

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #66-25 Building Date: 1910

Building Name: LaValle House

Location: 5013 Huron Street, College Park, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description

The LaValle House is a cross-gable frame dwelling with Victorian decorative detail which stands on a corner lot in the 1906 subdivision known as the Addition to Daniels Park. The house is two-and-one-half stories high, and front gabled, with the principal section three bays by three. There is a smaller east-facing cross-gable section at the south end of the main block, which gives the building an L-shaped plan. At loft level in each of the gable ends is a small single-pane diamond shaped window. Entrance is in the first bay of the principal north gable facade. The north gable front of the main section is sheltered by a one-story hip-roof porch with turned bracketed posts and a plain balustrade railing; originally this porch wrapped around the east side of the main block. Windows are 2/2 double hung sash, with plain wood surrounds; there are no shutters. The entire house is sheathed with peach-beige aluminum siding. Interior consists of two adjoining parlors on the west, and on the east a side stairhall which leads to a kitchen in the ell. The closed-string stair rises along the east wall of the stairhall; it has a square panelled newel and turned balusters.

Significance:

The LaValle House is a crossgable frame dwelling with late Victorian decorative detail, built in 1910 for George H. and Mary LaValle. In 1905, developer Edward Daniels began buying land in the Branchville area, and platted a residential subdivision called Daniels Park. In October 1906, Daniels purchased 35 adjoining acres; this land encompassed the City and Suburban Railway and allowed for the platting of 22 more blocks of subdivision. He called this section "Addition to Daniels Park". In 1910 he sold to George H. and Mary LaValle eighteen adjoining unimproved lots in Block 21 of the Addition, on which the LaValles built the subject house. Later George LaValle purchased land on the west side of the Baltimore-Washington Turnpike and developed a nursery establishment, the George H. LaValle and Sons florist business. The house in Daniels Park remained the home of the LaValle family until 1985. It is a representative example of the modest frame dwellings which were being built in the developing suburbs of Prince George's County in the first decade of this century. It exhibits jigsawn porch trim typical of late Victorian dwellings, as well as typical staircase and interior trim. It is significant as the home for 75 years of the LaValle family, owner/managers of an established and locally well-known florist business.

Acreage: 6345 sq. ft.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic LaValle House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 5013 Huron Street ___ not for publication

city, town College Park Daniels Park ___ vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Mr. and Mrs. Edward Krosel

street & number 5013 Huron Street telephone no.: 441-8254

city, town College Park state and zip code MD 20740

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 6461

street & number 14735 Main Street folio 814

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. PG#66-25

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			

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

The LaValle House is a cross-gable frame dwelling with Victorian decorative detail which stands on a corner lot in the 1906 subdivision known as the Addition to Daniels Park. Built in 1910 by George H. LaValle, this house remained in the LaValle family until 1985. It is a representative example of suburban housing at the end of the Victorian period.

The house is two-and-one-half stories high, and front gabled, with the principal section three bays by three. There is a smaller east-facing cross-gable section at the south end of the main block, which gives the building an L-shaped plan. Entrance is in the first bay of the principal north gable facade, through a six-panelled door with upper glazing. There is a single pane transom above the door, all enframed with a plain two-step molded wood surround.

The north gable front of this main section is sheltered by a one-story hip-roof porch. The porch has turned bracketed posts and a plain balustrade railing; it rests on piers of molded concrete block (painted silver), infilled with lattice. Originally this porch wrapped around the east side of the main block. This easterly section of the porch has been enclosed in recent years to form a small utility room and bath; it is lighted by two small 6/6 windows and rests on a foundation of poured concrete.

Windows are 2/2 double hung sash, with plain two-step molded wood surrounds; there are no shutters. The entire house is sheathed with peach-beige aluminum siding; original wood siding is not visible, but is probably German.

The house rests on a foundation of molded concrete block (painted silver) which encloses a full basement; the basement is lighted on the west by two single-sash three-pane windows. There are two (rebuilt) brick chimneys: one roughly centered in the west plane of the main roof, and a second where the easterly cross-gable joins the main block. The roof is covered with gray-green asbestos shingle. The cornice is boxed with crown molding, and is returned at the north and east gable ends. At loft level in each of these gable ends is a small single-pane diamond-shaped window.

A one-story hip-roof porch shelters the three easterly bays of the asymmetrical four-bay rear south elevation. Like the main north porch, it has turned bracketed posts and plain balustrade railing, and rests on piers of molded concrete block.

Interior floor plan consists of two adjoining parlors on the west, and, on the east, a side stairhall which leads back to a kitchen in the ell. The closed-string stair rises along the east wall of the stairhall, then turns 90° westward at a landing to the second story; it has a square panelled newel and turned balusters. There is a unpainted wood mantel nearly centered in the south wall of the north parlor; it has a plain frieze and shelf, and the firebox is framed by two tall slim Tuscan-style colonnettes with fluted caps. Surrounds of doors and windows have multi-band molding with bullseye corner blocks. There are pressed metal ceilings, with simple square panel design, in the kitchen and the two parlors.

The house stands on a corner lot, its main facade framed by several old cedars. South of the house, and fronting on 50th Street, is a small, one-story front-gabled garage building. It has German wood siding painted a peach-beige to match the house, and has brown trim. The gable roof is covered with gray-green asbestos shingle. There are two sets of double doors in the main east gable front; each leaf has six panes of glass over vertical panels. The north and south elevations are each lighted by a six-pane single-sash window. There is a glazed doorway in the second bay of the north elevation.

On the adjoining lot to the west are the remaining greenhouse/nursery buildings of the LaValle property: a long low shed-roof building with tall brick chimney, and a lower greenhouse immediately east of it.

8. Significance

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

local history

Specific dates 1910 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 LaValle House is a crossgable frame dwelling with late Victorian decorative detail, representative of the dwellings which were being built in the developing suburbs of Washington during the first decade of this century. It was built in 1910 for George H. and Mary LaValle in a subdivision (called Addition to Daniels Park) which had been purchased and platted by developer Edward Daniels in 1906.

At the end of the nineteenth century, the land along the east side of the Baltimore-Washington Turnpike, north of the Maryland Agricultural College, consisted of rolling farmland watered by the Eastern Branch. The suburbs to the south, Charlton Heights and Central Heights (now Berwyn Heights and Berwyn), were gradually developing into residential communities for people who commuted into the District of Columbia.

In 1899, the City and Suburban Railway had opened its streetcar line into Prince George's County from the District of Columbia. This line went as far as Hyattsville and Riverdale, and by 1902 was extended through College Park and Branchville as far north as Laurel. The land along this new artery of transportation was gradually bought up by land speculators, and subdivided into new residential suburbs.

In 1905, developer Edward Daniels began buying up land in the area of Branchville, a small railroad village just north of the Charlton Heights and Central Heights subdivisions. All of this land had been part of the landholdings of the Scaggs family. The small village of Branchville, which boasted a population of 60 at the end of the nineteenth century, clustered around the general store and post office of Pinkney A. Scaggs.¹ Daniels first purchased 12½ acres of Scaggs family land, and platted a small residential subdivision which he called Daniels Park. It was bounded on the west by the Baltimore-Washington Turnpike, on the north and south by County Roads, and it extended almost as far east as the City and Suburban Railway line.² In October 1906, Daniels purchased 35 more acres of Scaggs land which adjoined his earlier subdivision on the east; this land encompassed the City and Suburban Railway and allowed for the

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STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM
Statement of Significance (continued)

Survey No. PG#66-25

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platting of 22 more blocks of subdivision.³ Daniels called this section "Addition to Daniels Park".

In 1910 Edward Daniels sold to George H. and Mary LaValle eighteen adjoining unimproved lots in Block 21 of the Addition to Daniels Park; these lots comprised all of Block 21 east of the lots on which Robert Baker had built his new house.⁴ George and Mary LaValle had immigrated from Germany in 1889, and had married in 1890 while living in New York. After the turn of the century, they had come to Washington, where George LaValle worked as a florist. In 1910, the LaValles purchased the lots in Daniels Park, built the subject house, and moved their family (of four children) into the new house.⁵ LaValle continued to work as the superintendent of a florist establishment.

Two more children were born to the LaValles while they lived in the Daniels Park house. In 1920, George LaValle purchased a 72.5 acre farm⁶ on the west side of the Baltimore-Washington Turnpike (now Route 1), and on this land he built his large nursery establishment, the George H. LaValle and Sons florist business.

