

Maryland Inventory of Historic Places Addendum

PG: 61-16

Parker-Malin House

12608 Old Gunpowder Road

Beltsville, Prince George's County

EHT Tracerics, Inc., Surveyor

October 2003

This addendum addresses the context of the property, placing it within the larger agricultural context of Prince George's County in the 19th and 20th centuries. The resources on the property, in particular their location and setting, were studied further and reevaluated.

Section 2: Location

The property on which the Parker-Malin House now stands has been subdivided and is currently denoted as 12608 Old Gunpowder Road. It was erroneously noted as 12610 Old Gunpowder Road on previous documentation.

Section 3: Ownership

The Parker-Malin House and its surrounding acreage are presently owned by the Maryland Department of Transportation, State Highway Administration.

Section 8: Significance

The Parker-Malin House is distinctive in its form and design relative to domestic architecture associated with agricultural properties in Prince George's County. Like surrounding agricultural properties, the Parker-Malin farm was devoted to the cultivation of tobacco, wheat, corn, and the growing of livestock in the early to mid-19th century. The census information and oral history interviews provides an historical account of the general farming practices in the area that suggest the Parker-Malin farm was a truck farm that produced vegetables at the turn of the 20th century. The size of the farm along with its historical use is typical of farms within the Old Gunpowder Road area and Prince George's County as a whole. The property no longer contains its original acreage and has most likely lost agricultural buildings.

The Parker-Malin farm is not associated with events and trends that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. Therefore, the Parker-Malin farm is not eligible under Criterion A. The property is not associated with any person or group of persons of outstanding importance to the community, state, and nation. Therefore the Parker-Malin farm is not eligible under Criterion B. The Parker-Malin House is distinctive in its form and design, but vernacular in its applied ornamentation and fenestration. Prior to its alterations, the Parker-Malin House presented two primary facades, each with a two-story porch. The eastern façade, which faces Old Gunpowder

Road, has been partially infilled to provide additional living space and serves as the primary elevation today. The western façade of the dwelling fronted the agricultural fields, the southernmost of the two George Parker Houses, and Little Paint Branch. Originally one of four dwellings owned and occupied by the Parker family in this area along Old Gunpowder Road, the Parker-Malin House is the only extant residence of this grouping, thereby substantially altering the location, setting, feeling, and association of this resource. Further, the house has been altered by the application of replacement siding and windows, compromising its integrity of materials. The design of the dwelling, which is asymmetrical now, was substantially impacted when a portion of the two-story porch on the east elevation was enclosed. Paired windows and an exterior brick chimney were then added to this section of the projection. Therefore, the Parker-Malin House is not eligible under Criterion C. The Parker-Malin farm property does not have the potential to yield important information to contribute to the understanding or documentation of agricultural properties in Prince George's County. Areas surrounding the Parker-Malin House are in the process of being developed for residential housing. Parkland and golf courses have been established to the north and south of the dwelling, on property originally owned by the Parker family. Phase Ib archeological identification and a sampling survey recovered no cultural materials or archeological deposits or features. The investigation recommended that no additional work be conducted and that the property was not eligible under Criterion D. **Therefore, it has been determined that the Parker-Malin farm and associated resources are not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.**

Brief Agricultural History of Prince George's County

Located in Prince George's County, the property at 12608 Old Gunpowder Road in Beltsville is associated with local agricultural production. Agriculture was the base of the economy throughout the 19th and early 20th century. In 1840, Prince George's County agriculture consisted primarily of fruits, vegetables, livestock, tobacco, and corn.¹ At this time, according to the census records, 5,229 residents of Prince George's County were employed in agriculture. Only three counties in Maryland had more people employed in agriculture: Anne Arundel, Baltimore, and St. Mary's.²

Tobacco was one of the most important crops grown in Prince George's County as well as this central region of Maryland in the 19th century. Prince George's County produced the highest amount of tobacco among all Maryland counties listed in the 1840 United States Census.³ The plantation economy reached its height in 1860, when it produced thirteen million pounds of tobacco.⁴ Greatly impacted by the devastation caused by the Civil War (1861-1865) and the Reconstruction period, agricultural production declined statewide, including the cultivation of tobacco, wheat, corn and the growing of livestock. With the manumission of slaves in Maryland in June 1864, the socio-economic environment dramatically changed after the Civil War. The release of a labor force that sustained and made large farms profitable prompted the subdivision of traditionally large farms into smaller farms that were often worked by tenant farmers. As a result, during

the Industrial and Urban Dominance period in Maryland from 1870 to 1930, the number of farms in Prince George's County doubled and the average farm size substantially decreased.⁵

Following the Civil War, tobacco continued to be produced in Prince George's County, although drastic decreases were noted. Tobacco production declined from thirteen million pounds in 1860 to four million pounds in 1870. By 1880, it increased to six million pounds.⁶ In 1890, agricultural production included fruits, vegetables, livestock, grains, and some tobacco.⁷

Located just outside Washington, D.C., Prince George's County's population nearly doubled between 1890 and 1920.⁸ Suburban neighborhoods developed along major transportation routes, such as the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike (US Route 1), the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and the streetcar lines. The influx of residents prompted the breaking up of large farms into smaller farms, as well as the establishment of suburban residential development. However, the areas not directly adjacent to the nation's capital and those not serviced by major transportation routes in Prince George's County generally remained dedicated to agriculture until the 1960s.

