MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST CONTINUATION SHEET
U.S. 301 SOUTH CORRIDOR TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Property Name:Pentland Hills
Survey No.: P.G.:79-38 (PACS A230)

Property Address 15400 Danenhower Road, Upper Marlboro vicinity, Prince George's County
Owner Name/Address V.O.B. Limited Partnership / 6801 Kenilworth Avenue, Suite 400, Riverdale, Maryland 20737
Year Built circa 1830, 1850

Description:

Pentland Hills was previously surveyed in the Prince George's Historic Sites and Districts Plan in 1981 and by the Historic Preservation Commission in 1989. The house was in a "ruinous condition" in 1989 and was not found during this study.

National Register Evaluation:

The site of Pentland Hills is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. It is not eligible under Criterion C, as the structure is no longer extant and the property does not retain sufficient integrity to represent an important architectural trend or distinctive characteristics of a type or method of construction. Based upon the date of construction and the property type, there is a likelihood that an archaeological component could exist on the property. However, as no archaeological investigation has been conducted, the eligibility of the property under Criterion D cannot be assessed at this time.

MHT CONCURRENCE:
Eligibility ____ recommended X not recommended
Criteria ___A ___B ___C ___D Considerations ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None
Comments:

Suzanne Pickens 07/21/1997 7/21/97
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date Reviewer, NR program Date

Preparer:
P.A.C. Spero & Company
September 1996

U.S. 301 South Corridor
Transportation Study

Survey # A 89, PG: 79-38
Property Name Pentland Hills
Town/County Upper Marlboro vicinity/P.G. Co.
Quadrangle Bristol

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #79-38 Building Date: ca. 1830's, ca. 1850

Building Name: Pentland Hills

Location: Danenhower Road, Upper Marlboro, Maryland

Private/Residence/Unoccupied/Ruins/Inaccessible

Description

Pentland Hills is a composite house, consisting of two gambrel-roof frame structures joined by a lower gable-roof passage at right angles. A rectangular courtyard is formed between the wings and the connecting passage, and the squared-C footprint of the building has been altered by the addition of porches on three sides. This complex building stands in ruinous condition, together with several deteriorating outbuildings, on a high point of land overlooking the Collington Branch northeast of Upper Marlboro. Pentland Hills has a unique floor plan, two parallel gambrel-roof structures connected in the east by a lower perpendicular passage. Each of the gambrel-roof sections is one-and-one-half stories high; the brick chimney at each west gambrel end has collapsed, leaving an opening in each end wall. The two structures are parallel but not contemporary; the two gambrel roofs are of unequal profile, the roof pitch of the south section being significantly shallower than that of the north section. The structure is sheathed with wide board siding, covered with white asbestos shingle. Principal entrance is in the third bay of the principal south facade of the south structure, sheltered by a one-story hip-roof porch which wraps around the east end of the structure. The house stands on a high point of land at the side of an old lane with deeply cut banks.

Significance

The house at Pentland Hills, although in ruinous condition, is an interesting example of a multi-part structure with unique plan. It consists of two gambrel-roof components, of differing construction dates, joined together by a perpendicular connecting passage. It was the home during the nineteenth century of the Benjamin Hodges family. The property was purchased in 1820 by John Hodges of Darnall's Chance, and developed into a plantation home by his son, Benjamin, in the 1830's at the time of his first marriage. The first dwelling consisted of the south gambrel-roof section of the present building; some years later the dwelling was enlarged by the construction of a separate gambrel-roof structure, connected to the original by a transverse passage. This sequential construction pattern makes this building unique in Prince George's County. Pentland Hills remained in the possession of Hodges descendants until 1912; at this time it was sold to the Danenhowers who undertook a major renovation. The house has been vacant since 1960 and is now in ruinous condition. The site is sigifnicant as the home of the prominent Hodges family, expanded from a small and modest dwelling in an unusual way.

Acreage: 293.18 acres

Survey No. P.G.#79-38

Magi No.

DOE __yes __no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Pentland Hills

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Danenhower Road ___ not for publication

city, town Upper Marlboro ___ vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	___ occupied	X agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	X private	X unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
X site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	X yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	X not applicable	___ no	___ military	X other:

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

name Leeland Road Associates

street & number 4201 Northview Drive telephone no.:

city, town Bowie state and zip code Maryland 20716

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 6733

street & number Main Street folio 323

city, town Upper Marlboro state MD 20772

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Prince George's County Historic Sites and Districts Plan

date 1981 ___ federal ___ state X county ___ local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Commission

city, town Upper Marlboro state MD 20772

7. Description

Survey No. PG#79-38

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	X deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
___ good	___ ruins	X altered	___ moved date of move _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

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

Pentland Hills is a composite house, consisting of two gambrel-roof frame structures joined by a lower gable-roof passage at right angles. A rectangular courtyard is formed between the wings and the connecting passage, and the squared-C footprint of the building has been altered by the addition of porches on three sides. This complex building stands in ruinous condition, together with several deteriorating outbuildings, on a high point of land overlooking the Collington Branch northeast of Upper Marlboro.

Pentland Hills has a floor plan which is unique in Prince George's County. It consists of two parallel gambrel-roof structures connected in the east by a lower perpendicular passage. Each of the gambrel-roof sections is one-and-one-half stories high, three bays by two, with an exterior brick chimney at its west gambrel end; each of the chimneys has collapsed, leaving an opening in each end wall, and both mantels have been removed. The two structures are parallel but probably not contemporary; the two gambrel roofs are of unequal profile, the roof pitch of the south section being significantly shallower than that of the north section. The two sections are joined by a one-story gable-roof passage which runs perpendicular to the gambrel-roof structures, forming a squared C configuration.

The structure is sheathed with wide board siding, covered with white asbestos shingle. Roofs are covered with red asphalt shingle, and the foundation is brick.

Each of the gambrel sections consists of a parlor and a stairhall above which is small upper hall and a single large bedroom. Principal entrance is in the third bay of the principal south facade of the south structure. The door was framed by transom and sidelights over wainscot panels, but the enframement is in ruinous condition and the door itself is missing. The wide transom apparently once had 18 lights, but it is no longer possible to determine the number of lights in the sidelights. The entrance is sheltered by a one-story hip-roof porch which wraps around the east end of the structure as far as the transverse connecting passage. The porch was once supported by Tuscan columns of which only one survives. The porch has a boxed cornice with crown molding, and its roof is covered with standing seam metal painted red.

The south entrance leads into the south stairhall. The shallow two-run staircase rises along the east end wall of the stairhall to a landing,

then turns 180° to the second story. Newel, balusters and railing are gone, but small rectangular gains at the edge of the treads indicate that there once were plain rectangular balusters typical of the early nineteenth century. There are two windows in the east end wall, one at the foot of the staircase, and another, cut off diagonally by the stair, just south of the landing. The lower part of this window lights a closet beneath the first run of the staircase. Door and window surrounds feature a two-step molding separated by an ogee molding, and bounded by outer bands of sharp Greek Revival profile. The plaster is in many places detached from the walls revealing hewn down braces and hand-split lath. Floors are of random-width board, and the baseboards are high with crown molding.

To the west of the south stairhall, a door leads into the parlor which takes up the remaining space in the south structure. The mantel has been removed from the fireplace leaving an opening in the west end wall. Trim is similar to that in the south stairhall, but it is clear that several of the windows have been replaced; in the surrounds of the two south windows, the moldings have a noticeably flatter profile. A wide doorway has been opened in the north wall of the parlor, leading into the courtyard; it has the newer, flatter surround.

The north structure is nearly identical to the south structure, consisting of a stairhall and adjoining parlor, a mirror image of the south structure. The stair rises (toward the south) along the east wall of the stair, but, unlike the south section, there are no windows in this east wall. The north staircase is in more ruinous condition than the south stair, but it appears to have been very similar to the south staircase; it also has a closet space under the first run.

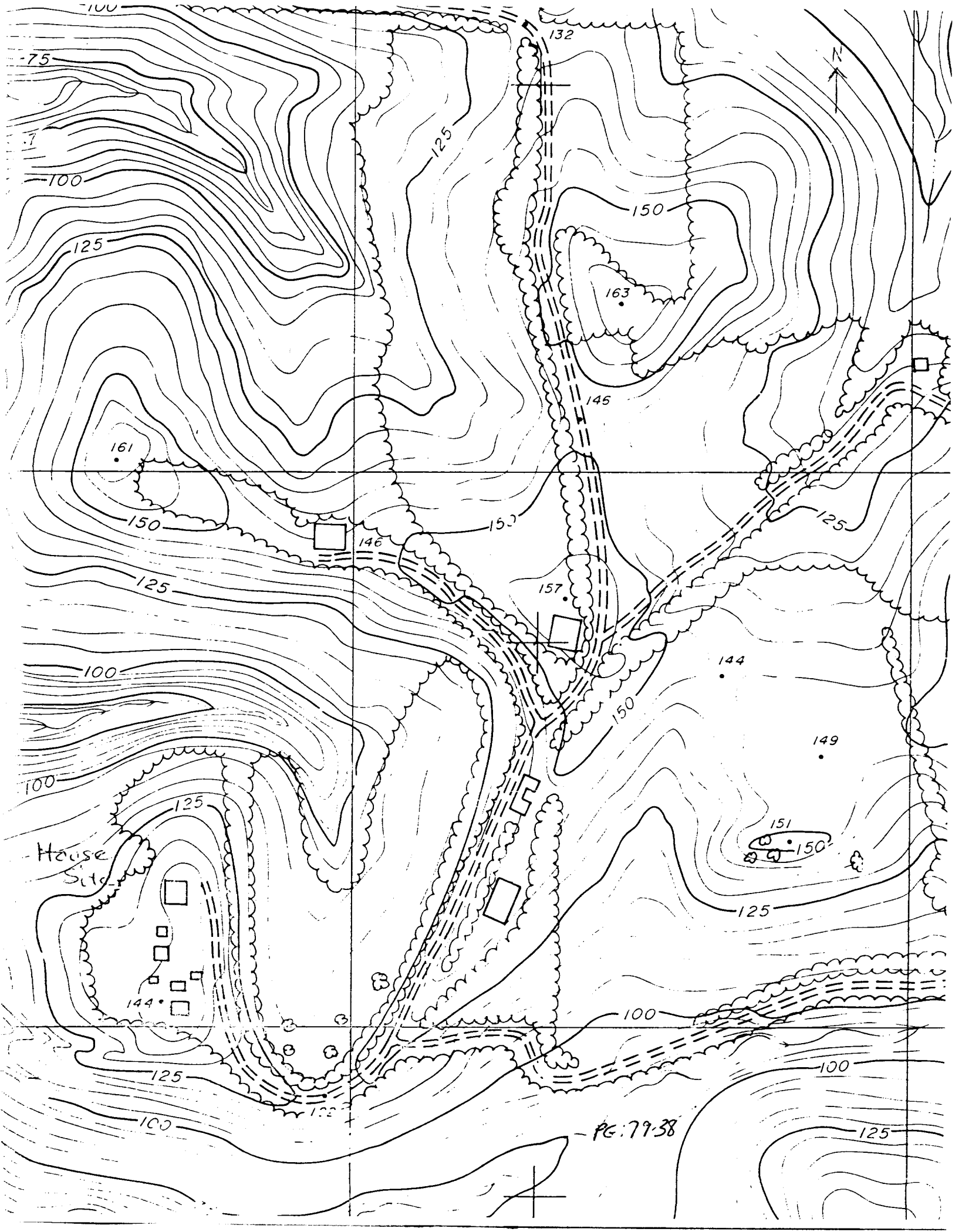
Several factors suggest that the north structure postdates the south structure. Though it is clearly built to the same pattern, it is narrower (ca. 16-1/2 feet) than the south structure (ca. 20-1/2 feet), and its roof pitch is therefore considerably steeper. Like the south structure, it has two types of moldings in its door and window surrounds, but, unlike the south section, the lath showing in its walls is circular-sawn. There are three modern windows side by side in the south wall of the north structure, opening onto the courtyard.

The second-story bedrooms of both sections are lighted by small gable dormers as well as the two windows flanking the ruined chimneys on the west ends. As is the case with all of the windows, the sashes and panes are completely deteriorated. Surrounds of doors and windows in the second story are similar to the older, sharper moldings of the first story, but have an unbroken field. Baseboards are high with an upper bead.

The connecting passage on the east consists of one central parlor between the two stairhalls. A door in its west wall opens into the courtyard, and opposite it, centered in the east wall, is a fireplace with a twentieth-century brick surround. Like the north structure, this east connecting is framed with hewn door braces covered with circular-sawn lath. This connecting section is one story high with gable roof.

Extending one bay to the east of the north component is an added room, probably built as a kitchen. Running along the entire north elevation of the north structure and this kitchen addition is a one-story shed-roof addition, probably first built as a porch and later enclosed. There is an entrance from this enclosed porch into the north stairhall, and another into the kitchen addition. An opening in the east foundation of the kitchen forms an exterior entrance into the kitchen under this small later addition; from this basement space can be observed the hewn sill beams of the north structure. There is no basement space under the older sections of the house.

The house at Pentland Hills is in dangerously deteriorating condition, and what remains of it is entangled with ivy, honeysuckle and other underbrush. It stands on a high point of land at the side of an old lane with deeply cut banks. There are remnants and foundations of outbuildings near the house. Just west of the house stands a small square outbuilding; it has a hip roof covered with wood shingle, it is sheathed with German siding, and has a brick floor.



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House Site
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PG: 79-38

8. Significance

Survey No. P.G.#79-38

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
X 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	X other (specify) local history
		___ invention		

Specific dates 1830's ca. 1850 **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.

#8.

The house at Pentland Hills, although in ruinous condition, is an interesting example of a multi-part structure with unique plan. It consists of two gambrel-roof components, of differing construction dates, joined together by a perpendicular connecting passage. It was the home during the nineteenth century of the Benjamin Hodges family, a family which was prominent in the Marlborough District.

The Pentland (Pentling) Hill tract was patented for 300 acres to Colonel Ninian Beall in 1671, and before the middle of the eighteenth century it had come into the possession of the Whitaker family.[1] The 1798 Federal Direct Tax records an old frame house 48 by 32 feet "very much out of repair" belonging to Marjory Whitaker, Robert Whitaker's heirs.[2] This early house was almost certainly located on a different part of the Pentland Hills tract from the subject house, for the dimensions and description bear no resemblance to the present building.

The Pentland Hills property was sold out of Robert Whitaker's estate in 1803, and for the next decade, 285 acres including the subject property belonged to Henry Harvey.[3] After his death in 1813, Harvey's real estate was sold to John Hodges of Thomas who resided at Darnall's Chance, the early eighteenth-century brick mansion which stood at the northeast edge of the County seat.[4] Hodges had inherited several hundred acres of Thorpland and other tracts which adjoined Pentland Hills on the north.[5] It is likely that Hodges intended all of this farmland as plantation sites for his sons; when he died in 1825, he devised the northerly tract to his elder son John (later known as John Hodges, Sr.), and the Pentland Hills tract to his wife Rebecca for her lifetime, with remainder to their (younger) son, Benjamin T. Hodges.[6] The northerly tract was developed into a plantation (known as Omaha Hill) by John Hodges, Sr., after his marriage in 1829 to Susan Ogle of Belair. The Pentland Hills plantation was developed after the first marriage of Benjamin T. Hodges in 1836; he was established there by the time of the 1840 census, almost certainly in

the southerly section of the present building. Benjamin Hodges' first wife died at an early age, without issue; he married a second time later in 1840, and remained at Pentland Hills.[7]

There exists a contemporary account of a visit to Benjamin Hodges in 1844. In that year Isaac van Bibber of Carroll County was travelling through Southern Maryland to collect subscriptions for a new church in Westminster; he wrote in his journal of a visit first to John Hodges, Sr., and then to Benjamin Hodges at Pentland Hills. "The only man I had met with since leaving home whom I yearned to make my bosom friend was Benjamin Hodges. He lives in a small but neat house on the very summit of a lofty hill."[8] The house which van Bibber described must be the earliest (southerly) section of the house at Pentland Hills.

It is possible that the second part of the house was constructed soon after van Bibber's visit. Benjamin Hodges and his second wife (Maria Daingerfield) had five children, and it is possible that the house was expanded to provide increased living space. It is difficult to determine the sequence of construction; the existence of circular-sawn lath in the north section suggests a construction date after 1840, and even more likely after the Civil War. In any case, Benjamin T. Hodges and his family resided at Pentland Hills into the 1850's; his second wife died late in 1850, and he married for a third time in June 1852.

With his third wife, Elizabeth Wise Riley, Hodges had five more children. They remained at Pentland Hills until after the birth of their first child in 1853, but in 1854 they left Pentland Hills and moved to Georgetown in the District of Columbia.[9] In 1859, Benjamin Hodges purchased 800 acres near Rockville, and moved his growing family to this new plantation, known as Green Hill. At approximately the same time, he sold the 296-acre Pentland Hills farm to his nephew, John Hodges, Jr., eldest son of John Hodges, Sr., of Omaha Hill. The younger Hodges married in 1859, made his home at Pentland Hills, and mortgaged the farm to his uncle, the previous resident.[10] Census records show John Hodges, Jr. and his young bride living and farming at Pentland Hills in 1860.[11]

Like most other farmers in the County, all of the Hodges suffered financial reverses during the Civil War. John Hodges, Sr., of Omaha Hill was so seriously in debt that he was forced to mortgage Omaha Hill to relatives in Virginia. John, Jr. defaulted on mortgage payments to his uncle, and in December 1866 Benjamin T. Hodges conducted a public sale of the property, repurchasing it for himself. At that time, the property was described as follows: "Lundee or Pentland Hills, 296-1/2 acres ...2 miles from Hill's Landing, the head of steamboat navigation on the Patuxent, adjoining Richard S. Hill, Mordecai Plummer, John Hodges, Sr. ... high cultivation ... on it is a nice, comfortable dwelling house, good stabling, corn house, three tobacco houses all in good repair, an excellent tenant house and two smaller houses... a young apple orchard." Benjamin T. Hodges made the highest bid on the property ($51.66 per acre), and Pentland Hills returned to his ownership.[12]

For several years, a tenant named James Lowe occupied and farmed Pentland Hills. By 1873, however, Benjamin T. Hodges himself was in financial difficulty; his creditors foreclosed on Green Hill, and that 800-acre property was sold. In 1874, the Benjamin Hodges family returned to Pentland Hills.[13]

In hopes of paying off the debts which he owed to his children during this period, Benjamin T. Hodges in 1871 executed a deed of trust for Pentland Hills to his friend and neighbor, attorney Richard B.B. Chew. The deed of trust authorized attorney Chew to manage the Pentland Hills real estate, to collect profits and income from the farm, and pay them to five of Hodge's children. In the process of paying off these debts, attorney Chew sold the easterly 135-acre portion of Pentland Hills (not including Benjamin Hodges' dwelling, the subject house) in 1879 to William A. Coale; on this parcel, which bounded upon John Bowling's home place (Bowling Heights) on the east, stood a tenant house and barn. Coale took up residence there and farmed the land, probably even after he sold the farm in 1880.[14]

By this time, Benjamin T. Hodges had moved back into his former residence on the remaining 157 acres of Pentland Hills, certainly by this time enlarged by the addition of the second gambrel-roof section. The 1880 census showed him widowed in 1877 for the third time, living at Pentland Hills with six of his children, who ranged in age from 35 to 13 years; his sister-in-law, Susan Hodges, widow of John Hodges, Sr., remained at Omaha Hill to the north with four of her grown children, and William Coale and his family still lived on the farm immediately to the east.[15]

Benjamin T. Hodges spent the last years of his life with one of his daughters in the Rockville area. He died in 1894, and was buried in the family graveyard at Omaha Hill; his dwelling remained the home for several more years of his youngest son Benjamin. The younger Benjamin Hodges and his sister Virginia had sold their interest in their father's 157-acre farm to their sister Elizabeth and her husband James P. Biays.[16] The land was described in 1885 as "Pentland Hills which formerly belonged to Benjamin T. Hodges of Prince George's County which was conveyed to Richard B.B. Chew in 1871 . . . the land hereby intended to be sold being that portion of Pentland Hills which was not sold by the trustee and is now rented by the said James P. Biays and occupied by himself and his family."[17] Pentland Hills remained the Biays family home for only a short time. For some years before Elizabeth Hodges Biays sold it, it had been rented to a tenant who had caused considerable damage to the building. In 1912, the widowed Elizabeth Biays sold the house and 157-acre farm to Edward B. Danenhower.[18]

In the meantime, the easterly 135-acre part of Pentland Hills had been the home farm of William Coale and then of Augustine T. Brooke. Brooke, who had served as Clerk of the County Court in 1879, built and lived in a frame house on the west edge of Upper Marlboro until 1892 when

he gave that house to Trinity Church for use as a Rectory. He rented and lived at Trelawn until 1896, and then moved to the Pentland Hills farm which he had purchased from William Coale; he remained at Pentland Hills until 1904 when he moved back into his home on the west edge of Upper Marlboro.[19] In 1916, Brooke sold his 135-acre portion of Pentland Hills to Edward Danenhower, who in 1912 had bought the adjoining 157-acre Hodges/Biays home place.[20]

In 1912, when the Danenhowers acquired the old Hodges home, it had been vacant for some time and was in deteriorating condition; they began an ambitious program of renovation. The random-width board siding, old and deteriorating, was replaced with new wide horizontal board. The south entrance was redone, and the old 9/6 windows were replaced. The deteriorating south porch, which had a shed roof supported by plain pole posts, was replaced by a larger, more formal porch; the new porch had a hip roof, and boxed cornice supported by Tuscan columns, and wrapped around the east end of the structure. A garden trellis was erected in the courtyard formed in the westerly space between the two principal sections of the house. Modern windows were opened into the south wall of the north section, lighting the dining room and giving full view of the courtyard. The newly refinished house was specious and handsome. Several of the old outbuildings were refurbished and put to use: a small square outbuilding (still standing just west of the house) with steep pyramidal roof, and two more outbuildings with German siding which stood to the south.

Edward Danenhower died in 1930; his widow, Juliette Danenhower, soon remarried and continued residence at Pentland Hills. The house, although occupied, was not well maintained, and by 1960, when she and her son, Edward Danenhower, Jr. sold both parcels of the land (291 acres) to a developer, the house had already suffered considerable deterioration.[21] Since 1960 the house has been vacant, and open to the elements. In recent years, vandalism also has taken its toll; the newel, rail and balusters have been removed from the staircase, and the plain wood mantels with their boldly profiled Greek Revival shelves have been removed for salvage, as have the grained six-panel doors. The house has for a decade or more been in unsafe and ruinous condition. Both of the (west) brick chimneys have collapsed leaving wide openings in each of the west gambrel ends; all that remains of each chimney is an ivy-covered heap of fallen bricks.

The house at Pentland Hills is almost certainly beyond repair. It is, however, an interesting example of a nineteenth-century plantation house of unique plan. The archeaological site is significant as the home of the prominent Hodges family, expanded from a small and modest dwelling in an unusual way. The sequential construction of the second section close to the original recalls comparable situations at Hazelwood, Prospect Hill, St. James Hill and the "Cedars" at Nottingham;[22] the form of expansion in the case of Pentland Hills is unique.

Notes

1 Patent #14:226. Prince George's County Tax Assessments 1796, 1800 ff.

2 Federal Direct Tax, 1798.

3 Chancery B56206-221; see also Prince George's County Tax Assessments, 1796-1819.

4 Prince George's County Deed AB #2:78; see also P.G. #79-28, Darnall's Chance.

5 Prince George's County Deed T #1:636; Tax Assessments for Prince George's County, 1800-1825.

6 Prince George's County Will TT #1:31; Prince George's County Chancery AB #2:234.

7 Census records for Prince George's County, 1840, 1850; Prince George's County marriage records.

8 Isaac van Bibber Journal, 1844, MS #515, Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore.

9 The Hodges Family of Southern Maryland (genealogy).

10 Prince George's County Deed CSM #2:406, 407.

11 Census records for Prince George's County, Marlboro District, 1860, 1870.

12 Prince George's County Equity #537; Hodges, Kenneth, The Hodges Family of Omaha Hill, Prince George's County, Md. 1988.

13 Prince George's County Equity #1052; Hodges, Kenneth, The Hodges of Green Hill, Montgomery County, Md. 1987.

14 Prince George's County Equity #1052; Prince George's County Deed of Trust HB #4:723. Prince George's County Deeds HB #14:366, 367; WAJ #2:205. Census records for Prince George's County, 1870, 1880.

15 Census records for Prince George's County, 1880.

16 Prince George's County Deed JWB #5:335; see also Equity #537, Prince George's Enquirer, 30 March 1894.

17 ibid.

18 Prince George's County Equity #537; Prince George's County Deeds #62:431 and #84:57, 58.

19 Census records for Prince George's County, 1880, 1900, 1910; see also MHT files P.G. #79-17 and 79-45.

[20] Prince George's County Deed #125:164.

[21] Prince George's County Deed #2507:73.

[22] See MHT files P.G. #74B-13, P.G. #70-25, and #84-1.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. PG#79-38

See Notes #8
See Chain of Title

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 293.18 acres
Quadrangle name Bristol
Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Tax Map 93, parcel 1

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

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 Susan G. Pearl, Research/Architectural Historian

organization Historic Preservation Commission date June 1989

street & number 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Dr., Room 4010
County Administration Building 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

PS-2746

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

HISTORIC SITES SUMMARY SHEET

P.G. County Survey # 79-38 Date 1830's

Building Name Pentland Hills

Location West of #301 at Danenhower Road, Upper Marlboro, Md.

Open to Public ____ yes __x__ no

Pentland Hills is a composite house: two one-and-one-half story framed wings with gambrel roofs, joined together on the east ends by a one story connecting passage running at right angles to the wings. An exterior brick chimney rises from the west end of each of the gambrel wings, and a small courtyard is formed in the area between the wings and connecting passage. Added porches and rooms on the east, north and south have altered the squared-U form of the basic house.

Pentland Hills was the home of Benjamin Hodges, son of an important landowner and farmer in Upper Marlboro known as John Hodges of Thomas. The principal part of the house was built in the 1830's after Benjamin inherited the land from his father, possibly on the same site as the late eighteenth century home of the Whitaker family, then owners of the tract. A visitor from Westminster, Maryland, described the house in 1844 as "a very small but neat house at the very summit of a very lofty hill". Descendants of Benjamin Hodges remained at Pentland Hills until 1912, after which the house was acquired and renovated by the Danenhower family. It has been vacant since ca. 1960, and is in very deteriorated condition.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

P.G. #79-38

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Pentland Hills

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER West of #301 at Danenhower Road, Upper Marlboro, Md.

CITY, TOWN Upper Marlboro, Md. __ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 4th

STATE

COUNTY P.G.

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	__OCCUPIED	X AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	X UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		X __NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME M. Leo Storch

Telephone #: 301-577-4500

STREET & NUMBER 9440 Lanham-Severn Road

Maryland

CITY, TOWN Seabrook __ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code Maryland 20801

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC P.G. County Courthouse

Liber #: 2507

Folio #: 73

STREET & NUMBER Main Street

CITY, TOWN Upper Marlboro

STATE Maryland 20870

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	X DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Pentland Hills is a composite house - two one-and-one-half story framed wings with gambrel roofs, joined together on the east ends by a one story connecting wing running at right angles to the wings. An exterior brick chimney rises from the west end of each of the gambrel wings, and a small courtyard is formed in the area between the wings and connecting passage.

Porches have been added on both the east and south sides of the south wing, and a smaller one on the north side of the north wing. Two more rooms have been added to the east of the north wing, thus altering the squared-U form of the basic house,

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

SIGNIFICANCE

PG:79-38

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEULOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	X ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		x local history

SPECIFIC DATES 1830's BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Pentland Hills was the home of Benjamin Hodges, son of an important landowner and farmer in Upper Marlboro known as John Hodges of Thomas. The principal part of the house was built in the 1830's after Benjamin inherited the land from his father, possibly on the same site as the late eighteenth century home of the Whitaker family, then owners of the tract. The house was visited in 1844 by Isaac Van Bibber on a money-raising tour for the construction of a church in Westminster, Maryland. In a visit to Benjamin Hodges' home, he described it as "a very small but neat house at the very summit of a very lofty hill".

Descendants of Benjamin Hodges remained at Pentland Hills until 1912, after which the house was occupied and renovated by the Danenhower family. It has been vacant since ca. 1960, and is in very deteriorated condition.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PG:79-38

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Will TT#1, 31. Deeds CSM 2, 406; HB 4, 723; JWB 5, 33; 62, 431; HB 14, 366; 278m 339; 278m 337; 609, 44; Equity #1052.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY c. 300 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Kenneth Hodges, Jr. and Susan G. Pearl — Fall 1978

ORGANIZATION — DATE
P.G. Historical & Cultural Trust

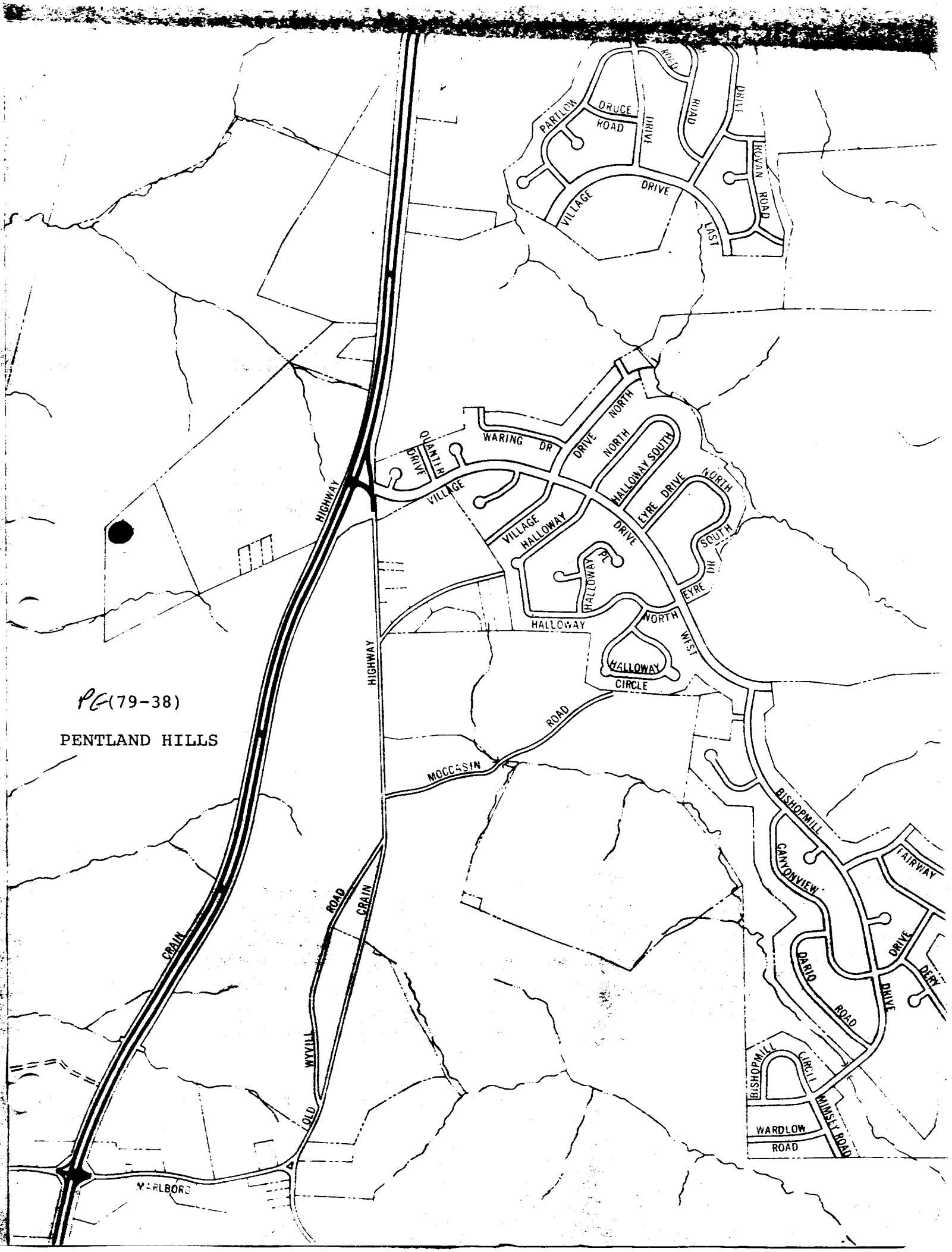
STREET & NUMBER — TELEPHONE
9110 Brandywine Rd. — 599-6776

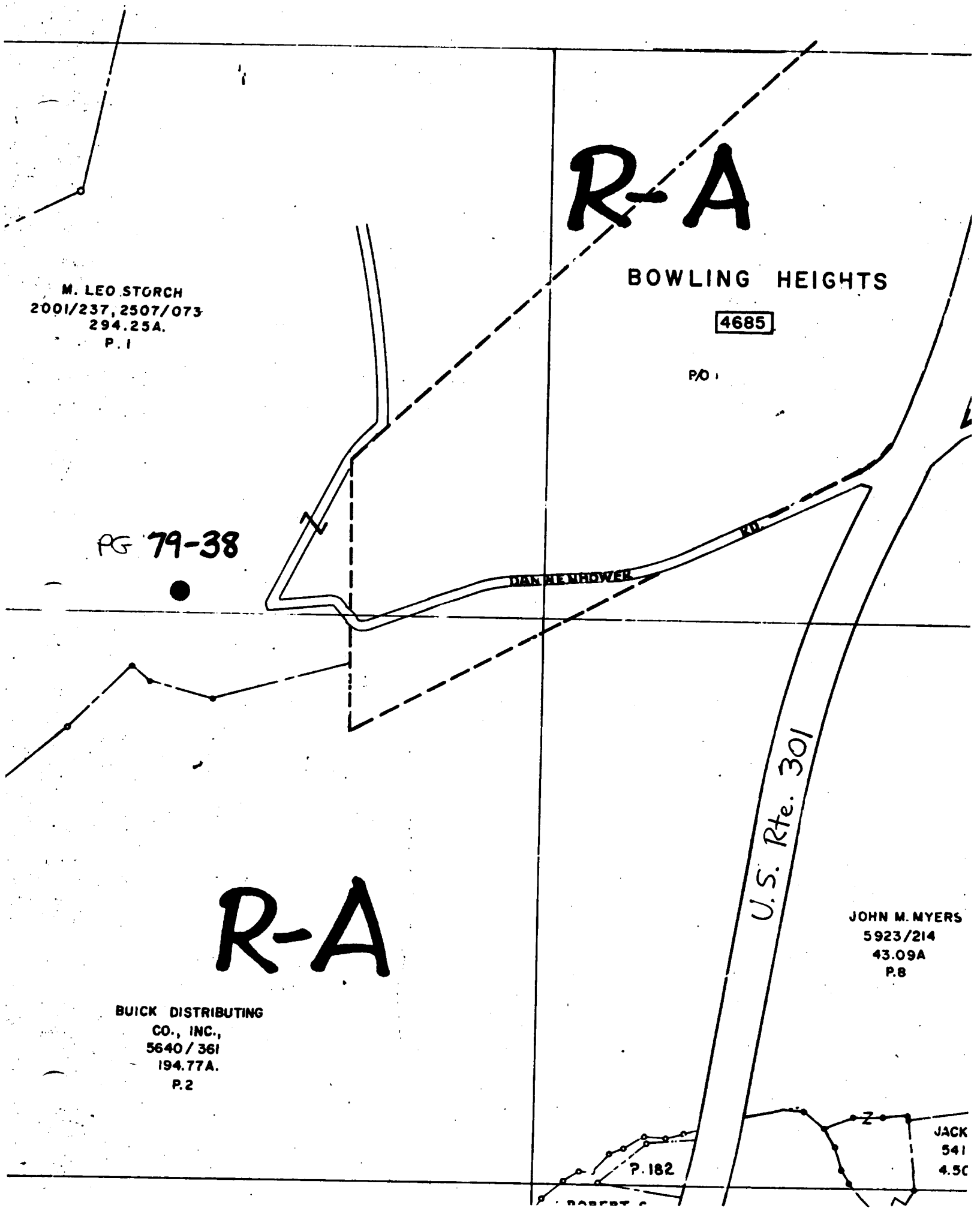
CITY OR TOWN — STATE
Clinton, Md.

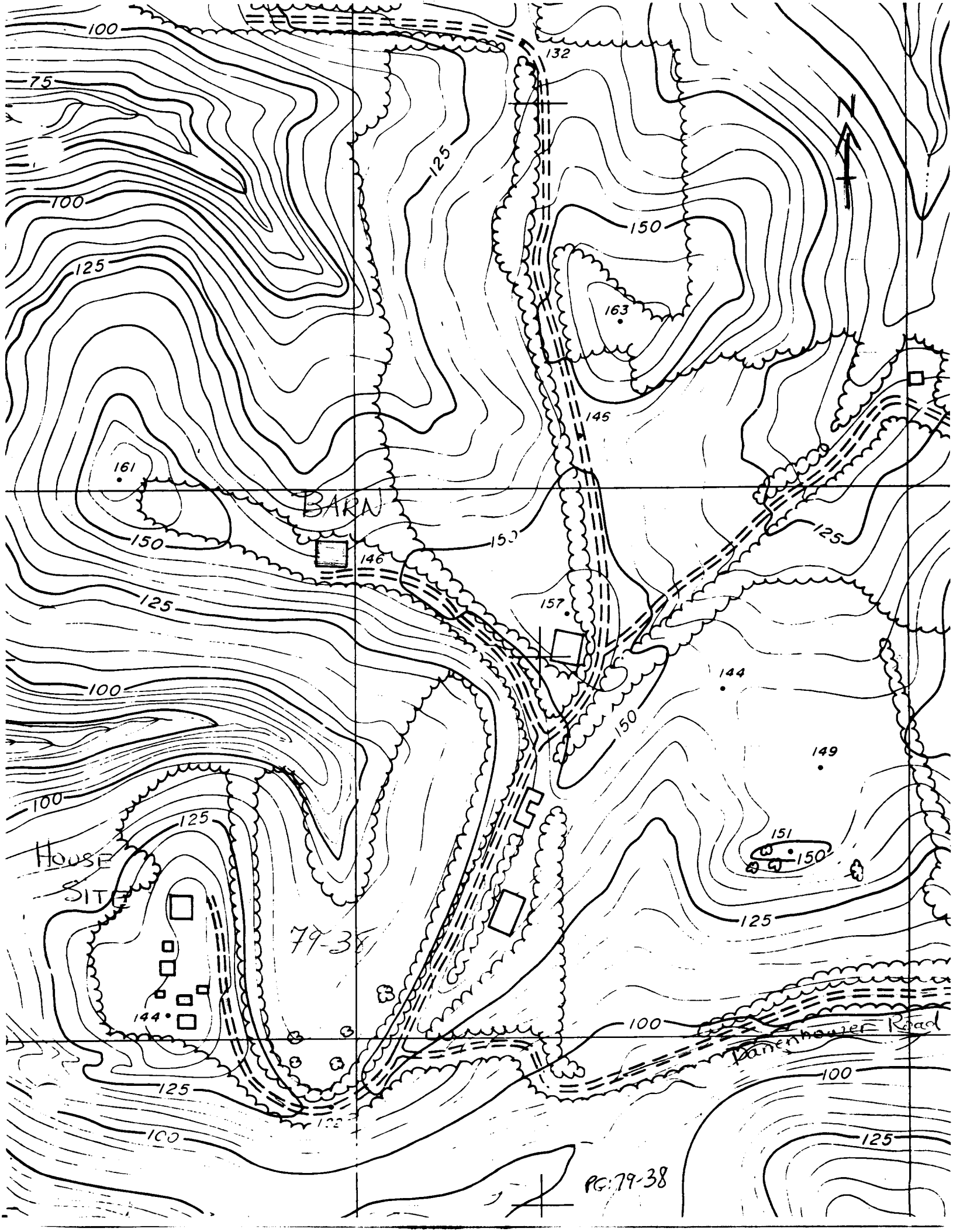
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438


PG(79-38)
PENTLAND HILLS
PARTLOW
DRUCE
ROAD
DRIVE
ROAD
DRIVE
ROYAN
ROAD
VILLAGE
DRIVE
LAST
WARING DR
QUANTIN
DRIVE
VILLAGE
HIGHWAY
NORTH
DRIVE
NORTH
HALLOWAY SOUTH
EYRE DRIVE
NORTH
VILLAGE
HALLOWAY
DRIVE
SOUTH
EYRE DR
HALLOWAY PL
HALLOWAY
NORTH
WEST
HALLOWAY
CIRCLE
HIGHWAY
ROAD
MOCCASIN
BISHOPMILL
CANYONVIEW
FAIRWAY
DRIVE
DARIO
ROAD
DRIVE
DERY
CRAIN
ROAD
CRAIN
WYVILL
OLD
BISHOPMILL
CIRCLE
WIMSEY ROAD
WARDLOW
ROAD
MARLBORO


R-A
BOWLING HEIGHTS
4685
P/O 1
M. LEO STORCH
2001/237, 2507/073
294.25A.
P. 1
PG 79-38
DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER RD.
U.S. Rte. 301
R-A
BUICK DISTRIBUTING
CO., INC.,
5640/361
194.77A.
P. 2
JOHN M. MYERS
5923/214
43.09A
P. 8
P. 182
JACK
541
4.50



100
75
100
125
132
125
150
163
145
161
BARN
150
146
150
125
157
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144
100
150
149
100
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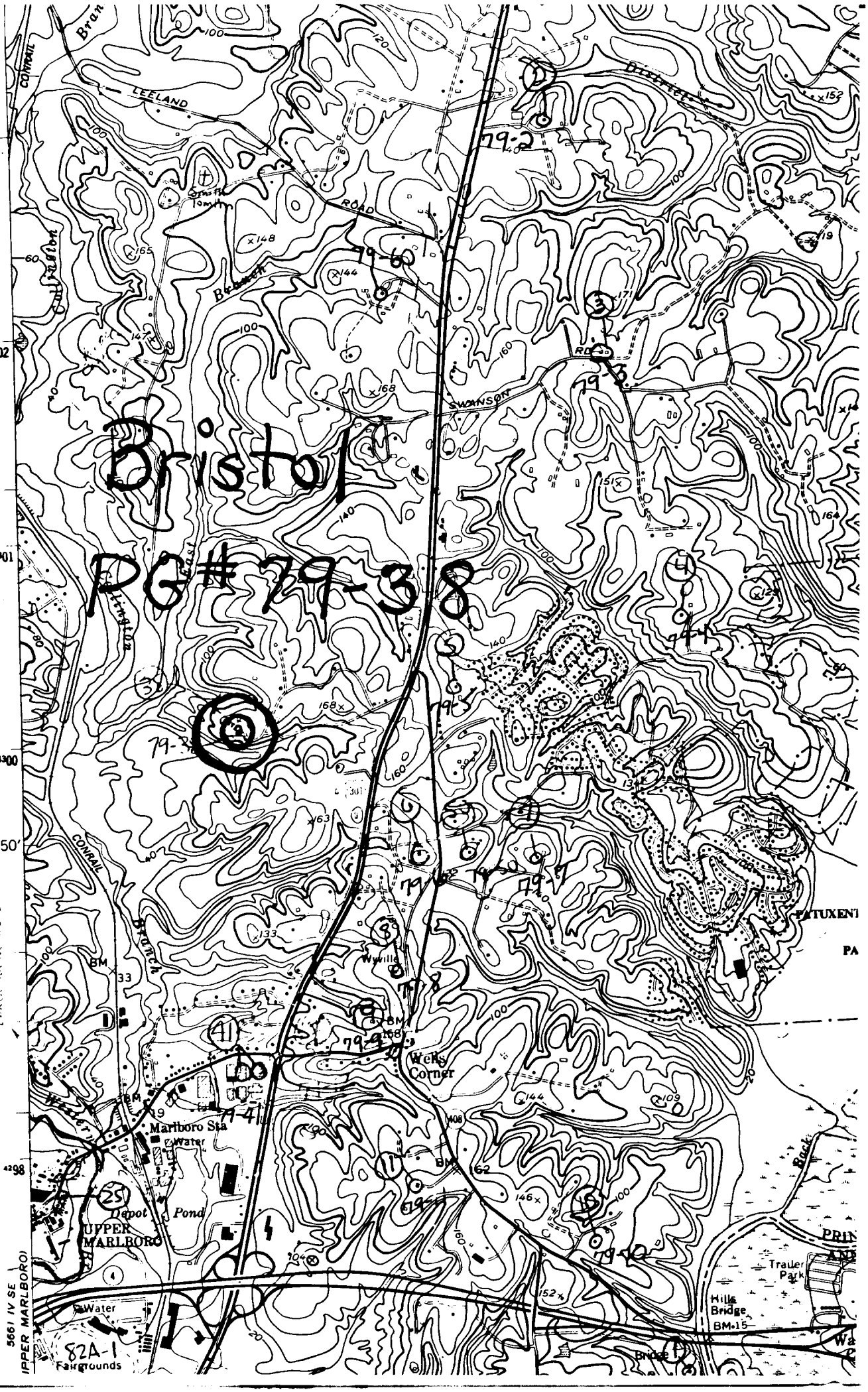
151
150
HOUSE SITE
79-38
125
144
100
Danenhower Road
125
100
100
125
PG: 79-38


Bristol
PG# 79-38
LEELAND
ROAD
District
SWANSON
ROAD
CONRAIL
Branch
Culvert
Branch
Wyville
Weks Corner
Marlboro Sta
Water
Depot
Pond
UPPER MARLBORO
Fairgrounds
Hills Bridge
BM-15
Trailer Park
PATUXENT
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79-53
82A-1
4303000m N.
4302
4301
4300
4298
50'
5661 IV SE
UPPER MARLBORO

PG #79-38
Pentland Hills
Prince George's Co. MD.
Susan G. Pearl
Nov. 1988
South entrance
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD

PG #79-38

Pentlard Hills

Prince George's Co. MD

Susan G. Pearl

Nov. 1988

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md

Southwest corner of south section

PG # 79-38

Pentland Hills

Prince George's Co., Md.

Susan G. Peavl

Nov. 1978

Neg: Md. Hist Trust, Annapolis MD

S.W. corner of north section