CAPSULE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey No.: PG:67-32 (PACS 2.16) **Construction Date:** circa 1905

Name: Franklin and Katherine Morgan House

Location: 10680 Edmonston Avenue, Beltsville Vicinity, Prince George's County

Private/Private Residence/Occupied/Deteriorated/Restricted

Description:

The Franklin and Katherine Morgan House is a 1-story 3-bay side-gable cottage on the west side of Edmonston Avenue in the Beltsville vicinity, Prince George's County. Constructed circa 1905, the building is L-shaped with a shed-roof side entry addition in the corner of the L. The structure has a side-gable roof with a rear cross-gable covered in asphalt shingles. There is a brick chimney in the southwest corner of the main block. The house is of wood-frame construction with German siding and corner-boards, and it has a concrete foundation. The windows are double-hung wood sash.

Significance:

The Franklin and Katherine Morgan House was built circa 1905 on approximately .4 hectares (1 acre) of land that was purchased from the estate of James Simms in 1893. The property was sold in 1908 to James Pollars, in 1921 to Charles and Ella Taylor, and in 1952 to James Reeves. Reeves immediately conveyed the property to Frederick and Geraldine Biggerstaff, who built another house on the property in 1953. Geraldine Biggerstaff and her daughter and son-in-law continue to own the property.

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 Franklin and Katherine Morgan House (preferred)

and/or common Biggerstaff House

2. Location:

street & number 10680 Edmonston Avenue n/a not for publication

city, town Beltsville _X_ vicinity of congressional district

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	___education	___private residence
___site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___entertainment	___religious
___object	___in process	_X_yes: restricted	___government	___scientific
	___being considered	___yes: unrestricted	___industrial	_X_other: vacant
	_X_not applicable	___no	___military	
			___transportation	

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

name V. Geraldine Biggerstaff, Dennis and Virginia Keane

street & number 11403 Allview Drive telephone no.:

city,town Beltsville state and zip code Maryland 20705

5. Location of Legal Description

Land Records of Prince George's County liber 7678

street & number Prince George's County Judicial Center folio 532

city,town Upper Marlboro state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___federal ___state ___county ___local

depository for survey records

city,town state

7. Description

Survey No. PG:67-32 (PACS 2.16)

Condition		Check one	Check one	
_excellent	_X_deteriorated	_X_unaltered	_X_original site	
___good	___ruins	___altered	___moved	date of move _____
___fair	___unexposed			

Resource Count: 1

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

The Franklin and Katherine Morgan House is a 1-story 3-bay side-gable cottage on the west side of Edmonston Avenue in the Beltsville vicinity, Prince George's County. Constructed circa 1905, the building is L-shaped with a shed-roof side entry addition in the corner of the L. The structure has a side-gable roof with a rear cross-gable covered in asphalt shingles. There is a brick chimney in the southwest corner of the main block. The house is of wood-frame construction with German siding and corner-boards, and it has a concrete foundation. The windows are double-hung wood sash.

The east, or front elevation has a centered 4-light paneled door. The fenestration pattern is symmetrical with two 1/1 double-hung windows. The shallow-pitch roof has exposed rafter ends. The windows have corrugated metal awnings covering the upper half of the windows.

The north elevation consists of the gable end of the main block, the north side of the rear ell, and the shed roof entrance addition. There is one 2/2 double-hung window centered on the gable end of the main block. The side addition obscures the wall of the rear ell. There is a door in the first bay of the side addition and paired 4-light windows in the second bay.

The west elevation is composed of the gable-end of the rear ell and the west wall of the side addition. There are paired 4-light windows at the northwest corner of the side addition. There is a single 2/2 double-hung window centered on the wall of the gable end of the ell. This elevation is obscured by trees and vegetation.

The south elevation consists of the gable end of the main block and the south wall of the rear ell. There is one 2/2 double-hung window centered on the main block, and one window opening centered on the wall of the rear ell.

There are no outbuildings associated with this site.

A house dating from 1953 is located south of the Franklin and Katherine Morgan house, on the same parcel.

The property is located on the west side of Edmonston Avenue with residential property to the north and south, woods to the west, and cultivated fields associated with the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center to the east on the opposite side of Edmonston Avenue. The property's setting continues to remain rural in character, despite the adjacent houses built in the mid-1930s.

