PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Thomas C. Underwood Bungalow

Survey #: PG#84-23-26 Building Date: 1927

Building Name: Thomas C. Underwood Bungalow

Location: 1908 Floral Park Road, Piscataway

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description

The Thomas C. Underwood Bungalow is a 1 1/2 story frame dwelling, standing on a 2.7 acre lot at the west end of the village of Piscataway. Constructed in 1927, the structure is 3x4 bays with a screened entrance porch incorporated beneath the hipped roof of the main block. A hipped roof dormer is centered on the front facade, above the porch. The house is covered with its original lapped wood siding and including decorative tongue-in-groove panels in a wide frieze above the porch. A modern two story garage stands east of the house, across the gravel driveway. The house is set back from the road on an open lot bounded by a hedgerow along Floral Park Road (east) and on the south, and by shallow wooded areas on the west and north.

Significance

The Thomas C. Underwood Bungalow is significant as a good example of the bungalow style., Its exterior materials and architectural details have been retained in good condition. Constructed in 1927, the dwelling represents the continuation in the early twentieth cintury of construction of homes by members of families associated with the village of Piscataway. The dwelling was constructed by Thomas C. Underwood on a portion of his parent' 62 acre farm. The dwelling of Sarah C. and George T. Underwood is on the adjoining parcel, and is Historic Resource #84-2 in the Historic Sites and Districts Plan.

Acreage: 2.7 acres

Thomas C. Underwood Bungalow

PG#84-23-26

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Development Periods:

Industrial/Urban Dominance - AD 1870-1930

Modern Period - AD 1930 to present

Historic Period Themes:

Architecture, Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category: building

Historic Environment: village

Historic Functions and Uses: Domestic/single dwelling

Design Source: unknown

Survey No. PG#84-23-26

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Thomas C. Underwood Bungalow

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 1908 Floral Park Road (Maryland Route 223) ___ not for publication

city, town Piscataway ___ vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	X occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	X private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	X private residence
___ 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	___ other:

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

name Milton O. and Shirley H. Paul

street & number 2804 Northfields Road telephone no.:

city, town Charlottesville state and zip code VA 22901

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Court House liber 5307

street & number 14735 Main Street folio 756

city, town Upper Marlboro state MD 20772

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title N/A

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. PG#84-23-26

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	___ original site
X 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.

The Thomas C. Underwood Bungalow is a 1/2 story frame dwelling, standing on a 2.7 acre lot at the west end of the village of Piscataway. Constructed in 1927, the structure is 3 x 4 bays with a screened entrance porch incorporated beneath the hipped roof of the main block. There is a hipped roof dormer centered on the front facade. A modern two story outbuilding stands east of the house, across the gravel driveway.

The three-bay east, main elevation has a central entrance door flanked by double 1/1 double-hung wood sash windows. The entrance door has three lower horizontal wood panels and one large upper glass light. The door and windows have plain flat board surrounds. The entrance is sheltered by a facade-wide screened porch incorporated beneath the hipped roof of the house. The roof is supported by heavy turned and chamfered wood posts with small jig-sawn brackets. The wooden porch floor stands on concrete piers infilled with wood lattice, and is reached by 3 wooden steps.

The hipped roof has deeply overhanging eaves and the soffit is covered with narrow tongue-in-groove paneling. The same narrow tongue-in-groove boards are laid diagonally in inset decorative panels forming a frieze above the screened entrance porch.

The main facade is surmounted by a hipped roof dormer with a double 6/6 double-hung wood sash window. The roof is covered with asphalt shingle. The house stands on a concrete block foundation, and is covered with German siding with corner boards.

The first bay in the four bay north elevation is the north side of the front entrance porch. There is a large, new square brick chimney between the second and third bays. The chimney exhausts a wood-burning stove in the north parlor. The fourth bay is a projecting rectangular bay with a hipped roof that is lighted by a double 1/1 sash window. This bay contains a breakfast nook. The north slope of the roof has a skylight installed during the 1980's to light the finished attic level.

The west, rear elevation is covered by a shed roof enclosed rear porch with a band of 6 1/1 sash windows across the facade. There is door into the enclosed porch between the first and second window on the north side of the facade. There is a door into the kitchen in the first bay and a bay projecting onto the porch which contains a bathroom. The south end of the porch has no windows and contains a small utility room. An old, corbelled cap brick chimney rises near the gable ridge in the north roof slope. The porch stands on high concrete piers infilled with concrete block.

The four bay south elevation has three evenly spaced 1/1 sash windows. The east bay is the south side of the screened entrance porch.

floor plan. The house originally had a long central entrance hall with rooms opening off each side. There were two rooms to the north and two on the south side of the hallway, with the back of the building divided between the kitchen and an additional room. The floor plan remains essentially the same, however the central hallway was closed off to create closets.

Entry is into a small foyer with access to a single large parlor on the north. The wall between the original two north rooms was removed in 1978, creating the large parlor. A bedroom has access from the foyer, on the south. The parlor contains the modern chimney with the associated wood stove. Access to the kitchen is through the west wall of the parlor. A short hall reached from the south wall of the parlor leads to the second bedroom on the south side of the house. The rear section of the house contains a kitchen on the north and a dining room on the south. A stair in the dining room, added in 1978, leads to attic, which was finished with two bedrooms and a bath.

The wood moldings around the doors and windows are of wide boards and there is crown molding on the lintels. The interior doors have five horizontal wood panels and metal knobs. The flooring is of wide, regular width boards.

The grounds around the house include a hedge and one old cedar tree along the front of the property fronting on Floral Park Road. Three mature deciduous trees line the gravel driveway. There is old ivy growing up the trees on the north side of the property. On the west, rear, Livingston Road can be seen through the trees. White pines approximately 10 years old define the south and west property lines.

8. Significance

Survey No. PG#84-23-26

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
___ 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
X 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	X other (specify) local history
		___ invention		

Specific dates 1927 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: __A __B X C __D
and/or
Applicable Exception: __A __B __C __D __E __F __G

Level of Significance: __national __state X local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Thomas C. Underwood Bungalow is significant as a good example of the bungalow style. Its exterior materials and architectural details have been retained in good condition. Constructed in 1927, the dwelling represents the continuation in the early twentieth century of construction of homes by members of families associated with the village of Piscataway. The dwelling was constructed by Thomas C. Underwood on a portion of his parents' 62 acre farm. The dwelling of Sarah C. and George T. Underwood is on the adjoining parcel, and is Historic Resource #84-2 in the Historic Sites and Districts Plan.

Mandated by Act of the Colonial Assembly in 1707, Piscataway was a thriving commercial center with a port on Piscataway Creek, throughout the 18th century. As its port activity declined, as a result of siltation of the creek and a changing national economic structure after the American Revolution, Piscataway's regional importance began to fade. During the 19th and early part of the 20th century the village served as a small commercial center for the surrounding farms.[1]

Sarah C. and George T. Underwood deeded 3.11 acres of their 62 acre farm to their son, Thomas C. Underwood, in July 1926.[2] The bungalow was constructed by 1927.[3] Thomas C. and Gertrude Underwood resided there for the rest of their married life. After Thomas C. Underwood's death, Gertrude Underwood sold the property out of the family 1978.[4]

The Underwood bungalow incorporates many elements of the bungalow style, including its one story height, steeply sloping hipped roof with deeply overhanging eaves, center-front dormer window, facade-wide entrance porch incorporated beneath the roof slope, and decorative use of wood siding to give texture and embellishment to the dwelling. The exterior of the dwelling is intact and has been well preserved and maintained.

After its sale in 1978, the Underwood bungalow was renovated and modernized on the interior. Significant features such as the doors, windows, moldings and flooring were retained. Major changes on the interior included the replacement of the electrical and plumbing systems and the removal of all plaster and lath and its replacement with drywall. The central hall that ran the length of the dwelling was partially closed to allow for installation of closets. The wall between the two parlors on the north side of the dwelling was removed, creating one large room. A stairway to the attic was added in the southwest room (now the dining room) and the attic was finished with two bedrooms and a bath. The exterior was left entirely unchanged except for the addition of a brick chimney on the north elevation, and the use of modern roofing material.[5]

1.Marina King, Final Report, Piscataway Village Rural Conservation Study, Area Planning Division E/S, M-NCPPC Planning Department, Prince George's County, Maryland, June 1991.

2.Prince George's County Land Records, 277:389.

3.Prince George's County Tax Assessments, 5th Election District, 1923-26 and 1927-30.

4.Conversation with Hilda B. Underwood, January, 1992; and Land Records, 5038:351.

5.Conversation with Shirley Paul, January 1992.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. PG#84-23-26

See Endnotes

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 2.78 Acres

Tax Map 142 Parcel 138

Quadrangle name Piscataway D

Quadrangle scale

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 Marina King, Preservation Planner

organization Historic Preservation Commission, MNCPPC date Spring 1992

street & number Upper Marlboro telephone 301-952-4609

city or town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

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

Chain of Title
PG#84-23-26
Thomas C. Underwood Bungalow

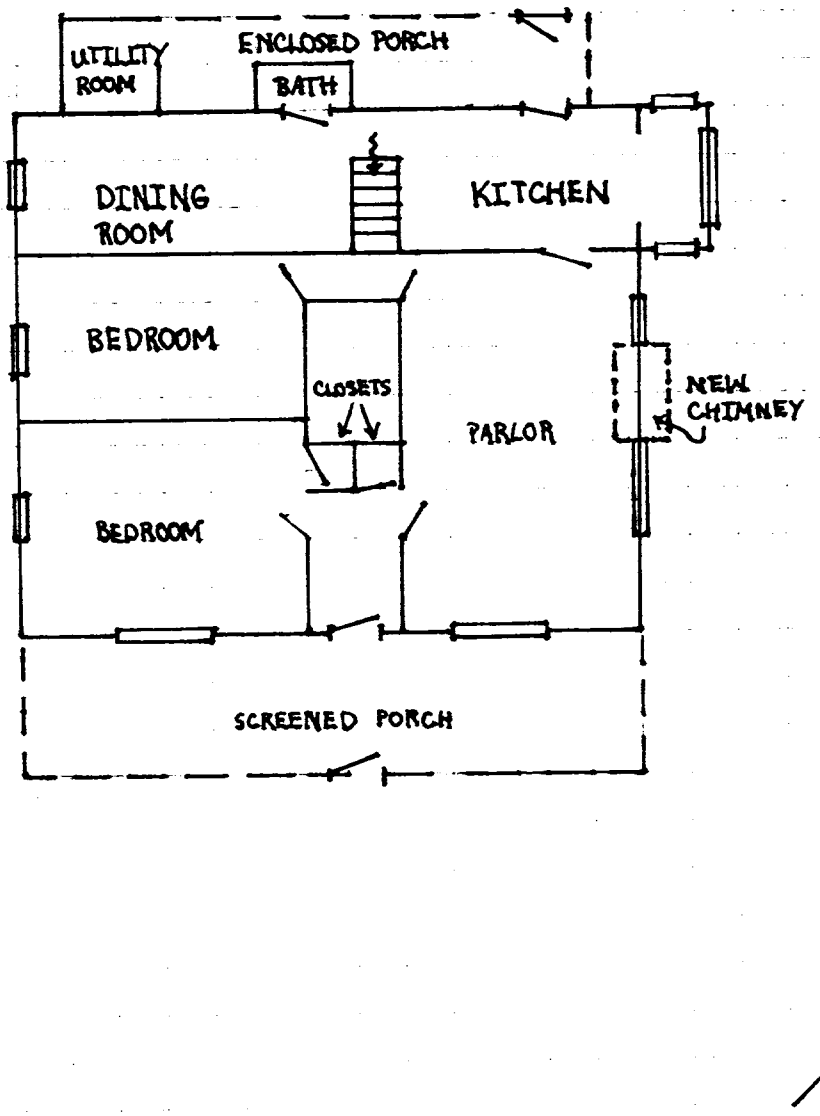
5307:756 13 September 1980 Deed	Milton O. Paul to Milton O. Paul and Shirley H. Paul, 2.78 acres. Same conveyed 5038:351
5038:351 21 December 1978 Deed	Gertrude M. Underwood to Milton O. Paul, for $33,500, 2.78 acres, same obtained 2693:639.
2693:639 19 June 1962 Deed	Francis H. Blandford, unmarried, to Thomas C. Underwood and Gertrude M. Underwood, same grantees conveyed to grantor prior hereto: 1) part of a tract called Mt. Airy, on north side of public road, 3.11 acres excepting 9/10 of an acre conveyed to John S. and Hilda B. Underwood, April 16, 1948, 709:306; and 2) Part of Mt. Airy, 1 acre. Residue of the 2 tracts to be conveyed is 2.99 acres.
2693:637 19 June 1962 Deed	Thomas C. Underwood and Gertrude M. Underwood to Francis H. Blandford, same as above. Same obtained from George T. and Sarah C. Underwood, 277:389 and 504:269.
504:269 23 March 1938 Deed	George T. Underwood, widower, and Nellie Underwood to Thomas C. Underwood, part of the land George T. Underwood obtained from William B. Morgan et ux, 5 February 1913, 88:358, part of Mt. Air, 1 acre.
277:389 9 July 1926 Deed	Sarah C. and George T. Underwood to Thomas C. Underwood (see mortgage 161:370), part of land obtained from William B. Morgan et ux, 5 February 1913, 88:358, part of Mt. Air, begins north side of Piscataway-Accokeek Road, 3.11 acres.
161:370 4 September 1920 Mortgage	Sarah C. and George T. Underwood to B. Lee and W. Seton Belt. Grantors indebted for $1000. To secure debt of $1000, grantors convey part of Wade's Adventure, begins northwest side of Piscataway-Accokeek Road, 62 1/5 acres.

88:358
5 February 1913
Deed

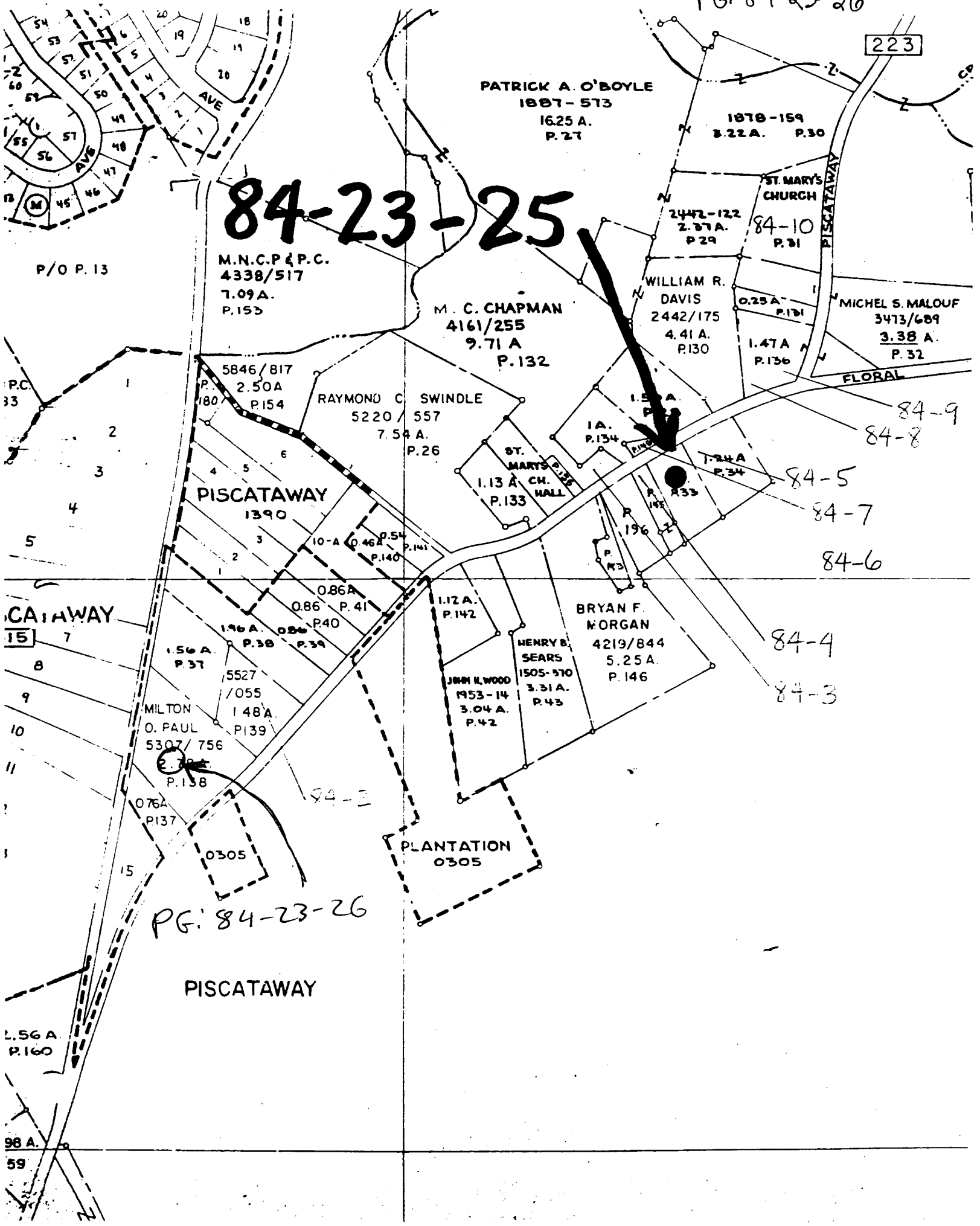
William B. Morgan to Sarah C. Underwood, all that tract called Wade's Adventure. Begins on northwest side of public road from Piscataway to Accokeek. Runs thence to Piscataway Creek, up the creek to land of Dr. Edgar D. Hurtt, with said land to the public road, south to place of beginning, 62 1/5 acres, saving 1 acre in the southeast corner in possession of Elizabeth Boyn; being a portion of same conveyed to Morgan by Phil H. Tuck, Attorney, 5 February 1913, prior hereto.

PG#84-23-26

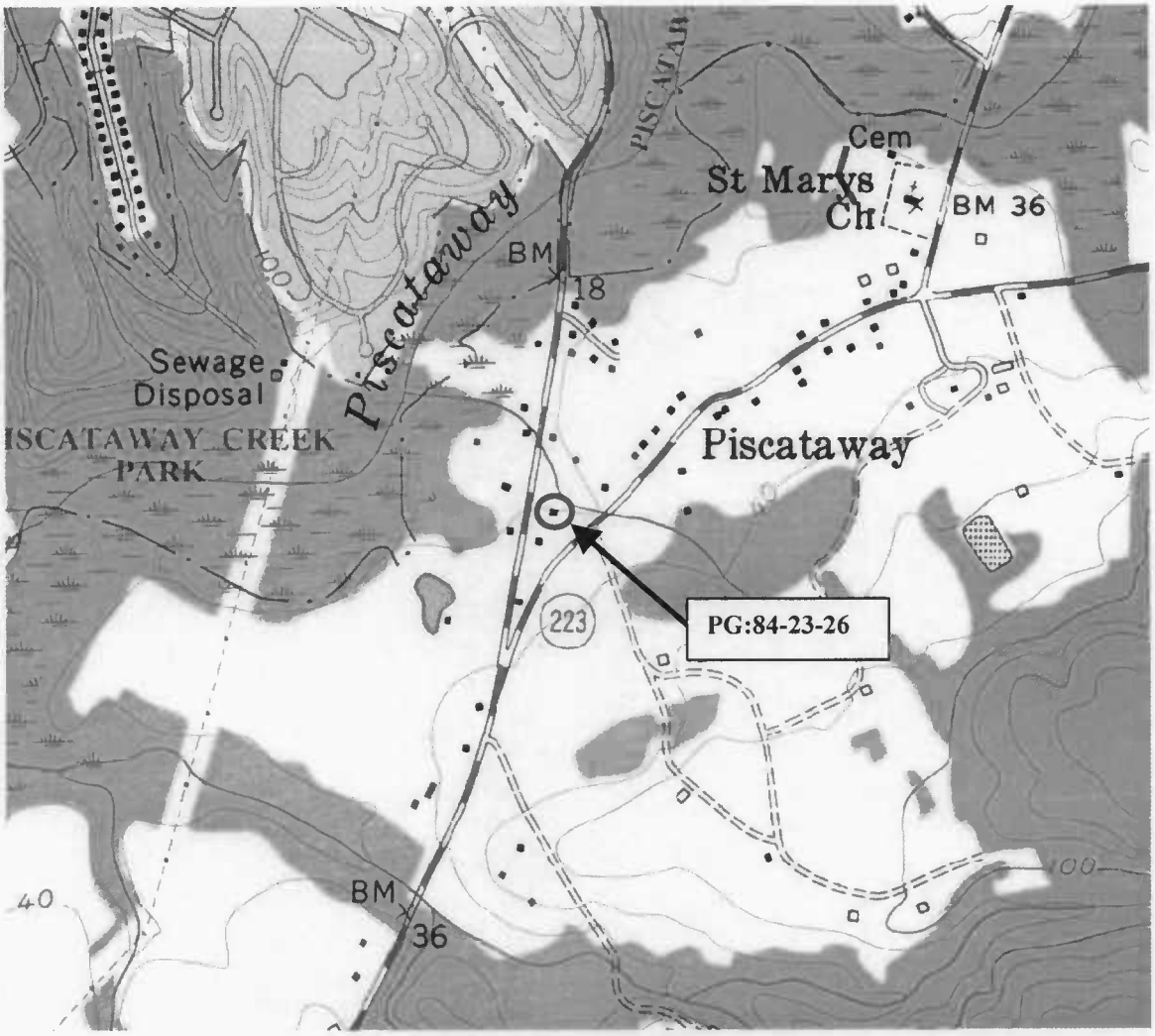
Thomas C. Underwood Bungalow
Not to Scale

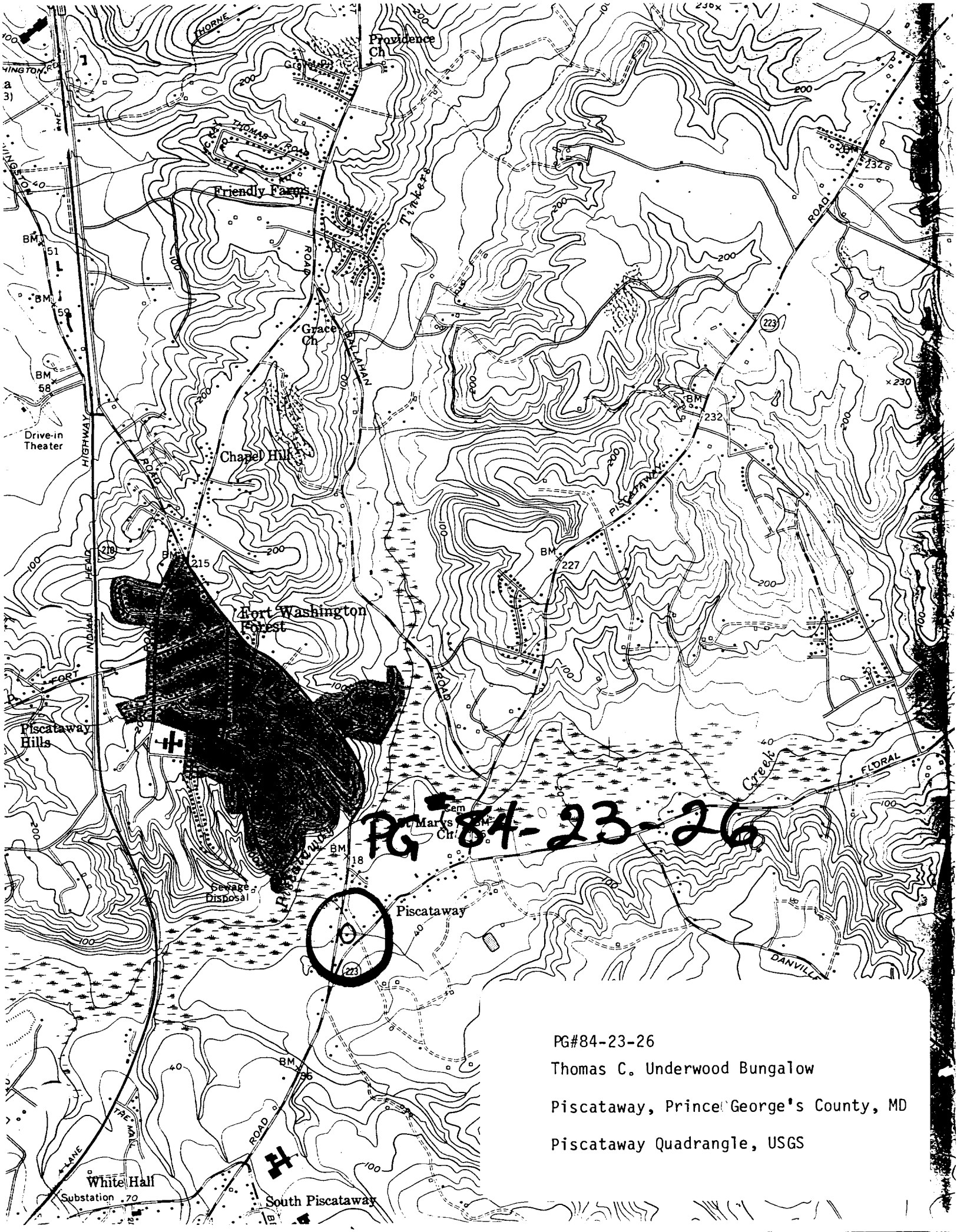


PG: 84-23-26


84-23-25
223
PATRICK A. O'BOYLE
1887-573
16.25 A.
P. 27
1878-159
3.22 A.
P.30
ST. MARY'S CHURCH
84-10
P.31
PISCATAWAY
2442-122
2.37 A.
P 29
P/O P. 13
M.N.C.P & P.C.
4338/517
7.09 A.
P.153
M. C. CHAPMAN
4161/255
9.71 A
P.132
WILLIAM R. DAVIS
2442/175
4.41 A.
P.130
0.25 A.
P.131
1.47 A
P.136
MICHEL S. MALOUF
3473/689
3.38 A.
P. 32
FLORAL
5846/817
2.50A
P.154
RAYMOND C. SWINDLE
5220/557
7.54 A.
P.26
1A.
P.134
ST. MARYS CH. HALL
1.13 A.
P.133
1.24 A
P.34
84-9
84-8
84-5
84-7
84-6
PISCATAWAY
1390
10-A
0.46A
0.54
P.141
P.140
0.86A
P. 41
0.86
P.40
1.12 A.
P.142
BRYAN F. MORGAN
4219/844
5.25 A.
P. 146
84-4
84-3
1.96 A.
P.38
0.86
P.39
1.56 A
P.37
5527/055
1.48 A
P139
MILTON O. PAUL
5307/756
P.138
0.76A
P137
HENRY B. SEARS
1505-370
3.31 A.
P.43
JOHN H. WOOD
1953-14
3.04 A.
P.42
PLANTATION
0305
0305
PG: 84-23-26
PISCATAWAY
1.56 A.
P.160

PG:84-23-26
Thomas C. Underwood Bungalow
1908 Floral Park Road (MD 223)
Piscataway quadrangle





PG#84-23-26

Thomas C. Underwood Bungalow

Piscataway, Prince George's County, MD

Piscataway Quadrangle, USGS

PG # 84-23-26

Thomas C Underwood
Burgoon

Piscataway, PGC

Marine Corp

Sec [illegible]

E (main) elevation

Neg [illegible]

1/6

PG # 84-23-26

Thomas C. Underwood Bungalow
Piscataway, Prince George's Cnty
Marina King
Fall 1991
E, detail
Neg: MD SHPO, Annapolis

2 of 6

Pl. # 84-23-26

Thomas C. Underwood Bungalow
Piscataway, Prince George's County
Marina King
Fall 1991
S
Neg: MD SHPO, Annapolis

3 of 6

PG # 84-23-26

Thomas C. Underwood Bungalow
Piscataway, Prince George's County
Marina King
Fall 1991
W
Neg: MD SHPO, Annapolis

4/36

Pl. # 84-23-26

Thomas C. Underwood Bungalow
Piscataway, Prince George's County
Marina King
Fall 1991
Parlor, looking W
Neg: MD SHPO, Annapolis

5 of 6

86 # 84-23-26

Thomas C. Underwood Bungalow
Piscataway, Prince George's County
Marina King
Fall 1991
Parlor, looking E
Neg: MD SHPO, Annapolis

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