CAPSULE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey No.: PG:LAU-11 (PACS 1.7) **Construction Date:** circa 1880

Name: E. Wright Newman House

Location: 320 Second Street, Laurel, Prince George's County

Private/Apartments/Occupied/Good/Restricted

Description:

The E. Wright Newman House is a 2½-story, 5-bay, Second Empire-style house on the east side of Second Street in Laurel, Prince George's County. Constructed circa 1880, the building is L-shaped with a 1-story wood-frame hipped-roof addition on the side and rear, and there is a 1-story shed-roof porch on the front elevation. The structure has a mansard roof covered with pressed metal shingles, and has three gable dormers on the front and rear elevations, and two gable dormers on each of the side elevations. It is of wood-frame construction with weatherboard siding, and it has a parged brick foundation. The windows are double-hung wood sash. The porch on the front elevation has turned wood posts, flat-sawn brackets, and square balusters. The house has been converted into four apartments.

Significance:

The E. Wright Newman House was built circa 1880 on the western portion of Lot 6 in Templeman and Shirley's survey of the estate of Thomas Talbott. The list of sponsors for the 1878 map includes E. Wright Newman's name, but includes no information on his occupation or place of birth. E. Wright Newman sold the property that he had purchased in 1879 for $175.00 to Honorine Jardin in 1887 for $6150.00. Honorine Jardin sold the property to her son Armand Jardin in 1890. The 1894 directory for Laurel as reprinted in the Laurel Centennial Souvenir Booklet lists "Honora, Armand, and Myra Jardine" as residents of a house at Second and Laurel Avenue, and lists Armand Jardin's occupation as clerk.

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

Survey No. PG:LAU-11 (PACS 1.7)

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 E. Wright Newman House (preferred)

and/or common Melbourne & Feagin Apartments

2. Location:

street & number 320 Second Street n/a not for publication

city, town Laurel ___ 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: apartments
	_X_not applicable	___no	___military	
			___transportation	

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

name Percival G. Melbourne III et al

street & number 320 Second Street telephone no.:

city,town Laurel state and zip code Maryland 20708

5. Location of Legal Description

Land Records of Prince George's County liber 12105

street & number Prince George's County Judicial Center folio 399

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:LAU-11 (PACS 1.7)

Condition		Check one	Check one	
_excellent	___deteriorated	___unaltered	_X_original site	
_X_good	___ruins	_X_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 E. Wright Newman House is a 2½-story, 5-bay, Second Empire-style house on the east side of Second Street in Laurel, Prince George's County. Constructed circa 1880, the building is L-shaped with a 1-story wood-frame hipped-roof addition on the side and rear, and there is a 1-story shed-roof porch on the front elevation.

The structure has a mansard roof covered with pressed metal shingles, and has three gable dormers on the front and rear elevations, and two gable dormers on each of the side elevations. It is of wood-frame construction with weatherboard siding, and it has a parged brick foundation. The windows are double-hung wood sash. The porch on the front elevation has turned wood posts, flat-sawn brackets, and square balusters. The house has been converted into four apartments.

The west, or front elevation is dominated by the front porch. There is a 1-story hipped-roof addition on a concrete foundation on the north side. There is a wood deck on the west side of the addition. The basement level is obscured by the brick foundation of the porch. There are three entrances on the first story, located at the first, third, and fifth bays. The entrance on the third bay was the main entrance to the house, and features a modified pedimented door-surround with pilasters and 4-light sidelights. The first-bay entrance is on the side-addition, and the fifth-bay entrance replaced a window. The fenestration pattern is symmetrical. There is a 1/1 double-hung window in the second bay, and a 2/2 double-hung window in the fourth bay. The second story has three-bays. The first has paired 1/1 double-hung windows, and the second and third have 2/2 double-hung windows. The front elevation has a bracketed and modillion cornice. There are three gable dormers, placed above the second story fenestration, each with a 2/2 double-hung window.

The north elevation has been altered with a 1-story frame addition on a raised concrete foundation There are four windows in the basement level. The first has a 1/1 double-hung window, and the other three have 2-light fixed-windows. The first story of the main block is obscured by the addition. There are four 1/1 double-hung windows on the addition. A gable dormer emerges from the center of the addition roof, and it has a 2/2 double-hung window. There are three windows on the second story of the main block. The first is a 2/2 double-hung window, the second is a 6-light casement, and the third is a 2/2 double-hung window. There are two gable dormers, each with a 2/2 double-hung window.

The east, or rear elevation has been altered with a 1-story frame addition on a raised concrete foundation. The basement level has a 2-light fixed window on the southeast corner and an open parking bay under the central portion of the addition. There is a 2-light fixed window, two doors, and a 1/1 double-hung window on the north section of the addition. The first floor of the main block is obscured by the addition. The first portion of the addition, which appears to be an enclosed rear porch, has a strip of four 1/1 double-hung aluminum windows. The middle portion has paired 1/1 double-hung aluminum windows. The northern section of the addition has two 1/1 double-hung windows. There is a staircase leading to a door on the south side of the middle portion of the addition. The second story of the main block is visible above the addition. There are two 2/2 double-hung windows, a 1/1 double-hung window, and paired 2/2 double-hung windows in the second story. The three gable dormers have 2/2 double-hung windows. The central brick chimney is visible from this elevation.

7. Description (Continued)

The south elevation has a raised foundation, and the additions on the east elevation are visible on this elevation. The basement level has three 2-light fixed windows. The main block of the house has two bays on the first story. The first bay has paired 1/1 double-hung windows. The second bay has a rectangular bay-window with three 1/1 double-hung windows. The cornice of the bay-window is bracketed. The rear addition has a strip of three 1/1 double-hung windows, a door, and a 1/1 double-hung window. The second story of the main block has two bays with paired 1/1 double-hung windows. There are two gable-dormers with 2/2 double-hung windows.

There are no outbuildings associated with this property.

The E. Wright Newman house sits on the northeast corner of Second Street and Laurel Avenue. It is surrounded by residential property to the north, industrial property to the east, the State Highway Administration Laurel office to the south, and commercial properties to the west. There are trees on the north side of the property. The property's setting is urban. The house was built during the early settlement of Laurel, and would have been located in a residential neighborhood with large lots. The surrounding lots have been subdivided and developed with mid-twentieth century housing, and late-twentieth century commercial properties. At the time that the house was built, Second Street ended at Laurel Avenue.

8. Significance

Survey No. PG:LAU-11 (PACS 1.7)

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	X_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 circa 1880 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: __A__B_X_C__D
and/or
Applicable Exceptions: __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 E. Wright Newman House was built circa 1880 on the western portion of Lot 6 in Templeman and Shirley's survey of the estate of Thomas Talbott. The 1878 map of Laurel in G. M. Hopkins Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington Including the County of Prince George, Maryland shows that E. Wright Newman owned the lot on the other side of the street, located between Second Street and the Baltimore and Washington Turnpike on Laurel Avenue. The 1878 map shows that there was house on the second lot, but the present location of the Newman House was undeveloped. The list of sponsors for the 1878 map includes E. Wright Newman's name, but includes no information on his occupation or place of birth. E. Wright Newman sold the property that he had purchased in 1879 for $175.00 to Honorine Jardin in 1887 for $6150.00. Honorine Jardin sold the property to her son Armand Jardin in 1890. The 1894 directory for Laurel as reprinted in the Laurel Centennial Souvenir Booklet lists "Honora, Armand, and Myra Jardine" as residents of a house at Second and Laurel Avenue, and lists Armand Jardin's occupation as clerk.

Armand Jardin sold the property to Charles F. Shaffer to 1907. Mr. Shaffer owned a building supply company on the corner of Main and Second Streets. The executors for Charles Shaffer's estate sold the property to Emma Rogers in 1919. It was sold to the Home Owners Loan Corporation in 1937, after Emma Rogers defaulted on her mortgage. Margaret S. Hatter purchased the property in 1938. The Berwyn Fuel Company obtained ownership in 1960, and sold the western half of the property with the house to Percival and Joyce Melbourne and Glen and Barbara Feagin in 1998.

The E. Wright Newman house is located in the town of Laurel. Laurel is located on land originally patented to Richard Snowden in 1715 as "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" in Prince George's County. "Snowden's New Birmingham Manor" was approximately 1214 hectares (3000 acres) from Old Columbia Pike to the present city of Laurel, and from south of Greencastle and Van Dusen Roads to north of Sandy Spring Road. The 1715 patent increased the already substantial Snowden land holdings, and later additions to Snowden land eventually covered 3749 hectares (9265 acres) by 1743. (Cook 1976: 270-271).

The Snowden family had established a grist mill at Laurel about 1810. In 1824, the grist mill was adapted to spin cotton yarn that was shipped to textile mills. In 1835, the mill was converted back to a grist mill. Snowden family members and the O.C. Tiffany company of Baltimore established the Patuxent Cotton Manufacturing Company. Factory buildings were built along the river, and the town of Laurel developed as a manufacturing town along Main Street running between the factory and the B&O Railroad station (Prince George's County 1974: 283; Prince George's

8. Significance (Continued)

County Historical Society 1980: 37). Laurel became the largest town in the county. The textile mill provided the basis for Laurel's economy into the twentieth century. When textile output began to decline early in the century, Laurel began to develop as a suburb for both Washington and Baltimore. Located halfway between the two cities, Laurel was accessible to commuters by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and by U.S. 1 (Prince George's County 1974: 284).

The E. Wright Newman House is an example of Second Empire-style architecture. Contemporaneous with the Gothic Revival style, the Second Empire style was a dominant style for American houses constructed between 1860 and 1880. The style is chiefly characterized by its distinctive mansard roof punctuated by dormer windows. The form of the buildings is square or rectangular, usually with at least three bays per facade. Second Empire buildings often feature Italianate style details such as bracketed cornices, but the eave overhang is often less deep (McAlester 1991:241,242). The style was used for civic and commercial buildings as well as residences.

National Register Evaluation:

The E. Newman Wright House, constructed circa 1880, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, as an excellent example of a Second Empire-style house which was constructed during the prosperous growth period of Laurel. The property represents the larger, more formal houses which were constructed during the expansion of Laurel after its incorporation in 1870. It has good integrity, and retains the mansard roof with pressed metal shingles, the bracketed porch, the bracketed and modillioned cornice, the majority of original 2/2 and paired 1/1 windows, and the modified pedimented door surround which characterize the Second Empire style. The side and rear additions cover the first floor, but do not obscure the character defining elements of the building. 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. 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

Integrity compromised by alterations.

Reviewer, OPS: [signature] Date: 01/27/99

Reviewer, NR Program: [signature] Date: 1/27/99

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. PG:LAU-11(PACS 1.7)

See Attached

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .65 acres (.26 hectares)
Quadrangle name Laurel, MD Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheet

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)

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.

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.

"The Laurel Factory." News and Notes from the Prince George's County Historical Society. (July 1980): 38-40. (First published in The American Farmer. Baltimore, Maryland, August 1845.)

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

Poe, Gertrude L. 1970. Laurel, Maryland: Centennial Souvenir Booklet. Laurel, Maryland: The News Leader.

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.

Virta, Alan. "The Pretty, Rosy-Cheeked Girls of Laurel." News and Notes from the Prince George's County Historical Society. (July 1980): 37.

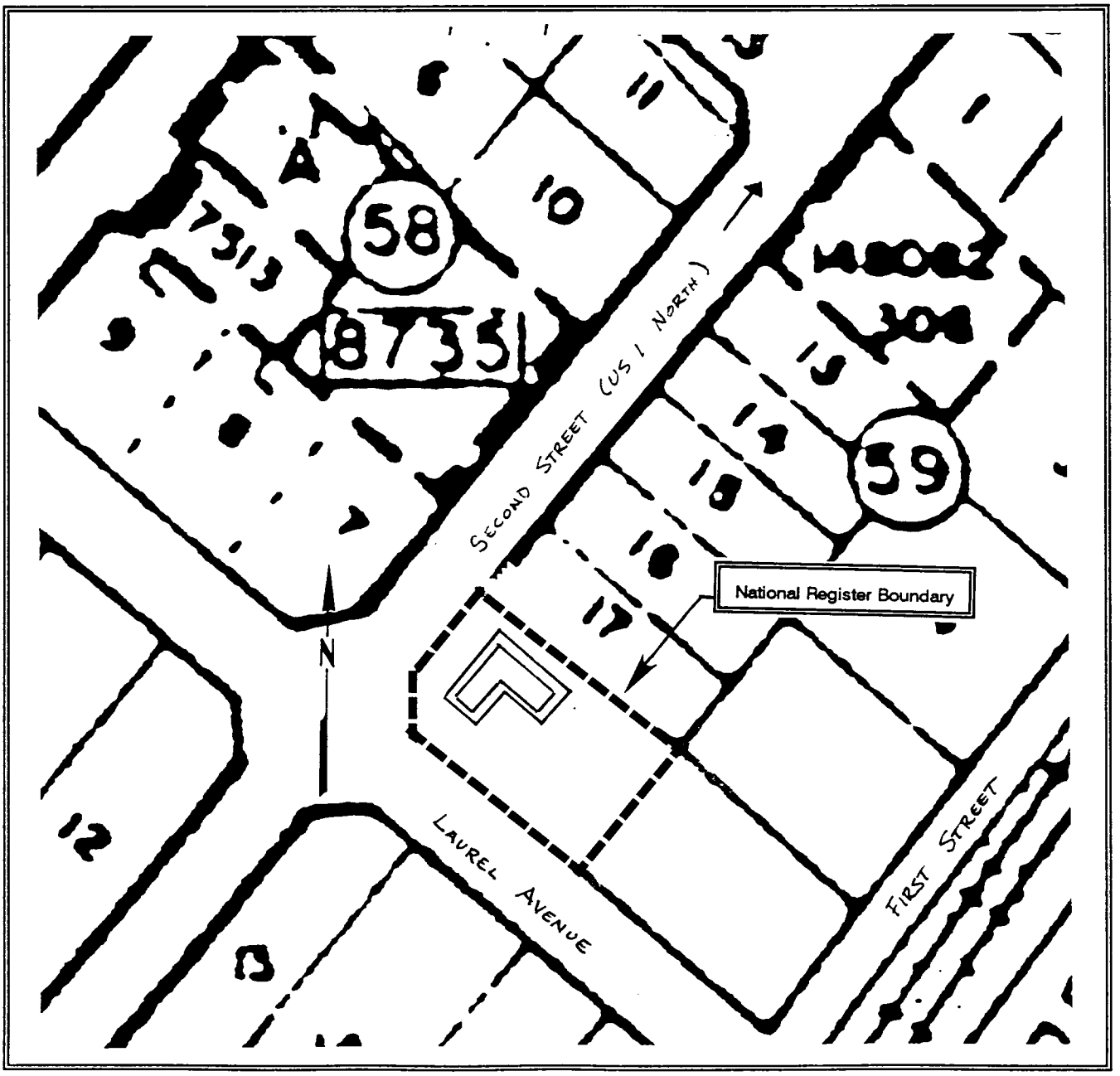
10. Geographical Data (Continued)

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:

The National Register boundaries of the E. Wright Newman House follow the current property lines of 320 Second Street (Tax Map 6, Parcel 59). This .27 hectare (.65 acre) parcel is bounded on the north by an adjacent parcel, on the south by Laurel Avenue, on the east by an adjacent parcel, and on the west by Second Street. The boundary includes the house. According to deed research, the property was originally part Lot 6 of the survey made of Thomas Talbott's property which was purchased by E. Wright Newman in 1879. The current parcel is the western half of Lot 6, which was separated from the eastern half by the Berwyn Fuel Company.

10. Geographical Data (Continued)

Resource Sketch Map and National Register Boundary 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): Village

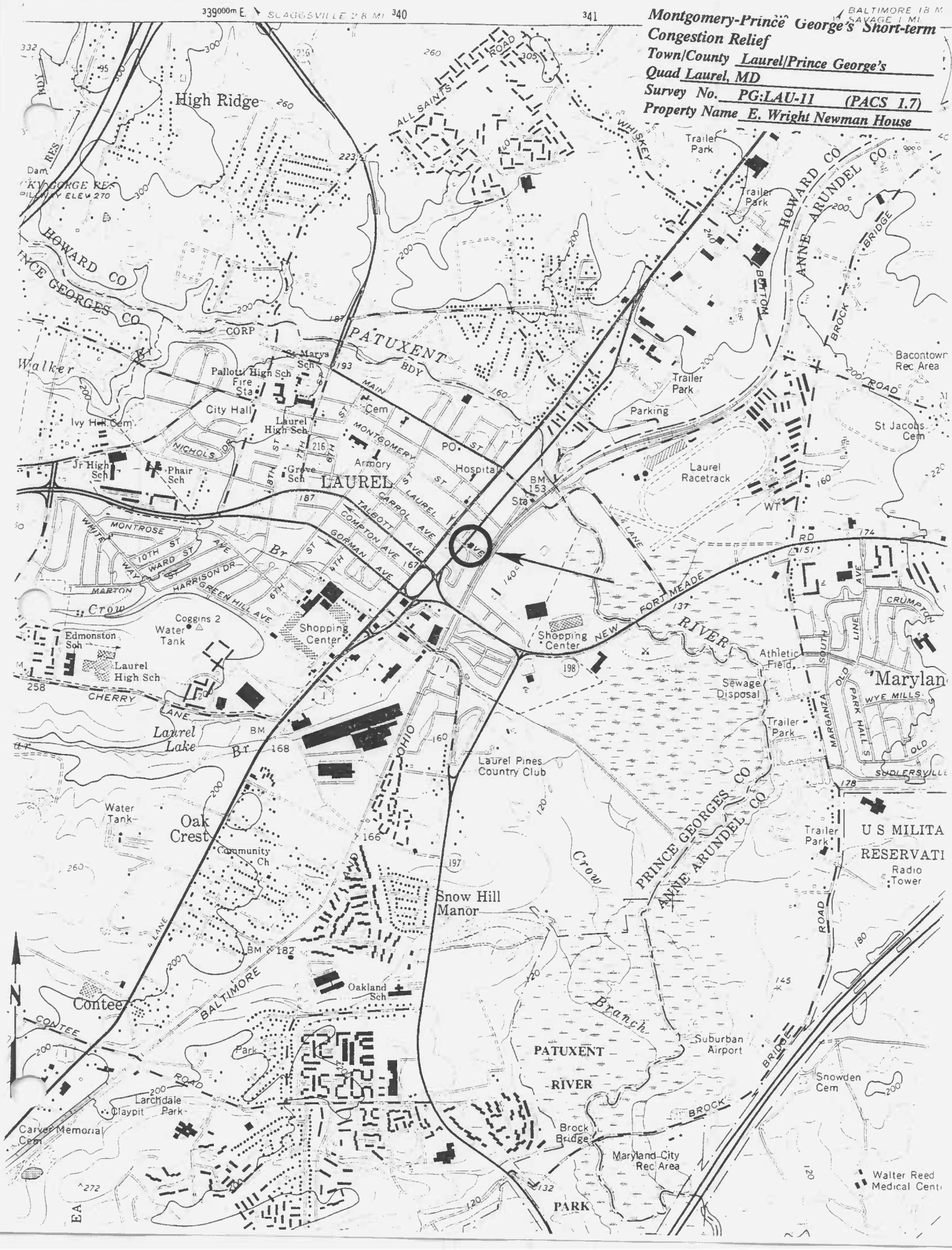
Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Private Residence

Known Design Source (write none if unknown): None

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

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Montgomery-Prince George's Short-term Congestion Relief
Town/County Laurel/Prince George's
Quad Laurel, MD
Survey No. PG:LAU-11 (PACS 1.7)
Property Name E. Wright Newman House



1 PG:CAU-11

2 E. Wright Newman House

3 Prince George Co, Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SHPO

7 w elevation

8 1 of 8

1 Pa. Law 11

2 Ellwight Newman House

3 Prince George Co. Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SHPO

7 N W corner

8 2-18

1 PG:La...

2 S. Wright Newman House

3 Prince George's Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5 of

6 Md SHPO

7 N elevation

8 3 of 8

1 PG Law - 11

2 E Wright Newman House

3 Prince George's Co. Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/91

6 Md SHPO

7 NE corner

8 4 of 8

1 PG Lan[illegible]

2 [illegible] Newman House

3 Prince George's Co. Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5197

6 Md SHPO

7 [illegible] elevation

8 5 of 8

1 [illegible]

2 [illegible] Wright Newman House

3 Prince George's Co, Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 MdSHPO

7 [illegible]

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1 PG Cau 11

2 8 Wright Newman House

3 Prince George's Co. Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 11 of SHPO

7 5 elevation

8 7 of 8

1 Poplar-11

2 S. Wright Newman House

3 Prince George Co. Md

4 Susan Taylor

5 5/98

6 Md SHPO

7 [illegible]

8 8 of 8