

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #71A-26 Building Date: 1860's

Building Name: Howell-Schneider House

Location: 5511 Church Road, Mitchellville, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description

The Howell-Schneider House is a multi-section dwelling, the main block of which is gable-roofed and one-room-deep, with Italianate trim. A shed-roof wing, possibly earlier, is attached to the rear facade; alterations have disguised most of its original fabric. The main block is two stories high, with gable roof and a side-hall-and-parlor floor plan. A one-story porch spans the east facade, and wraps around to shelter the south gable end. The cornice is boxed, with a plain board frieze, and is decorated with pairs of Italianate brackets. Attached to the west facade of the main block is a one-and-one-half-story shed-roof addition which consists of two rooms; one is reported to have been the original kitchen space. Flush with the west facade of the above-described addition is another one-and-one-half-story addition, this one with a half-gable (or "flounder") roof which slopes to the west. East of the flounder addition, a long narrow one-story shed-roof addition slopes to the south, increasing the depth of the flounder addition.

Significance:

The Howell-Schneider House is an example of a house that has been expanded over time; it consists of a Victorian vernacular dwellings of the 1860's which was built onto an older, smaller dwelling. The two-story main block was a good example of a vernacular side-hall-and-parlor house embellished with Italianate cornice brackets. The one-and-one-half-story older section was probably a simple hall-and-parlor dwelling of the first half of the 19th century. The land on which this house stands was part of the large Belair plantation of the Ogle family. In 1857, the land was purchased by Deborah Mitchell, wife of John G. Mitchell. After the end of the Civil War, Deborah and John Mitchell sold the 196-acre farm to William F. Howell; it is almost certainly he who built the main block of the house soon after he purchased the land. Successive owners have expanded the kitchen and carried out the other alterations which contribute toward making the Howell-Schneider House an interesting complex dwelling, much changed from its nineteenth century form.

Acreage: 72 acres

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Howell Houseand/or common Schneider House

## 2. Location

street & number 5511 Church Road (Now on Lake Ridge Terrace)  not for publicationcity, town Mitchellville Road Collington  
 vicinity of  congressional district 5state 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	<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 Charles Schneiderstreet & number 5509 Church Road telephone no.:city, town Mitchellville state and zip code Maryland 20716

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 1129street & number Main Street folio 466city, town Upper Marlboro, state Maryland 20772

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Nonedate  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

# 7. Description

<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.

The Howell-Schneider House is a multi-section dwelling, the main block of which is gable-roofed and one-room-deep, with Italianate trim. A shed-roof wing, possibly earlier, is attached to the rear facade; alterations have disguised most of its original fabric. The house stands at the end of an unpaved lane which runs east from Church Road through land devoted to nursery plantings.

The main block is two stories high, with gable roof. Entrance is in the first bay of the three-bay main east facade, through a door (now structurally closed on the interior) with a single-pane transom. A one-story porch spans the east facade, and wraps around to shelter the south gable end. The porch, formerly supported by slim Tuscan columns, is now enclosed with brick and concrete block. Windows are 9/6 on the first story and 6/6 on the second story; they have plain board surrounds and no shutters. The siding is plain horizontal board, painted light green. It is covered on the north and south gable ends with white vinyl siding. The roof is of standing seam metal; there is an interior corbelled brick chimney at the north gable end. The cornice is boxed, with a plain board frieze, and is decorated with pairs of Italianate brackets. The main block rests on whole logs; the brick foundation encloses a shallow crawl space.

The main block is a side-hall-and-parlor plan dwelling. The entrance leads into a side stairhall (now converted into a bedroom); the staircase (now closed) has a heavy turned newel and turned balusters.

Attached to the west facade of the main block is a one-and-one-half-story shed-roof addition; it is two bays deep, and four bays wide along its main west facade. It is covered with white vinyl siding, with brick veneer below the windows. Windows are 6/6 double hung sash and have black louvered shutters. A tall chimney rises between first and second bays. The roof is covered with asphalt shingle. This section rests on whole logs and occasional blocks of local stone; the brick foundation encloses a shallow crawl space.

This westerly shed-roof section consists of two spaces; the southerly (larger) space has, centered in its north wall, a fireplace with a wide plain wooden mantel. A staircase rises along the southerly wall; it has a slim turned newel, plain square balusters, and a plain sapling rail. This room is reported to have been the original kitchen space.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1860's **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 Howell-Schneider House is an example of a house that has been expanded over time; it consists of a Victorian vernacular house of the 1860's which was built onto an older, smaller dwelling. The two-story main block was a good example of a Victorian vernacular side-hall-and-parlor house embellished with Italianate cornice brackets. The one-and-one-half-story older section was probably a simple hall-and-parlor dwelling of the first half of the 19th century; progressive rebuildings have so disguised its original fabric that it cannot be dated or understood without destructive investigation.

The land on which this house stands was part of the large Belair plantation of the Ogle family. In 1835, this 196-acre portion of Darnall's Grove, on the "southwest side of the road to Queen Anne and running around the Belair Park fence" was deeded to William Cooke Ogle, second son of Benjamin and Anna Maria Ogle, who lived in the 1740's brick mansion at Belair (#71B-4). It is probable that William Ogle intended to build a house on his portion (as his younger brother Richard later did on his portion), but his wife died within a year of their marriage, and he continued to reside with his parents. In 1857, he sold his part of Belair and settled in Baltimore.<sup>1</sup>

The land was purchased by Deborah Mitchell, wife of John G. Mitchell; the Mitchells apparently never lived on this property, but lived a short distance to the south, in the area known as Mitchellville. The small dwelling on the 196-acre portion of Belair was probably used by tenant farmers.<sup>2</sup>

After the end of the Civil War, Deborah and John Mitchell sold the 196-acre farm to William F. Howell; it is almost certainly he who built the main block of the house soon after he purchased the land. Howell, who had married Elizabeth Nicholls in 1839, settled with his wife and three grown children in the house, and farmed the land for the rest of his life.<sup>3</sup> (The land which he had bought was soon changed considerably by the construction along its eastern boundary of the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. #71A-26

Cf. Notes, Item #8

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 72 acres

Tax Map #46, parcel 25

Quadrangle name Lanham, Section C

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Susan G. Pearl, Research Historian		
organization	Historic Preservation Commission	date	September 1986
street & number	c/o County Planning Div., Rm. 4010 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive	telephone	952-3521
city or town	Upper Marlboro,	state	Maryland 20772

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  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. P.G. #71A-26

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 2

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Extending two more bays to the south, flush with the west facade of the above-described addition, is another one-and-one-half-story addition, this one with a half-gable (or "flounder") roof which slopes to the west. There is a (modern) entrance in the first bay, sheltered by a small entry porch with gable roof supported by two plain columns. This one-room, one-bay-deep addition consists of a single kitchen space. Its roof is covered with asphalt shingle. Vinyl siding, brick veneer and window treatment are the same as those of the shed-roof addition. Loft level of this "flounder" addition is lighted by a single 6/6 double-hung sash window in its east elevation. Below this window, and east of the flounder addition, a long narrow one-story shed-roof addition slopes to the south, increasing the depth of the flounder addition to be the same as that of the larger one-and-one-half-story shed-roof wing.

The house stands south and west of a gully which once was the bed of an old farm road. Circa 1,000 feet to the east is the Popes Creek line of the Conrail (originally Baltimore and Potomac) Railroad. Directly south of the house is a well. A new brick rambler has been constructed a short distance east of the house. The land around the house is landscaped and planted with young trees of the Schneider Nursery.

line. The Collington Station was established ca. 1,000 feet east of Howell's house.)

The Mitchell held Howell's mortgage on the land, and when after 15 years he had not completed payments, Deborah Mitchell brought suit against him. The Equity Court ordered the land sold; it was advertised as having a "Comfortable two-story dwelling house and suitable outhouses, a large barn, stable and corn house in good condition;" it was described as near the railroad, adjoining Collington Station, convenient to churches, stores and schools, and there is a steam saw mill at said station."<sup>4</sup>

The land was not sold, however, at that time; Howell and his two daughters continued to live in the house and work the lands until his death in 1893. The daughters then moved to Washington, D.C. and the farm was sold in 1895 to Benjamin Hardisty, merchant and postmaster at the Collington Station Store.<sup>5</sup> At the time of the sale, the Howell house was described as two-story with entry and kitchen, (the latter certainly referring to the older one-and-one-half-story section) with yard and garden enclosed. The farm also had a threshing house (30 by 20 feet) with plank floor, a stable for ten horses, a corn house forty feet long, and a 40 foot carriage house.<sup>6</sup> Benjamin Hardisty was at that time buying up much of the Belair plantation, including the Georgian brick mansion. After Hardisty's death, the Howell farm passed in 1909 to his daughter, Ruth Clark; in 1930, 100 acres of the Howell farm (including the Howell house) were conveyed to the family of the present owners.<sup>7</sup>

At some point, possibly during the Howells residence, the kitchen was expanded by the addition of the flounder section. The house has been further altered in the years since 1930. The floors and foundations have been reinforced, and vinyl siding has been applied over the westerly section as well as the gable ends of the main block. The principal east entrance to the main block has been closed, and the stairhall converted to a room. The partially-enclosed wraparound porch now disguises much of the original appearance of the main block. The house is set back out of sight from travelled roads, adjoined by the lands of the Schneider Nursery. It is an interesting and complex house, much changed from its nineteenth century form.

#### Notes

<sup>1</sup> Prince George's County Deeds, AB #9:411; CSM #1:468; Census for Prince George's County, 1840, 1950; cf. #71B-4, Belair.

<sup>2</sup> Census for Prince George's County, 1850, 1860; Prince George's County Tax Assessments, 1850-1865.

<sup>3</sup> Prince George's County FS #3:184; Prince George's County Tax Assessments; Census for Prince George's County, 1860, 1870, 1880.

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

Survey No. P.G. #71A-26

Section 8 Page 3

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4 Prince George's County Equity #1263.

5 Prince George's County Deed, JWB #34:255.

6 Prince George's County Equity #1263.

7 cf. Belair, #71B-4; Prince George's County Deeds, #51:442; #52:536;  
#272:371; and #352:86.

P.4

CITY OF BOWIE

R-R

ANNAPOLIS RD

8484

7915

WAY 0.5A PAR. 'A'  
ES R52/ 4469

5480/  
473 P134

2.78 A IN RESER  
P/O P.6 EXPICES '81' P/O P.6

C-O

'A' 9766

P.111

6648

C-C

LOUISE A STEWART  
47 0 / 926  
19.50 A  
P.8

BELAIR ELEC.  
SUB-STATION  
4805

0.93  
P.81 A.P.SCHNEIDER  
2774-17  
12.77A  
P.11

MARY E. HE'LG  
338/ 524  
18.05A  
P.12

8539

COLLINGTON

ALBERT P.  
SCHNEIDER  
2555-92  
2.76A  
P.62

R-80

PARK  
C-M

7352

LOT 'A'

C-1

RD.

0.40A  
P.53  
0.59  
P.71  
0.62A  
P.115 1A.  
P.82

CHAS. R SCHNEIDER  
2657-519 3A.  
P.48

WOODCLIFF

MILPOND, INC  
5779/198  
7.88 A  
P.13

LONG RID

P.61

PG: 71A-26

CHURCH

P.10

CHAS R SCHNEIDER  
1129 / 338  
71.99 A  
P.25

THOS. E.  
WHEELER  
JR.  
1694/180  
8.20 A  
P.49

DOROTHY A.  
JACKSON  
5617/057  
7.77A  
P.17

RICHARD M. SPRIGGS  
6041/ 693  
40.00 A.  
P.18

R-R

MARY C. TURNER  
5693/381  
6.18A.  
P.7

P.108

DOROTHY  
M BROWN  
5693/390  
8.00A.  
P.19

RICHARD S.  
BROWN  
2232 / 336  
14.50 A.  
P.21

ORTH J  
JOHNSON  
5 / 432  
P.28

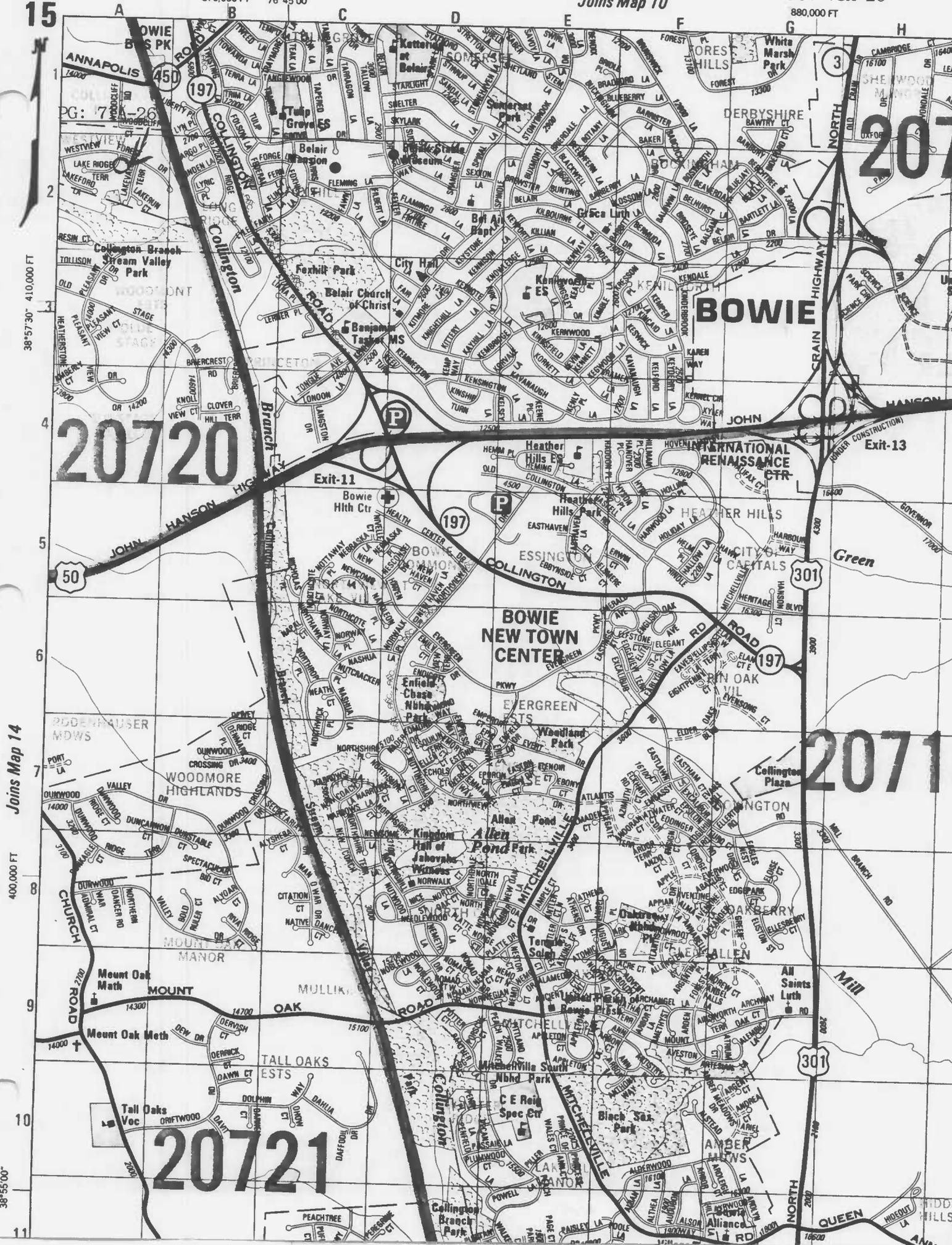
COLLINGTON  
HOLDING CORP  
2.84 A  
P.10.

124 A

235A 235A

F.81

1A.  
P.65



207

20720

2071

20721

Joins Map 14

400,000 FT

38°55'00"



XBM 124

High Bridge

High Bridge Sch

CHAPEL

Hillmeade Manor

Horsepen

Glehn Dale Golf Club

High Bridge Park

High Bridge Estates

Hillmeade

Holy Trinity Ch

Hillmeade Lookout Tower

MARIETTA MANOR HISTORIC SITE

Bell

BOWIE

Collington

PG: 71A-26

Collington

St Matthews Hall

Woodward Pond

Holmehurst

CHURCH

OLD STAGE

Freeway Airport

Collington Branch Park

BOWIE

NOT

(BOWIE)



PG#71A-26

Howell-Schneider House  
Prince George's County, Md.  
Susan G. Pearl  
January 1986  
East elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



PG#71A-26

Howell-Schneider House  
Prince George's County, Md.  
Susan G. Pearl  
January 1986  
South elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



PG#71A-26

Howell-Schneider House  
Prince George's County, Md.  
Susan G. Pearl  
January 1986  
West elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



PG#71A-26

Howell-Schneider House  
Prince George's County, Md.  
Susan G. Pearl  
January 1986  
North elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.