Memo to file

December 30, 2003

From: Peter E. Kurtze
Administrator, Evaluation and Registration

Re: M: 28-59
A. Richard and Hilda Lethbridge Property

The property documented in the following MIHP form has not been formally evaluated for eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The comments in the text are those of the preparer of the documentation. The State Historic Preservation Officer has neither concurred nor disagreed with those comments.

CAPSULE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey No.: M:28-59 (PACS 9.27) **Construction Date:** 1934, circa 1935, circa 1945

Name: A. Richard and Hilda Lethbridge Property

Location: 17711-17717 New Hampshire Avenue, Ashton, Montgomery County

Private/Residence and Commercial/Occupied/Good/Yes:restricted

Description:

The A. Richard and Hilda Lethbridge Property, also known as Ashton Kennels, consists of two side-gable residences and a complex of kennel buildings on the east side of New Hampshire Avenue in Ashton, Montgomery County. The main building on the property is a 1½-story vernacular residence with Colonial Revival influences constructed in 1934. The second residential building on the property, a 1½-story side-gable vernacular building constructed circa 1935, has been converted into a kennel. Flanking the building are low 1-story wings of animal pens.

Significance:

A. Richard and Hilda Lethbridge purchased 1.6 hectares (4 acres) of land from Elizabeth Stabler in 1931. According to the Montgomery County Tax Records, they constructed a house on the property in 1934 (the main house at 17717 New Hampshire Avenue). Soon after, Claude and Lucille Williams purchased 2.4 hectares (6 acres) of land and constructed a house circa 1935. In 1942, the Williams began operating Ashton Kennels on the property and constructed buildings to house the animals circa 1945. In 1955, Claude and Lucille Williams purchased the house at 17717 New Hampshire to use as their main residence. When Lucille Williams died in December 1991 (Claude Williams died in 1976), the property transferred to Michael Babette, who continues to operate the kennel. The size of the parcel remains the combined 4 hectares (10 acres).

Preparer
P.A.C. Spero & Company
May 1998

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form
Montgomery-Prince George's Short-term Congestion Relief

DOE ___yes ___no

1. Name: (indicate preferred name)

historic A. Richard and Hilda Lethbridge Property (preferred)

and/or common Babette Property

2. Location:

street & number 17711-17717 New Hampshire Avenue N/A not for publication

city, town Ashton ___ 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	_X_commercial	___park
___structure	___both	___work in progress	___education	_X_private residence
___site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___entertainment	___religious
___object	___in process	_X_yes: restricted	___government	___scientific
	___being considered	___yes: unrestricted	___industrial	___other:
	_X_not applicable	___no	___military	
			___transportation	

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

name Michael I. Babette

street & number 17717 New Hampshire Avenue telephone no.:

city,town Ashton state and zip code MD 20861

5. Location of Legal Description

Land Records Office of Montgomery County liber 12455

street & number Montgomery County Judicial Center folio 103

city,town Rockville state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___federal ___state ___county ___local

depository for survey records

city,town state

7. Description

Survey No. M:28-59 (PACS 9.27)

Condition		Check one	Check one	
___excellent	___deteriorated	___unaltered	_X_original site	
_X_good	___ruins	_X_altered	___moved	date of move _____
___fair	___unexposed			

Resource Count:

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

The A. Richard and Hilda Lethbridge Property, also known as Ashton Kennels, consists of two side-gable residences and a complex of kennel buildings on the east side of New Hampshire Avenue in Ashton, Montgomery County. The main building on the property is a 1½-story vernacular residence with Colonial Revival influences constructed in 1934. The second residential building on the property, a 1½-story side-gable vernacular building constructed circa 1935, has been converted into a kennel. Flanking the building are low 1-story wings of animal pens.

The main house (17717 New Hampshire Avenue) is of wood-frame construction with a concrete foundation, vinyl siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The roof has a shed roof dormer on both the front and rear elevations. The windows are wood 6/1 double-hung with vinyl shutters. A chimney covered with vinyl siding is located on the north gable end. The house has an enclosed rear porch, a 1-story flat roof section on the north elevation and a hipped roof entrance porch on the front elevation. The porch has two wood posts, a wood railing and a brick floor.

The second house (17711 New Hampshire Avenue) has a side-gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The roof has two shed roof dormers on the front elevation and a full-width shed roof dormer on the rear elevation. The building is of wood-frame construction with a concrete block foundation and asbestos shingle siding. An exterior brick chimney is located on the south gable end and the windows are wood 6/6 double-hung. The front elevation has a full-width screened shed roof porch supported by four posts. The rear elevation has a small screened shed roof porch.

Attached to the north and south gable ends of the second house are kennel wings of individual animal pens. The shed roof structures have window openings enclosed with plywood on the front elevation. The windows have wood shutters. The animal pens on the rear of the wings open into outdoor fenced-in areas. At the terminus of the north wing is a 1-story front-gable office building. The office has double glass doors and a canted bay with a hipped roof on the front elevation. On the rear of the building is an exterior brick chimney and 1-story shed roof addition. The interior of the office is divided into a waiting room, grooming and storage areas.

Just north of the office/kennel wing is another kennel building. The building has a central 1-story front-gable section flanked by shed roof wings of animal pens. Like the other kennel structures, this building has enclosed window openings with wood shutters on the front elevation and fenced-in outdoor compartments on the rear. Between this kennel structure and the office wing is an entrance into a large fenced yard.

Within the fenced yard are two outbuildings. The first outbuilding is a shed located east of the second residence and kennel wings. Constructed circa 1935, the 1-story shed has an asphalt shingle shed roof, vertical wood siding and a concrete foundation. The north elevation has a sliding wood door, while the east elevation has a wood panel door.

7. Description (Continued)

The second outbuilding within the yard is a garage/storage building. The structure is two connected buildings, a side-gable storage building and a front-gable garage. Constructed circa 1935 and 1945, respectively, the buildings are concrete block and wood-frame with asphalt shingle roofs. The storage building has a brick chimney on the east gable end.

The main residence also has two outbuildings. The first building is a 2-car side-gable garage located east of the house. Constructed circa 1935, the garage has a concrete foundation and vinyl siding. A wood overhead door is located on the south elevation. To the east of the garage is a 1½-story shed building constructed circa 1935. The structure has a concrete foundation, vinyl siding and an asphalt shingle side-gable roof. The south elevation has two batten doors and an enclosed window on the first story. The loft level has a wall dormer with an opening enclosed with plywood.

The property is located on the east side of New Hampshire Avenue, with residential property to the north, forested land to the east and a residence converted to commercial use to the south.

8. Significance

Survey No. M:28-59 (PACS 9.27)

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	__theater	
__1800-1899	__commerce	__exploration/settlement	__philosophy	__transportation	
X_1900-	__communication	__industry	__politics/government		
		__invention	__other (specify)		

Specific dates 1934, Circa 1935, Circa 1945 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

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.

A. Richard and Hilda Lethbridge purchased 1.6 hectares (4 acres) of land from Elizabeth Stabler in 1931. According to the Montgomery County Tax Records, they constructed a house on the property in 1934 (the main house at 17717 New Hampshire Avenue). Soon after, Claude and Lucille Williams purchased approximately 2.4 hectares (6 acres) of land and constructed a house circa 935. In 1942, the Williams began operating Ashton Kennels on the property and constructed buildings to house the animals circa 1945. In 1955, Claude and Lucille Williams purchased the house at 17717 New Hampshire to use as their main residence. When Lucille Williams died in December 1991 (Claude Williams died in 1976), the property transferred to Michael Babette, who continues to operate the kennel. The size of the parcel remains the combined 4 hectares (10 acres).

The property is located in Ashton. The community of Ashton in northern Montgomery County was, until 1890, a part of neighboring Sandy Spring and shares that town's early Quaker roots. Ashton centers roughly on the intersection of MD 650 (New Hampshire Avenue) and MD 108 (Olney-Sandy Spring Road) where early Quaker farmers brought their produce to be weighed. The crossroads also attracted Caleb Stabler and Charlie Porter who opened a store around 1860 and named it Ashton. The actual significance of this name is uncertain. In 1889 Alvin G. Thomas, a Quaker, took over the Ashton store. This community commenced its official existence when it received a post office in 1890, taking its name from Stabler and Porter's store.

