

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes
no

Property Name: Green Meadows Radio Station (WRC Radio Station) Inventory Number: PG:65-17
 Address: 6000 Ager Road City: Hyattsville Zip Code: 20782
 County: Prince George's USGS Topographic Map: Washington D.C. East, M.D.-D.C. Quadrangle
 Owner: Zebra Broadcasting LLC, 1801 Rockville Pike, Rockville Is the property being evaluated a district? yes
 Tax Parcel Number: 0085 Tax Map Number: 0041 Tax Account ID Number: 1924752
 Project: Trileaf Site # 614498 "Rosa Parks" Agency: FCC
 Site visit by MHT Staff: no yes Name: _____ Date: _____
 Is the property located within a historic district? yes no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: _____
 NR-listed district yes Eligible district yes District Name: _____
 Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource yes no Non-contributing but eligible in another context

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)
 Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible yes no

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None
 Documentation on the property/district is presented in:

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The Green Meadows Radio Station property (also referred to as WRC Radio Station) is located on an 18.78 acre parcel at 6000 Ager Road in Hyattsville, Prince George's County, Maryland. The property is owned by Zebra Broadcasting LLC at 1801 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852, and occupies tax parcel 1924752. At the property's northeastern and southwestern boundaries, the landscape is flat and heavily wooded, while housing developments border the property on its northwestern and southeastern boundaries. Within the parcel, the land is flat and has been cleared, with the exception of heavy tree cover at the periphery. A brick transmitter building is situated near the northeastern corner, and three radiators fan out from the southern end of the transmitter building. A small brick grill is located approximately 60 feet east-northeast of the transmitter building, near the entry drive that provides access from Ager Road. The property is gated and surrounded by chain-link fence and is not accessible to the public.

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Eligibility recommended <input type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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: <u>lacks integrity.</u>	
<u>[Signature]</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>9/2/15</u> Date
<u>[Signature]</u> Reviewer, NR Program	<u>9/2/15</u> Date

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Transmitter Building

The Green Meadows Radio Station transmitter building is located near the northeastern end of its tax parcel, at the end of a gated access drive leading from Ager Road. The building is T-shaped in plan and oriented with its length on a roughly east-west axis and its width on a north-south axis, forming the main elevation. The building is, in general, one story in height, although the eastern half is set on a raised concrete base, making it slightly taller than the western half.

The building's main, eastern elevation is five bays wide, with its central bay occupied by a shallowly rounded portico that houses the main entrance and a small porch (Photograph 1). The portico, as the focus of the building's main elevation, is ornamented in the Art Deco style popular at the time of its construction in 1938. Ornamentation is simple and geometric, consisting of a check-patterned metal railing around the front porch, poured concrete window sills, fluted columns of poured concrete, and the somewhat curved concrete panels that surround the front door within the portico. The letters "WRC" are formed from aluminum and set into a pair of aluminum strips that mount them to the brickwork over the portico (Photograph 2). Within the portico, a large metal entry door is set into a heavy wooden frame that extends upward to a transom featuring three glass panels. The woodwork shows signs of advanced aging and is likely to be original to the building. To each side of the door within the portico is a large, rectangular window opening infilled with glass brick (Photograph 3). Two similarly large, rectangular window openings lay to the north of the portico, and a window and door opening lay to the south. The two window openings nearest the portico contain louvered vents, while the northernmost window opening is filled with glass brick. A course of brick laid in a soldier pattern near the tops of the window openings spans this elevation and wraps around to the adjacent side elevations. A historic photograph, taken not long after the building's construction, shows that the original façade design was symmetrical with two windows to the south of the central portico and two to the north (Herbert 1939). The window opening was enlarged to a door opening at some time after the property was photographed in 1993 (Rivers 1993). Window openings, as designed, did not contain glass brick windows, but casement windows with a rectangular glass panel above and below (Herbert 1939).

The eastern end of the northern elevation, as the top of the "T" plan, projects outward from the rest of the building, and contains three regularly-spaced, rectangular window openings infilled with glass brick (Photograph 4). From here, the wall steps back and forms a small corner before continuing westward. Two glass brick windows of the same size and shape found elsewhere on the building are located within this corner, with one on each wall (Photograph 5). Moving westward, the wall steps back again and contains a single garage door opening near the western corner (Photograph 6). Another opening of the same size is visible just to the east of the current garage door but has been infilled with brick.

The rear, western elevation of the building contains three symmetrically placed openings (Photograph 7). A single door is the northernmost opening, while two window openings lay to the south. The window openings on this elevation are square in shape and retain the windows visible in ca. 1939 photographs of the building (Herbert 1939). A band of brick headers spans the top of each opening. Extending from the edge of the doorway southward is a narrow, fenced equipment compound. The 1939 photographs of the building show that a compound has been in this position since the building's construction, and was used to house the "Duplicate Phase 3 Power Supply Transmitter," equipment which has since been replaced

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(Herbert 1939). The current compound was expanded between 1994 and 2002, based on aerial images, and now reaches further to the south where it turns the corner and covers the building's southern elevation (NETR Online 1994, 2002) (Photograph 8).

The southern elevation of the building's western section contains two square window openings of the same size as those on its rear, western elevation (Photograph 9). Unlike the windows on the rear elevation, the square windows on this elevation have been infilled with glass brick. At its junction with the taller, eastern section of the building is a brick chimney with decorative corbelled brickwork and capped with poured concrete that follows the same pattern established by the brickwork below (Photograph 10). The two windows that occupy the corner on the southern elevation are tall and rectangular like those that occupy the same position on the northern elevation and also contain glass brick. A small metal utility door is located on the south-facing wall of the corner, slightly below ground level. The southern elevation of the projecting eastern section of the building contains a window opening near each of its outer edges with an expanse of brick wall between, in contrast to the three windows on its northern counterpart (Photograph 11). This is not an alteration, but part of the original design visible in historic photographs (Herbert 1939).

The interior of the building was not accessible at the time of the field visit in June of 2015. Patrick Malley, Red Zebra Broadcasting Director of Engineering, confirmed in an interview that the interior of the building has been extensively remodeled since the time of the building's construction, with a majority of the remodeling taking place in 1995 when extra electrical equipment was added to the building. At this time, the boiler connected to the chimney was removed, as were the living quarters designed to accommodate station engineers. The only remaining area of the living quarters is the bathroom, which retains its red and white checked tile and pedestal sink. Interior finishes have been covered by drywall and drop ceilings and are only visible in select locations (pers. com. Patrick Malley, June 16, 2015).

Brick Grill

A brick grill is located approximately 60 feet east-northeast of the transmitter building's northeastern corner (Photographs 12 and 13). The age of the grill is unknown, but a small structure is visible in this location in a 1957 aerial photograph (NETR Online 1957). To each side of the grill's central fire pit and chimney is a small oven chamber that runs the full depth of the structure. Iron doors at each end of the oven chambers can be closed and latched to seal the openings.

Radiators

A 250-foot radiator resting on a concrete foundation is located approximately 500 feet southwest of the Green Meadows Radio Station building (Photograph 14). The original radiator, described in a 1938 account, was 400 feet tall, square in plan, and topped with a "high hat" that was 50 feet in diameter and held in place with guy wires (Guy 1938). The radiator currently in place matches much of the description of the original tower, but is only approximately 250 feet in height. It is unknown when the original radiator was removed and the current one constructed.

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The property also contains two additional 250-foot radiators, with one located 350 feet southwest of the transmitter building, and one located approximately 220 feet south-southwest of the transmitter building (Photograph 14). Both radiators are pyramidal in shape and rest on concrete foundations. These are possibly the "Schuler 250 ft." radiator towers constructed in 1941 and referred to in *Broadcast and Broadcast Advertising* in that year (*Broadcasting and Broadcast Advertising* 1941).

Integrity

The Green Meadows Radio Station transmitter building remains in the location in which it was constructed and therefore retains its integrity of location. The large and pastoral lot on which the transmitter building and radiators are located preserves the integrity of feeling and association of the property as a suburban radio station complex. Due to the removal of the building's original windows, the replacement of a window opening with a door opening on the main elevation, and the infilling of a garage entrance, the building has lost its integrity of design. Integrity of materials and workmanship remain, as the building's original Art Deco metal sign, brickwork, and the wooden door surrounds on the main elevation remain visible.

HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE

Over the course of 15 months beginning early in 1937, the National Broadcasting Company relocated, expanded, and improved the facilities and transmission capacity of its flagship Washington D.C. radio station, operating under the call sign "WRC." At the outset of that transitional period, during which a new radio transmission building would be built on a parcel of farmland outside Washington's city limits, WRC's studios were housed in the Press Club Building several blocks from the White House, and its signal was broadcasted from towers atop the Riggs National Bank Building, two miles to the north (98 WRC n.d.:n.p.).

WRC had made its debut in the latter building under the aegis of the Radio Corporation of America (RCA) in April 1923 (the second two letters of "WRC" were the first two initials of its corporate owner). The station's original "500-watt transmitter (capable of 2,000 watt output) was installed in 'the apparatus room' adjacent to WRC's third floor studios" in the Riggs Building. When RCA acquired station WEA from the American Telephone and Telegraph Company in 1926 and incorporated it as the National Broadcasting Company, Inc. (NBC), WRC began broadcasting NBC programming. The following year (August 27, 1927), WRC became a full-time affiliate of NBC's Red Network (98 WRC n.d.:n.p.).

In November 1930, a year-and-a-half after "WRC moved its main offices and studios to the National Press Building, full interest in WRC's licensee, the Radio Corporation of America, was acquired from former co-owners General Electric and Westinghouse, and on March 31, 1931, WRC's licensee name was changed to the National Broadcasting Company Inc. When NBC leased Washington's WMAL in February 1933 to release NBC Blue Network programs in the District, WRC began sharing studio and office space in the National Press Building with its newly-acquired sister station." The following year, "WRC doubled its daytime power level to 1,000 [watts, while] its nighttime power remained at the 500 watt level" (98 WRC n.d.:n.p.).

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Early in 1937, NBC Vice President Frank M. Russell, having charge of the network's Washington D.C. operations, initiated a program of relocations, expansions, and improvements for WRC (98 WRC n.d.:n.p.). Inasmuch as the station only faced local broadcast competition from AM stations WOL (a Mutual Broadcasting System affiliate), WJSV (a CBS affiliate), and sister station WMAL, it appears that Russell's intent was to get a jump on WRC's few competitors by extending the station's electronic reach through bigger and better equipment, while attracting a higher grade of broadcasting talent through an upgrade in studio facilities (White 2015:n.p.). To the latter end, Russell oversaw the relocation of the WRC and WMAL studios from the National Press Building to the second floor of the recently-completed Trans-Lux Theater building, an elegant Art Deco structure located a block from the White House. The new studios were dedicated on July 22, 1937 (98 WRC n.d.:n.p.).

Simultaneous with the studio relocation, Vice President Russell and his executive staff laid the groundwork for a more powerful transmission facility for WRC. As reported in the February 24, 1937 edition of *Radio Daily* under the heading "NBC to Revise Setup of Washington Station," NBC filed with the FCC an application "seeking approval for the complete revision of the technical set-up of WRC, its Washington station. The application asks for permission to install a new transmitter at a new location, [with] increased power and new vertical antenna. WRC is asking for an increase in power from 1,000 watts daytime and 500 watts night to 5,000 watts daytime, 1,000 watts night. The location for the new ultra-modern high fidelity RCA transmitter has not been announced, but is understood it will be located outside the city. . . . The new transmitter will be installed in a one-story building of modern architecture with the vertical radiator located several hundred feet from the house. A coaxial tube will connect the antenna and the transmitter. It is expected that this new equipment will be in operation about five months after the FCC gives its approval" (*Radio Daily* 1937:1, 3).

FCC approval appears to have been received prior to June 17, 1937, on which date NBC acquired by deed a construction site in the Chillum Election District of St. George's County, approximately 5.3 miles northeast of WRC's downtown studios. NBC paid Washington, D.C. resident John M. King and his wife Pauline "\$10 and other good and valuable consideration" for a 44.4-acre tract of farmland bisected by Sligo Creek immediately upstream from its confluence with the Northwest Branch Anacostia River, approximately one mile west of Hyattsville and University Park. The tract was bounded on the northeast by "the Bladensburg Riggs Mill road, now known as Ager road" (Prince George's County Deed Book 472:267). NBC chose to locate its new transmitter complex on a 19.03-acre site in the Y formed by Sligo Creek's confluence with the Northwest Branch—an area easily accessible from Ager Road. The western remainder of the former King tract, embracing 25.37 acres, was conveyed by NBC to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission by a deed recorded on July 30, 1938 (Prince George's County Deed Book 503:1).

The specific considerations behind the choice of construction site were described as follows by NBC Radio Facilities Engineer Raymond F. Guy in a July 1938 *Broadcast News* article:

The site of Washington's newest and most modern station . . . was selected and the station built after thorough tests by the Headquarters Staff of NBC Engineers. Preliminary studies of station coverage showed that broadcast listeners in the District of Columbia, Virginia and Maryland would be provided with a new standard of service in fidelity of transmission and

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absence of background noise. The new location is ideal for radio transmission in that the ground about the new vertical radiator is swampy and is occasionally flooded over considerable areas. Interesting results were obtained when soil samples were examined as a guide to foundation design (Guy 1938:6).

The "WRC transmitter building and top tuned antenna" were constructed on the 19.03-acre parcel through the summer and fall of 1937, with finishing interior touches applied during the winter of 1937-38. Challenges encountered and creatively addressed by the designers and builders of the facility were described by Engineer Guy in July 1938 as follows:

. . . Although the soil strata was unusual, and swampy terrain of the type encountered makes possible radio transmission, it provides conspicuously poor foundation conditions for antennas and buildings. As a result, the guy anchors, tower and buildings had to be supported on 30 foot wood and concrete piles. The entire building, antenna foundation and anchors are, in addition, built several feet above the maximum recorded flood water level, which occurred in 1933. Since the station has nothing to fear from floods, and ground conditions are improved by them, Mr. Barton Stahl and his station staff are prepared to accept them with equanimity.

WRC's new vertical radiator is of uniform cross section from top to bottom and is triangular in shape, with faces five feet wide. At the top of this slender structure there is a steel capacity top 50 feet in diameter. This "high hat" is the top tuning structure which NBC has pioneered at KOA in 1933, WPTF and WHIG in 1934, and WMAQ in 1935. It has been developed to a high state of effectiveness. . . .

Although it is usually desirable to erect an antenna to the optimum height, restrictions are frequently imposed by the U. S. Bureau of Air Commerce through and with the aid of the F.C.C., which make it necessary to resort to other expedients to obtain satisfactory efficiency. When these conditions are imposed upon the Broadcasting Industry in favor of the Aviation Industry, properly designed top tuning offers a partial solution. In the case of WRC, the use of a 50 foot diameter steel capacity top, used in connection with the restricted height of 400 feet, made it possible to approach the desired results without supplementary inductance loading at the top of the structure (Guy 1938:6-7, 25).

Engineer Guy's sole allusion to the brick, Art Deco-style building erected to house the transmitter came in the first paragraph of his article, in which he reported that WRC's transmission "equipment at the Riggs Bank Building site, [having] provided 15 years of continuous public service from the one location, . . . was closed on March 15, [1938], when its task was taken over by a sleek and shiny new 5 KW station at Chillum, Maryland" (Guy 1938:6). Guy also did not report that the 400-foot-tall steel transmission tower erected on the Chillum parcel was fabricated by the Truscon Steel Company of Youngstown, Ohio. That detail was recorded in a caption accompanying a photo of "the new transmitter building of WRC in suburban Washington," published in the March 1, 1938 edition of *Broadcasting and Broadcast Advertising* (*Broadcasting and Broadcast Advertising* 1938a:16).

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WRC's deployment of improved transmission facilities in Chillum was mirrored by Mutual Broadcasting System affiliate WOL, which had been "recently raised to regional status . . . on 1230 kc . . . by FCC grant from its present local status on 1310 kc," according to a report in the August 1, 1938 edition of *Broadcasting and Broadcast Advertising* (*Broadcasting and Broadcast Advertising* 1938b). At that time, "work [was] progressing on [WOL's] new transmitter house and two 230-foot Blaw-Knox radiators" on a parcel approximately one-quarter mile east of the WRC transmitter property, on the east corner of the intersection of Ager Road and Nicholson Street. "Complete new Western Electric equipment [was] being installed" in the new WOL transmission station, which would go online a few weeks later (*Broadcasting and Broadcast Advertising* 1938c:28). The station appears to have remained operational for only a dozen years or so. While it was denoted on a USGS map published in 1945, it was not denoted on USGS maps published in 1951 and thereafter (USGS 1945, 1951).

Within three years of its inauguration, the neighboring WRC transmission complex was augmented through the erection of two "Schuler 250 ft." radiator towers (*Broadcasting and Broadcast Advertising* 1941:356). No further changes or additions to the complex between 1938 and 1984 were noted in a history of WRC anonymously composed in the early twenty-first century (98 WRC n.d.:n.p.). According to that document, "WRC changed call letters to WWRC on March 5, 1984." Four months later, the FCC approved NBC's sale of WWRC "to Greater Washington Radio Inc. (a subsidiary of Greater Media Inc.) . . . for 3.6 million dollars" (98 WRC n.d.:n.p.). By a deed dated August 31, 1984, NBC conveyed the Chillum transmission complex on a 19.03-acre parcel to Greater Washington Radio, Inc., in "actual consideration . . . including the amount of any mortgage or deed of trust assumed by the Grantee, [of] \$637,000.00" (Prince George's County Deed Book 5963:683). By the end of 1984, WWRC's "offices and studios were relocated to the landmark 'World Building,' 8121 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland" (98 WRC n.d.:n.p.).

On September 29, 1993, the FCC approved WWRC's proposal "to increase power from 5,000 to 50,000 watts and make changes in its antenna system" (98 WRC n.d.:n.p.). As reported to CHRIS, Inc. by Red Zebra Broadcasting Director of Engineering Patrick Malley, the transmitter building was remodeled the following year to accommodate additional electrical equipment necessitated by the proposed power increase (pers. com. Patrick Malley, June 16, 2015). On March 9, 1995, "major technical improvements were carried out . . . when daytime power rose to 50,000 watts (5,000 watts continued at night) and WWRC switched to two pattern (day and night) directional operation. It continued to use its three-tower array on Ager Road" (98 WRC n.d.:n.p.).

It was announced via press release on August 12, 1996 that Irving, Texas-based Evergreen Media Corp.—having the previous year purchased a dozen radio stations in five markets, propelling it into position as "one of America's largest radio station group owners"—had agreed to "acquire Greater Media Inc.'s WWRC-AM in Washington D.C. in a buy-and-swap deal," as well as "two FM radio stations in Detroit and one in Philadelphia" (*Chicago Tribune* 1996:n.p.). The sale of WWRC to based Evergreen Media was finalized "in late 1996, . . . for 22.5 million dollars (the price included Washington's WGAY [FM], a sister FM station)" (98 WRC n.d.:n.p.). The conveyance of WWRC's Chillum transmission complex to Evergreen Media in consideration of \$395,900 was effected by a deed recorded on April 15, 1997 (Prince George's County Deed Book 11378:744).

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Five months later, on September 5, 1997, the FCC approved a proposed “1.075 billion dollar consolidation” of Evergreen Media Corp. with Chancellor Media Corporation (98 WRC n.d.:n.p.). While that consolidation was effected on September 8—making WWRC a Chancellor Media station—Evergreen Media remained the nominal owner of the WWRC transmission property in Chillum. Evergreen Media would continue to own the property through two subsequent corporate transitions. In July 1999, WWRC’s “licensee name was changed to AMFM Inc. as the result of the merger of Chancellor Media Corporation and Capstar Broadcasting Partners, which took place July 13th. The combined firm now owned 465 stations in 105 U.S. markets” (98 WRC n.d.:n.p.). Then, “in a stock transaction worth 23.5 billion dollars, AMFM Inc. was purchased by Clear Channel Communications Inc. on August 30, 2000. This multi-station transfer obtained FCC approval August 7th. In 2001, [WWRC’s] studios were moved from Rockville to 8750 Brookville Road, Silver Spring, Maryland” (98 WRC n.d.:n.p.).

It was announced via press release on June 4, 2008 that Red Zebra Broadcasting would “expand in Washington, D.C. [through] an agreement to acquire WTEM (Sportstalk 980), WTNT (570-AM) and WWRC (1260-AM) from Clear Channel Communications, creating an exciting new combination of local and national talk radio programming” (Red Zebra Broadcasting 2008:n.p.). As part of that acquisition, Evergreen Media Corporation conveyed the 19.03-acre WWRC transmission property in Chillum to Red Zebra Broadcasting in consideration of \$1,215,20. The deed of conveyance was recorded on August 4, 2008 (Prince George’s County Deed Book 29907:316). Red Zebra Broadcasting continues to own the property.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION

The Green Meadows Radio Station was evaluated according to criteria set forth in the *National Register Bulletin: “How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation”* (National Park Service 1997). The property was previously surveyed by Robert Rivers of the Prince George’s County Historic Preservation Commission in June of 1993, but was not given a determination of eligibility at that time (Rivers 1993).

While the transmitter building was constructed during the so-called “Golden Age of Radio,” it has no known association with any of the various facets significant in local or national history—namely, the use of radio in United States Cold War defense networks, the development of “clear channels” for the purposes of timely mass-communication, significant innovations in radio technology, or the creation and broadcast of culturally-significant radio programming for which other stations have been listed or determined eligible (West ca. 2011; Smith 1979). The Green Meadows Radio Station is recommended not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A.

The Green Meadows Radio Station is recommended not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B, as it has no known associations with individuals of local or national historic importance.

Alterations to the exterior of the transmitter building have adversely affected its original Art Deco design. The symmetrical fenestration pattern of the main elevation was altered by the conversion of what was a window opening in the southernmost bay into a door. Furthermore, a majority of the building’s

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original windows have been removed and their openings infilled with glass brick. What was once a garage door on the northern elevation has also been infilled. The Green Meadows Radio Station is recommended not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, as it no longer possesses high artistic value and is not the work of a master.

The Green Meadows Radio Station property has not been subject to archaeological testing. Eligibility for the National Register under Criterion D cannot be addressed at this time.

REFERENCES CITED

98 WRC

n.d. *WTEM Profile Prepared for Skip McCloskey*. Electronic document posted online <<http://98wrc.com/PDF%20Files/WRC%20Profile.pdf>>. Accessed on June 3, 2015.

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1938a "NEW WRC." In Vol. 14, No. 5, March 1, 1938. Washington, D.C.: Broadcasting and Broadcast Advertising.

1938b "Equipment." In Vol. 15, No. 3, August 1, 1938. Washington, D.C.: Broadcasting and Broadcast Advertising.

1938c "Equipment." In Vol. 15, No. 7, October 1, 1938. Washington, D.C.: Broadcasting and Broadcast Advertising.

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- 1997 "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation." *National Register Bulletin*. Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, U.S. Government Printing Office.

NearMap

- 2015 Aerial Image dated April 11, 2015. Accessed online at <maps.us.nearmap.com> on June 30, 2015.

NETR Online

- 1957 Aerial image dated 1957. Accessed online at <www.historicaerials.com> on June 17, 2015.
- 1994 Aerial image dated 1994. Accessed online at <www.historicaerials.com> on June 17, 2015.
- 2002 Aerial image dated 2002. Accessed online at <www.historicaerials.com> on June 17, 2015.

Radio Daily

- 1937 "NBC to Revise Setup Of Washington Station." In Vol. 1, No. 11, February 24, 1937. New York, New York: Radio Daily.

Red Zebra Broadcasting

- 2008 "Red Zebra Broadcasting expands in Washington, D.C." June 4, 2008 press release published by vartv.com <<http://www.vartv.com/archives08c.htm>>. Accessed on June 22, 2015.

Rivers, Robert D.

- 1993 "Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form for State Historic Sites Survey: WRC Radio Station (Green Meadows Radio Station)." Electronic facsimile posted online by the Maryland Historical Trust <<https://webapps.mdp.state.md.us/apps/DigitalLibrary/PDF/Prince%20Georges/PG;65-17.pdf>>. Accessed on June 2, 2015.

Smith, Raymond

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United States Geological Survey

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- 1951 *Washington D.C. East, M.D.-D.C. Quadrangle*, 7.5 minute series. Topography by plane-table methods 1913-1915 and 1941-42. Revised 1949 from aerial photographs taken in 1949. Edition of 1951. Washington, DC: United States Geological Survey.
- 1968 Entity ID AR1VCCO00010086, taken October 27, 1968. Accessed online via Earth Explorer at <earthexplorer.usgs.gov> on June 29, 2015.
- 1982 *Washington D.C. East, M.D.-D.C. Quadrangle*, 7.5 minute series. Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1955. Field checked 1957. Revised 1965. Denver, Colorado: United States Geological Survey.

West, Carol Van

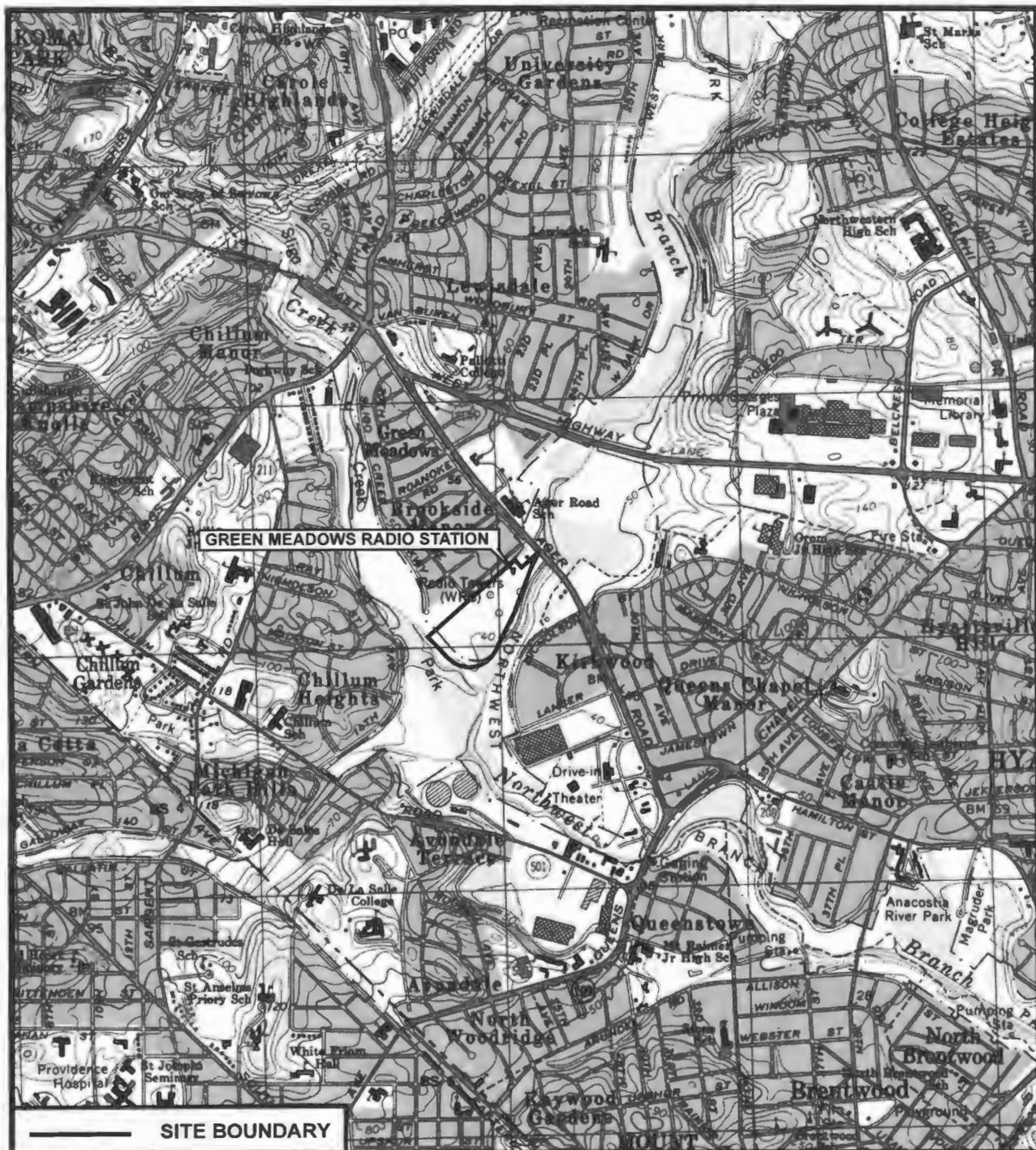
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White, Thomas H.

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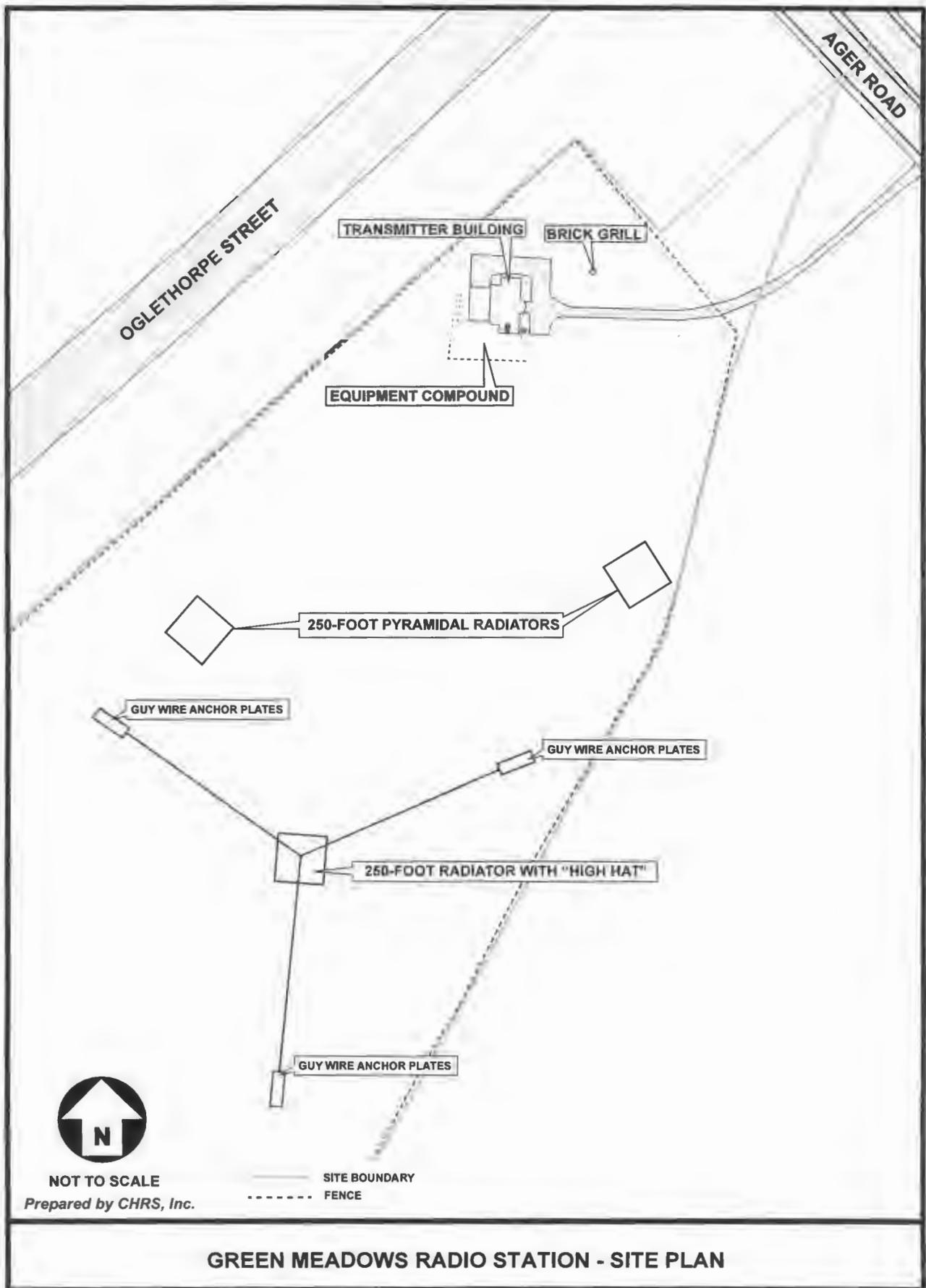
Prepared by: Melissa Steeley

Date Prepared: July 1, 2015



<p>— SITE BOUNDARY</p>	<p>SCALE</p>	<p>SOURCE</p>
	 <p>0ft 2000ft 0m 609.6m</p> <p>Prepared by CHRS, Inc.</p>	<p>USGS 1982 WASHINGTON EAST, DC-MD</p>

**RESOURCE LOCATION MAP -
GREEN MEADOWS RADIO STATION**



GREEN MEADOWS RADIO STATION - SITE PLAN



— SITE BOUNDARY

	SCALE	SOURCE
	0ft 305ft  0m 92.9m	USGS 1968
Prepared by CHRS, Inc.		

GREEN MEADOWS RADIO STATION - 1968



Prepared by CHRS, Inc.

SOURCE
HERBERT 1939

GREEN MEADOWS RADIO STATION - HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE GREEN MEADOWS RADIO STATION TRANSMITTER BUILDING



Prepared by CHRS, Inc.

SOURCE

HERBERT 1939

**GREEN MEADOWS RADIO STATION - HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPH OF THE
GREEN MEADOWS RADIO STATION'S 400-FOOT RADIATOR**



Prepared by CHRS, Inc.

SOURCE
98 WRC N.D.

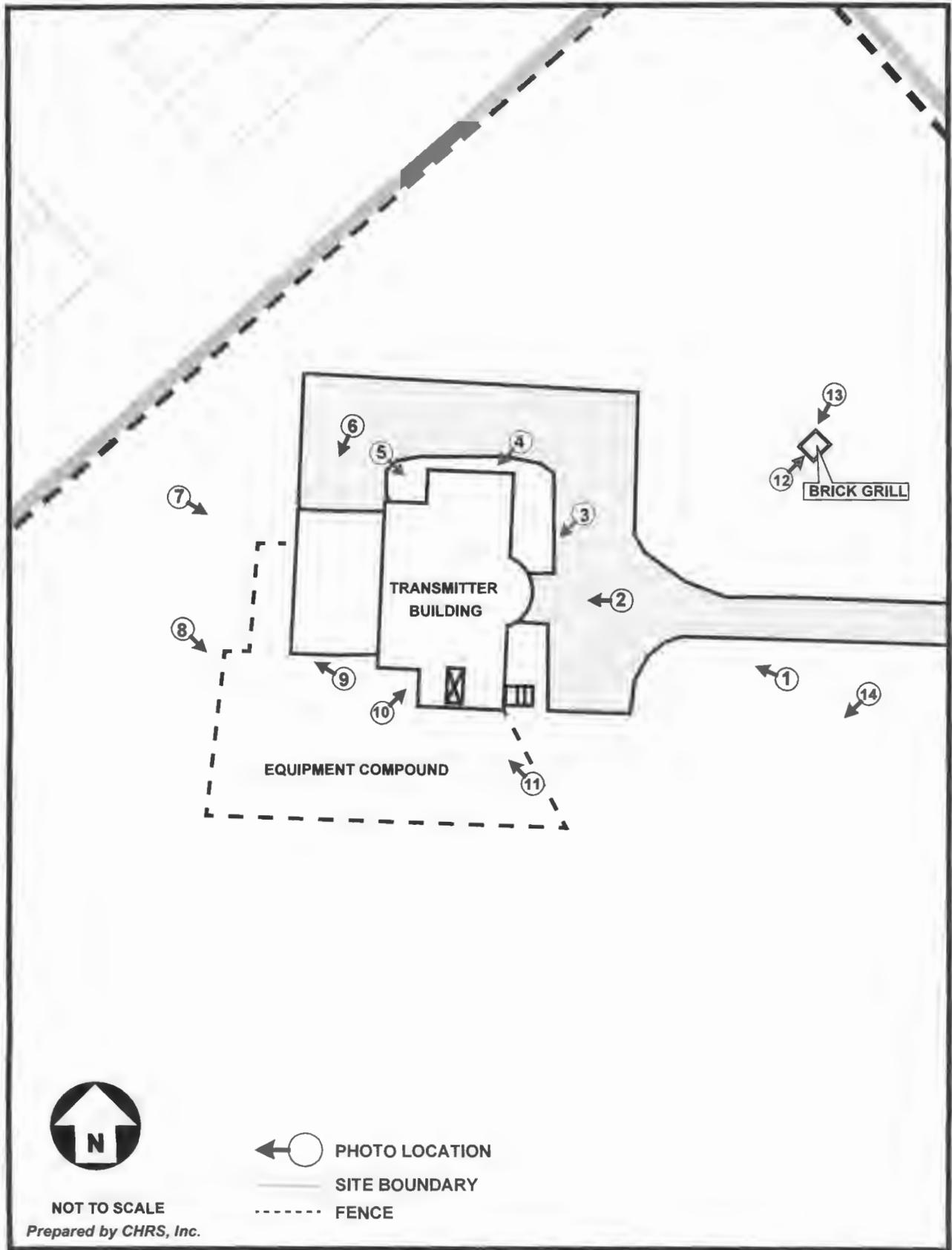
GREEN MEADOWS RADIO STATION - HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPH OF THE GREEN MEADOWS RADIO STATION'S TRANSMITTER BUILDING



SITE BOUNDARY

	SCALE	SOURCE
	<p>0ft 320ft  0m 97.5m</p> <p>Prepared by CHRIS, Inc.</p>	<p>NEARMAP 2015</p>

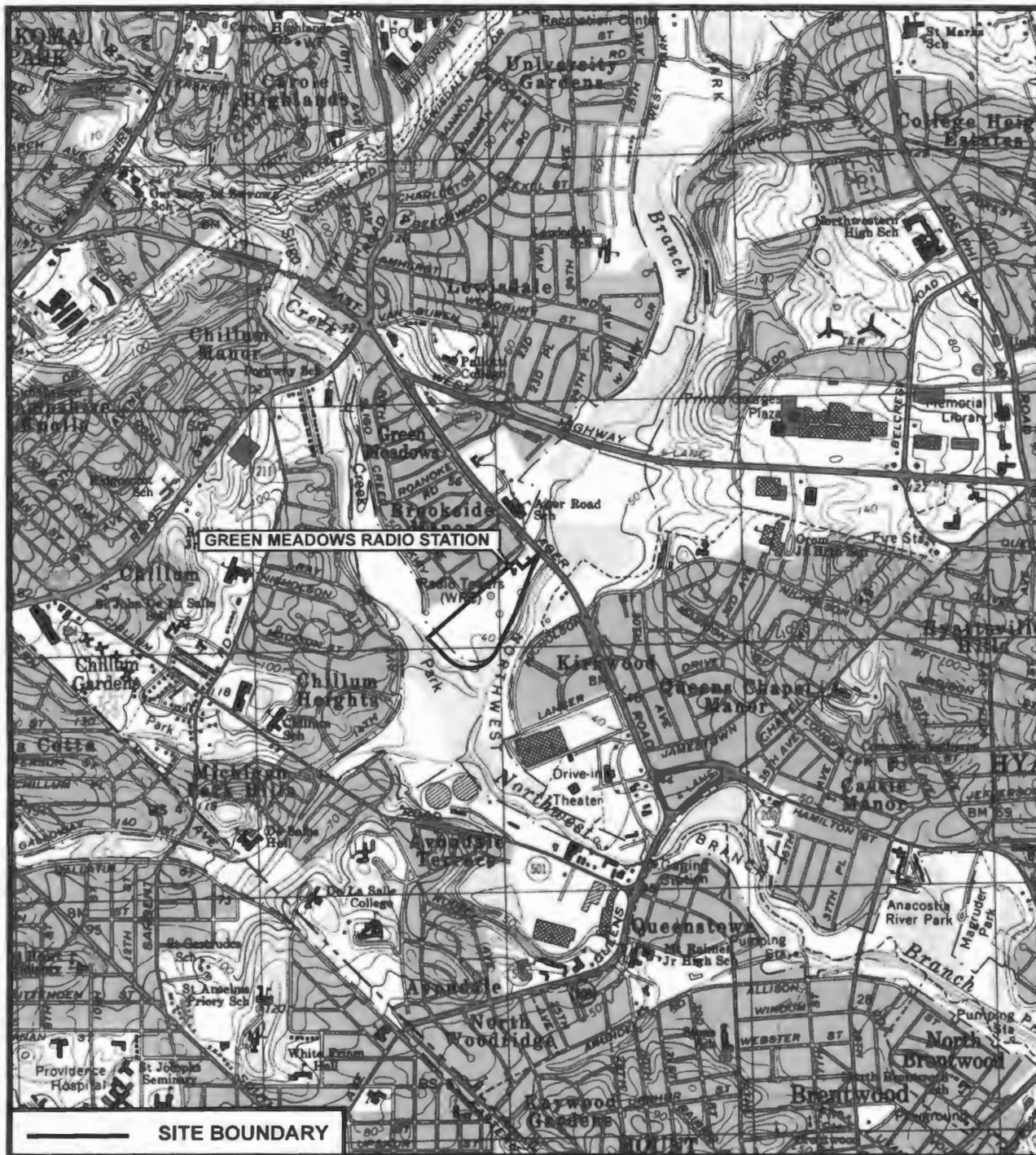
GREEN MEADOWS RADIO STATION - 2015



NOT TO SCALE
Prepared by CHRS, Inc.

-  PHOTO LOCATION
-  SITE BOUNDARY
-  FENCE

GREEN MEADOWS RADIO STATION - PHOTOGRAPH LOCATIONS MAP



— SITE BOUNDARY



SCALE



SOURCE

USGS 1982
WASHINGTON EAST, DC-MD

Prepared by CHRS, Inc.

**RESOURCE LOCATION MAP -
GREEN MEADOWS RADIO STATION**

Determination of Eligibility Photo Log for
PG:65-17-Green Meadows Radio Station

All Photos were printed with Epson Ultra Chrome K3 Ink on Epson Photo Paper Glossy 60 lb.
Digital Photographs on Verbatim, UltraLife Gold Archival Grade CD-R with Super Azo dye

File Name	Description
PG-65-17_2015-06-16_01	Photograph 1: View looking west-northwest to the main elevation of the Green Meadows Radio Station transmitter building.
PG-65-17_2015-06-16_02	Photograph 2: View looking west to the central portico.
PG-65-17_2015-06-16_03	Photograph 3: View looking southwest to the central portico.
PG-65-17_2015-06-16_04	Photograph 4: View looking southwest to the northern elevation of the transmitter building.
PG-65-17_2015-06-16_05	Photograph 5: View looking southeast to the northern elevation of the transmitter building.
PG-65-17_2015-06-16_06	Photograph 6: View looking south-southwest to the northern elevation of the transmitter building.
PG-65-17_2015-06-16_07	Photograph 7: View looking east-southeast to the rear, western elevation of the transmitter building.
PG-65-17_2015-06-16_08	Photograph 8: View looking southeast to the equipment compound at the rear of the transmitter building. A 250-foot radiator is visible in the background of the photograph.
PG-65-17_2015-06-16_09	Photograph 9: View looking west-northwest along the southern elevation of the transmitter building.
PG-65-17_2015-06-16_10	Photograph 10: View looking northeast to the southern elevation of the transmitter building.
PG-65-17_2015-06-16_11	Photograph 11: View looking northwest to the southern elevation of the transmitter building.
PG-65-17_2015-06-16_12	Photograph 12: View looking northeast to the brick grill.
PG-65-17_2015-06-16_13	Photograph 13: View looking south-southwest to the rear of the brick grill.
PG-65-17_2015-06-16_14	Photograph 14: View looking southwest to the radiators.



W R C

PG: 65-17

Green Meadows Radio Station (WRC Radio Station)
Hyattsville, Prince George's County, MD

Photographer: Melissa Steeley

Date: June 16, 2015

Negative Location: MD SHPO

"View looking west-northwest to the main elevation of the
Green Meadows Radio Station transmitter building"

Photograph 1 of 14

W R C

DANGER
HIGH VOLTAGE

PG: 65-17

Green Meadows Radio Station

(WRC Radio Station)

Hyattsville, Prince George's County, MD

Photographer: Melissa Steeley

Date: June 16, 2015

Negative Location: MD SHPO

"view looking west to the central parkway"
photograph 2 of 14



DANGER
HIGH VOLTAGE

PG: 65-17

Green Meadows Radio Station (WRC Radio
Station)

Hyattsville, Prince George's County, MD

Photographer: Melissa Steeley

Date: June 16, 2015

Negative location: MD SHPO

"View looking southwest to the central
portico."

Photograph 3 of 14

Epson
Professional Paper

EPSON



PG:65-17

Green Meadows Radio Station (WRC Radio Station)

Hyattsville, Prince George's County, MD

Photographer: Melissa Steeky

Date: June 16, 2015

Negative Location: MD SHPO

"View looking southwest to the northern elevation of
the transmitter building"

Photograph 4 of 14



PG: 65-17

Green Meadows Radio Station (WRC Radio Station)

Hyattsville, Prince George's County, MD

Photographer: Melissa Stecky

Date: June 16, 2015

Negative Location: MD SFAO

"View looking southeast to the northern elevation of the transmitter building"

Photograph 5 of 14



RTU #1

DANGER
HIGH
VOLTAGE

PG: 65-17

Green Meadows Radio Station (WRC Radio Station)

Hyattsville, Prince George's County, MD

Photographer: Melissa Steeley

Date: June 16, 2015

Negative location: MD SHPO

"View looking south-southwest to the northern elevation of the transmitter building."

Photograph 6 of 14



PG: 65-17

Green Meadows Radio Station (WRC Radio Station)

Hyattsville, Prince George's County, MD

Photographer: Melissa Steeley

Date: June 16, 2015

Negative Location: MD SHPS

"View looking east-southeast to the rear, western elevation of the transmitter building."

Photograph 7 of 14



PG: 65-17

Green Meadows Radio Station (WRK Radio Station)

Hyattsville, Prince George's County, MD

Photographer: Melissa Steeley

Date: June 16, 2015

Negative Location: MD SAPO

"View looking southeast to the equipment compound at the rear of the transmitter building. A 250 foot radiator is visible in the background of the photograph."

Photograph 8 of 14



PG: 65-17

Green Meadows Radio Station (WRC
Radio Station)

Hyattsville, Prince George's County, MD

Photographer: Melissa Steeley

Date: June 16, 2015

Negative location: MD SHRO

"View looking west-northwest along
the southern elevation of the
transmitter building."

Photograph 9 of 14

Exam
Professional Photo



PG: 65-17

Green Meadows Radio Station (WRC
Radio Station)

Hyattsville, Prince George's County, MD

Photographer: Melissa Steeley

Date: June 16, 2015

Negative location: MD SHPO

"View looking northeast to the southern
elevation of the transmitter building."

Photograph 10 of 14

ESOM

Esom
Professional Paper

Paper



PG: 65-17

Green Meadows Radio Station (WRC Radio Station)

Hyattsville, Prince George's County, MD

Photographer: Melissa Steeley

Date: June 16, 2015

Negative location: MD SHPO

"View looking northwest to the southern elevation
of the transmitter building."

Photograph 11 of 14



PG: 65-17

Green Meadows Radio Station (WRC Radio Station)

Hyattsville, Prince George's County, MD

Photographer: Melissa Stecky

Date: June 16, 2015

Negative Location: MD SHPS

"view looking northeast to the brick grill."

Photograph 12 of 14



PG: 65-17

Green Meadows Radio Station (WRC Radio Station)
Hyattsville, Prince George's County, MD

Photographer: Melissa Steeley

Date: June 16, 2015

Negative location: MD SHPO

"view looking south-southwest to the rear of
the brick grill."

Photograph 13 of 14



PG: 65-17

Green Meadows Radio Station (WRC Radio Station)

Hyattsville, Prince George's County, MD

Photographer: Melissa Steeley

Date: June 16, 2015

Negative location: MD SHPO

"View looking southwest to the radiators."

Photograph 14 of 14

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey: PG#65-17 Building Date: c.1937

Building Name: WRC Radio Station (Green Meadows Radio Station)

Location: 6000 Ager Road, Hyattsville, Maryland (Now on Oglethorpe Street)

Private/commercial/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description:

The WRC Radio Transmission Building is located on a 19 acre parcel on Ager Road, just west of Queen's Chapel Road and near the Northwest Branch of the Anacostia River. The one story brick structure is rectangular in plan, and is notable for its Art Deco design. The building is five bays wide and three deep, and features a curved portico entrance on the main (north) facade. The portico is supported by two fluted stone columns. The main door is of glass and aluminum, and is flanked by sidelights of glass block. An aluminum "WRC" sign is located above the main door on the portico projection. The portico is flanked on each side by two window openings, one louvered and one with glass block. A loading entrance is located on the rear (south) elevation.

Significance:

The WRC Radio Transmission Station was built in the late 1930s in order to provide radio transmission service for the National Broadcasting Company (NBC). The structure was built on a portion of the former Joseph B. Ager farm, which was sold to NBC in 1937. The building is a fine example of the use of the Art Deco style, and an uncommon use of the style in a utility structure. The building was sold to Greater Washington Radio, Inc. in 1984.

Acreage: 19.033 acres

PG#65-17 - WRC Radio Transmission Building

HISTORIC CONTEXT

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographical Organization:

2.) Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period:

12.) Modern Period

Historic Period Themes:

2.) Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning

3.) Economic (Commercial and Industrial)

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Suburban

Historic Functions and Uses: Radio Transmission Station

Known Design Source: None

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Green Meadows Radio Station

and/or common WRC Radio Station

2. Location

street & number 6000 Ager Road (on Oglethorpe Street) not for publicationcity, town Hyattsville vicinity of congressional district 4

state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input 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 checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Greater Washington Radio, Inc.

street & number P.O. Box 859 telephone no.:

city, town East Brunswick state and zip code New Jersey 08816

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 5693

street & number 14735 Main Street folio 683

city, town Upper Marlboro state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

te federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

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

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

The WRC Radio Transmission Building is located on a 19 acre parcel on Ager Road, just west of Queen's Chapel Road and near the Northwest Branch of the Anacostia River. The one story brick structure is rectangular in plan, and is notable for its Art Deco design. The building is five bays wide and three deep, and features a curved portico entrance on the main (north) facade. The portico is supported by two fluted stone columns. The main door is of glass and aluminum, and is flanked by sidelights of glass block. An aluminum "WRC" sign is located above the main door on the portico projection. The portico is flanked on each side by two window openings, one louvered and one with glass block. A loading entrance is located on the rear (south) elevation.

The building sits about 100 yards off of Ager Road at the end of a treelined approach drive. In addition to the transmission building, there are three large radio towers and a satellite dish on the site. All of the structures are located within a fenced-in area which is inaccessible to the public.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates c. 1937 **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 WRC Radio Transmission Station was built in the late 1930s in order to provide radio transmission service for the National Broadcasting Company (NBC). The structure was built on a portion of the former Joseph B. Ager farm, which was sold to NBC in 1937. The building is a fine example of the use of the Art Deco style, and an uncommon use of the style in a utility structure. The building was sold to Greater Washington Radio, Inc. in 1984.

WRC Radio Transmission Station

6000 Ager Road, Hyattsville

P.G.# 65-17

5963:683
31 August 1984
Deed

National Broadcasting Co., Inc., to Greater Washington Radio, Inc. Grantors convey 19.033 acres on Ager Road (Tax Map #41, Parcel 85). Same obtained from John M. and Pauline King, 17 June 1937, 472:267.

472:267
17 June 1937
Deed

John M. and Pauline King to National Broadcasting Co., Inc. Grantors convey 19.033 acres on Ager Road. Part of same obtained from Catherine J. Marlow and Howard McC. Marlow, 25 October 1935, 434:335.

434:335
25 October 1935
Deed

Catherine Jane Marlow and Howard McC. Marlow to Jonathan M. King. Grantors convey 49.57 acres on Ager Road. Same obtained from Charles B. Ager, 21 May 1926, 244:496.

244:496
21 May 1926
Deed

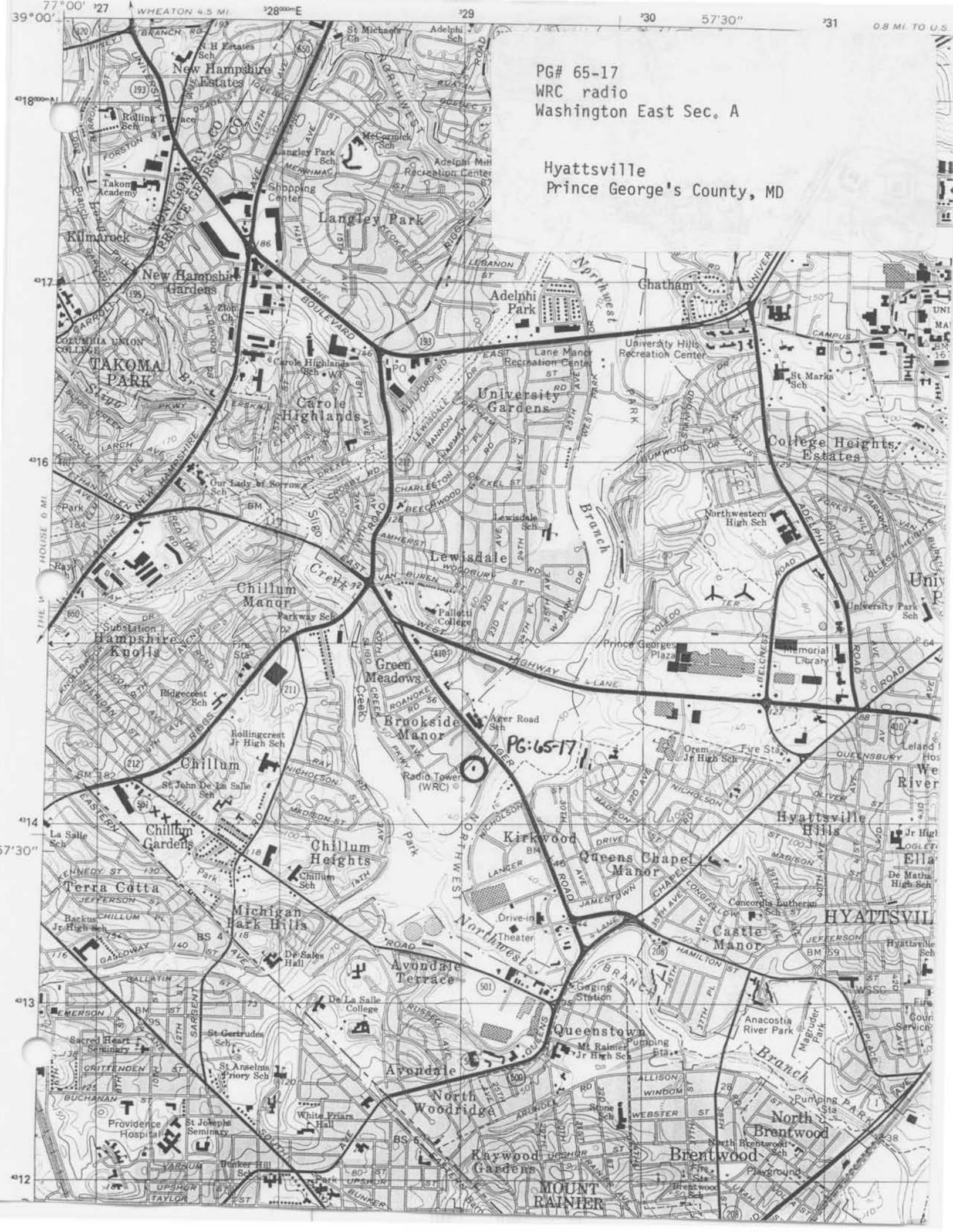
Charles B. Ager to Catherine J. Marlow and Josephine Lois McCullen. Grantor conveys 49.57 acres. Part of same obtained from Jane E. Ager, September 1924, Will #3761.

3761
September 1924
Will

Jane E. Ager to Charles B. Ager and two daughters (C.J. Marlow and J.L. McCullen). Grantor conveys 99.14 acres. Same obtained from Joseph B. Ager, 15 January 1907, Will #2073.

2073
15 January 1907
Will

Joseph B. Ager to Charles B. Ager and two daughters via Jane E. Ager. Grantor conveys 99.14 acres.

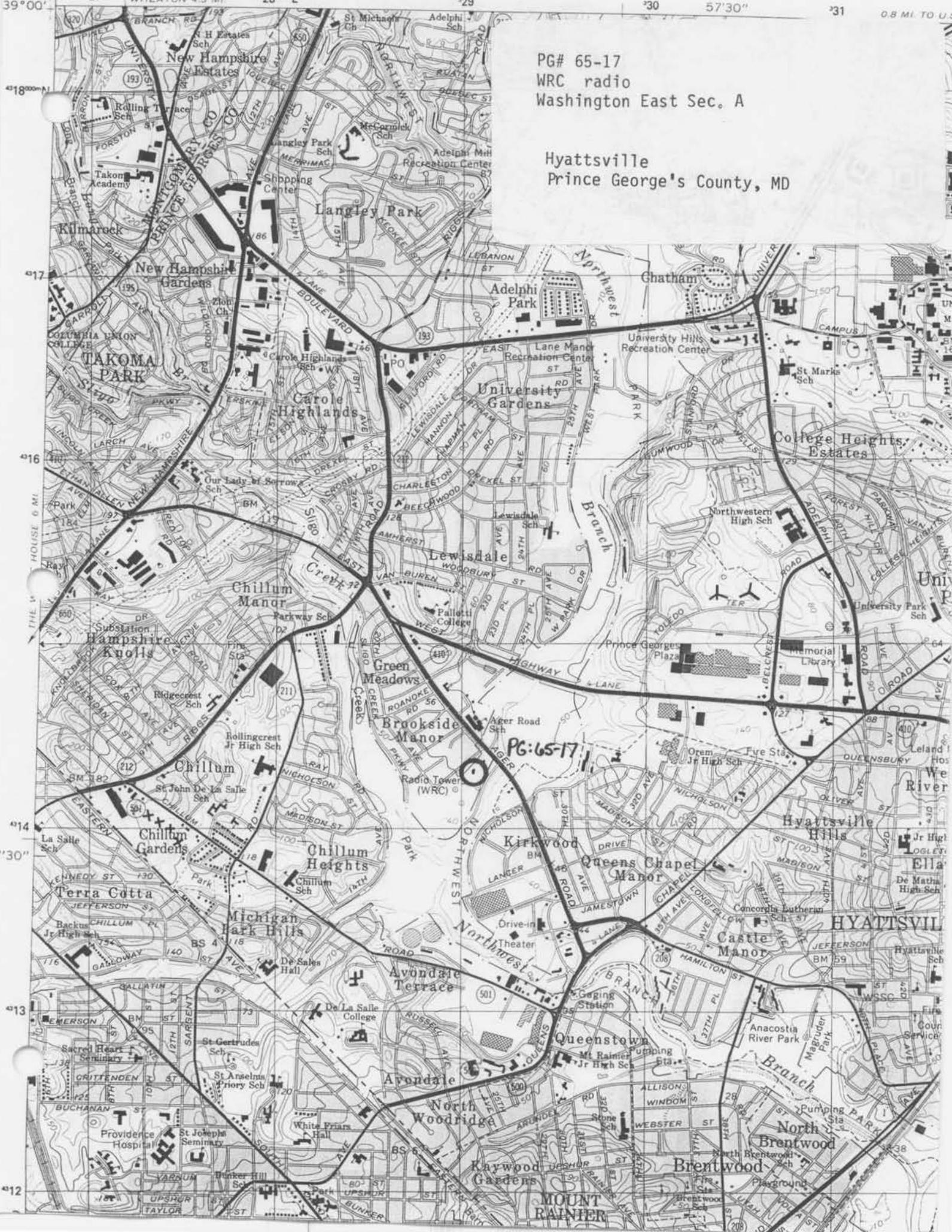


PG# 65-17
WRC radio
Washington East Sec. A

Hyattsville
Prince George's County, MD

PG:65-17

Radio Tower (WRC)





PG #65-17

WRC RADIO TRANSMISSION STATION

PRINCE GEORGE'S CO., MD.

PHOTOGRAPHER: B. RIVERS

JUNE, 1993

NEGATIVE: MD SHPO

VIEW OF MAIN FACADE FROM NORTH

1/1