

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #70-4 Building Date: ca. 1907

Building Name: Franklin Pierce House

Location: 9301 Good Luck Road, Seabrook, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Fair/Inaccessible

Description:

The Franklin Pierce house stands on a large lot in a residential community, fronting on Good Luck Road. It is a three-bay by one-bay two-and-one-half-story gable-roofed dwelling. At loft level on the main north facade is a central cross gable, highlighted by dog's-tooth shingles and a tiny diamond-shaped window. Entrance is through a door in the central bay of the north facade; it has a single-pane transom. Across the north facade is a one-story porch with turned posts. There are two interior corbelled brick chimneys at the ridge. Windows are 2/2 double hung sash and have green louvered shutters. There is a two-bay rear kitchen wing at right angles to the main block, making the house T-shaped. This two-story wing has an interior corbelled brick chimney at the south end of the ridge. The building is covered with gray asphalt shingle; green asphalt shingle covers the roof. The foundations are of stone.

Significance:

The Franklin Pierce House is a noticeable landmark in a modern subdivision of substantial single-family houses. It was built circa 1907 to replace an older house which had been purchased in 1904 by Franklin Pierce, a black railroad-worker from Virginia. Within a few years, the house was destroyed by fire, and Pierce had the subject house constructed close to the old foundations. The new house followed the plan of a standard I-house, with central stairhall and flanking parlors, and had a rear kitchen wing forming a T. The property has never gone out of the Pierce family, and is still the home of one of Franklin Pierce's children. The Pierce House exemplifies a modest form of folk housing, the I-house, which was common in Prince George's County in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Part of its significance lies in the fact that it was built for a family of laborers, members of an emerging class of middle-class black landowners. It is a visible landmark in a developed residential community.

Acreage: 1.2 acres

# Maryland Historical Trust

## State Historic Sites Inventory Form

### 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Franklin Pierce House

and/or common (indicated in 1974 Inventory as Henry King House)

### 2. Location

street & number 9301 Good Luck Road  not for publicationcity, town Seabrook  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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Mrs. Bessie Johnson

street &amp; number 9301 Good Luck Road telephone no.:

city, town Seabrook state and zip code Maryland 20706

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber #17

street &amp; number Main Street folio 387

city, town Upper Marlboro state

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Sites

date 1974  federal  state  county  local

repository for survey records History Division, MNCPPC

city, town Riverdale state Md.

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input 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 checked="" 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 Franklin Pierce house stands on a large lot in a residential community, fronting on Good Luck Road. Across the street, on the north side of Good Luck Road, is the subdivision of Presley Manor. The Pierce House is a three-bay by one-bay, two-and-one-half-story gable-roofed dwelling. At loft level on the main north facade is a central cross gable, high-lighted by dog's-tooth shingles and a tiny diamond-shaped window. Entrance is through a door in the central bay of the north facade; it has a single-pane transom. Across the north facade is a one-story porch with turned posts. There are two interior corbelled brick chimneys at the ridge, flanking the central passage. Windows are 2/2 double hung sash and have green louvered shutters.

There is a two-bay rear kitchen wing at right angles to the main block, making the house T-shaped. This two-story wing has an interior corbelled brick chimney at the south end of the ridge. A one-story screened porch fills the southeast interior corner of the T.

The entire building is covered with gray asphalt shingle; green asphalt shingle covers the roof. The foundations are of stone painted bright green.

Southeast of the house is a separate garage structure, and to the rear (south) is a small gable-roofed board and batten shed.

# 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/ 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 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) local history
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** ca. 1907 **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 Franklin Pierce House is a noticeable landmark in a modern subdivision of substantial single-family houses. It was built circa 1907 to replace an older house which had been destroyed by fire. The older structure had been the home of Henry King for most of the second half of the nineteenth century, and later the home of the Kagle and Hoffman families. In 1904, the old house and the 1-1/8 acre on which it stood were sold to Franklin Pierce, a black railroad-worker from Virginia.<sup>1</sup> Within a few years, the old King house was destroyed by fire, and Pierce had the subject house constructed close to the old foundations.<sup>2</sup> The new house followed the plan of a standard I-house, with central stairhall and flanking parlors, and had a rear kitchen wing forming a T. In this house the Pierces raised their large family. Several of Franklin Pierce's sons worked with him on the railroad, while his wife and their daughter-in-law took in laundry at home. The property has never gone out of the Pierce family, and is still the home of one of Franklin Pierce's children.<sup>3</sup>

The Pierce House exemplifies a modest form of folk housing, the I-house, which was common in Prince George's County in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Part of its significance lies in the fact that it was built for a family of laborers, members of an emerging class of middle-class black landowners. It is a visible landmark in a developed residential community.

### Notes

<sup>1</sup> Prince George's County Land Records JWB #16:749; JWB #40:464; #17:387; cf. also Martenet Map of Prince George's County, 1861, and G.M. Hopkins Atlas, 1878. Prince George's County Census, 1900, 1910.

<sup>2</sup> Conversation with Mrs. Bessie Pierce Johnson, August 1985; Prince George's County Tax Assessments, 1900-1915.

<sup>3</sup> Prince George's County Census; conversation with Mrs. Johnson.



MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Henry King House AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Good Luck Road, opposite Presley Road CITY, TOWN Lanham VICINITY OF STATE Maryland COUNTY Prince George's

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY OWNERSHIP STATUS PRESENT USE DISTRICT BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH PUBLIC ACQUISITION IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS ACCESSIBLE YES RESTRICTED YES UNRESTRICTED NO AGRICULTURE MUSEUM COMMERCIAL PARK EDUCATIONAL PRIVATE RESIDENCE ENTERTAINMENT RELIGIOUS GOVERNMENT SCIENTIFIC INDUSTRIAL TRANSPORTATION MILITARY OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Telephone #: STREET & NUMBER CITY, TOWN VICINITY OF STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC Prince George's County Courthouse Liber #: Folio #: STREET & NUMBER CITY, TOWN Upper Marlboro STATE Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE DATE FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS CITY, TOWN STATE

**77 DESCRIPTION**

**CONDITION**

- EXCELLENT
- GOOD
- FAIR
- DETERIORATED
- RUINS
- UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

- UNALTERED
- ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

- ORIGINAL SITE
- MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This is a two-story, frame country house that faces north on Good Luck Road. It has a three-bay main facade, with a central door and a small, one-story porch with turned posts. There is a small center gable, with diamond patterned shingles. There are twin central chimney stacks with flared caps. Windows are 2/2. A smaller, two-story wing extends to the rear. Present siding is asphalt siding. Some older outbuildings on property.

**B 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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

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SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

An average Victorian farmhouse, with some interesting decorative features. May have been the home of Henry King, shown on Hopkins' 1878 Atlas.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

11/14/73

STREET & NUMBER

8787 Georgia Ave.

TELEPHONE

589-1480

CITY OR TOWN

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

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

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

Chain of Title  
Franklin Pierce House  
P.G. #70-4

#17:387  
1 Jan. 1904  
Deed

For \$200, Jarrett F. and Anna M. Hoffman to Franklin Pierce; 1 acre 2 rods and 35 perches in Bowie District; same as conveyed to Joseph Kagle on 16 Jan. 1891; same which grantors acquired by #40:464.

JWB #40:464  
14 July 1897  
Deed

For \$500, Julia A. Kagle, widow, to Anna M. Hoffman; 1 acre, 2 rods and 35 perches in Bowie District; same which was conveyed to Joseph Kagle on 16 Jan. 1891.

JBP #1:323  
9 June 1896  
Will

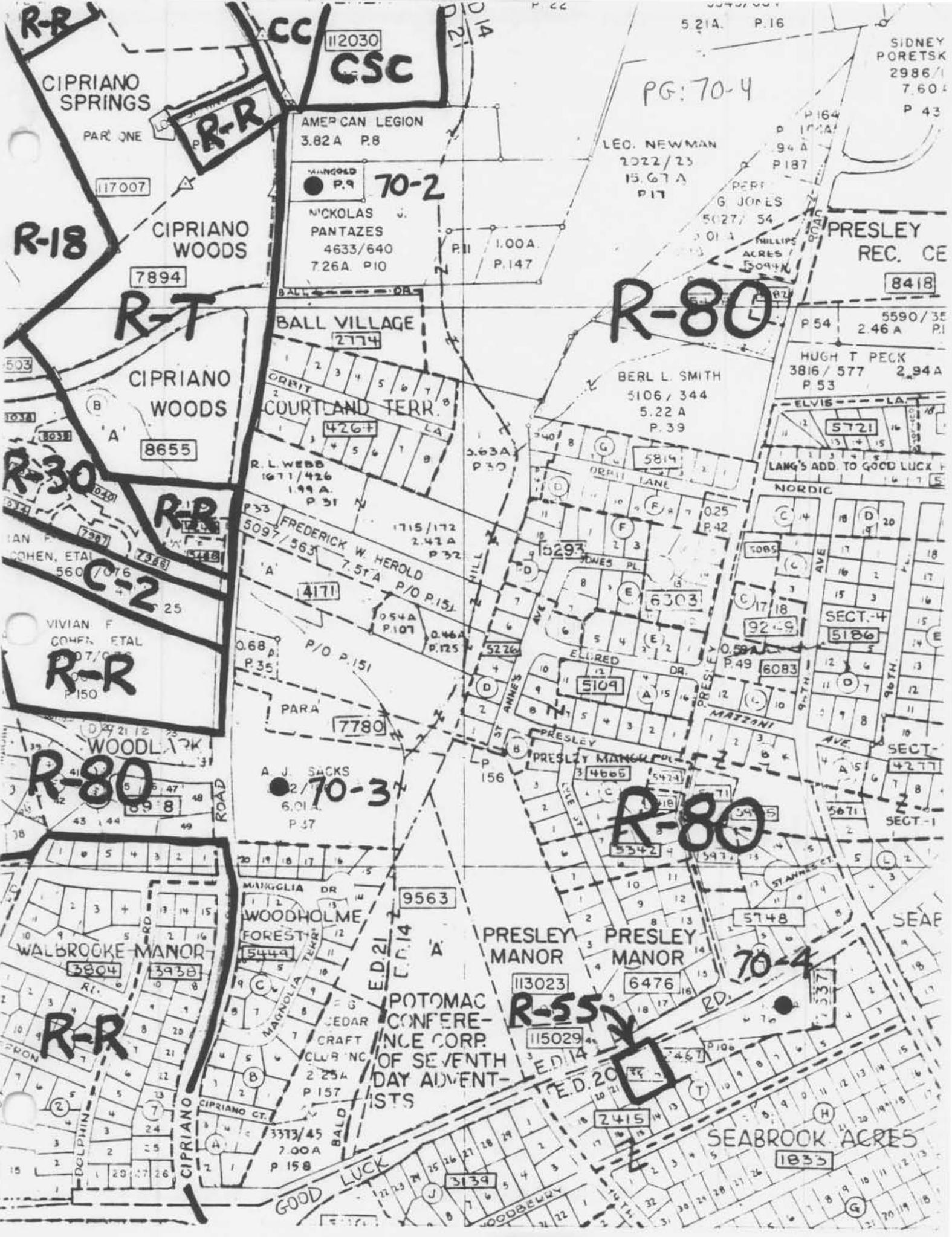
Will of Joseph Kagle; entire estate devised to his wife, Julia Anne Kagle.

JWB #16:749  
16 Jan. 1891  
Deed

Amanda and Henry King to Joseph Kagle; 1-1/8 acres in Bowie District; adjoining the lands of Mr. Seabrook.

CSM #2:169  
11 Jan. 1858  
Deed

John and C.S. Clarke to S.A. King, for her sole benefit; 1 acre 2 rods and 35 perches lying along the public road from Good Luck to Bladensburg.



SIDNEY PORETSK  
2986/1  
7.60 A  
P 43

PG: 70-4

CIPRIANO SPRINGS  
PAR. ONE

AMERICAN LEGION  
3.82 A P.8

LEO. NEWMAN  
2022/23  
15.67 A  
P.17

MANAGED P.9  
70-2  
NICKOLAS J. PANTAZES  
4633/640  
7.26 A P.10

PRESLEY REC. CE  
8418

R-18

CIPRIANO WOODS  
7894

R-80

R-T

BALL VILLAGE  
2774

5590/35  
2.46 A P.1

CIPRIANO WOODS  
8655

BERL L. SMITH  
5106/344  
5.22 A  
P.39

HUGH T PECK  
3816/577  
2.94 A  
P.53

R-30

R-R

COURT AND TERR.  
426+

ELVIS - LA.  
5721

C-2  
7987  
7988

R.L. WEBB  
1671/426  
1.99 A  
P.31

LANG'S ADD. TO GOOD LUCK  
NORDIC

R-R  
VIVIAN F. COHEN, ETAL  
P.150

FREDERICK W. HEROLD  
1715/172  
2.42 A  
P.32

R-80  
WOODLARK ROAD

4171  
0.54 A P.107  
0.46 A P.125

0.68 A P.35  
P/O P.151

7780  
A. J. SACKS  
2/70-3  
6.01 A  
P.37

R-80  
WALBROOKE MANOR  
3804  
3938

9563  
MAGNOLIA DR  
WOODHOLME FOREST  
5449

R-R  
DOLPHIN

9563  
MAGNOLIA TERR.

9563  
MAGNOLIA TERR.

3373/45  
7.00 A  
P.158

POTOMAC CONFERENCE CORP. OF SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS

3139

PRESLEY MANOR  
113023  
6476

R-55  
115029

ED. 14  
ED. 20

2415

SEABROOK ACRES  
1833

70-4

SEABROOK ACRES

1833



P.G. #70-4

Franklin Pierce House  
Prince George's County, MD.

Susan G. Pearl

April 1985

North elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G. #70-4

Franklin Pierce House  
Prince George's County, MD.  
Susan G. Pearl  
April 1985  
West elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



NAME

HENRY KING HSE # 70-4  
FARMHSE.

LOCATION

GOOD LUCK Rd. OPP. PRESLEY Rd. LANHAM, Md

FACADE

N

PHOTO TAKEN

11/14/73 M. OWYER



NAME ABANDONED GRAVEL PIT

LOCATION GOOD LUCK Rd OPP. PRINCESS GARDEN PKWAY. CANHAM, Md

FACADE LOOKING NE

PHOTO TAKEN 11/14/73 M. DWYER