

**INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Property/District Name: Belle Chance Survey Number: PG:77-14

Project: 110 Survey of Andrews Airforce Base Agency: F/AF

Site visit by MHT Staff: no yes Name _____ Date _____

Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended

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

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

Belle Chance and its associated outbuildings were determined eligible for the National Register in 1997. Significance for its concrete construction, the main dwelling is an early and uncommon example of residential building. Relatively few concrete houses were built in Maryland, Belle Chance retains a high level of integrity reflecting its materials, design, and workmanship.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: with this MHIP form and Andrews Air Force Base compliance file

Prepared by: John Cullinane

Lauren Bowlin 01/97 2/29/00
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: yes no not applicable

B. Kinty 2/29/00
Reviewer, NR program Date

Capsule Summary

Inventory No. PG: 77-14

Property Name: Belle Chance (Quarters #1, Bldgs. 1966, 1967, 1968)

Location: Andrews Air Force Base

Ownership: Public/Military

Date of Construction: 1912

Belle Chance is a hip-roofed concrete dwelling which stands in a grove of trees on landscaped grounds at Andrews Air Force Base. It is distinguished by its concrete structure, and its Colonial Revival and quasi-Spanish styling.

The house consists of a two-and-one-half-story main block, with a one-story kitchen wing at one end and a sunporch at the other. The main block is large, three bays by two bays, with entrance in a central bay of the main east facade. The eight-panel entry door is sheltered by a small, flat roof entry vestibule of concrete, with an arched opening, and applied openwork decoration. The exterior walls of the house are of concrete approximately one foot thick, covered by board insulation and stucco, painted light beige. Windows are triple sash awning type windows, arranged in groups of three. The hip roof is covered with gray asbestos singles. There are two shed dormers on each of the east and west plains of the roof. Each dormer encloses two small awning-style windows. A tall chimney rises from each of the north and south plains of the roof. The concrete foundation encloses a full basement.

The central entrance on the rear (west) facade opens onto a wide concrete piazza. This entrance consists of double sash French doors, flanked by five-pane sidelights. Extending to the south from the south facade of the main block is a one-story flat-roof sunporch consisting of concrete piers and large picture windows. There is a modern balcony with a decorative balustrade on the roof of this sunporch, accessible by French doors from the second story rooms. Extended to the north from the north facade of the house is a one-story flat-roof kitchen addition.

The interior of the house consists of a central stairhall with the dining room and kitchen to the north, and a large living room on the south. The staircase rises from the west along the north wall of the stairhall; it has a solid partition balustrade. Interior trim is plain; window and door surrounds have Classical Revival architrave moldings. In each of the larger rooms (living room and dining room) is a fine wooden mantel, with shouldered moldings, "cushion" frieze and dentilled cornice.

Among the contributing elements to the Belle Chance property there is a one-story concrete storage shed (Building #1967) just northwest of the main house. This structure is rectangular in plan and has a bent monolithic concrete roof. The building has a single door entrance facing south, with two window units currently containing reflective glass. Adjacent to the shed is a one-story garage (Building #1968), also constructed of monolithic concrete. This building has two garage door openings on its south facade, double-hung, six-over-six wood sash on each side and the rear, and a single door entry on the rear. The roof of the garage has shed style dormer windows on the south side, and a brick chimney. The north side of the building has a second level entry stair leading to a living space. The interior of the garage is unfinished.

During WWII, the U.S. government issued a "Declaration of Taking" for the construction of an air base. All of Dr. Stewart's estate was bought for this purpose. Development of Camp Springs Army Air Field began in August 1942. From the earliest days, Belle Chance was used as the residence of the base Commander; now the Commander of Air Force Systems Command.

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Belle Chance

and / or common Quarters #1 (Building 1966, 1967, 1968)

2. Location

street & number Maryland Drive, Andrews Air Force Base not for publicationcity,town Camp Springs vicinity of congressional district 4

state MD. 20331 County Prince Georges

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building (s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commerical	<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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name United States of America

street & number 18th and F street., N.W. telephone no. :

city, town Washington state and zip code DC. 20405

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deed, ect. P.G. County Courthouse liber

street & number Main Street folio

city, town Upper Marlboro state MD.

6. Representation in Existing Historical Survey

title Inventory & Evaluation of Historic Resources at Andrews Air Force Base

date 1994 federal state county local

pository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state MD.

7. Description

Survey No. _____

PG: 77-14

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.

Belle Chance is a hip-roofed concrete dwelling which stands in a grove of trees on landscaped grounds at Andrews Air Force Base. It is distinguished by its concrete structure, and its Colonial Revival and quasi-Spanish styling.

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The interior of the house consists of a central stairhall with the dining room and kitchen to the north, and a large living room on the south. The staircase rises from the west along the north wall of the stairhall; it has a solid partition balustrade. Interior trim plain; window and door surrounds have Classical Revival architrave moldings. In each of the larger rooms (living room and dining room) is a fine wooden mantel, with shouldered moldings, "cushion" frieze and dentilled cornice.

In the dining room, a plaster ceiling medallion and molded wood cornice have recently been installed.

Among the contributing elements to the Belle Chance property there is a one-story concrete storage shed (Building #1967) just northwest of the main house. This structure is rectangular in plan and has a bent monolithic concrete roof. The building has a single door entrance facing south, with two window units currently containing reflective glass. Adjacent to the shed is a one-story garage (Building #1968), also constructed of monolithic concrete. This building has two garage door openings on its south facade, double-hung, six-over-six wood sash on each side and the rear, and a single door entry on the rear. The roof of the garage has shed style dormer windows on the south side, and a brick chimney. The north side of the building has a second level entry stair leading to a living space. The interior of the garage is unfinished.

At a distance southeast of the main house is the old family burial ground for the Darcy family. Two gravestones on the site date from 1807 and 1842. The Darceys owned the plantation "Belle Chance"; the frame dwelling which was their home burned in 1910 and was replaced in 1912 by the present concrete residence. The immediate grounds of the house are landscaped with gardens to the south, lawns to the east and west, with a small lake to the southwest.

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 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 1912

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.

Belle Chance, the Dr. William Stewart House, is a typical example of an early 20th century, monolithic concrete residence with Colonial Revival and Spanish features. It was built to replace a dwelling destroyed by fire, at a time when the construction of fireproof houses was being advocated. It now stands on landscaped grounds in the center of Andrews Air Force Base, and has been converted into the Commander's Residence.

The land on which the house stands was part of a tract known as "Chance", the early 19th century plantation of Edward Darcey, which he inherited in part from his father, John Darcey, in 1818. Edward Darcey died in 1842 and was buried at the family burial ground on the plantation, beside his wife, Hannah, who had predeceased him 35 years earlier.

Edward Darcey transferred his 272-acre plantation to his grandson William Fry as soon as he reached his majority. Fry sold 108 acres of the plantation in 1848 to Charles F. Calvert, one of the Calverts of Mount Airy. Calvert acquired adjoining land, increasing the size of the property to approximately 360 acres, and called it "Belle Chance". He lived there until his death in 1868. After his death, Belle Chance was, by decree of the Equity Court, divided among his brother's children. It was his niece, Marian Wilson, who, in 1902, sold 168 acres of Belle Chance to Dr. William W. Stewart of Washington, DC.

William Stewart had a degree in dental surgery, and practiced in Washington until 1903. He also had a law degree and, after retiring from his dental practice, entered into the active practice of law. In 1902 he began buying up parts of the old Belle Chance farm and adjoining lands, and set about landscaping his new home. The old Calvert family dwelling burned to the ground in 1910. Dr. Stewart, determined to avoid the chance of fire in the future, undertook to build a fireproof, all concrete structure on the site of the older house. This was a period during which fireproof, all concrete houses were being advocated by builders and architectural publications. It is possible that Dr. Stewart used plans from one of these publications for his new house.

The new "Belle Chance" was completed in 1912. The resulting house is an example of Colonial Revival style, with quasi-Spanish styling, which was popular early in this century. Although built completely of concrete, it incorporates many features, particularly in its interior detail. Within a short period, Stewart had also completed a garage and garden shed, compatible with the main house.

During WWII, the U.S. government issued a "Declaration of Taking" for the construction of an air base. All of Dr. Stewart's estate was bought for this purpose. Development of Camp Springs Army Air Field began in August 1942. From the earliest days, Belle Chance was used as the residence of the base Commander; now the Commander of Air Force Systems Command.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Prince George's County Wills TT #1:218, PC #1:200; Prince George's County Tax Assessments, 1828-1850.

