

Property Address <u>7805 Contee Road, Laurel Vicinity, Prince George's County</u>
Owner Name/Address <u>Hugh R. Humphrey, 7805 Contee Road, Laurel, MD 20707</u>
Year Built <u>circa 1870</u>

**Description:**

The William J. Perry House was surveyed in 1994 and was determined not eligible for the National Register by the Maryland Historical Trust in a letter dated September 8, 1994. The house remains unchanged from the description in the earlier form, however, that description was incomplete and contained several small errors, which will be corrected in this addendum sheet.

The William J. Perry House, built circa 1870, is a 2-story, 3-bay vernacular house with Greek Revival and Italianate influences on the south side of Contee Road in the Laurel vicinity, Prince George's County. The building was constructed in several phases and is currently L-shaped in plan, with a one-story side addition and a two-story rear addition which is slightly lower than the rear ell from which it extends.

The structure has a side-gable roof covered in standing-seam metal, with wide overhanging eaves and exposed rafter ends. There is a central brick chimney with a decorative brick cap in the front block, and a central brick chimney in the first rear-ell. The house is of wood-frame construction with asbestos siding, and it has a brick foundation. The foundation of the front elevation has a stone veneer. The windows are double-hung vinyl. The house has a 1-story hipped roof porch with fluted square doric pilasters. The porch dates to the same time period as the 1-story side addition, circa 1920.

The west, or front elevation has a 1-story frame addition on the south side, with the Greek Revival porch joining the two blocks. The foundation is covered in a stone veneer which echoes the stone steps leading up to the porch. The first story entrance is placed in the second bay of the main block and has 4-light sidelights. The fenestration pattern is symmetrical with one 6/6 double hung window in the first bay of the main block, and one 6/6 double-hung window in the bay of the 1-story addition. The second story has two 6/6 double hung windows.

The south elevation is composed of the original main block with rear ell, rear addition, and 1-story addition. The 1-story addition extends from the rear ell past the main block of the house. The fenestration pattern is asymmetrical. There is a canted bay centered on the 1-story addition, fitted with a central fixed-light and two 6/6 double-hung windows. There is a door centered on the rear addition. The second story fenestration consists of two 6/6 double hung windows at the intersection of the main block and rear ell. There is a third window close to the intersection of the rear ell and rear addition, and a fourth 6/6 double-hung window centered above the door on the rear addition. There is a louvered vent in the gable of the main block.

The east, or rear addition consists of the east elevation of the 1-story addition, the rear ell, and the main block. There is a door centered on the 1-story addition. The first floor fenestration on the rear addition consists of a band of three 3-light awning windows. There is a 6/6 double-hung window centered on the second story. The fenestration on the main block consists of one 6/6 double-hung window on each floor.

The north elevation is composed of the original main block with rear ell, the 2-story rear addition, and the portion of the 1-story addition which extends beyond the main block of the house. There is a door on the 1-story addition, accessed from the front porch. The main block has symmetrical fenestration with two 6/6 double hung windows on each floor. There are two 6/6 double hung windows on the first floor of the rear ell, and one window on the second floor, above the second window. There is a door on the first story of the rear addition, with a 6/6 double-hung window centered above it. The original brick foundation is visible on this elevation.

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Year Built	circa 1870

The house is located to the north of a large gravel yard which is used for the storage of several large construction vehicles. The rear yard of the houses has been fenced.

<b>MHT CONCURRENCE:</b>			
Eligibility	<input type="checkbox"/> recommended	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not recommended	
Criteria	<input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations	<input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: <u>REMOVED IN ELIGIBLE IN 1994</u>			
<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>2/3/99</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>2/3/95</u>
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	Date	Reviewer, NR program	Date

