

CAPSULE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey No.: PG: 61-39

Construction Date: circa 1895 to 1940

Name: South Beltsville Neighborhood

Location: Powder Mill Rd., Queen Anne Ave., Harford Ave., Prince George's Ave.; Beltsville; Prince George's County

Private Ownership / Present Use: Private Residences / Occupied / Condition: Good / Unrestricted Access

Description:

The South Beltsville Neighborhood is an area which was subdivided in 1891 by the Beltsville Land Improvement Company, and is known as Section 2 of Beltsville. The subdivision included Powder Mill Road, Queen Anne Avenue, Harford Avenue, and Prince George's Avenue. The lots were improved beginning in the early-twentieth century with a mixture of 2-story front-gable and side-gable houses dating from circa 1900 to 1920 and later 1- to 1½-story side-gable cottages.

Significance:

The South Beltsville Neighborhood was subdivided in 1891 by the Beltsville Land Improvement Company. The company was chartered in 1891, and was limited to an existence of 30 years. The company was founded by John Prescott, Frank Middleton, Charles E. Coffin, Cabb Magruder, Robert Vinton Hall, James Simms, and John Rayburn. The developers sold the lots to individual owners and placed restrictive covenants on the deeds. The company forbid that the properties be used for the manufacture or sale of alcohol, and prohibited the sale of any property to an African-American. The covenants also required approval by the company of any building plan, and required the construction of cremation outhouses if sewers were not provided.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic South Beltsville Neighborhood (Preferred)

and/or common

2. Location

street & number: Powder Mill Rd., Prince George's Ave., Queen Anne Ave., Harford Ave. not for publication

city, town Beltsville vicinity of

congressional district

state Maryland

county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category

- district
 building(s)
 structure
 site
 object

Ownership

- public
 private
 both

Public Acquisition

- in process
 being considered
 not applicable

Status

- occupied
 unoccupied
 work in progress

Accessible

- yes: restricted
 yes: unrestricted
 no

Present Use

- agriculture
 commercial
 educational
 entertainment
 government
 industrial
 military

- museum
 park
 private residence
 religious
 scientific
 transportation
 other:

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

name Multiple

street & number:

telephone no.:

city, town

state and zip code:

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Administration Building, Land Records Office of Prince George's County liber:

street & number 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive folio:

city, town Upper Marlboro

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. PG:61-39

Condition

- excellent
 good

- deteriorated
 ruins

Check one

- unaltered
 altered

Check one

- original site
 moved

date of move

Resource Count: approximately 60

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

The South Beltsville Neighborhood is an area which was subdivided in 1891 by the Beltsville Land Improvement Company and is known as Section 2 of Beltsville. The subdivision included Powder Mill Road, Queen Anne Avenue, Harford Avenue, and Prince George's Avenue. The lots were improved beginning in the early-twentieth century (See Photographs 1, 7).

The houses along Powder Mill Road (Photos 11, 12) are the largest in the neighborhood. Dating from circa 1900 to circa 1920, they are mostly 2-story side-gable or four-square houses with weatherboard or brick cladding. The houses on Queen Anne Avenue (Photos 3, 4, 7) and Harford Avenue (Photos 4, 5, 6) date from a slightly later period, circa 1915 to circa 1930, and are mostly 1- to 1½-story front- and side-gable cottages. The upper portion of Prince George's Avenue (Photo 9) has houses dating from the same circa 1930 period, while the lower portion of Prince George's Avenue (Photos 8, 9, 14) has circa 1900 to circa 1920 front-gable and gable-front-and-wing houses.

The houses have a fairly uniform setback and lot size, but for the most part have been altered with additions, modern materials, and changes in the fenestration.

The neighborhood has historically been residential in character, but modern houses (Photos 2, 3, 6, 10) have been added sporadically among the older houses, creating a somewhat discontinuous landscape.

8. Significance

Survey No.: PG:61-39

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

Specific Dates circa 1895 to 1940 **Builder Architect Unknown**

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

The South Beltsville Neighborhood was subdivided in 1891 by the Beltsville Land Improvement Company. The company was chartered in 1891, and was limited to an existence of 30 years. The company was founded by John Prescott, Frank Middleton, Charles E. Coffin, Cabb Magruder, Robert Vinton Hall, James Simms, and John Rayburn. The developers sold the lots to individual owners and placed restrictive covenants on the deeds. The company forbade that the properties be used for the manufacture or sale of alcohol and prohibited the sale of any property to an African-American. The covenants also required approval by the company of any building plan and required the construction of cremation outhouses if sewers were not provided.

The South Beltsville Neighborhood is located in Beltsville. Beltsville, named after the Belt family, is an area of Prince George's County on either side of Route 1 from Ammendale Road to the Capital Beltway. During the 1700s and early 1800s, the Snowden family possessed large estates which were located on both sides of what is now Route 1, and on land which is now the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. In the colonial era, tobacco farming occurred along Indian Creek, a tributary of the Northeast Branch of the Anacostia River. Later, farmers produced grains and vegetables.

By 1795, a turnpike from Baltimore to Georgetown in the District of Columbia had been constructed through the county. Taverns were established along the turnpike (present day Route 1 and Old Baltimore Pike), including one operated by Jacob Van Horn in what is now Beltsville. The tavern, called Vansville, serviced turnpike travellers from the 1790s to 1817. In the 1830s, the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad built tracks for the Washington Branch through the Belt family farm and established a station which was named Beltsville. The station, located along the turnpike, the east-west roads of Odell and Powder Mill, and the railroad, grew during the 1800s and became a village containing two churches, residences, stores, and businesses such as a blacksmith and a wheelwright shop.

During the late 1800s, Beltsville became part of the expanding Washington, D.C. suburbs as development occurred along the railroad and streetcar lines north of the city. Federal workers could live in the suburbs and work downtown, and many new communities were established from the District line to Beltsville. The suburban development continued after the introduction of the automobile. The state improved the roads, and Route 1 became the major north/south route along the east coast. Although the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center was established in 1910 and employment in the area increased, Beltsville was relatively far from Washington, and the more southern suburbs experienced greater growth. It was not until after the Second World War that intensive development came to the Beltsville area. The increase in Federal employment and the dramatic rise in personal automobile use led to the suburbanization of Beltsville. The area west of Route 1 developed as a residential area. Development increased in the 1960s as Interstate 95 made the area more accessible. Today, most of the farms are gone and Beltsville has become a densely populated suburb.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: South Beltsville Neighborhood

SURVEY NO.: PG:61-39

ADDRESS: Powder Mill Rd., Queen Anne Ave., Harford Ave., Prince George's Ave; Beltsville; Prince George's County

8. Significance (Continued)

The South Beltsville Neighborhood has a mixture of front-gable, Four-square, Colonial Revival and vernacular cottage houses. The front-gable house first appeared in the 1830s during the Greek Revival movement (McAlester and McAlester 1984, 90). This type was typically one-room wide and two-rooms deep, and fit easily on the narrow lots found in urban and early suburban areas. Porches were commonly placed across the front and rear elevations. Front-gable houses could feature details drawn from the Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Queen Anne, or Craftsman movements. During the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, many were constructed for working class families. These were often devoid of ornament. Front-gable houses appeared during the Agricultural-Industrial Transition Period and the Industrial/Urban Dominance Period.

The gable-front-and-wing form first developed as an adaptation of the front-gable Greek Revival style (McAlester and McAlester 1984, 92). The form later became popular in trolley and early automotive suburbs, particularly in the first decade of the twentieth century. Gable-front-and-wing dwellings had a prominent, front-gable wing facing the street attached to a recessed, side-gable wing. A porch typically filled the "L" formed by the two wings (McAlester and McAlester 1984, 92). In the Mid-Atlantic region, these dwellings were usually two-stories tall and constructed of wood frame. Gable-front-and-wing dwellings commonly had Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Queen Anne or Stick-style ornamentation. They appeared most often in the Agricultural-Industrial Transition Period and the Industrial/Urban Dominance Period.

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).

The Four-square house was popular in both suburban and rural areas of America from the late 1890s into the 1920s. Four-square dwellings are usually 2 to 2½-stories tall with a simple square or rectangular plan, low-pitched, hipped roof, and a front entrance, usually off-centered, which served as the focal point of the facade. They also commonly featured dormers on all planes of the roof and a wide 1-story front porch. Inside are usually four roughly equal-sized rooms on each floor, with a side stairway. Exterior wall surfaces were generally clad in clapboards or wood shingles. In vernacular examples, the Four-square often featured hipped dormers, a 1-story, full-width front porch, and double-hung sash windows.

While the Queen Anne, Folk Victorian and Four-square styles were at the height of popularity in the United States, the Colonial Revival style began to capture the American imagination. Popular in the years from 1880 to 1955, the Colonial Revival style resulted from a rebirth of interest in the colonial English and Dutch houses of the eastern seaboard coincident with the Philadelphia Centennial. Stylistic details in Colonial Revival dwellings were drawn predominantly from Georgian and Federal styles; secondary influences included Dutch Colonial and English Postmedieval types. Late nineteenth century examples of Colonial Revival were often asymmetrical and exhibited a combination of Queen Anne features, such as turrets and wide porches, and Colonial features such as Palladian windows and Adamesque swags or urns. Examples built from 1915 to 1935 reflected colonial precedents more closely, while those built after World War II

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: South Beltsville Neighborhood

SURVEY NO.: PG:61-39

ADDRESS: Powder Mill Rd., Queen Anne Ave., Harford Ave., Prince George's Ave; Beltsville; Prince George's County

8. Significance (Continued)

simplified the style, with details which only suggested rather than duplicated the original examples. Various sub-styles, such as the Dutch Colonial Revival, were popular during the early to mid-twentieth century.

Colonial Revival houses are usually strictly rectangular in plan with few projections and have symmetrical facades. They range from one to three stories with hipped, side-gable, cross-gable, or gambrel roofs. Clapboard is the most popular sheathing material, although brick is not uncommon. After World War II, colonial homes frequently featured a brick-sided first story with an overhanging wood-sided second story. In more elaborate homes, a hipped roof is often topped with a flat deck and balustrade or a cupola. Pedimented doorways and fanlights are common. Some pediments evolved into porticos with slender columns. The typical form of the windows is rectangular with double-hung sash. Palladian windows are common on more sophisticated dwellings. The addition of side porches, terraces and sunrooms are modern features common to Colonial Revival homes (McAlester 1984, 321-6).

National Register Evaluation:

Subdivided in 1891 and improved between circa 1895 and 1940, the South Beltsville Neighborhood is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The neighborhood 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 neighborhood 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 it is a neighborhood of mixed architectural styles and periods which lacks a sense of continuity and a feeling of unified design, materials, and period. Many of the buildings have been altered with additions and modern materials and lots infilled with new construction. 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: *X*

Comments:

Reviewer, OPS: *[Signature]*

Date: *3/21/2000*

Reviewer, NR Program: *[Signature]*

Date: *3/23/00*

[Handwritten mark]

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. PG:61-39

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name Beltsville, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

N/A

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan Taylor / Julie Darsie

organization KCI Technologies, Inc.

date 5/98 / revised 1/00

street & number 10 North Park Drive

telephone 410-316-7800

city or town Hunt Valley

state/zip Maryland, 21030

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

Return to:

Maryland Historical Trust
DHCP/DHCD
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

CONTINUATION SHEET

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STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM**

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ADDRESS: Powder Mill Rd., Queen Anne Ave., Harford Ave., Prince George's Ave; Beltsville; Prince George's County

9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

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

Cook, William G. 1976. *Montpelier & the Snowden Family*. Privately Printed.

Gottfried, Herbert and Jans 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 County of Prince George's, Maryland*. Reprint, Riverdale, Maryland: Prince George's County Historical Society.

Land Records of Prince George's County, Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. 1984. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf.

Prince George's County Community Renewal Program. 1974. *The Neighborhoods of Prince George's County*. Upper Marlboro, Maryland: Prince George's County Government.

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

Virta, Alan. 1984. *Prince George's County: A Pictorial History*. Rev. 1991. Virginia Beach: The Donning Company Publishers.

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Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet

Historic Context:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION DATA

Geographic Organization:

Western Shore

Chronological/Development Period Theme(s):

Modern Period, A.D. 1930-Present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture, Community

RESOURCE TYPE:

Category (see Section 3 of survey form):

District

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

Village

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Private Residences

Known Design Source (write none if unknown):

None

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

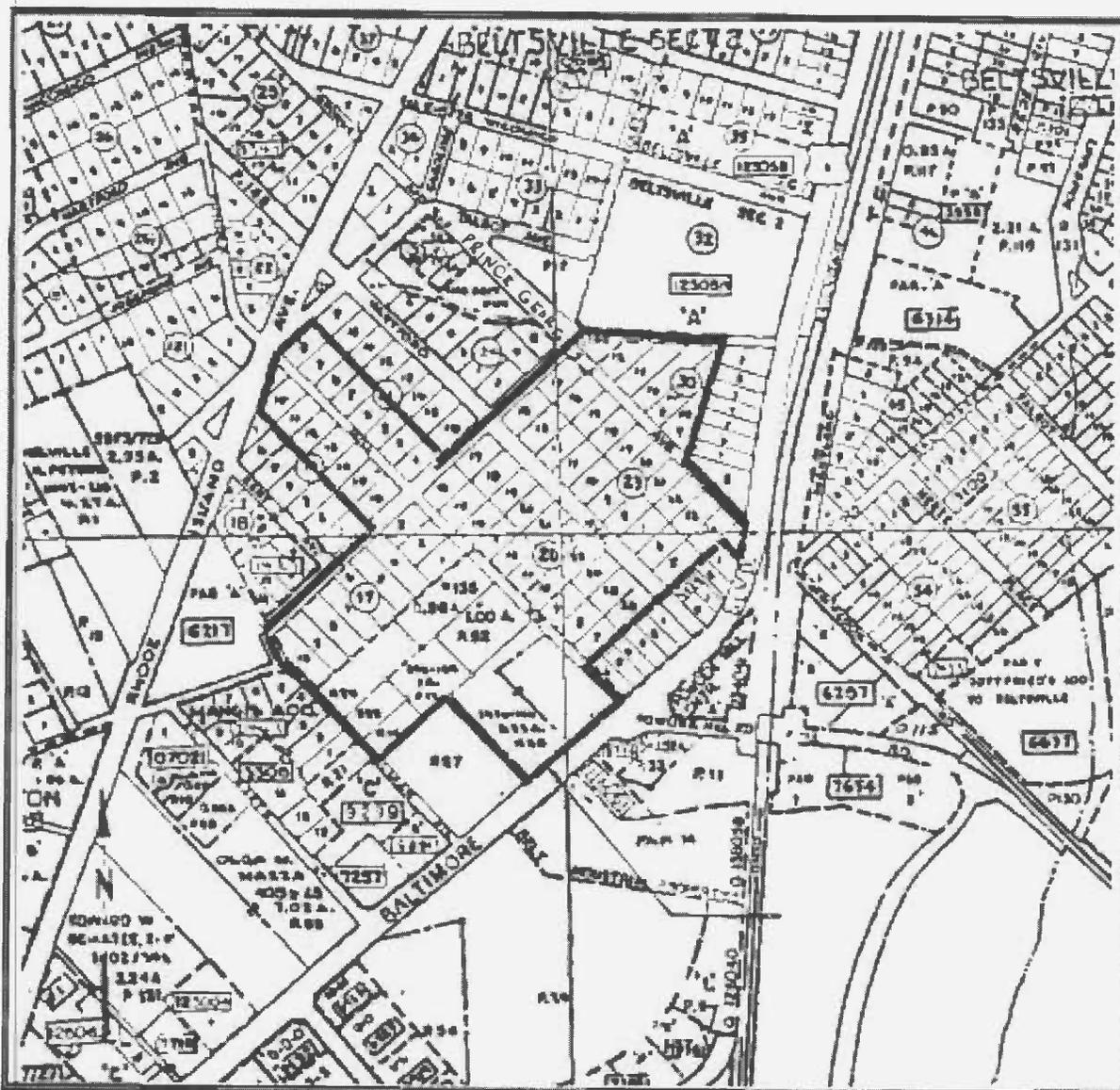
RESOURCE NAME: South Beltsville Neighborhood

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ADDRESS: Powder Mill Rd., Queen Anne Ave., Harford Ave., Prince George's Ave; Beltsville; Prince George's County

10. Geographical Data (Continued)

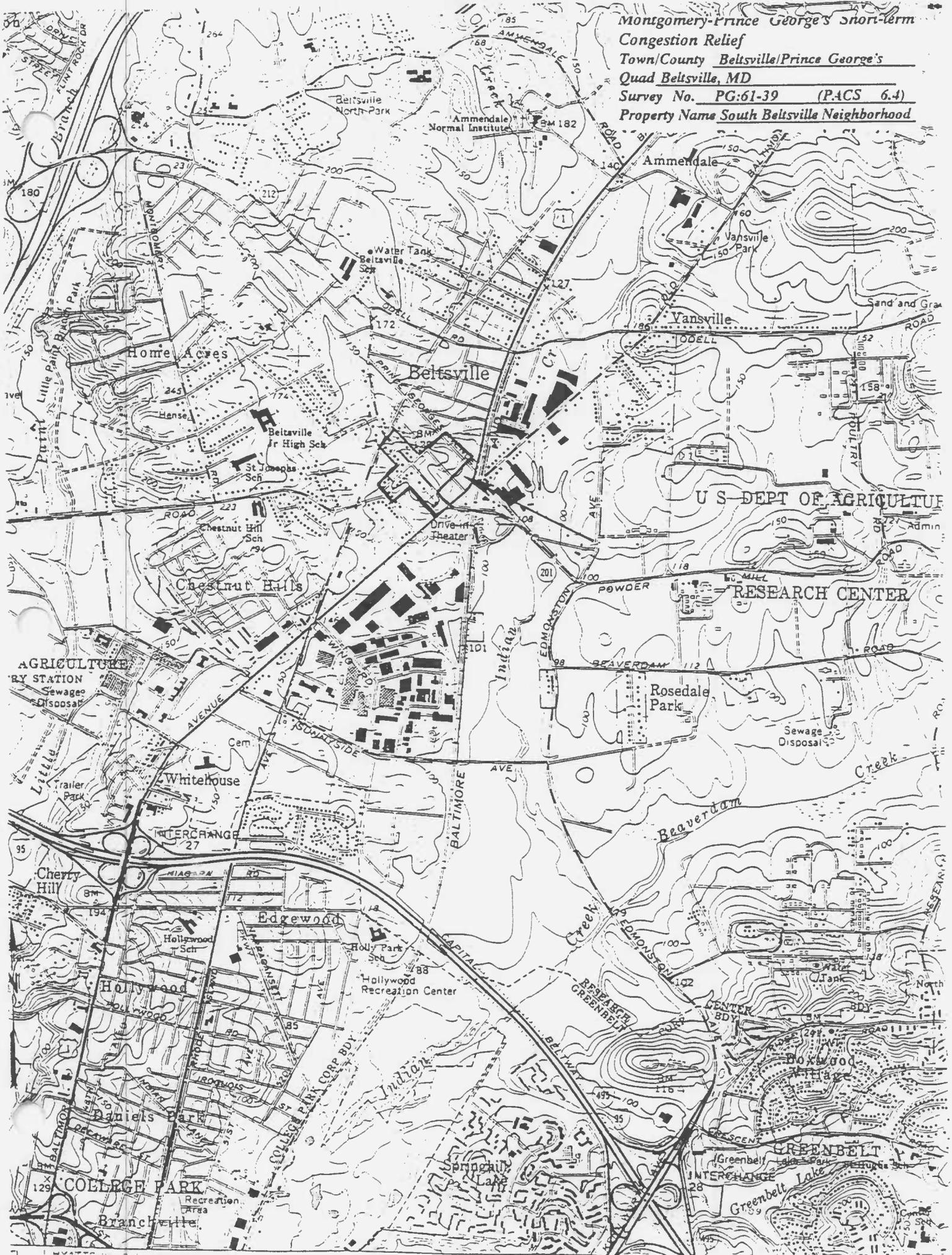
Resource Sketch Map:



PG:61-39
South Beltsville Historic District
Beltsville Quadrangle
Prince Georges County



Montgomery-Prince George's Short-term
Congestion Relief
Town/County Beltsville/Prince George's
Quad Beltsville/MD
Survey No. PG:61-39 (PACS 6.4)
Property Name South Beltsville Neighborhood





- 1 P.S. 51-39
- 2 South B. 4th W. Neighborhood
- 3 Prince Georges Co. Md
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5195
- 6 Mt SUMP
- 7 N Side. Sweet A. Road
- 8 1 7 14

ST. H. N. N. 123805



1 PG: 61-39

2 South Belleville Neighborhood

3 Prince George - E. M.

4 Anna Taylor

5 5/98

6 M. H. H.

7 4728-30 Powder Mill Rd

8 2 of 14



- 1 PS: 61-37
- 2 South Bellin's Neighborhood
- 3 Prince Georges Is. Md
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/38
- 6 W. & 34th
- 7 11105 Queen Anne Ave.
- 8 3 of 14

9040271 N.N.122



1 PS: 61-39

2 South Hill + South Neighborhood

3 600 - George. Co., Md

4 Annapolis - Taylor

5 5/97

6 MD SHPS

7 Cor. NW of Hartford Ave + Queen Anne Ave.
CROSSING QUEEN ANNE AVE

8 4 of 14



1 PS: 61-39

2 South Riverdale Neighborhood

3 Prince Georges Co, Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SPPD

7 4936 Harford Ave

8 5 of 14



1 PE '61-37

2 South Baltimore Neighborhood

3 Prince Georges Co, Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/92

6 Md SHPO

7 449 4401 Harford Ave (South Side)

8 5-7-14



1 PG 161-37

2 South Baltimore Neighborhood

3 Prince Georges Co. Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5199

6 J. W. H. P. D.

7 Contact: Officer Jones - PRINCE GEORGE'S AVENUE
(4021 Prince Georges Avenue) 7-1117 125 10

8 11/14



1 PG 6-33

2 South Belton Neighborhood

3 Prince George C. D.

4. Simon Taylor

5 = 175

6 = 112

7 4927 Prince George Ave

8 8-14



1 PF 51-39

2 South East Hill Neighborhood

3 Prince Georges Co Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5198

6 Md SHW

7 4930-4933 Prince Georges Hill

8 7-14



1 PG: 61-39

2 South Beltsville Historic Dist. etc.

3 Prince George Co. Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5198

6 Md SHPO

7 4702 Sellman Rd.

ST. MARY 1200685

8 10 of 14



1 PG 61-39

2 South Bethesda Neighborhood

3 Peace Through Co. Md

4 ~~Andrew~~ Taylor

E 5/92

6 MD SHPS

7 View SW, 4923 Powder Mill Rd

8 11 of 14



- 1 PG. 31-37
- 2 South Beltsville Neighborhood
- 3 Prince Georges Co, Md
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/97
- 6 Md STPO
- 7 4719 Powder Mill Rd
- 8 12 of 14

ENR 1111 1100



1 PG: 61-39.

2 2 th Belle Meade Neighborhood

3 Prince Georges Co Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SHPO

7 4625 PRINCE GEORGES AVE

8 13 05-10



- 1 PG: 61-39
- 2 Louisa, Berkeley, No. Nughis road
- 3 Prince Georges Co. Md
- 4 Susan Taylor
- 5 5/98
- 6 Md SHPS
- 7 4937 Prince Georges Ave
- 8 14 of 14.