

Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Moreland Property

**2. Location**

street & number Woodmore Road (Now on Woodsong Lane)  not for publication

city, town Woodmore  vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Prince George's County

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<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"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Winchester Maryland Development Company

street & number 6305 Ivy Lane telephone no.:

city, town Greenbelt state and zip code Maryland 20770

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 6576

street & number folio 695

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

**6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys**

title

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state



# 8. Significance

Survey No. PG-74A-23

23

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"/> 100-1499	<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 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 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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)		

**Specific dates** \_\_\_\_\_ **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.

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Moreland Property, architecturally undistinguished and of common form, is historically associated primarily with local tobacco and general farm operations of the late nineteenth to mid-twentieth centuries. No events of significance to the broad patterns of county, state, or national history can be linked to the property; the succession of owners, from Benjamin Buck in the 1870s through the Shatensteins in the twentieth century, can be characterized only as area farmers with negligible impact upon the agricultural history of Southern Maryland.

### Historical Background

The subject property was originally part of a large, unimproved tract of some 326 acres purchased in 1875 by Benjamin Buck of Baltimore City from Laura and Samuel Brooke of Anne Arundel County. Although Buck's primary residence appears to have remained in Baltimore, by 1878 he had constructed some type of dwelling upon his Prince George's farm along a private farm lane that connected Woodmore Road with Enterprise Road. The lane began not far from the site of the original Woodmoor (sic) Post Office, established in 1877 by Lewis Wood, who served as the first postmaster. Service at the post office located in Wood's store, along the main road leading to Millikin's Station, was discontinued the following year. (More than twenty years later, in 1890, post office service would again be established, with the

(See Continuation Sheet 8.1)

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. PG.74A.23

Prince George's County Land Records  
Prince George's County Equity Records

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 327.76 acres

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

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

A roughly rectangular tract of 327.76 acres occupying the southeast corner of the intersection of Enterprise and Woodmore Roads, with the longer frontage along Woodmore Road.

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mark Walston

organization Historical Consultant date June, 1991

street & number 5 Morningwood Court telephone 301-570-3766

city or town Olney state Maryland 20832

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

MORELAND PROPERTY, Prince George's County  
Continuation Sheet 7.1  
DESCRIPTION -- Architectural Analysis

standing-seam metal sheeting; a brick chimney rises from the rear of the roof ridge of the forward block.

The eastern elevation features a projecting bay pierced by two-over-two double hung sash windows. The southern, or rear, elevation of the dwelling, three bays wide, has an entrance occupying the left, ground-level bay and is covered by a small shed-roof porch supported by two plain square posts.

The dwelling on the whole is in poor to deteriorated condition, with large sections of siding missing from the rear elevation.

To the south of the main dwelling sits a dilapidated wood frame carriage shed clad in vertical plank siding.

Farther south of the main dwelling is a small barn, constructed primarily for hay storage, clad in board-and-batten siding below the gables, its roof covered with corrugated metal sheeting. The building is in deteriorated condition.

Situated along the entrance drive to the main house complex are three additional wood frame agricultural buildings: two tobacco barns, and a corn crib. The earlier of the two tobacco barns, located some 200 feet south of Woodmore Road and overgrown with trees and vines, possibly dates from the turn of the century, and is six bays wide and three bays deep, clad in vertical plank siding; its gable roof, oriented east and west, is covered in standing seam metal sheeting. Hinged double doors occupy the northeast bay of the northern wall, with a corresponding opening on the southern wall. Inside, the building is framed with heavy timbers pieced by mortise and tenon and joined by trunnels, with the major upright members sitting atop brick piers. The building sits open, unused, and is in poor condition.

The second tobacco barn on the property is located farther south along the entrance lane, situated on the south side of the road at the point where it turns west toward the main dwelling complex. Later in date of construction than the first barn, possibly early twentieth century, the wood frame tobacco barn is seven bays wide and five bays deep, clad in vertical plank siding, with its gable roof, oriented east and west, covered in corrugated metal sheeting. Surmounting the roof ridge are two rectangular wooden ventilators, both louvered and both topped by corrugated metal covered gable roofs. Hinged double doors occupy the eastern and western bays of the northern elevation. The barn is framed with machine-cut lumber nailed together, with the upright members sitting atop poured concrete piers. Attached to the western wall is a cinderblock, shed roof addition, presumably used as a stripping room.

Directly across the entrance lane, on the north side, is a

(See Continuation Sheet 7.2)

MORELAND PROPERTY, Prince George's County  
Continuation Sheet 7.2

DESCRIPTION -- Architectural Analysis

small wood frame double corn crib, possibly contemporary in date with the adjacent tobacco barn; it is clad in vertical plank siding, with the crib walls primarily open slats. Its gable end roof, oriented north and south, is covered in corrugated metal sheeting. The building is overgrown with vines and is in deteriorated condition.

S.O



MORELAND PROPERTY, Prince George's County  
Continuation Sheet 8.1

SIGNIFICANCE -- Historical Background

second Woodmore (sic) Post Office operated until 1907.)<sup>1</sup>

In 1878, Benjamin Buck sold his Woodmore property to Annie Rinehart of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Within four years, in December of 1882, Rinehart had sold the property to a relation, Edwin Rinehart of Cecil County, who, in turn two years later, sold the property to Charles Pugh of Philadelphia. Within two years, the property was sold again, in March of 1886, from Pugh to an adjacent landowner, Grafton C.D. Townshend. Townshend held the property himself for five years, after which time, in 1891, he sold the property to George Nieman, taking back the first mortgage.<sup>2</sup>

Like many other area farmers, Nieman apparently was encouraged by the upturn in tobacco prices during the early 1890s, and was reasonably certain that, with a continuing increase in market value, he could meet not only the obligation of his mortgage, but other credit extensions for new machinery, new buildings, and other farm improvements. Soon after taking possession of the Woodmore property, Nieman indeed made several improvements around the farm, including, from all indications, the construction of the main dwelling on the farm, sometime around 1891, possibly incorporating elements of the earlier Buck dwelling in the rear block of the farm, including foundation work and framing, but substantially altering them in the new construction.<sup>3</sup>

Within a few years, however, a general economic malaise had settled across the state. By the mid-1890s, many farmers -- like Nieman -- who had purchased tobacco lands during the early years of high crop prices, and gave mortgages for part of the purchase money, suddenly found themselves facing unexpectedly sharp declines in market values. In ever increasing numbers,

(See Continuation Sheet 8.2)

<sup>1</sup> Hopkins Atlas of Prince George's County, 1878; Chester Smith, Jr. and John L. King, Postal History of MD, Delmarva and DC (Burtonsville, MD, 1984), p. 179.

<sup>2</sup> Prince George's County Land Records: L. HB 13, f. 548, July 22, 1878; L. JWB 1, f. 495, December 8, 1882; L. JWB 5, f. 51, January 5, 1885; L. JWB 6, f. 247, March 1, 1886; Prince George's County Equity Records No. 2154, March 31, 1896.

<sup>3</sup> Prince George's County Equity Records, No. 2154, March 31, 1896.

MORELAND PROPERTY, Prince George's County  
 Continuation Sheet 8.2  
SIGNIFICANCE -- Historical Background

properties were being thrown back on the market through foreclosure.<sup>4</sup>

By 1894, Nieman, overextended financially and reeling from the decline in the tobacco market, could no longer make good his promissory notes to Townshend. As a result, Townshend forced through a foreclosure, placing the property up for sale at public auction in January of 1896. At the time, the property was described as "located on the county road from Bladensburg to Millikin Station, opposite Woodmore and adjoining the farms of Grafton C.D. Townshend, Hon. John B. Brooke and T.C. Slingluff and others, containing 334 acres of land, improved by a frame dwelling, stable, fine barn, and all necessary outbuildings, well wooded and watered, fertile soil, no waste land, gently rolling."<sup>5</sup>

Townshend himself picked up the property at public auction. Shortly after the sale, George Nieman, now living in Washington but apparently still irate over losing the farm, returned to his old home, pulled down a potato house he had built earlier, and "threatened and indicated his intention to pull down and remove other buildings on said farm as well as posts, planks, tobacco sticks and other appurtenances." A court order enjoined him against further aggravation; he was never heard from again.<sup>6</sup>

Grafton C.D. Townshend maintained ownership of the farm until his death in 1927, at which time it was bequeathed to his children. It remained in the Townshend family until 1946, when the entire acreage was sold to adjoining landholders David and Albert Shatenstein. The Shatensteins incorporated the property into their larger tobacco and general farming operations, giving the main dwelling over to tenant occupation.<sup>7</sup>

The property remained in the Shatenstein family until 1976, when the heirs sold the property to Golfamerica Development Joint Venture. The current owners, Winchester Maryland Development Company, obtained clear title to the property in 1989.

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<sup>4</sup> Johns Hopkins University et al, Maryland, It's Resources, Industries and Institutions, Prepared for the Board of World's Fair Managers of Maryland (Baltimore, 1893), pp. 156-157.

<sup>5</sup> Prince George's County Equity Records, No. 2154, March 31, 1896.

<sup>6</sup> *ibid.*, loc. cit.

<sup>7</sup> Prince George's County Land Records, L. 893, f. 218, December 7, 1946; personal interview, Kopel Shatenstein, June 1991.

MORELAND PROPERTY, Prince George's County  
Continuation Sheet

L  
SCR

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

HISTORIC CONTEXT

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

- 2. Western Shore

Chronological/Development Periods:

- 11. Industrial/Urban Dominance AD. 1870-1930
- 12. Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes:

- 1. Agriculture

Resource Type:

Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Rural/Suburban

Historic Functions and Uses: Dwelling, Agricultural

Known Design Source: None

20



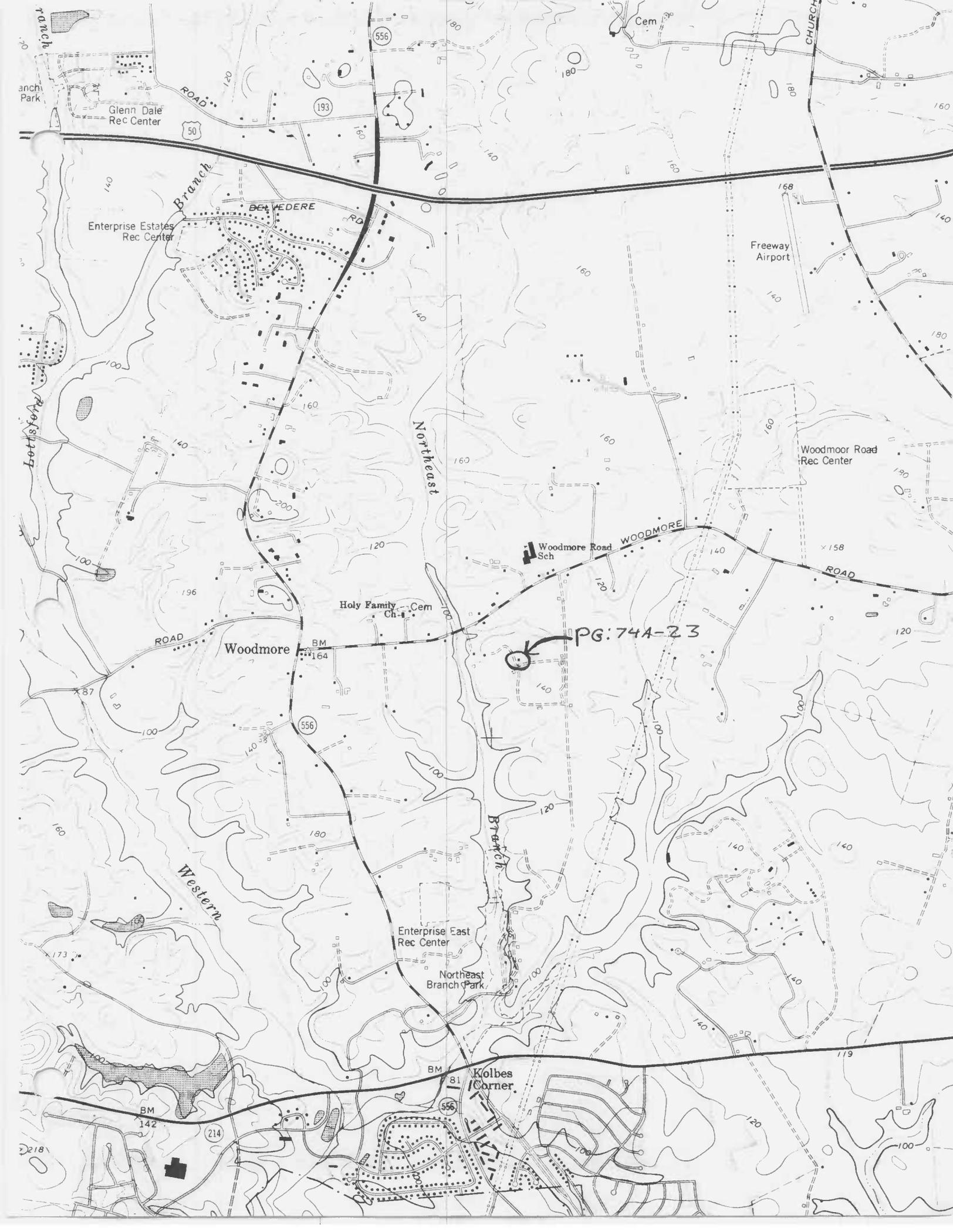


20720

20721

PG: 74A-23







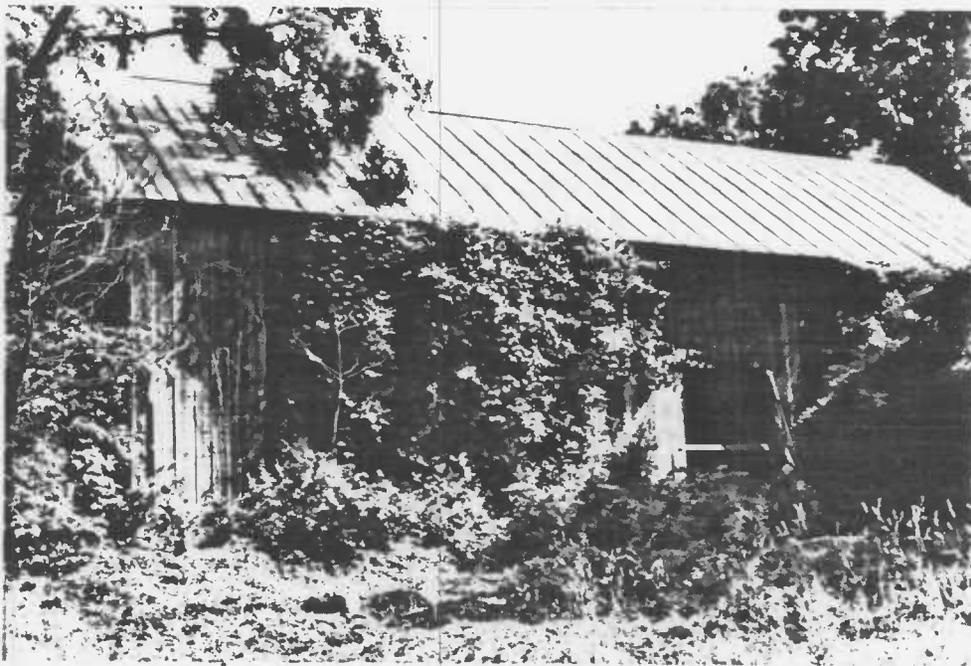
**NE Elevation, Main Dwelling**



**S Elevation, Main Dwelling**

## **Moreland Property Resources**

June 1991



**SE Elevation, Tobacco Barn No. 1**



**NW Elevation, Tobacco Barn No. 2**

## **Moreland Property Resources**