

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #66-1 Building Date: 1834

Building Name: White House Tavern (Brown's Tavern)

Location: 10260 Baltimore Avenue, College Park, Maryland

Private/Commercial/Occupied/Fair/Inaccessible

Description

White House Tavern is a frame gable-roof building; it has a prominent two-story front portico, numerous additions on the side and rear, and is partially surrounded by small motel cottage units. The main block is two-and-one-half stories high, with entrance in the central bay of the five-bay east facade. Sheltering the entire east facade is a monumental two-story portico, supported by four large tile columns. Two interior brick chimneys rise at each gable end and three gable dormers pierce the east plane of the gable roof; the building rests on a heavy foundation of stone topped by brick, and contains a full basement. There are three other sections attached to the main block; a small square kitchen (probably originally freestanding) now attached to the main block by an intermediate room, and a long, narrow shed-roof addition along the north side of the main block and of the two sections to the west. The main block has a central stairhall with two adjoining parlors on each side; trim is fine transitional Federal/Greek Revival in style. In the kitchen wing is a large brick cooking fireplace and a small bread oven. In the yard south of the tavern stands an original, and badly weathered, Turnpike milestone. Carved into its east face is the inscription: "25 M to B" (25 miles to Baltimore). On the grounds on the south, north and west of the building stand 50 small cottage units, part of the motel establishment.

Significance

The White House Tavern is a prominent visual landmark on the west side of Route 1 in College Park. This large frame building was constructed in 1834 by John W. Brown, on or near the site earlier eighteenth-century tavern. Brown, who had worked as a stagecoach driver on the Baltimore-Washington Turnpike, operated this tavern as a stage stop on this newly-established road. After Brown's death in 1862, the tavern was operated for another decade, then remained in the possession of his heirs until 1913. In 1940, the property was purchased by Felix Irwin, and the century-old tavern structure was converted into a motor hotel. The two-story Victorian veranda was removed and replaced with the present portico, and small brick cottage units were built on the grounds. The White House Tavern is significant as an example of the transportational and commercial enterprises over a century and a half in Prince George's County. Although considerably altered, it retains much of its original interior trim. Of outstanding significance is the survival on its grounds of the only remaining milestone from the 1813 turnpike. Since its conversion to a motor hotel, the White House Tavern again reflects its original function, a stopping place for travellers on a heavily-used artery of transportation.

Acreage: 9.49 acres

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. P.G.#66-1

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Brown's Tavern (preferred)

and/or common Whitehouse Tavern

2. Location

street & number 10260 Baltimore Avenue (U.S. Route 1) not for publication

city, town College Park 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 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 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Felix M. Irwin

street & number 10260 Baltimore Avenue telephone no.:

city, town College Park state and zip code Maryland 20740

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 571

street & number 14735 Main Street folio 337

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Historic Sites and Districts Plan

date 1981 federal state county local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Commission
c/o Area Plans, #4010 CAB, M-NCPPC

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland 20772

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input checked="" 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.

Brown's Tavern is a two-and-one-half story frame gable-roof building which stands on the west side of U.S. Route 1 in a developed commercial area just outside of the Capital Beltway. The building has a prominent two-story front portico, numerous additions on the side and rear, and is partially surrounded by small motel cottage units.

The main block is of frame construction, two-and-one-half stories high and side gabled. It is five bays by an irregular three bays, with entrance in the central bay of the five-bay east facade; it is covered with plain wood siding painted white. Windows are 6/6 double hung sash with narrow molded surrounds and louvered wood shutters (on the east facade only) painted black. On the main east facade, the outside pairs of windows are grouped together in pairs, symmetrically in relation to the entrance. Entrance is through a six-panel door, seven-pane transom and five-pane sidelights over molded wainscot panels. The door has a narrow molded surround. Above the entrance, a second-story door opens onto a small balcony. The door is identical to that in the main entrance, i.e., with seven-pane transom and five-pane sidelights, and the one-bay-wide balcony is bounded by an open work jig-sawn balustrade, painted black.

Sheltering the entire east facade is a monumental two-story portico; the gable roof of the main block is extended forward at a shallower pitch to form a portico roof, which is supported by four very large two-story columns. These round columns are faced with curved tiles in a bonded-brick pattern; they have flaring capitals, but no bases. The columns rest on a porch floor constructed of terra cotta tiles.

The gable roof of the main block is covered with black asbestos shingle. The cornice is of plain board with lower bead. Two interior brick chimneys (parged and painted white) rise at each gable end, symmetrically placed on each side of the ridge. There is one off-center 6/6 window at third level in the north gable end; in the south gable end two symmetrically placed 6/6 windows light the third level. Only the windows on the main east facade have shutters, but there are visible remnants of shelter dogs and hinges at the windows of the south gable end.

Three gable dormers pierce the east plane of the gable roof; each has a molded returned cornice, and molded pilasters frame the 6/6 windows. There are no dormers in the west (rear) plane of the roof.

The entire building rests on a heavy foundation of stone topped by brick; it contains a full basement.

There are three other sections attached to the main block of Brown's Tavern: a small square kitchen (probably originally freestanding), now attached to the main block by an intermediate room (now an office), and finally a long, narrow shed-roof addition which runs along the north elevations of the main block and of the two sections noted above. The kitchen is a low two-story building, with the ridge of its gable roof perpendicular to that of the main block. This kitchen is sided mostly with narrow, random-width board, painted white. It is patched in some places with German siding. Its shallowly pitched gable roof is covered with black asphalt shingle; a newly rebuilt interior brick chimney rises at the west gable end. This chimney serves two brick ovens in the west wall of the kitchen. Much of the first story of the west gable end is built of brick, and not sided with board. The brick is stucco-coated on the exterior; just to the south, in a section sided with board, is a single 6/6 double hung sash window, the only opening in this west gable end. A single window in the south elevation lights the loft above the kitchen; it is closed by small batten shutters.

The interior of the kitchen section consists of one space; most of its west wall is built of brick. There is a large cooking fireplace with a nearly flat segmental-arch opening, crowned with rowlock. Next to the fireplace to the north is a small bread oven.

This small kitchen, which was almost certainly originally a freestanding structure, is now attached to the main block by a two-story connector, which is roughly three bays by two, and has a nearly flat roof. It consists of one space, used as an office, above which has been constructed a second-story bathroom behind the center hall of the main block. This section is sheathed with plain board on the first story and German siding on the second. There is an entrance on the south.

Along the north elevation of the main block, the kitchen and the connecting section, runs a long one-story shed-roof addition which now serves as the reservations office and sitting room. It does not run the entire length of the main block, but begins at the line of the eastmost chimney on the north gable end. This north addition is lighted on its north elevation by five 6/6 windows in a row, then one smaller 6/6 window, then a projecting entry vestibule, and then two more 6/6 windows west of the entry. All of this addition rests on a brick foundation. The entrance consists of a small projecting front-gabled vestibule; the entrance itself has double fluted columns and a small entablature and pediment behind a long canopy.

The interior of the main block is Georgian in plan, i.e., central stairhall with two adjoining parlors on each side. The principal east entrance leads into a wide stairhall. The open-string two-run staircase

rises along the north wall of the stairhall to a landing, then turns 180° and rises to the second story hall. It has a slim turned newel with mitred cap, plain rectangular balusters, bracketed stairends and panelled spandrel. These features characterize the stair trim all the way to the third story, and identical newels also mark the landings between stories. Beneath the first run of the stair is a flight of steps to the basement.

The stairhall is divided, east from west, by a molded elliptical arch with fluted pilasters and panelled soffit. The ceiling of the easterly (front) part of the stairhall is marked by a complex molded cornice: ogee moldings flanking a central cavetto molding. Door and window surrounds feature a plain central field flanked by ogee moldings, plain backband and inner bead, and marked by plain square cornerblocks. The trim is identical on the second story. Floors are of wide, random-width boards, and baseboards are high with crown molding. In places where the wall plaster has fallen off, the split lath is visible.

The mantels in the two south parlors are of plain wood painted white, transitional Federal/Greek Revival in style, with plain frieze and firebox framed by plain pilasters. The mantels in the two north parlors are more mature Greek Revival in style: the frieze is plain and the firebox is framed by molded pilasters with an elliptical half-moon motif inset in the capitals, as well as a shelf with bold Greek profile.

In the wide opening between the two south parlors hang two tall double doors; each door is double, hinged and folding, and each of the four leaves has five panels.

In the northeast second-story bedroom, there is a later wood mantel, probably dating from the first decade of this century; the shelf is supported by console brackets, the frieze has an applied floral decoration, repeated in the frame of the overmantel mirror, and the mirror is flanked by slim turned colonnettes which support a small upper shelf.

There is a full basement under the main block, enclosed within the brick-upon-stone foundation. The massive hand-hewn sills are visible, joined with mortise and tenon. Centered in the north foundation wall is a massive stone chimney foundation, while in the south foundation wall are two separate brick arch supports for two chimneys, as well as the sloping frame hearth supports.

In the yard to the south of Brown's Tavern stands an original, and badly weathered, Turnpike milestone. Carved into its east face is the inscription: "25 M to B" (25 miles to Baltimore).

On the grounds on the south, north and west of the building stand 50 small cottage units, part of the motel establishment. The brick units are

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. PG#66-1

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 4

built in rows, alternating with garage units; each cottage unit is front-gabled with a small porch, and there is a curved parapet over the double door of each garage unit. The motel complex stands on the west side of the heavily-travelled Route 1, just north of the Capital Beltway.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input checked="" 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. 1834 **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.

The White House Tavern (Brown's Tavern) is a prominent visual landmark on the west side of Route 1 in College Park. This large frame building was constructed in 1834 by John W. Brown, and later enlarged and altered from its original form. It stood on or near the site of an eighteenth-century tavern, also known as the White House. The present building served for nearly fifty years in the nineteenth century as a tavern and stage stop on the turnpike between Washington and Baltimore. For the last fifty years in this century it has served as the centerpiece of a motor-hotel complex.

The White House Tavern stands on a tract of land known as Chew's Folly, which belonged at the end of the eighteenth century to William Evans of Baltimore. Evans owned a tavern known as the "White House", on the west side of the road which ran between Bladensburg and Vansville; it was a two-story frame structure, 30 by 18 feet, with a rear addition of essentially the same size, and at the end of the century it was occupied and operated by a man named Thomas Roades.¹

At the end of the eighteenth century, the General Assembly began to consider the establishment of a toll pike between the new Federal City and Baltimore. The first Act of Assembly related to this subject was in 1796, but the construction of the road did not begin until the end of 1812. In the meantime (1807), William Evans died in Baltimore, and his real estate was bequeathed to two executors, William Lorman and William Gwynn, in trust for his daughter, Sarah, who was the wife of Jacob Giles Smith.² Lorman and Smith, both of whom lived in Baltimore, soon became much involved in the building of the Baltimore-Washington turnpike. By Act of Assembly in 1812, a company was incorporated to build the road, sixty feet wide, from Baltimore south, past McCoy's tavern at Vansville, past Evans' White House tavern, and Ross' Tavern (now Rossborough Inn), then through Bladensburg into Washington. Both Lorman and Smith were appointed

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM
Statement of Significance (continued)

Survey No. P.G.#66-1

Section 8 Page 2

supervisors for construction of the road at the Baltimore end.³ The White House Tavern, during the possession of Jacob Smith and his wife, became one of the principal stops for the stagecoaches which ran along the new turnpike.⁴

Jacob Smith died in the 1820's, leaving his widow, Sarah Evans Smith, and two adult children. In 1830 the Smith heirs, together with trustee William Lorman, conveyed the 500-acre Evans/Smith land to Richard Stockton and William Stokes of the prominent Stockton and Stokes stagecoach company.⁵ This land (Chews Folly or the White House farm) included the improvements "known as White House and at which a Tavern was formerly kept, described in Evans' will as that at which the line of stages from Baltimore to Washington were accustomed to stop."⁶ This 500-acre farm was purchased by John W. Brown in 1835.

John W. Brown was born in New York in 1799; circa 1818, he came to Maryland, and began to work as a stagecoach driver on the Baltimore Washington pike.⁷ At some point during the period, he became the manager of the White House Tavern, and, if family tradition is correct, also served temporarily as the manager of Ross' Tavern, which was owned after 1821 by George Calvert of Riversdale, one of the directors of the Baltimore-Washington Turnpike.⁸

According to family tradition, the old White House Tavern was destroyed by fire during Brown's management, and it was he who built the present structure to replace it circa 1834. Certainly the surviving original structural members and interior trim support this date of construction, as does the noticeable increase in the assessed value of the property recorded in 1834. The new tavern was significantly larger (circa 45 by 30 feet) than the original; the kitchen wing, however, has dimensions similar to those of the original rear addition, and may rest on those older foundations. It cannot be firmly substantiated whether the present structure occupies the precise location of the original. In any case, Brown purchased the entire 500-acre White House Farm, including the new Tavern, early in 1835.⁹

John W. Brown occupied and operated the new White House Tavern from the time of its construction circa 1834 until his death in 1862. Ironically, within a short time after the construction of the new tavern, the Baltimore and Ohio railroad line began to operate, on a line just a half mile to the east, between Baltimore and Washington. After 1835, traffic on the turnpike began to decrease, replaced by the convenience of the new railroad; in defense against its new competitor, the turnpike directors began to decrease the turnpike tolls, maintenance of the road consequently deteriorated, and by the period of the Civil War, the Baltimore-Washington Turnpike was in serious trouble.

John W. Brown died in 1862, leaving his considerable real estate (by then over 1500 acres), including the White House Farm and Tavern, to be equally divided between his wife and nine children. His widow continued to operate the Tavern for approximately 10 more years, serving also as trustee for the three youngest (minor) children.¹⁰ When the property was divided among the heirs, it was the Browns' youngest surviving daughter, Almira Brown Mulloy, who received the portion where the tavern stood.¹¹ It remained in her possession, as a rental residence, until 1913.¹² The property changed hands several more times before it was purchased by the present owners' family in 1940.¹³

The twentieth century saw another great change in transportation patterns with the advent of the automobile. Whereas traffic on the turnpike road had decreased during the nineteenth century due to the competition of the parallel railroad line, it began to increase again in the 1920's and 1930's with the growing number of privately-owned automobiles and the improvement of the old turnpike road into the heavily travelled Route 1. In 1940, Almira Brown Mulloy's ten-acre allotment was purchased by Felix Irwin, and the century-old tavern structure was converted into a motor hotel. The two-story Victorian veranda with its jigsaw balustrades and perforated frieze course was removed, and replaced with the present tall tile columns; in place of the second-story veranda, a small second-story balcony was built to frame the central entrance. A porch along the north gable end was enclosed to serve as the office entrance and waiting room. Within a few years, small brick cottage units were built on the grounds north and west of the tavern, substantially increasing the capacity of the motor hotel.

The White House Tavern is significant as an example of the transportation and commercial enterprises over a century and a half in Prince George's County. It has been considerably altered from its original configuration, but it retains much of its original interior trim. Of outstanding significance is the survival on its grounds of the only remaining milestone from the 1813 turnpike. After its conversion in 1940 from residence to motor hotel, the White House Tavern once again came to reflect a latter day manifestation of its original function; i.e., a stopping place for travellers on a heavily-used artery of transportation.

Notes

1 Federal Direct Fax, Rock Creek and Eastern Branch Hundreds, 1798

2 Prince George's County Deeds AB#6:287, 292; Baltimore will of William Evans, 24 February 1807.

3 Acts of General Assembly of 1796, chapter 69; of 1812, chapter 78.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM
Statement of Significance (continued)

Survey No. P.G.#66-1

Section 8 Page 4

4 Ibid, see also Acts of 1812, chapter 78.

5 Prince George's County Deed AB#6:287, 292; see also Holmes, O.W., "Stagecoach Days in the District of Columbia", Columbia Historical Society, Vol. 50.

6 Prince George's County Deed AB#6:287

7 See "Rambler" article, The Washington Evening Star, 5 November 1916

8 Prince George's County Deed AB#2:211; see also MHT form #66-2.

9 Prince George's County Deed AB#9:330; see also tax assessments 1820's-1850

10 Prince George's County Administration file #600; see also Prince George's County Equity #400

11 Prince George's County Equity #400; Prince George's County Deed JWB#6:335

12 Prince George's County Deed #88:200

13 Prince George's County Deeds #152:329; 170:113, 115; #571:337

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Brown's Tavern, Rhodes' Tavern

AND/OR COMMON

White House Tavern

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 10260 Baltimore Boulevard

CITY, TOWN College Park

VICINITY OF

5th

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

Prince George's

COUNTY

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Felix M. Irwin

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER 10260 Baltimore Blvd.

CITY, TOWN College Park

VICINITY OF

Maryland

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. P.G. Co. Courthouse

Liber #: 571

Folio #: 337

STREET & NUMBER Main Street

CITY, TOWN Upper Marlboro

Md.

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE P.G. Co. Inventory of Historic Sites

DATE 1974

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Calvert Mansion, INCEPC, 4811 Riverdale Rd.

CITY, TOWN Riverdale, Maryland 20737

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

FG:66-1

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Brown's Tavern is a five-bay frame structure having its entrance (with transom and sidelights) in the central bay of the east (main) facade. The gable roof is pierced by three dormers, and two pairs of interior chimneys which service eight fireplaces. Across the east facade is a portico supported by four massive glazed-tile columns; this portico, built in the 1940's, replaces the original two-story porch, traces of which are still visible. A central entrance on the second story, identical to the door below it, now opens onto a modern balcony, added at the same time as the tile columns.

Part of the office to the rear (west) and the kitchen behind it appear to be considerably older than the main portion of the building; the dimensions correspond to those of William Evans' dwelling house recorded on the 1798 tax assessment.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" 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				local history

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The original section of the Tavern was owned by William Evans in 1798, and operated by Thomas Rhodes (or Rhodes); it was sometimes known as Rhodes' Tavern.¹ George Washington recorded in his diary that he dined at Rhodes' Tavern, 18 December 1798, on his return trip from Philadelphia to Mt. Vernon. William Evans bequeathed the tavern to his daughter in 1807, and she in turn sold it in 1830 to the Stockton and Stokes stagecoach company, which has been cited as "the greatest stagecoach company in the eastern states."² The tavern and farm were purchased in 1835 by John W. Brown, who probably built the main section shortly thereafter; he continued to operate a tavern there, and his descendants retained it until 1913.³ The present owner, who acquired the property in 1940, has built 50 brick cottage units, and the complex is now known as the Del Haven White House Motel. The old Post road milestone (25 M to Baltimore) is still on the grounds, just south of the building.

1. Federal Direct Tax 1798
2. Will of William Evans, 24 Feb 1807; Deeds AB#6:287,292; Holmes, O.W. "Stagecoach Days in the District of Columbia" Columbia Historical Society, Vol.50, 1948-50
3. Deeds, AB#9:330; JWB#6:335; #88:200

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

PG:66-

Deeds AB#6:287,292; AB#9:330; JWB#6:335; #88:200
Federal Direct Tax for P.G. Co. 1798

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

William Aleshire

ORGANIZATION

P.G. Historical & Cultural Trust

DATE

April 1980

STREET & NUMBER

4811 Riverdale Rd.

TELEPHONE

779-2011

CITY OR TOWN

Riverdale, Md. 20737

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

date entered 6/12/82

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITES SUMMARY SHEET

P.G. County Survey # 66-1 Date 1790's, ca. 1840
Building Name White House Tavern, Rhodes' Tavern
Location 10260 Baltimore Blvd., College Park
Open to Public Yes no Restricted

The White House Tavern is a five-bay frame structure having its entrance (with transom and sidelights) in the central bay of the east (main) facade. The gable roof is pierced by three dormers, and two pairs of interior chimneys which service eight fireplaces. Across the east facade is a portico supported by four massive glazed-tile columns; this portico, built in the 1940's, replaces the original two-story porch, traces of which are still visible. A central entrance on the second story, identical to the door below it, now opens onto a modern balcony, added at the same time as the tile columns.

Part of the office to the rear (west) and the kitchen behind it appear to be considerably older than the main portion; the dimensions correspond to those of William Evans' dwelling house recorded on the 1798 tax assessment.

The original section of the Tavern was owned by William Evans in 1798, and operated by Thomas Rhodes (or Rhodes); it was sometimes known as Rhodes' Tavern. George Washington recorded in his diary that he dined at Rhodes' tavern, 18 December 1798, on his return trip from Philadelphia to Mt. Vernon. William Evans bequeathed the Tavern to his daughter in 1807, and she in turn sold it in 1830 to the Stockton and Stokes stagecoach company, which has been cited as "the greatest stagecoach company in the eastern states." The tavern and farm were purchased in 1835 by John W. Brown, who probably built the main section shortly thereafter; he continued to operate a tavern there, and his descendants retained it until 1913. The present owner, who acquired the property in 1940, has built 50 brick cottage units, and the complex is now known as the Del Haven White House Motel. The old Post road milestone (25 M To B altimore) is still on the grounds, just south of the building.

Priv/part occ/motel/ fair

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house is a five-bay house with four large internal end chimneys (stuccoed). There are three dormer windows with returned pediments on the main (east) facade. The entrance has transom and side lights; above it is a balcony with a transom and side-lighted door. The south gable ends have windows between the chimneys in the gables and windows outside the chimneys on the lower floors. On the north gable end there are windows between the chimneys in the gables the three windows on the outside of and between the chimneys. A tetra-style portico has been added recently although the old roof line is preserved.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Other:

There is controversy over the date of the building.

Wilthong says the original tavern burned in the 1920's and the present building is of recent origin. The massing and proportions, however, suggest that Wilthong is incorrect on stylistic grounds.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Empty box for 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		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

Large empty box for acreage justification.

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

STATE:		COUNTY:	

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: M-NCPPC DATE: 1/26/73

STREET AND NUMBER:
8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring STATE: Md.

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

Significance of this property is:

National State Local

Signature _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

CHAIN OF TITLES

BROWN'S TAVERN

P.G.#66-1

571:337
2 Sept 1940
Deed

Elizabeth Coon to Felix Irwin et ux,
Lot #6, 10 acres

170:115
19 Nov 1920
Deed

George W. Water to Datus and Elizabeth
Coon, 10 acres, Lot #6

170:113
19 Nov 1920
Deed

Etta B. Hewitt to George W. Water,
same land, Lot #6, 10 acres

152:329
10 Mar 1920
Deed

Grace A. Ballard to Etta B. Hewitt,
Lot #6, 10 acres

88:200
21 Apr 1913
Deed

Almira B. Mulloy to Grace A. Ballard,
Lot #6, 10 acres

JWB#6:335
30 Mar 1886
Deed

Division of land among heirs of John W.
Brown; Lot #6, which includes tavern
building, is allotted to Almira B. Mulloy;
10 acres (by Equity decree #400)

AB#9:330
1 Jan 1835
Deed

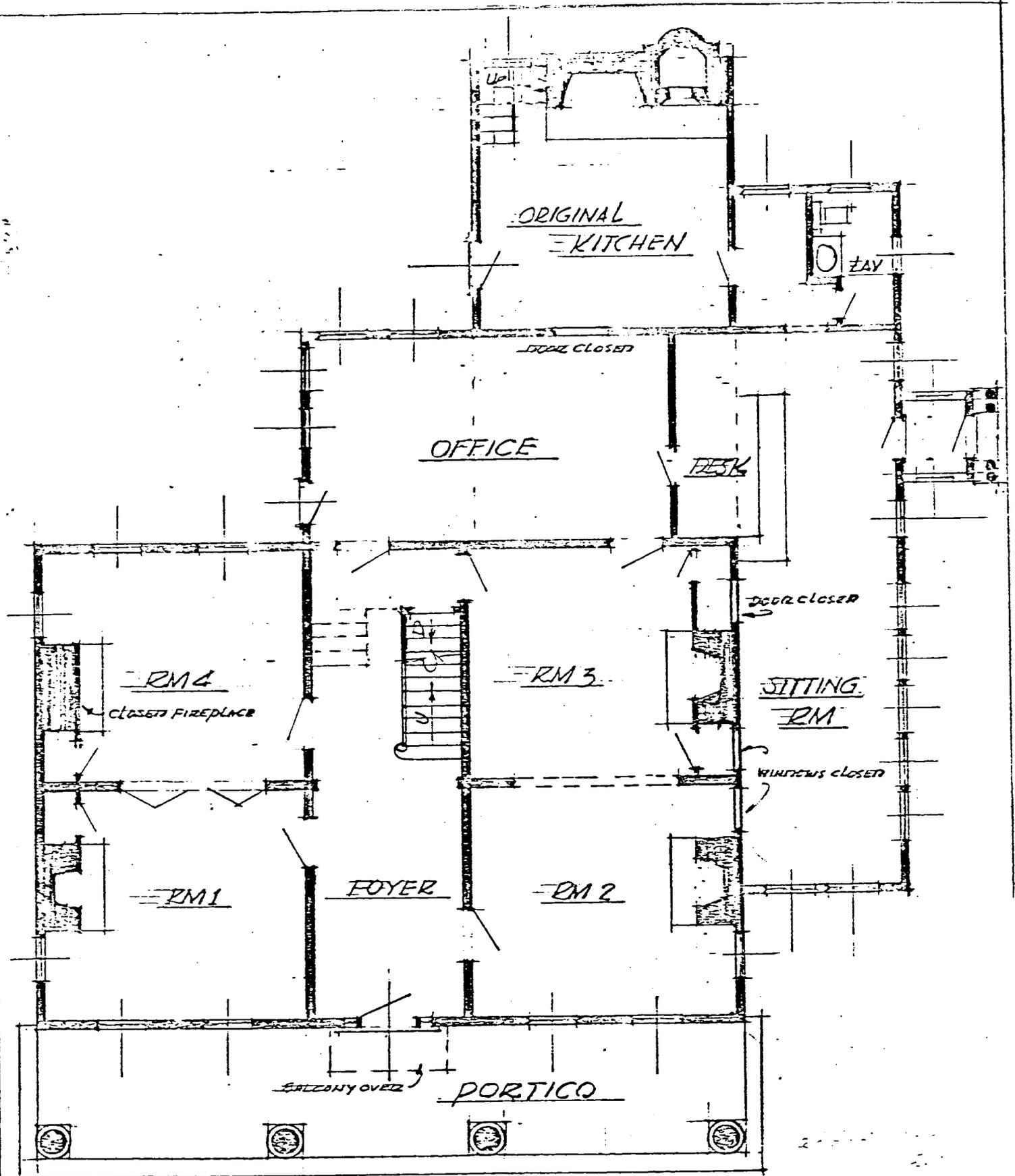
Richard Stockton & William B. Stokes to
John W. Brown; 500 acres farm on which is
White House Tavern stage stop

AB#6:292
15 Sept 1830
Deed

William Lorman & William Gwynn, executors &
trustees of William Evans (first parties),
to Sarah Smith (2nd partu), to Richard
Stockton & William B. Stokes; because Evans
bequeathed his property to first parties in
trust for his daughter Sarah Smith (Will,
24 Feb 1807), and Evans died possessed of
"White House Tavern" stage stop; and because
Lorman & Jacob Smith, husband of Sarah,
owned land contiguous to tavern, known as
White House farm; now the heirs of Jacob
Smith, deceased, agree to sell to Stockton
and Stokes the White House Tavern and farm,
500 acres.

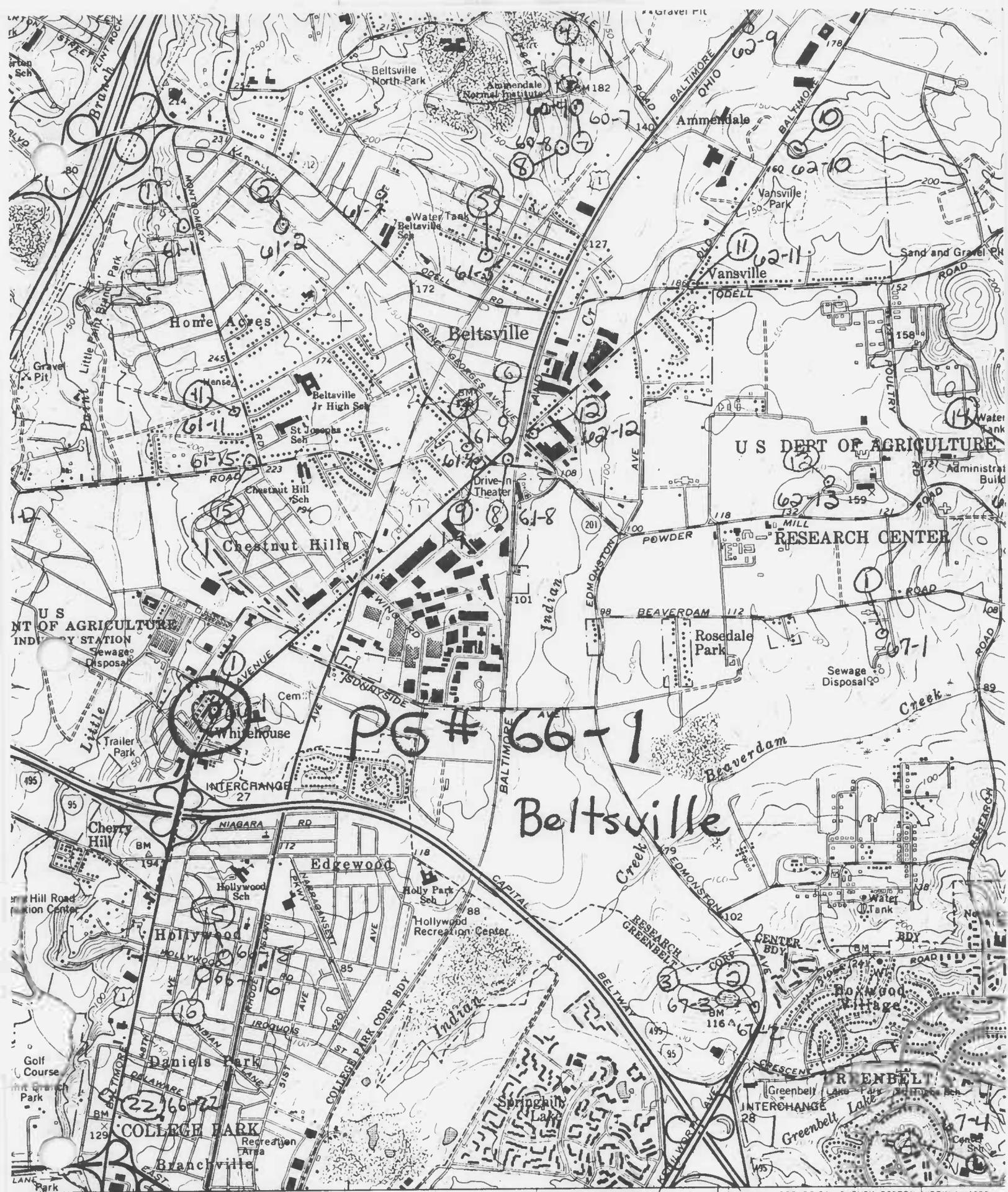
JEM#7:122
25 Feb 1799
Deed

William Spurrier to William Evans (of
Baltimore) 93 acres of Chew's Folly



RHODE'S TAVERN
BALTIMORE TURNPIKE (RT 1)

PG: 66-1
 JAMES F. MAHER A.I.A. 2/11/50



PG # 66-1

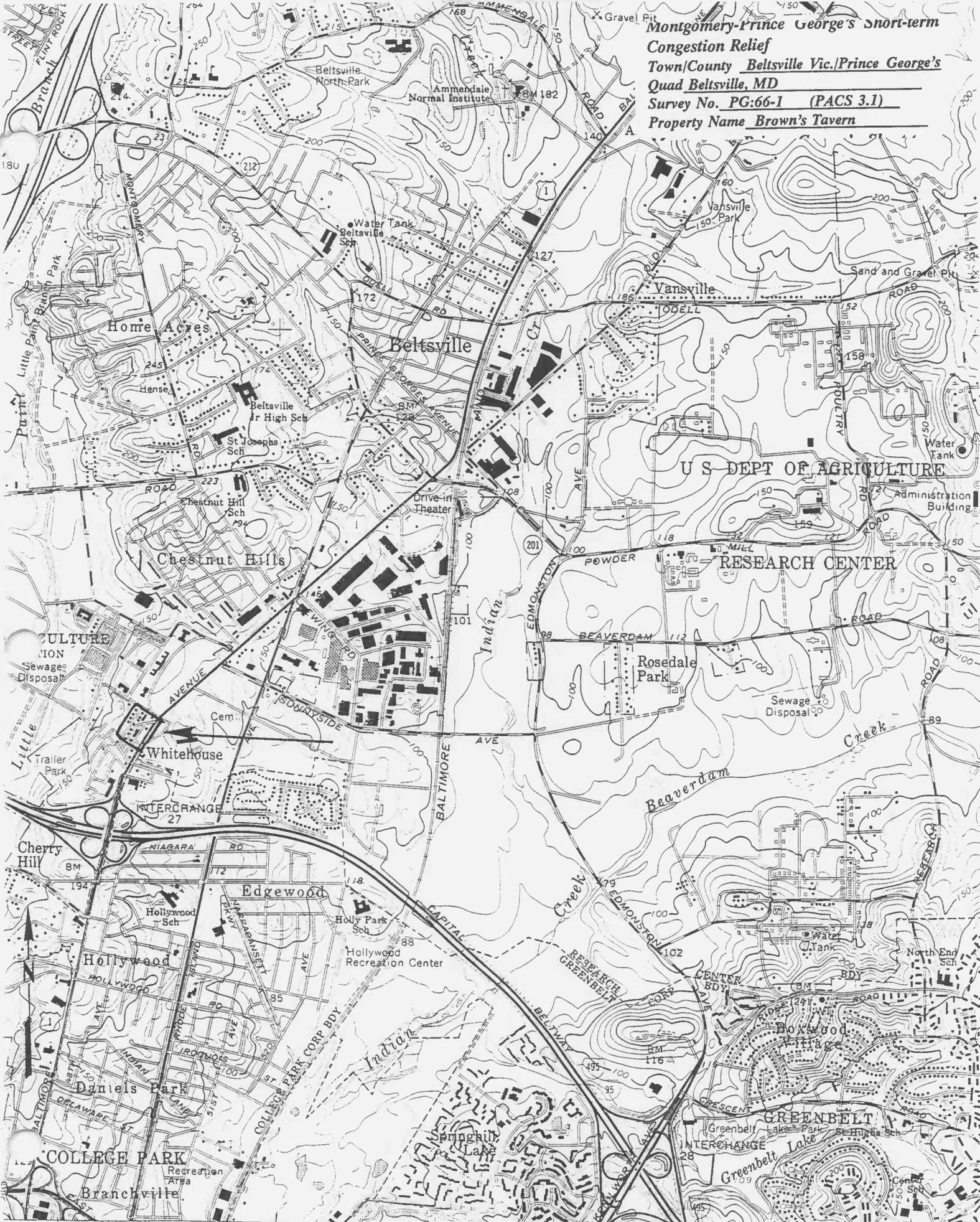
Beltsville

ON EAST V NW HYATTSVILLE 3.3 MI. WASHINGTON MONUMENT 11 MI. 35' BLOAENSBURG 4.5 MI. U.S. CAPITOL (VIA U.S. 50) 9 MI. 336000m E. INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1978 INTERCHANGE 29 (BALT. WASH. PKWY.) 1 A



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
 Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———

**Montgomery-Prince George's Short-term
 Congestion Relief**
Town/County Beltsville Vic./Prince George's
Quad Beltsville, MD
Survey No. PG:66-1 (PACS 3.1)
Property Name Brown's Tavern



HYATTSVILLE 3.3 MI 55' BLADENSBURG 4.5 MI. U.S. CAPITOL (VIA U.S. 50) 9 MI. INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1989 76° 5'

WASHINGTON MONUMENT 11 MI. 336000m.E. INTERCHANGE 29 (BALT. WASH. PKWY) 1 MI. ROAD CLASSIFICATION



1 15-66-1

2 Browns Tavern

3 Prince Georges Co, Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SHPO

7 SE corner

8 1 of 16

2025 12028



1. P. 66-1
2. B. 1100-10-100
3. Prince Georges Co. Md
4. Susan Taylor
5. 5198
6. Md SHPO
7. Elevation
8. 20716

2007 FEB 14 11:14 AM



- 1 P# 56-1
- 2 Bruno Javan
- 3 Prince Georges Co, Md
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/98
- 6 Md SHPO
- 7 NE corner
- 8 3 of 16



- 1 PG-66-1
- 2 Browns Inven.
- 3 Prince Georges Co Md.
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/98
- 6 Md SHPO
- 7 N elevation
- 8 4 of 13

2025.05.13



1 Pg: 36.

2 Burns Tavern

3 Prince Georges Co Md

4 Susan - Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SHPO

7 NW corner

8 5 of 15

2025 JUN 14 11:30 AM



- 1 PG 66-1
- 2 Browns elevation
- 3 Prince Georges Co, Md.
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/98
- 6 Md SHPO
- 7 West elevation
- 8 6 of 8

20100101 2006454



1 PG: 06-1

2 Brown's Invention

3 Prince Georges Co, Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5198

6 Md State

7 W. C. C. C.

8 7 of 16

ST. N. N. N. 1922-1924



1 P-166-1

2 Browns Tavern

3 Prince Georges Co, Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/78

6 Md SHPO

7 James W. Claxton

2011-12-14

8 8 of 16



1 PG 66-1

2 Brown's Tavern

3 Prince Georges Co. Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md. SHPO

7 S. election

8 9/7/13

07 00 00 1220 28.



- 1 PG-66-1
- 2 Brown, Susan
- 3 Prince Georges Co, Md
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/98
- 6 Md SHPO
- 7 5 elevations
- 8 10 of '3

ENCLOSURE 125328



1 PG '66-'

2 Business In...

3 Prince Georges Co, Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5198

6 Md SHPO

7 Cabin

8 11 of 16

31 4 11 11 11 11 11



1 P. 5 '66 1

2 Browns Town

3 Prince Georges Co, Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SHPO

7 Carbon.

8 12 of 16

ST. N. H. A. 1000 1000



- 1 PG: 661
- 2 Bessie L. ...
- 3 Prince George, Co, Md
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5198
- 6 Md SHPO
- 7 Cabins
- 8 13 of 16

2011 120245



1 PG 65-1

2 Brown, Susan

3 Prince Georges Co., Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SFPD

7 Cubans, detail

8 14 of 16

77 11 11 2002



1 15:66'

2 Browns Screen

3 Prince Georges Co, Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SHPU

7 Cabins

8 15 of 10

01 NIN 707068



1 PG: 66-1

2 Browns Avenue

3 Prince Georges Co, Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SHPO

7 Cabins

8 16 of 16

2025 APR 12 10 28 AM



PG #66-1

White House Tavern (Brewer's Tavern)

Prince Georges Co, Md.

Juan H. Prall

December 1988

East elevation

79: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.

1 of 4



PG # 66-1

Brown's Tavern

PG. County

Susan Pearl

12/88

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust,
Annapolis

northeast

2-7-4



PG #66-1

Brown's Tavern

P.G. County

Susan G. Pearl

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust,

Annapolis

12/88

Low elevation of kitchen wing



PG # 66-1

Brown's Tavern

P.G. County

Susan Pearl

Dec. 1988

milestone (25 Miles to Baltimore)

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust,
Annapolis

4 of 4



NAME RHODES TAVERN / BROWN HOUSE (DELHAVEN MOTEL)

LOCATION 10260 BALTO. BLVD. (RT. 1) COLLEGE PARK / BELTSVILLE, Md.

FACADE SE

PHOTO TAKEN 1/26/73

PG: 66-1

67