Interestingly, throughout the 20th century, Prince George's County was inundated with new tools of efficiency related to the commercialism of farms. Technology allowed the farms to produce a larger amount of crops in the same period of time or possibly faster. Consequently, the trend of decreasing farm size from 1860 onward through to the early 20th century began to take a drastic turn. The average farm size increased during the first half of the 20th century while the number of farms decreased.⁹

Parker Family

At the time of the 1878 Hopkin's *Atlas of Prince George's County*, the northwestern area of the Vansville District where the Parker-Malin House is located was entirely rural with very few residential improvements.¹⁰ The map shows a long dirt road that extends to the northwest from Old Gunpowder Road, which was a gravel road extending northwesterly from a primary thoroughfare that is no longer extant (Interstate 95 roughly follows the route of this road). Old Gunpowder Road crosses over Little Paint Branch and three Parker family dwellings stand along the road. The house at what was then the northern terminus of Old Gunpowder Road belonged to Albert Parker, and the other two houses set to the west of the road belonged to George Parker. The northernmost of the George Parker Houses was sited closely along Old Gunpowder Road. The southernmost of the George Parker Houses was located at the end of a long gravel drive that had a slight southwesterly curve to it. This road, a portion of which is visible today to the northwest of the stable, was clearly noted in its entirety on aerial photographs well into the middle part of the 20th century. An aerial photograph indicate the southernmost house owned by George Parker, which was set to the east of the creek and west of the Parker-Malin House, was no longer standing by 1957. Two outbuildings were noted on the aerial

photograph in the vicinity of the George Parker House. The only extant dwelling on the property today is the Parker-Malin House, which was built by Alva Parker circa 1892 to the east of the George Parker House. The northernmost George Parker House and the Albert Parker House are not clearly discernable on the aerial photographs. The on-site survey conducted in October 2003 indicated that these three dwellings are no longer standing.

The United States Federal Census of 1870 lists George Parker at the age of 32 in Vansville of Prince George's County.¹¹ Born in Maryland, his occupation was noted as farm laborer and his personal estate was worth \$300. Residing in the Parker household were Jacob Parker, age 22, George Hook, age 40, William Domley, age 18, and Alfred Domley, age 14. Jacob Parker was listed as a farm laborer and not married. George Hook, born in England, was employed as a wheelwright and his personal estate was worth \$150. The Domleys, both born in Maryland, were African-American servants that work as farm laborers for the Parkers.

In 1900, approximately eight years after the construction of the Parker-Malin House, a total of 29,898 people resided in Prince George's County. Of this number 17,910 were white and 11,985 were black. A total of 2,374 farms with an average size of 111.6 acres existed in the county at this time. Of the total number of farms in Prince George's County, 75.3 percent were run by white farmers and 24.7 percent were operated by African-American farmers. With 10,466 acres devoted to tobacco production, Prince George's County had the highest amount of acreage in tobacco of all Maryland counties.¹²

Alva Parker, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Parker, is attributed with building the Parker-Malin House at 12608 Old Gunpowder Road. He is listed in the census of 1900 as residing in Vansville. He was born in January 1844, married for 24 years to Laura Parker, owned and mortgaged his house, and worked as a farmer. Laura Parker, born in December 1844, had five children. At the time of the census, their daughter Mabel Parker was residing with them. Additionally, two servants were working for and living with the Parkers. Both of these white servants emigrated from Germany in 1898 and were not United States citizens in 1900. Sharing the same name surname and listed as single, they were most likely brother and sister (age 22 and 18, respectively).¹³

In 1910, Alva and Laura Parker were listed in the census in the First District of Prince George's County. Also residing in the house were their daughter Mildred, age 32 and single, and a ten-year-old African-American servant named Rose Hall. Ten years later, in 1920, a Mildred Parker, age 42, was noted in the census as being under the care of Springfield State Hospital in Carroll County, Maryland.

Parker-Malin House

The chain-of-title and exterior architectural evidence suggest the Parker-Malin House was constructed in one building campaign around 1900, possibly in 1892 when Laura and Alva Parker obtained ownership. The wood-frame house stands two-and-one-half stories high with a cross-gable roof and a cruciform-shaped footprint. The construction, fenestration, porches, and original entry openings support the supposition that this house was built in one phase around the turn-of-the-20th century. The only major alteration to the form includes the enclosure of the two-story porch on the east elevation, which originally served as one of the two primary façades. The architectural evidence to support this thesis includes the paired windows on the first and second stories of this elevation only, the construction of a brick exterior chimney along the south side of this now-enclosed projection, and the asymmetry of the structure, which is otherwise symmetrical in form, fenestration, and massing. The architectural style of the building reflects the Classical Revival style, which commanded such symmetry. However, the original interior detailing, as well as the window surrounds and lack of applied ornamentation on the exterior, are indicative of Victorian-era, turn-of-the-20th-century vernacular architecture.