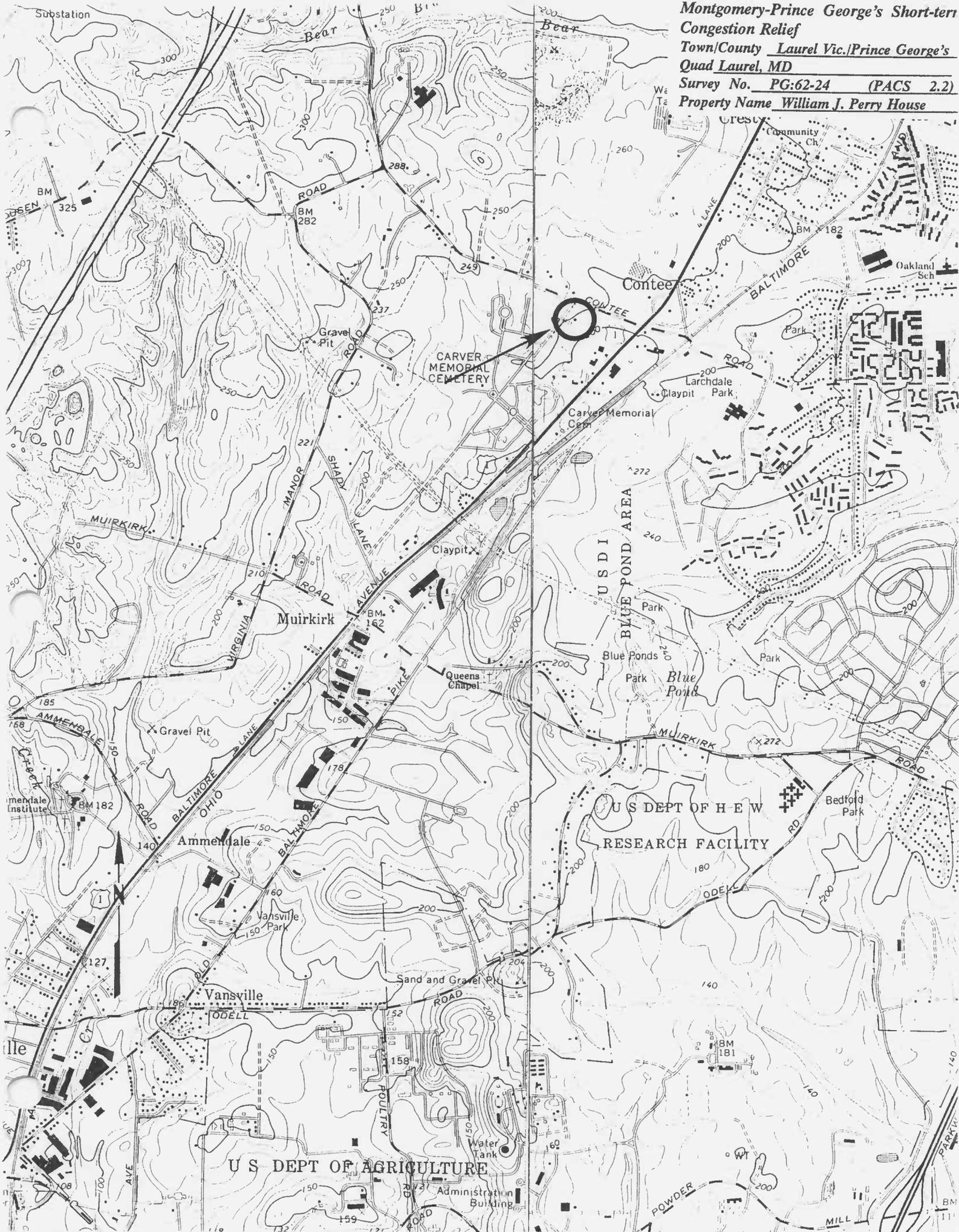
*[Handwritten mark]*

Montgomery-Prince George's Short-term  
Congestion Relief

Town/County Laurel Vic./Prince George's  
Quad Laurel, MD

Survey No. PG:62-24 (PACS 2.2)

Property Name William J. Perry House





- 1 PG: 62 24
- 2 7805 Cortice Rd, William J Perry House
- 3 Prince George's Co, MD
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/98
- 6 MD SHPO
- 7 West Elevation
- 8 1 of 2

OTHER REFERENCES



- 1 15 32-04
- 2 7805 Cortee Rd. William & Percy House
- 3 Prince George's, MD
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/98
- 6 MD SHPO
- 7 Northwest Corner
- 8 2 of 8

22 N.W.N. 1230-240



- 1 PG 62 of 1
- 2 7805 Charles Rd, southeast of Perry House
- 3 Prince Georges Co., MD
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/98
- 6 MD SHED
- 7 North elevation
- 8 3 of 8

STATION 2230695



- 1 PS 32-211
- 2 7755 Center Rd Wilson & Perry Lane
- 3 Prince George's Co. MD
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5198
- 6 MD SHPO
- 7 Northeast corner
- 8 4 of 8

2014 APR 23 09:15



84E 094

1 PE Ed 14

2 7205 Conroe Rd. - N. Maryland 12 - 1965

3 Prince George's Co., MD

4 Susan Taylor

5 5197

6 MD SHPJ

7 East elevation

8 5210

ET 1116 1206.202



1 15. 62. 04

2 7805 Conlee Rd, William J Perry House

3 Prince Georges Co. MD

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 P.M. SHPS

7 Southern - camera

DE N. NEW 1220 LPO

8 6 of 8



1 116-612-211

2 7805 contec Rd, Millersville, Pa 17329

3 Prince Georges Co, MD

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 1176 SHPO

7 5000 elevation

8 7 of 8

DATE TIME 11/11/98



- 1 PG 62nd
- 2 7905 Contee Rd, William J Perry House
- 3 Prince Georges Co, MD
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/98
- 6 MD SHPO
- 7 Southwest<sup>1</sup> corner
- 8 8 of 8

SEE WITH TISSOT

*Jmg*

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: William J. Perry House Survey Number: PG-62-24

Project: MD201 Extended/US1 from I-95 to Intercounty Con. Agency: FHWA/SHA

Site visit by MHT Staff:  no  yes Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility not recommended

Criteria:  A  B  C  D Considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

Based on the information provided by SHA, the William J. Perry House, located at 7805 Contee Road, Contee, Maryland, does not appear to meet the National Register Criteria for individual listing. The frame two-story gable roofed house was probably constructed c. 1860 as a two-bay by two-bay cube with rear ell. It has had several extensions to the rear and side over the years which have rather obscured the original massing. The house has been covered in asphalt shingles and has had a number of unsympathetic alterations. It does not retain sufficient integrity to be eligible under Criterion C for architecture. It is not known to have been associated with any significant events or people. It is located in an area of rapidly growing mixed development which would not constitute an historic district.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project File, PG-62-24

Prepared by: Rita Suffness, SHA

Elizabeth Hannold October 18, 1994  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence:  yes  no  not applicable

*R. Lindeman* 10-19-94  
Reviewer, NR program Date

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

- Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
- Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
- Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
- Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
- Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
- Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
- Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
- Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
- Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
- Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
- Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
- Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
- Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
- Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
- Unknown Period (  prehistoric  historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

- Subsistence
- Settlement
- Political
- Demographic
- Religion
- Technology
- Environmental Adaption

IV. Historic Period Themes:

- Agriculture
- Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
- Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
- Government/Law
- Military
- Religion
- Social/Educational/Cultural
- Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Suburban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic, single family dwelling

Known Design Source: na

William J. Perry House (PG 62-24)  
Prince George's County, MD

**HISTORIC CONTEXT:**

**MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA**

**Geographic Organization:** Western Shore

**Chronological/Developmental Period:**

Industrial - Urban Dominance A.D. 1870 - 1930

Agricultural - Industrial Transition A.D. 1915 - 1870

**Historic Period Theme:** Architecture

**Resource Type:**

**Category:** Building

**Historic Environment:** Suburban

**Historic Function and Use:** Residence/Dwelling

**Known Design Source (write none if unknown):** None

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic William J. Perry House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street &amp; number 7805 Contee Road

N/A not for publication

city, town Contee

 Laurel  
vicinity of

congressional district

state Maryland

county Prince George's

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 Hugh R. Humphrey

street &amp; number 7805 Contee Road

telephone no.: 301-725-9075

city, town Laurel

state and zip code MD

## 5. Location of Legal Description

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

liber 5515

street &amp; number

folio 609

city, town Upper Marlboro

state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title N/A

date

 federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records

city, town

state

# 7. Description

Survey No. PG 62-24

<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" 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.

See Continuation Sheet 7.1

# 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 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		

**Specific dates** ca. 1860      **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 8.1



William J. Perry House (PG 62-24)  
Prince George's County

Description  
Continuation Sheet 7.1

This dwelling is located on a large heavily vegetated parcel of land near the intersection known as Contee in Prince George's County, just south of Laurel immediately adjacent to the Maryland National Memorial Park. It is situated in an area of rapid commercial and residential development, just west of the Marlo Furniture Store and intense strip development on US Route 1. The area immediately south of the dwelling is used as a truck storage and staging area for the Humphrey and Sons Company, which utilizes the bottom floor of the dwelling as offices. The owner has stated that the interior has been extensively modified for office use. The exterior, as well, shows evidence of extensive alteration in the form of a replacement roof with a pronounced overhang, altered fenestration, replacement vinyl windows, a substantial addition on the southwest side and asbestos shingles.

The core of the structure is a two-story, two bay wide, two bay deep cube on a fieldstone foundation with the principal (entrance) facade oriented to the northwest, the location of the entrance road to the property. This two-bay wide principal elevation, with a gable roof which parallels the northeast-southwest orientation of the flank (or principal elevation) of the structure, has a sidelit entrance in the west bay. It is sheltered by a one story, one bay wide porch, carried on one free standing, fluted, square column of a generically Tuscan origin. As a porch constitutes an extension of a one story addition on the southwest, the other junctures of the porch with the exterior walls are marked by attached pilasters in the same Tuscan-derived style as the square column.

This vernacular version of a Greek Revival porch, sheltering the original sidelit entrance located in the principal elevation, and a secondary door accessing the later, one-story addition on the southwest, bears a coincidental resemblance to the side porch of Jonathan Goldsmith's 1841 residence in Painesville Ohio (Plate XCII, Greek Revival Architecture in America by Talbot Hamlin, Dover Publications, New York, 1944).

The dwelling was probably ell shaped when constructed by William J. Perry in the middle of the nineteenth century. The two bay long, two story high ell, which extends from, and is centered on the rear, or southeast elevation, of the principal block, was extended in later years by an additional two story section, though the roof line is at a slightly lower level. A deep, one story, shed roof addition was also constructed on the southwest side of the main block. It extends beyond the west corner to form an entrance foyer for the office, which is accessible by means of the secondary entrance. An obtrusive semi-octagonal bay window of recent vintage is centered on the long, blank, southwest elevation of this wing. All fenestration is reportedly new.

## History

This dwelling was probably constructed in the mid-nineteenth century on land originally part of a Snowden land grant called Snowden's new Birmingham Manor. A small remnant of this important eighteenth century land holding of Richard Snowden, called Oaklands (PG 62-3) is located approximately one mile from the Perry House. The portion of the Snowden land west of US 1 and the B & O Railroad in the vicinity of the Perry House was liquidated by a Samuel Register in lots of approximate ten acre size in the 1860's. The lots were cut out of an area called "Register's Subdivision". John and Susan Martin sold a portion of the land they purchased from Register (FS 4/108) to William Perry for \$600 in 1867 (FS 5/107) to supplement a few small parcels Perry purchased directly from Register around the same time (FS 5/112). On the 1878 G.M. Hopkins Atlas the residence of Reverend Samuel Register is noted on the north side of Contee's [sic] Road, and buildings owned by Reverend John Martin and Reverend William J. Perry noted on the south side of said road but further west of its intersection with US 1 (Baltimore Pike). This intersection, identified as Contee's Station and Post Office in 1878, was named for the Contee family (Charles and Richard), the nineteenth century owners of Snowden's Oaklands. Richard Snowden's daughter, Ann Louisa, married Lt. John Contee in 1824.

William Perry may have purchased the property for speculative purposes like Samuel Register, for Perry sold Lots 3 and 4, comprising 40 acres, to Nathan Humphrey in 1867, (FSW 5/109) for \$1000 shortly after he purchased the land from Register (September 1867). As Humphrey defaulted on the mortgage (Equity Case 944) the property was sold at auction and, as such, was described in ads in the Baltimore Weekly Sun and Marlboro Gazette as having a "good dwelling" and "good orchard with a variety of fruits". For some inexplicable reason the sale to Artemus Donaldson for \$2350 was disallowed, so the property was sold back to Humphrey for \$1200 in November, 1882, fifteen years after he defaulted on the first mortgage.

By the time the property was sold to Robert Henry in 1907 by Bernard McKay (who resided there since 1883) a portion on the east had been sold to the Columbia and Maryland Electric Railway, all trace of which is gone.

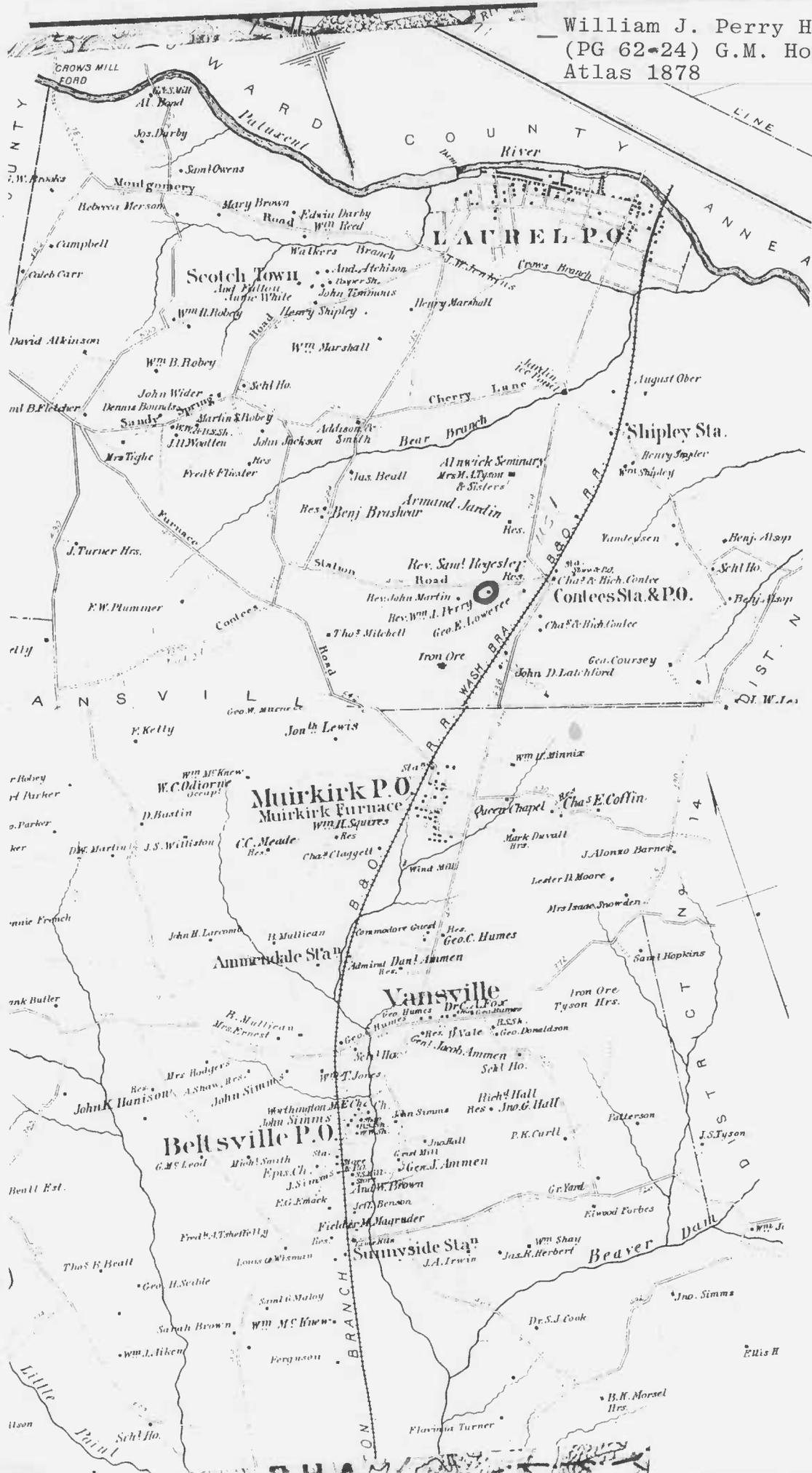
Since then the property has passed through many hands and been the subject of additional foreclosure actions. Most of the property was probably incorporated into the very large memorial park, with about 8 acres retained as a setting for the house. Aside from the setting along the frontage of the property, characterized by rolling vegetated landscape, as opposed to the truck storage area in the rear, the property retains little historical integrity, being devoid of period outbuildings and extensively altered.

William J. Perry House (PG 62-24)  
Prince George's County, MD

Statement of Significance  
Continuation Sheet 8.1

This much altered property, attributed to William J. Perry, is a remnant of the extensive landholdings of Richard Snowden called Snowden's New Birmingham Manor. Located southwest of Snowden's Oaklands (PG 62-3), across US 1 and the B & O Railroad, it was part of the land liquidated by Samuel Register for speculation in the 1850's and 1860's. His property, called Register's Subdivision, flanked the right-of-way of the Washington Branch of the B & O Railroad. Despite the flurry of sales by Register to nine buyers in the mid-nineteenth century, few buildings were constructed, and the Perry House appears to have been primarily tenant occupied for many decades.

Due to extensive exterior alterations to the structure which was utilized for agriculture until well into the twentieth century, and numerous interior alterations reported by the owner who converted the lower floor to office use, the property fails to provide a strong association with the history of the area, dominated by Snowden and his iron manufacturing enterprises.







PG: 62-24

1 Sam J. Perry House  
Conlee, Prince Georges County

Rela. Suffrage 5/194

Neg. at ind. state Hist.  
Admin.

Manor, Conlee

11/10



PG: 62-24

William J Perry Home  
Center, Prince George's County  
Md

R. Suffness 5/94

Near at the State Hwy Admin  
West Corner

2/10



PG: 62-24

William J. Perry House  
Center  
Prince Georges County MD  
Rita Suffern 5/94  
near at end state Hwy  
Adrian

3/10

SW Elevation



PG-62-24

William J Perry, Town  
Carter . Prince Georges  
County, Md

2 Suffren. 5/94

Md State Hwy Adm

South Corner

4/10



PG: 62-24

... J. Percy Jones  
Center

Prince George's County and

R. Suffren, 5/10

Mid State Hwy Admin

SE (Re.) Elevation

5/10



PG. 62.24

William T Perry House  
Corner, Prince Georges  
County, Md

2 Sufferers 5/15/8

had 5th to 6th Hwy Plaster

EAST Corner

6/10



PG: 62-24

William J. Perry House  
Contee, Prince Georges County, Md  
& Suffren, St. 11  
11 State Hwy Adm  
East Corner

7/10



PG. 62-24

William J Perry House  
Center, Prince Georges  
County, Md

R Suffren 5/10/11

Md State Hwy Admin

N.E. Elevation

8/10



PG. 62-24

William J. Perry House

Conder, Prince George County, Md

R. Suffern 5/94

md state Hwy Admin

W. W. Elevation

9/10



PG-62-24

William J. Perry Home  
Coulter, Prince Georges County, Md

R. S. Suggs 5/94

Md State Hwy Admin

Detail, Park

NW (Principal) Elevation:

10/0