

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #81B-7 Building Date: ca. 1871-1878

Building Name: The William H. Townshend House

Location: 12804 Windbrook Drive, Brandywine, Maryland 20613

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description:

The William H. Townshend House is situated on a hill overlooking Windbrook Drive and a subdivision to its west, and a wooded area to the north and east. The house is a two story frame building, three-by-two bays with a two story, three bay shed roof north addition. The main block has a gable roof with a central cross gable and rests on a brick foundation. The three bay south (main) facade has central entrance with four-light sidelights over wainscot panels, and a four-light transom. A one story screened porch across the facade has chamfered wood posts and jig-sawn brackets. The porch wraps around the west side of the building and continues across the west facade, enclosing the west section. Windows on the facade are 6/6 double hung sashes with louvered shutters and plain wood surrounds. The house is sided with wood-grained asphalt shingle, painted white. The cross gable has a four light, round arch window. The east and west gable ends of the main block are one bay. The north (rear) facade is covered by the two story, three bay shed roof wing. The wing is set on a rusticated cement block foundation. There are two white painted, interior corbelled brick chimneys, one east and one west of the facade center on the shallow slope of the wing roof.

Significance:

The William H. Townshend House was built between 1871 and 1878 by William Henry Townshend, a farmer and member of a family of longstanding in southern Prince George's County. The house is still owned by members of the Townshend family. The house originally stood on a 225 acre farm. It now occupies one acre on the east side of Windbrook Drive with a subdivision to the west of the road. The house is a handsome example of vernacular farmhouses built in the County in the late 19th century. Characteristics it shares with houses of the period include its two story frame construction, rectangular plan, central cross gable and facade-wide one story entrance porch. The William H. Townshend house is unusual for its large size (it is a ten-room dwelling). It is in good repair and with its white color and red outbuildings situated on a hillside overlooking Windbrook Drive, it is a local landmark.

Acreage: 1 acre

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic William H. Townshend House

and/or common William H. Townshend House

2. Location

street & number 12804 Windbrook Drive not for publication

city, town Brandywine 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	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 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 Harold C. Townshend, Jr.

street & number 12804 Windbrook Drive telephone no.:

city, town Brandywine state and zip code Md. 20613

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 1602

street & number Main Street folio 582

city, town Upper Marlboro state Md.

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Historic Sites and District Survey

date 1981

federal state county local

depository for survey records History Division - MNCPPC

city, town Riverdale state Md.

7. Description

Survey No. 81B-7

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 William H. Townshend House is situated on a hill overlooking open fields to its south, and Windbrook Drive to its west. There is wooded area to the north and east of the house, and a subdivision to the west. The house is two stories, of frame, three-by-two bays. It has a rectangular main block with a two story, three bay shed roof north addition. The main block has a gable roof with a central cross gable and rests on a brick foundation.

The three bay south (main) facade has a central entrance with four-light sidelights over wainscot panels, and a four-light transom. There is a one story screened porch across the facade. Its chamfered wood posts and jig-sawn brackets are unpainted on the side facing outward, indicating that the porch screening was probably installed at the same time as the porch. The porch wraps around the west side of the building and continues across the west facade. Its west section has been enclosed. Windows on the facade are 6/6 double hung sash with louvered shutters and plain wood surrounds. The house is sided with wood-grained asphalt shingle, painted white. A cross gable centered above the entrance has a four-light, round-arch window.

The east and west gable ends of the main block are one bay wide. The north (rear) facade is covered by the two-story, three bay shed roof wing. The wing has 2/2 double hung sash windows on the second story and 6/6 windows on the first story, all with louvered shutters. The wing is set on a rusticated cement block foundation. There is a bulkhead cellar entrance in a third bay. There are two interior corbelled brick chimneys painted white, one east and one west of the facade center on the shallow north slope of the roof of the wing.

There are two outbuildings of modern construction north of the house, and two older frame sheds to the east. All of the outbuildings are painted red and in good repair. There is a large out-door dog pen to the east of the house.

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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) local history
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates ca. 1871-78 **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.

#8.

The William H. Townshend House was built between 1871 and 1878¹ by William Henry Townshend, a farmer and member of a family of longstanding in southern Prince George's County². The house is still owned by members of the Townshend family. The house originally stood on a 225 acre farm.³

The house is a handsome example of vernacular farmhouses built in the County in the late nineteenth century. Characteristics it shares with houses of the period include its two story frame construction, rectangular plan, center front cross gable and facade-wide one story entrance porch. The William H. Townshend house is unusual for its large size (it is a ten-room dwelling), and for being owned by one family for over 100 years. It is in good repair and with its white color and red outbuildings situated on a hillside overlooking Windbrook Drive, it is a local landmark.

Notes:

¹ Tax Assessment, Prince George's County, 5th District, 1871, 11055; G.M. Hopkins Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington Including County of Prince George's Maryland, 1878, reprinted Prince George's County Historical Society, 1975, pg. 19.

² United States Census, Prince George's County, 5th Election District; Stones and Bones: Cemetery Records of Prince George's County, Prince George's County Genealogical Society, Inc., Bowie, Maryland, 1984.

³ Ibid. #1. Tax Assessments.

1703585604
P.A. 81B-7

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
AND OR STONE William H. Townshend House				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Windbrook Drive (East Side)				
CITY OR TOWN: Clinton				
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Prince George's	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> Drawings <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
				<input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: Harold C. Townsend, Jr.				
STREET AND NUMBER: Windbrook Drive				
CITY OR TOWN: Clinton			STATE: Maryland	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Prince George's County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: None				
DATE OF SURVEY: _____				
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITION FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Uncltered <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>The house is a two story, frame structure with a three bay main (south) facade. The central doorway has side and transom lights; the flanking windows are 6/6 double hung sash. There is a central facade gable with a round-arched window. On the rear facade are two large internal chimneys.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
- 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Aboriginal
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> Art
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Education
<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering
<input type="checkbox"/> Industry
<input type="checkbox"/> Invention
<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape
Architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> Literature
<input type="checkbox"/> Military
<input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Political
<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-
losophy
<input type="checkbox"/> Science
<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-
itarian
<input type="checkbox"/> Theater
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<hr/>
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|---|---|---|---|

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Christopher Owens, Park Historian		DATE 1 Aug 74
ORGANIZATION M-NCPPC		
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue		
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring		STATE Maryland

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National State Local

Signature

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Chain of Title

William H. Townshend House
P.G. #81B-7

#19305
27 May 1969
Admin. File

Catherine Clagett Townshend died intestate. Possessed a two-story frame dwelling, 6 rooms first floor, four rooms second. Termite infested, of little value. 29.78 acres on Floral Park and Thrift Roads.

1602:582
24 April 1953
Deed

Helen K. Townshend, widow of Edgar Clayton Townshend, to Harold C. Townshend and Catherine Clagett Townshend, his wife, 234 acres, all of the same land inherited from Edgar Clayton Townshend.

G.S.O. 2:192
23 May 1950
Will

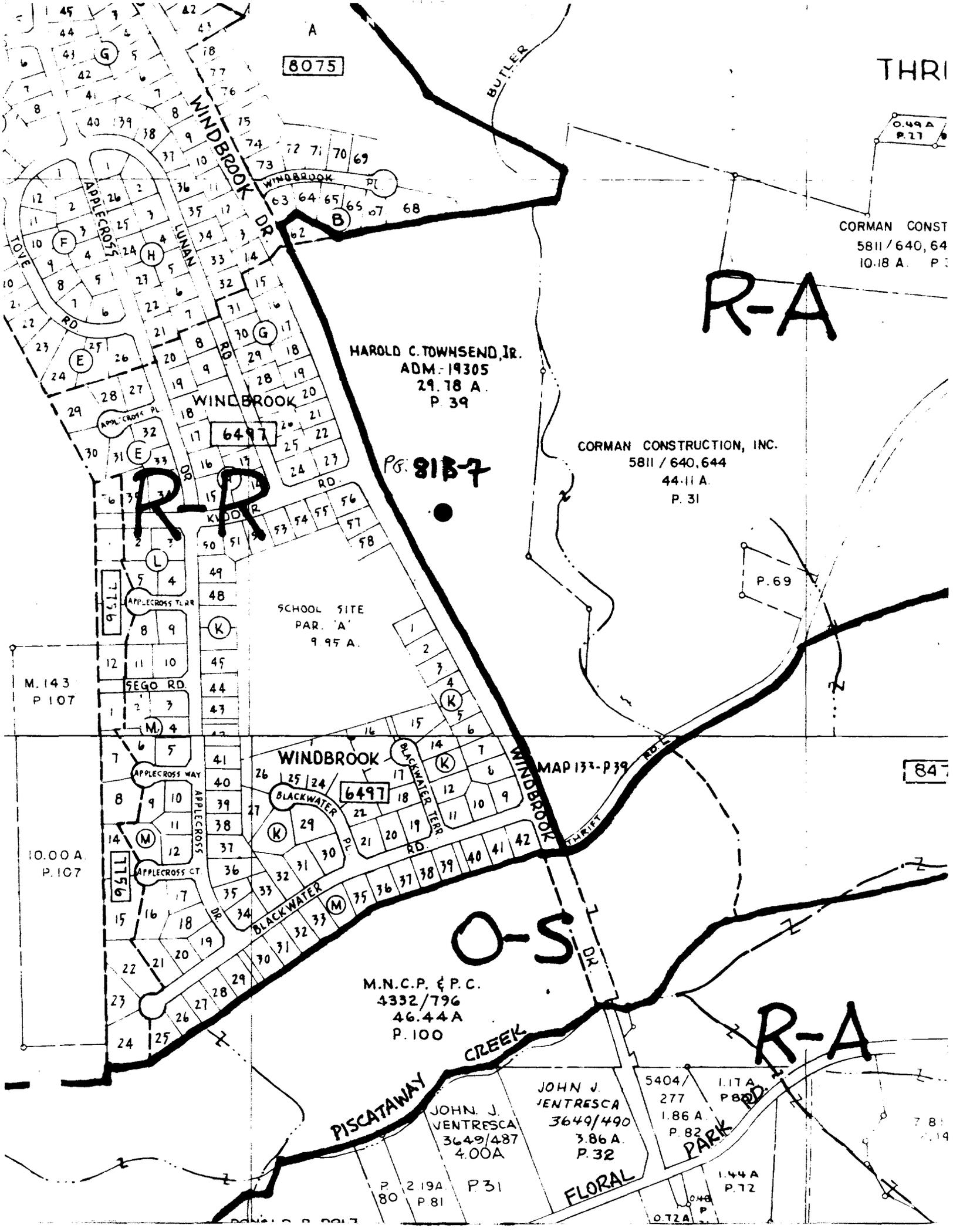
Edgar Clayton Townshend left all property, which included 166.9 acres in Brandywine district, to his wife Helen Kirby Townshend.

HB 6:1
6 Dec. 1871
Deed

T. Boyd Edelen and wife to William H. Townshend. For \$1 grantors give specific boundaries of a parcel they conveyed for \$1,800 on 13 Dec. 1870, H.B. 4:186 to Townshend. Parcel contains 100 acres, known as Leiper's Ford - begins where road Marlboro to Piscataway crosses Butler's Branch - bounded by land already owned by Townshend and etc.

H.B. 4:186
13 Dec. 1870
Deed

T. Boyd Edelen and wife to William H. Townshend. In consideration of Townshend's note, payable in 6 months with interest for \$1,500 plus \$300, grantor conveys a tract of land on north side of main road. Conveyed to Edelen by John Hamilton - 18 Nov. 1870, H.B. 4:118.



8075

THRI

0.49 A
P. 27

CORMAN CONST
5811 / 640, 64
10.18 A. P. 3

R-A

HAROLD C. TOWNSEND, JR.
ADM. 19305
29.78 A.
P. 39

CORMAN CONSTRUCTION, INC.
5811 / 640, 644
44.11 A.
P. 31

PG. 81B-7

P. 69

SCHOOL SITE
PAR. 'A'
9.95 A.

M. 143
P. 107

84

MAP 133-P39

6497

10.00 A.
P. 107

M.N.C.P. & P.C.
4332/796
46.44 A
P. 100

O-S

R-A

PISCATAWAY CREEK

JOHN J. VENTRESCA
3649/487
4.00 A

JOHN J. VENTRESCA
3649/490
3.86 A.
P. 32

5404 / 277
1.86 A.
P. 82

PARK RD

FLORAL

1.44 A
P. 72

P. 219A P. 81 P. 31

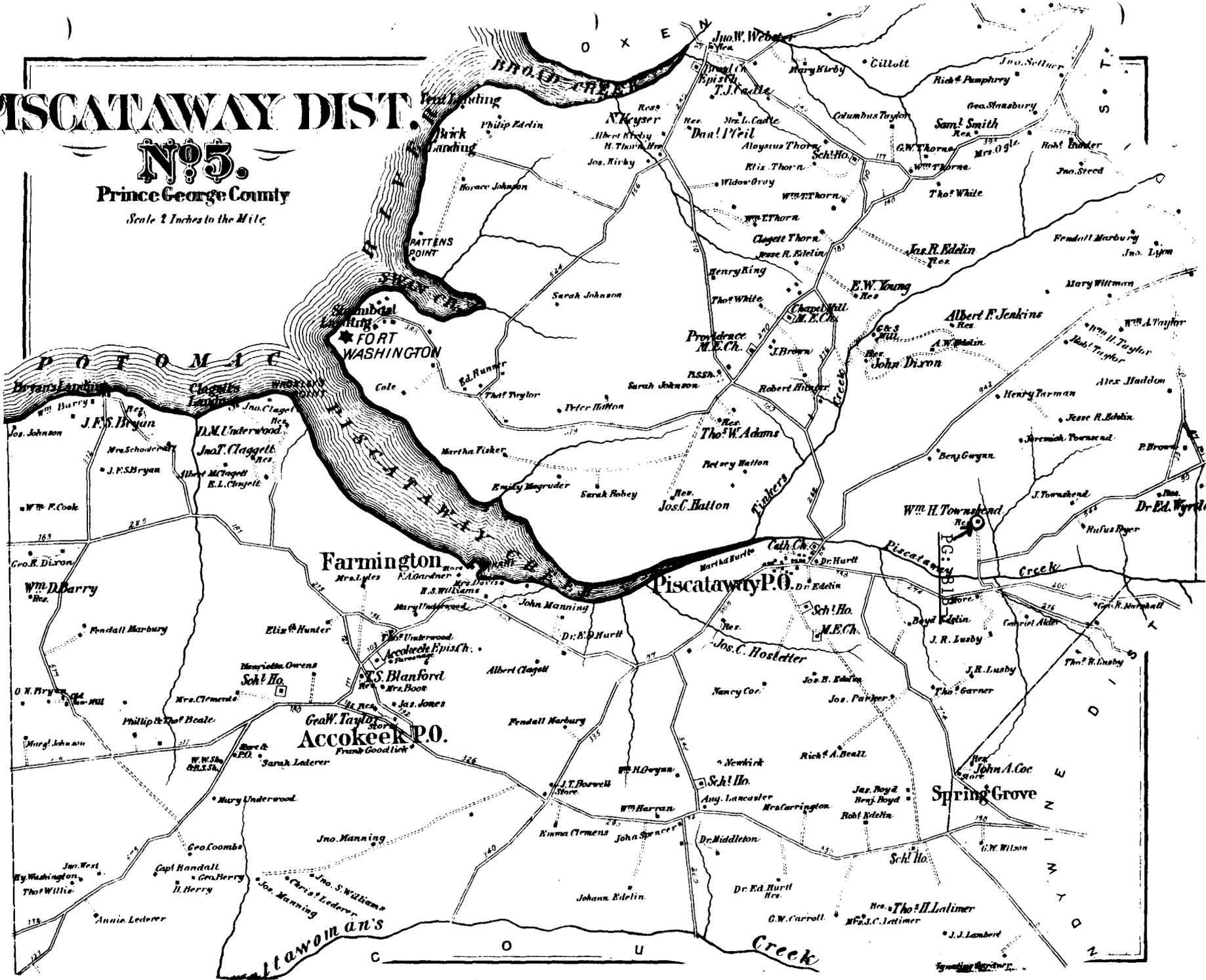
0.72 A

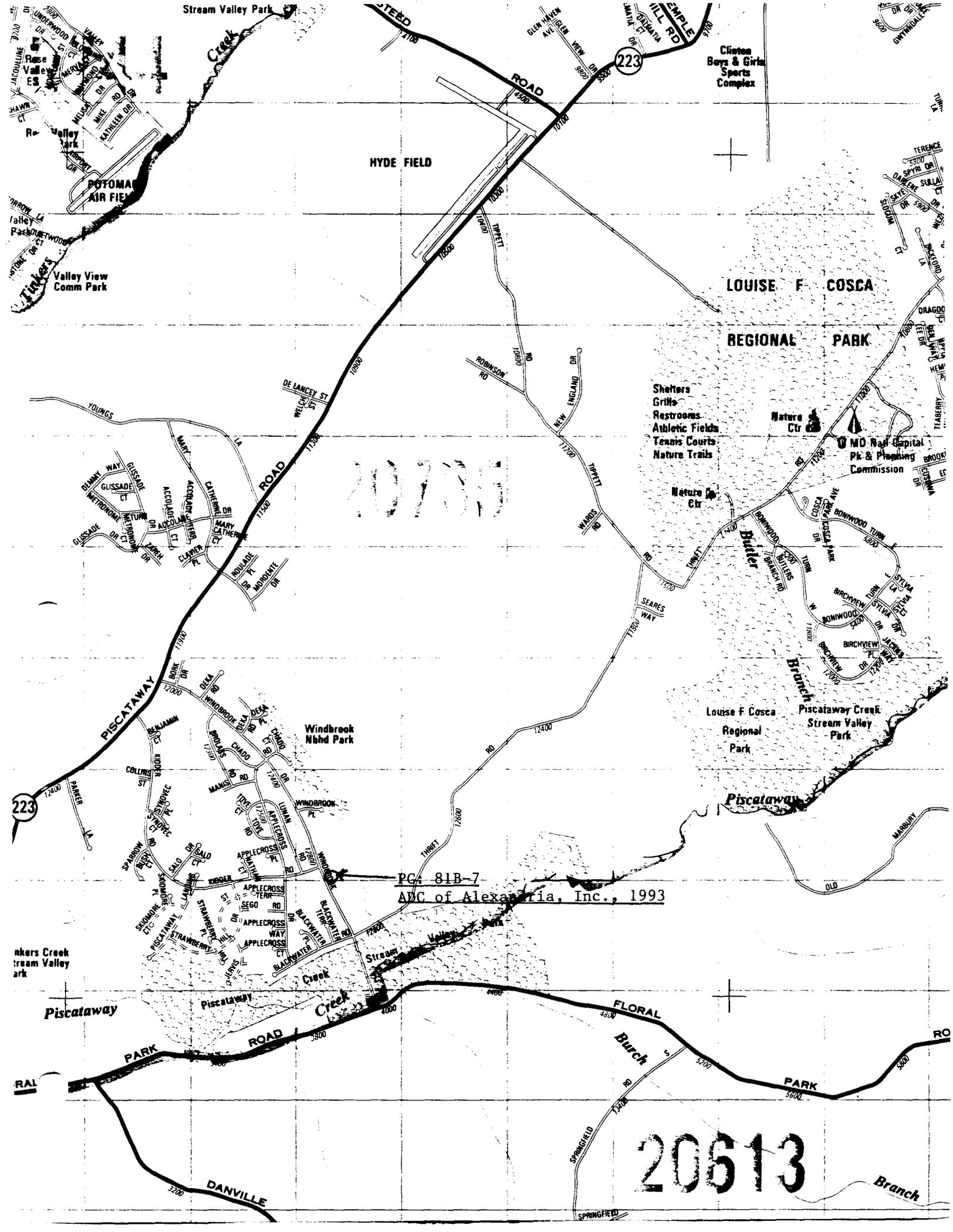
PISCATAWAY DIST.

No. 5.

Prince George County

Scale 2 Inches to the Mile





Stream Valley Park

HYDE FIELD

Clinton Boys & Girls Sports Complex

LOUISE F. COSCA

REGIONAL PARK

Shelters
Grills
Restrooms
Athletic Fields
Tennis Courts
Nature Trails

Nature Ctr

MD Natl Capital
Pk & Planning
Commission

Valley View
Comm Park

20700

Windbrook
Nbd Park

Louise F Cosca
Regional
Park

Piscataway Creek
Stream Valley
Park

PG- 81B-7
ADC of Alexandria, Inc., 1993

Stream Valley
Park

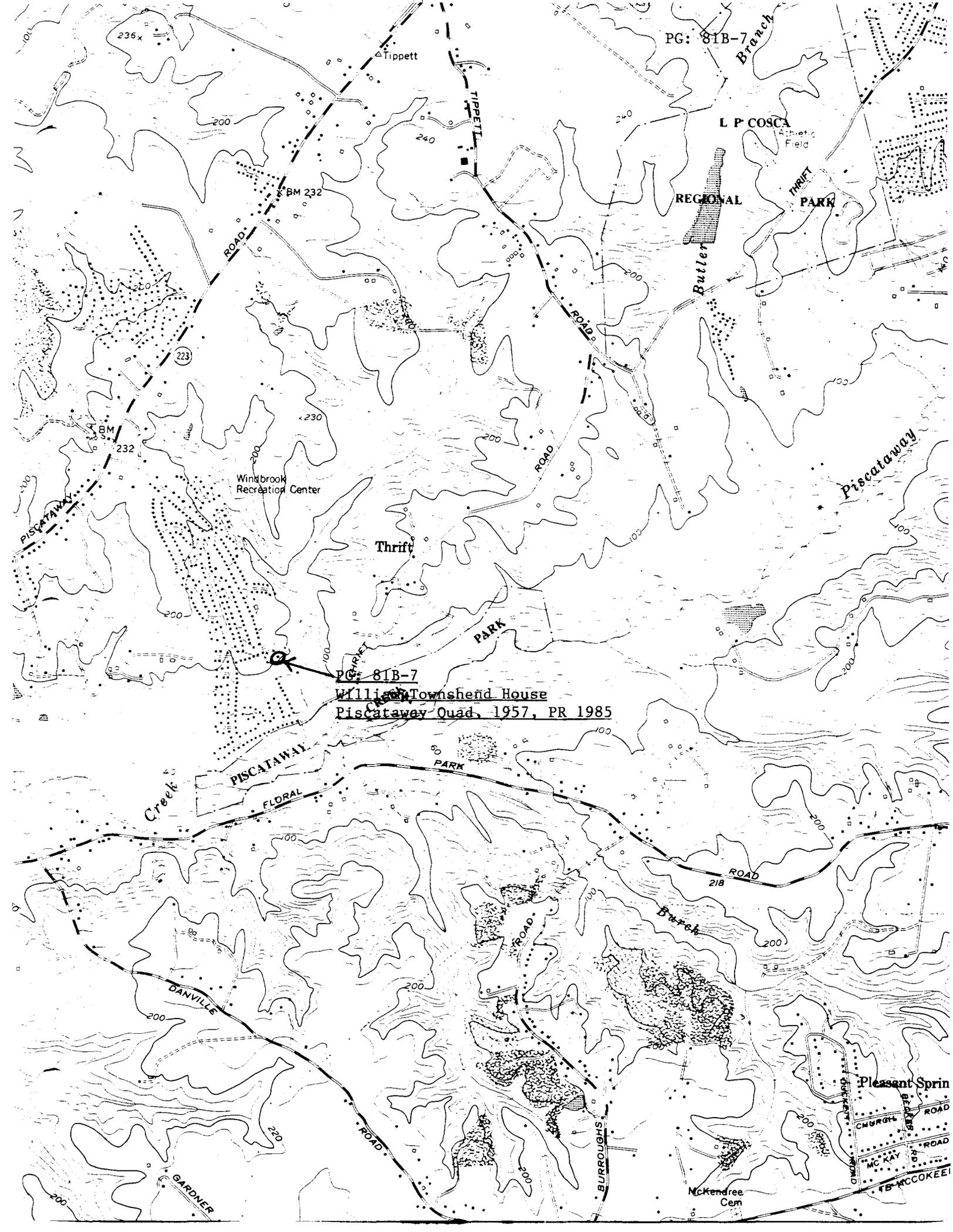
Piscataway
PARK

FLORAL
Burch

PARK

20613

Branch



PG: 81B-7

L P COSCA
Athletic Field

REGIONAL
PARK

THRIFT
PARK

BM 232

BM 232

Windbrook
Recreation Center

Thrift

PG: 81B-7

William Townshend House
Piscataway Quad, 1957, PR 1985

PISCATAWAY
Creek

FLORAL
ROAD

60
PARK

ROAD
218

Branch

DANVILLE

GARDNER

BURROUGHS
ROAD

McKendree
Cen

Pleasant Spring

CHURCH ROAD

MC KAY
RD

FB-MCCOKEE



P. G. #81B-7

William H. Townshend House

Prince George's County, Maryland

Marina King

May 1985

South elevation

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



P.G. #81B-7

William H. Townshend House

Prince George's County, Maryland

Marina King

May 1985

Northwest elevation

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



P.G. #81B-7

William H. Townshend House

Prince George's County, Maryland

Marina King

May 1985

North elevation

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



NAME	WILLIAM H. TOWNSEND HSE	# 818-7
LOCATION	WINDBROOK DR. PISCATAWAY, (CLINTON) Md.	
FACADE	S	
PHOTO TAKEN	8/1/74 MDWYER	