

**CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Property Name: Sellman House/Bldg 023 Survey Number: P.G. #61-12

Property Address: Building 023 at Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)

Project: Section 110 Agency: F/USDA

Site visit by MHT Staff: no yes Name _____ Date _____

District Name: BARC Historic District Survey Number: PG 2-1-1

Listed Eligible _____ Comment _____

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

The resource contributes/_____ does not contribute to the historic significance of this historic district in:

Location Design Setting Materials

Workmanship Feeling Association

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

The Sellman House is a large American Foursquare ~~built~~ constructed c. 1903. The USDA purchased the house and associated property for its expansion of Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) in 1933. The two story frame dwelling exhibits a hipped roof and wrap-around porch. Due to its size, the building was reserved as the residence of the Senior Horticulturist at BARC. When the building was originally surveyed in 1997, it was not assessed for its potential as a contributing resource to a historic district. USDA has now completed its survey of BARC. Their consultant determined that the entire 6582 acres is eligible. The Trust concurred with this determination. Building 023 is a contributing resource.

Documentation on the property is presented in: documentation report on BARC PR 229 in
MHT library

Prepared by: Robinson & Associates

Lauren Bowlin

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

2/00

Date

NR program concurrence: yes no not applicable

B. Kintz
Reviewer, NR program

2/29/02

Date

Ching

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

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

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
- Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
- Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
- Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
- Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
- Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
- Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
- Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
- Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
- Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
- Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
- Unknown Period (prehistoric historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

- Subsistence
- Settlement
- Political
- Demographic
- Religion
- Technology
- Environmental Adaption

IV. Historic Period Themes:

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

V. Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): domestic/ dwelling

Known Design Source: _____

ADMINISTRATIVE/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In connection with the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) Master Plan project, the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) initiated procedures to comply with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended). In August 1995, Robinson & Associates, Inc., an architectural history and historic preservation consulting firm, was retained as consultants to conduct a survey of residences on the BARC property. A total of 18 residential buildings were identified by ARS for inclusion in the survey, which is being completed in phases. This report presents an assessment of eligibility for one of the first three residences evaluated.

Building 023, the Sellman House, is a large example of the hipped-roof, square, vernacular house form popular throughout the country during the early 1900s. It was built for the Sellman brothers, farmers of German descent, in the first years of the twentieth century. The Department of Agriculture acquired the property in the early 1930s as one of the first parcels which came to comprise the North Farm, the administrative headquarters of BARC. The Sellman House first briefly served as residence for the Superintendent of the facility. It subsequently housed other employees of the station. Building 023 does not appear to rise to the level of significance necessary for eligibility under the criteria established by the National Register. (See "Evaluation of Individual Eligibility," which follows.)

METHODOLOGY

Soon after the initiation of the residential Determination of Eligibility project, a windshield survey of 18 residences at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, including Buildings 023, was conducted. Subsequent site visits to Building 023 enabled closer investigation of both the interiors and exteriors of this residence; photographs were taken at one of these later visits.

Historical research on Building 023 and its owners was conducted at the Maryland State Archives in Annapolis and at the Prince George's County Courthouse in Upper Marlboro. Research regarding the Department of Agriculture's ownership and use of the house and property was conducted at the National Archives, College Park Facility; the Library of Congress; and the National Agricultural Library. Information regarding Foursquares in Prince George's County was acquired through the Historic Preservation Section of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Previous work by Robinson & Associates on the history of BARC (Robinson & Associates, Inc., *Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, Phase III Report*, December 1995; *Preliminary Historic Context Statement, North Farm, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center*, November 1994) provided information on the acquisition of land and the development of the North Farm.

A Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form was prepared for the residence, based on the requirements specified in the *Guidelines for Completing the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form*.

EVALUATION OF INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY

Building 023 (the Sellman House) was evaluated under Criteria A, B, and C at the local and national levels of significance. The relevant National Register criteria, as listed in the *National Register Bulletin 16* (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Interagency Resources Division), read as follows:

The quality of **significance** in American history, architecture, archeology, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or**
- B. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or**
- C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; . . .**

Criterion A

The Sellman House (Building 023) was built ca. 1903. Before its acquisition by the United States Department of Agriculture in 1933, the residence appears to have been a standard family farm dwelling, built to house a large, extended family. It does not appear to have been linked to any significant events in Prince George's County. In the early 1930s, when the government purchased the property for the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, the house was designated as the residence for the Senior Horticulturist or Superintendent of the Station. Subsequently, it served as general employee housing for the station. Since its purchase, the house does not appear to have played an important role in BARC's development. As such, the house does not seem to be "associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history" (Criterion A).

Criterion B

The Sellman House was constructed at the turn of the century by the Sellman brothers for their families. Recent research does not reveal the Sellmans to have made any significant contributions to the history of the county or the nation. When the government acquired the property in the early 1930s, the house was selected as the residence for the Superintendent of the Station. James H. Beattie, Superintendent during the 1940s at BARC, is the only superintendent known to have lived in the house. During recent years the house has been occupied by various BARC employees. Beattie authored numerous articles relating to agricultural subjects throughout his career in the USDA; these articles, however, which cannot necessarily be tied to his residency in Building 023, do not appear to rise to the level of significance necessary to justify eligibility under the National Register's Criterion B. Because the building is not

associated with the lives of significant people, the Sellman House does not appear to have significance under Criterion B.

Criterion C

Building 023 has been described as "an unusually large example of the hipped-roof vernacular house form popular during the first decade of the twentieth century."¹ The Foursquare was an extremely popular house form in both suburban and rural America around the turn of the century and into the first decades of this century. Characterized by a symmetrical exterior arrangement, the typical Foursquare was two stories high with a large veranda running the full width of the first story. It had a hipped roof punctuated by one or more dormer windows. The interior plan of the building generally exhibited four equal-sized rooms per floor and a side stairhall. In Prince George's County there are a number of historically significant Foursquares, listed in the *Illustrated Inventory of Historic Sites*. The Sellman House (Building 023), while rather unusual for its large size -- with a floor plan of six rooms per floor symmetrically arranged off a large central hall -- does not appear to embody the design characteristics that would distinguish it for listing under Criterion C of the National Register. Its size alone does not indicate architectural significance.

Criterion D

Building 023 was not evaluated for archeological significance.

¹The Sellman House, *Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Site Inventory Form* (PG 61-12), completed by Susan G. Pearl, Maryland National-Capital Park and Planning Commission, August 1985.

PG: 61-12

SELLMAN HOUSE -- BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER

Location: Beltsville, MD (Prince Georges County)

Date of Construction: 1900-1903

Access: Public

The Sellman House is an unusually large example of the hip-roofed Foursquare vernacular house form. The house was constructed around the turn of the century by Theodore and Robert Sellman, and it was the principal dwelling on their 290-acre farm. The Sellman House was one of approximately fourteen structures (most of which were outbuildings) extant on the land that was purchased for the establishment of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Plant Industry Station in 1933. The Sellman House was occupied by James H. Beattie, Senior Horticulturalist, and later the Superintendent of the Plant Industry Station in the early years of the Bureau of Plant Industry's facilities at Beltsville. Subsequent to its use by Beattie, it was occupied by a number of different Plant Industry employees. The building is now vacant.

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties**

1. Name

Historic Name Sellman House

Common Name and Building Number Building 023

2. Location

Street and Number Beltsville Agricultural Research Center

City, Town Beltsville

Congressional District

State and Zip Code MD 20705

County Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present use
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Work in Progress	<input type="checkbox"/> Educational
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes: Restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government
	<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes: Unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial
	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Military
			<input type="checkbox"/> Museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> Park
			<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> Religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Housing

4. Owner of Property

Name U.S. Department of Agriculture

Street & Number 10300 Baltimore Avenue

Telephone No.: (301) 504-5187

City, Town Beltsville

State and Zip Code MD 20705

5. Location of Legal Description

Courthouse, Registry of Deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse Liber# 401 Folio# 99

Street & Number Main Street

City, Town Upper Marlboro

State and Zip Code MD

6. Representation in Existing Historic Survey

Yes No

Title P.G. County Inventory of Historic Sites, MHT State Historic Site Inventory Form, #61-12

Date 1974, 1985

Federal State County Local

Depository for Survey Records Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

7. Description

Survey No. 61-12

Condition

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair

Deteriorated

- Unaltered Original Site
- Ruins Altered Moved
- Unexposed

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

8. Significance

Survey No. 61-12

Period

- Prehistoric
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
- 1800-1899
- 1900-

Areas of Significance

- Archeology-Prehistoric
- Community Planning
- Archeology-Historic
- Agriculture
- Architecture
- Art
- Commerce
- Landscape Architecture
- Religion
- Conservation
- Law
- Science
- Economics
- Literature
- Sculpture
- Education
- Military
- Social/Humanit
- Engineering
- Music
- Theater
- Exploration/Settlement
- Philosophy
- Transportation
- Communications
- Industry
- Politics/Government
- Other (specify)
- Invention

Specific Dates

Architect Builder Area

Applicable Criteria:

A B C D

Applicable Exception

A B C D E F G

Level of Significance

National State Local

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. 61-12

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the site follows West Drive on the east and south, and the access drive to the Sellman House (Building 23) on the north. On the west, the boundary is defined by the access drive, until it jogs further to the west to include the two support buildings, Buildings 023A and 023B, which are located to the rear or west of the Sellman House.

11. Form Prepared by

Name/Title Heather Ewing, Judith Robinson

Organization Robinson & Associates, Inc.

Date April 22, 1996

Street & Number 1909 Q St., NW #300

Telephone (202) 234-2333

City or Town Washington, D.C.

State 20009

Concurrence of State Preservation Officer

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

Return to:

Maryland Historical Trust

DHCP/DHCD

100 Community Place

Crownsville, Maryland 21032-2023

(410) 514-7600

HISTORIC CONTEXT

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographical Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Periods: Industrial/Urban Dominance

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Agriculture

Resource Type:

Category: buildings

Historic Environment: rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): domestic

Known Design Source: none

Overview

Constructed between 1900 and 1903, the Sellman farmhouse (Building 023) is located in the North Farm of the United States Department of Agriculture's Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. The two-and-one-half-story frame dwelling is an unusually large example of an American Foursquare type. Built for the Sellman brothers, the house along with approximately 300 acres was purchased by the government in the 1930s as part of acquisitions in Beltsville for the establishment of the research station. In the early years of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC), the Sellman House was used as the home of the superintendent of the station. The house today, located on a prominent hill overlooking much of the North Farm, is still used as a residence. It has recently undergone some restoration work, including the replacement of rotting wood at ground level and on the wrap-around porch.

Architectural Description

The house is a large, two-and-one-half-story frame dwelling, with a hipped roof and a wrap-around porch on the first floor. Situated at the crest of a gently sloping hill, surrounded by mature trees, this Colonial Revival-style house is facing east, positioned at a slight angle to the southeast. On its north, west, and south sides, the building is bordered by drives; to the east is the open lawn leading down to the main administrative area of the North Farm. To the rear of the property (on its west side), across a gravel drive, are two small secondary structures, a gabled barn and a shed.

The house is clad in white clapboard siding. It has a hipped roof covered in asphalt shingles, topped by a widow's walk. On three of the four elevations of the house there are large paired-window dormers each capped by a small hipped roof. The dormers are flush with the facades of the building. The west elevation does not have a dormer window.

The primary facade faces east, towards Route 1. This symmetrical front facade is five bays wide, with a wrap-around porch on the first floor. The porch, which is slightly elevated, is supported by six evenly spaced wooden columns. These columns rest on raised, rusticated stone block bases and are connected by a balustrade with turned balusters. The roofline of the porch extends on either side of the main facade and wraps around to the north and south elevations, creating a pyramidal effect on the primary facade, as it lines up with the main roofline. The front door is reached through the porch in the central bay of the first floor, framed by sidelights and a transom window. Throughout the structure, the windows are elongated, rectangular, two-over-two, double-hung, wood-sash windows, without shutters.

The nearly identical north and south side elevations are three bays wide, with the center bay featuring a two-story bay window. The division between the first and second levels of the bay window is marked by a scallop-shingled skirt that appears to have been recently reshingled on the south facade. The wrap-around porch continues from the main facade around each side elevation and terminates at its junction to the bay window. The window placement on both the north and south elevations consists of a window flanking either side of the bay window and three window openings in the bay window. This pattern is

repeated on the second floor. On the south elevation, the western end has two smaller, two-over-two, double-hung units stepped in relation to one another. The building has two brick chimneys, located towards the rear of the house on the western side of either gable dormer.

The west (or rear) elevation features a two-story porch that is quite different in character from the gracious wrap-around porch of the main facade. The porch is divided into three sections, articulated by simple square posts. The open upper story features a balustrade, while the lower story is enclosed by a screen and has smaller woodframes dividing the space into six sections. The fenestration on the second level of the porch consists of five openings. Three of the openings are windows comparable to those on other facades of the house.

Interior

The Sellman house is a very large example of an American Foursquare plan. The house has a central hallway, with six (instead of the typical four) large rooms, three on each side of the hall, on both the first and second stories. The third story is a smaller attic space, which appears to have been opened up somewhat.

Outbuildings

The house has two extant support buildings (Buildings 023A and 023B), which are located directly to the rear or west of the main house. These buildings appear to date from the original farm and not from the time of the Agriculture Department's acquisition of the property. One form listing improvements originally on Government owned land -- improvements not made with Federal funds -- lists four buildings "in rear of" the Sellman House, then called the Superintendent's House.¹ The four buildings listed are a garage, a wood shed, and two storage sheds. These could correspond to buildings listed in the 1932 lease between the Sellman brothers and the US government as a garage, a wood shed, a wagon shed, and a potato cellar or a barn.² An early photograph shows evidence of a structure which has since been demolished or moved. Both of the extant outbuildings are clad in the same clapboard siding as the main house and feature large six-over-six, double-hung, wood sash units.

Building 023A is a rectangular, one-story, side-gabled barn, situated on the slope of a hill. As the hill drops off in the rear, the structure's poured concrete foundation is visible. At each gable end there is a single double-hung, six-over-six wood sash window. Along the east facade facing the main house are two pairs of wooden barn doors. The roof is covered by corrugated tin.

Building 023B is a one-story shed with a single pair of double barn doors on the east facade facing the main house. The taller south elevation, which faces towards a garden, features three large six-over-six

¹National Archives Record Administration, RG 54, Entry 151A

²National Archives Records Administration, RG 54, Entry 10.

windows, the center window is slightly less elongated than the flanking windows. The shed roof, also composed of corrugated tin, slopes downward to the north and Building 023A.

Overview

The Sellman House (Building 023) is an unusually large example of the hip-roofed Foursquare vernacular house form popular throughout the country in the first decades of the twentieth century.¹ As one of the principal structures extant on the land that comprised the Agriculture Department's North Farm parcel purchase, the Sellman House was identified for use as the Superintendent's house during the development of the Plant Industry division. The acquisition of Building 023 occurred at the height of growth for the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). It has been used continuously until recent years as a residence for employees.

Sellman House

The Sellman House was constructed between 1900 and 1903 by the Sellman brothers, Theodore A., Robert Lee, and Thomas F. Sellman.² The Sellman brothers were farmers of German ancestry who came to Prince George's County around 1887. They first rented the Beall family parcel (on which the house was later constructed) in 1893. In December 1900, Theodore and Robert Sellman purchased the 346-acre parcel at a cost of \$7,000.³ Because the land was in the hands of multiple heirs, the Sellmans' petitioned the court for confirmation of a contract to sell the land. The court ratified the sale and authorized Charles H. Stanley, as the trustee, to make the sale.

Prior to the Sellman's use of the land, it had been associated with the Beall family for approximately 60 years. The land was first purchased by George Beall in February 1833. He bought the land at a price of \$8.25 per acre from the heirs of Zepheniah Cissel.⁴ George Beall left the property to his nephew, Thomas B. Beall. Thomas Beall inherited the land in September 1833, only a few months after George Beall acquired it. At the time of Thomas B. Beall's death in 1879, the property went to his wife Jane B. Beall. After her death it passed to their six children.

Theodore Sellman, the oldest of the three brothers, is listed in the 1900 census records as the head of the

¹It has been surveyed in the past by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Prince George's County Historic Site Summary Sheet, PG: #61-12.

²Assessment Records 1903, Prince George's County - Election District 1, Maryland State Archives, Annapolis, Maryland.

³Deed Record Book 1 Folio 183, 4 December 1900, Prince George's County Courthouse, Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

⁴Deed Record Book AB 7 Folio 574, 12 February 1833, Prince George's County Courthouse, Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

household, while Robert and Thomas were listed as farm laborers.⁵ Tax assessment records for 1900, when the brothers were still renting the property, list "Sellman and Brothers" as owning \$1,100 in livestock, farming implements, furniture, and jewelry. By the 1903 tax assessment, the records showed Sellman and Brothers owning 345 acres of land valued at \$15 an acre and improvements of \$3,000. The miscellaneous equipment and furniture was still valued at \$1,100. The total value of their property was \$9,275.⁶

By the 1910 Census, Thomas Sellman was no longer living at the Sellman farm. In the house were the families of Theodore, still the head of the household, and Robert Sellman. Theodore had by then been married for 22 years and had one son, age 13. Robert was also married, and had one son and one daughter. The property continued to maintain its value at approximately \$9,000 until 1916. At this time, 300 acres of the land jumped in value from \$15 to \$30 per acre and the improvements increased to \$4,200. This change in the property's value likely reflects the growth of the nearby Department of Agriculture facilities, as well as the development of the University of Maryland, and the continued growth in residences along the railroad lines between Washington and Baltimore, as the commuter population grew.

The Development of the North Farm at Beltsville

Although the Agriculture Department operated an established farm on government land in Arlington, it began searching for additional property in 1930. The Bureau of Plant Industry's Division of Fruit and Vegetable Crops and Diseases was looking for land to conduct longterm experiments with tree fruits, nuts, and grapes. There was growing concern about whether the Arlington land was to stay with the Agriculture Department or be transferred to another government agency. The Division of Fruit and Vegetable Crops and Diseases conducted a study of land in the Washington area, examining soil type and other conditions, in search of other suitable property. Two farms in Beltsville emerged as top choices. These two farms were located near to the original experimental farm station that the Animal Husbandry Division [check] of the Agriculture Department had established in 1910. It seems likely that the proximity of these two farms to the other, earlier, Agriculture Department facilities in the Beltsville area played a significant role in the relocation of the North Farm from Arlington to Beltsville.⁷

⁵U.S. Bureau of the Census, Volume 37 ED 90 Sheet 8, National Archives Records Administration, Washington, DC. The census lists Theodore, his wife, son, two brothers, and a cousin, and a servant as living together. It is not clear whether the Sellman House (Building 023) was constructed by this time (1900) or whether this extended family was living in another residence.

⁶Assessment Records 1900 - 1903, Prince George's County - Election District 1, Maryland State Archives, Annapolis, Maryland.

⁷The Department of Agriculture had been operating at Beltsville since 1910 when the Bureau of Animal Industry established the Poultry and Dairy Farms in what is today known as the Central Farm parcel.

Working through a middle man, the Division approached the owners of the two farms, the Millers and the Sellmans, and secured options for the lease and purchase of the land. The lease with Theodore Alexander and Robert Lee Sellman for their 290-acre farm, effective February 1, 1932, established a rent of \$2,740 per year and an option for the government to purchase at \$150 per acre.⁸ Extant on the property at that time were the following buildings, wells, and springs:

- 1 dwelling house (14 rooms and basement, hot water heating system, water and bath, telephone, and Delco electric plant).
- 1 barn 45 x 72 ft., about 50 ft. high, with granary, basement and electric lights.
- 1 wagon shed about 35 x 50 with upstairs storage space.
- 2 implement sheds (fertilizer room in one, corn crib in the other).
- 1 2000 bushel corn crib.
- 1 potato cellar (about 20 x 30 x 8) with upstairs storage room.
- 1 five-room tenant house.
- 1 three-room tenant house.
- 1 four-room tenant house.
- 1 garage (16 x 20).
- 1 woodshed and pumphouse.
- 2 wells and three springs all working.
- 2 chicken houses.⁹

Work began in February 1932 on the leased Sellman and Miller properties (totalling 424.5 acres). The land was divided between the different projects of the Division of Fruit and Vegetable Crops and Diseases. Peach, apple, nut, and other fruit trees, as well as a few indicator crops, were planted in the spring of 1932. These properties were purchased a year later, in 1933. The Sellman property, including extant improvements, was purchased for \$43,419.75, with funds approximately divided between the PWA and the WPA.¹⁰

The Sellman house, the largest house on the property, became home to the Superintendent of what was then referred to as the U.S. Horticultural Field Station at Beltsville, Maryland. After its acquisition in 1933, the Sellman house was first occupied by James H. Beattie, Senior Horticulturist and later Superintendent of the [Plant Industry] Station. Born in 1882, in Zanesville, Ohio, Beattie did his undergraduate studies at Ohio State, from which he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in 1904. He began working for the Department of Agriculture that same year, and apparently spent his entire career at

⁸Lease between Theodore Alexander Sellman and Robert Lee Sellman and the United States of America, December 18, 1931. NARA, RG 54, "Deed & Title Records."

⁹National Archives, RG 54, Entry 10.

¹⁰Memorandum from J. H. Beattie, Superintendent, Plant Industry Station, to R. M. Salter, Chief of Bureau, "Field Activity Summary," March 3, 1944. NARA, RG 54, Entry 151A.

the USDA. In 1930, he completed a Master of Science at American University.¹¹ Beattie was a prolific author and during his tenure at the Department of Agriculture, he published hundreds of articles. Many of these pieces appeared in the Department's Farmers' Bulletin and they covered a variety of topics varying from watermelons, corn, sweet potatoes, and peanuts, to how to grow cucumbers for pickling, and tips on home storage of vegetables and fruits. Beattie also wrote on the issue of greenhouse construction and heating.

The Sellman house in 1935 was valued at \$5000, and Beattie had \$360 a year deducted from his pay of \$4600 for the cost of rent and utilities.¹² In 1944, the Department of Agriculture valued the house at \$7500.¹³

The American Foursquare

The Foursquare¹⁴ was an extremely popular house form in both suburban and rural America from the late 1890s to the 1920s. Construction of the form peaked around 1900. The Foursquare type presented Americans at the turn of the century with a simple, solid, affordable house. Its design emphasized massiveness and strength and a simple box-like form that represented a departure from asymmetrical Victorian forms. The form's massive quality was brought out by the predominantly horizontal lines used on the building.

The typical Foursquare was "two stories high, set on a raised basement with the first floor approached by steps, a veranda running the full width of the first story, capped by a low pyramidal roof that usually contained at least a front dormer, and an interior plan of four nearly equal sized rooms per floor plus side stairwell."¹⁵ Often, the Foursquare had side bay windows, which somewhat disrupted the balanced nature of the design, but did not detract from the overall visual effect of balance and symmetry.

Prince George's County like most parts of the country, has a wealth of foursquares that date from the early twentieth century. Prince George's County's *Illustrated Inventory of Historic Sites* lists five

¹¹Ed. Jaques, *American Men of Science*, 1944.

¹²Memorandum, "Residence Property, U.S. Horticultural Field Station, Beltsville, Maryland," June 14, 1935. NARA, RG 54, Entry 151A, Box 1.

¹³Memorandum from J. H. Beattie, Superintendent, Plant Industry Station, to R. M. Salter, Chief of Bureau, "Field Activity Summary," March 3, 1944. NARA, RG 54, Entry 151A.

¹⁴The term "American Foursquare" is used to designate slightly larger dwellings; the smaller ones are often called "Workingman's Foursquares."

¹⁵Alan Gowans, *The Comfortable House: North American Suburban Architecture, 1890-1930*, (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1986), 84.

examples of American Foursquare houses: the D.S.S. Goodloe House (on the National Register of Historic Places), the Baker-Holliday House, the Arthur G. Bowie House, Beechwood, and the Terrett House.¹⁶ While the Baker-Holliday House is the closest in form and style to the Sellman House, it is of the more standard Foursquare form, with a four-room, side-hall interior floor plan, and a single dormer window.

The distinguishing characteristic of the Sellman house vis-a-vis other Foursquares is its size. Because it was designed for two families, the house is unusually large in terms of its scale, plan, and its inclusion of certain features. More specifically, the house's large interior layout includes a six-room plan that is employed on both the first and second floors. The fact that the front porch wraps around both sides of the house also appears to be relatively rare among Foursquares. Although a formal survey of Foursquares in Prince Georges's County was not undertaken, based on these features, the Sellman house appears to be relatively rare as compared to other similar buildings in the area.¹⁷

¹⁶The Inventory is published by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. It lists the 260 designated historic sites in Prince George's County, sixty-one of which are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

¹⁷This finding is based on a review of secondary sources and an informal windshield survey of various areas of the county.

Bibliography

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PG: 61-12

NORTH
NOT TO SCALE



USDA
BARC Masterplan -- Plan Set



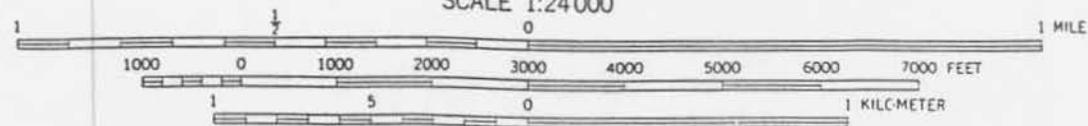
BUILDING 023

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PLANT INDUSTRY STATION

U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
PLANT INDUSTRY STA.

57°30" 31 (WASHINGTON EAST) 5661 IV NW HYATTSVILLE 3.3 MI. WASHINGTON MONUMENT 11 MI. 55' BLADE U.S. CAPITOL 1

SCALE 1:24 000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

PG:61-12

NORTH
USGS 1



023

BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER
SELLMAN HOUSE (BUILDING 023)

PG. 61-12

EAST FACADE, LOOKING WEST

PHOTO CAROL LOOPER, FEBRUARY 1996

1 OF 9



BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER 781-01 1001-0560
SELLMAN HOUSE (BUILDING 02E)

pg 81-2

EAST AND SOUTH EXCAVES, MODERN HOUSE -
PHOTO CAROL HOOPER, FEBRUARY 1996

2 OF 9



BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER
SULLAW HOUSE (BUILDING 023)

P6 61-12

EAST AND NORTH FACADES, LOOKING SOUTH WEST
PHOTO CAROL HOOPER, FEBRUARY 1996

3 OF 9



BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER
SELLMAN HOUSE (BUILDING 023)

PG 61-12

SOUTH AND WEST FACADES, LOOKING NORTHEAST
PHOTO CAROL HOOPER, FEBRUARY 1996

4 OF 9



BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER
SELLMAN HOUSE (BUILDING 023)

PG 61-12

OUTBUILDINGS ASSOCIATED WITH SELLMAN HOUSE
(BUILDINGS 023A + 023B)

PITOTO CAROL HOOKER, FEBRUARY 1996

5 OF 9



BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER
SELLMAN HOUSE (BUILDING 023)

PG 61-12

INTERIOR, FRONT HALL, LOOKING WEST

PHOTO HEATHER EWING, SEPTEMBER 1996

6 OF 9



ETHNO CO-TEX 3
BRETSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER
SELLMAN HOUSE (BUILDING 023)

PG 61-12

INTERIOR, FIRST FLOOR, LOOKING NORTH

PHOTO, HEATHER FEWING, SEPTEMBER, 1996

7 OF 9



BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER
SELLMAN HOUSE (BUILDING 023)

PG 61-12

INTERIOR, FIRST FLOOR, LOOKING EAST

PHOTO - HEATHER EWING, SEPTEMBER 1996

8 OF 9



10-10-12-105 10-10-12

BETSUILLIE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER
SELLMAN HOUSE (BUILDING 023)

RG 61-12

INTERIOR, FIRST FLOOR LOOKING EAST

PHOTO HEATHER EWING, SEPTEMBER 1996

9 OF 9

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #61-12 Building Date: ca. 1905
Building Name: Sellman House
Location: U.S.D.A. Grounds, south of Sellman Road, ^{on Pine Loop} Beltsville, Maryland

Public/Residence/Occupied/Excellent/Inaccessible

Description

The Sellman farmhouse is a two-and-one-half-story square frame dwelling house located in the western part of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. Entrance is in the central bay of the five bay east facade through a door with three-pane transom and three-pane sidelights. Across this east facade and wrapping around part of the north and south facade is a one-story porch, with slim Tuscan columns resting on molded concrete block bases, and a railing of turned balusters. Windows are 2/2 double hung sash, and have plain board surrounds with crown molding. The roof of the house is hipped, and has a "widows' walk" balustrade at the highest point. Centered in the north, east and south planes of the hipped roof at third level are hip-roofed dormers. The roof has a substantial overhang and the cornice is boxed with crown molding. The building is sheathed with German siding painted white, and rests on a high concrete block foundation. Centered in each of the three-bay north and south facades is a two-story semi-hexagonal projecting bay. Between first and second story of each bay is a flared dividing course of scalloped shingles.

Significance

The Sellman House is an unusually large example of the hip-roofed square vernacular house-form which was popular in Prince George's County in the first decade of the twentieth century. It was built by Theodore and Robert Sellman on land which for several generations had been farmed by the Beall family. In 1900, the Sellman brothers purchased 346 acres of Beall's Retreat and built this spacious dwelling to house both of their families. This handsome farmhouse follows the plan of the popular foursquare house, with central stairhall, and four large rooms on each story; it incorporates further decorative detail in the projecting side bays with their novelty shingling, and in the "widow's walk" at the crest of the hipped roof. In the 1930's the U.S. Government began buying up land in the Beltsville area for the Plant Research Station of the Department of Agriculture and the Sellman brothers sold their ca. 290 acre farm. Their handsome farmhouse is now used as a residence for U.S.D.A. employees; it stands on a hill overlooking the adjoining farmland which is now devoted to agricultural research.

Acreage: 289.465 acres

Magi No.

DOE yes no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Sellman House (Thomas B. Beall House)

and/or common U.S.D.A. residence

2. Location

street & number U.S.D.A. grounds, south of Sellman Road, *Prince George's* not for publicationcity, town Beltsville vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 U.S. Government, Department of Agriculture

street & number 18th and F Street, N.W. telephone no.:

city, town Washington, D. C. state and zip code 20405

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber #401

street & number Main Street folio 99

city, town Upper Marlboro, state Md. 20772

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Sites

date 1974 federal state county local

repository for survey records History Division, M-NCPPC

city, town Riverdale, state MD.

7. Description

Survey No. P.G. 61-12

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input 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 Sellman farmhouse is a two-and-one-half-story square frame dwelling house located on a hill in the western part of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. It stands in a grove of pine trees, and is approached by a drive which curves around the south side of the hill. The house faces east; entrance is in the central bay of the five bay east facade through a door with three-pane transom and three-pane sidelights. Across this east facade and wrapping around part of the north and south facade is a one-story porch, with slim Tuscan columns resting on molded concrete block bases, and with a railing of turned balusters. The porch rests on high concrete block piers with lattice work between piers. Windows are 2/2 double hung sash, and have plain board surrounds with crown molding. The roof of the house is hipped, and has a "widows' walk" balustrade at the highest point. Centered in the north, east and south planes of the hipped roof at third level are hip-roofed dormers, each with two windows. These dormer windows, like the facade windows, are 2/2, and have board surrounds with crown molding. The roof has recently (early 1980's) been covered with new asphalt shingle. It has a substantial overhang and the cornice is boxed with crown molding. The entire building is sheathed with German siding painted white, and rests on a high concrete block foundation.

Centered in each of the three-bay north and south facades is a two-story semi-hexagonal projecting bay, each with three 2/2 windows. Between first and second story of the bay is a flared dividing course of decorative scalloped shingles.

The five-bay rear (west) facade has doors in second and fourth bays. A two-story screen-enclosed porch covers the second, third and fourth bays; The porch has square posts with molded capitals.

Directly west of the house are two modern outbuildings. There is a two-car gable-roofed garage, with concrete block foundation and German siding. Immediately south of it is a one-story shed roofed outbuilding, also used as a garage, and also with German siding.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<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. 1905 **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 Sellman House is an unusually large example of the hipped-roofed square vernacular house-form which was popular in Prince George's County in the first decade of the twentieth century (cf. #70-21, #76B-12). It was built by Theodore and Robert Sellman on land which for several generations had been farmed by the Beall family. In 1900, the Sellman brothers purchased 346 acres of Beall's Retreat (the former home of Thomas B. Beall) and, within a few years, built on it this spacious dwelling to house both of their families.¹

This handsome farmhouse follows the plan of the popular foursquare house, with central stairhall, and four large rooms on each story. The Sellman House incorporates further decorative detail in the projecting side bays with their novelty shingling, and also in the "widow's walk" at the crest of the hipped roof.

Theodore and Robert Sellman farmed their extensive land, and raised their children in this spacious farmhouse. By 1910 the U.S. Government had begun to buy up farmland in the Beltsville area for the establishment of the Animal Husbandry and Dairy Divisions of the Department of Agriculture. By the 1930's the Department began buying up land west of Baltimore Pike for the Plant Research Station, and in 1933 Theodore and Robert Sellman, by then retired from farming, sold their ca. 290 acre farm to the U.S. Government.² Their handsome farmhouse is now used as a residence for U.S.D.A. employees; it stands on a hill overlooking the adjoining farmland which is now devoted to agricultural research.

Notes

¹ Prince George's County Land Records #1:183; Equity #2696.
² Prince George's County Land Records #401:99; Prince George's County Census.

9. Major Bibliographical References

cf. Chain of Title
cf. Notes, Item #8

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 289.465 acres

Tax Map #18, parcel 92

Quadrangle name Beltsville, Section 4

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Susan G. Pearl, Research Historian		
organization	Historic Preservation Commission	date	August 1985
street & number	c/o County Planning Div., M-NCPPC	telephone	952-3521
city or town	Upper Marlboro,	state	MD. 20772

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

Chain of Title

Sellman House

P.G. #61-12

- #401:99
29 Sept. 1933
Deed
For \$43,419.75, Theodore A. and Laura M. Sellman and Robert L. and Edith Sellman to the United States of America; 300 acres known as the Sellman Brothers Tract, except 10.535 acres, leaving a net acreage of 289.465 acres; same which grantors acquired by #1:183.
- #1:183
4 Dec. 1900
Deed
For \$7,000, Charles H. Stanley, trustee in Equity #2696, to Theodore A. and Robert L. Sellman, as tenants in common; 346 acres (45 of which lie in Montgomery County); same property which was conveyed to George Beall by AB #7:574.
- Equity
#2696
1900
Fielder M. M. Beall et al vs. Theodore A. and Robert L. Sellman; complainants were heirs of Thomas B. Beall who, 20 years earlier, had died possessed of a farm known as Beall's Retreat and 40 acres of woodland; petition to court was for confirmation of a contract to sell the land to the Sellmans for \$7,000; decree 24 November 1900 - court ratified sale and authorized Charles H. Stanley, as trustee, to make conveyance.
- WAJ^{Jr} #1:181
26 Nov. 1879
Will
Will of Thomas B. Beall devised his entire estate to his wife, Jane B. Beall, for her life and at her death it descended to his six children.
- PC #1:20
4 Sept. 1833
Will
Will of George Beall devised a tract purchased from the heirs of Zepheniah Cissel to his nephew, Thomas Beall, son of Ninian Beall of Georgetown.
- AB #7:574
12 Feb. 1833
Deed
For \$8.25 per acre, Benjamin Welsh, Charles Duvall, John C. Morsell and Christopher C. Hyatt, commissioners appointed by the Circuit Court to sell the real estate of Zepheniah Cissel, to George Beall; 346 acres consisting of Mizpah and three Additions to Mizpah.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM

for the

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1700215604

pg 21

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON: USDA House #1				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Agricultural Research Center/West				
CITY OR TOWN: Beltsville				
STATE: Maryland		COUNTY: Prince George's		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)		Public Acquisition:		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		<input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: U.S. Department of Agriculture Research Center				
STREET AND NUMBER: Beltsville				
CITY OR TOWN: "			STATE: Md.	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Prince George's County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro			STATE: Md.	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
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	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(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 square farmhouse with porches around the east and part of the north and south facades. Each facade has a dormer in the center.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. 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

Resident says the house is 85 years old.