South of the house is a historic stable (referred to as a barn in previous documentation), which was built during the second quarter of the 20th century. The wood-frame, one-story stable is covered with vertical plank boards and is capped with a front-gable roof sheathed with standing-seam metal. This is the only extant outbuilding associated with the property.

Prior to its alterations, the Parker-Malin House presented two primary facades, each with a two-story porch. The eastern façade, which serves as the primary elevation today, faced Old Gunpowder Road. The western façade fronted the agricultural fields, the southernmost of the George Parker Houses, and Little Paint Branch. The house, which is set along Old Gunpowder Road, overlooks a small valley of Little Paint Branch that is approximately 0.3 mile west of the house. The southernmost of the George Parker Houses was located along this valley to the west of the Parker-Malin House. A gravel road that ran east to west provided access between the two dwellings. This road is only partially discernable today, commencing to the northwest of the stable and terminating in a grove of mature trees within Little Paint Branch Stream Valley Park.

According to deed research, this farm originally consisted of two separate parcels. One parcel was conveyed on October 1, 1877 from Thomas Parker to Laura Parker, his daughter-in-law. The next conveyance was on October 26, 1892 from Elizabeth Parker, wife of Thomas Parker, to Laura Parker. Later, these two parcels were combined and sold by Laura Parker and Mildred Parker (her daughter) to Ella M. Dawson on May 14, 1914. Ella Dawson and her husband held onto the property for only four years, selling it in 1918 to Thomas Poe and his wife Mollie Poe. For 32 years, the Poe family resided at this property until it was conveyed to Dr. Lawrence Malin on June 5, 1950. Dr. Malin, together with his brother Dr. Wendell Malin, founded Leland Memorial Hospital in the Town of Riverdale, Maryland. By the early 1970s, Malin began to subdivide the Old

Gunpowder Road property, selling portions of it to the State of Maryland and private developers who established the residential subdivision of Greencastle Manor.

In 1980, Lawrence Malin and his wife Marion conveyed the remaining property, which consisted of 2.5 acres, to James W. Malin and his wife. James Malin resold the property to Lawrence and Marion Malin in 1984. In 1986, the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Association (M-NCPPC) purchased the property, conveying the northern section with the dwelling and stable to the Maryland Department of Transportation, State Highway Administration. Surrounding portions of the Parker property are now part of the Little Paint Branch Stream Valley Park, Cross Creek Club (golf course), the Fairland Recreational Park, and Gunpowder Golf Club. The change in the agricultural landscape has erased much of the evidence of the 19th- and 20th-century Parker family farms. The sites of the three other Parker houses are no longer discernable. Suburban development is encroaching on the property from the north. Two late-20th-century houses were erected adjacent to the Parker-Malin House, which is now vacant.

The Parker-Malin farm was representative of farms throughout Prince George's County because of its size, which was typical of most farms in the county. After 1892, the property at 12608 Old Gunpowder Road encompassed a total of 92.124 acres. In 1900, the 111-acre Parker-Malin farm was comparable in size to most farms in Prince George's County, which were generally between 50 to 100 acres. In comparison, 451 farms were classified as 20 to 50 acres and 416 farms were between 100 and 175 acres.

An oral history interview in November 2003 with Dr. Jack Hoyert, a Beltsville resident who is familiar with farming practices throughout Prince George's County, provided useful information on the farms of this area. Hoyert indicated that the farms along Old Gunpowder Road were primarily truck farms that grew vegetables and fruits during the early 20th century. During the 1920s and 1930s, Hoyert states, that the majority of the farms were no longer agricultural in nature and became either gravel or sand pits. Dr. Hoyert can recall only one tobacco farm along Old Gunpowder Road, the Spicknall Farm, which is south of the Parker-Malin House.¹⁴ This thesis is supported by the 1900 agricultural census, which documents that many of the Prince George's County farms grew vegetables, fruits, and tobacco. The 1900 census declares that 7,104 acres were farmed for vegetables (potatoes, sweet potatoes, onions, and other miscellaneous vegetables). Prince George's County ranked second in the state in the number of acres and the number of bushels produced for sweet potatoes and onions. The county ranked sixth in Maryland for the number of acres devoted to miscellaneous vegetables and fourth for the number of bushels of miscellaneous vegetables. In addition, it ranked fourth in Maryland for the number of square feet of land "under glass," which totaled 68,410 square feet.

As noted by the agricultural census for Prince George's County, the Parker-Malin farm was devoted to the cultivation of tobacco, wheat, corn, and the growing of livestock in the early to mid-19th century. The 20th-century census information along with Dr. Jack

Hoyert providing an historical account of the general farming practices in the area suggests the Parker-Malin farm was a truck farm that produced vegetables at the turn of the 20th century. The size of the farm along with its historical use is typical of farms within the Old Gunpowder Road area and Prince George's County as a whole.

