and finished logs replaced hand-hewn rough timber. The George Sellers Property is an example of machine cut log construction; another example in the area is the Visitor Center at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, constructed during the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps.

National Register Evaluation:

Constructed in 1938, the George Sellers Property is not eligible for the National Register. The property is not eligible under Criterion A; no event or pattern of events significant in local, state, or national history have been determined to have been associated with the property. The property is not eligible under Criterion B; no person significant in local, state or national history has been determined to have been associated with the property. The property is not eligible under Criterion C; the property is an undistinguished example of 1930s log construction. In addition, the character of the original design has been altered by a small frame addition, and by the introduction of concrete masonry supporting log posts for an entry porch. Finally the property has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, does not meet Criterion D.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility Not Recommended Y

Comments

Reviewer, OPS: [Signature] Date: 11/95/01
Reviewer, NR Program: [Signature] Date: 11/9/01

✓-entered

9. Major Bibliographical References Survey No. PG:60-11(PACS D1.15)

See Attached

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property _____
Quadrangle name Beltsville

Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

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 Caroline Hall/Ryan McKay

organization P.A.C. Spero & Company

date October 1996

street & number 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 412

telephone (410) 296-1635

city or town Baltimore

state Maryland

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 purposed only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
 DHCP/DHCD
 100 Community Place
 Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
 (410) 514-7600

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: George Sellers Property

SURVEY NO.: PG: 60-11 (PACS D1.15)

ADDRESS: 6300 Sandy Spring Road, Laurel, Prince George's County

9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

- Brugger, Robert A. Maryland, A Middle Temperament 1634-1980. Baltimore and London: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1988.
- Cook, William G. Montpelier & the Snowden Family. Privately Printed, 1976.
- Geraci, Ron, Vicki Walker, and Linda Donnary. Old Building Survey of the Burtonsville Area. Burtonsville, Maryland: Burtonsville Bicentennial Committee, 1976.
- Hiebert, Ray Eldon, and Richard K. MacMaster. A Grateful Remembrance: the Story of Montgomery County, Maryland. Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Government and the Montgomery County Historical Society, 1976.
- Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington including County of Prince George's, Maryland. Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, 1879; reprint, Riverdale, Maryland: Prince George's County Historical Society, 1975.
- Land Records of Prince George's County, Upper Marlboro, Maryland.
- Prince George's County Community Renewal Program. The Neighborhoods of Prince George's County. Upper Marlboro, Maryland: Prince George's County Government, 1974.
- Stotz, Charles M. The Architectural Heritage of Early Western Pennsylvania: A Record of Building Before 1860. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 1936.
- Tindall, George Brown. America: A Narrative History. 2 vols. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., 1984.
- Virta, Alan. Prince George's County: A Pictorial History. Virginia Beach: The Donning Company Publishers, 1984, rev. 1991.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: George Sellers Property

SURVEY NO.: PG: 60-11 (PACS D1.15)

ADDRESS: 6300 Sandy Spring Road, Laurel, Prince George's County

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet

Historic Context:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period Theme (s):

12. Modern Period A.D. 1930 - Present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

2. Architecture

RESOURCE TYPE:

Category (see Section 3 of survey form):

Building

Historic Environment (urban, suburban, village, or rural):

Suburban

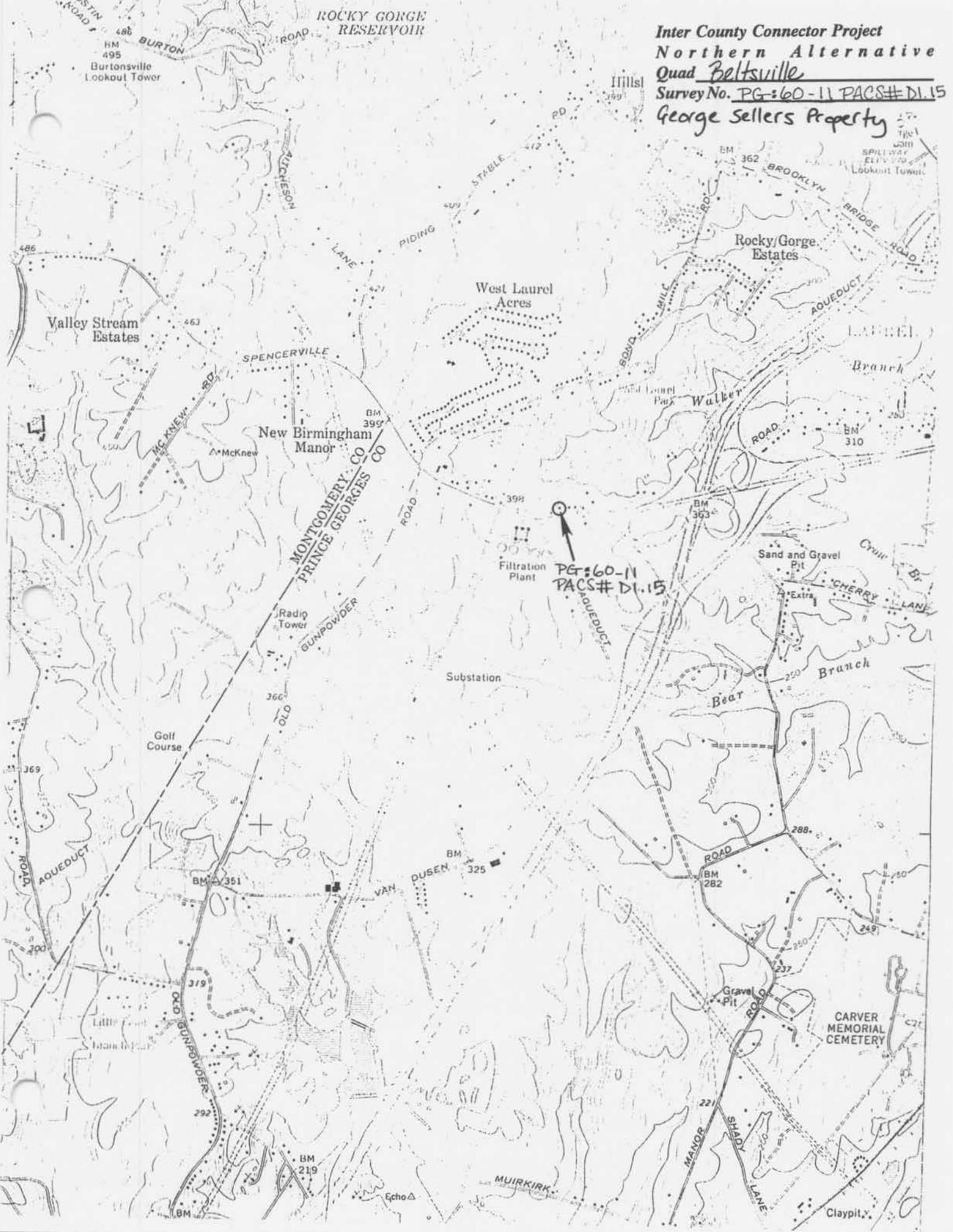
Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Dwelling

Known Design Source (write none if unknown):

None

Inter County Connector Project
Northern Alternative
Quad Beltsville
Survey No. PG-60-11 PACS# D1.15
George Sellers Property





- 1) PGT: 60-11
- 2) George Sellers Property
- 3) Prince Georges County
- 4) Ryan McKay
- 5) Feb. 1996
- 6) P.A.C. Spino & Co, Towson MD
- 7) 3rd Sweitzer lane, north and west facade
- 8) 1 of 4



- 1) PG: 60-10
- 2) George Sellers Property
- 3) Prince Georges County
- 4) Ryan McKay
- 5) Feb. 1996
- 6) P.A.C. Sperry & Co, Towson MD
- 7) 6th Sweetser Lane, west and south
facades
- 8) 2 of 4



1) PG: 60-11

2) George Sellers Property

3) Prince Georges County

4) Ryan McKay

5) Feb. 1996

6) P.A.C. Spew + Co, Towson MD

7) ¹⁵⁰⁰ Sweitzer lane, east facade

8) 3 of 4



- 1) Dgt: 60-11
- 2) George Sellers Property
- 3) Prince Georges County
- 4) Ryan McKay
- 5) Feb. 1996
- 6) P.A.C. Spens & Company, Jessup MD
- 7) 6³⁰⁰ Switzer Lane, north facade
- 8) 4 of 4