After the death of George H. LaValle (in the late 1930's), his wife and sons continued to operate the George H. LaValle and Sons florist business. Although the principal establishment of the LaValle nursery was located on a farm west of Baltimore Boulevard, the family built a small greenhouse and workshop on the westerly lots immediately adjoining their house in Daniels Park. The wholesale business was operated out of the principal nursery, while smaller jobs were handled in the home establishment. When Mary LaValle died in 1943, she left the house and the florist business to her sons Philip and Otto. They continued to operate the wholesale business until it was developed in the early 1960's. The house in Daniels Park remained the home of Philip LaValle until his death in 1985.⁷

The LaValle House is a representative example of the modest frame dwellings which were being built in the developing suburbs of Prince George's County in the first decade of this century. It exhibits jigsaw porch trim typical of late Victorian period dwellings, as well as typical staircase and interior trim, and a fine Colonial Revival style parlor mantel. It is significant also as the home for 75 years of the LaValle family, owner/managers of an established and locally well-known florist business.

Notes

¹ G.M. Hopkins Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington, 1878; Maryland Gazetteers, statistics for Prince George's County, 1871, 1878, 1882; Prince George County Deeds #29:77, #31:103.

² Prince George's County Deed #29:77; Plat A-79.

³ Prince George's County Deed #31:103, Plat 1:138 (#28:48)

⁴ Prince George's County Deeds #41:332; #52:76; #66:81. See MHT form PG#66-24, Baker-Holliday House.

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Statement of Significance (continued)

Survey No. PG#66-25

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5 Ibid; Census records for Prince George's County, Election District #1; tax assessments, Election District #1, 1909-1920.

6 Prince George's County Deed #148:327

7 Interview with Florence Holliday, December 1988; Prince George's County Will CMH #21:814, Estate file #33061.

Chain of Title
LaValle House
P.G. #66-25

#6461:814
17 October 1986
Deed

Leroy Timmons to Edward P. and Sharon Krosel, Block 21, Lots 10 to 12 in Addition to Daniels Park (Plat BDS #1:24) subject to restriction in will of Philip LaValle (Ad #33061).

CMH #21:814
19 August 1985
Will
(Ad. #33061)

Testator, Philip LaValle: All real estate to nephew Leroy Timmons provided that no part of the real estate shall be developed for residences for a period of 10 years after the testator's death.

WTD #7:526
18 January 1944
Will

Testator, Mary LaValle: to sons Philip and Otto, real estate (including Block 21, Lots 4 through 21, Addition to Daniels Park), also all interest in florist business conducted under the name of George H. LaValle and Sons.

#66:81
20 May 1910
Deed

Edward Daniels of Berwyn to George H. LaValle of Daniels Park, Block 21, Lots 4 through 21 (except for Lot 6) in Addition to Daniels Park, part of the land which Daniels acquired from Lansburgh in 1906.

#52:76
26 April 1909
Deed

John F. Murrell of D.C. to George Henry LaValle and wife Mary of Daniels Park, Block 21, Lot 6 in Addition to Daniels Park, which Murrell acquired by #41:332.

#41:332
31 October 1907
Deed

Edward Daniels to John F. Murrell Block 21, Lot 6 in Addition to Daniels Park.



North facade



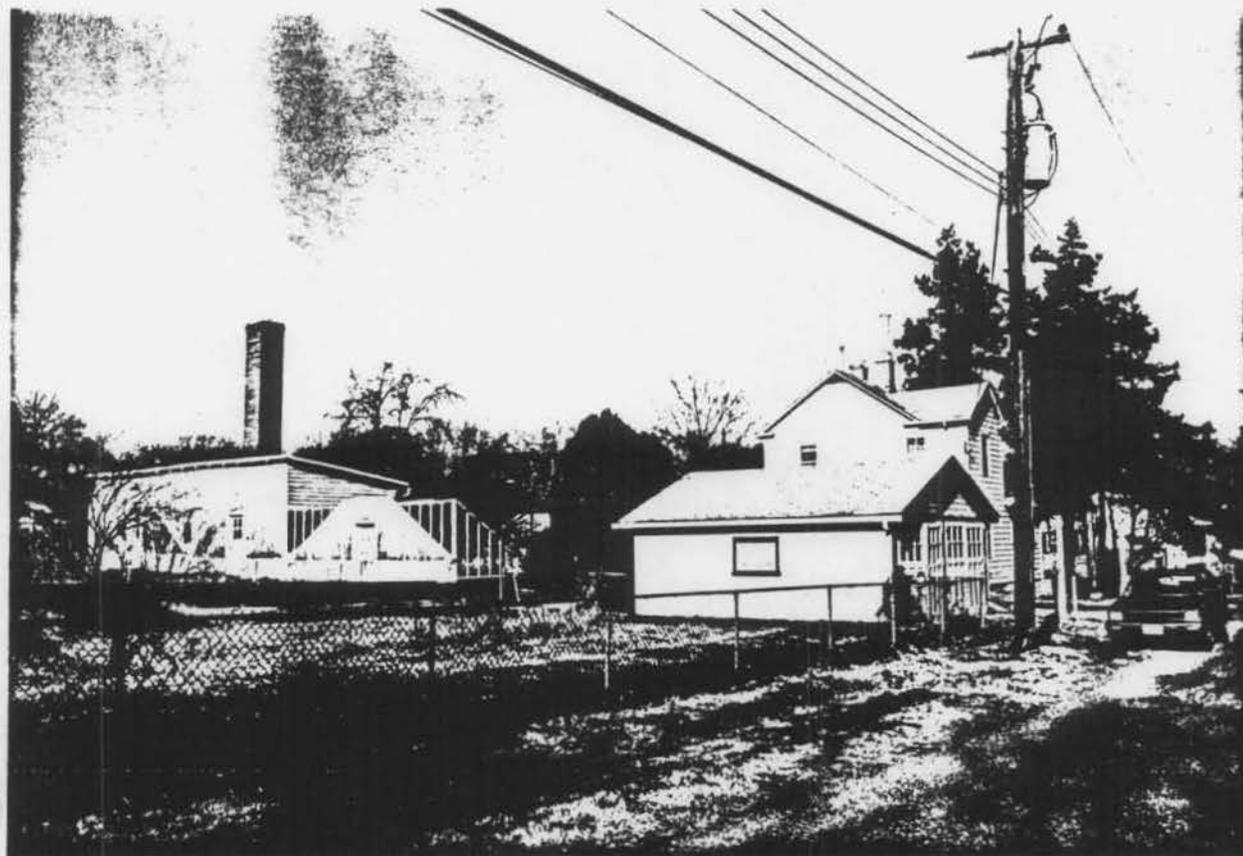
Southeast elevation



East elevation



Northwest elevation



View of greenhouse and dwelling from south



Island Avenue
Rhode Avenue

66-25
66-24

BOARD OF ED.
3087-18
19.82 A.
R.134

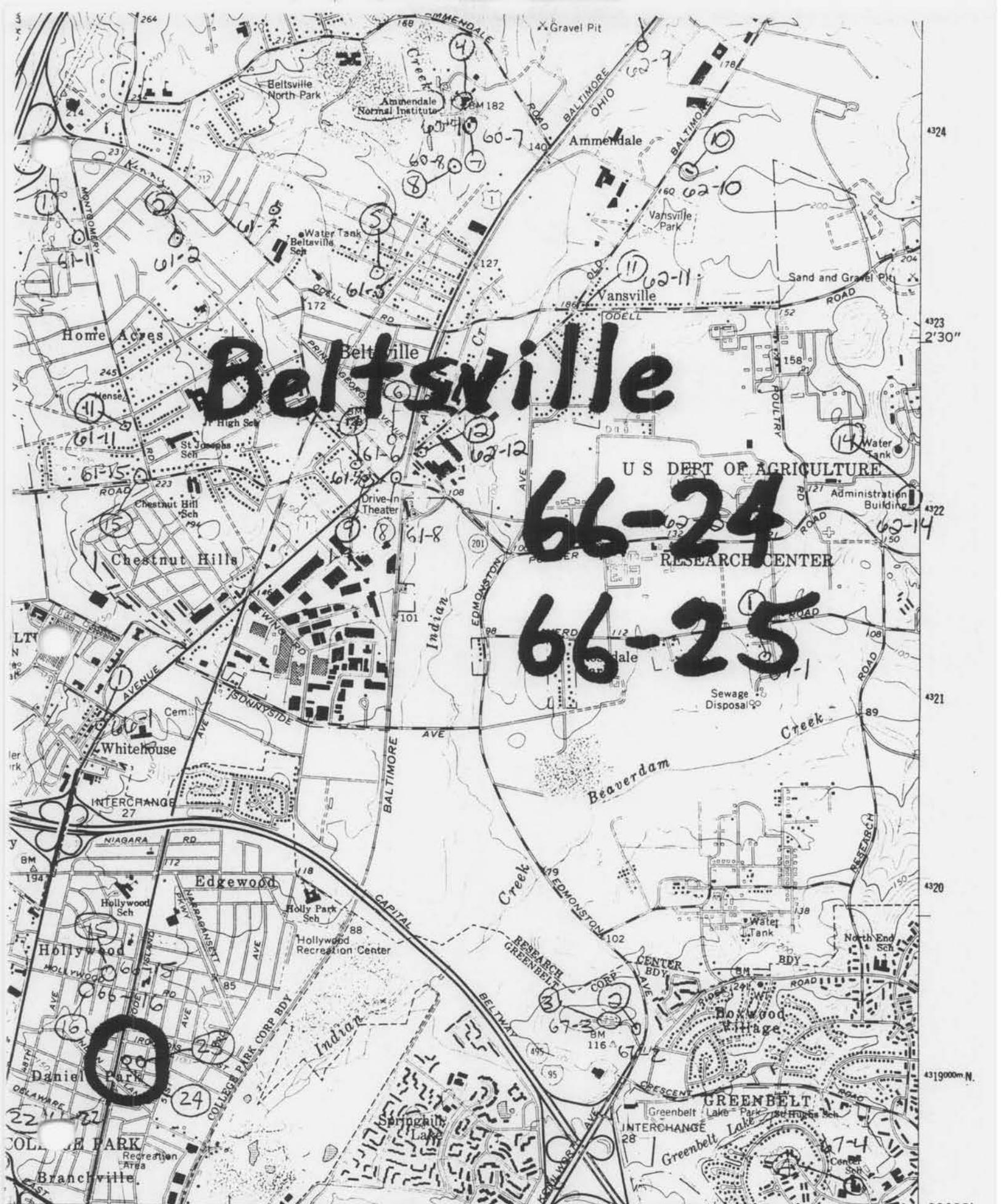
PG: 66-25

8598

117011

115090





Beltville

66-24

66-25

Edgewood

GREENBELT

BELTSVILLE 3.3 MI
WASHINGTON MONUMENT 11 MI

HEADENSBURG 4.5 MI
U.S. PARKING VIA U.S. 501 9 MI

INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY RESTON, VIRGINIA-1979
336000m E
INTERCHANGE 29 (BALT WASH PKWY) 11 MI
39°00'
76°52'30"

1 MILE

PG:66-25

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

(LANE 566)



Pl. #66-25

La Valle House

Prince Georges Co. Md.

Susan L. Pearl

November 1988

North

Neg: Mt. Heat. Trust



PG #66-25

LaVallie House

Prince Georges Co. Md.

Susan G. Pearl

November 1988

re:at

Reg: Md. Hist. Trust

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P^h 66-25

La Valle House

Prince George's Co. Md.

Susan L. Paul

November 1988

Southeast

Neg: Md Hist Treas



PG # 66-25

LaValle House

Prince Georges Co. Md.

Susan L. Pearl

November 1988

East

Neg: Md. Nest Trust

11/88



Pl. #66-25

La Valle House

Prince Georges Co. Md.

Susan G. Pearl

November 1988

Stair

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust



P6 #66-25

La Valle House

Prince George's Co. Md.

Susan H. Pearl

November 1988

Kitchen ceiling

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust

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PG #66-25

LaVaca House

Prince George's Co. Md.

Susan G. Pearl

November 1988

Mantel, southwest parlor

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust



PG #66-25

LaVelle House
Prince Georges Co. Md.
Susan G. Poell
November 1988
View from southeast
Neg: Mr. Nat Thrust