8. Significance

Survey No. PG:67-32 (PACS 2.16)

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

Specific dates circa 1905 Builder/Architect

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.

The Franklin and Katherine Morgan House was built circa 1905 on approximately .4 hectares (1 acre) of land that was purchased from the estate of James Simms in 1893. The property was sold in 1908 to James Pollars, in 1921 to Charles and Ella Taylor, and in 1952 to James Reeves. Reeves immediately conveyed the property to Frederick and Geraldine Biggerstaff, who built another house on the property in 1953. Geraldine Biggerstaff and her daughter and son-in-law continue to own the property.

This property is located within the boundaries of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, but is excluded from the property owned by the U.S. Government. 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 in the area 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

8. Significance (Continued)

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 was developed as a residential area, and the 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 of the Nation's Capital.

The Franklin and Katherine Morgan House is an example of a vernacular side-gable cottage. 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).

National Register Evaluation:

Constructed circa 1905, the Franklin and Katherine Morgan House 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 it is an undistinguished example of a common architectural type. Finally, preliminary studies conducted for this project indicate the need for further assessment of the archaeological potential of this property. Therefore, no evaluation under Criterion D is being conducted at this time.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility Not Recommended XX

Comments Concur - not eligible

Reviewer, OPS: [illegible] Date: 1/29/99

Reviewer, NR Program: [illegible] Date: 2/2/99

9. Major Bibliographical References Survey No PG:67-32(PACS 2.16)

See Attached

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____
Quadrangle name Beltsville, 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	Susan L. Taylor		
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)

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.

Hopkins, G.M. [1879] 1975. Atlas of 15 Miles Around Washington including the County of Prince George (sic), Maryland. Philadelphia. Reprint.

Land Records of Prince George's County, Maryland.

Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission. 1993. Illustrated Inventory of Historic Sites, Prince George's County, Maryland. Upper Marlboro, Maryland: Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

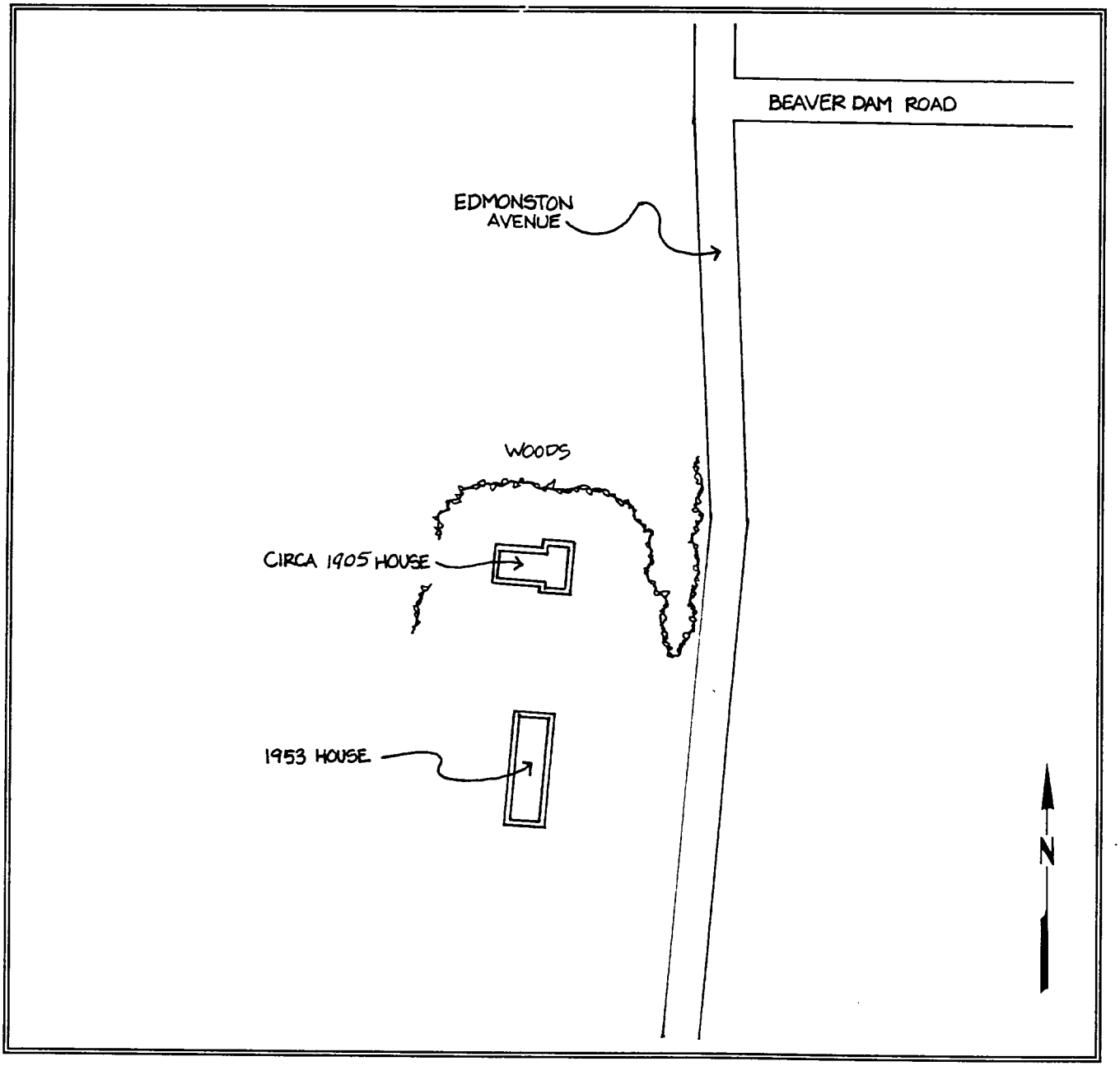
Prince George's County Community Renewal Program. 1974. The Neighborhoods of Prince George's County. Upper Marlboro, Maryland: Prince George's County Government, 1974.

