CAPSULE SUMMARY

Nelson Cottage
1341 Douglass Avenue
Highland Beach, Maryland

c. 1903

Private Residence

The Nelson Cottage is one of the set of original houses in the historically black town of Highland Beach. The house has been substantially altered and it is difficult to appreciate the original architectural elements from the present exterior. However, the cottage is an example of architectural space planning and design in an extant African-American community.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

AA 830

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Nelson Cottage

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
1341 Douglass Ave.

CITY, TOWN
Highland Beach

__ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Annapolis I

STATE
Maryland

COUNTY
Anne Arundel

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
__BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
X STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	X YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Jack Nelson ET AL

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER
1511 Q ST NW

CITY, TOWN
Washington, DC

__ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. 2/411/08678600
RI 57 15 0012

Liber #: 2934
Folio #: 695

STREET & NUMBER
Anne Arundel Courthouse

CITY, TOWN
Annapolis, Maryland

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

AA-830

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
X EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

1341 Douglass

This cottage was originally a two bay colonial with gabled roof. It was constructed with a pier foundation and an open porch. The finishing details on the house currently detract from the architectural relevance of the original facade.

Highland Beach, Maryland is located approximately ten miles south of Annapolis on the Chesapeake Bay. The Nelson Cottage is located in a block that is bounded by Douglass Avenue on the north, Wilders/Wayman Avenue on the east, the Corporate Limits of Highland Beach on the south, and Walnut Avenue on the west. The lot has been cleared although topography of the area is dense and wooded generally.

The Nelson Cottage has an enclosed porch that encircles three views of the house. The modernized exterior is finished with shingle siding. The fine bay northern view exhibits a porch which has hexagonal arches on the walls. The second storey windows are double hung with multiple lights over a single pane. The trim on the fenestration matches the entrance doorway to the cottage.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

AA-830

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	X COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1000-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	X EDUCATION	__MILITARY	X SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
__1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
X 1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	X POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1903 **BUILDER/ARCHITECT** unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

see "Highland Black Settlement"

Highland Beach, Maryland is a historic black town that was founded by the son of Frederick Douglass. The town was conceived by Haley R. Douglass in the late nineteenth century to be a resort community for prominent blacks. Highland Beach is a unique existing reminder of town planning and architectural history as it relates to vernacular and high style design as exhibited by black people. Most of the architecture in Highland Beach is located on the original sites and building expansions were performed within a ten to fifteen year time fram. This provides us with a concise history of design, space planning, and architecture in a homogeneous, extant community.

All of the cottages that were constructed prior to 1930 are important elements related to town planning and design. It is important that these houses retain their originality in terms of plan design, lot orientation, interior decoration, and architectural aesthetics in order to preserve to concept of space and the dynamics of community development in this historic black town.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

AA-830

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

see "Highland Beach Settlement"

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot 2 Blk 12 Highland Beach

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Barbara Collins Turner

DATE
April 1982

ORGANIZATION
Morgan State University

TELEPHONE
301-444-3225

STREET & NUMBER
Center for Built Environment Studies

CITY OR TOWN
Baltimore, MD

STATE

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.

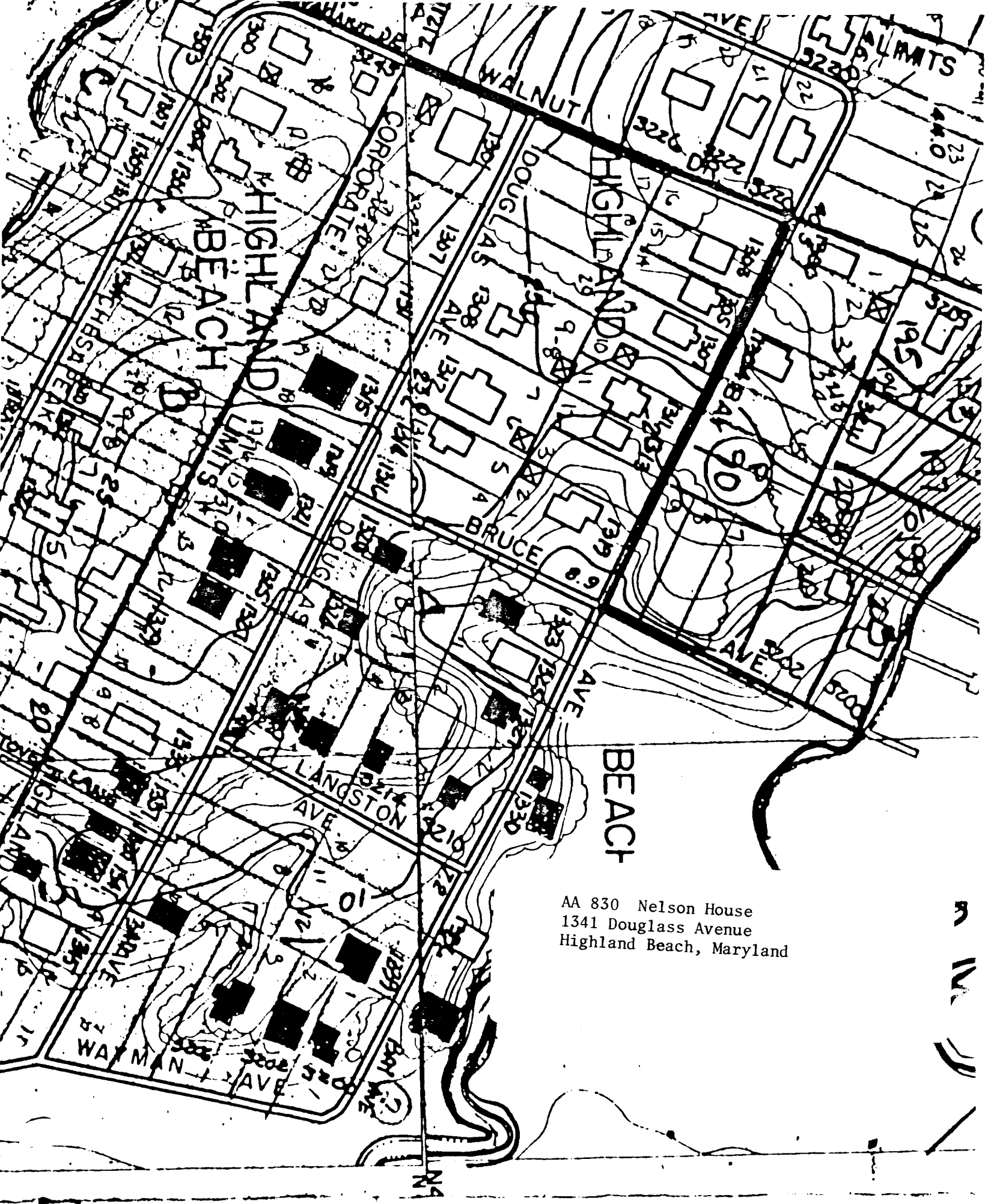
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

PS-1108

TITLE ABSTRACT
1341 Douglass Avenue

AA-830

GW 16 426 2/19/00 (1900)	Charles R. Douglass
	To
2934 695 12/9/76	William F. Nelson (Wife Annie C. Nelson)
	To
3450 538 2934 695	Jack Nelson



AA 830 Nelson House
1341 Douglass Avenue
Highland Beach, Maryland

COTTAGE
1541

AA 830 Nelson House
1341 Douglass Avenue
Highland Beach, Maryland
General View
Fern Eisner, Photographer
March 1982