The area surrounding the Parker-Malin House is in the process of being developed for residential housing. The property no longer contains its original acreage and has most likely lost agricultural buildings. Greiner, Inc. conducted a Phase Ib archeological identification and sampling survey on the property in 1997. Ten STPs were excavated within the property. Four were excavated around the Parker-Malin House and six STPs were places in the front yard within the area of the proposed widening of Old Gunpowder Road. No cultural material was recovered and no archeological deposits were exposed. Therefore, it was recommended that no additional work be conducted because the Parker-Malin farm does not have the potential to yield important information to contribute to the understanding or documentation of agricultural properties in Prince George's County.¹⁵

Endnotes

¹ Taken from Spero, P.A.C. & Company, *Maryland Historic Context, Montgomery County and Prince George's County, Intercounty Connector Project*, (Baltimore: P.A.C. Spero & Company, 1996), p. 89. Source is Suzanne Chapelle, et al, *Maryland: A History of Its People* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1986).

² United States Census Bureau, 1840 Population Schedule. National Archives, Washington, DC.

³ United States Census Bureau, 1840 Population Schedule. National Archives, Washington, DC.

⁴ United States Census Bureau, 1860 Population Schedule. National Archives, Washington, DC.

⁵ P.A.C. Spero & Company, *Maryland Historic Context*, p. 52.

⁶ P.A.C. Spero & Company, *Maryland Historic Context*, p. 87.

⁷ P.A.C. Spero & Company, *Maryland Historic Context*, p. 89. Source is Suzanne Chapelle, et al, *Maryland: A History of Its People* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1986).

⁸ P.A.C. Spero & Company, *Maryland Historic Context*, p. 87-92.

⁹ P.A.C. Spero & Company, *Maryland Historic Context*, p. 93.

¹⁰ *Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington Including the County of Prince George, Maryland*, (Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, C.E., 1878), p. 13.

¹¹ United States Census 1870 taken from http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us/main/e_resources08.html, Internet accessed on October 14, 2003.

¹² United States Census 1900 taken from http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us/main/e_resources08.html, Internet accessed on October 14, 2003.

¹³ United States Census 1900 taken from http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us/main/e_resources08.html, Internet accessed on October 14, 2003.

¹⁴ Interview with Dr. Jack Hoyert on November 10, 2003. Dr. Jack Hoyert was born in Beltsville in 1922.

¹⁵ Greiner, Inc. "Phase Ib Archeological Identification and Sampling Survey of the Intercounty Connector (ICC), I-270 to US 1, Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, Maryland," Prepared for the State Highway Administration, Contract No. Mo971B12, Archeological Report Number 163, p. 32.

RESOURCE SKETCH MAP

OLD GUNPOWDER ROAD

GRAVEL DRIVE

WOOD AND BARB WIRE FENCE

STABLE

ROAD TO
GEORGE PARKER
HOUSE SITE
AND CREEK

LITTLE PAINT BRANCH 0.3 MILES WEST

NEW HOUSES

N

NOT TO
SCALE

ID#: PG: 61-16

Name: Parker-Malin House

Address: 12608 Old Gunpowder Road

Town/Town Vicinity: Beltsville

County: Prince George's



PG-61-16

PARKER-MALIN HOUSE

12610 Old Gunpowder Road

Prince Georges County, MD

TRAILERIES

9/2003

MD SHPD

BARN, NORTHWEST CORNER

1 + 8 3



PG-61-16
PARKER - MALIN HOUSE
12610 Old Gunpowder Road
Prince Georges County, MD

TRAILERIES

9/2003

MD SHPO

BARN, NORTH ELEVATION, VIEW LOOKING SW

2 of 3



PG-61-16

PARKER. MALIN HOUSE

12610 Old Gunpowder Road

Prince George's County, MD

TRAILERIES

9/2003

MD SHPO

BARN, INTERIOR, VIEW COOKING SOUTHWEST

3 of 3



PG 61-16

PARKER-MALIN HOUSE

12608 OLD GUNPOWDER RD

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

12/2003

MD SHPO

VIEW LOOKING WEST

1 OF 5



PG 61-16

PARKER-MALIN HOUSE

12608 OLD GUNPOWDER RD

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

12/2003

MD SHPO

VIEW LOOKING NORTH

2 OF 5



PG 61-16

PARKER-MALIN HOUSE

12608 OLD GUNPOWDER RD

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES.

12/2003

MD SHPO

VIEW LOOKING SOUTH

3 OF 5



PG 01-16

PARKER-MALIN HOUSE

12608 OLD GUNPOWDER RD

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

12/2003

MD SHPO

VIEW LOOKING NORTH

4 OF 5



PG 61-16

PARKER-MALIN HOUSE

12608 OLD GUNPOWDER RD

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

12/2003

MD SHPO

RANCH HOUSE, LOOKING WEST

5 OF 5

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST ADDENDUM SHEET
INTERCOUNTY CONNECTOR PROJECT

Property Name: Parker-Malin House
Survey No. PG: 61-16 (PACS E4.11)

Property Address <u>12610 Old Gunpowder Road, Beltsville, Prince George's County, Maryland</u>
Owner Name/Address <u>Laurence Malin, 12610 Old Gunpowder Road, Beltsville, Maryland 20705</u>
Year Built <u>circa 1900</u>

Description:

The property was previously surveyed by the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission in 1987. There have been no changes to the property since the last survey.

National Register Evaluation:

Constructed circa 1900, the Parker-Malin House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. It is not eligible under Criterion C, as it is an undistinctive example of a Folk Victorian house which lacks such character defining features of the Folk Victorian style such as machine-produced ornamentation on door and window surrounds and porch posts. The architectural integrity of the house has been compromised by the installation of replacement siding and windows, and its historic setting has been altered by the close proximity of a mid-twentieth century ranch-style house. Finally, the structure has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, is not eligible under Criterion D.

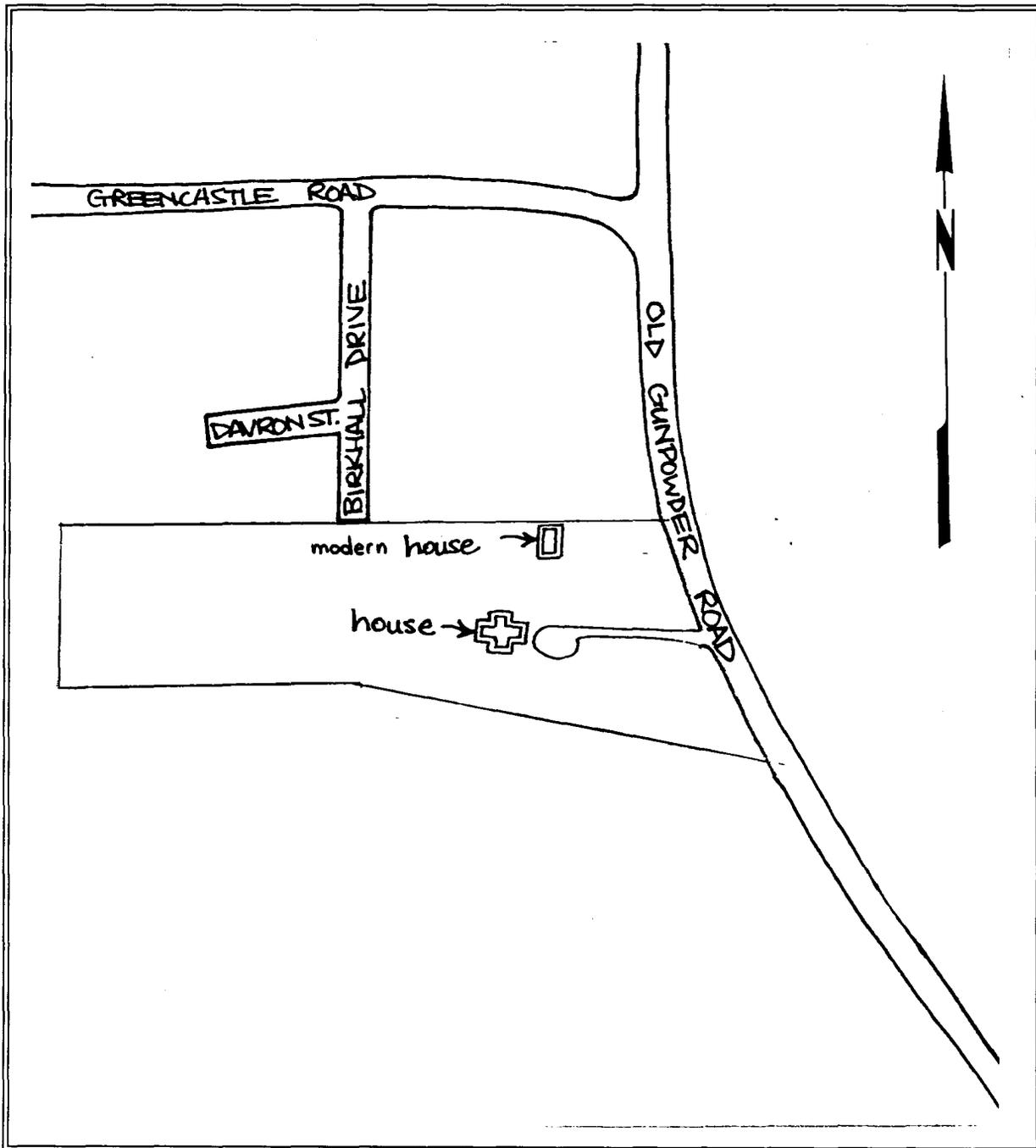
MHT CONCURRENCE:													
Eligibility	<input type="checkbox"/> recommended	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not recommended											
Criteria	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	<input type="checkbox"/> E	<input type="checkbox"/> F	<input type="checkbox"/> G	<input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments:													
<i>Andrew Levin</i>				2/5/97		<i>Robert W. G. / a/c</i>							
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services				Date		Reviewer, NR program				Date			