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: 1/31/73

STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring, STATE: Md.

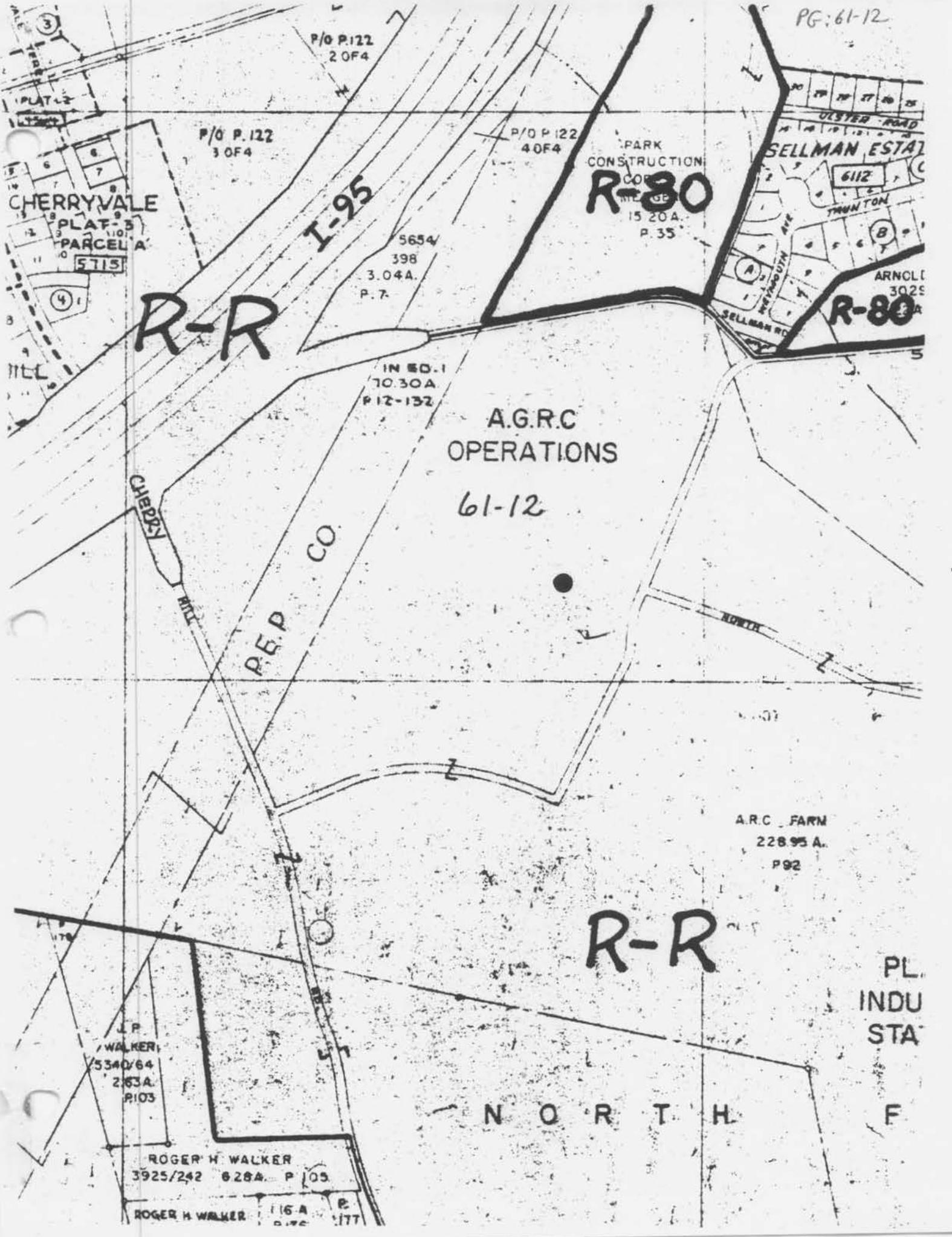
12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National State Local

Signature

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



P/O P.122
3 OF 4

P/O P.122
2 OF 4

P/O P.122
4 OF 4

CHERRYVALE
PLAT-3
PARCEL A
5715

R-R

I-95

5654
398
3.04A.
P.7.

PARK
CONSTRUCTION
CORP
R-80
15 20A.
P.35

SELLMAN ESTABLISHMENT

ARNOLD
3025
R-80

IN ED. 1
70.30A
P.12-132

A.G.R.C
OPERATIONS

61-12

CHERRY
HILL

PEP CO

A.R.C. FARM
228.95 A.
P.92

R-R

INDUSTRIAL

NORTH

J.P.
WALKER
5340/64
263A
P.103

ROGER H WALKER
3925/242 628A P.05

ROGER H WALKER 116A P.177



P.G.#61-12

Sellman House (U.S.D.A.)

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

June 1985

East elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G.#61-12

Sellman House (U.S.D.A.)

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

June 1985

West elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G.#61-12

Sellman House (U.S.D.A.)

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

June 1985

South elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G.#61-12

Sellman House (U.S.D.A)

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

June 1985

North elevation

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