

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes \_\_\_  
no \_\_\_

Property Name: William Luers House Inventory Number: PG: 71B-14  
 Address: 12900 10th Street City: Bowie Zip Code: 20720  
 County: Prince George's USGS Topographic Map: Laurel  
 Owner: William and Dolores A. Kreitzer Is the property being evaluated a district? \_\_\_ yes  
 Tax Parcel Number: Lots 62-63 Tax Map Number: 29 Tax Account ID Number: 1642859  
 Project: Baltimore-Washington Maglev Amtrak Agency: MTA  
 Site visit by MHT staff:  no \_\_\_ yes Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Is the property is located within a historic district? \_\_\_ yes  no

*If the property is within a district* District Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NR-listed district \_\_\_ yes Eligible district \_\_\_ yes Name of District: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context \_\_\_ yes

*If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)* Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible  yes \_\_\_ no

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

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MIHP Form (PG: 71B-14); Historic Town of Bowie tour booklet

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The William Luers House is a two-and-one-half-story, gable-front, gambrel-roofed home with a full-width, hip-roofed front porch. The house is three bays wide and three bays deep, and has gambrel-roofed cross gables on both sides. A partially-enclosed, hip-roofed porch extends across the rear façade. The house retains its original two-over-two wood sash windows. There is a one-story hexagonal bay window to the left of the front door, tiny round-arched windows in the attic gable and on each side of the second floor's front façade, and a three-sided oriel staircase window on the east side. The attic-level gables project from the façade and have distinct wooden fishscale shingles, and the roof is sheathed in fishscale-embossed, red-painted sheet metal. The eaves have modest projections and partial returns. The remainder of the house siding below the gables is gray aluminum clapboard. A small brick chimney rises from the center of the house.

This home was constructed in 1909-1910 by William Luers, a son of Bernard Luers, a German immigrant who had settled in Bowie in the 1870s and whose family became prosperous town residents. The Luers family owned a store and post office near the railroad junction which was destroyed in an 1895 fire and later rebuilt on Ninth Street. William Luers, born in 1870, was employed as a railroad clerk and was married in 1899. He lived with his father after his marriage and bought the property on which this house stands in 1902. After the cottage was completed, he lived here with his family for the rest of his life. His daughter still owned the house at the time it was first surveyed in 1986.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

Eligibility recommended  Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_  
 Criteria:  A \_\_\_ B  C \_\_\_ D Considerations: \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D \_\_\_ E \_\_\_ F \_\_\_ G \_\_\_ None

**MHT Comments**

CONTRIBUTES TO DISTRICT (PG: 71B-2)

Andrew Lewis ✓  
 Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

8/14/03  
 Date

[Signature]  
 Reviewer, NR Program

8/15/03  
 Date

NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

William Luers House

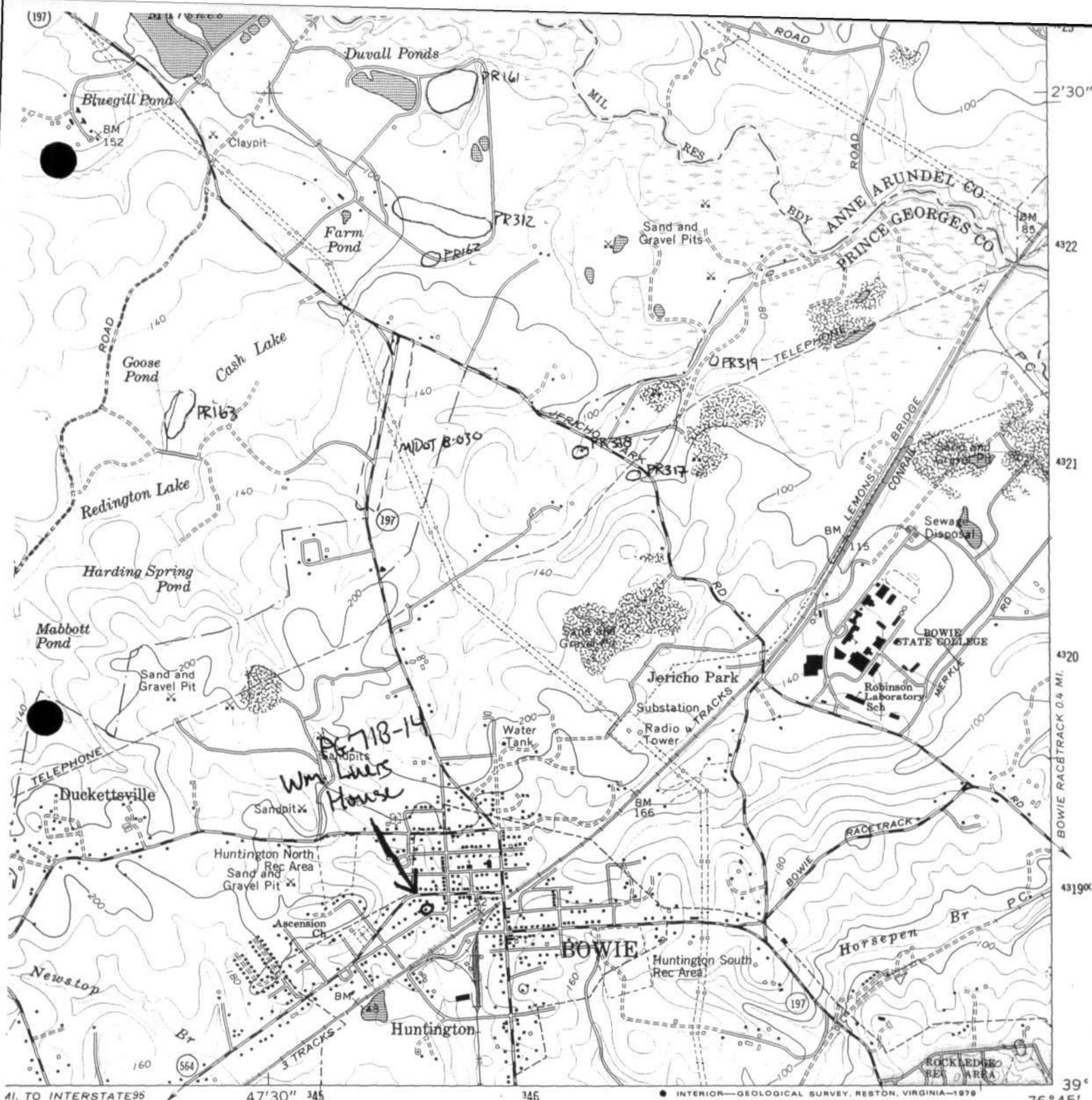
Page 2

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This house is an excellent example of an early-twentieth-century suburban cottage, displaying elements of the popular turn-of-the-century Queen Anne style. It was also the home of at least two generations of an important family in Bowie. The unusually-intact house retains nearly all of its historic integrity and distinctive original architectural elements, and exemplifies its type. It is clearly one of the most important and well-preserved homes in the old section of Bowie. It is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A and C, and is also a contributing element to the recommended-eligible Bowie-Huntington Survey District.

Prepared by: Kate Farnham, John Milner Associates

Date Prepared: 10/16/2002



41. TO INTERSTATE 95 47'30" 345 346 347 2.1 MI. TO MD. 450 348000m.E 76° 45'



329

VIRGINIA 22092  
S AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Pg: 718-14  
William Luers House  
12900 10th St. Bowie



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

Boundary lines shown in purple compiled from latest information available from the controlling authority

Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey from aerial photographs taken 1977 and other source

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- |             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Heavy-duty  | Light-duty      |
| Medium-duty | Unimproved dirt |
|             |                 |
|             |                 |

LAUREL, MD.

N3900—W7645/7.5

1965  
PHOTOREVISED 1979  
AMS 5662 III SE—SERIES V833



PG: 71B-14

William Luers House, 12900 10th St., Bowie

Bowie-Huntington Survey District, PG: 71B-2

Prince George's County, Maryland

Kate Farnham

September 2002

MD SHPD

View to NE

# 1 of 1



PG: 713-14

William Luers House, 12900 10th St., Bowie

Bowie-Huntington Survey District, PG: 713-2

Prince George's County, Maryland

Kate Farnham

September 2002

MD SHPO

View to NW

# 2 of 2

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #71B-14 Building Date: ca. 1908

Building Name: William Luers House

Location: 12900 10th Street, Bowie, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Excellent/Inaccessible

Description

The William Luers House is a small two-and-one-half-story frame dwelling which is distinguished by ornamental shingling and an oriel window. It is three bays by three bays, has a cross-gambrel roof, and stands on one of the original lots of Huntington City, now known as Bowie. Each of the four elevations consists of a gambrel-shaped gable end. Entrance is in the central bay of the south gable end through a door in the central but off-center bay. The first bay of this south facade consists of a one-story semi-octagonal projecting bay, which has a hip-roof. Across the main south facade is a one-story hip-roof screened porch, with turned posts. The upper section of each gable end projects slightly, and is ornamented with alternating courses of fishscale and clipped-rectangle shingle. The main section of the building is sided with plain horizontal board painted white. Second story fenestration in the south and north gable ends consists of a centered double window, flanked by two tiny round-arched windows. The west elevation is highlighted by a hip-roof oriel window between first and second stories. The gambrel roof is covered with green patterned tin. Centered at its ridge is a corbelled brick chimney. The cornices are wide and boxed, with crown molding, and are returned at each gable end. The house rests on a brick foundation.

Significance

The William Luers House is a good example of a suburban cottage, built in the early years of this century in the railroad town of Bowie. It represents a popular plan for a small family dwelling and is distinguished by its cross-gambrel roof, ornamental shingling and oriel window. The house was built circa 1908 by William Luers, son of Bernard Luers. The elder Luers had immigrated in 1857 from Germany, and in the 1870's had settled in the new railroad town of Huntington, now known as Bowie. William Luers (born 1870) worked in Bowie as a railroad clerk, and continued to live in his father's house after his marriage in 1899. In 1902, he purchased several lots in Block 8, on the west side of the railroad tracks, and within a few years had a small suburban cottage constructed. William Luers resided in this attractive cottage for the remainder of his life, raising his family there. The property passed to his wife, and is today the residence of one of his children. It is a unique and attractive landmark in the railroad town of Bowie.

Acreage: 10,000 square feet

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic William Luers House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 12900 10th Street  not for publicationcity, town Bowie  vicinity of congressional district 5

state Md. 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 Virginia Luers

street &amp; number 12900 10th Street telephone no.:

city, town Bowie state and zip code Md. 20715

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse Adm. #  
liber 18612

street &amp; number Main Street folio

city, town Upper Marlboro state Md.

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. P.G.#71B-14

### Condition

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

### Check one

unaltered  
 altered

### Check one

original site  
 moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

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

The William Luers House is a small two-and-one-half-story frame dwelling which is distinguished by ornamental shingling and an oriel window. It is three bays by three bays, has a cross-gambrel roof, and stands on one of the original lots of Huntington City (now known as Bowie).

Each of the four elevations consists of a gambrel-shaped gable end. The principal elevation faces south towards 10th Street; entrance is in the central bay of this south gable end through a door in the central (but off-center) bay. The first bay of this south facade consists of a one-story semi-octagonal projecting bay, which has a hip-roof, and a narrow 1/1 window in each of its three faces. Across the main south facade is a one-story hip-roof porch, with turned posts; the porch, now enclosed with screen, rests on brick piers, with lattice infill. There is a similar screened-in porch across the rear (north) facade.

The upper section of each gable end (above the change in pitch of the roof) projects slightly, and is ornamented with alternating courses of fishscale and clipped-rectangle shingle. Within this shingled section in the south and north gable ends is a small rectangular single-pane window.

The main section of the building is sided with plain horizontal board painted white. Windows are generally 2/2 double hung sash; they have plain board surrounds with outer bead, and no shutters. Second story fenestration in the south and north gable ends consists of a centered double window, flanked by two tiny round arched windows. The west elevation is highlighted by a hip-roof oriel window between first and second stories.

The gambrel roof is covered with green patterned tin. Centered at its ridge is a corbelled brick chimney. The cornices are wide and boxed, with crown molding, and are returned at each gable end. The house rests on a brick foundation which encloses a basement space.

The house fronts on 10th Street, and is accessible by a paved walk between tall oaks. It is also accessible from the rear (north) by a paved driveway from 9th Street. To the west of the drive is a small (mid twentieth century) garage; it is sided with horizontal board, has a green asphalt shingle gable roof, and rests on a concrete foundation. Just west of the house is an old well.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. P.G.#71B-14

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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. 1908

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 William Luers House is a good example of a suburban cottage, built in the early years of this century in the railroad town of Bowie. It represents a popular plan for a small family dwelling and is distinguished by its cross-gambrel roof, ornamental shingling and oriel window.

The house was built circa 1908 by William Luers, son of Bernard Luers. The elder Luers had immigrated in 1857 from Germany, and in the 1870's had settled in the new railroad town of Huntington, now known as Bowie. In the 1880's, he built a frame Victorian dwelling at the southern edge of the town (cf. #71B-12) in which he raised his family. William Luers (born 1870) worked in Bowie as a railroad clerk, and continued to live in his father's house after his marriage in 1899.<sup>1</sup> In 1902, he purchased several lots in Block 8, on the west side of the railroad tracks, and within a few years had a small suburban cottage constructed.<sup>2</sup> This was a one-and-one-half story cottage designed to fit on small town lots. It was a noticeable departure from the larger Queen Anne/Victorian dwellings of his father and brother, Frank (cf. #71B-2-2)

William Luers resided in this attractive cottage for the remainder of his life, raising his family there. The property passed to his wife, and is today the residence of one of his children.<sup>3</sup> It is a unique and attractive landmark in the railroad town of Bowie.

### Notes

<sup>1</sup> Census for Prince George's County, 14th District, 1880, 1900.

<sup>2</sup> Prince George's County Deed, #11:314; Prince George's County Tax Assessments, 1902-1909.

<sup>3</sup> Estate file #18612; Will GSMcG #4:262; interview with members of Luers family, spring 1986.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G.#71B-14

Cf. Notes, Item #8

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 10,000 sq. ft.

Tax Map #29, Block 8, lots 58-61

Quadrangle name Laurel, Section I

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
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state	code	county	code
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan G. Pearl, Research Historian

organization Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission

date August 1986

street & number c/o County Planning MNCPPC

telephone 952-3521

city or town Upper Marlboro

state Md.

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

WILLIAM T HUBBERT  
5373/083  
4.80A. P.213

R-R

R-R

R-55

LAUREL & BONIE RD.

71B-2-1

71B-2-6

71B-2-7

71B-2-5

71B-2-2

R-55

C-C

71B-2-3

71B-2-4

71B-13

R-R

I-1

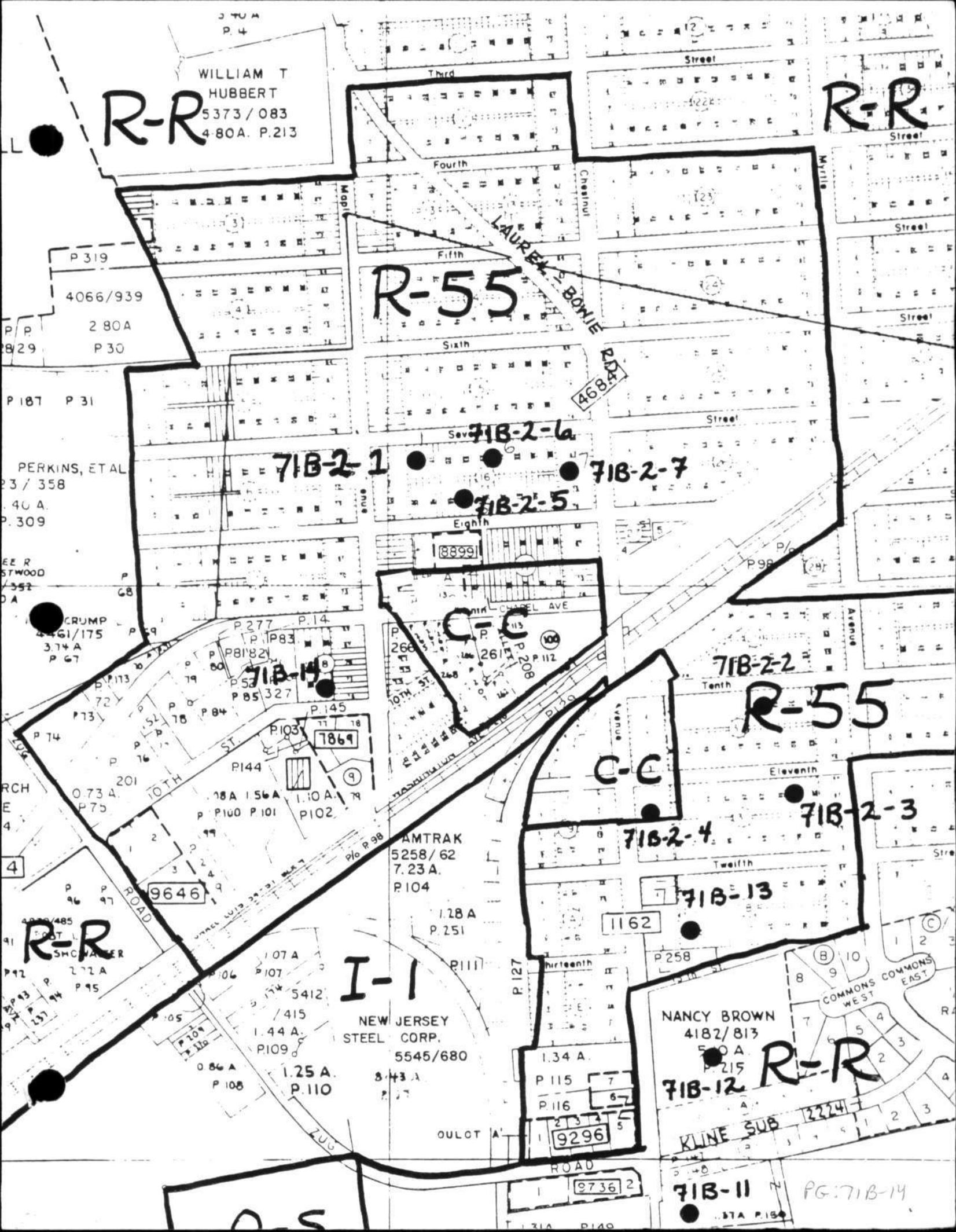
NEW JERSEY STEEL CORP.  
5545/680

NANCY BROWN  
4182/813  
5.0A  
P.215

71B-12 R-R

71B-11

PG:71B-14





PG#71B-14

William Luers House  
Prince George's County, MD  
Susan G. Pearl  
March 1986  
Northwest 3/4 elevation  
Neg: MD Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#71B-14

William Luers House  
Prince George's County, MD  
Susan G. Pearl  
March 1986  
South elevation  
Neg: MD Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



PG#71B-14

William Luers House  
Prince George's County, MD  
Susan G. Pearl  
March 1986  
East elevation  
Neg: MD Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD