MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
JUL 25 2003

Property Name: Massey House Inventory Number: HO-622

Address: ~~3997~~ 4001 Old Columbia Pike City: Ellicott City Zip Code: 21043

County: Howard USGS Topographic Map: Ellicott City, MD Quad

Owner: Patricia K. Massey (and Charles A Massey Sr. (Deceased)) Is the property being evaluated a district? No yes

Tax Parcel Number: 287 Tax Map Number: 24 Tax Account ID Number: 228238

Project: Nelson Property/The Woods of Tiber Branch Agency: ___

Site visit by MHT Staff: ___no ___yes Name: ___ Date: ___

Is the property located within a historic district? ___yes X no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: ___

NR-listed district ___yes Eligible district ___yes District Name: ___

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ___yes ___no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ___

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ___yes X no

Only possibility of eligibility would be if a relationship could be established between the Benoy/Brian family next door in the frame/stone dwelling to the north and the owners (Talbotts or Haydens) of Pleasant Fields to the south, and a NR nomination then could include this property which was subdivided from those two.

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MIHP Form, Howard County Historical Society, Land Records

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

During the early 20th Century suburbanization of Ellicott City's surroundings, this frame American Four Square was erected approx. 50' off Old Columbia Pike on a small rectangular lot carved from the land of its neighbors on either side. The property was once known as 210 Columbia Pike[1], before the numbering system was changed.

While this dwelling, built in the c. 1920, typifies the American Four Square style with its boxy shape, hipped roof with broad eaves, wood shingle siding and minimal detailing, it hardly appears to be an excellent example of its form. The integrity of this vernacular dwelling has been compromised somewhat by the loss of its original front porch, save its roof. The back porch was enclosed to enlarge the kitchen. All the interior perimeter walls were stripped to the studs, insulated and covered with wallboard and paneling. Both the bathroom and kitchen have been totally remodeled. The front door has been replaced with a

[1] Deed Liber 465, Folio 19.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ___ **Eligibility not recommended** X

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D **Considerations:** ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None

Comments: ___

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services 8/1/03 Date

Reviewer, NR Program 8/7/03 Date

mid 20th Century door with three diagonally placed lights, and covered with a storm door. The 1/1 windows[2] are covered with storm windows, and if the exterior ever had any Colonial Revival detailing, it has been removed, leaving a very plain appearance. At the rear, a large green, plastic corrugated roof, attached to the house, covers a patio area. The lot and house appear to be in need of maintenance, although the overall building form remains intact. A recent frame garage occupies the southern corner of the lot. It does not maintain sufficient distinctive characteristics to represent a good example of the American Four Square house form, in order to meet Criterion C of NR evaluation.

Although the MIHP Form HO-622 refers to five American Four Square structures along Old Columbia Pike and 20 Colonial Revival structures, they do not seem to have been a cohesive development, merely representing popular architectural styles at a time of real estate growth along the corridor. Scattered among these early 20th Century houses are the full-range of 19th Century farmhouses, post WWII starter homes and recent developers' "specials," precluding thematic NR nomination for this collection of 20th Century dwellings.

The Massey House is currently owned by Patricia Kerbe Massey, surviving tenant. Her husband Charles Albert Massey, Jr. was a Howard County policeman who died in 1982 of cardiovascular disease at the age of 47. The Masseys had purchased the house from Irvin S. Gaither and his wife R. Ann Gaither.[3]

Irvin Jr. was the only child and heir-at-law to Irvin S. Gaither, Sr. who died intestate in 1966. His wife Rose M. Gaither had predeceased him. They had purchased the small parcel in 1921 (See DOE Form on Brian House, HO-559) from Mary J. Brian, carved out of the Elizabeth Benoy acre. As outlined in the deed, this property shared both a well and a septic system with the stone/frame house to the northeast, the parcel from which this lot was carved, until the Masseys hooked up to the public sewer system. Apparently family members lived on both lots (Brians and Gaithers). This parcel had also been part of "Pleasant Fields" and that deed refers to Elizabeth Benoy's gift of the house and land (now Massey House) to her daughter, Mary Brian, in 1871. This tie could bring this lot into a thematic nomination for the "Pleasant Fields" property IF the connection between Elizabeth Benoy and Talbot or Hayden can be established through wills, personal papers or other documents. Short of that connection, this property does not warrant NR listing based on its historical associations under Criterion B.

Negatives filed with HO-623

Prepared by: Lisa Jensen Wingate Date Prepared: 7/9/2003

[2] From the street, one cannot tell whether the windows are original or have been replaced.

[3] The Gaither name is connected to the Farner/Brian/Benoy house next door, as Mary R. Gaither was the unmarried niece of Nancy L. Brian, daughter of Mary J. Brian. The 1920 census lists Mary J. Brian, 82, as head of household and owning the frame and stone house. In 1921 (Liber 112, Folio 342), Mary J. Brian sold land to Irvin Gaither, assumedly for the construction of his American Four Square house just to the south.

Click here for a plain text ADA compliant screen.

HO-622

Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation
HOWARD COUNTY
Real Property Data Search

Go Back
View Map
New Search
Ground Rent
STR

Account Identifier: **District** - 02 **Account Number** - 228238

Owner Information

Owner Name:	MASSEY CHARLES A SR & WF	**Use:**	RESIDENTIAL
		Principal Residence:	YES
Mailing Address:	PO BOX 1328 ELLICOTT CITY MD 21041-1328	**Deed Reference:**	1) / 465/ 19 2)

Location & Structure Information

Premises Address	Zoning	Legal Description
4001 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE ELLICOTT CITY 21043	RED	1 LOT 4001 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE ELLICOTT CITY

Map	Grid	Parcel	Sub District	Subdivision	Section	Block	Lot	Group	Plat No:
24	18	287						82	Plat Ref:

Special Tax Areas	**Town**	
	Ad Valorem	A/V, METRO FIRE TAX
	Tax Class	

Primary Structure Built	Enclosed Area	Property Land Area	County Use
1910	1,648 SF	7,980.00 SF	

Stories	Basement	Type	Exterior
2	YES	STANDARD UNIT	FRAME

Value Information

	Base Value	Value As Of 01/01/2003	Phase-in Assessments As Of 07/01/2003	As Of 07/01/2004
Land:	67,980	112,980		
Improvements:	73,180	79,800		
Total:	141,160	192,780	158,366	175,572
Preferential Land:	0	0	0	0

Transfer Information

Seller:	**Date:**	**Price:**
Type:	**Deed1:**	**Deed2:**
Seller:	**Date:**	**Price:**
Type:	**Deed1:**	**Deed2:**
Seller:	**Date:**	**Price:**
Type:	**Deed1:**	**Deed2:**

Exemption Information

Partial Exempt Assessments	Class	07/01/2003	07/01/2004
County	000	0	0
State	000	0	0
Municipal	000	0	0

Tax Exempt: NO
Exempt Class:

Special Tax Recapture:
HOMEOWNERS TAX CREDIT

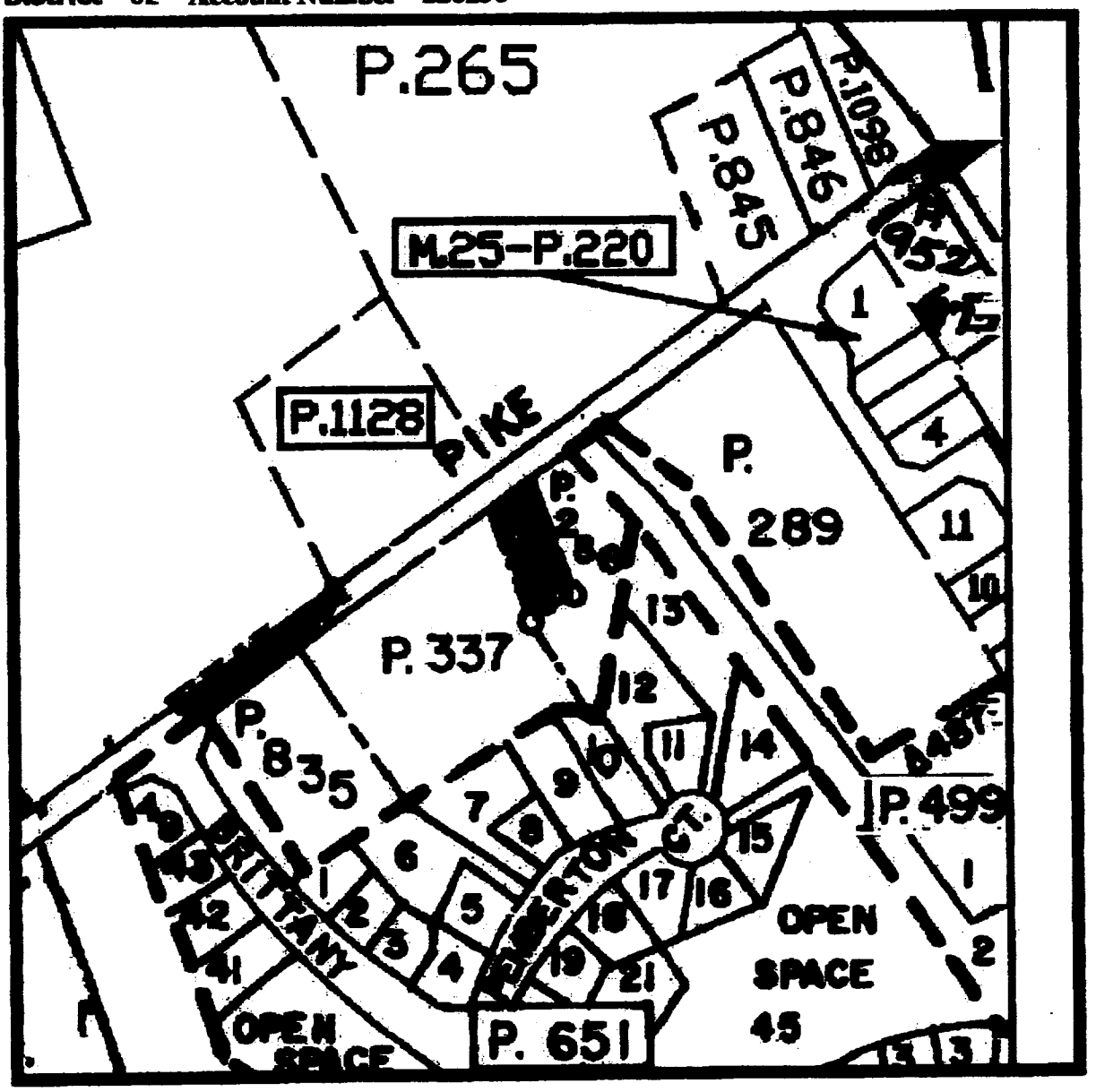
4001 Old Columbia Pike

HO-622

Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation
HOWARD COUNTY
Real Property Data Search

Go Back
View Map
New Search

District - 02 Account Number - 228238

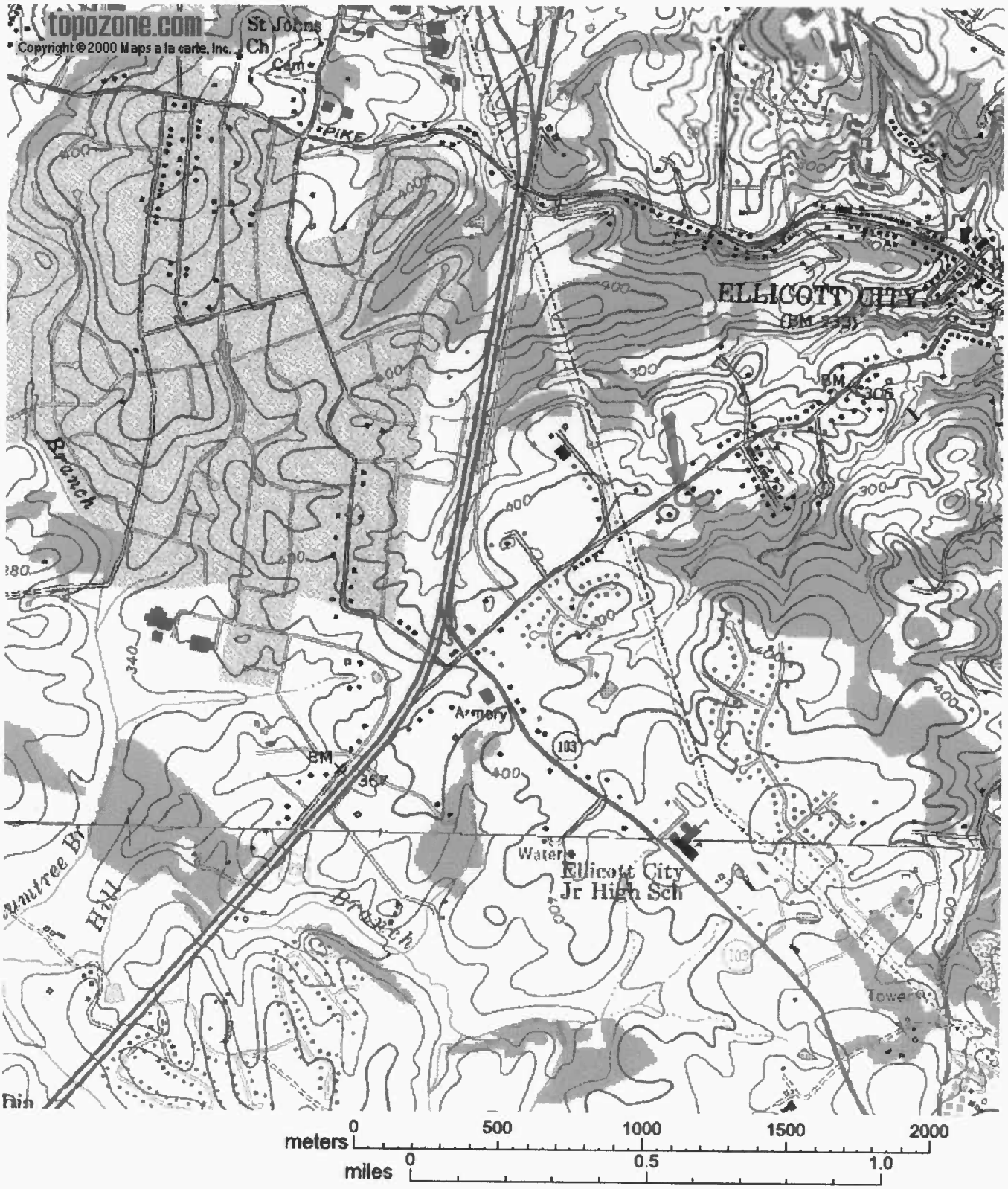


Property maps provided courtesy of the Maryland Department of Planning ©2001.
For more information on electronic mapping applications, visit the Maryland Department of Planning web site at www.mdp.state.md.us

Massey House HO-622

TopoZone.com

Map center is UTM 18 343732E 4347154N - **ELLICOTT CITY** quad [Quad Info



HO-622

Massey House
Old Columbia Pike
Elliott City Howard Co MD
L Jensen Wingate
6/03
MD SHPO

North corner

House covered in aluminum siding. Replacement porch on front and at rear, enclosure of porch for extension to kitchen

Massey House
4001 Old Columbia Pike
HO-622

Located on the south side of Old Columbia Pike about 50 feet from the right-of-way, this two-story American Four Square house was built in 1920. The house displays characteristics typical of the Four Square design with its high hipped roof, full width front porch and central gable dormer.

An excellent example of the Prairie-style Four Square construction, this house typifies the suburbanization of a major transportation corridor outside of Ellicott City in the early 20th century.

It is one of the five Prairie-style Four Square houses that line Old Columbia Pike between Frederick and Montgomery Roads. Like others built after 1900, these houses are generally built close to the road on relatively small lots (one to 10 acres) when compared to the earlier estates. Until 1900 only five farms bordered Old Columbia Pike and the houses were set far back from the road on large lots.

HISTORIC PERIOD CONTEXT:

Region:	Piedmont
Period:	Industrial/Urban Dominance
Theme:	Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning
Resource Type:	Residential/rural vernacular
Site Types:	Standing structures

Survey No. HO-622

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name) Massey House

historic

and/or common Massey House

2. Location

street & number 4001 Old Columbia Pike (MD 987) ___ not for publication

city, town Ellicott City ___ vicinity of congressional district Sixth

state Maryland county Howard

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	X occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	X private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	X private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	X not applicable	X no	___ military	___ other:

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

name Charles Massey

street & number 4001 Old Columbia Pike telephone no.: (410) 465-0486

city, town Ellicott City state and zip code Maryland 21043

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County liber 465

street & number 8360 Court Avenue folio 19

city, town Ellicott City state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. HO-622

Condition		Check one	Check one
X excellent	___ deteriorated	X unaltered	X original site
___ good	___ ruins	___ altered	___ moved date of move _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

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

Located on the south side of Old Columbia Pike about fifty feet from the right-of-way, this 2-story American Four Square house was built in 1920. The house displays characteristics typical of the Four Square design with its high hipped roof, full width front porch and central gable dormer.

The house is two bays long and two bays wide and is covered with wood shingles. Windows are arranged symmetrically on each side with the front facade windows grouped in pairs, including the windows in the hipped roof dormer. The windows are double hung 1/1 sash. A flush door glazed with three fixed panes of glass and is surrounded by single-pane transom and sidelights.

A series of four concrete steps lead to a raised porch with an apron and a hipped roof which is supported by three rounded columns projecting from a low shingled wall. The floor is tongue and groove boards.

The house has an asphalt roof and a slightly raised concrete foundation which exposes two small sliding windows on the west and east sides. A brick chimney protrudes from the roof slope on the southeast corner of the house.

The property is bounded on the west by a decorative fence made of seve concrete posts joined by iron rails.

The house is in good condition and retains its architectural integrity as a significant example of early 20th century American Four Square design in Howard County.

8. Significance

Survey No. HO-622

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
___ 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
X 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D
and/or
Applicable Exception: ___A ___B X C ___D ___E ___F ___G

Level of Significance: ___national ___state X local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This house is significant as an excellent example of the Prairie- style Four Square construction and represents the suburbanization of the major transportation corridor outside of Ellicott City in the early 20th century. It is one of five Prairie Four Square houses that line Old Columbia Pike between Frederick Road and Montgomery Road. The house was built as part of the changing patterns of land use outside Ellicott City.

Until 1900 only about five farms bordered Old Columbia Pike. Houses set back far from the road on large lots (some more than 75 acres). With the arrival of trolley service in 1898, land outside Ellicott City began to be subdivided for commuter residences. Once dominated by large farms, this area became a commuter suburb with lots ranging between one and ten acres. Houses built during this period were oriented toward the street, and situated only a few dozen yards from the right-of-way.

Old Columbia Pike also was an attractive settlement area for successful Ellicott City merchants who had once lived above their stores downtown. With its proximity to the railroad, Old Columbia Pike was an attractive site for the new catalogue style houses that were shipped by train. Such houses began spreading west toward Montgomery Road. While its origin has not been confirmed, this house resembles those found in catalogues of the period.

This Four Square house is flanked by two mid 19th century houses: a stone vernacular on the east and Pleasant Fields, a stone Italianate house on the west. Originally part of the Pleasent Fields estate, the house was probably built in 1920 when Mary Brian, who owned the stone house next door, subdivided her lot. She sold the property to Irvin Gaither, a successful plumber. According to his descendants, Gaither built the house himself.

The house is in excellent condition and retains its historic integrity having had virtually no exterior alterations.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. HO-622

Howard County Land Records
Interview with Lynn Miller, Irvin Gaither's granddaughter

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .18

Quadrangle name Ellicott City, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM **References** do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

Tax Map 24
Block 18
Parcel 287

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

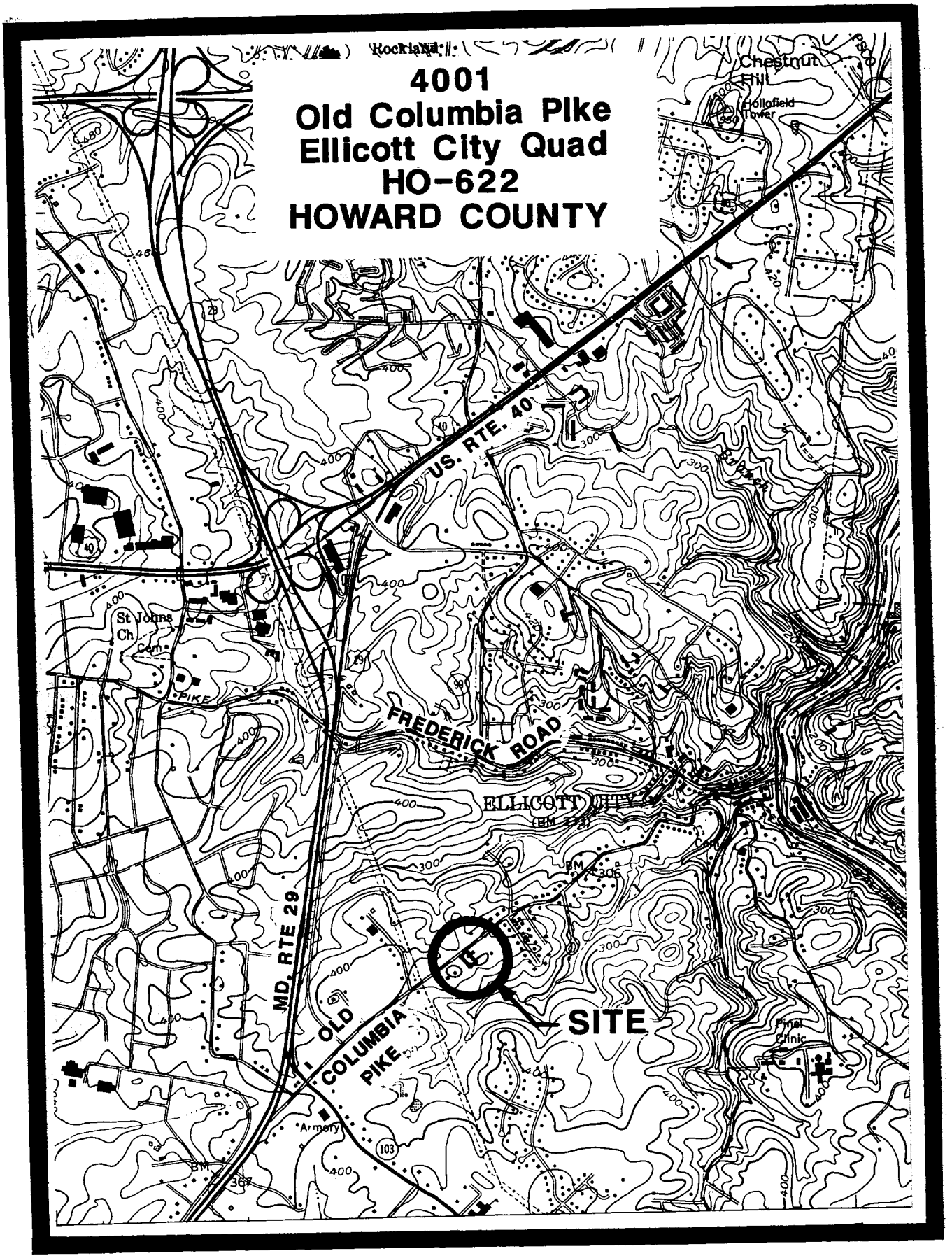
name/title	Amy Worden, Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning	**date**	November 1991
street & number	3430 Courthouse Drive	**telephone**	(410) 313-2037
city or town	Ellicott City	**state**	Maryland

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023


4001
Old Columbia Pike
Ellicott City Quad
HO-622
HOWARD COUNTY
Chestnut Hill
Hollofield Tower
US. RTE. 40
St Johns Ch
Cem
PIKE
FREDERICK ROAD
ELLICOTT CITY
BM 306
MD. RTE 29
OLD COLUMBIA PIKE
SITE
Pinel Clinic
Armory
103
BM 367