Prince George's County Deed JBB #5:374.

Prince George's County Equity #1097; Prince George's County Deeds JWB #4:284, #7:225.cf.

Shoppell's Owners and Builders Magazine, Volume #11, November 1909, "A Fireproof Cottage"; Volume #12, December 1909, "A Modern Indestructible ne"; Volume #3, March 1910, "A Substantial Fireproof House"; and, Volume #4, April 1910, "Reinforced Concrete for Residential Construction."

"Belle Chance", Andrews Air Force Base, MD.

Judgement on Declaration of Taking #3, U.S.A. Civil #1717. cf. also Prince George's County Deeds #775:9; Historical/Archeological Survey, Andrews Air Force Base, August 1984

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Anacostia, DC-MD

Quadrangle scale 1: 24000

UTM Referances do NOT complete UTM referances

A

Zone	Easting	Northing
------	---------	----------

B

Zone	Easting	Northing
------	---------	----------

C

Zone	Easting	Northing
------	---------	----------

D

Zone	Easting	Northing
------	---------	----------

E

Zone	Easting	Northing
------	---------	----------

F

Zone	Easting	Northing
------	---------	----------

G

Zone	Easting	Northing
------	---------	----------

H

Zone	Easting	Northing
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verbal boundary description and justification

The property is located at the north edge of Andrews Air Force Base in Prince George's County, MD. It is bounded by Maryland Drive and a stream and lake to the west, extending approximately 700 feet east of Maryland Drive. Its southern boundary aligns with the south edge of the lake. Its northern boundary is the south edge of the Maryland Drive turnoff. These boundaries incorporate all of the contributing elements of the resource, and allowing sufficient protection of the landscaping and open environment around the property to ensure protection of its rural context.

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

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name / title John J. Cullinane, AIA

organization John Cullinane Associates date June 1994

street & number 1350 Connecticut Ave.NW Suite 400 telephone 202.785.4470

city or town Washington state DC 20036

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was offically 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
DHCP / DHCD
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
(310) 514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust
Inventory Form
Continuation Sheet

PG: 77- 14

MHT Inventory No.

name of property: Family Housing #1966, et al
resource name: Andrews AFB
county Prince Georges
Maryland

HISTORIC CONTEXT

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: **Western Shore**

Chronological/Development Period(s): **Modern (1930-present)**

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): **Military/Transportation**

Resource Type:

Category: **Building**

Historic Environment: **Urban**

Historic Function and Use:

Residence

Known Design Source: **None**

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #77-14 Building Date: 1912

Building Name: Belle Chance

Location: Maryland Drive, Andrews Air Force Base, Camp Springs, Md.

Public/Residential/Occupied/Excellent/Inaccessible

Description:

Belle Chance, the Dr. William Stewart House, is a hip-roof concrete dwelling which stands in a grove of trees on landscaped grounds at Andrews Air Force Base. It is distinguished by its concrete structure, and its Colonial Revival and quasi-Spanish styling. The house consists of a two-and-one-half-story main block, with a one-story kitchen wing at one end and a sunporch at the other. The main block is three bays by two bays, with entrance in the central bay of the main east facade. The walls of the house are of concrete approximately one foot thick, painted light beige. Windows are triple sash awning type windows, arranged in groups of three. There are two shed dormers on each of the east and west plans of the hip roof. A tall end chimney rises from each of the north and south planes of the roof. Extending to the south is a one-story sunporch with a modern balcony on its flat roof. Extending to the north is a one-story flat-roof kitchen addition. There are three contemporary outbuildings northeast of the house. Southeast of the house is the nineteenth century burial ground of the Darcey family.

Significance

Belle Chance is an unusual example of a concrete mansion with Colonial Revival and Spanish features. The land on which the house stands was part of a tract known as "Chance", the early nineteenth century plantation of Edward Darcey. The property was sold in 1902 to Dr. William W. Stewart, who practiced dentistry and law in Washington, D.C. The old Darcey dwelling burned to the ground in 1910, and Dr. Stewart replaced it in 1912 with this all-concrete structure. During World War II, the United States government began the construction of an air base; all of Dr. Stewart's estate was acquired for this purpose. Belle Chance was used as the residence of the base Commander of Andrews Air Force Base. It is an unusual and important example of its type, probably unique in Prince George's County.

Acreage: 157.7 acres

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Belle Chance

and/or common Commander's Residence

2. Location

street & number Maryland Drive, Andrews Air Force Base ___ not for publication

city, town Camp Springs ___ vicinity of congressional district 4

state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input 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 United States of America

street & number 18th & F Streets N. W. telephone no.:

city, town Washington, D. C. state and zip code 20405

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. United States of America liber Civil

street & number 18th & F Streets N. W. folio 1717

city, town Washington, D. C. state 20405

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.#77-14

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 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.

Belle Chance, the Dr. William Stewart House, is a hip-roof concrete dwelling which stands in a grove of trees on landscaped grounds at Andrews Air Force Base. It is distinguished by its concrete structure, and its Colonial Revival and quasi-Spanish styling.

The house consists of a two-and-one-half-story main block, with a one-story kitchen wing at one end and a sunporch at the other. The main block is large, three bays by two bays, with entrance in the central bay of the main east facade. The eight-panel door is sheltered by a small flat roof entry vestibule (of concrete) with an arched opening, and applied openwork decoration. The walls of the house are of concrete approximately one foot thick, painted light beige. Windows are triple sash awning type windows, arranged in groups of three, with brown trim. The overhanging eaves are painted the same brown. The hip roof is covered with gray asbestos shingle. There are two shed dormers on each of the east and west plans of the roof; each dormer encloses two small awning-style windows. A tall end chimney rises from each of the north and south planes of the roof. The concrete foundations enclose a full basement.

The central entrance on the rear (west) facade opens onto a wide concrete piazza. This entrance consists of double sash french doors, flanked by five-pane sidelights. The first story window in the south most bay of the east facade has been converted into a large picture window, flanked by four-pane sidelights.

Extending to the south from the south facade of the main block is a one-story flat-roof sunporch consisting of concrete piers and large picture windows. There is a modern balcony with a decorative balustrade on the roof of this sunporch, accessible by french doors from the second story rooms. Extending to the north from the north facade of the house is a one-story flat-roof kitchen addition.

Interior of the house consists of central stairhall with dining room and kitchen on the north, and a large living room on the south. The stair-case rises from the west along the north wall of the stairhall; it has a solid partition balustrade. Interior trim is plain; window and door surrounds have Classical Revival architrave moldings. In each of the larger rooms (living room and dining room) is a fine wooden mantel, with shouldered moldings, "cushion" frieze and dentilled cornice. In the dining room, a plaster ceiling medallion and molded wood cornice have recently been installed.

There are several contemporary outbuildings northeast of the house. Northmost is a two-story side-gabled guest quarter. It is three bays by three bays, with entrance in the central bay of the west facade. The southerly two bays, built of concrete, make up the original section of this small dwelling; a northerly bay was added in the 1940's, and rests on a concrete block foundation. Like the main house, the guest quarter is painted beige, with brown trim. Its gable roof is covered with asbestos shingle.

To the south of the guest quarter is a one-and-one-half-story hip-roof garage building. Material and trim are the same as the guest quarter. The two car-bay doors are decorated with brown geometric patterns. In the west plane of the roof are two shed dormers, with louvered windows which light a livable loft space.

South of the garage is a one-story gable-roof garden shed; its eaves are slightly flared, and color and trim match the other buildings. All three of these buildings front on a circular driveway which approaches the house from the north.

At a distance southeast of the house is the old family burial ground on the Darcey family. Two gravestones date from 1807 and 1842. The Darceys owned the plantation "Belle Chance"; the frame dwelling which was their home burned in 1910 and was replaced in 1912 by the present concrete residence. The immediate grounds of the house are landscaped with gardens to the south, lawns to the east and west, and a small lake to the southwest.

8. Significance

Survey No. P.G.#77-14

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"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
			<input type="checkbox"/> science
			<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
			<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian
			<input type="checkbox"/> theater
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
			Local History

Specific dates 1912 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.

Belle Chance, the Dr. William Stewart House, is an unusual example of a concrete mansion with Colonial Revival and Spanish features. It was built to replace a dwelling destroyed by fire, at a time when the construction of fireproof concrete houses was being advocated. It now stands on landscaped grounds in the center of Andrews Air Force Base, and has been converted into the Commander's Residence.

The land on which the house stands was part of a tract known as "Chance", the early nineteenth century plantation of Edward Darcey, which he had inherited in part from his father, John Darcey, in 1818. Edward Darcey died in 1842 and was buried at the family burial ground on the plantation, beside his wife, Hannah, who had predeceased him 35 year earlier.

Edward Darcey devised his 272-acre plantation to his grandson William Fry as soon as he reached his majority; Fry told the plantation (108 acres) in 1848 to Charles F. Calvert, one of the Calverts of Mount Airy. Calvert acquired adjoining land, increasing the size of the property to approximately 360 acres, and called it "Belle Chance"; he lived there until his death in 1868. After his death, Belle Chance was, by decree of the Equity Court, divided among his brother's children. It was his niece, Marian Wilson who, in 1902, sold 168 acres of Belle Chance to Dr. William W. Stewart of Washington, D.C.³

William Stewart had a degree in dental surgery, and practiced in Washington until 1903. He also had a law degree, and after retiring from his dental practice, entered into the active practice of law. In 1902 he began buying up parts of the old Belle Chance farm and adjoining lands, and set about landscaping his new home. The old Calvert family dwelling burned to the ground in 1910; Dr. Stewart, determined to avoid the chance of fire in the future, undertook to build a fireproof, all-concrete structure on the site of the older house. This was a period during which fireproof all-concrete houses were being advocated by builders and architectural publications. It is possible that Dr. Stewart used plans from one of these publications for his new house.⁴

The new "Belle Chance" was completed in 1912. The resulting house is a very handsome example of the Colonial Revival style, with quasi-Spanish styling, which was popular early in this century. Although built completely of concrete, it incorporates many fine features, particularly in its interior detail. Within a few years, Stewart had also completed a guest house, garage and garden shed, compatible with the main house.⁵

During World War II, the United States government issued a Declaration of Taking for the construction of an air base; all of Dr. Stewart's estate was bought up for this purpose. Development of Camp Springs Army Air Field (now Andrews Air Force Base) began in August 1942. From the earliest days, Belle Chance was used as the residence of the base Commander. Since the 1960's, it has been the residence of the commander of the Air Force Systems Command.⁵ It is an unusual and important example of its type, probably unique in Prince George's County.

Notes

1 Prince George's County Wills TT #1:218, PC #1:200; Prince George's County Tax Assessments, 1828-1850.

2 Prince George's County Deed JBB #5:374.

3 Prince George's County Equity #1097; Prince George's County Deeds JWB #4:284; #7:225.

4 cf. Shoppell's Owners and Builders Magazine, Volume #11, November 1909 "A Fireproof Cottage"; Volume #12, December 1909 "A Modern Indestructible Home"; Volume #3, March 1910, "A Substantial Fireproof House"; and Volume #4, April 1910, "Reinforced Concrete for Residence Construction."

5 "Belle Chance", publication of Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland.

6 Judgment on Declaration of Taking #3, U.S.A. Civil #1717. cf. also Prince George's County Deeds #775:9, #1017:91; Historical/Archeological Survey, Andrews Air Force Base, August 1984.

A FIRE-PROOF COTTAGE.

COST, COMPLETE, ABOUT \$9,600.

E. S. CHILD, Architect.

(See Perspective First Cover Page.)

On the cover of this issue is shown the perspective of a fireproof cottage, which any owner who has experienced the disasters caused by a fire will thoroughly appreciate. It is a house of unusually attractive appearance, built on plans the details of which have been borrowed from Spanish or Moorish architecture, and the architect freely acknowledges his indebtedness to these sources. Every owner of a home knows that fire insurance only partially insures against loss. The inconvenience submitted to by the owner of a burned building, the loss of additional property with which one has associations of long years standing, like precious articles of furniture and even the risk of life, are not covered by the damages collected with the insurance company. The time is getting very near when all buildings will be made fireproof, and the cottage referred to, of which the floor plans appear on this page, is an effort to anticipate the blessings which will come with that time.

It is designed to build the walls of this house of hollow porous tile and the floors of the same material, using reinforced concrete beams. The roof will be of flat clay tile with ridge pieces, as shown in the picture. The only wood to be used in the

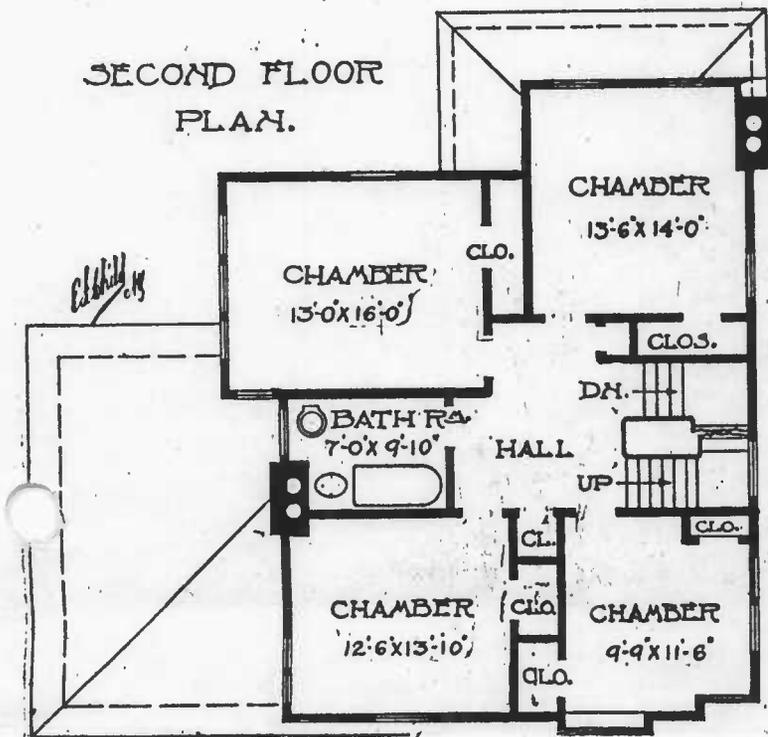
frame will be the rafters, which are to be made fireproof by protecting them with iron lath. In a house constructed on these plans, the owner can safely dispense with fire insurance and feel reasonably safe at all times. The additional cost involved in making the cottage fireproof is estimated by the architect at \$900, which, if invested at the rate of 5 per cent., would yield an income of \$45 per year. An insurance premium of \$20 per year will be saved by the fireproofing, so that \$25 per year is the price to be paid for peace and security in the home.

Other advantages than those secured by the fireproofing are to be found in this cottage. The walls are better non-conductors of heat than the walls of most all other materials that are available, so that the home will be warmer in Winter and cooler in Summer than the average residence of

modern design. There is absolutely nothing in the construction proposed to attract or shelter vermin and, if properly constructed, all communication through the floors will be impossible. The house will be absolutely indestructible from all ordinary causes, and the owner may feel as safe and secure as though he were living in one of the old-time castles of antiquity. There will be no fear of the rotting of sills.

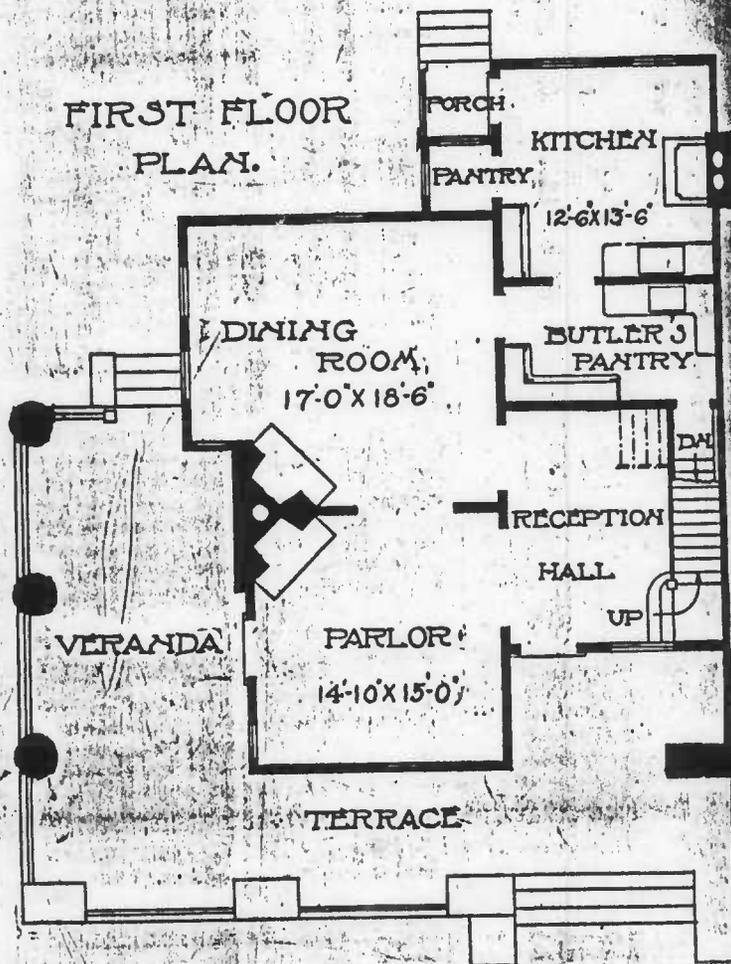
In addition to the accommodations furnished on the first two floors of this cottage, there are three finished rooms on the third floor. The estimated cost of the structure, including plumbing and heating by hot water system, is \$9,600. More complete information regarding the practical construction of houses of this class will be furnished in future numbers of the OWNERS AND BUILDERS MAGAZINE.

SECOND FLOOR PLAN.



SECOND FLOOR PLAN.

FIRST FLOOR PLAN.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN.

#4, p. 15
P.G. 77-14

being connected by four-fold slides. Kitchen is equipped with a large range, sink and sink. All the different rooms are of commodious size and have large openings for light and ventilation.

On the second floor are six chambers for use of the pastor's family and his guests, two rooms for the domestics at the rear. A chamber over the dining room is devoted for a study and has an open fireplace. A hall on this floor extends from front to rear and a bathroom on this floor is equipped with every modern plumbing device to promote sanitation. The attic has finished rooms, and a cellar runs under the entire building.

The building though designed specially for factory, would be equally appropriate for private residence.

REINFORCED CONCRETE FOR RESIDENCE CONSTRUCTION

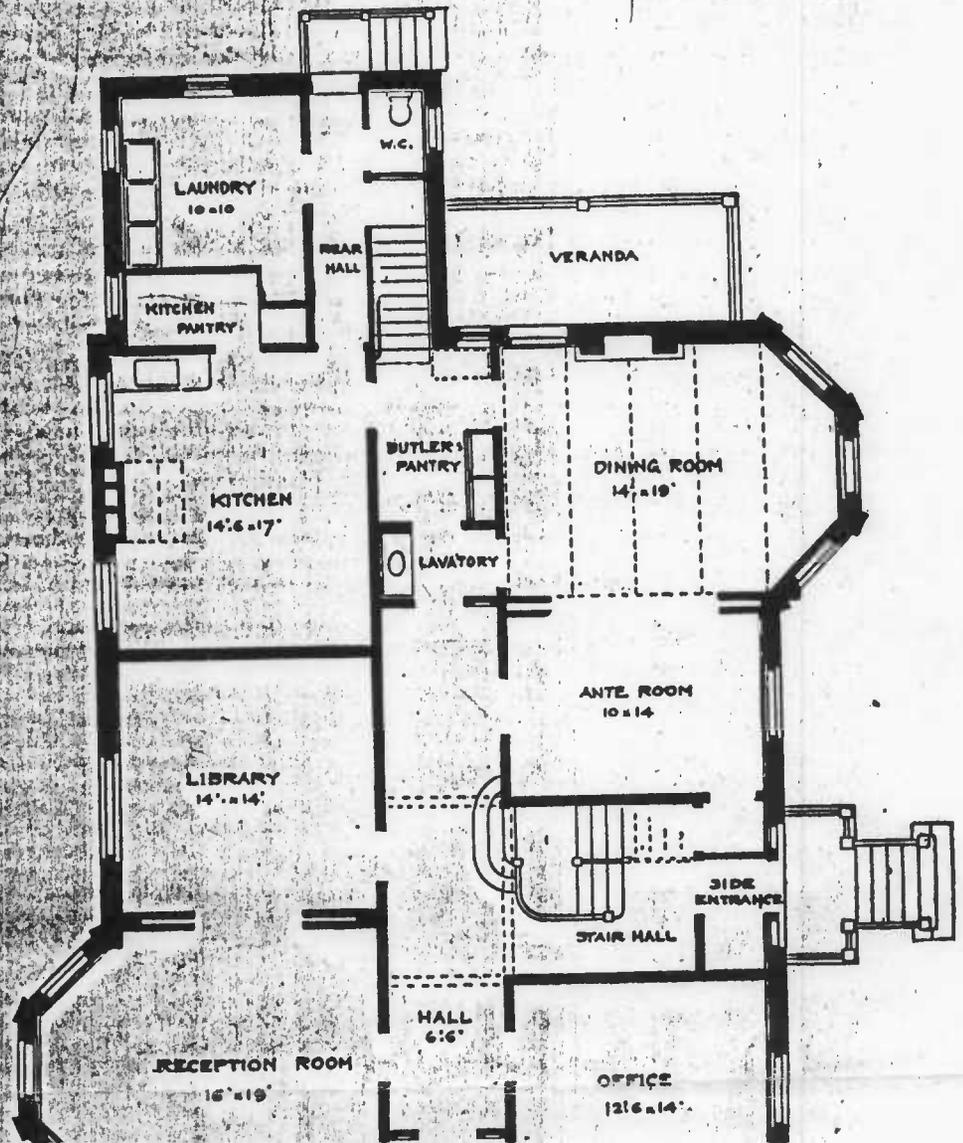
Continuous efforts are being made in this country, for the promotion of the use of reinforced concrete in the construction of residences. This branch of the cement industry has been much slower in development than the other branches, because architects and contractors have been slow to realize the wonderful possibilities of this adaptable building material. This type of construction approaches more nearly the ideal than any other, because a concrete house offers many advantages over any other form of construction. It can be directed to conform to any builder's idea of beautiful design, besides possessing the advantages of being fireproof, permanent, and involving extremely low expense for maintenance. Artistic effects can be secured both in interior and exterior decoration which are impossible with any other building material. All the interior trim may be made of concrete, and the novel effects and possess an atmosphere of refinement not obtainable with anything but concrete.

For the purpose of furthering the construction of concrete residences, the Pittsburgh Architectural Club recently conducted a competition for securing designs of a substantial concrete residence and garage, using reinforced construction wherever possible. The prizes amounting to \$500, were contributed by the Universal Portland Cement Company, of Chicago. The designs sub-

Klinkhardt, Brooklyn, N. Y.; second prize, H. Hepburn, Boston, Mass.; third prize, Wm. Holford, Brooklyn, N. Y.; fourth prize, Edwin F. Campbell, Carnegie Technical School, Pittsburg, Pa.; fifth prize, Henry W. Peebles, Pittsburg, Pa.; sixth prize, Harry B. and Fred B. O'Connor, Pittsburg, Pa.; first mention, John Ingram, Wilkinsburg, Pa.; second mention, Ed. J. Hargenroeber, Pittsburg, Pa.

The design which won the first prize is a drawing of a large two story and a half concrete house built in the form of an "L." The house is built upon a long, narrow ter-

race, at one end of which is a large formal garden, with a pergola covered walk extending along one side, and a concrete wall and benches at the further end. Back of the house is a neat garage with an automobile turn in front of it. A high concrete wall surrounds the garage and turn. A concrete drive leads from the turn to the road, and concrete walks surround the house and the formal garden. The house and grounds are well proportioned and arranged and the buildings and accessories, while novel and artistic, are decidedly applicable to concrete construction.



A MODERN INDESTRUCTIBLE HOME.

COST, COMPLETE, ABOUT \$11,800.

Specially Designed for the OWNERS AND BUILDERS MAGAZINE.

The home builder of the present day has a tendency to do whatever he can to make his home indestructible by fire. The terrible losses which have occurred from this cause in the past has awakened in his mind a fear which can only be dispelled by taking every possible precaution to prevent the dreaded calamity. In addition to this it is now realized that the owner of a fireproof building will save in insurance premiums almost enough to pay for the preventive measures which he takes for the preservation of his property, and this fact is a strong inducement for the building of homes as indestructible as the builder can make them with the materials now at his disposal.

On the front cover page of this issue of OWNERS AND BUILDERS MAGAZINE is a perspective of a home of this kind, the residence of Mr. Frank M. Prindle, at Boston, L. I. This is a fine example of a modern indestructible house. The walls are of hollow tile and the floors of the piazzas are of reinforced concrete, while the entire building is covered with a stucco

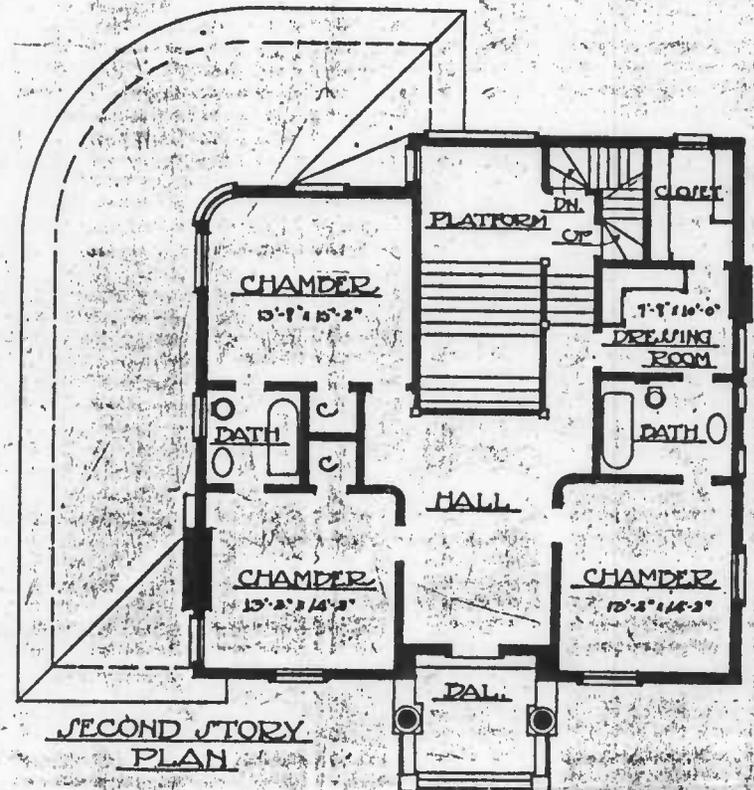
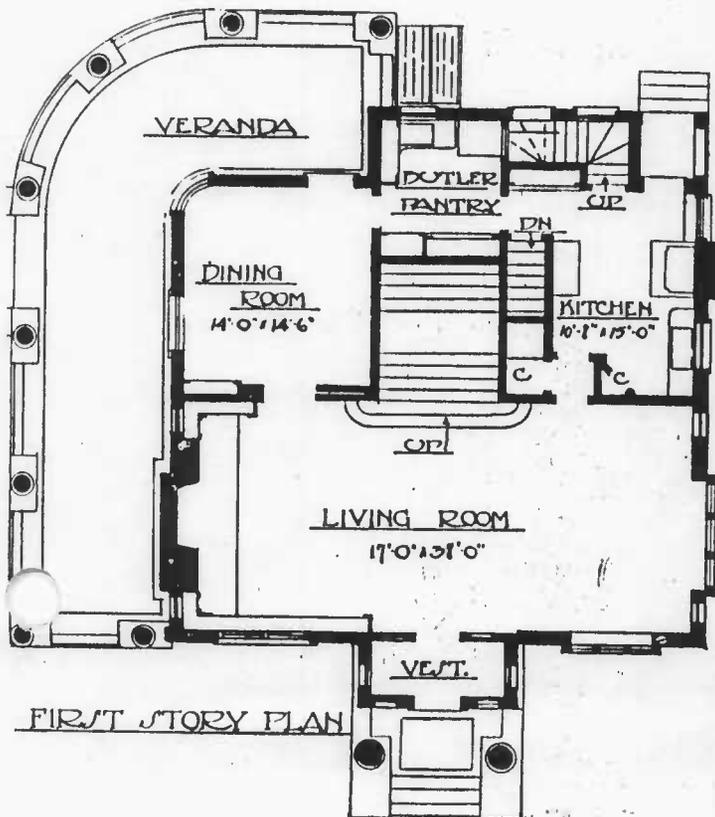
made of Portland cement. The columns are built up of round hollow tile and the rails of the balconies are made of reinforced concrete, formed in moulds, and set in place, thus making what is known as an absolutely indestructible building. The extra cost of the permanent work in this house is regarded as more than offset by the saving in the cost of painting and repairs, as well as by the feeling of security in regard to possible fire on the premises. The inner walls are plastered directly on the hollow tile, and the double partitions in the hollow tile make it a warm house in Winter and a cool habitation in Summer.

A rather unusual feature is the large living room, on the first floor, which extends along the entire width of the house, excluding that of the piazza, and is 38 feet long by 17 feet wide. It has a fireplace which takes up almost the entire part of one end. This fireplace is in tapestry brick, laid with large, dark joints. Part of the design of the mantel is carried around to make bookcases on both sides and the effect is very pleasing

to the eye. A staircase 9 feet wide is a feature of this room and the whole effect is one of spaciousness.

The other rooms on the first floor are the dining room, 14 feet by 14 feet 6 inches; the kitchen, 10 feet 8 inches by 15 feet, and the butler's pantry. A wide veranda extends around the house which affords a fine lounging place for the Summer heat.

On the second floor one entire side is devoted to the rooms of the owner, including a sitting room, a dressing room, a bathroom and closets, which are arranged with lockers, which give hanging space and places for millinery and shoes. Under the ceiling are permanent lockers, in which clothing that is out of season may be stored. Two chambers for the family or guests are also on the second floor, one of them 13 feet 8 inches by 15 feet, and the other 12 feet 2 inches by 14 feet 2 inches in dimension, and a second bathroom. From the hall of the second floor a balcony opens. The design is so arranged as to allow of a fine room on the third floor also.



A SUBSTANTIAL FIREPROOF HOUSE.

COST, COMPLETE, \$22,000.

E. S. CHILD, Architect.

The house shown in the accompanying perspective, substantial and artistic as it is, would prove most impressive if erected on an appropriate site. The architect, Mr. Child, has bestowed unusual care in designing the plans and his object has been to provide for the construction of a home, which will not only be convenient and comfortable in all its details, but which will also attract admiring observation from all under whose eyes it comes. The projecting bay windows add materially to the looks of the building, and it forms, as a whole, a very pretty picture in the landscape by which it is surrounded.

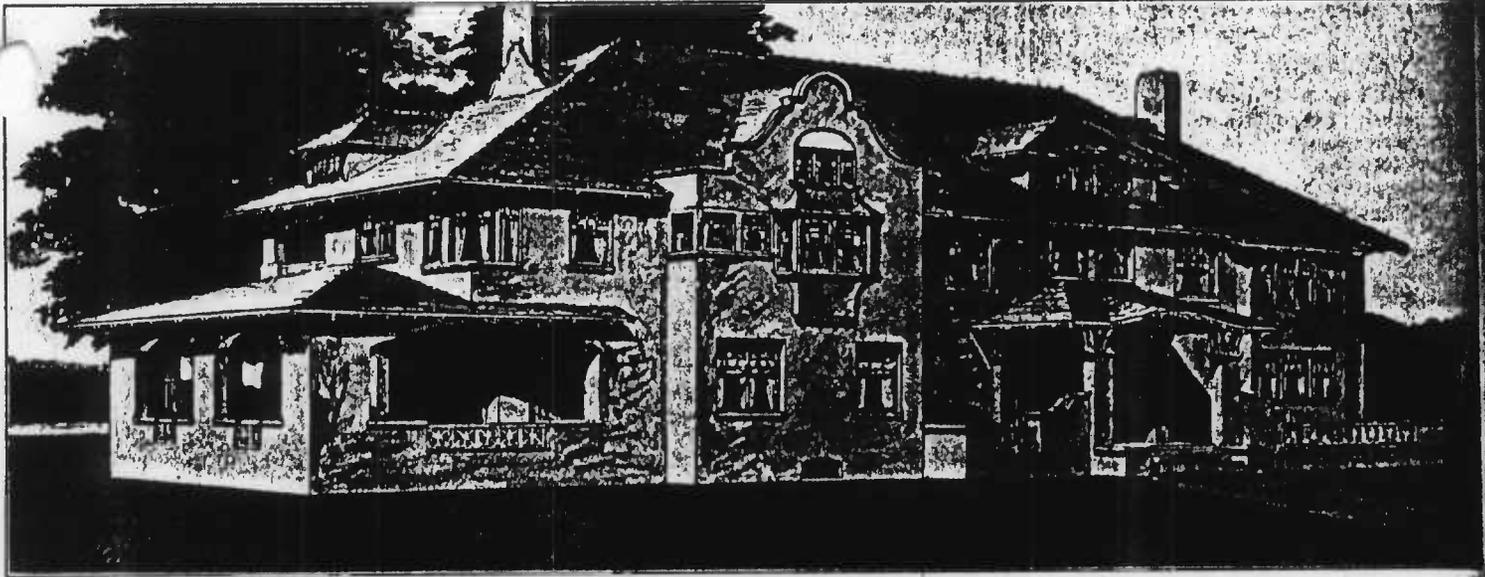
The entrance piazza of this house is wid-

with a cement or tiled floor and there is a side entrance, to which a porte cochere can be added, should the arrangement of the landscape permit.

The first story of the house contains a wide staircase hall, to the right of which is a small reception room, in which is a bay window and an open fireplace. The reception room is 12 feet 6 inches by 14 feet in dimension, and the staircase hall, 17 by 25 feet. Opening from the hall is the living room, 24 by 31 feet, which faces the veranda, which has an area of 14 by 31 feet. To the right of the staircase hall is a side hall which opens directly on the porch. To the rear of the staircase hall is

On the second story are four bedrooms, three bathrooms and two rooms. The bed chambers are 17 inches by 14 feet, 27 by 15 feet, 13 inches by 19 feet, and 17 feet by 13 inches in dimension. The servants are 9 by 10 feet and 12 feet 6 inches by 14 feet in area. A large dressing closets and a clothes chute are also found on this floor. On the third floor are four chambers and one bathroom. The bathrooms are equipped with every device known to the modern plan and ample ventilation is provided in every room of the building.

The interior finish of this delightful



E. S. CHILD, Architect.

A SUBSTANTIAL FIREPROOF HOUSE.

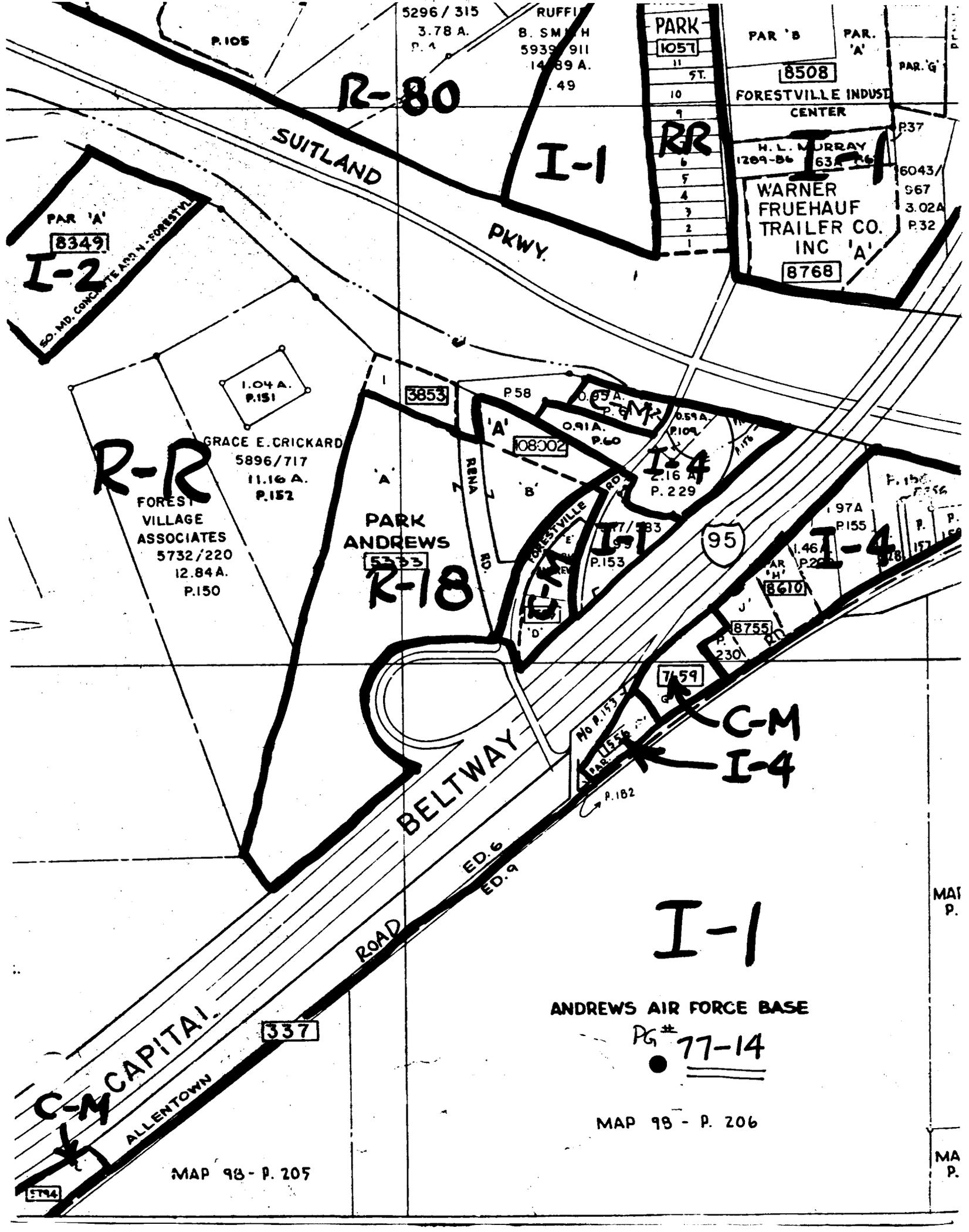
ened at both ends by an open terrace, and the real living piazza of the house, on which the family and its guests will enjoy the Summer air, is on the side. It is spacious and homelike and can be enclosed in glass, during the Winter months, making of it a beautiful sun parlor. A feasible modification of the plans would be the building of a fireplace for this sun parlor, connecting with the same chimney shown in the design.

The building material of this home is intended to be hollow tile, one of the best fireproof materials yet discovered, and the building should have a flat tiled roof. For a fireproof first floor about \$550 should be added to the estimated cost, which is \$22,000. The open terrace should be finished

the dining room, 20, by 16 feet, and adjoining this a conservatory, 13 by 30 feet. On the other side of the dining room is a spacious butler's pantry, connected with the kitchen, this latter room being 13 by 17 feet in area and equipped with every device to add to the convenience of the chef and his aids. Back of the kitchen is a room devoted to the use of the servants, and from this the back porch can be reached. The dining room is separated from the hall by doors of leaded glass. In the living room, which is the finest in the house, is an open fireplace and a number of bookcases, designed in the same style as the exterior. The dining room also has an open fireplace, which will inspire the appetite on a cold day in Winter.

may be arranged to meet the tastes of builder. As suggested by the architect, staircase hall should be finished in white with a mahogany handrail to the stairs and a mahogany wainscot 20 inches high. The dining room should be finished in mahogany, the reception room in enamel white and the living room in dark oak. The design contemplates the finish of the second story except the bathrooms and dressing room, enamel white. The bathrooms and dressing room are to be finished in birch, and the third story and kitchen in natural white wood.

The heating of this house is to be either by hot water or by a ventilating system of hot air.



5296 / 315
3.78 A.
P. 4

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FORESTVILLE INDUST CENTER

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WARNER FRUEHAUF TRAILER CO. INC 'A'

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PAR 'A'

8349

I-2

SO. MD. CONC. TE ASS. N. FORESTVIL

1.04 A.
P.151

GRACE E. CRICKARD
5896/717
11.16 A.
P.152

R-R

FOREST VILLAGE ASSOCIATES
5732/220
12.84 A.
P.150

3853

P.58

0.63 A.
P.60

0.91 A.
P.60

0.59 A.
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2.16 A.
P.229

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1.46
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P.156

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P.159

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PARK ANDREWS

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8610

8755

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C-M

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ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE

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MAP 98 - P. 206

MAP 98 - P. 205

574

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MA P.

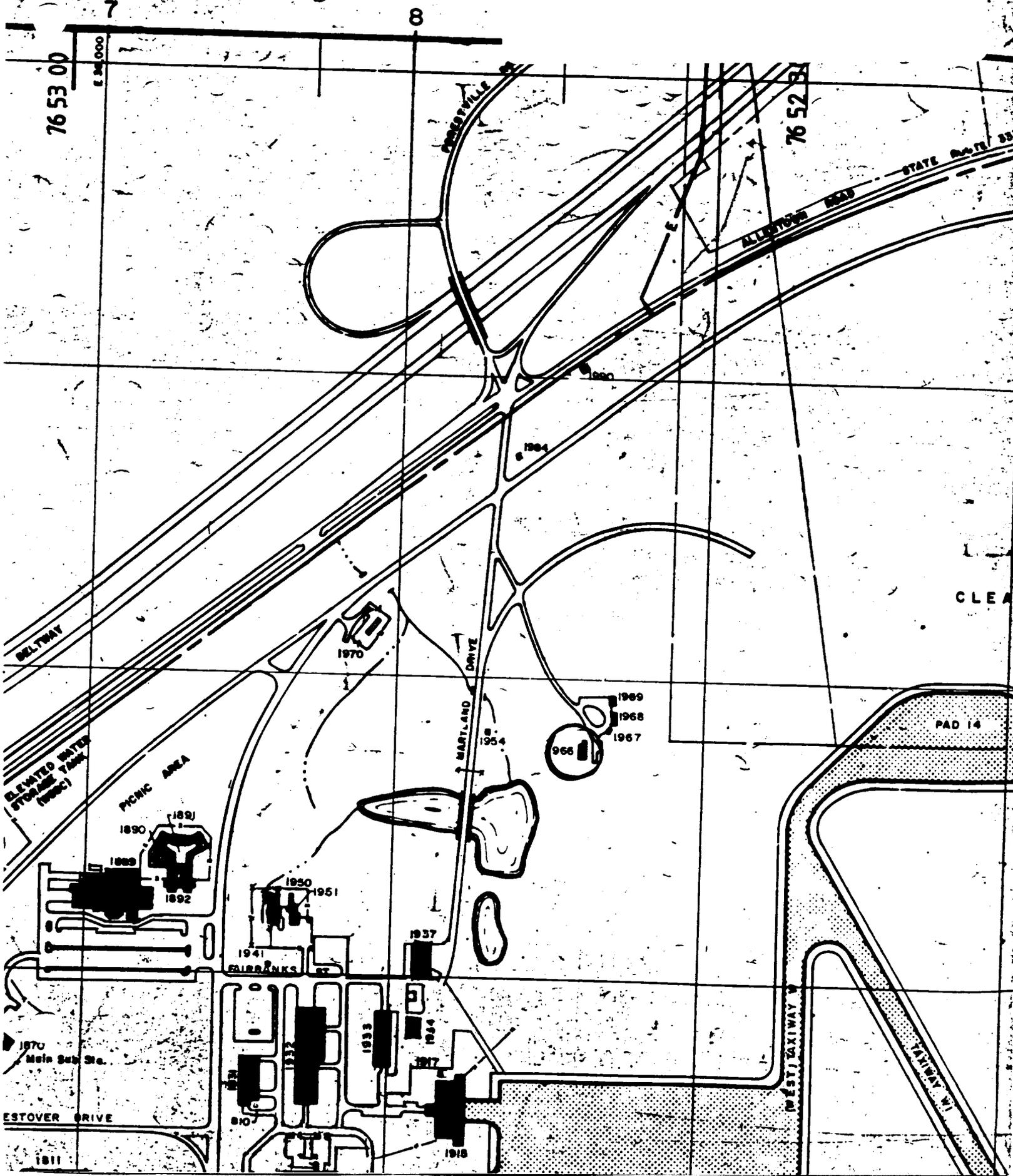
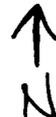
BELLE CHANCE #1966

PG: 77-14

ANDREWS AFB

MARYLAND DR

QUICK REACTION GRID MAP DEC 1970, ANDREWS AFB



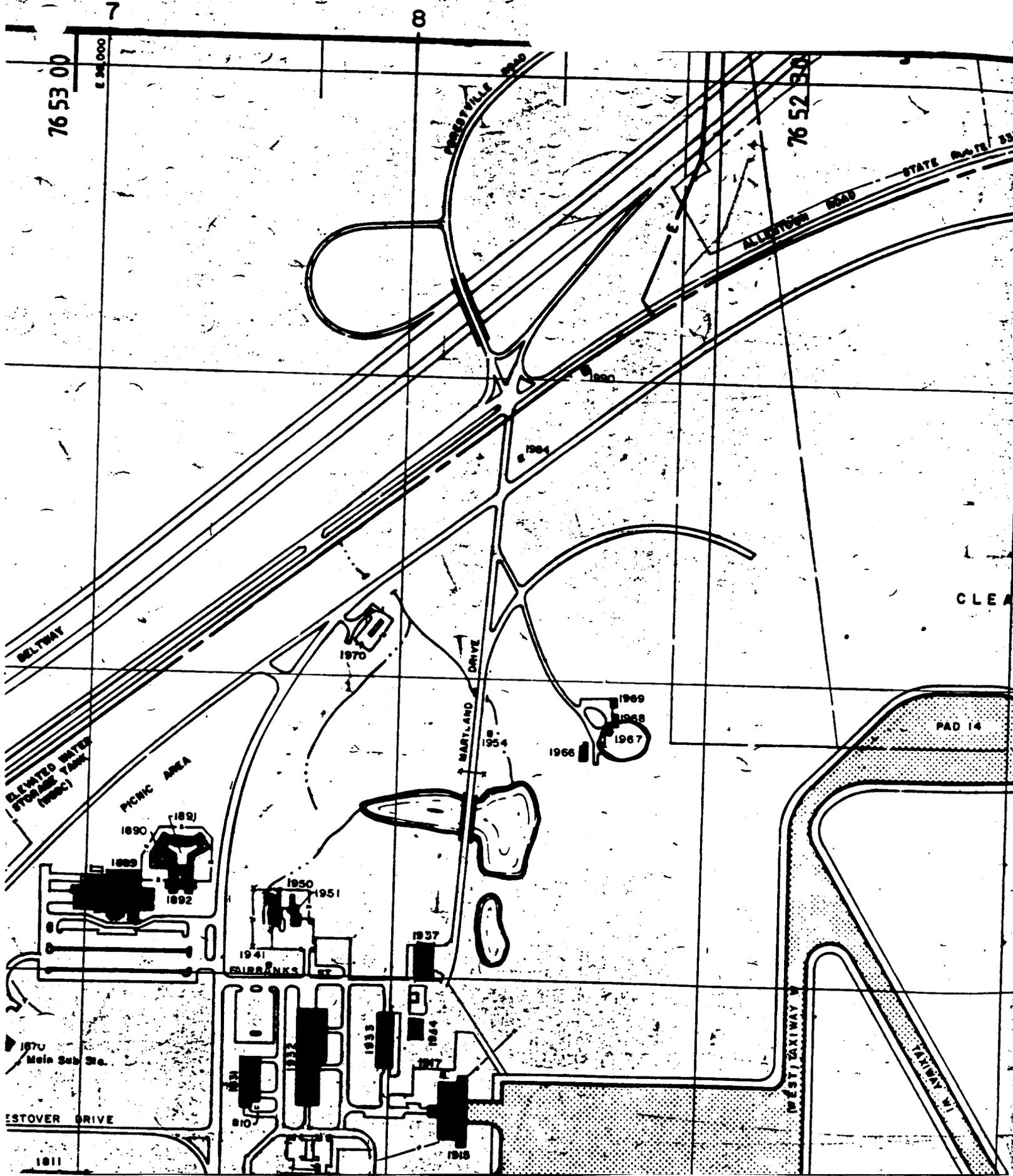
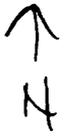
STORAGE SHED # 1967