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

Woodward, Ethel C. Van Horn's Stage Lines and Tavern. Privately Printed, no date.

10. Geographical Data (Continued)

Resource Sketch Map:



Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet

Historic Context:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period Theme (s): Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture

RESOURCE TYPE:

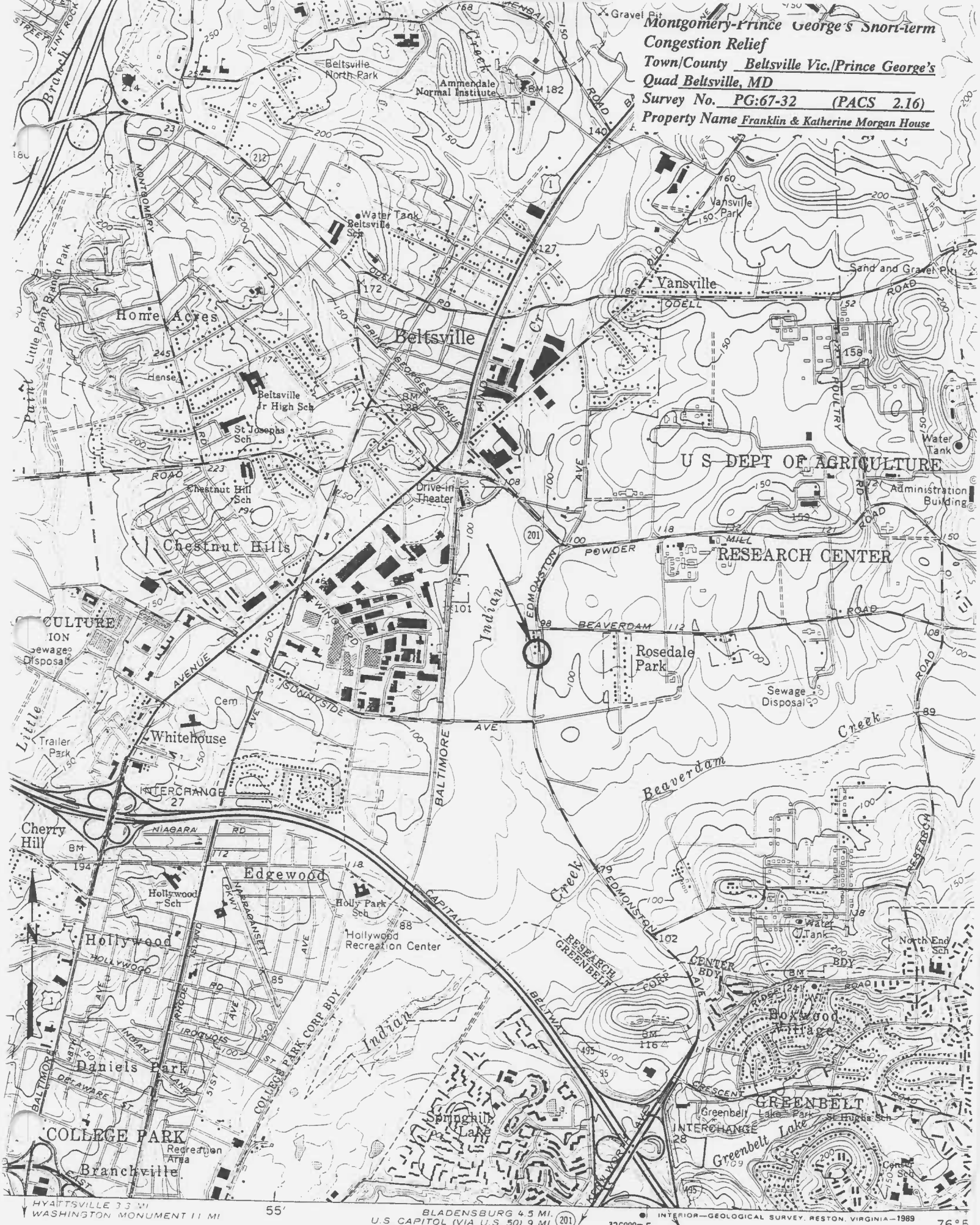
Category (see Section 3 of survey form): Building

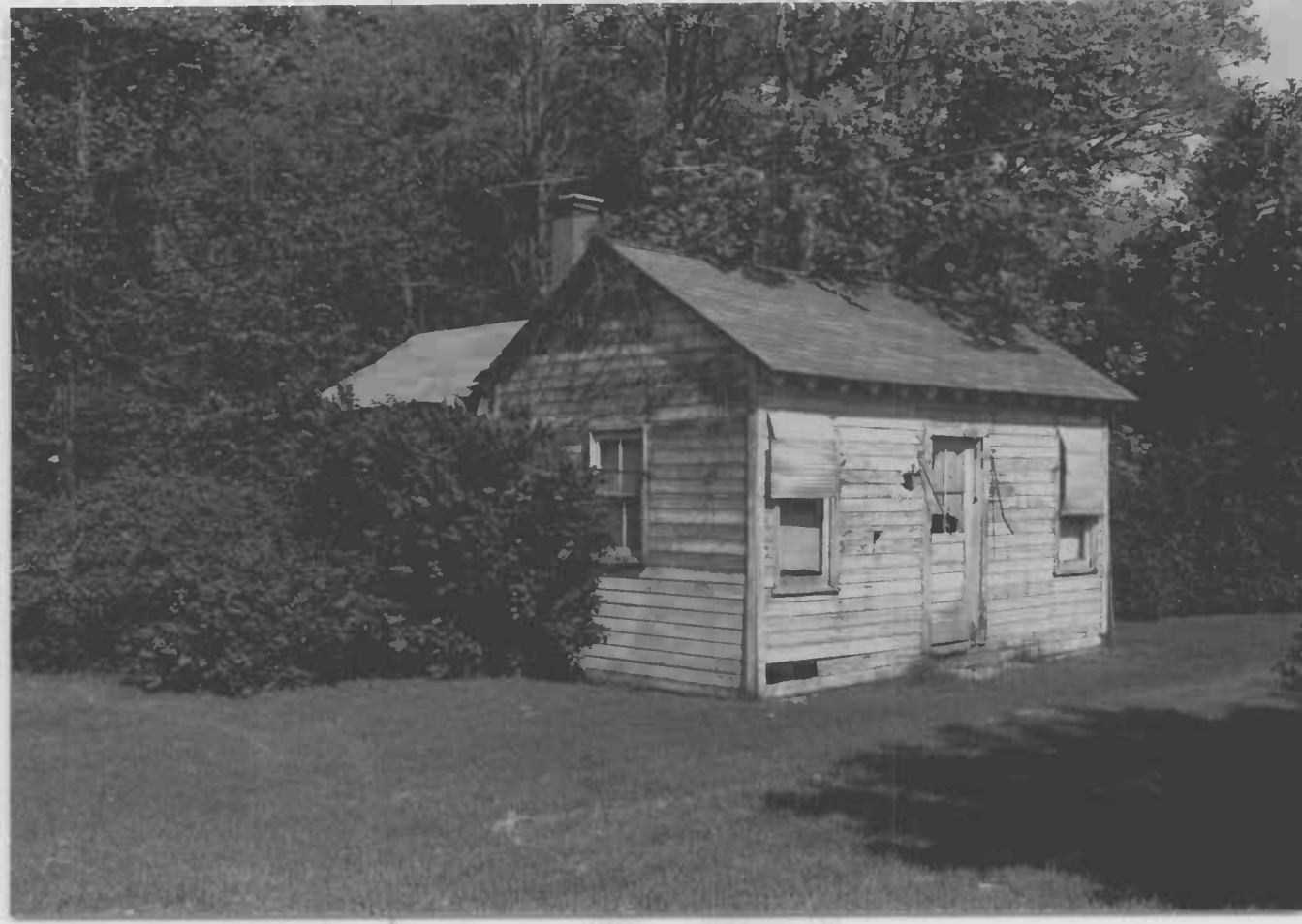
Historic Environment (urban, suburban, village, or rural): Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Private Residence

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 Beltsville Vic./Prince George's
Quad Beltsville, MD
Survey No. PG:67-32 (PACS 2.16)
Property Name Franklin & Katherine Morgan House
Beltsville North Park
Ammendale Normal Institute
Gravel Pit
Water Tank
Beltsville Sch
Vansville Park
Sand and Gravel Pit
Vansville
Home Acres
Beltsville
Beltsville Jr High Sch
St Josephs Sch
Chestnut Hill Sch
Drive-in Theater
U S DEPT OF AGRICULTURE
Administration Building
RESEARCH CENTER
Chestnut Hills
Rosedale Park
Sewage Disposal
Whitehouse
Trailer Park
Cherry Hill
Edgewood
Hollywood Sch
Holly Park Sch
Hollywood Recreation Center
Hollywood
Daniels Park
COLLEGE PARK
Recreation Area
Branchville
Springhill Lake
Boxwood Village
GREENBELT
Greenbelt Lake Park
St Hughs Sch
Greenbelt Lake
North End Sch
Center Sch
Beaverdam Creek
Indian Creek
Little Paint Branch Park
HYATTSVILLE 3.3 MI.
WASHINGTON MONUMENT 11 MI.
BLADENSBURG 4.5 MI.
U.S. CAPITOL (VIA U.S. 50) 9 MI.
INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1989
INTERCHANGE 29 (BALT WASH PKWY) 1 MI.
1 MILE
ROAD CLASSIFICATION



1 PG:67 32

2 Franklin - Katherine Morgan House

3 Prince Georges Co Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SHPO

7 NE Corner

8 1 of 8

1 PG:67 32

2 Franklin - Catherine Morgan [illegible]

3 Prince Georges Co Md

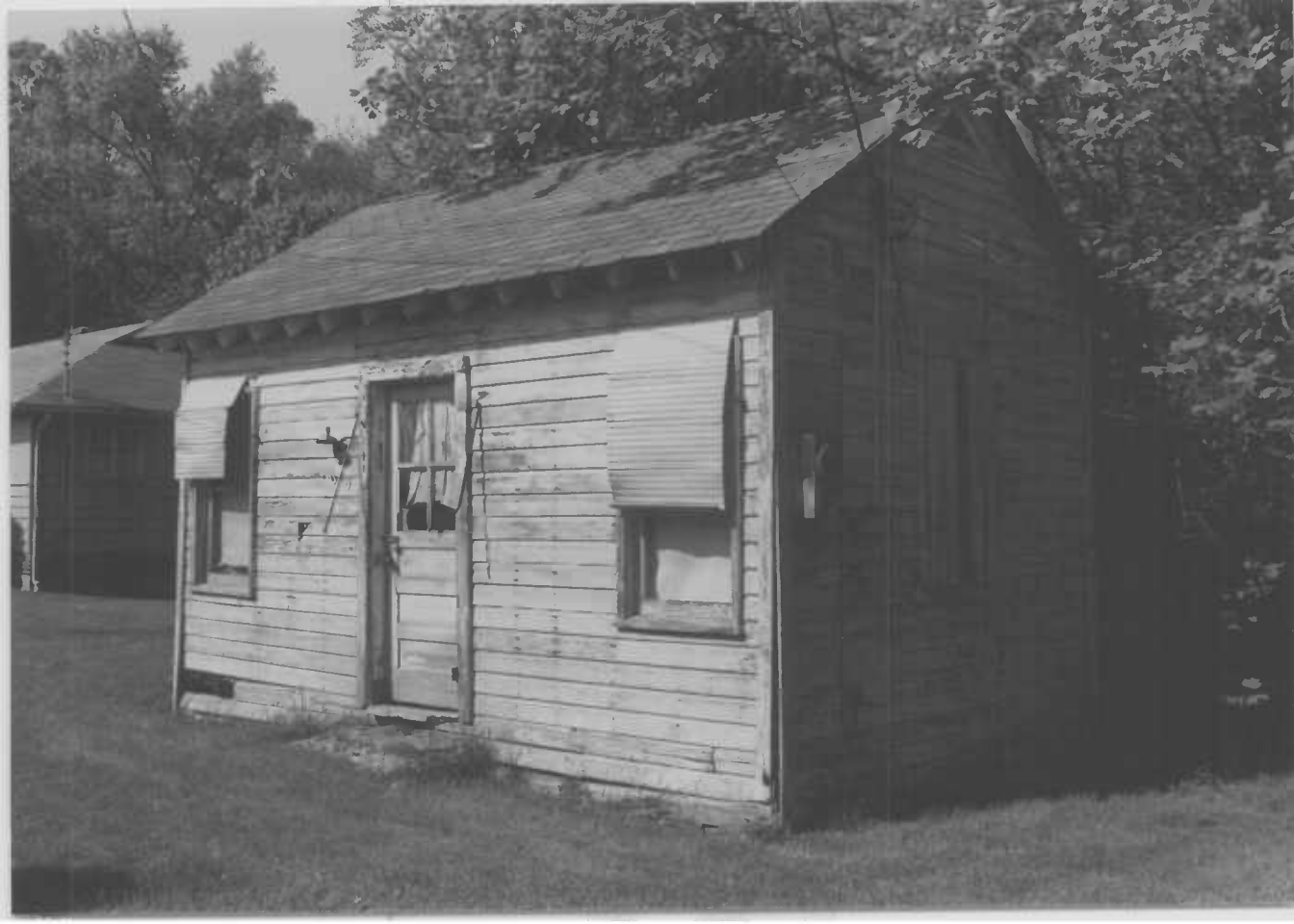
4 Susan Taylor

5 6/98

6 Md SHPO

7 SE Corner

8 2 55 8



1 PG 67-32

2 Franklin + Lacrenne Morgan House

3 Prince George Co Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SHPO

7 E elevation

8 3 of 8

1 PG 67 32

2 Franklin & Katherine Morgan House

3 Prince George's Co., Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SHPO

7 N elevation

8 4 of 8

1 PG:67-53

2 [illegible] + Katherine Morgan House

3 Prince Georges Co, Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SHPO

7 [illegible]

8 [illegible]

1 PG 67 32

2 Franklin Katherine Morgan Home

3 Prince George Co. Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/97

6 Md SHPO

7 [illegible]

8 5 of 8

1 PG:67-32

2 [illegible] & [illegible] Morgan [illegible]

3 Prince George Co. Md

4 [illegible] Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SHPO

7 [illegible]

8 [illegible]

1 PG 61-32

2 Frank Lin & Katherine Morgan House

3 Prince George Co, Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/97

6 Md SHPO

7 SW corner

8 7 of 8