

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

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

historic Edward B. Mitchell, Sr. House

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 10452 Worcester Highway  not for publication

city, town Berlin  vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland 21811 county Worcester

**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 checked="" 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 Frank A. Widic, Sr., and Julia R. Widic

street & number 10452 Worcester Highway telephone no.: (410) 641-0744

city, town Berlin state and zip code MD 21811

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Clerk of Court liber RHO 2249

street & number Worcester County Courthouse - West Market St. folio 161

city, town Snow Hill state MD 21863

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

# 7. Description

Survey No. WO-493

**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved    date of move \_\_\_\_\_

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

See Continuation Sheet.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. WO-493

| 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/<br>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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)         |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              |   |  |

**Specific dates** unknown      **Builder/Architect** unknown

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.

See Continuation Sheet.



CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 2

The Edward B. Mitchell, Sr. House is a detached, single-family dwelling located on the east side of US 113, approximately 1.1 miles north of Route 50. The one-story, front-gabled bungalow, constructed sometime between 1914 and 1924, features an asymmetrical west facade with three bays. The balloon frame structure is covered with aluminum siding and exhibits a gable roof clad with composition asphalt shingles. The foundation appears to be concrete or concrete block covered by aluminum or some other type of metal.

The facade is noted by a one-story, hip-roofed porch/canopy, supported by two slender wood posts. A one-story room, covered by a hip roof, extends from the rear (east) side of the house. The room originally may have been an open porch that was later infilled at an unknown date. A small shed addition is attached to the northeast corner of the room. The modern one-over-one, double-hung sash windows are both single and paired and are flanked by modern fixed shutters. Entrance to the house is made via a single-leaf wood door in the facade, noted by its four lights over two horizontal panels. A small brick ridge chimney protrudes from the center of the roof. Exposed rafter ends are found at the cornices of the main roof, porch roof, and rear addition roof.

Directly behind the dwelling is a small corrugated metal garage/shed with a standing seam metal roof, a shed-roofed addition on the north end, and an attached dog pen. The outbuilding appears to be contemporaneous with the dwelling. A dirt drive provides access to and from US 113, and the property features a small yard, some foundation plantings, a number of mature trees, and open cropland to the south, east, and north. Also located on the same tax parcel to the north are the dwelling and outbuildings of the Frank A., Sr., & Julia K. Widic Farm (WO-510).

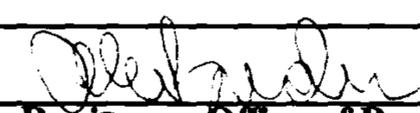
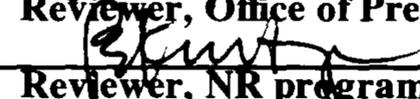
Alterations to the dwelling include the aluminum siding, the covering of the foundation with aluminum or metal, the small rear addition, and the modern windows and shutters. Alterations to the garage/shed include the north end addition and the attached dog pen.

The Edward B. Mitchell, Sr. House is a representative example of the front-gabled bungalow type. Its presence signifies the historic introduction of early twentieth-century architectural types into an agricultural area developed during the nineteenth century, and it illustrates the continued development of Worcester County into this century.

The dwelling was likely constructed sometime between 1914 and 1924, based on deed records and the 1924 USGS topographic map (WCCC Deed Book ODC 18:133, JEB 9:584; USGS 1924). Edward B. Mitchell, Sr. purchased the property in two transactions in 1914 from William Whaley, a large landowner in the area. Mitchell owned the property until 1941. A structure appears at the location of the dwelling on the 1924 USGS map. Using the periods from the Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data, this would place the structure at the end of the Industrial/Urban Dominance period (A.D. 1870-1930).

The current legal tax parcel containing the house and garage/shed encompasses 28 acres. However, because the dwelling is not significant for its larger landscape, it is recommended that a suitable boundary include only the buildings and the adjacent trees, yard, and plantings, encompassing approximately .35 acres.

The Edward B. Mitchell, Sr. House is recommended ineligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the criteria of eligibility in 36 CFR 60.4. Its integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling has been compromised due to alterations. It has no known associations with significant historical events (Criterion A) or persons (Criterion B), it is not significant for its architectural style or design characteristics (Criterion C), and further research of it would not appear to yield information important in prehistory or history (Criterion D).

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW</b>  |   |
| Eligibility recommended _____  | Eligibility not recommended <u>X</u>  |
| Criteria: <u>  </u> A <u>  </u> B <u>  </u> C <u>  </u> D  | Considerations: <u>  </u> A <u>  </u> B <u>  </u> C <u>  </u> D <u>  </u> E<br><u>  </u> F <u>  </u> G <u>  </u> None |
| Comments: _____  |   |
| <br>Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services | 10/7/98<br>Date   |
| <br>Reviewer, NR program                      | 2/1/99<br>Date  |

*gms*

United States Geological Survey (USGS)

1924 Ocean City, Maryland-Delaware quadrangle map, 15 minute series. U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. On file, Maryland Geological Survey, Baltimore.

Worcester County Clerk of Court (WCCC)

1847-1996 Property records on file at the Worcester County Courthouse, Snow Hill, Maryland.

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

- 1) Eastern Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

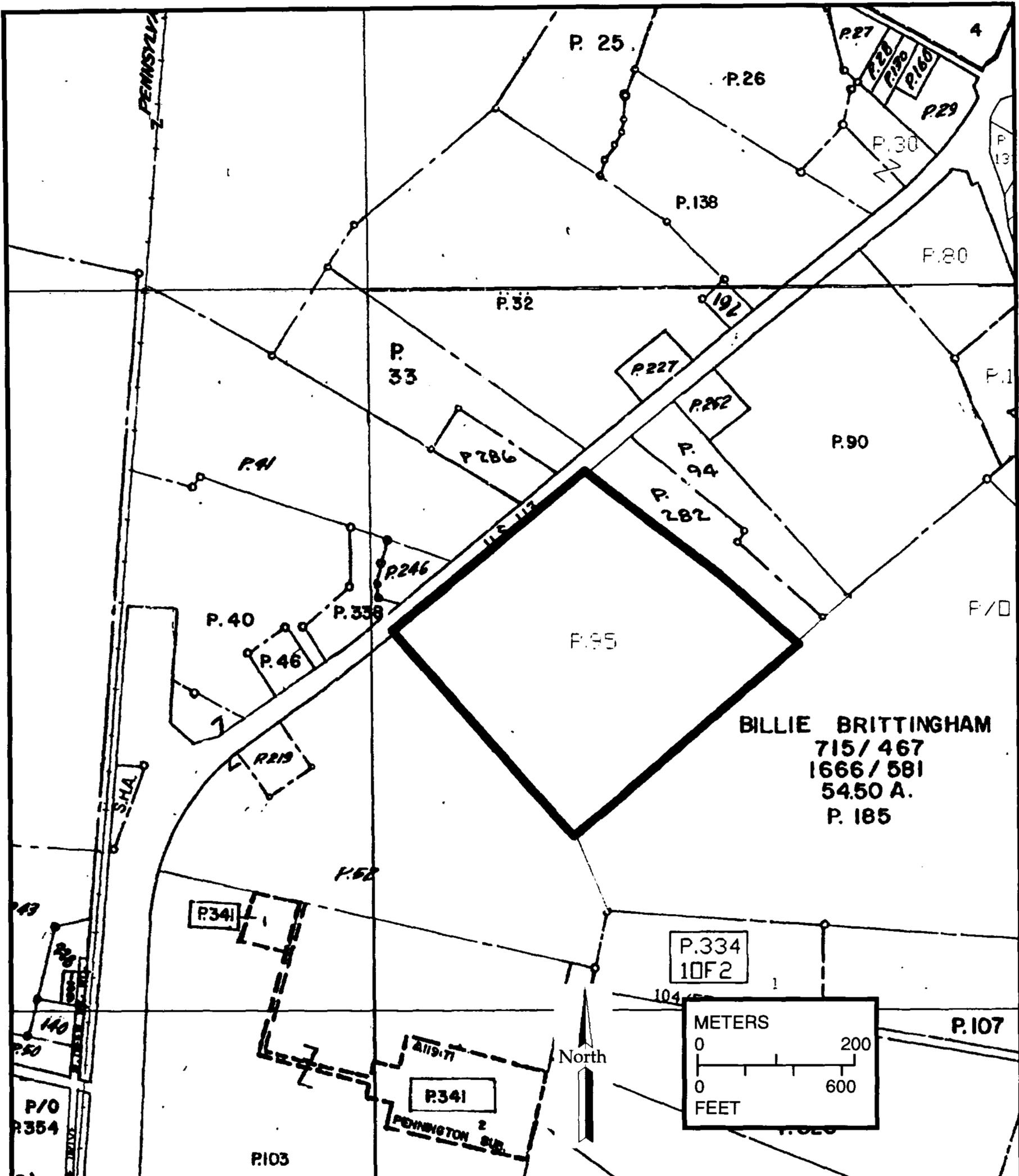
- 11) Industrial/Urban Dominance (A.D. 1870-1930)

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

- 2) Architecture

Resource Type:

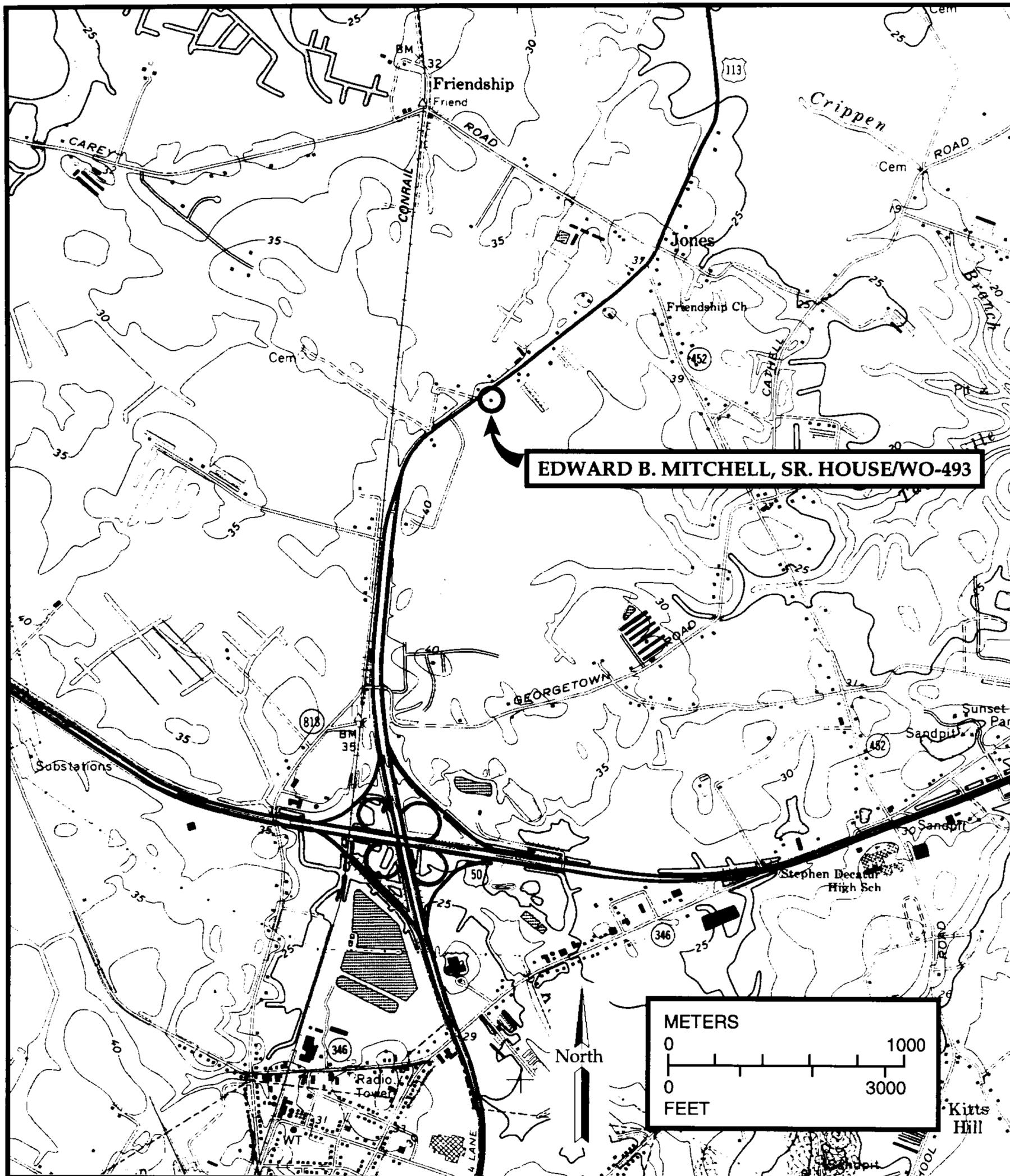
|                                  |                        |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Category:                        | Buildings              |
| Historic Environment:            | Rural                  |
| Historic Function(s) and Use(s): | Single-family Dwelling |
| Known Design Source:             | None                   |



**BILLIE BRITTINGHAM**  
 715 / 467  
 1666 / 581  
 54.50 A.  
 P. 185

**TAX MAP**

Section of Map No. 20, Parcel No. 95, Worcester County, Md.  
 Containing the Edward B. Mitchell, Sr. House/WO-493  
 Berlin (vic.), Worcester County, MD.



**LOCATIONAL MAP**

Section of the 7.5' Berlin, MD Quad Map (USGS 1967, 1981)

Showing the Edward B. Mitchell, Sr. House/WO-493

Berlin Vicinity, Worcester County, MD.



WO-493

Edward B. "Babe" Sr House  
Worcester County, MD

000 52+3/5-71 /T-N /1204 95 < >

Photographer: Mark's Chanceller

Date: April 22, 1992

Location of Negative: Maryland SHPO

Subject: West facade

Page 1 of 3







M.D. 1121

Edward B. Mitchell, Sr. House

Worcester County, MD

000 L -> E -> T / T - N / T / T 95 < >

Photographer: Mark Chancellor

Date: April 22, 1998

Location of Negative: Maryland 21110

Subject: West and South Elevations

No. 3 of 3