Twentieth century development in Ashton featured the community's rural character. In fact the first "development" in 1934 consisted of six "farmettes" complete with a small orchard and barn, and room for gardening and animals. Further developments undertaken since World War II, such as Ashton Pond and Ashmead, often took shape as planned communities under the supervision of local, as well as outside developers. Current county zoning, which requires lots of 2 hectares (5 acres), has helped preserve the rural nature of Ashton.

8. Significance (Continued)

The residential buildings on the A. Richard and Hilda Lethbridge are simple vernacular structures. Between 1870 and 1940 the vernacular cottage style was typically built for Americans of modest means. They are characterized by simple ornamentation and mass-produced components, such as door frames, moldings, sash and window units, and porch decoration. The development of post-Civil War machinery capable of producing large amounts of standardized housing elements, such as those found in cottages, contributed greatly to the development of the modern American housing industry. Designs for vernacular cottages were obtained from popular magazines, such as House Beautiful, or carpenter's and builder's journals, such as American Builder. A variety of front-gable, side-gable, cross-gable and hipped roof frame cottages were developed in the early to mid-twentieth century. Front-gable and hipped roof cottages are primarily 1 to 1½-stories tall, 3-bays wide and several rooms deep. Side-gable and cross-gable structures are usually 2 to 2½-stories tall, are typically 2 to 3-bays in width and vary from one to three rooms deep. They usually include a porch covered with a shed roof. Porches are supported by posts often containing machine-produced Victorian ornamentation. Some cottages feature ornamentation drawn from Craftsman style or Colonial Revival architecture (Gottfried and Jennings 1988, viii-xv).

ational Register Evaluation:

Constructed between 1934 and 1945, the A. Richard and Hilda Lethbridge Property 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 structures on the property are common building types which lack material and architectural integrity. The main residence is covered with vinyl siding and has an enclosed rear porch. The second structure has been altered by the kennel additions. The historic residential context of the property has been altered by the conversion of one residence to commercial use and through the construction of various kennel buildings. Finally, the structure has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, is not eligible under Criterion D.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility recommended_____ Eligibility Not Recommended_____

Comments

_____

_____

_____

_____

Reviewer, OPS: _____ Date: _____

Reviewer, NR Program: _____ Date: _____

9. Major Bibliographical References Survey No. M:28-59(PACS 9.27)

See Attached

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____
Quadrangle name Sandy Spring, MD 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	Tim Tamburrino		
organization	P.A.C. Spero & Company	date	May 1998
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. 1968. The History of Montgomery County, Maryland, From its Earliest Settlement in 1650 to 1879. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company.

Brugger, Robert A. 1988. Maryland, A Middle Temperament 1634-1980. Baltimore and London: Johns Hopkins University Press.

Coleman, Margaret Marshall. 1984. Montgomery County: A Pictorial History. Rev. 1990. Norfolk and Virginia Beach: The Donning Company Publishers.

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

Gottfried, Herbert and Jan Jennings. 1988. American Vernacular Design, 1870-1940. Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press.

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

Hopkins, G.M. [1879] 1975. Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington including the County of Montgomery, Maryland. Reprint. Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Historical Society.

Land Records of Montgomery County, Maryland.

Martenet, Simon J. [1865] 1975. Martenet and Bond's Map of Montgomery County, Maryland. Reprint. Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Historical Society.

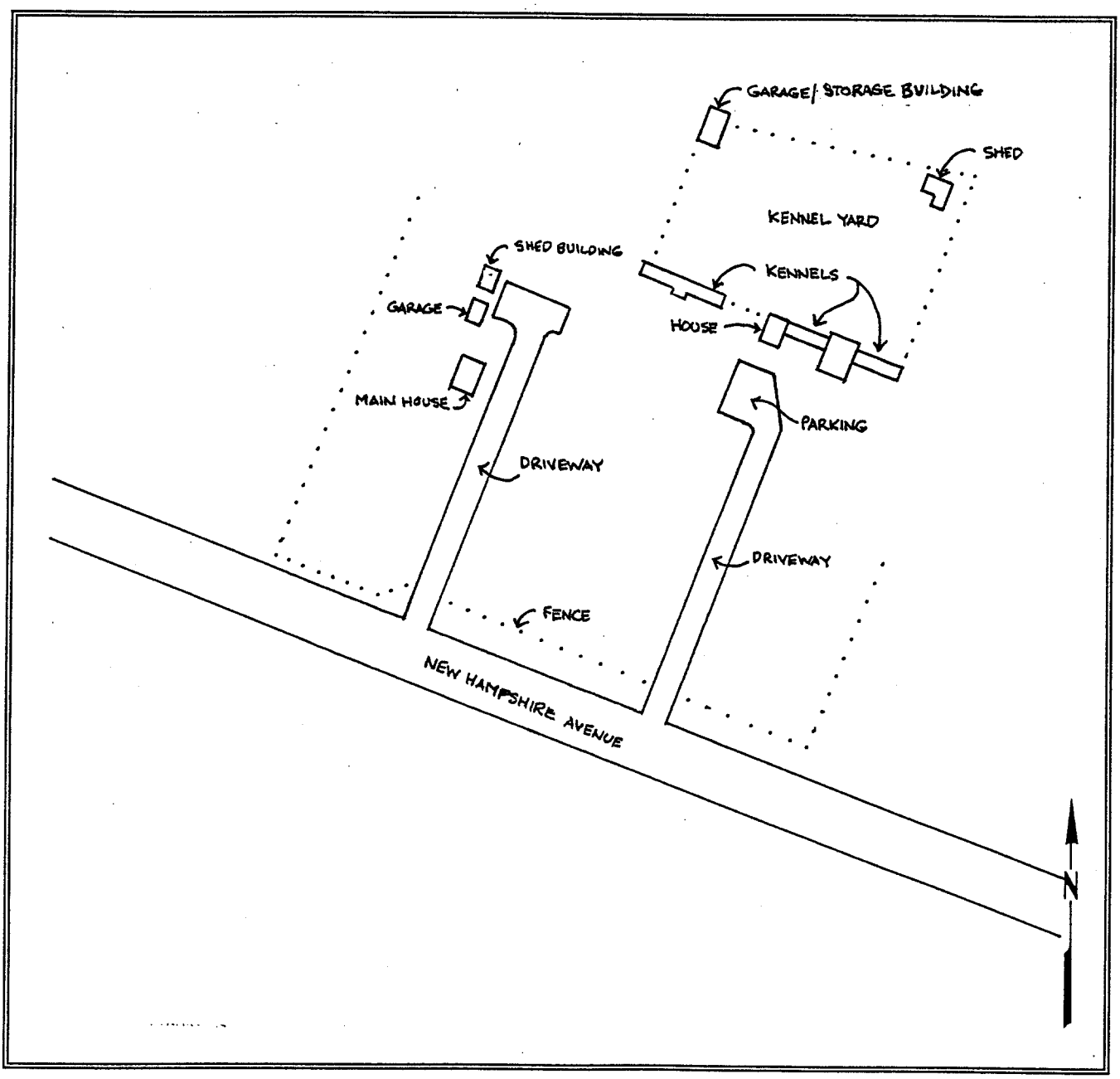
Montgomery County Historical Society. Vertical Files. "Ashton".

Sharf, J. Thomas. History of Western Maryland. 2 vols. Philadelphia: 1882. Rprt. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1968.

Tindall, George Brown. 1984. America: A Narrative History. 2 vols. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.

10. Geographical Data (Continued)

Resource Sketch Map:



CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM
RESOURCE NAME: A. Richard and Hilda Lethbridge Property
SURVEY NO.: M:28-59 (PACS 9.27)
ADDRESS: 17711-17717 New Hampshire Avenue, Ashton, Montgomery County

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet

Historic Context:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period (s):

Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture and Economic (Commercial)

RESOURCE TYPE:

Category (see Section 3 of survey form):

Buildings

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

Suburban

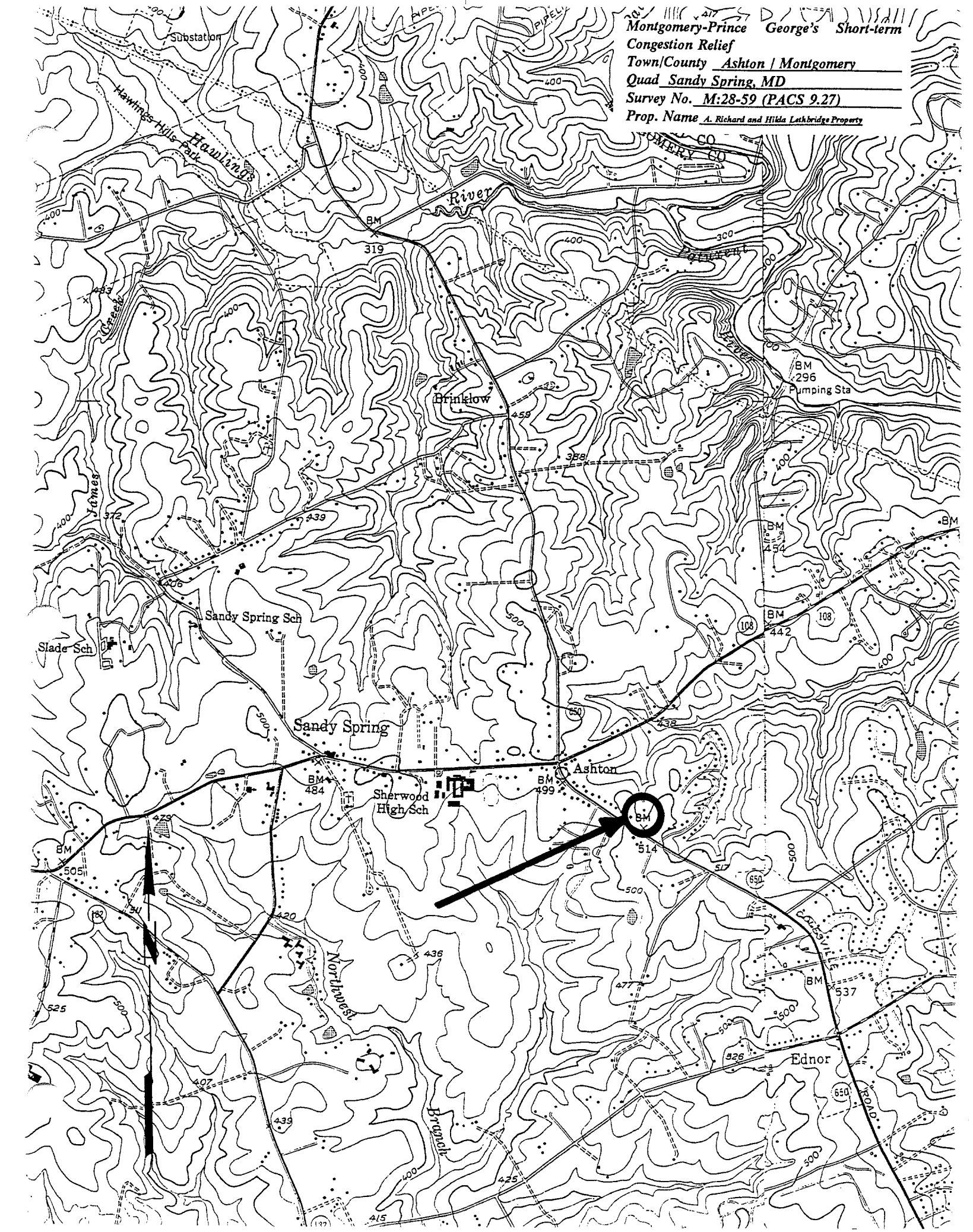
Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Private Residence and Commercial

Known Design Source (write none if unknown):

None

Preparer
P.A.C. Spero & Company
May 1998

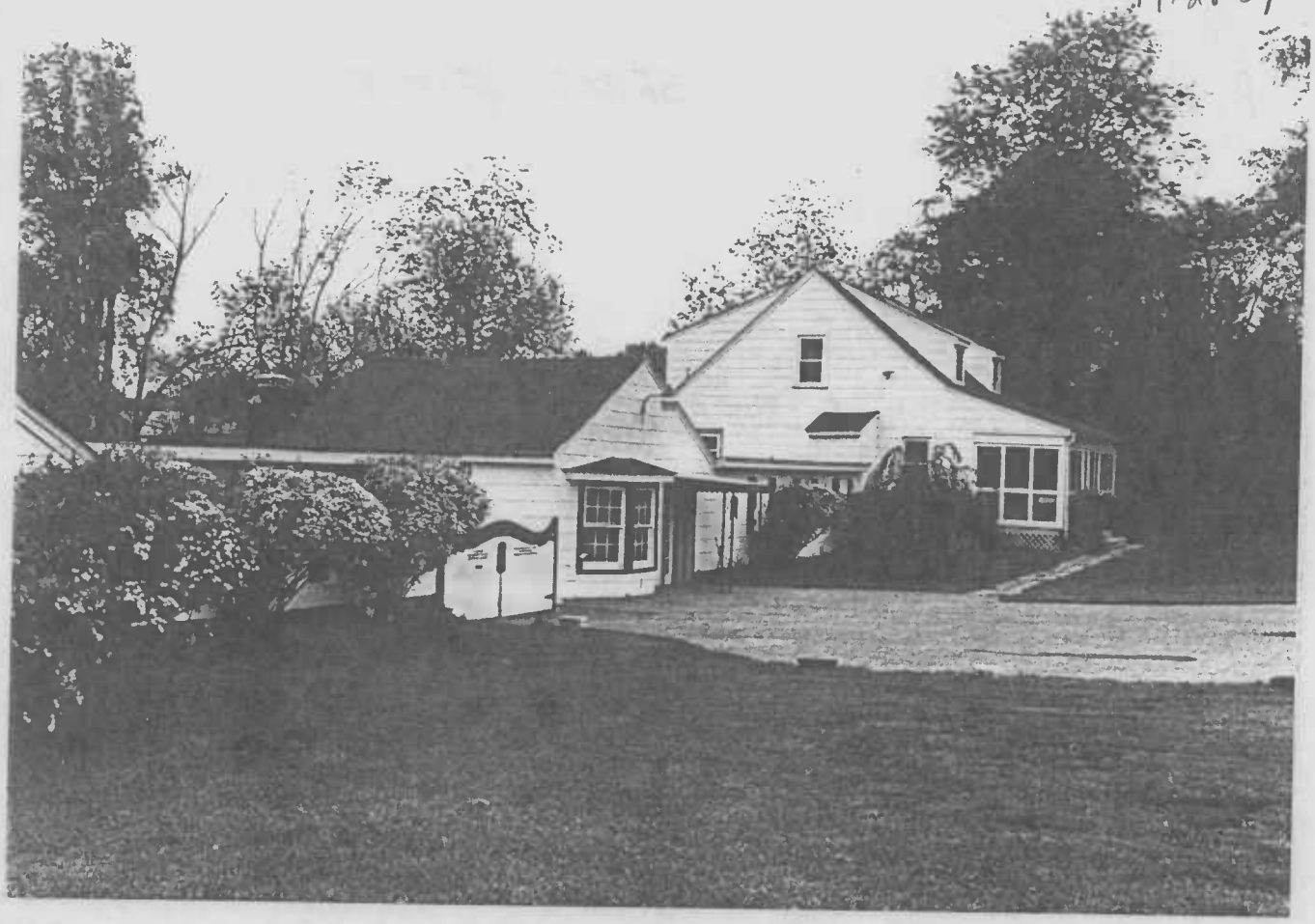

Montgomery-Prince George's Short-term Congestion Relief
Town/County Ashton / Montgomery
Quad Sandy Spring, MD
Survey No. M:28-59 (PACS 9.27)
Prop. Name A. Richard and Hilda Lethbridge Property
Substation
Hawlings Hills Park
Hawlings
River
Patuxent
River
Brinklow
Pumping Sta
Sandy Spring Sch
Slade Sch
Sandy Spring
Ashton
Sherwood High Sch
Northwest
Branch
Ednor
COLESVILLE
ROAD
BM 319
BM 296
BM 454
BM 442
BM 484
BM 499
BM 514
BM 505
BM 537

M:28-57

M: 28 - 59.
A. RICHARD + HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY,
MONTGOMERY Co., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
4-98
MARYLAND SHPO
HOUSE + KENNEL, FRONT ELEVATION
1/20

M: 28 - 59
A. RICHARD + HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY Co., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
4-98
MARYLAND SHPO
HOUSE, NORTH WEST CORNER
2/20

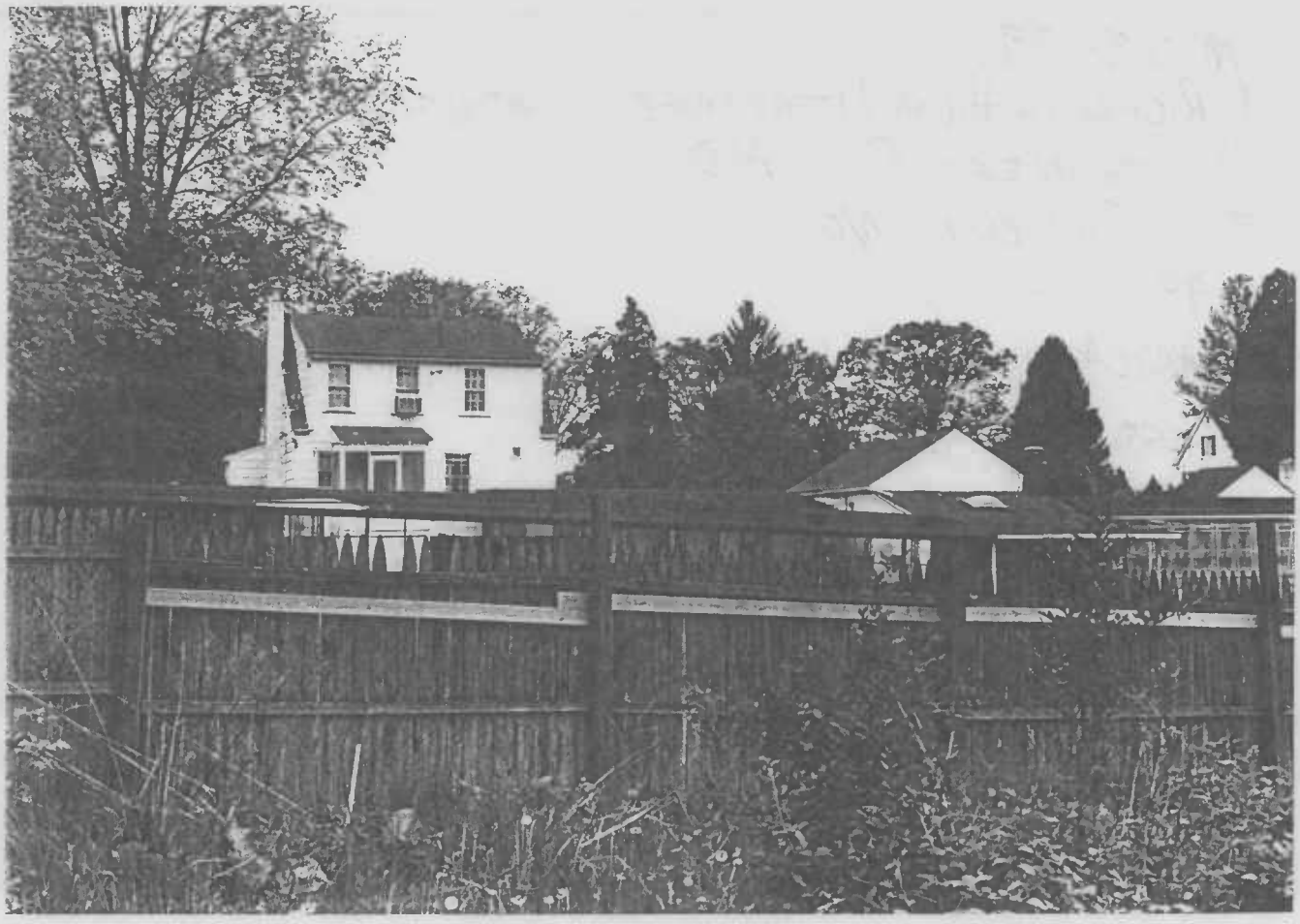
M:28-59



M:28-59
A. RICHARD + HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY CO., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
4-98 TIF DCP: 4 4 N 22
MARYLAND SHPO
HOUSE, NORTH ELEVATION
3/20

M:28-59
A. RICHARD + HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY CO., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
4-98 TIF DCP: 4 4 N 22
MARYLAND SHPO
HOUSE, NORTHEAST CORNER
4/20

M:28-59



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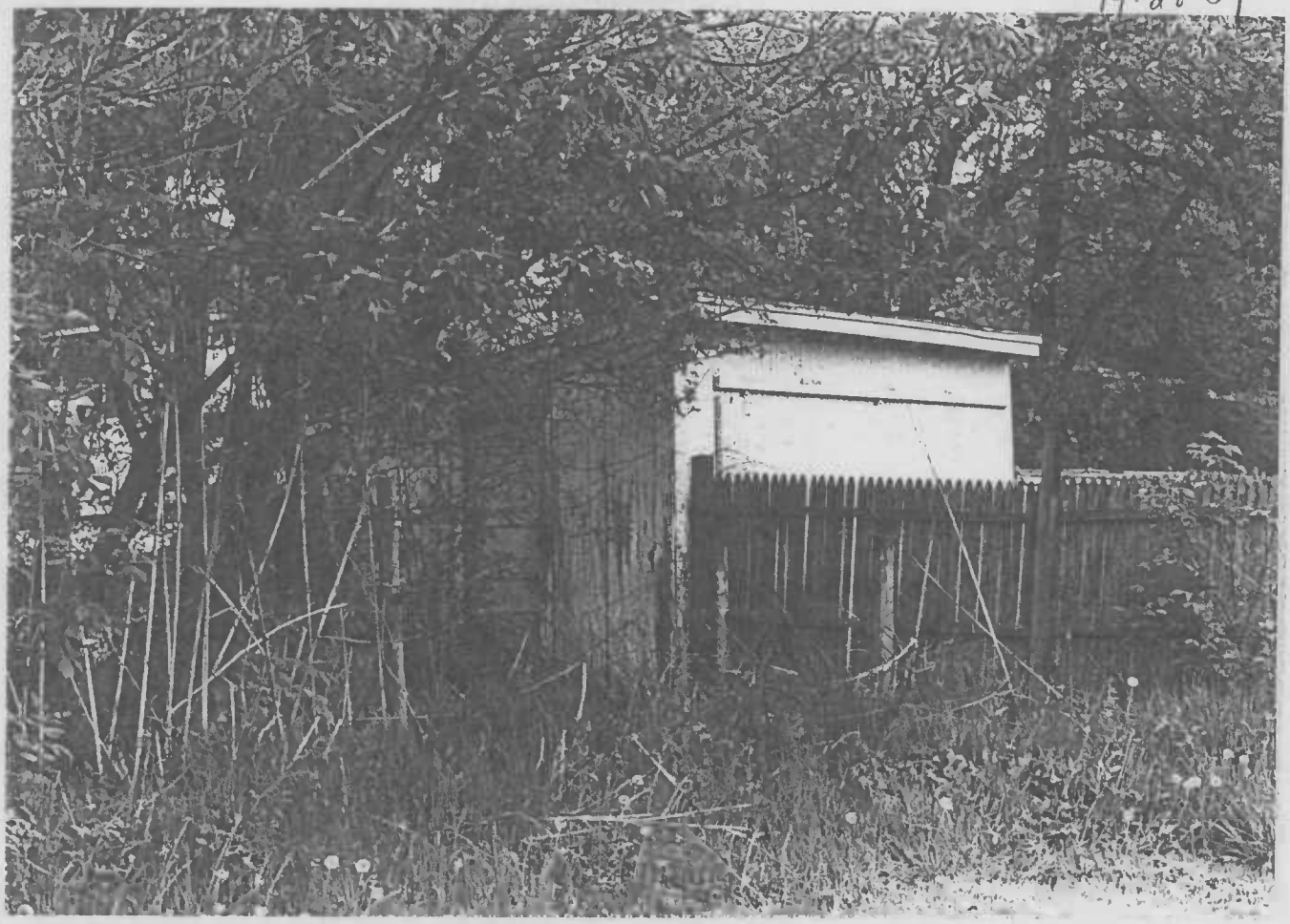
A. RICHARD & HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY Co., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
[illegible]
MARYLAND SHPO
HOUSE, EAST ELEVATION
5/20

M:28-59
A. RICHARD & HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY Co., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
4-98 [illegible]
MARYLAND SHPO
HOUSE, SOUTHEAST CORNER
6/20

M:28-59

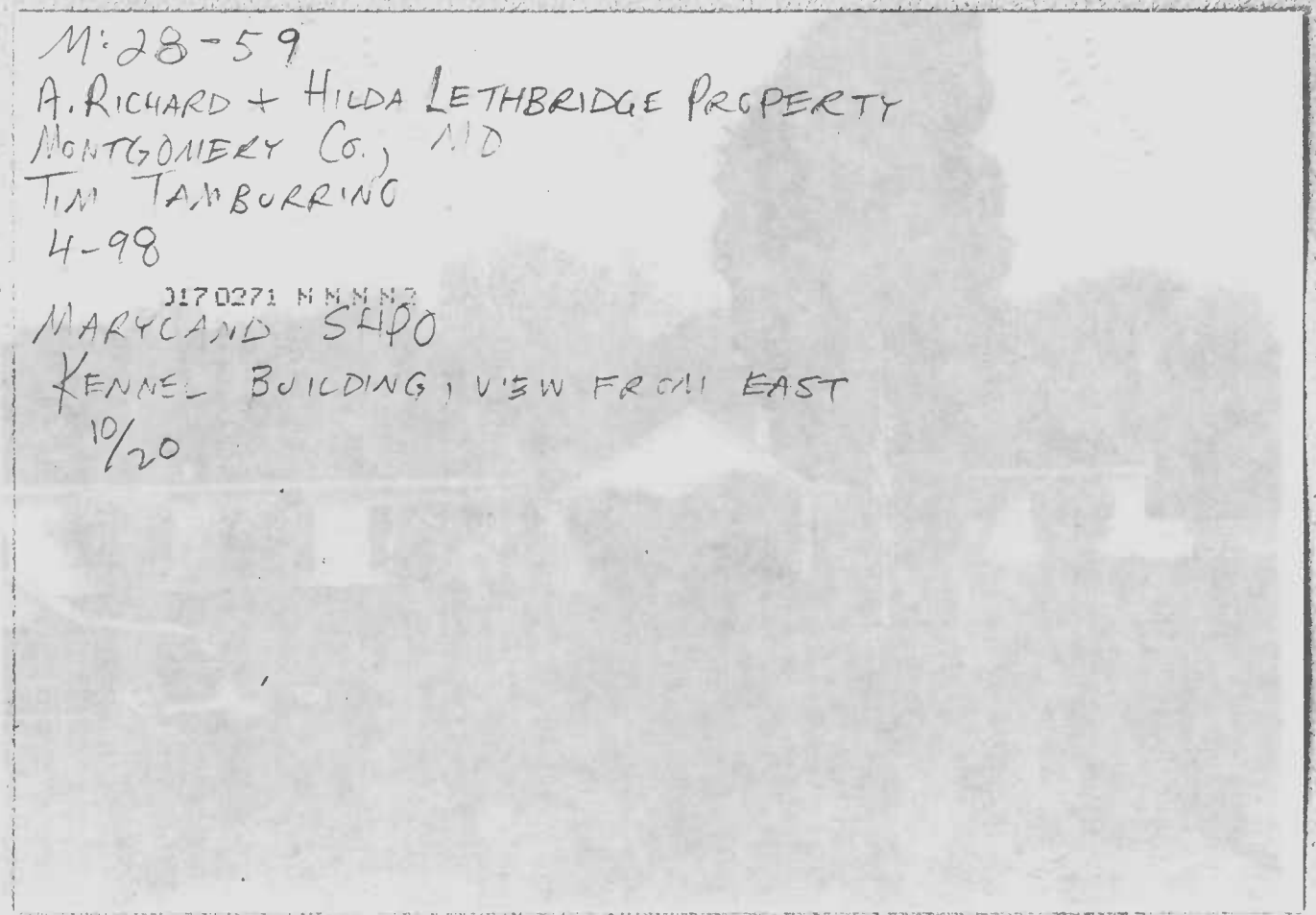


M:28-59
A. RICHARD + HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY Co., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
4.98
MARYLAND SHPO
SHED, VIEW FROM SOUTHWEST
7/20

M:28-59
A. RICHARD + HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY Co., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
4.98
MARYLAND SHPO
GARAGE / OUT BUILDING, VIEW FROM NORTHWEST
8/20

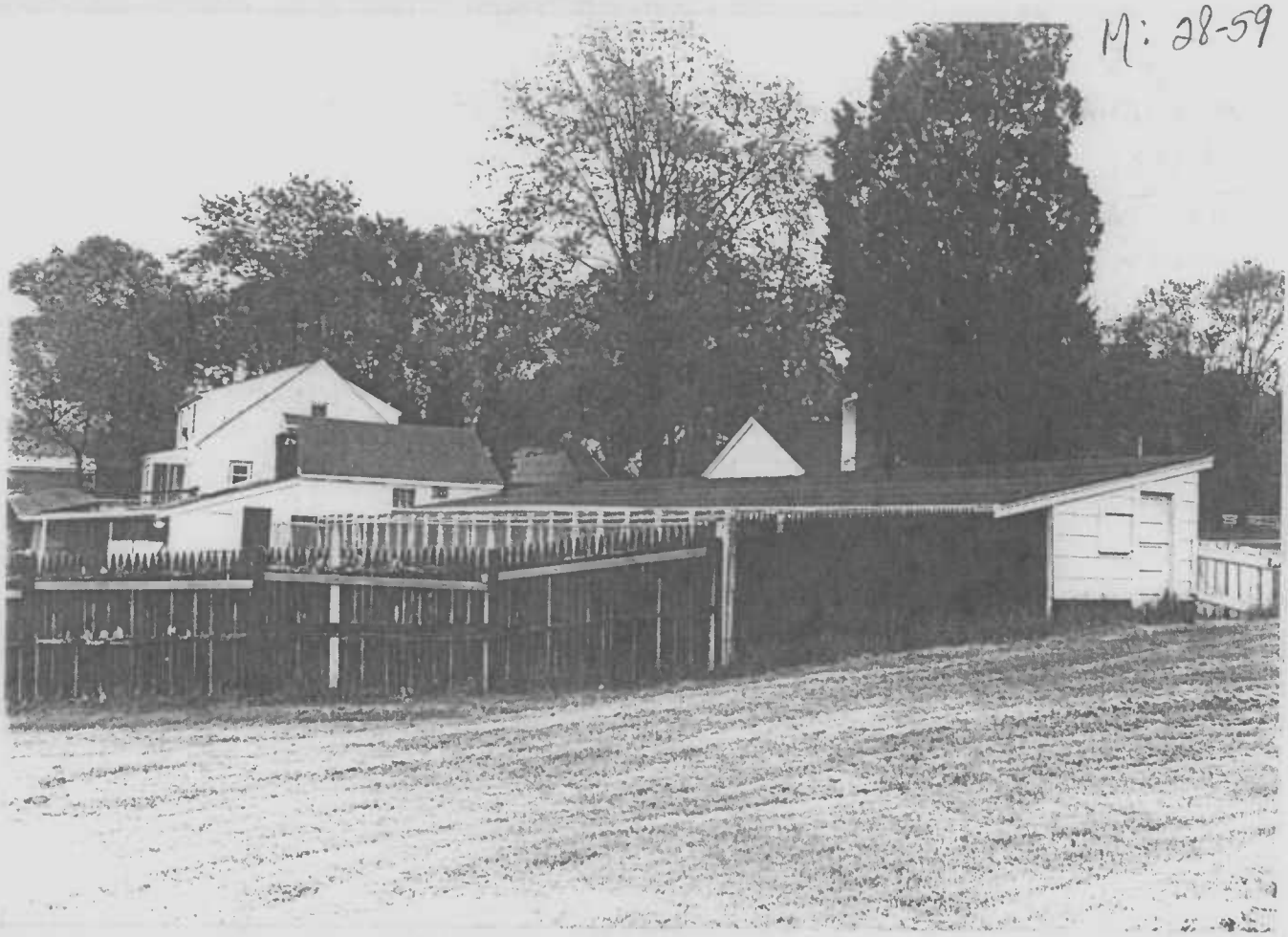
M:28-59

M:28-59
A. RICHARD + HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
(MONTGOMERY CO., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
4-98
MARYLAND SHPO
GARAGE/OUTBUILDING, VIEW FROM SOUTHWEST
9/20

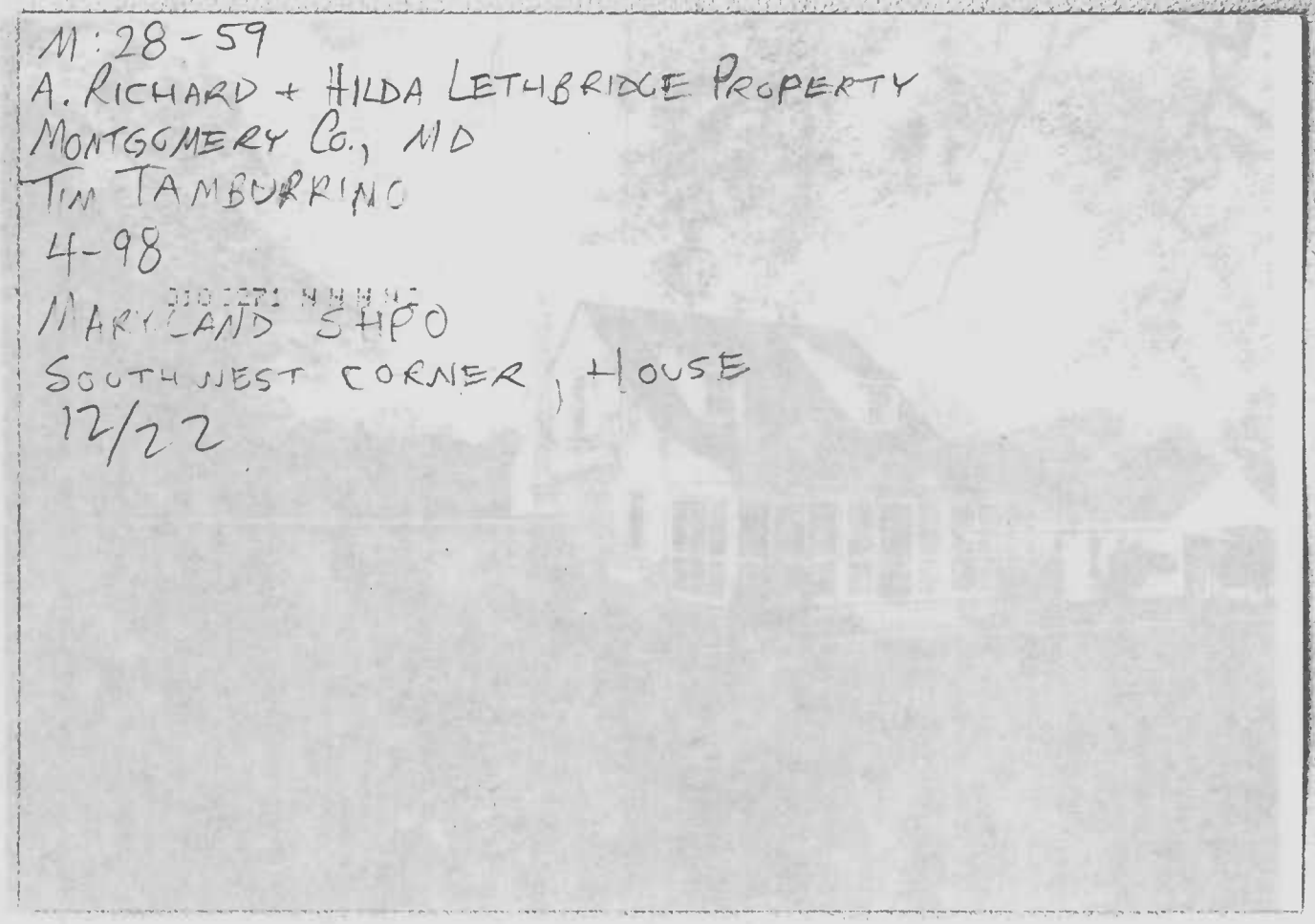


M:28-59
A. RICHARD + HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY CO., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
4-98
MARYLAND SHPO
KENNEL BUILDING, VIEW FROM EAST
10/20

M: 28-59



M:28-59
A. RICHARD + HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY Co., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
4-98
MARYLAND SHPO
KENNEL BUILDING VIEW FROM SOUTHWEST
11/22

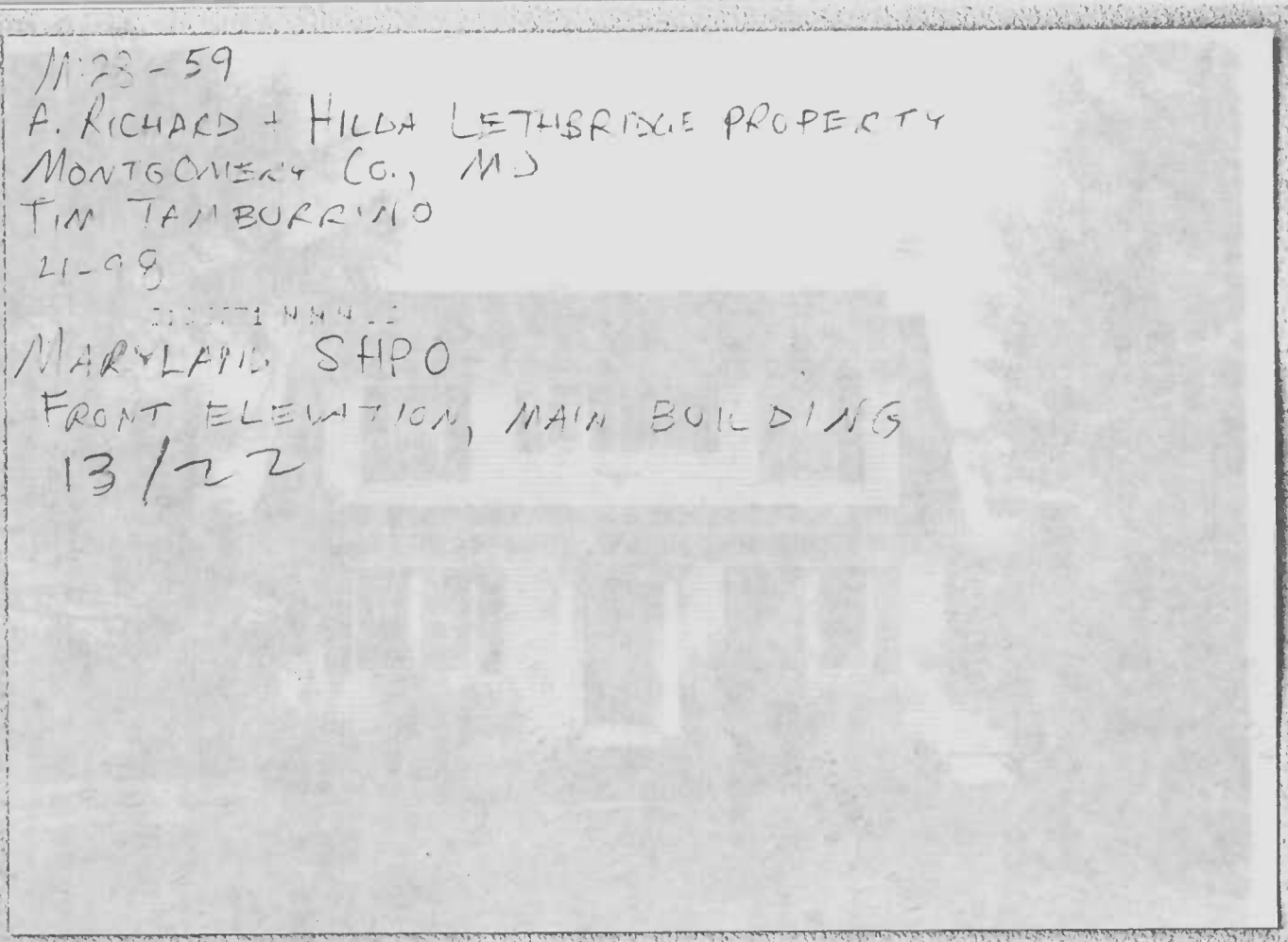


M:28-59
A. RICHARD + HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY Co., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
4-98
MARYLAND SHPO
SOUTHWEST CORNER, HOUSE
12/22

M:28-59

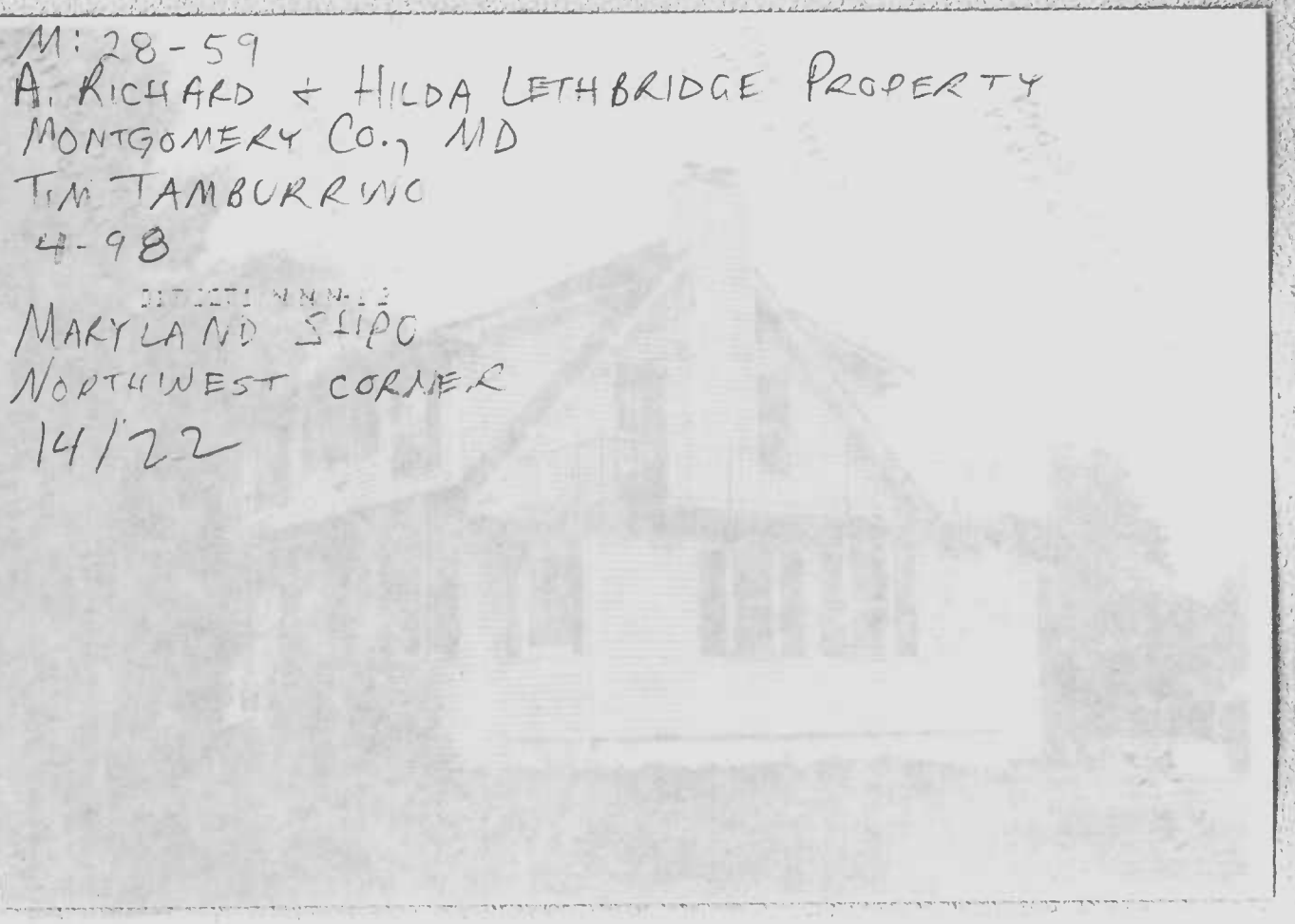
M:23-59
A. RICHARD + HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY CO., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
11-98

MARYLAND SHPO
FRONT ELEVATION, MAIN BUILDING
13/22



M:28-59
A. RICHARD + HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY CO., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
4-98

MARYLAND SHPO
NORTHWEST CORNER
14/22



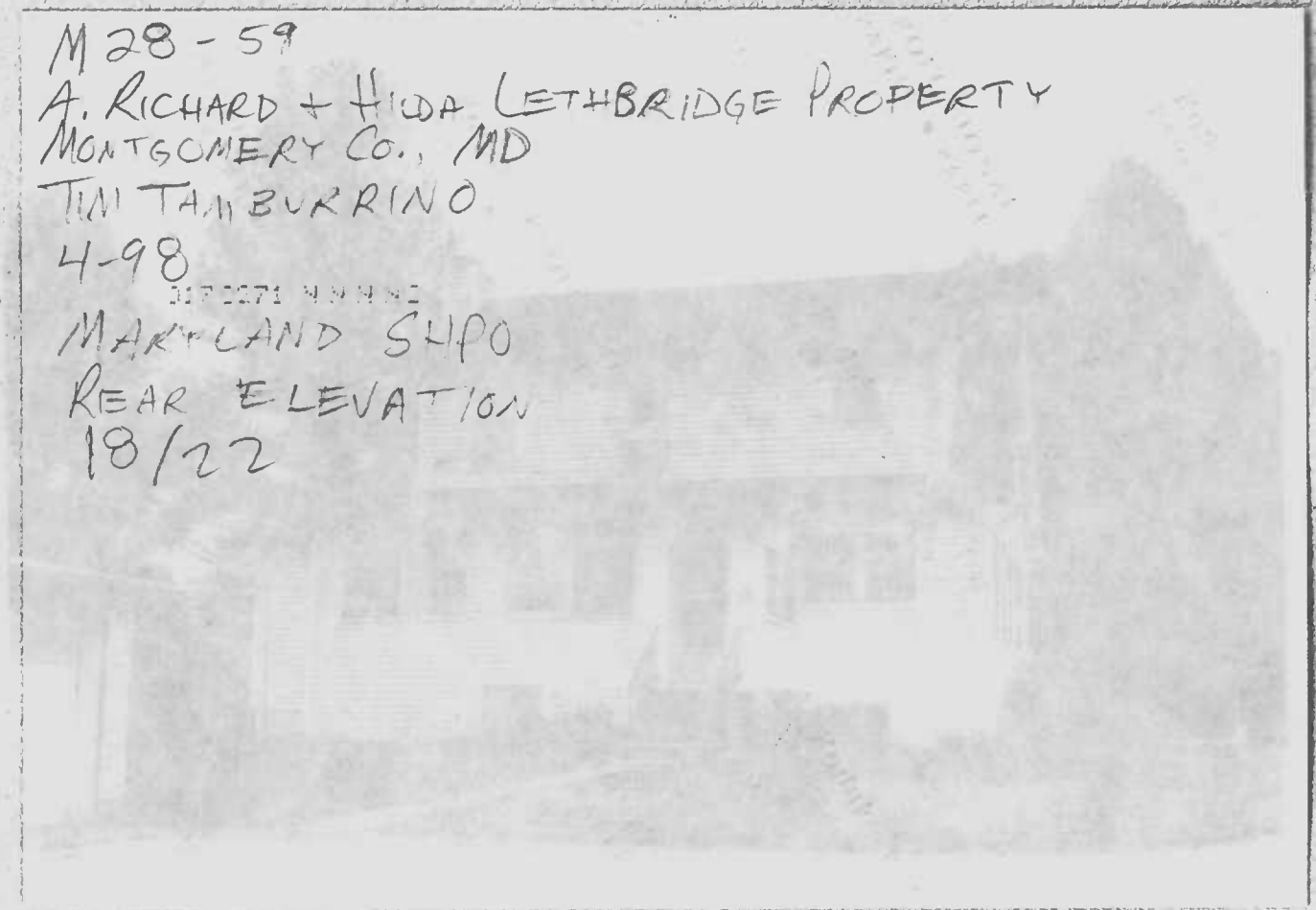
M: 28:59

M:29-59
A. RICHARD & HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY CO. MD
T. M TAMBURRINO
4-98
MARYLAND SHPO
NORTH ELEVATION
15/22

M:29-59
A. RICHARD & HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY CO., MD
TOM TAMBURRINO
4-98
MARYLAND SHPO
NORTHEAST CORNER
16/22

M: 28-59

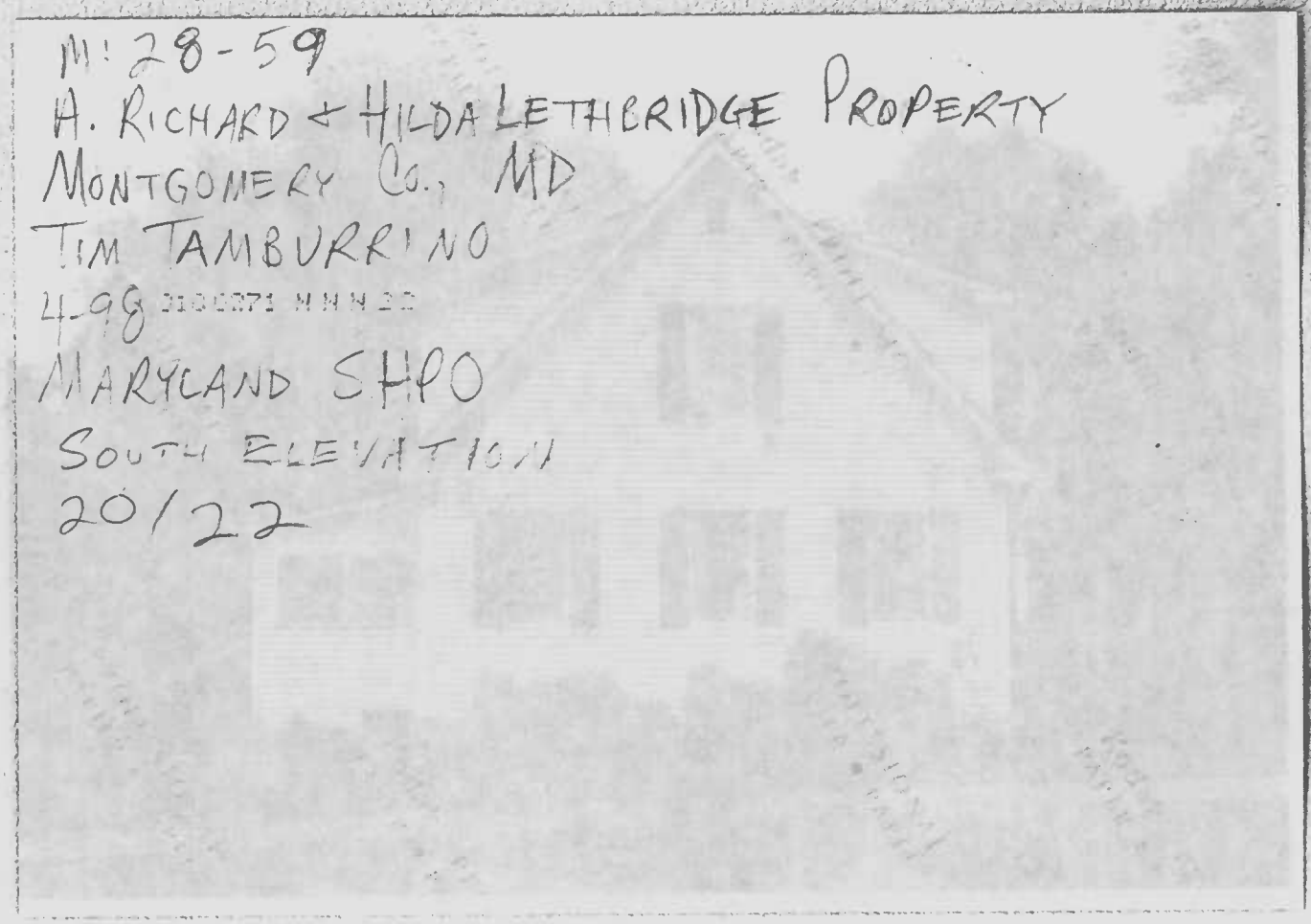
M 28-59
A. RICHARD & HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY CO., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
4-98
MARYLAND SHPO
OUTBUILDINGS (GARAGE, SHED) VIEW FROM SOUTH
16/22



M 28-59
A. RICHARD & HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY CO., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
4-98
MARYLAND SHPO
REAR ELEVATION
18/22

M:28-59

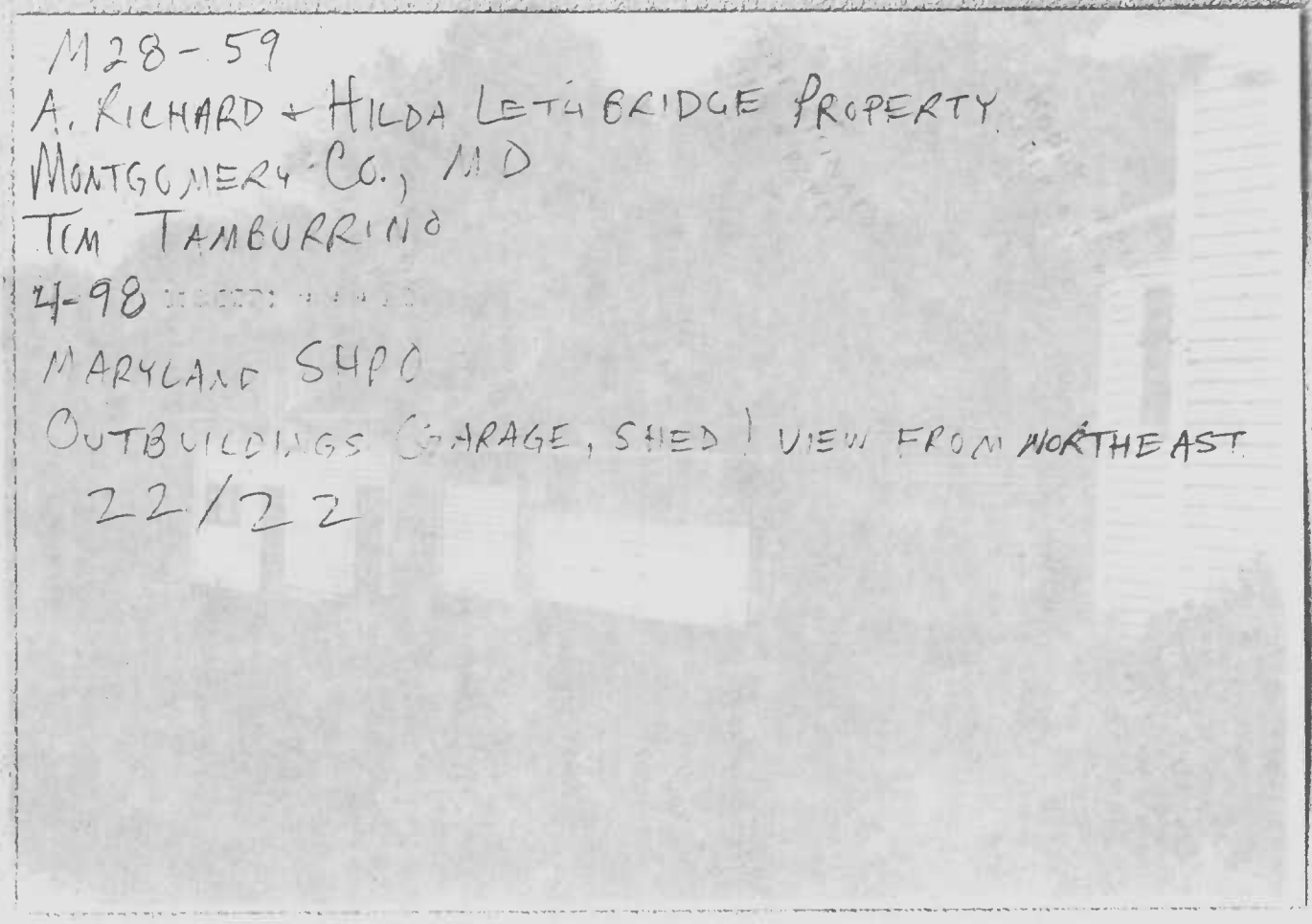
M:28-59
A. RICHARD + HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY CO., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
4-98 3100271 MNN 22
MARYLAND SHPO
SOUTHEAST CORNER
19/22



M:28-59
A. RICHARD + HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY CO., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
4-98 3100271 MNN 22
MARYLAND SHPO
SOUTH ELEVATION
20/22

M:28-59

M:28-59
A. RICHARD + HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY CO., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
4-98
MARYLAND SHPO
SOUTHWEST CORNER
21/22



M28-59
A. RICHARD + HILDA LETHBRIDGE PROPERTY
MONTGOMERY CO., MD
TIM TAMBURRINO
4-98
MARYLAND SHPO
OUTBUILDINGS (GARAGE, SHED) VIEW FROM NORTHEAST
22/22