Preparer:
P.A.C. Spero & Company
October 1996

✓-entered

Property Address 12610 Old Gunpowder Road, Beltsville, Prince George's County, Maryland
Owner Name/Address Laurence Malin, 12610 Old Gunpowder Road, Beltsville, Maryland 20705
Year Built circa 1900

Resource Sketch Map:



Inter County Connector Project
Master Plan Alternative
Quad Beltville
Survey No. PG-61-16 PACS# E4.11
Parker-Malin House





- 1 M61-16
- 2 Parker-Malin House
- 3 Prince George's County
- 4 Ryan McKay
- 5 February 1996
- 6 PAC Sprio and Company, Towson MD
- 7 12610 Old Gunpowder Road, east facade
- 8 1/2



1 M61-16

2 Packer-Malin House

3 Prince George's County

4 Ryan McKay

5 February 1996

6 PAC Sprio and Company, Towson MD

7 12610 Old Gunpowder Rd., north and
west facades

8 2/2

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #61-16 Building Date: ca. 1900

Building Name: Parker-Malin House

Location: 12608 Old Gunpowder Road, Beltsville, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description

The Parker-Malin house is a two-and-one-half-story frame cross-gable farmhouse, of cruciform plan; it is distinguished by a two-story porch inset into its principal gable end, and a full two-story veranda across the rear elevation. The house stands at the high point of a tract of land, overlooking the sloping valley of the Paint Branch to the west. The plan is of an unequal cross; the east and west arms of the cross are three bays by one bay, while the north and south arms are one bay by one bay. Entrance is in the third bay of the east gable end. A two-story veranda spans the entire west gable end. It is supported by chamfered posts with plain railing on both levels. There is a central entrance into this three-bay west facade. The original wood siding is now covered with white aluminum siding. The building rests on a foundation of stone parged with concrete, which encloses a basement under most of the building. Windows are modern 1/1 double hung sash, and have narrow molded surrounds and black louvered aluminum shutters.

Significance

The Parker-Malin House is a good example of a turn-of-the-century frame farmhouse, folk Victorian in style. It was built circa 1900 by Laura and Alva Parker on their 175 acre farm known as "Flag Bottom". The farmhouse was of somewhat unusual cruciform plan, but with many elements of Victorian vernacular architecture: the two-tiered veranda, the paired windows and asymmetrical form, as well as the interior trim and staircase detail typical of the period. Alva Parker died circa 1910, and his widow sold the property in 1914. In 1950, the farm was purchased by Dr. Laurence Malin, who together with his brother had established Leland Memorial Hospital in Riverdale. Shortly after their purchase, repairs were undertaken on the older house, e.g., the coating of the foundation with concrete, and the construction of a new brick chimney in the south-east to serve two new fireplaces with antique mantels. The Malins ran a cattle farm on the adjoining acreage. The Parker farmhouse has recently been sided with aluminum. It retains, however, its folk Victorian appearance, and is a prominent landmark overlooking the valley of the Paint Branch.

Acreage: 2.52 acres

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Parker House

and/or common Malin House

2. Location

street & number 12608 Old Gunpowder Road 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 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	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 Laurence Malin

street & number 12610 Old Gunpowder Road telephone no.:

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 5940

street & number Main Street folio 778

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. P.G. #61-16

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date of move _____

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

The Parker-Malin house is a two-and-one-half-story frame cross-gable farmhouse, of cruciform plan; it is distinguished by a two-story porch inset into its principal gable end, and a full two-story veranda across the rear elevation. The house stands at the high point of a tract of land, overlooking the sloping valley of the Paint Branch to the west.

The plan is of an unequal cross; the east and west arms of the cross are three bays by one bay, while the north and south arms are one bay by one bay. Entrance is in the third (northernmost) bay of the east gable end, through a six panel door. The entrance is inset in a small corner porch, beneath a second story porch, supported by a single plain corner post with plain balustrade railing. This two-story corner porch is covered by a small third-story loft space, flush with the full east gable end.

The two-story veranda on the west is similar, in that it is surmounted by a third level loft space flush with the gable end and the veranda balustrade. Unlike the east porch, however, the west veranda spans the entire west gable end. It is supported by chamfered posts with plain railing on both levels. There is a central entrance into this three-bay west facade, and above it a door which open onto the second story of the veranda.

The original wood siding is now covered with white aluminum siding. The building rests on a foundation of stone parged with concrete, which encloses a basement under most of the building. Entrance to the basement is through a bulkhead in the east foundation of the southerly section. Beside this bulkhead entrance, on the south elevation of the easterly projecting cross-gable, is a new exterior brick chimney. The gable roof of the building is covered with black asphalt shingle; the eaves have a pronounced overhang, and are bordered with crown molding.

Windows are modern 1/1 double hung sash, and have narrow molded surrounds and black louvered aluminum shutters. In the east gable end, in the first and second bays of first and second stories, these windows are side by side, making a double window with one pair of shutters. The windows which light the third level of the east and the west gable ends are 2/2 double hung sash.

The east door opens into a living room which fills the easterly front gabled section. This room is warmed by a fireplace in its south wall, with a wooden mantel newly installed and plain Greek Revival in style. A similar mantel frames the fireplace in the space above. A staircase rises (north to south) along the west wall of this easterly space; it is a

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STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

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Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 2

closed-string staircase with square panelled newel surmounted by a fluted urn cap, and turned balusters. Door and window surrounds have multi-band moldings with bullseye corner blocks. The kitchen is in the westerly rear space which opens onto the veranda.

The house stands in a high point of land, accessible by an unpaved drive which runs west from Old Gunpowder Road. There is a large old oak tree in the east yard. The ground slopes off to west and south toward the Paint Branch, and there is a large maple in the rear yard just west of the house. In the field south of the house is a gable-roof stable, with vertical board siding, and standing seam roof.

8. Significance

Survey No. P.G. #61-16

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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates ca. 1900 **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 Parker-Malin House is a good example of a turn-of-the-century frame farmhouse, folk Victorian in style. It is distinguished by its two-tiered veranda across the rear elevation, and its prominent setting overlooking the valley of the Paint Branch.

The house was built circa 1900 by Laura and Alva Parker on their 175 acre farm known as "Flag Bottom". The Parker family had owned this property as early as 1831, and had farmed the land through most of the nineteenth century. In 1877, Thomas Parker sold 175 acres of Flag Bottom to Laura, wife of Alva M. Parker.¹ It is likely that Laura and Alva Parker lived in an older house on the property, fronting on the old road which ran parallel to the Montgomery County line, between Beltsville and Laurel.²

The subject house was built circa 1900; it was a large plain farmhouse, of somewhat unusual cruciform plan, but with many elements of Victorian vernacular architecture: the two-tiered veranda, the paired windows and asymmetrical form, as well as the interior trim and staircase detail typical of the period.

Alva Parker died circa 1910, and his widow sold the property in 1914. In 1950, the farm was purchased by Dr. Laurence Malin, who, together with his brother, Dr. Wendell Malin, had established Leland Memorial Hospital in Riverdale.³ Shortly after their purchase, the Malins built the smaller house which stands just north of the Parker farmhouse. At the same time repairs were undertaken on the older house, e.g., the coating of the foundation with concrete, and the construction of a new brick chimney in the southeast to serve two new fireplaces with antique mantels. The Malins ran a cattle farm on the adjoining acreage.

The Parker farmhouse has recently been sided with aluminium. It retains, however, its folk Victorian appearance, and is a prominent landmark overlooking the valley of the Paint Branch.

Notes

1 Prince George's County Deed HB #12:577.

2 cf. G. M. Hopkins Map of Vicinity of Washington, D.C., 1894.

3 Prince George's County Deeds #97:454; #1237:222; cf. Memorials for God Through Faith, the Story of the Medical Group Foundation, by Felix A. Lorenz, 1968.

M.N.C.P. & P.C.
4486/234
58.86A.
P.86

O-S

M. N. C. P. & P. C.
3894/102
14.37A.
P.10

1325 G. ST. LTD. PART
5548/921
123.18
P.83

R-R

35 A
FAIRLAND P. 7
REGIONAL
10 PARK 'A'

0.80A.
P.8

M. N. C. P. & P. C.
4486/231
6.17A. P.9

GREENCASTLE

GREENCASTLE RD.

3 4 2 3 4

(A) 4165 3713 3793 P66 7768

MALIN'S ADDITION MANOR

10 9 8 7 5 7

DAVRON ST. BIRKHA OUTLOT-A 4563

5602 (C) 5712 P.85

LAWRENCE W. MALIN
1237/222
11.21A.
P.17

PG: 61-16

LAWRENCE W. MALIN
5940/08 2.52 A.
P.90

MARK F. UPDIKE
1.20A. P.18

MARK F. UPDIKE
4665/036
3.51A. P.19

DAVID MELMAN
4534/III
4.93A.
P.20

M. N. C. P. & P. C.
6518/965
24.77 A.
P.12

R-S

4202/019 1.13A. P.21 4202/022 1.96 A.
0.75A. P.23 0.65A. P.24 0.75A. P.25 P.77

ALFRED H. SMITH
2057/472
6.32A. P.26

JAMES H. JONES
2447/239
4.25A. P.27

ALFRED H. SMITH
1272/95
69.12A.
P.31

R-R

MARTHA
CROUSE
11263/53
2.05A.
P.28

CATHOLIC CHURCH
6.31 A
P.30

3.72A.
P.87

SAINT
GREGORY'S
CHURCH
PROPERTY

P.35
P.33
P.69

0.30A.
P.38 P.
61 P.51

THOS.

0.20

E.D. 10
E.D. 1

ABEST
7785
2
1

GUNPOWDER RD.

LEE A. ROLFES
6311/245 2.35A. P.49

IMOGENE P. EARL
1803/532 2.76A. P.50

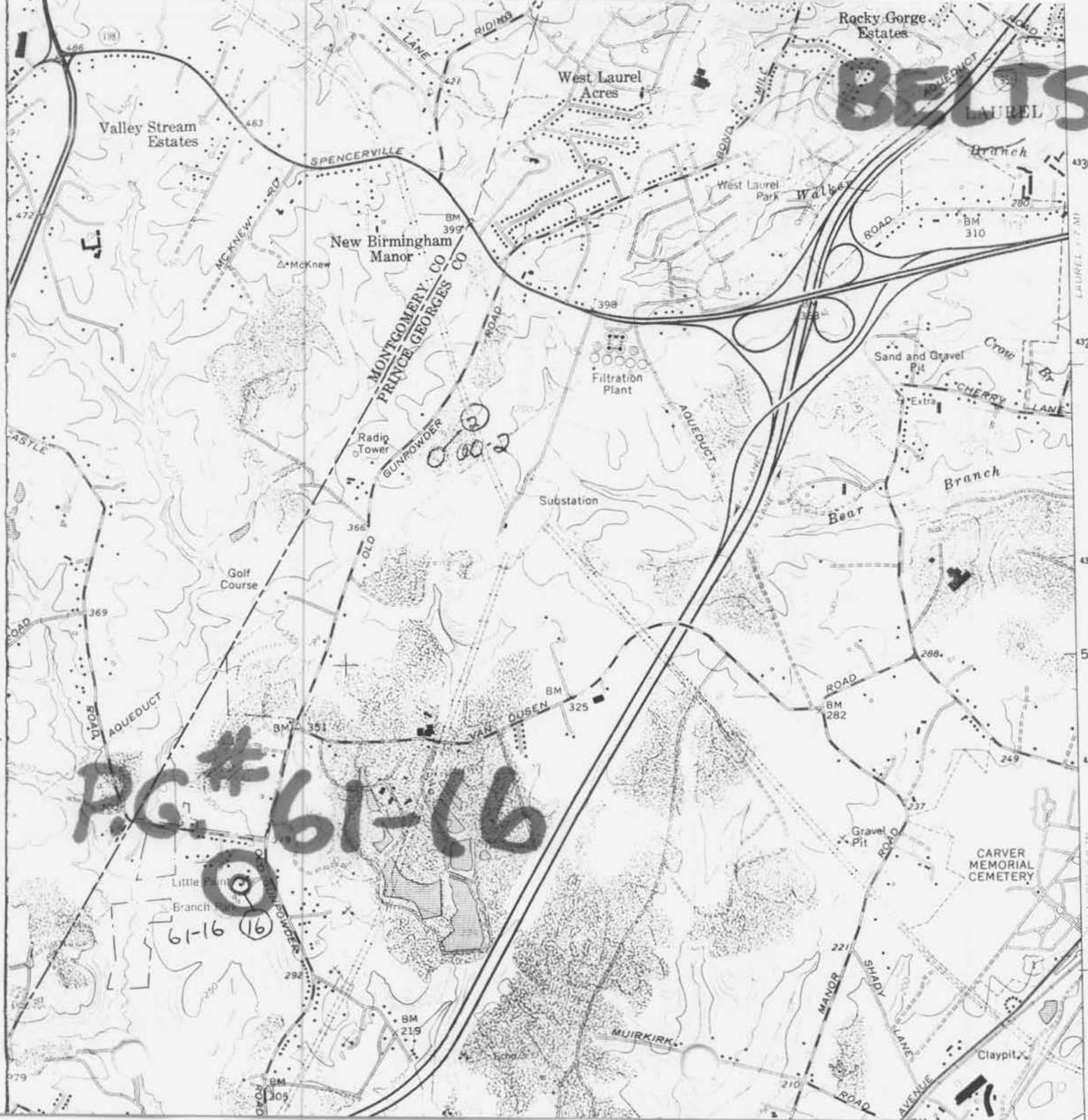
PAINT
PARK

31

7

3

BELTSVILLE



4330
4329
4328
5'
4327
4326
LAUREL 211 AM
BALTIMORE 211 AM
LAUREL 211 SE

P.G.# 61-16
61-16 (16)



P.G. #61-16

Parker-Malin House
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
March 1987
West elevation
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



P.G. #61-16

Parker-Malin House
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
March 1987
Southwest 3/4 elevation
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



P.G. #61-16

Parker-Malin House
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
March 1987
East elevation
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



P.G. #61-16

Parker-Malin House
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
March 1987
Southeast 3/4 elevation
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD