

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

DOE ___yes ___no

1. Name: (indicate preferred name)

historic Edward Emack Property

and/or common Elsie Dixon Property

2. Location:

street & number 4240 Powder Mill Road

___ not for publication

city, town Beltsville

___ vicinity of

congressional district

state

Maryland

county

Prince George's

3. Classification:

Category

___ district
 building(s)
 ___ structure
 ___ site
 ___ object

Ownership

___ public
 private
 ___ both
Public Acquisition
 ___ in process
 ___ being considered
 not applicable

Status

occupied
 ___ unoccupied
 ___ work in progress
Accessible
 ___ yes: restricted
 ___ yes: unrestricted
 no

Present Use

___ agriculture ___ museum
 ___ commercial ___ park
 ___ education private
 ___ entertainment residence
 ___ government ___ religious
 ___ industrial ___ scientific
 ___ military ___ other:
 ___ transportation

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

name Elsie Dixon and James Dixon

street & number 4240 Powder Mill Road

telephone no.:

city, town Beltsville

state and zip code MD

5. Location of Legal Description

Land Records Office of Prince George's County

liber 7356

street & number Prince George's County Judicial Center

folio 313

city, town Upper Marlboro

state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

___ federal

___ state

___ county

___ local

depository for survey records

ity, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. PG:61-32(PACS E9.22)

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

Resource Count: 2

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

The Edward Emack Property is a 2-story, 3-bay I-house on the north side of Powder Mill Road in Beltsville, Prince George's County. Constructed circa 1880 - 1890, the building has a 2-story rear ell, and a 1-story, flat-roof side addition.

The structure has a corrugated metal, side-gable roof with cornice returns on both the house and ell. There is one interior brick chimney near the center of the house, and an exterior brick chimney at the ell. It is of wood-frame construction with asbestos shingle siding, and it has a stone foundation. The windows are 2/2 double-hung wood on both the I-house and ell.

The front, or south elevation has a centered wood entrance door with 1-light and an 8-light wood storm door. The fenestration pattern is symmetrical, with two windows on the first story and three windows on the second story.

The east elevation of the I-house has one window on both the first and second stories.

The south elevation of the I-house is nearly concealed by the 2-story rear ell which is located at the center of the house. The east elevation of the ell has one window on the second story; the west elevation of the ell has one window on both stories. The brick chimney is located in the center of the south wall of the ell. The east elevation of the ell is concealed on the first story by an enclosed, shed-roof porch. The enclosed porch has three screen windows on the east elevation, and a screen door on the south elevation.

The west elevation of the I-house is concealed on the first story by a flat-roof, wood frame addition. The addition has one window on its south elevation. The I-house has one second story window.

There is one outbuilding associated with this property, a prefabricated steel garage. Erected in 1994, the garage is located north of the house.

The property is located on the north side of Powder Mill Road, with residences to the north and west, and a clinic to the east. The site slopes up to the house from the old road bed of Powder Mill Road, located approximately 12.19 meters (40 feet) south of the house, then slopes back down to the north. There are several old pine trees near the house. The property's setting is a suburban area, along a heavily travelled residential street.

8. Significance

Survey No. PG:61-32(PACS E9.22)

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archaeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communication	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates circa 1880 - 1890	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or Applicable Exceptions: <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 Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Edward Emack Property is not shown on the 1861 Martenet Map or the 1879 Hopkins Atlas. Deed records indicate that the property was owned by Edward Emack during the 1880s. The Emack family owned land in the Beltsville area during the late 1800s. According to the current owner, the house was part of a farm with a barn and other outbuildings. In February 1907, Emack sold approximately 13.76 hectares (34 acres) of land to Keturah O'Keefe. Based on the style of architecture and the 1907 sales price, it has been concluded that the house was built circa 1880-1890, during the ownership of Edward Emack. In 1929, the property was conveyed by Keturah J'Keefe to Emma Carr. The property remained in the Carr family until 1959, when the heirs of Emma Carr conveyed the property to John and Susie Nicholson. The Nicholson's daughter, Elsie Dixon, inherited the property, reduced in size to 0.24 hectares (0.6 acres), in June 1989. Elsie Dixon and her son James are the current owners of the property.

The Edward Emack Property is located in Beltsville, named after the Belt family. Beltsville is an area of Prince George's County on either side of Route 1 (historic Washington-Baltimore Turnpike) from Ammendale Road to the Capital Beltway. During the 1700s and early 1800s, the Snowden family possessed large estates which were located on both sides of the turnpike, and on land which is now the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. In the colonial era, tobacco farming occurred along Indian Creek, a tributary of the Northeast Branch of the Anacostia River. Later, farmers in the area produced grains and vegetables.

By 1795, a turnpike from Baltimore to Georgetown in the District of Columbia had been constructed through the county. Taverns were established along the turnpike (present day Route 1 and Old Baltimore Pike), including one operated by Jacob Van Horn in what is now Beltsville. The tavern, called Vansville, serviced turnpike travellers from the 1790s to 1817 (Woodward, n.d.: 1). In the 1830s, the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad built tracks for the Washington Branch through the Belt family farm and established a station which was named Beltsville. The station, located along the turnpike, the east-west roads of Odell and Powder Mill, and the railroad, grew during the 1800s and became a village containing two churches, residences, stores, and businesses such as a blacksmith and a wheelwright shop (Prince George's County Community Renewal Program, 1974: 294).

uring the late 1800s, Beltsville became part of the expanding Washington, D.C. suburbs, as development occurred along the railroad and streetcar lines north of the city. Federal workers could live in the suburbs and work downtown, and many new communities were established from the

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Edward Emack Property

SURVEY NO.: PG: 61-32 (PACS E9.22)

ADDRESS: 4240 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville, Prince George's County, Maryland

8. Significance (Continued)

District line to Beltsville. The suburban development continued after the introduction of the automobile. The state improved the roads, and Route 1 became the major north/south route along the east coast. Although the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center was established in 1910 and employment in the area increased, Beltsville was relatively far from Washington, and the more southern suburbs experienced greater growth. It was not until after World War II that intensive development came to the Beltsville area. The increase in Federal employment and the dramatic rise in personal automobile use led to the suburbanization of Beltsville. The area west of Route 1 was developed as a residential area, and the development increased in the 1960s as Interstate 95 made the area more accessible. Today, most of the farms are gone and Beltsville has become a densely populated suburb of the Nation's Capital.

The Edward Emack Property is an I-house. The standard I-house is one room deep and two stories tall with three to five openings on each story. From the front, an I-house is often indistinguishable from a Georgian house. The gable view, however, reveals the greater depth of the Georgian house. Chimneys are located on the interior of the gable ends, however, external chimneys are characteristic in the Chesapeake region. Usually, an I-house has a one-story porch running the length or nearly the length of the long side. On the interior, a central hall separates the two rooms on the first floor; the second floor contains either two or four sleeping chambers. Due to the narrowness of the main core, many I-houses have kitchen wings to the rear. Initially, stone masonry construction was used but by the mid-nineteenth century, as pre-cut lumber became increasingly available, frame construction became the norm. The I-form was popular into the early twentieth century, with examples appearing in catalogs of mass-produced suburban houses (Gowans 1992, 55-6).

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Edward Emack Property

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ADDRESS: 4240 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville, Prince George's County, Maryland

8. Significance (Continued)

NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION:

The Edward Emack Property, constructed circa 1880 - 1890, 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. In addition, the property has lost its agricultural association; the property has been subdivided and there are no remaining agricultural outbuildings. 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; the I-house is an undistinctive example of a common architectural style, and it does not represent a contribution to the architectural history of its type or period. In addition, the historic setting of the house has been altered by nearby suburban development and by its proximity to heavily travelled Powder Mill Road. Finally, the property has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, does not meet Criterion D.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility Not Recommended X

Comments: _____

Reviewer, OPS: Andrew Levin Date: 11/05/01

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

✓-entered

9. Major Bibliographical References Survey No. PG:61-32(PACS E9.22)

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .24 hectare (.6 acres)

Quadrangle name Beltsville, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Caroline Hall/Ryan P. McKay

organization P.A.C. Spero & Company

date December 1996

street & number 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 412

telephone (410) 296-1635

city or town Baltimore

state Maryland

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

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

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

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Edward Emack Property

SURVEY NO.: PG: 61-32 (PACS E9.22)

ADDRESS: 4240 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville, Prince George's County, Maryland

9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

- Brugger, Robert A. Maryland, A Middle Temperament 1634-1980. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1988.
- Cook, William G. Montpelier & the Snowden Family. Privately Printed, 1976.
- Dixon, Elsie. Personal Interview, 10 July 1996.
- Gottfried, Herbert and Jan Jennings. American Vernacular Design, 1870-1940. Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press, 1988.
- Gowans, Alan. Styles and Types of North American Architecture. New York: Harper Collins, 1992.
- Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington including the County of Prince George (sic), Maryland. Philadelphia, 1879. Reprint.
- Klein, Marilyn W. and David P. Fogle. Clues to American Architecture. Washington D.C. and Philadelphia: Starrhill Press, 1986.
- and Records of Prince George's County, Maryland.
- Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Illustrated Inventory of Historic Sites, Prince George's County, Maryland. Upper Marlboro, Maryland: Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 1993.
- McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A Knopf, Inc., 1984.
- Prince George's County Community Renewal Program. The Neighborhoods of Prince George's County. Upper Marlboro, Maryland: Prince George's County Government, 1974.
- Prince George's County Historical Society. Atlas of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1861: Adapted from Martenet's Map of Prince George's County, Maryland. Riverdale, Maryland. Prince George's County Historical Society, 1996.
- Rifkind, Carole. A Field Guide to American Architecture. New York: Signet Press, 1980.
- Virta, Alan. Prince George's County: A Pictorial History. Virginia Beach: The Donning Company Publishers, 1984, rev. 1991.
- Woodward, Ethel C. Van Horn's Stage Lines and Tavern. Privately Printed, no date.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

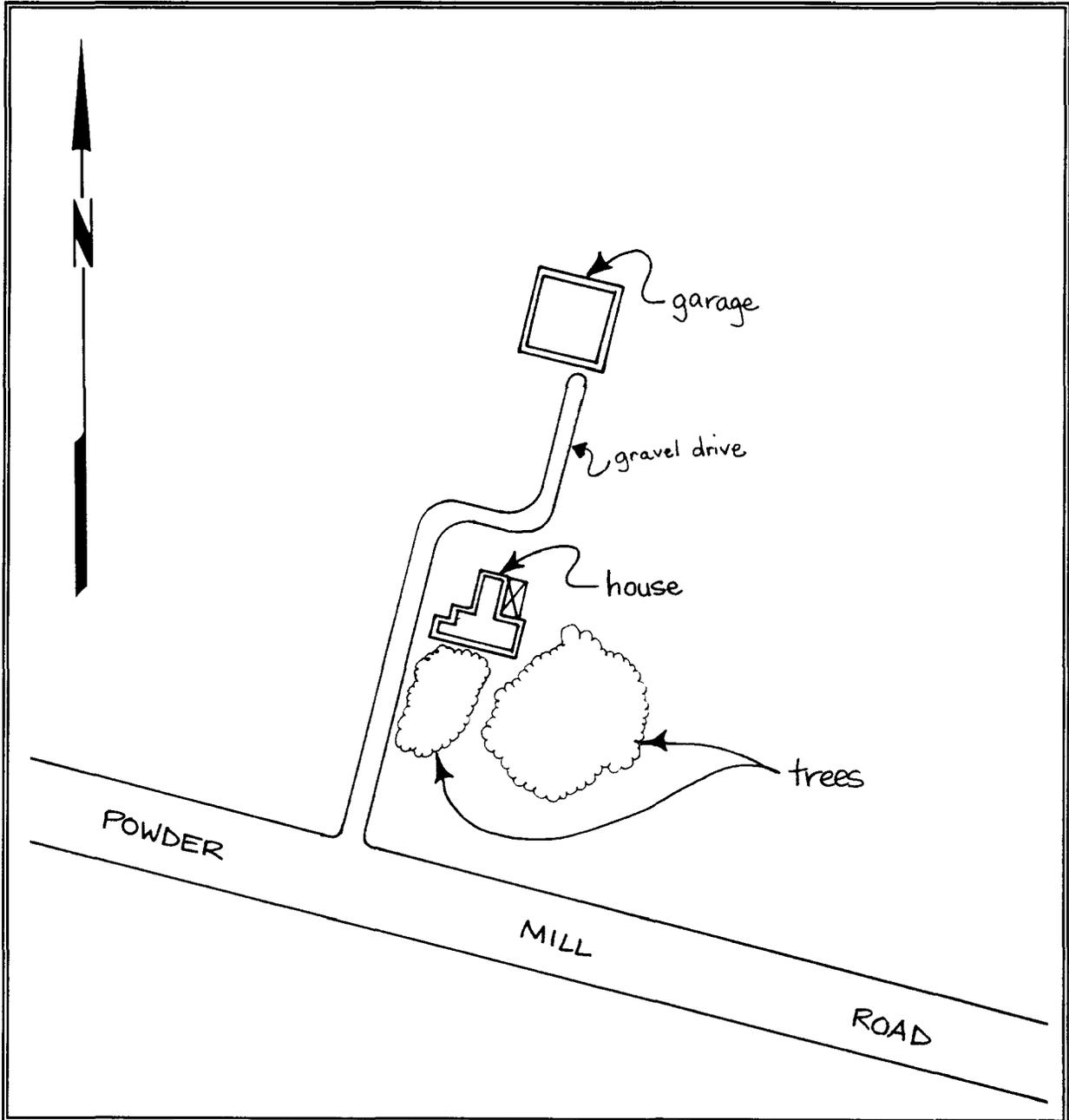
RESOURCE NAME: Edward Emack Property

SURVEY NO.: PG: 61-32 (PACS E9.22)

ADDRESS: 4240 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville, Prince George's County, Maryland

10. Geographical Data (Continued)

Resource Sketch Map:



CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Edward Emack Property

SURVEY NO.: PG:61-32 (PACS E9.22)

ADDRESS: 4240 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville, Prince George's County, Maryland

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet

Historic Context:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period Theme (s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture

RESOURCE TYPE:

Category (see Section 3 of survey form):

Building

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

Suburban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Private Residence

Known Design Source (write none if unknown):

None

Preparer:

P.A.C. Spero & Company

December 1996

PG:61-32

Click here for a plain text ADA compliant screen.

	Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY Real Property Data Search	Go Back View Map New Search
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Account Identifier: District - 01 Account Number - 0047597

Owner Information

Owner Name:	NICHOLSON, JAMES W & JAMES M ETAL	Use:	RESIDENTIAL
		Principal Residence:	NO
Mailing Address:	12634 BUNKER HILL RD UNION BRIDGE MD 21791-8728	Deed Reference:	1) 2)

Location & Structure Information

Premises Address 4240 POWDER MILL RD BELTSVILLE 20705	Zoning RR	Legal Description LOT 3 EX W 8 FT & PT LOT 11 MYRTLEWOOD >
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Map	Grid	Parcel	Sub District	Subdivision	Section	Block	Lot	Group	Plat No:	A-1056
12	F3			6800		1		81	Plat Ref:	

Special Tax Areas	Town Ad Valorem Tax Class 08
--------------------------	-------------------------------------

Primary Structure Built	Enclosed Area	Property Land Area	County Use
1907	910 SF	25,897.00 SF	001

Stories	Basement	Type	Exterior
2	NO	STANDARD UNIT	FRAME

Value Information

	Base Value	Value Phase-in Assessments		
		As Of 01/01/2002	As Of 07/01/2003	As Of 07/01/2004
Land:	47,180	47,180		
Improvements:	62,380	66,460		
Total:	109,560	113,640	112,280	113,640
Preferential Land:	0	0	0	0

Transfer Information

Seller: DIXON, ELSIE M & JAMES R (LE) ETA	Date: 09/06/2000	Price: \$0
Type: NOT ARMS-LENGTH	Deed1:	Deed2:
Seller:	Date: 06/30/1989	Price: \$0
Type: UNKNOWN	Deed1: / 7356/ 313	Deed2:
Seller:	Date:	Price:
Type:	Deed1:	Deed2:

Exemption Information

Partial Exempt Assessments	Class	07/01/2003	07/01/2004
County	000	0	0
State	000	0	0
Municipal	000	0	0

Tax Exempt: NO
Exempt Class:

Special Tax Recapture:

* NONE *

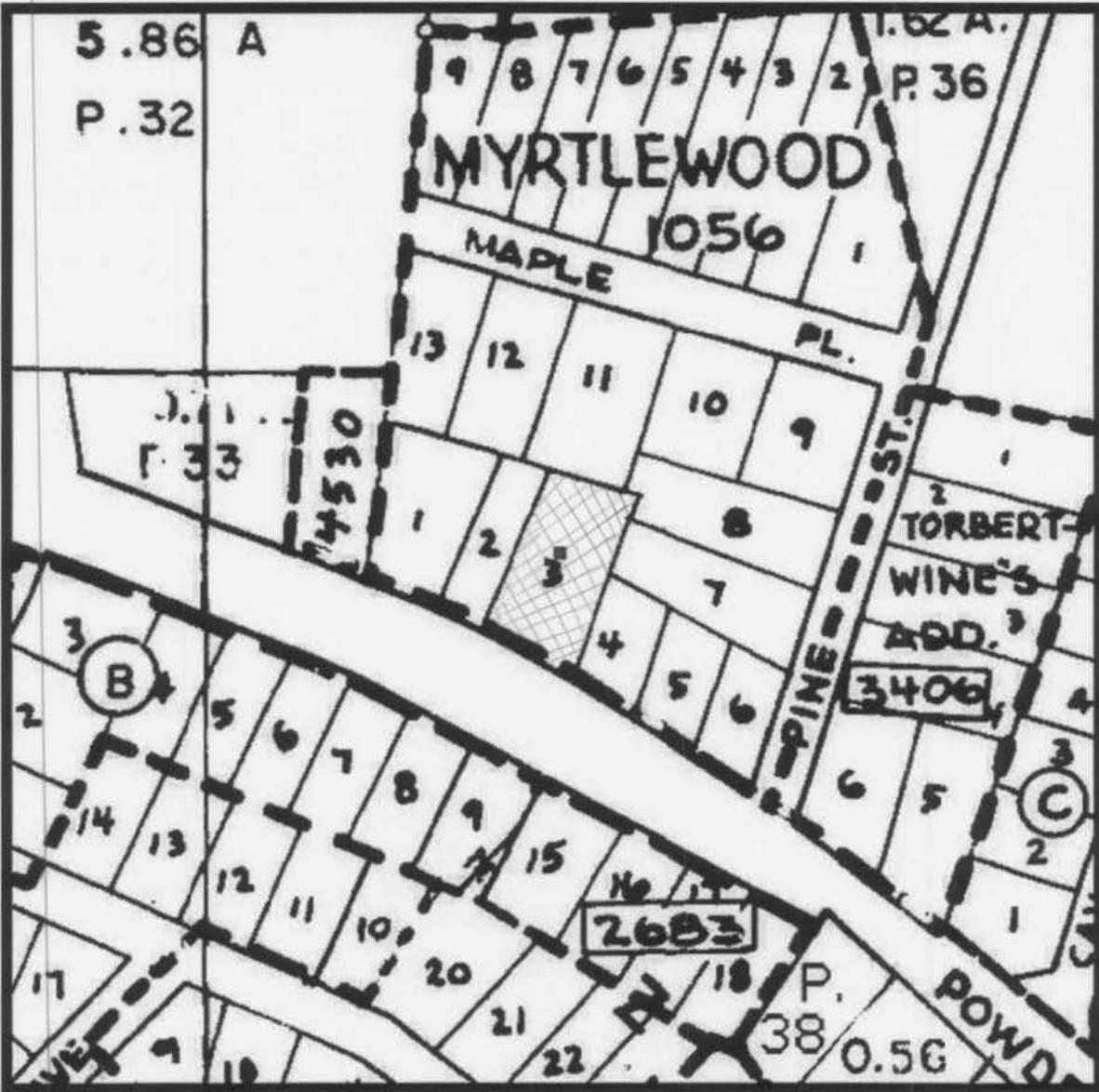
PG: 61-32



Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
Real Property Data Search

[Go Back](#)
[View Map](#)
[New Search](#)

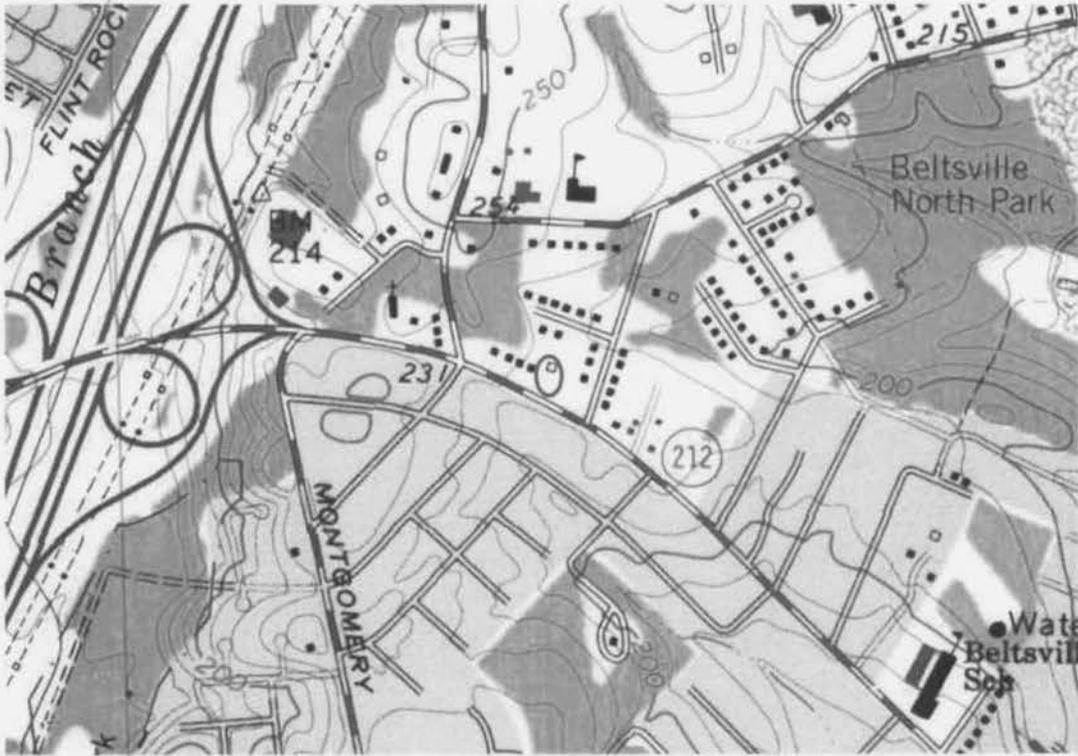
District - 01 Account Number - 0047597



Property maps provided courtesy of the Maryland Department of Planning ©2001.

For more information on electronic mapping applications, visit the Maryland Department of Planning web site at www.mdp.state.md.us/webcom/index.html

PG:61-32
Edward Emack Property, Elsie Dixon Property
4240 Powder Mill Road
Beltsville Quadrangle





1. PG: lot-32
2. Edward Emack Property
3. Prince George's
4. Ryan McKay
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Spero & Company, 40 W. Chesapeake
Ave Suite 412, Towson MD 21204
7. 4240 Powder Mill Road, south
elevation
8. 1 & 5



1. PG 61-32

2. Edward Emack Property

3. Prince George's

4. Lynn McKay

5. July 1996

6. P.A.C. Spero & Company, 40 W. Chesapeake
Ave, suite 412, Towson MD 21204

7. 4240 Powder Mill Road, East elevation

8. 2 of 5



1. PG: 61-32
2. Edward Emack, Property
3. Prince George's
4. Ryan McKay
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Spero & Company, 40 W. Chesapeake Ave, suite 412, Towson MD 21204
7. 4240 Powder Mill Road, North elevation
8. 3 of 5



1. PG: 601-32
2. Edward Emack Property
3. Prince George's
4. Ryan McKay
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Spero & Company, 40 W. Chesapeake Ave, Suite 412, Towson MD 21204
7. 4240 Powder Mill Road, Garage & west elevation
8. 4 of 5



1. PQ: 61-32
2. Edward Enack Property
3. Prince Georges
4. Ryan McKay
5. July 1996
6. P.A.C. Sporo & Company, 40 W. Chesapeake Ave, Suite 412, Towson MD 21204
7. 4240 Powder Mill Road, garage
8. 5 of 5