

## CAPSULE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey No.: PG:62-28 (PACS 2.3) Construction Date: Circa 1935

Name: Miles and Ruby Clark House

Location: 7800 Contee Road, Laurel Vicinity, Prince George's County

Private/Vacant/Unoccupied/Deteriorated/Restricted

### Description:

The Miles and Ruby Clark House is a 1-story, 3-bay side-gable cottage on the north side of Contee Road in Laurel Vicinity, Prince George's County. Constructed circa 1935, the building is massed plan with front and rear shed-roof extensions of the central side-gable roof-line.

**Significance:** The Miles and Ruby Clark House is located on Contee Road, close to its intersection with Baltimore Avenue (US 1). The house was built circa 1935 on 4.16 hectares (10.27 acres) of land which the Stantons acquired from Francis and Janet DuPont. The land was adjacent to the City and Suburb Electric Railway (also called the Old Washington-Laurel Electric Railway), which ran to the east of the property, west of US 1. Built as a residential property, the house was close to the area known as Contee Station. The property once adjoined a subdivision located on US 1 known as Boulevard Park, but the property was sold with the house and only .45 hectares (1.13 acres) to Elmer and Gladys Allen in 1954. An adjoining parcel of .4 hectares (1 acre), also located on Contee Road was sold in 1956. The Allens sold the property in 1959 to Leonard and Dolores Hantichak. They sold it to the Cosenza's in 1976. Thomas E. Goff and Virginia Kalb purchased the property from the Cosenza's in 1980. It was sold to Robert E. Stevens and Seymour Marmer in 1986. The property retained its 1954 acreage of .45 hectares (1.13 acres) when it was sold by Robert E. Stevens and Seymour Marmer to the current owners, the Contee Road Business Park Limited Partnership in 1988.

Preparer  
P.A.C. Spero & Company  
May 1998

Maryland Historical Trust  
 Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form  
 Montgomery-Prince George's Short-term Congestion Relief

DOE \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

**1. Name:** (indicate preferred name)

historic Miles and Ruby Clark House (preferred)

and/or common Contee Road Business Park House

**2. Location:**

street &amp; number 7800 Contee Road

n/a not for publication

city, town Laurel X vicinity of

congressional district

state Maryland

county Prince George's

**3. Classification:**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>  </u> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture	<u>  </u> museum
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u>X</u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial	<u>  </u> park
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> education	<u>  </u> private
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment	residence
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>X</u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government	<u>  </u> religious
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial	<u>  </u> scientific
	<u>X</u> not applicable	<u>  </u> no	<u>  </u> military	<u>X</u> other:
			<u>  </u> transportation	vacant

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

name Contee Road Business Park, Limited Partnership

street &amp; number 6000 Executive Blvd., Suite 700

telephone no.:

city, town Rockville

state and zip code Maryland 20825

**5. Location of Legal Description**

Land Records of Prince George's County

liber 7087

street &amp; number Prince George's County Judicial Center

folio 500

city, town Upper Marlboro

state MD

**6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys**

title

date

   federal    state    county    local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

## 7. Description

Survey No. PG:62-28 (PACS 2.3)

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" 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			

Resource Count: 1

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

The Miles and Ruby Clark House is a 1-story, 3-bay side-gable vernacular cottage on the north side of Contee Road in the Laurel Vicinity, Prince George's County. Constructed circa 1935, the building is massed plan with front and rear shed-roof extensions of the central side-gable roof-line.

The structure has a side-gable roof covered in asphalt shingles, with a brick exterior-end chimney that rises along the west gable-end. It is of wood-frame construction with asphalt roll brick siding over weatherboards, and it has a concrete block foundation. The windows are mostly boarded, but those that are visible are double-hung wood sash. The house has an enclosed porch on the front elevation, and a wood deck on the rear elevation.

The south, or front facade has an enclosed porch on a raised foundation. The foundation is overgrown. The entrance is centered, and is flanked by two window openings which are boarded. The elevation is covered in vines.

The east elevation has a raised foundation. The fenestration pattern is symmetrical on the first floor. The basement level has a garage door opening under the front porch, fitted with double batten doors. There are four additional openings on the basement level. The first two are boarded, and the second two have 1/1 double-hung vinyl windows. The first story has four symmetrically-placed window openings, all of which are boarded. There is a single 6/6 double-hung wood-sash window in the gable. The wood deck on the rear elevation is visible from the east elevation.

The north, or rear elevation has a raised foundation, and a wood deck with a lattice railing at the first story level. There are three 1/1 double hung vinyl windows in the basement level. A door at ground level is located at the far right (NW) corner of the rear elevation. It has a small pent roof hood. The steps leading up to the deck are in front of the door. The first story has a 6/1 double-hung vinyl window in the first bay, and a door flanked by two boarded window openings in the second, third, and fourth bays.

The west elevation has a brick chimney centered on the elevation. The fenestration pattern is symmetrical, with a large boarded window opening on either side of the chimney at the first floor level. There are two small boarded openings flanking the chimney in the gable. The enclosed porch opening is boarded at the far right (SW) corner of the elevation. The steps leading up to the rear deck are visible from this elevation.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Miles and Ruby Clark House

SURVEY NO.: PG:62-28 (PACS 2.3)

ADDRESS: 7800 Contee Road, Laurel Vicinity, Prince George's County

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## 7. Description (Continued)

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There are no outbuildings associated with this site. The property is located on the north side of Contee Road, with residential property to the west, open space to the east, a wooded area to the north, and a cemetery to the south on the opposite side of Contee Road. The property's setting is extremely overgrown with trees, vines, and bushes, and shows evidence of having been vacant for a number of years. The area is still essentially residential in character, although there is much commercial development to the east where Contee Road intersects Baltimore Avenue (US 1).



CONTINUATION SHEET

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8. Significance (Continued)

The Miles and Ruby Clark house is an example of a mid-twentieth century vernacular side-gable cottage. Between 1870 and 1940 the vernacular cottage style was typically built for Americans of modest means. They are characterized by simple ornamentation and mass-produced components, such as door frames, moldings, sash and window units, and porch decoration. The development of post-Civil War machinery capable of producing large amounts of standardized housing elements, such as those found in cottages, contributed greatly to the development of the modern American housing industry. Designs for vernacular cottages were obtained from popular magazines, such as House Beautiful, or carpenter's and builder's journals, such as American Builder. A variety of front-gable, side-gable, cross-gable and hipped roof frame cottages were developed in the early to mid-twentieth century. Front-gable and hipped roof cottages are primarily 1 to 1½-stories tall, 3-bays wide and several rooms deep. Side-gable and cross-gable structures are usually 2 to 2½-stories tall, are typically 2 to 3-bays in width and vary from one to three rooms deep. They usually include a porch covered with a shed roof. Porches are supported by posts often containing machine-produced Victorian ornamentation. Some cottages feature ornamentation drawn from Craftsman style or Colonial Revival architecture (Gottfried and Jennings 1988, viii-xv).

National Register Evaluation:

Constructed circa 1935, the Miles and Ruby Clark Property 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 undistinguished example of a circa 1935 cottage which has been altered and is in deteriorated condition. Finally, the structure has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, is not eligible under Criterion D.

<b>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST</b>	
Eligibility recommended _____	Eligibility Not Recommended <u>X</u>
Comments _____	
_____	
Reviewer, OPS: <u>[Signature]</u>	Date: <u>2/2/99</u>
Reviewer, NR Program: <u>[Signature]</u>	Date: <u>2/5/99</u>

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References Survey No. PG:62-28 (PACS 2.3)

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See Attached

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_  
Quadrangle name Laurel, MD Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

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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

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name/title Susan Taylor

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organization P.A.C. Spero & Company

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date May 1998

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street & number 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 412

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telephone (410) 296-1635

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city or town Baltimore

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state Maryland

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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, MD 21032-2023  
(410) 514-7600

CONTINUATION SHEET

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

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- Brugger, Robert A. 1988. Maryland, A Middle Temperament 1634-1980. Baltimore and London: Johns Hopkins University Press.
- Cook, William G. 1976. Montpelier & the Snowden Family. Privately Printed.
- Gottfried, Herbert and Jans Jennings. 1988. American Vernacular Design, 1870-1940. Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press.
- Hiebert, Ray Eldon, and Richard K. MacMaster. 1976. A Grateful Remembrance: the Story of Montgomery County, Maryland. Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Government and the Montgomery County Historical Society.
- Hopkins, G.M. [1879] 1975. Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington including County of Prince George's, Maryland. Reprint, Riverdale, Maryland: Prince George's County Historical Society.
- and Records of Prince George's County, Upper Marlboro, Maryland.
- "The Laurel Factory." News and Notes from the Prince George's County Historical Society. (July 1980): 38-40. (First published in The American Farmer. Baltimore, Maryland, August 1845.)
- Prince George's County Community Renewal Program. 1974. The Neighborhoods of Prince George's County. Upper Marlboro, Maryland: Prince George's County Government.
- Tindall, George Brown. 1984. America: A Narrative History. 2 vols. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.
- Virta, Alan. 1984. Prince George's County: A Pictorial History. Rev. 1991. Virginia Beach: The Donning Company Publishers.
- Virta, Alan. "The Pretty, Rosy-Cheeked Girls of Laurel." News and Notes from the Prince George's County Historical Society. (July 1980): 37.

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STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

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Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet

Historic Context:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period Theme (s): Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present

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





1 PG: 62-28

2 1800 Center Road, Miller + Ruby Clark House

3 Primer Georges Co., MD

4 Susan Taylor

5 5195

6 MD SHPO

7 East elevation

8 1 of 6

542076 1770285



1 PG: 62-28

2 7800 Contee Road, Miles + Ruby Mark House

3 Prince George's Co., MD

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/97

6 MID 8112

7 N. 11. E. east corner

8 2 of 6

5470271 215 5000



1 PR: 62-28

2<sup>1000</sup> Cortee Road, Miles = name of Court House

3 Prince Georges Co., MD

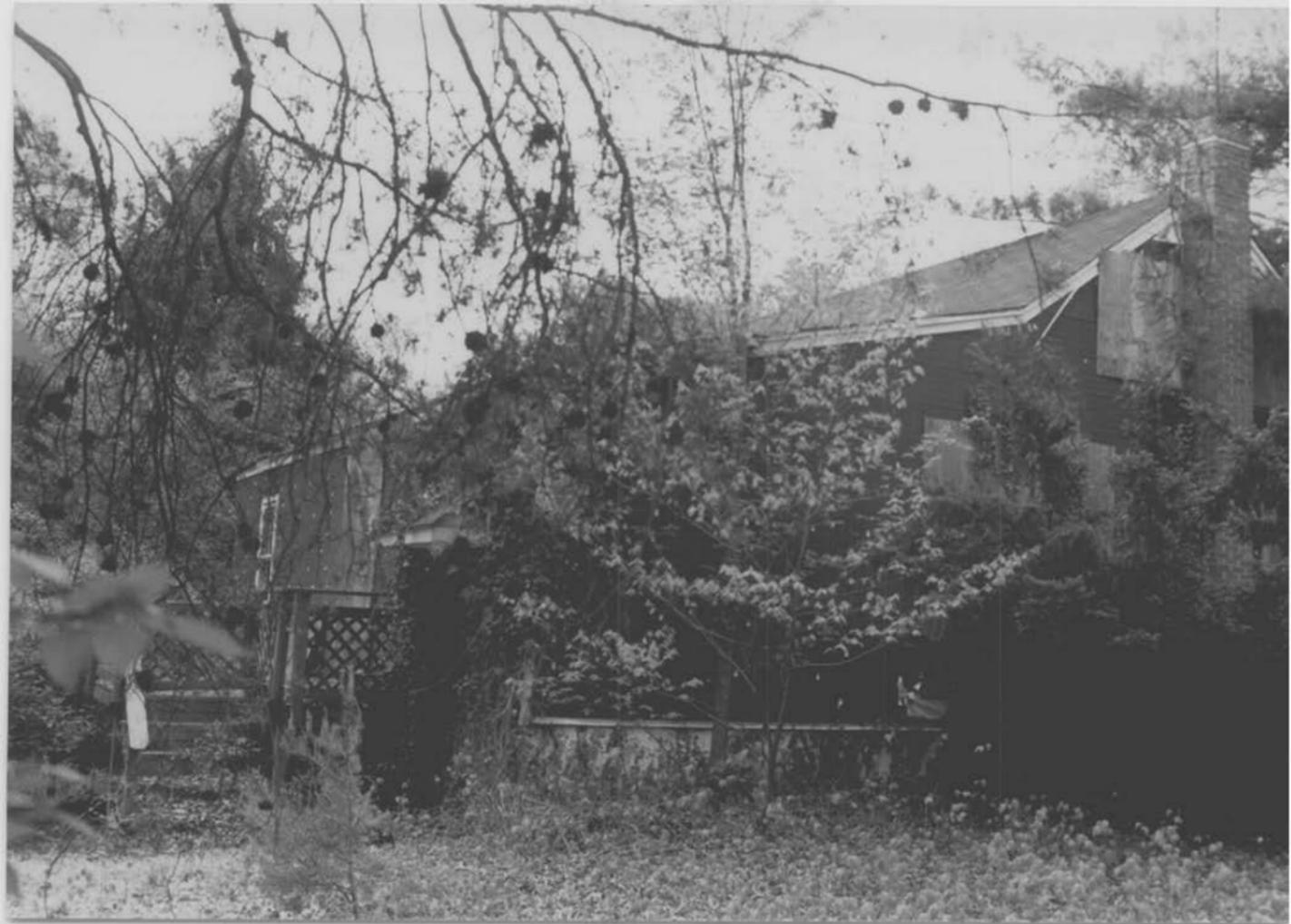
4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 MD SHPO

7 North elevation

8 3 of 6



1 PE: 62 28

2 1500 Center Road, Miles & Rudy Clark House

3 Prince Georges Co., MD

4 Susan Taylor

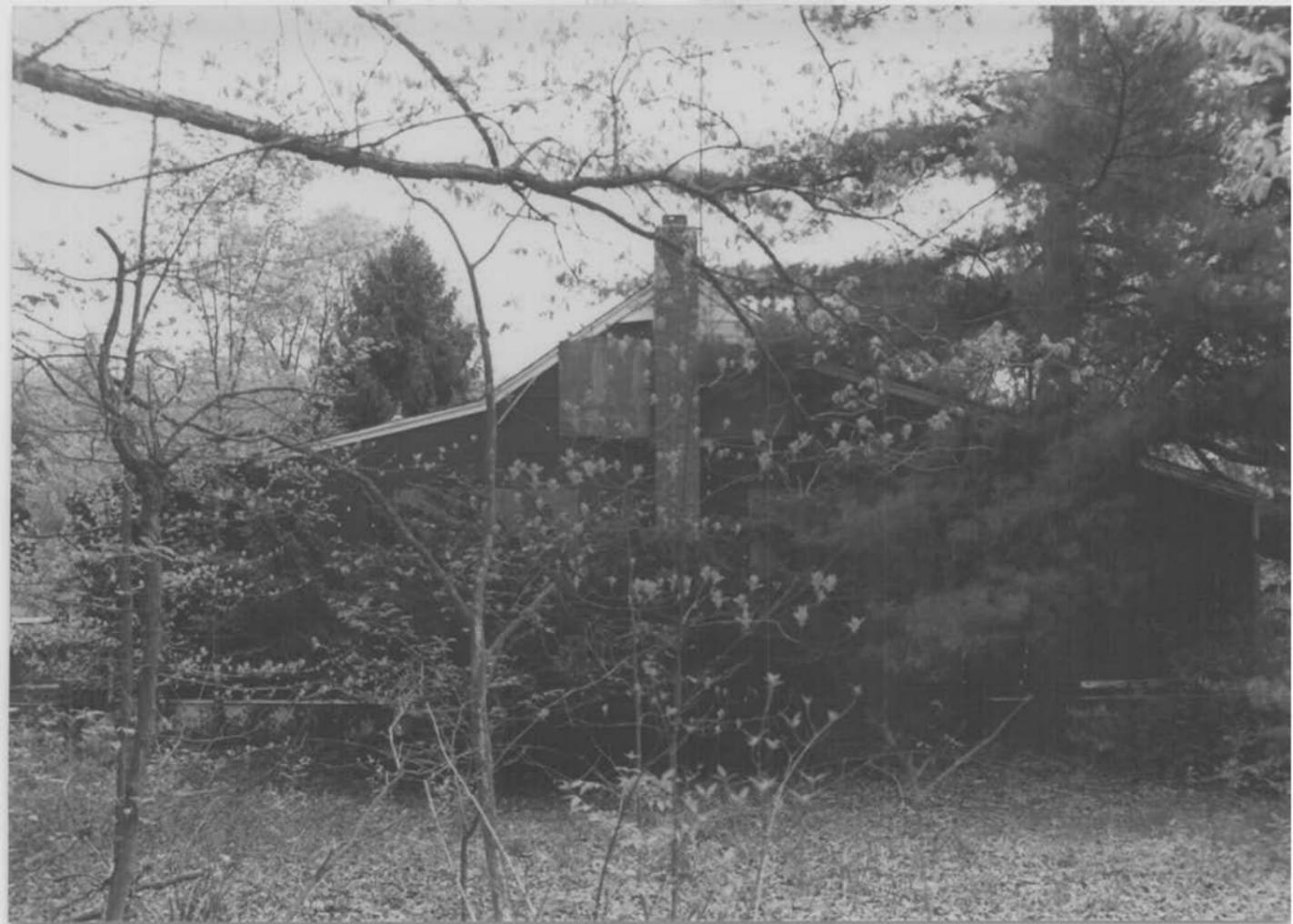
5 5/18

6 MD SHPO

7 North & West Corner

8 4 of 6

000000 1230 200



1 PG = 62.28

2 ~~Two~~ Contee Road Miles + Ruby Clark House

3 Prince Georges Co, MD

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 MD S + PO

7 West elevation

8 5 of 6

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- 1 11: 62 28
- 2 ~~7800~~ Conlee Road, Mills v. Ruby Clark House
- 3 Prince George's Co, MD
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/92
- 6 MID SHPO
- 7 South elevation
- 8 6 of 6

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