

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

Property Name: Yowell House Bldg 022 Survey Number: P.G. #61-36

Property Address: 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

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)

Built in the 1930s, the Yowell House served as a laborer's cottage. Like many properties, the government purchased it for employee housing at BARC. This plain dwelling is one and a half stories tall with a gable roof. When the building was surveyed in 1996, it was not assessed for its potential as a contributing resource to a historic district. The USDA has now completed its survey of the entire BARC facility. Their consultant determined that the 6582 acres of BARC are eligible. The Trust concurred with this determination. Building 022 is a contributing resource to the BARC Historic District.

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

Prepared by: Robinson & Associates

Lauren Bowlin 2/00
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: yes no not applicable

B. Kuntz 2/29/00
Reviewer, NR program Date

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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: _____

PG: 61-36

The Yowell House -- Building 022

Beltsville Agricultural Research Center -- Beltsville, MD

Location: Beltsville, MD (Prince George's County)

Date of Construction: ca. early 1930s

Access: Public (Restricted)

The Yowell House (Building 022) is located in the North Farm area of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC), where the Bureau of Plant Industry operations were established in the 1930s. The house was constructed in the early 1930s by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for use as a laborer's cottage, one of a number erected by the government to house employees at the experimental farm. The house was named after Albert Yowell, the first government laborer to occupy the residence. Since its construction, the house has continued in its use as an employee residence.

Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form
Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data
The Yowell House - Building 022 - MHT #P.G. #61-36
Beltsville Agricultural Research Center
Prince George's County, Maryland

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: building

Historic Environment: rural

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

Known Design Source: none

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

Survey No. P.G. #61-36

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

1. Name

Historic Name The Yowell House

Common Name and Building Number Building 022

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input 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.

Liber# Folio#

Street & Number

City, Town

State and Zip Code

6. Representation in Existing Historic Survey

Yes No

Title

Date

Federal State County Local

Depository for Survey Records

City, Town

State and Zip

7. Description

Survey No. P.G. #61-36

Condition

<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
<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed		

Overview

Building 022, located on the North Farm of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, is a small, one-and-a-half-story, side-gable house. It was constructed in the early 1930s by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for use as a laborer's cottage. Named the Yowell House for its first government occupant, Albert Yowell and his family, the residence was used to house government farm laborers. It is still an employee residence today.

Exterior Description

The house, which sits on a raised concrete block foundation, is a simple square box. The gabled roof overhangs substantially, especially on the end-gable elevations. Centered along the ridge of the roof is an interior chimney. There are entrances on both the north and south elevations, each characterized by an overhanging shed-roof porch. The north and south elevations are three bays wide, and the side elevations are two bays across; each elevation has two windows.

The principal (or north) facade features a large shed-roof porch that extends along almost the entire facade. The porch, supported by four simple posts, shelters the central entrance door and two flanking one-over-one windows. Both the windows and the door have simple wooden surrounds. The south facade is now used as the primary access to the house. The entrance that is located in the central bay is slightly off center. Flanked by two one-over-one windows, the door is sheltered by a projecting shed roof supported by two simple posts, and accessed by a flight of stairs.

The east and west (or end-gable) facades are each punctuated by two one-over-one windows on the first story. Set in the concrete foundation are two small windows, opening into the basement. In the apex of each gable is a single one-over-one window.

The house has recently been entirely renovated, including new siding, new windows, a new roof, and a new porch.

Interior Description

Building 022 has a nearly square footprint. The entrance from the principal facade on the north side of the house opens into a large living room that runs the width of the house. In the center of the house is a small square space, a sort of hall, that connects to each room of the house. The bathroom, bedroom, kitchen, and living room, as well as the door to the basement, all open off of this square hall. The kitchen, connected to the living room on the eastern side of the house, occupies the southeast corner of the house and contains the back door that leads to the driveway. A bedroom is in the southwest corner of the house, and the bathroom is placed between the living room and the bedroom along the west wall of the house. The second floor contains two bedrooms situated under the eaves of the roof, illuminated by side gable windows. The house does not contain any particularly distinctive trim or features. There is a full basement.

8. Significance

Survey No. P.G. #61-36

Period	Areas of Significance			
<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 checked="" 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/Humanit
<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	Architect				Builder			Area
Applicable Criteria:	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D				
Applicable Exception	<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			

Overview

In the mid-1930s, when the North Farm of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center was being developed as the Plant Industry Station, Building 022 was identified as the Yowell House. The Yowell House was constructed by the Department of Agriculture in the mid-1930s for use as a laborer's cottage, and was named for Albert Yowell, the government farm laborer who first occupied it.

Building 022: A BARC Laborer's Residence

Building 022 is one and a half stories high with two bedrooms upstairs. It was constructed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in the early 1930s for use as a laborer's cottage. It was one of several houses erected by the government for use as employee housing. One of the less sophisticated houses erected by the USDA, the house was not equipped with water, a furnace, or electricity.

By the mid-1930s, the Yowell House was considered in poor condition and valued at approximately \$1,200. A description of it in the inventory of residences listed it as "a cheap 5-room frame house built principally from second-hand lumber, no furnace."¹ Albert H. Yowell, a farm laborer who earned \$70 a month, occupied the house with his wife and two children. House rent of \$5 a month was deducted from his pay. Because there were no amenities, there were no extra charges deducted for heat, light, or power.

In 1938, the Yowell house was one of a number of residences that was painted, using Public Works Administration monies. It was listed third in order of importance, among six houses named. Another item on the list of improvements to be undertaken was the installation in the Yowell House of kitchen plumbing, bathroom fixtures, a septic tank, tile field, shallow well pump and tank, and a pipeless furnace.²

The residence was one of a number of properties erected in the 1930s to accommodate the labor needed to support the fledgling Plant Industry Station, which was in the process of being developed on the North Farm. Building 022 would have housed laborers' responsible for work in the North Farm area. Since its construction, the house has continued in its use as an employee residence.

¹ Record Group 54: Bureau Chief's Correspondence. Item #43186-87 (1934-35). National Archives and Records Administration.

² Record Group 54: Bureau Chief's Correspondence. Item #43186-87 (1934-35). National Archives and Records Administration.

Bibliography

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

Houck, U.G. *The Bureau of Animal Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture: Its Establishment, Achievements, and Current Activities*. Washington, D.C.: published by the author, 1924.

Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. *Illustrated Inventory of Historic Sites*. July 1993.

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McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1994.

National Archives Records Administration, Record Group 54, Entry 151A. Washington, DC.

Phillips, Steven J. *Old House Dictionary: An Illustrated Guide to American Domestic Architecture, 1600 to 1940*. Lakewood, CO: American Source Books, 1989.

Robinson & Associates, Inc. *Phase III Submission: Cultural Resources Report Historic Overview, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Maryland*. Prepared for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Research Service, December 1995.

Robinson & Associates, Inc. *Preliminary Historic Context Statement: North Farm, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. 25% - Phase II and III*. Prepared for the Agricultural Research Service. November 1994.

10. Geographical Data

PG: 61-36

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the site follows Sellman Road on the north, a boundary extending 50 feet from the perimeter of the house on the west, a small North Farm exit road on the east, and the driveway to the house on the south.

11. Form Prepared by

Name/Title Heather Ewing, Judith Robinson, Architectural Historians

Organization Robinson & Associates, Inc.

Date September 15, 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

PG: #61-36 The Yowell House (Building 022)
Beltsville Agricultural Research Center
Beltsville, Prince George's County, MD
Relative Locations and Approximate Acreages of Properties
Compiled by H.F. Sehorn, March 8, 1935

022

MILLER - U.S.A.
135.3 A.

SELLMAN - U.S.A.
320.2 A.

STEL LC

BEALL
36 A.

UNIVERSI

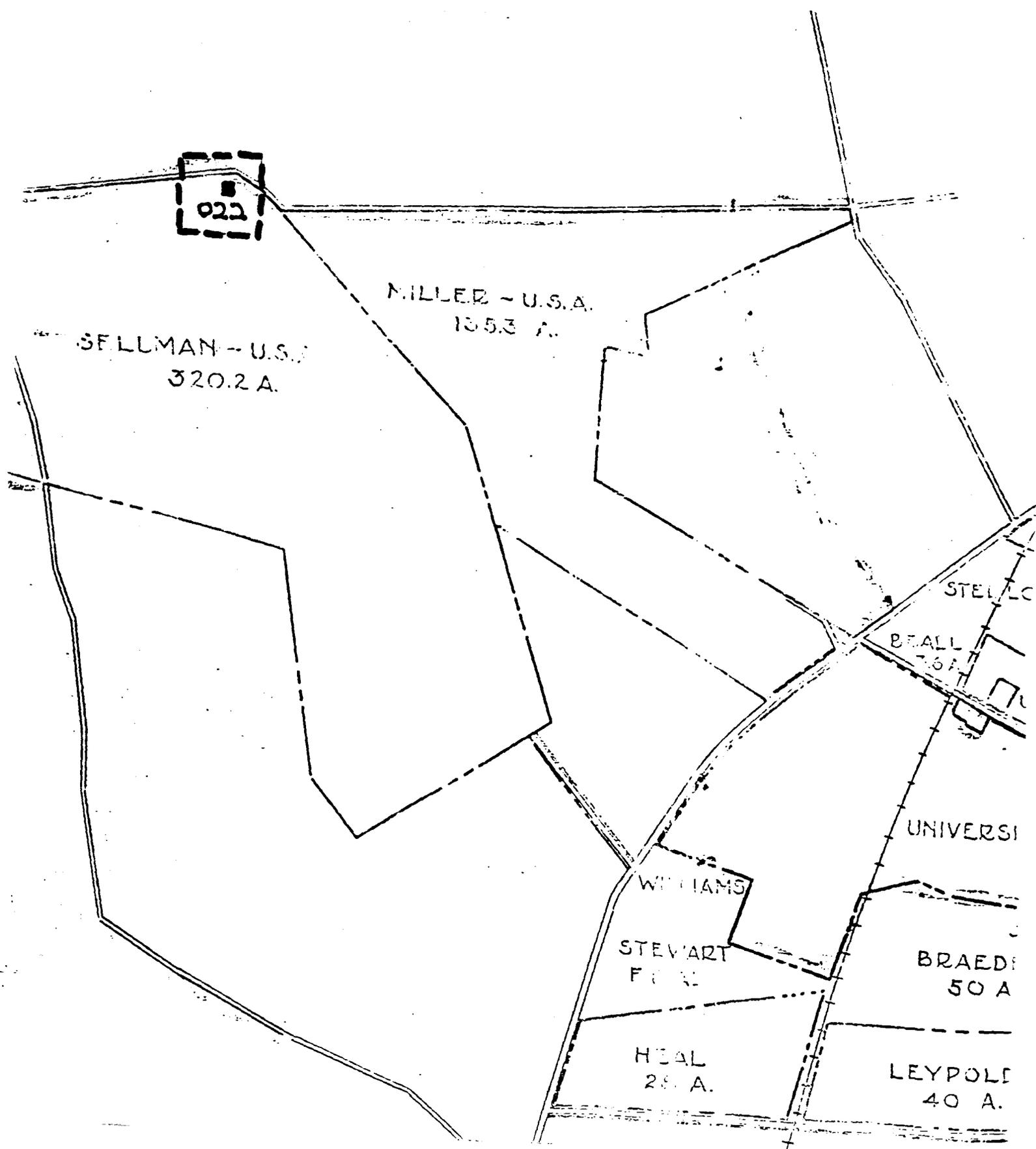
WILLIAMS

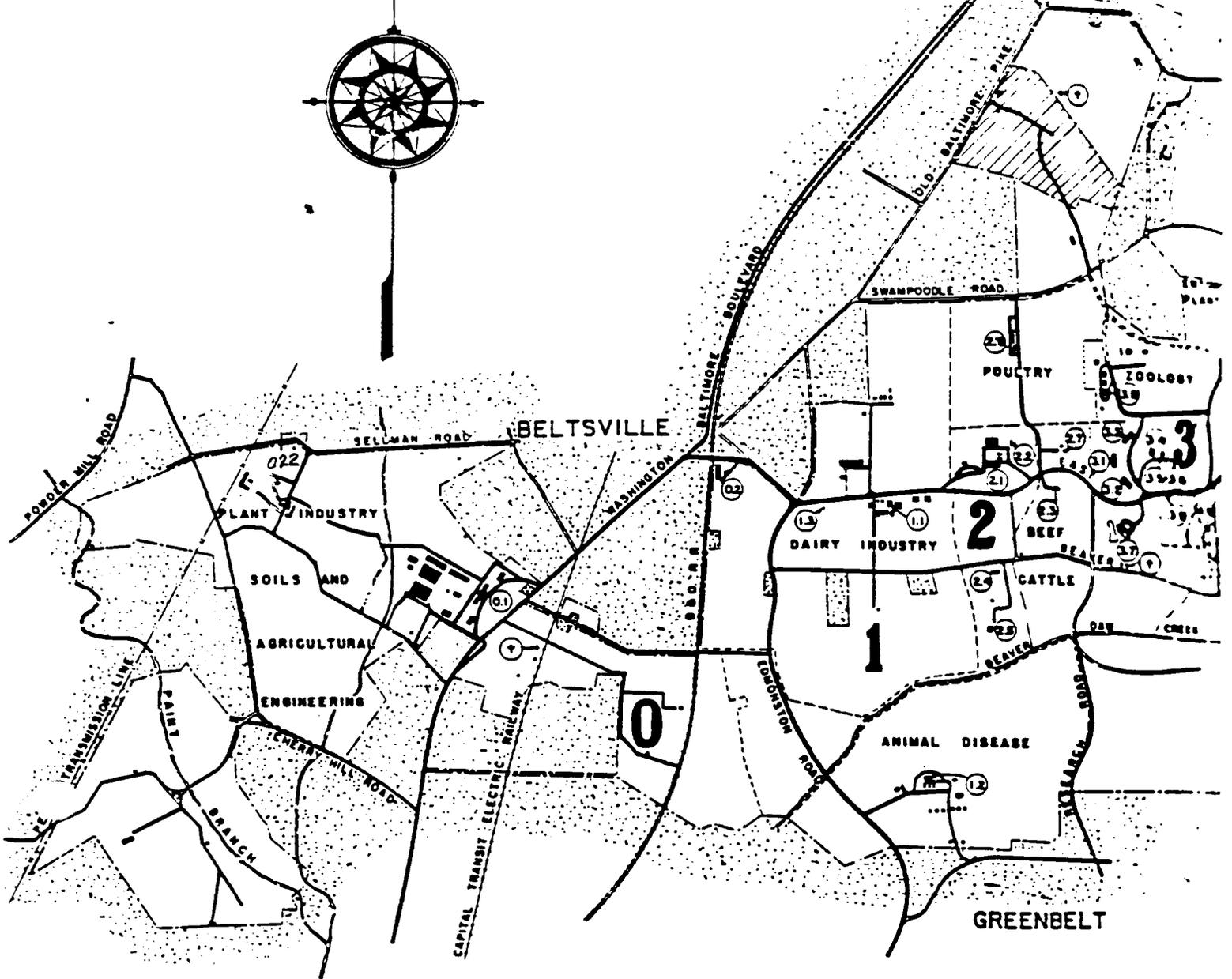
STEWART
F 32

BRAED
50 A

HEAL
28 A.

LEYPOLD
40 A.





01-PLANT IND. SOILS & AGRIC. ENGR. ADMIN.
02-GRANARY A.R.C.

41-A.R.C. MECHANICAL SHOPS
42-GOAT BARN
43-GOAT BARN ANNEX
44-INSECTICIDE LAB. POMA.
45-AEROSOL LAB. ESPO
46-ENTOMOLOGY LAB. (BEE CULTURE & INSECT CONTROL)
47-A.R.C. AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR SHOPS

1.1-DAIRY ADMINISTRATION
1.2-ANIMAL DISEASE ADMINISTRATION
1.3-INFORMATION

2.1-NUTRITION LAB & ADMIN AN HUSBANDRY
2.2-MEATS LAB.
2.3-BEEF CATTLE BARN
2.4-SHEEP BARN
2.5-DISPOSAL PLANT
2.6-POULTRY LABS.
2.7-CARTOGRAPHIC ANNEX

3.1-SWINE FARROWING HOUSE
3.2-DUAL PURPOSE CATTLE BARN
3.3-MILLCULTURE S.C.S.
3.4-NURSERY S.C.S.
3.5-RADIO (U.S. DEPT. OF COMMERCE)

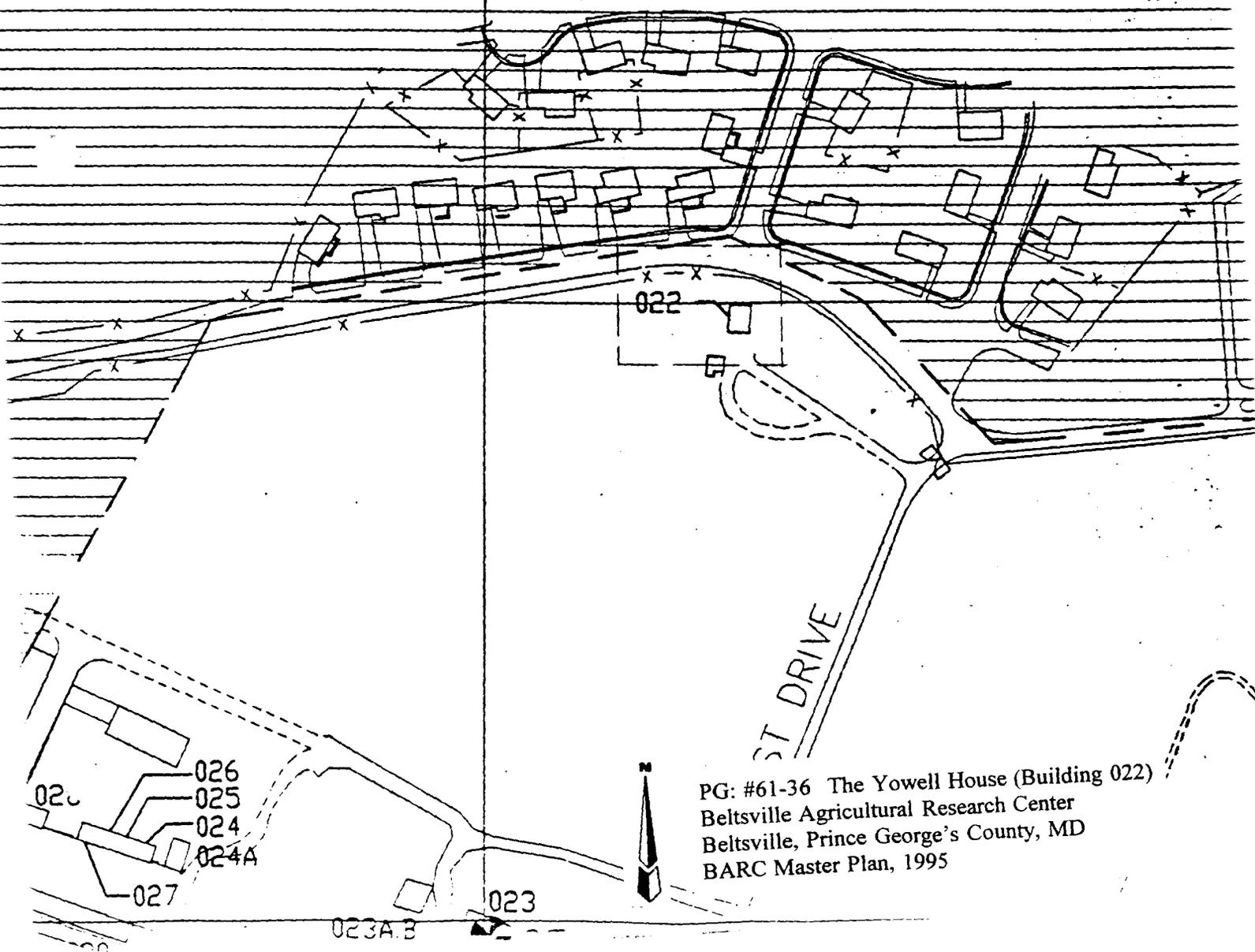
6.1-FOREST SERVICE LAB.

3.1-CENTER LAB. A.R.C. OFFICE OF OPERATIONS - HOME ECONOMICS AND HUMAN NUTR. - BELTSVILLE BRANCH OF U.S.D.A. LIBRARY)
3.2-SOUTH LAB. (DIV. OF INSECT. E.M.P.O. - PRODUCTION & MARKETING ADMIN - CARTOGRAPHIC DIV. S.C.S.)
3.3-NORTH LAB. (HOME ECONOMICS - AGRICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY - AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING DIV. OF S.P.I.S.&A.E.)
3.4-SERVICE BLOG.
3.5-WATER TREATMENT PLANT
3.6-LOG LODGE (CAFETERIA)
3.8-ZOOLOGY ADMINISTRATION
3.9-AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING LAB. S.P.I.S.&A.E.

PG: #61-36 The Yowell House (Building 022)
Beltsville Agricultural Research Center
Beltsville, Prince George's County, MD
Agricultural Research Center, May 1947



SELLMAN ESTATES



PG: #61-36 The Yowell House (Building 022)
Beltsville Agricultural Research Center
Beltsville, Prince George's County, MD
BARC Master Plan, 1995



PG 61-36

THE YOWELL HOUSE - BUILDING 022
BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY MD

HEATHER EWING
MARCH 1997
MDSHPO

SOUTH + EAST ELEVATIONS, LOOKING NORTHWEST



PG 61-36

YOWELL HOUSE - BUILDING 022

BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY MD

HEATHER EWING
MARCH 1997
MDSHPO

EAST + NORTH FACADES, LOOKING WEST



MIT # PG: 61-36
THE YOWELL HOUSE - BUILDING 022
BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY MD
HEATHER EWING ~~AUGUST~~ 1996
MDSHPO

INTERIOR VIEW OF LIVING ROOM LOOKING WEST
#3 OF 4



MHT # PG: 61-36

YOWELL HOUSE - BUILDING 022

BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY MD

HEATHER EWING - AUGUST 1996

MD SHPO

INTERIOR VIEW OF LIVING ROOM LOOKING EAST

4 OF 4