

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #71A-8 Building Date: 1916

Building Name: Cedar Hill

Location: 6406 South Homestake Drive, Bowie, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Excellent/Inaccessible

Description

Cedar Hill is a frame gable-roofed house prominently situated on a hill. It consists of a main block, with enclosed sunporch at one end, and kitchen wing and later addition at the other end. The main block is two-and-one-half stories high with entrance in the central bay of the five-bay south facade, through a door with classical architrave, frieze and crown molding, and with three-pane sidelights over wainscot panels. Siding is plain horizontal board painted white. Windows are 6/6 double hung sash with plain board surrounds and black louvered shutters. The roof is of red standing seam metal; its deeply overhanging eaves have a belled profile. The cornices have crown molding, and are returned at the gable ends. Three added gable-roof pedimented dormers pierce the south plane of the roof; an interior corbelled brick chimney rises at the ridge at each gable end. The main block rests on a heavy foundation of local iron-bearing sandstone. Attached at the northwest corner of the house is a one-and-one-half-story gable-roofed kitchen wing, contemporary with the main block. Siding, cornices and windows of the wing duplicate those of the main block, and the roof has the same belled profile. Attached to the northwest corner of the kitchen wing is a (1940's) one-and-one-half-story gable-roofed addition.

Significance

Cedar Hill is a handsome Colonial Revival style house, built on the site of the Weems/Bowie family homestead. In 1836 the farm was divided, the 330-acre westerly section going to Margaret French Bowie, whose husband came to be known as "Robert Bowie of Cedar Hill." Bowie lost the Cedar Hill farm after the Civil War, and the farm was purchased by the Cooke family of Baltimore; the old Cedar Hill dwelling was destroyed circa 1880. In 1915, 150 acres of the Cedar Hill farm, including the house site, were purchased by Robert Bowie's great-grandson, Joseph Addison, who hired Millard Shafter (a local carpenter to whom several other fine houses of that period are attributed) to build the present Colonial Revival dwelling on the site of his great-grandfather's old house. Cedar Hill remains the home of the Addison family today. The commanding site and grounds have been meticulously maintained, and the handsome house retains its historical and architectural integrity.

Acreage: 3.89 acres

Magi No.

DOE yes no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Cedar Hill

and/or common Cedar Hill

2. Location

street & number 6406 South Homestake Drive not for publication

city, town Bowie _____ 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 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 William B. C. Addison

street & number 6406 South Homestake Drive telephone no.: 262-8580

city, town Bowie _____ state and zip code MD 20715

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber #2014

street & number Main Street folio 446

city, town Upper Marlboro _____ state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Sites

date 1974 _____ federal _____ state county _____ local

depository for survey records County Planning, MNCPPC

city, town Upper Marlboro _____ state MD

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" 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
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move _____

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

Cedar Hill is a two-and-one-half-story frame gable-roofed house prominently situated on a hill among many old poplar trees. The house consists of a five-bay-by-two-bay main block, with enclosed sunporch at one end, and a lower kitchen wing and later addition at the other end. It is a twentieth century building constructed to replace an earlier dwelling on the same site.

The main block of the house is two-and-one-half stories high with entrance in the central bay of the five-bay south (main) facade. Entrance is through a door with classical architrave, frieze and crown molding, and has three-pane sidelights over wainscot panels. There is a corresponding door centered in the north facade. Each door is approached by a small brick stoop; there is no entry porch. Siding is plain horizontal board painted white. Windows are 6/6 double hung sash with plain board surrounds and black louvered shutters. The roof is of red standing seam metal; its deeply overhanging eaves have a belled profile. The cornices have crown molding, and are returned at the gable ends. There are two tiny four-pane windows at third level in each gable end. Three (added) gable-roof dormers pierce the south plane of the roof; the dormers are pedimented with crown moldings. The dormers in the two outer positions are repeated on the north plane of the roof, but the center position is filled by a shallow shed dormer. (Below it, in the central bay between first and second story level, is a 6/6 double hung sash window which lights the stair landing.) An interior corbelled brick chimney rises at the ridge at each gable end. The main block rests on a heavy foundation of local iron-bearing sandstone.

Interior of the main block consists of a wide central stairhall with a large parlor on each side. The stairhall is highlighted by a wide entry arch leading to the two-run staircase which rises along its east wall. Each parlor is warmed by a fireplace centered on its exterior wall. Both mantels on the first story were acquired from (older) historic buildings in Prince George's County and incorporated into Cedar Hill when it was built in 1916. The handsome Federal style wooden mantel in the east parlor is said to have come from Mattaponi. It is framed by engaged columns, and has classical architrave, frieze and complex dentilled cornice. The wide frieze is embellished with raised ornament: shell motifs at the ends, and an oval figured medallion at the center.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
				Local history

Specific dates 1916 **Builder/Architect** Millard Shafer

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.

Cedar Hill is a handsome Colonial Revival style house, built on the site of the Weems/Bowie family homestead. This farm, which included parts of tracts known as Darnall's Grove and Widow's Purchase, had been the home of James William Lock Weems during the late eighteenth century. (He and members of his family are buried in the small family burial ground one-quarter mile from the house.)¹ In 1836 the farm was divided between the families of Weems' two daughters, the 330-acre westerly section (which came to be known as Cedar Hill) going to Margaret French Bowie, whose husband used the sobriquet "Robert Bowie of Cedar Hill" to distinguish himself from his cousins of the same name.² Bowie lost the Cedar Hill farm after the Civil War through default in tax payments, and the farm was purchased by the Cooke family of Baltimore; the old Cedar Hill dwelling was destroyed during this time period, ca. 1880.³

The Cookes held the Cedar Hill property into the twentieth century, though it is doubtful that they ever lived there. In 1915, 150 acres of the Cedar Hill farm, including the house site, were purchased by Robert Bowie's great-grandson, Joseph Addison. Addison hired a local carpenter to build the present Colonial Revival dwelling on the site of his great-grandfather's old house. Millard Shafer, a well-known carpenter in the Bowie vicinity, had in 1909 build the house at Spafield (P.G. #70-21) for cousins of the Addisons, and in 1916 was hired by Addison to build a new house at Cedar Hill. Having access to several historic houses in deteriorating condition, Shafer acquired decorative elements for use in his new houses. One of the mantels which was built into Cedar Hill in 1916 came from Mattaponi (P.G. #86A-15) and another from the Snowden Hill house at Thorpland (now destroyed). (Within a few years Shafer built another Colonial Revival house for Addison's brother, French Bowie Addison, on the neighboring and related farm known as Boxlee.⁴)

#7 (Continued)

Attached at the northwest corner of the house (and enclosing half of the west gable end of the main block) is a one-and-one-half-story one-bay-wide gable-roofed kitchen wing, contemporary with the main block. Entry is through a door in the second bay of its west gable end. The roof of the kitchen wing has the same belled profile as the main block. Siding, cornices and windows of the wing duplicate those of the main block, and there is a single pedimented dormer in the south plane of its roof. The wing rests on a brick foundation.

Across the east gable end of the main block is a one-story hip-roofed porch, which has been glass-enclosed as a sun porch. This porch rests on deep stone foundations; beneath it at grade level, a central entrance leads into the basement under the main block.

Attached to the northwest corner of the kitchen wing is a new (1940's) one-and-one-half-story gable-roofed addition. Siding, windows and roof profile follow those of the main block and kitchen; this one-room addition rests on a brick foundation.

Cedar Hill stands on the highest point of land overlooking the Horsepen Branch. The house is approached by an unpaved deeply-cut lane from the south which curves to the west of the house and leads to a separate (modern) garage structure northwest of the house.

Many large old tulip poplars surround and shelter the house, and the lawn to the north of the house is planted with a boxwood allee.

#8 (Continued)

Cedar Hill remains the home of the Addison family today. The house has been altered by the addition of dormers, and of a small wing; over the years, most of the Cedar Hill property has been sold off, and a subdivision of new houses has been built around the remaining 3.89 acre house site. Its commanding site and grounds, complete with boxwood allee, have been meticulously maintained, and this handsome Colonial Revival style house retains its historical and architectural integrity.

Notes

- 1 Federal Direct Tax, 1798, for Horsepen Hundred. Report on Cedar Hill Cemetery, P.G. #71A-8, S.G. Pearl, 1985.
- 2 Prince George's Chancery AB #2:203 ff.
- 3 Prince George's County Tax Assessments 1871-1890's; Prince George's County Equity #1032.
- 4 Prince George's County Deed #108:267; Prince George's County Tax Assessments and Census records; interview with present owners and other family members.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

1701235704

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Cedar Hill Site/Slave Quarters & Bowie Cemetery

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

off Hillmeade Road

CITY, TOWN

Bowie

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Prince George's

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES RESTRICTED
- YES UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

William B.C. Addison & Prospect Knolls Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

off Hillmeade Road

Subdivision

CITY, TOWN

Bowie

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Prince George's County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Upper Marlboro

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

DESCRIPTION

PG: 71A-8

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This was an old plantation home called "Cedar Hill" that burned down years ago. The present, large frame house on the site was built ca. 1900. NW of the house is an overgrown cemetery at the edge of a hill. It contains gravestones for members of the Bowie and Weems families. Beyond this, at the bottom of the hill, is a ruinous, one-story frame building that was once a slavequarters. It has three bays on its main (south) facade. There is a large brick chimney on the exterior west wall. Roof is covered with old wooden shingles. Asphalt siding.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

PERIOD	STORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE	
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE	
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER	
1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION	
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This has been the home of a number of old Prince George's families-including the Weems, Bowies and Addisons. Its best-known resident was Robert Bowie (born 1804-died 1881), who made this a prosperous farm. He was also active in the formation of the Md. Jockey Club, Agricultural College, and the Baltimore and Potomac RR. This was his wife's property, and her mother had been a Weems. Reportedly, a James Weems (born 1764-died 1811) is buried in the cemetery here. The slave quarters, although in ruins, is one of the few surviving in the County.

The property is being subdivided into the Prospect Knolls Subdivision.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- 1) Bowie, Effie Gwynn. ACROSS THE YEARS IN PRINCE GEORGE'S CO. (1947) pp. 746-748.

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

Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

9/23/74

STREET & NUMBER

8787 Georgia Ave.

TELEPHONE

589-1480

CITY OR TOWN

Silver Spring

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.

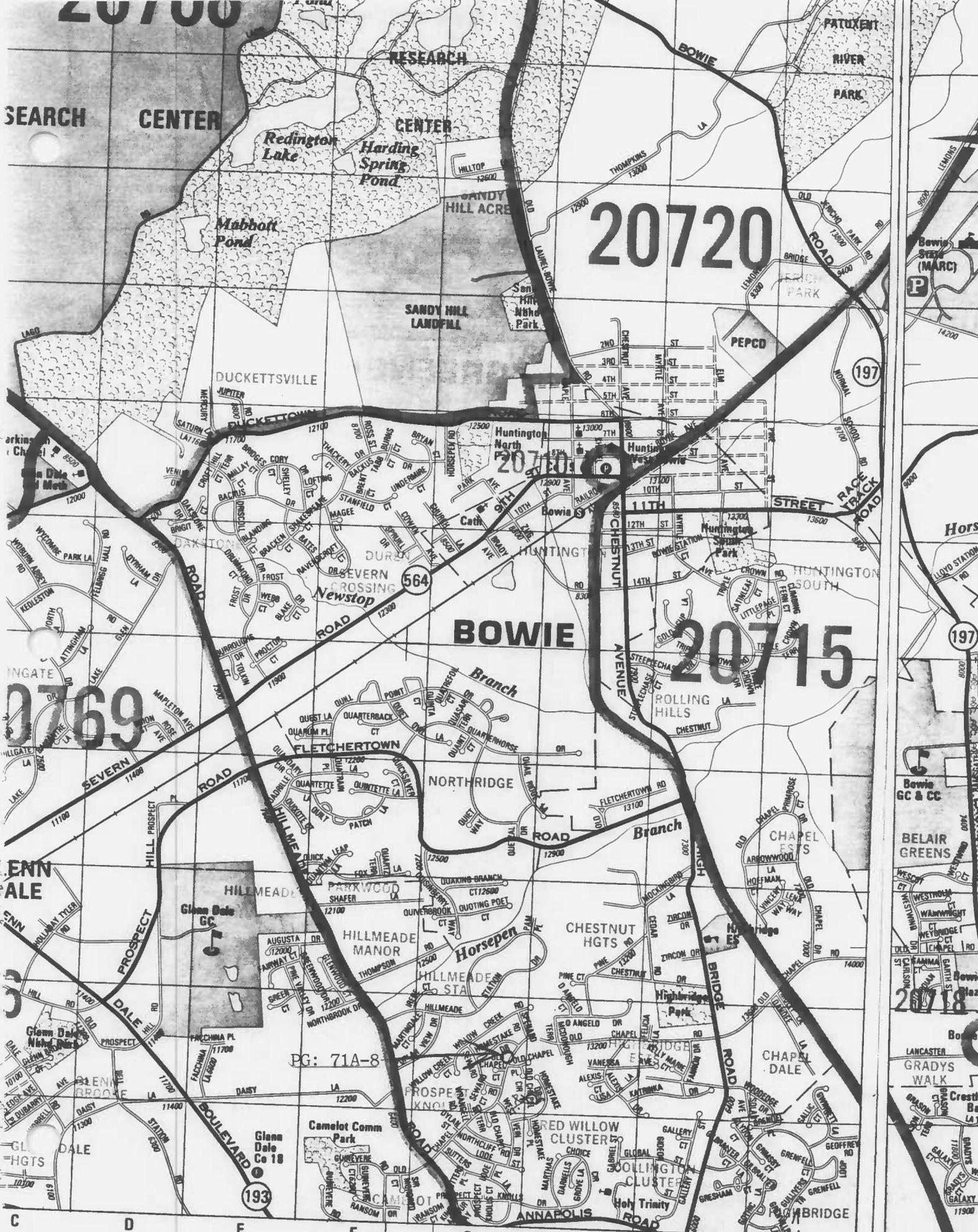
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

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

Chain of Title

Cedar Hill
P.G. #71A-8

#2014:446 26 June 1956 Deed	M. W. Duvall to William B. C. Addison et ux; three parcels including 144.9 acres surveyed by E. L. Latimer in 1915, which was acquired by Marquerite Addison by #108:267.
#2014:443 26 June 1956 Deed	William B. C. Addison et ux; to Matilda W. Duvall; three parcels including 144.9 acres surveyed by Latimer in 1915 and conveyed to Marquerite Addison by #108:267.
GSO #1:354 8 Mar 1949 Will	Testator, Marquerite W. C. Addison; to husband, Joseph Addison, life estate in Cedar Hill; after his death, to their children, including William B. C. Addison.
#108:267 1915 Deed	Theodore Cooke et ux; to Marquerite C. Addison, 144.9 acres of Cedar Hill, part of land which Cooke acquired by #1:256, and described by a Commission recorded in Chencery AB #1:203.
#1:256 29 June 1901 Deed	Frances Emma Cooke to Theodore Cooke, 330 acres of Cedar Hill or Darnall's Grove, acquired by WAJ #4:215 [should read JWB #4:215].
JWB #4:215 26 Jan. 1885 Deed	Israel Cooke et al, to Mary Jane and Frances Emma Cooke of Baltimore, 330 acres of Cedar Hill (or Darnall's Grove) which grantors acquired by decree of Equity #1032.
JWB #4:214 19 Jan. 1885 Deed	J. K. Roberts, trustee, to Theodore, Frances Emma, and other Cookes, all children of Arietta and Israel Cooke, 330 acres of Cedar Hill (Darnall's Grove); Arietta Cooke had purchased, but died before deed was executed. Non trustee appointed by County of Equity (#1032) to sell to her heirs, with life estate to her husband, Israel Cooke.
#1032 1876-1882 Equity	To sell real estate of Margaret H. W. Bowie, Cedar Hill, 330 acres, on which Robert Bowie recently resided. Joseph K. Roberts appointed trustee.



20720

20715

20769

20718

PG: 71A-8

PG: 71A-8



PG: 71A-8

Springfield
FLETCHERTOWN

Brookland

Glenn Dale

Hillmeade Manor

High Bridge

Lanham Quad
PG: 71A-8
Cedar Hill

High Bridge Estates

Hillmeade

Bell

MARIETTA MANOR
HISTORIC SITE

GLENN DALE
HOSPITAL

Vista

Holmehurst

St Matthews
Hall

Branch

Glenn Dale
Rec Center

Enterprise Estates
Rec Center

Freeway
Airport



PG#71A-8

Cedar Hill
Prince George's County, MD
Susan G. Pearl
December 1985
South elevation
Neg: MD Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#71A-8

Cedar Hill
Prince George's County, MD
Susan G. Pearl
December 1985
West elevation
Neg: MD Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#71A-8

Cedar Hill
Prince George's County, MD
Susan G. Pearl
December 1985
Southeast 3/4 elevation
Neg: MD Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#71A-8

Cedar Hill
Prince George's County, MD
Susan G. Pearl
December 1985
North elevation
Neg: MD Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



NAME CEDAR HILL - SLAVE QUARTERS # 71A-8

LOCATION E OF HILL MEADE Rd BOWIE, Md

EACADE S

PHOTO TAKEN 9/23/74 MOWYER



PG#71A-8

Cedar Hill
Prince George's County, MD
Susan G. Pearl
December 1985
Mantel in east parlor
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD