Survey No. M:23-113-7 (PACS C2.13)

# Maryland Historical Trust
# Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form
# Intercounty Connector Project

DOE ___yes ___no

## 1. Name: (indicate preferred name)

historic James Burris (Burroughs) House I

and/or common

## 2. Location:

street & number 3212 Norbeck Road ___ not for publication

city, town Norbeck _x_ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Montgomery

## 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 | ___education | _x_private residence |
| ___site | **Public Acquisition** | **Accessible** | ___entertainment | ___religious |
| ___object | ___in process | ___yes: restricted | ___government | ___scientific |
| | ___being considered | ___yes: unrestricted | ___industrial | ___other: |
| | ___not applicable | _x_no | ___military | |
| | | | ___transportation | |

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

name Mark P. and Linda Lebelle

street & number 3212 Norbeck Road telephone no.:

city,town Silver Spring state and zip code MD 20906

## 5. Location of Legal Description

Land Records Office of Montgomery County liber 4855

street & number 50 Maryland Avenue folio 647

city,town Rockville state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form / Norbeck Historic District

date 1977 ___federal _x_state ___county ___local

depository for survey records Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

ity,town Silver Spring state Maryland

# 7. Description

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| Condition | | Check one | Check one | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ___excellent | ___deteriorated | ___unaltered | ___original site | |
| __good | ___ruins | _x_altered | ___moved | date of move _____ |
| _x_fair | ___unexposed | | | |

Resource Count: 2

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

The James Burris House I is a 2½-story, 2-bay I-house on the south side of Norbeck Road in the Norbeck vicinity, Montgomery. Constructed between 1866 and 1870, the building is L-shaped in plan with a cross-gable roof and a rear ell. On both sides of the rear ell are modern additions. The east side has a 2-story shed roof addition constructed of cinder block while the west side has a 1-story shed roof, wood-frame addition. The house has two brick chimneys. The first chimney is an interior end chimney on the west side, while the second is centrally located at the intersection of the rear ell and main house.

The structure is of wood-frame construction with wood siding and it has a stone foundation. The windows are 6/6 double-hung. The house has an enclosed porch on the front elevation. The porch has a shed roof and is enclosed with particle board with no openings.

The front, or north facade has a symmetrical fenestration pattern, with two 6/6 double-hung windows on both the first and second story. The enclosed shed roof porch is centered on the first story, the window openings are vertically aligned on each side of the porch. The attic level has a small 4-light casement window centered in the cross-gable.

The foundation on the east elevation has been covered with a later stone facing which extends above the original foundation level, covering a portion of the clapboards. The first story has a pair of 6/6 double-hung windows and a wooden door. The second story has a pair of 6/6 double-hung windows, while the attic level has a single 6-light casement window.

Attached to the east elevation of the rear ell is a 2-story, shed roof addition. The east elevation of the addition has a 2-light sliding window on the first floor and two 1/1 double-hung windows on the second story. The rear elevation of this addition has a wood door with a screen storm door opening onto a brick terrace on the first story and a single 6/6 double-hung window on the second story.

The rear, or south elevation has one 6/6 double-hung window on both the first and second stories near the west corner of the main section of the house. The rear elevation of the ell has a 6/6 double-hung window on the second floor.

The west elevation has two small 4-light casement windows in the attic level of the gable end. The west elevation of the rear ell has a door on the first floor and a small 1-story wood frame addition. The addition has a shed roof and a small 4-light casement window on the west elevation.

Alterations to the property include the enclosure of the front porch, addition of stone facing on one elevation and the cinderblock and frame additions to the rear ell.

# 7. Description (Continued)

There are no outbuildings associated with this property. There is a small brick hearth/grill located east of the house.

The property is located on the south side of Norbeck Road. There are large trees adjacent to the house and heavy vegetation in front of the house, completely shielding the front elevation from view. The property's setting is densely suburban with residential property on all sides, however the property still retains a fairly large lot. The setting has been altered by its proximity to Norbeck Road, 7.3 meters (24 feet) from the centerline of the roadway to the front of the house.

# 8. Significance

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| Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| __prehistoric | __archaeology-prehistoric | __Community planning | __landscape architecture | __religion |
| _1400-1499 | __archeology-historic | __conservation | __law | __science |
| _1500-1599 | __agriculture | __economics | __literature | __sculpture |
| __1600-1699 | __architecture | __education | __military | __social/ humanitarian |
| __1700-1799 | __art | __engineering | __music | |
| x_1800-1899 | __commerce | __exploration/settlement | __philosophy | __theater |
| __1900- | __communication | __industry | __politics/government | __transportation |
| | | __invention | | __other (specify) |

**Specific dates** 1866-1870 **Builder/Architect** James Burroughs

check: Applicable Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D
and/or
Applicable Exceptions: ___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.

In 1866, James Burris (Burroughs), a carpenter, bought a 4.65 hectare (11.5 acre) parcel of land from Thomas H. Rabbit. The house was constructed between 1866 and 1870. An insurance policy dated January 1870 records the property of James Burroughs, carpenter of Bradford's Rest. The policy describes a dwelling house constructed of wood, with seven rooms, a wing, one porch and two chimneys. The policy also covers a carpenter shop, no longer extant, 13.7 meters (45 feet) west of the house. The house was assessed at $450.00, while the carpenter's shop was valued at $50.00. The spelling of James Burrough's name varies between records, however, his name was signed "Burroughs" on the insurance policy (Mutual Insurance Policy #5622).

Burroughs sold the property to Conner Casel in 1876. The property changed ownership once before purchased by Charles W. Johnson and his wife Sarah. The house was sold in 1935 by the widow of Charles Johnson, Sarah Ricks, to James and Ella Page with 2.79 hectares (6.9 acres) of land. The property containing .36 hectares (.89 acres) was purchased by Clark Russel and Florence E. Snowden in 1950. The house was sold to the current owners, Mark and Linda Labelle in 1976.

The James Burris (Burroughs) House I is located in the Village of Norbeck. The nineteenth century community of Norbeck was composed of two separate but related communities; Mount Pleasant, the African-American settlement established by freed slaves on Muncaster Mill Road, and a white commercial crossroads settlement at the intersection of Norbeck Road and Georgia Avenue. The community also extended along Norbeck and Bradford Roads, east of the crossroads. The African-American settlement was oriented around the community church and school, while the white settlement centered around the post office, general store, and blacksmith shop. While remnants of both communities still exist, the environment in which they developed has been greatly altered over time.

The community at the crossroads was established in the decade following the Civil War, when increased agricultural prosperity and an increased population created a greater demand in the area for goods and services. In addition to the growth of the local farm community, the area grew as a result of its location at the intersection of two of the oldest roads in the county, the Baltimore Road (Route 28/Norbeck Road) and the Washington-Brookeville Turnpike (Route 97/ Georgia Avenue).

# 8. Significance (Continued)

The James Burris (Burroughs) House I is an I-house with a cross-gable constructed circa 1865. The standard I-house is one room deep and two stories tall with three to five bays on each story. From the front, an I-house is often indistinguishable from a Georgian house. The gable view, however, reveals the greater depth of the Georgian house. Chimneys are located on the interior of the gable ends, however, external chimneys are characteristic in the Chesapeake region. Usually, an I-house has a one-story porch running the length or nearly the length of the long side. On the interior, a central hall separates the two rooms on the first floor; the second floor contains either two or four sleeping chambers. Due to the narrowness of the main core, many I-houses have kitchen wings to the rear. Initially, stone masonry construction was used but by the mid-nineteenth century, as pre-cut lumber became increasingly available, frame construction was common. During the Victorian period, pre-cut detailing or a two-tiered porch was commonly grafted onto the traditional I-house. The I-form was popular into the early twentieth century, with examples appearing in catalogs of mass-produced suburban houses (Gowans 1992, 55-6).

The James Burris House I were included in the National Register of Historic Places Inventory - Nomination Form for the Norbeck Historic District, prepared by the State Highway Administration and Maryland Historical Trust in 1977, however this form did not provide architectural descriptions and significance statements for individual buildings. The Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places determined in 1978 that the area is too altered to constitute a istoric district, but that the significance of individual buildings should be considered.

**NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION:**

The James Burris (Burroughs) House I is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The property does not meet Criterion A or B, as it has no known association with historically significant persons or events. It is not eligible under Criterion C, due to a lack of architectural distinction and loss of integrity. The house is a common building type in eastern Montgomery County, which lacks individual distinction. Its integrity has been severely compromised through extensive alterations and additions. The front porch has been enclosed and the rear has a large 2-story, concrete block and wood frame addition. In addition, the setting of the property has been compromised by the proximity of Norbeck Road to the front elevation; 7.3 meters (24 feet) from the roadway centerline to the front of the house. Finally, the property has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, is not eligible under Criterion D.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST**

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility Not Recommended X

**Comments:** _____

Reviewer, OPS: E. Hannold/K. Williams Date: 11/25/1996

Reviewer, NR Program: [signature] Date: 3/4/02

# 9. Major Bibliographical References Survey.M:23-113-7(PACS C2.13)

See Continuation Sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .36 hectare (.89 acres)
Quadrangle name Kensington Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

**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 Caroline Hall/Tim Tamburrino

organization P.A.C. Spero & Company date December 1996

street & number 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 412 telephone (410) 296-1635

city or town Baltimore 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 purposed 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
(410) 514-7600

# 9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

Boyd, T.H.S. The History of Montgomery County, Maryland, From its Earliest Settlement in 1650 to 1879. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1968.

Farquhar, Roger Brooke. Old Homes and History of Montgomery County, Maryland. Washington: Judd and Detweiller, Inc., 1962.

Gowans, Alan. Styles and Types of North American Architecture. New York: Harper Collins, 1992.

Hiebert, Ray Eldon, and Richard K. MacMaster. A Grateful Remembrance: the Story of Montgomery County, Maryland. Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Government and the Montgomery County Historical Society, 1976.

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington including County of Montgomery, Maryland. Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, 1879; reprint, Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Historical Society, 1975.

Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland.

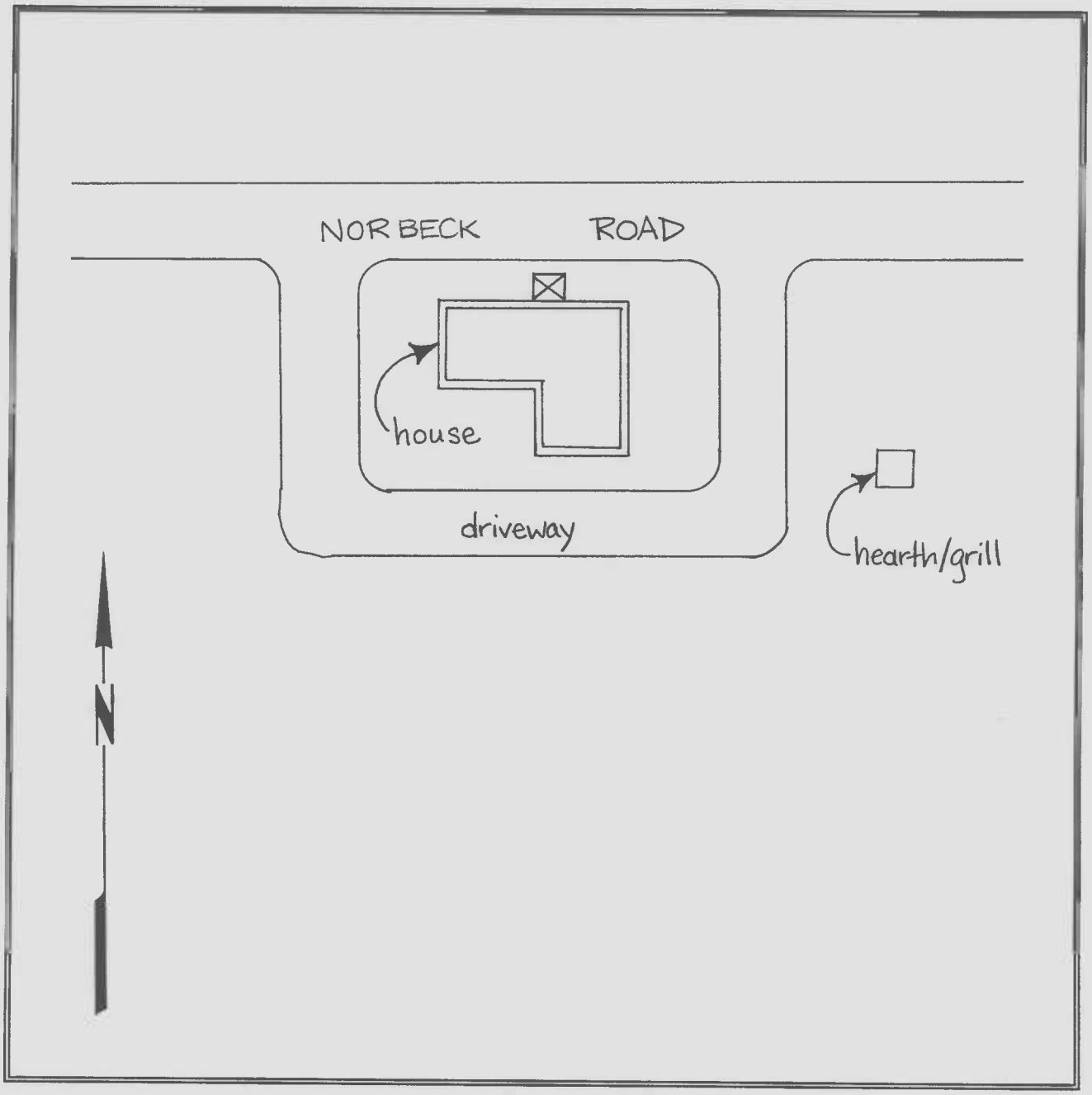
ırtenet, Simon J. Martenet and Bond's Map of Montgomery County, Maryland. Baltimore, Maryland: Simon J. Martenet, 1865; reprint, Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Historical Society.

Mutual Insurance Policy #5622

State Highway Administration and Maryland Historical Trust. National Register of Historic Places Inventory - Nomination Form: Norbeck Historic District. Baltimore and Annapolis, Maryland, 1977.

# 10. Geographical Data

**Resource Sketch Map:**



**Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet**

**Historic Context:**

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period Theme (s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture

RESOURCE TYPE:

Category (see Section 3 of survey form):

Building

Historic Environment (urban, suburban, village, or rural):

Suburban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

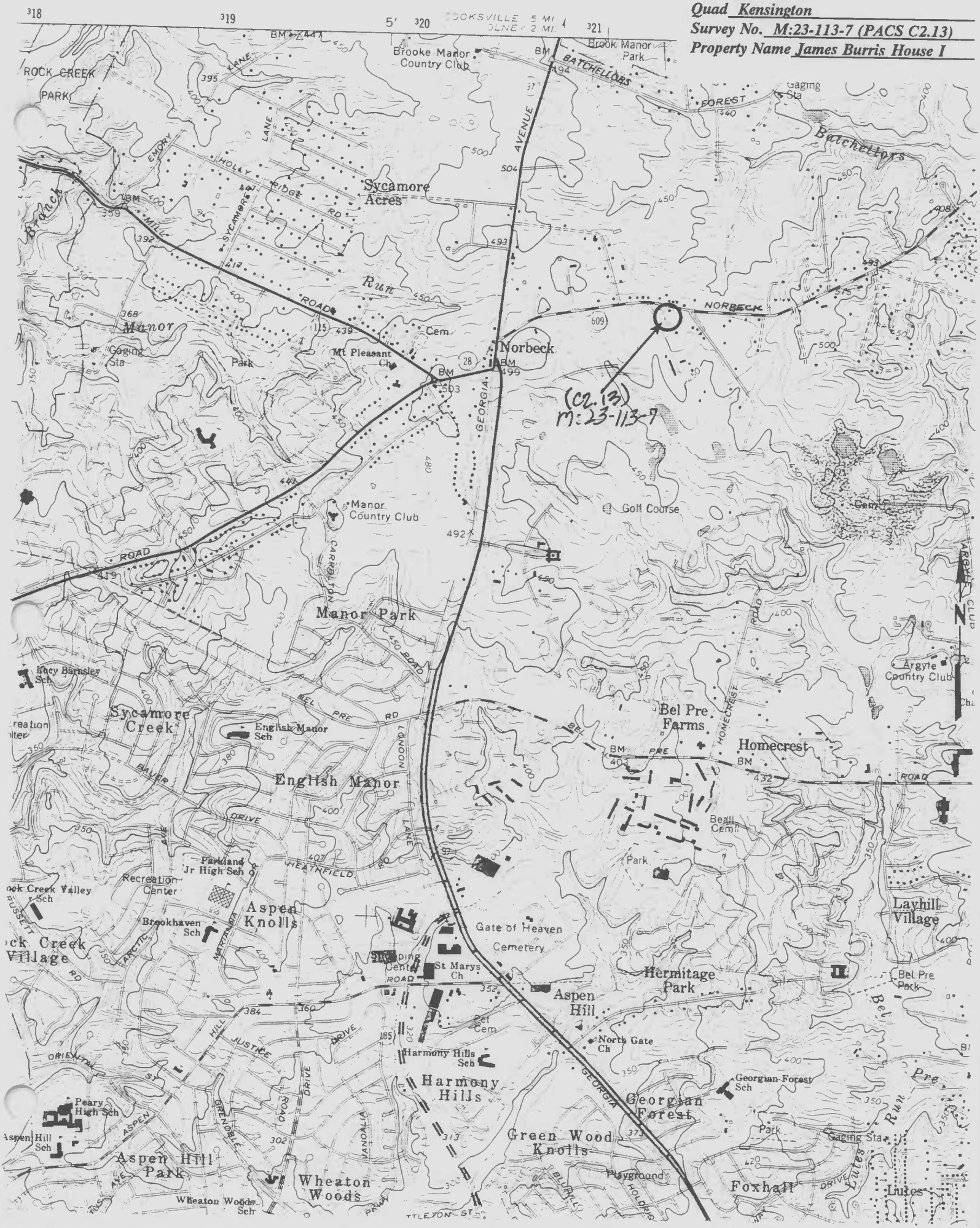
Private Residence

Known Design Source (write none if unknown):

None

reparer:
P.A.C. Spero & Company
December 1996

*Intercounty Connector Project*
*Upgrade Existing Roads Alternative*
*Quad Kensington*
*Survey No. M:23-113-7 (PACS C2.13)*
*Property Name James Burris House I*



1 M:23-113-7

2 James Burris (Burroughs) House I

3 Montgomery County

4 Tim Tamburino

5 June 1996

6 PAC Spero and Co., 40 W. Chesapeake Ave.
Towson MD 21204

7 3212 Norbeck Rd., east side

8 1 of 3

1 M:23-113-7

2 James Burns (Burroughs) House I

3 Montgomery County

4 Tim Tamburino

5 June 1996

6 PAC Spec + Co. 40 W. Chesapeake Ave, Suite 412
Towson MD 21204

7 4212 Norbeck Road, rear elevation

8 2 of 3

1 M:23--113-7

2 Jones Burris (Burroughs) House I

3 Montgomery County

4 Tim Tamburino

5 June 1996

6 PAC Spero & Co. 40 W. Chesapeake Ave. Suite 412 Towson MD 21204

7 3212 Norbeck Road, west side

8 3 of 3