PG: 77-14

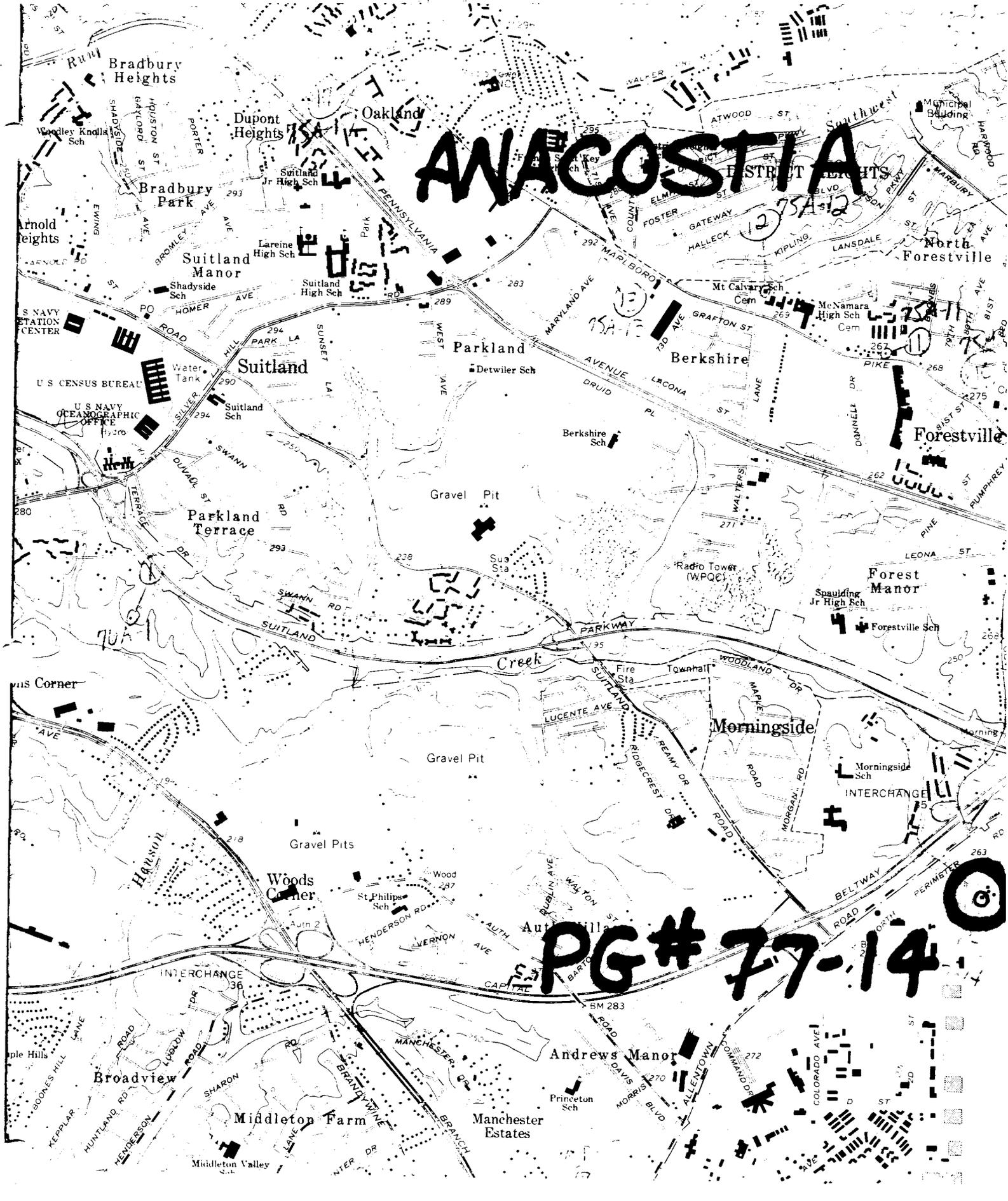
ANDREWS AFB

MARYLAND DR

QUICK REACTION GRID MAP DEC 1970, ANDREWS AFB



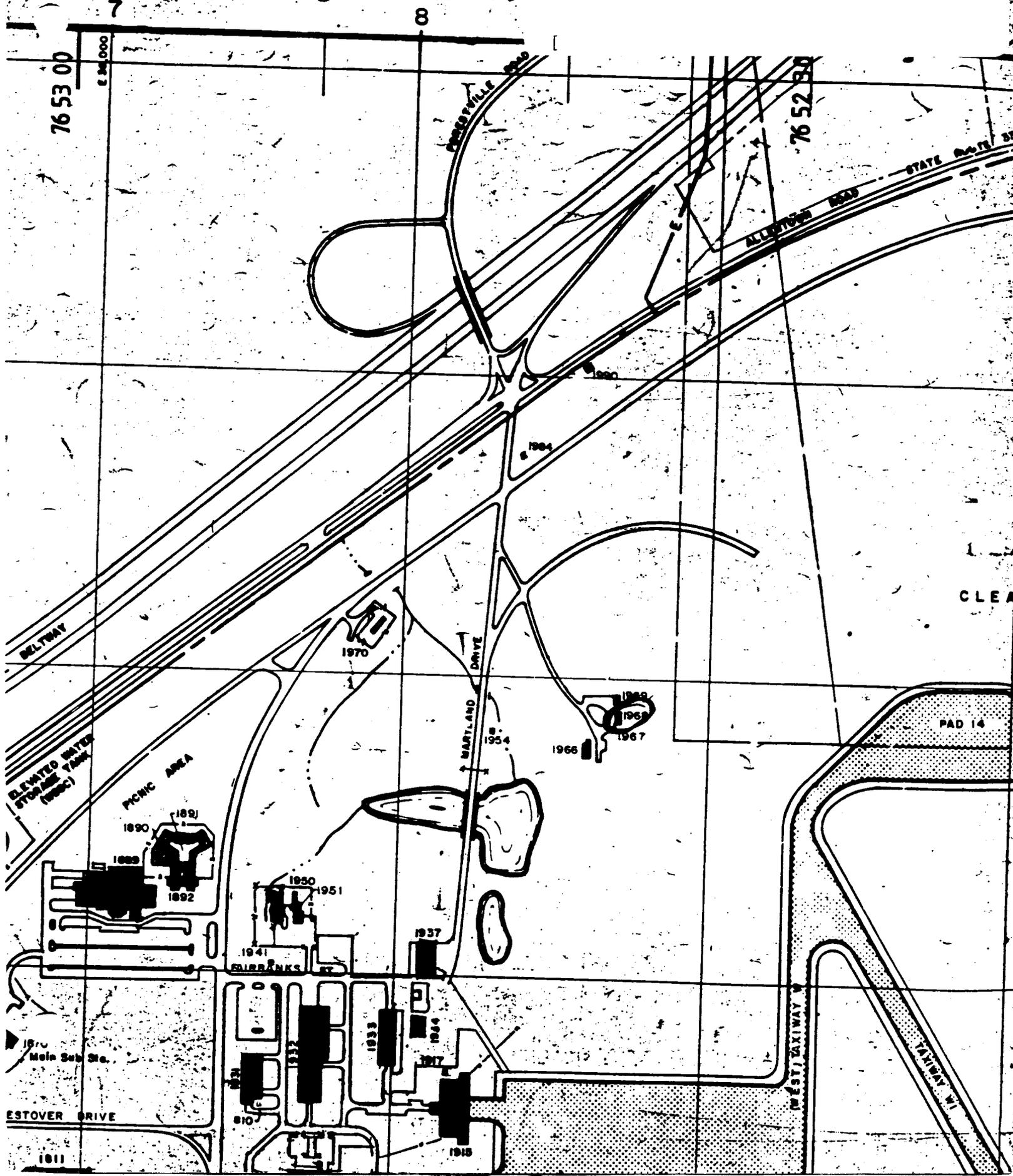
ANACOSTIA



PG# 77-14

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GARAGE (BELLE CHANCE) #1968
PG: 77-14
ANDREWS AFB
MARYLAND DR
QUICK REACTION GRID MAP DEC 1970, ANDREWS AFB





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AAFB # 1966

PG CO., MD

JOHN O. COLLINS

10/28/93

EAR ELEVATION

Processing by
Kodak
FEB 1997 R



PG 77-14

AAFP # 1966

PG Co., MD

John A. Callaway

10/28/97

Processing by
Kodak
FEB 1997 R

FRONT ELEVATION



PG: 77-14

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JOHN O. COLLINANE

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FRONT ELEVATION

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JOHN J. CULLINAN ~~III~~

10/28/93

REAR ELEVATION

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JOHN J. COLLINANE

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REAR ELEVATION



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AAFB # 1968

PG CO., MD

JOHN O. CULLIHANE

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FRONT ELEVATION

Processing by
Kodak
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P.G. #77-14

Belle Chance
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
November 1986
East elevation
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



P.G. #77-14

Belle hance
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
November 1986
South elevation, sunporch
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



P.G. #77-14

Belle Chance
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
November 1986
West elevation
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



P.G. #77-14

Belle Chance
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
November 1986
Guest quarter and garage, from southwest
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD



P.G. #77-14

Belle Chance
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
November 1986
Living room mantel
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD

SACRED

to the memory of
EDWARD DARCEY
who departed this life
June 30th 1812
aged 70 years

P.G. #77-14

Belle Chance
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
November 1986
Edward Darcey Tombstone
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD