

## CAPSULE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey No.: CH-422 (PACS A36) Construction Date: 1936

Name: John and Ethel Roberts Property

Location: 7910 Leonardtown Road (MD 5), Hughesville vicinity, Charles County

Private/Residence/Occupied/Fair/Restricted

**Description:** The John and Ethel Roberts Property, constructed in 1936, is a 2-story, gable-front-and-wing residence. Located on the east side of Leonardtown Road (MD 5) in the Hughesville vicinity, Charles County, the structure has a concrete block foundation, asbestos siding and an asphalt shingle roof with exposed rafter ends. An integral porch on the front (west) elevation has been enclosed and a 1-story, shed roof porch, which is partially enclosed, projects from the rear (east) elevation. A front-gable dormer is located on the south elevation and a shed roof dormer is located on the rear elevation. The structure has two brick chimneys; one exterior chimney on the north elevation and a central chimney at the intersection of the gable and wing sections.

**Significance:** John and Ethel Roberts purchased a .4 hectare (1 acre) parcel of land in 1936. According to the records of the Charles County Tax Assessor, the residence was constructed on the property that same year. Since that time, the property has passed to the heirs of John and Ethel Roberts. The property is currently owned by James and Dorothy Roberts, and retains .4 hectare (1 acre) of land. The property is not significant, as it is an undistinguished example of a common building type. In addition, the integrity of the structure has been compromised through the enclosure of the integral porch on the front elevation and the use of insensitive building materials such as asbestos siding.

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form**  
**MD 5 - Hughesville Project**

DOE  yes  no**1. Name:** (indicate preferred name)

historic John and Ethel Roberts Property

and/or common James and Dorothy Roberts Property

**2. Location:**street & number 7910 Leonardtown Road (MD 5)  not for publicationcity, town Hughesville  vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Charles

**3. Classification:**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> other:
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	

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

name James C. and Dorothy M. Roberts

street &amp; number 10513 Deacon Road telephone no.:

city,town White Plains state and zip code MD 20695-2706

**5. Location of Legal Description**

Land Records Office of Charles County liber 1115

street &amp; number Charles Street folio 551

city,town La Plata 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. CH-422 (PACS A36)

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> 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 John and Ethel Roberts Property, constructed in 1936, is a 2-story, gable-front-and-wing residence. Located on the east side of Leonardtown Road (MD 5) in the Hughesville vicinity, Charles County, the structure has a concrete block foundation, asbestos siding and an asphalt shingle roof with exposed rafter ends. An integral porch on the front (west) elevation has been enclosed and a 1-story, shed roof porch, which is partially enclosed, projects from the rear (east) elevation. A front-gable dormer is located on the south elevation and a shed roof dormer is located on the rear elevation. The structure has two brick chimneys; one exterior chimney on the north elevation and a central chimney at the intersection of the gable and wing sections.

The west, or front elevation has an integral porch which has been enclosed. Within the enclosure are two, aluminum-frame sliding windows. The first story of the gable-section of the house has a door and two, 1/1 double-hung, wood windows. A front-gable hood, supported by wood posts, is located over the door. The second story has paired, 1/1 double-hung, wood windows and a louvered vent is located in the gable end.

The first story of the north elevation has two, small, 1/1 double-hung, wood windows on each side of the exterior chimney. The second story has one, 6/1 double-hung, wood window, while one, 1/1 double-hung, wood window is located in the gable end. The north elevation of the 1-story, rear porch is enclosed with a triple, 1/1 double-hung, wood window.

The east, or rear elevation has one, 3-light fixed window on the basement level. The first story has a 1-story porch which is enclosed at the north end. Within the enclosure is a triple, 1/1 double-hung, wood window. The south end of the porch is screened; within the screened porch is one, 1/1 double-hung, wood window and one, 4-light door. Also on the first story is one, 1/1 double-hung, wood window. The second story has a paired, 1/1 double-hung, wood window, while a second, paired, 1/1 double-hung, wood window is located in the shed dormer.

The south elevation has a door at the basement level with concrete steps which lead from grade to the entry. The first story has two, paired, 1/1 double-hung, wood windows and a paired, 1/1 double-hung, wood window is located in the dormer.

The interior of the structure has a central staircase, and a flat-arch doorway frames the entrance to the living room at the southwest corner of the residence.

There is one outbuilding associated with the property, a wood-frame, front-gable garage. The 1½-story structure has a front-gable roof and two additions; a 1-story, shed-roof addition is located on the north elevation of the structure and a 1½-story, side-gable, concrete block addition is located on the south elevation. The garage has three pairs of hinged doors and is located southeast of the house.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. CH-422 (PACS A36)

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 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"/> communication	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates	1936	Builder/Architect	Unknown
check:	Applicable Criteria:	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D
	and/or	Applicable Exceptions:	<input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G
	Level of Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> national	<input type="checkbox"/> state <input type="checkbox"/> local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

John and Ethel Roberts purchased a .4 hectare (1 acre) parcel of land in 1936. According to the records of the Charles County Tax Assessor, the residence was constructed on the property that same year, however, there are no detailed, published historic maps of Charles County, Maryland that locate and indicate ownership of structures. Since that time, the property has passed to the heirs of John and Ethel Roberts. The property is currently owned by James and Dorothy Roberts, and retains .4 hectare (1 acre) of land.

The Maryland Colony was granted by King Charles I to Lord Baltimore in 1632. Two years later, the first European community was established at St. Mary's City. Subsequent colonization moved north, along the Potomac and Patuxent Rivers. As settlers migrated away from St. Mary's City, the formation of a new county became necessary, and Charles County was founded in 1658. This area was originally inhabited by Algonquins of the Powhatan Confederacy. Road clearing began in the mid-eighteenth century as a result of the establishment of port towns and Maryland's rising population. Tobacco cultivation dominated the economic and social life of Charles County until the mid-nineteenth century when soil exhaustion required agricultural diversification. The introduction of rail lines in the late nineteenth century linked Charles County with the north and south, encouraging trade. While the suburbanization of Charles County was ensured by the widespread availability of the automobile in the mid-twentieth century, the County has retained its rural and agricultural character.

The area that became Hughesville was located in Lord Baltimore's grant of 6,879.9 hectares (17,000 acres) of Newport Hundred to Major William Boarman during 1650-1699. This land included the region "east of Zachiah Swamp" and became known as Boarman's Manor. Hughesville does not appear on an 1840 Map of a Part of Maryland, and Fisher's 1852 Gazetteer of the State of Maryland did not list the community. Hughesville was located at the crossroads of two of the main routes through Charles County: Burnt Store to Patuxent City and on to Annapolis, (Burnt Store Road and Prince Frederick Road/Route 231) and Bryantown to Charlotte Hall and on to St. Mary's City (Leonardtwn Road/Route 5). Accordingly, Hughesville is shown on Martenet's 1866 Map of Maryland, Atlas Edition. The 1871 State Gazette and Merchants and Farmers Directory for Maryland and the District of Columbia called Hughesville a "post town." Bland's 1887 Maryland Directory and State Gazetteer listed both Episcopal and Roman Catholic churches in Hughesville as well as a Friends' school, four (4) general merchandise stores, two (2) saloons, two (2) undertakers, a wheelwright, a blacksmith, a tobacco buyer, and a population of fifty (50).

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: John and Ethel Roberts Property

SURVEY NO.: CH-422 (PACS A36)

ADDRESS: 7910 Leonardtown Road (MD 5), Hughesville vicinity, Charles County

## 8. Significance (Continued)

Gannett's 1904 Gazetteer of Maryland defined Hughesville as a "post village...on the Washington, Potomac and Chesapeake Railroad" (Gannett 1904: 43). By 1906 the community was known as "a station of the Southern Maryland Railroad...and a banking town" with two (2) physicians, two (2) general stores, two (2) blacksmiths, a grist and saw mill, a flour mill, an undertaker and livery, a hotel, a hotel and saloon, a grocer and saloon, an insurance salesman, and a population of 150 (Maryland 1906: 667).

The John and Ethel Roberts Property is an example of a vernacular cottage in the gable-front-and-wing form. 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, cross-gable and gable-front-and-wing 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).

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: John and Ethel Roberts Property

SURVEY NO.: CH-422 (PACS A36)

ADDRESS: 7910 Leonardtown Road (MD 5), Hughesville vicinity, Charles County

8. Significance (Continued)

National Register Evaluation:

The John and Ethel Roberts Property, a gable-front-and-wing cottage constructed in 1936, 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. The structure is not eligible under Criterion C, as it is an undistinguished example of a common building type. In addition, the integrity of the structure has been compromised through the enclosure of the integral porch on the front elevation and the use of insensitive building materials such as asbestos siding. 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 <u>X</u>
Comments: _____	
Reviewer, OPS: <u>[Signature]</u>	Date: <u>5/4/98</u>
Reviewer, NR Program: <u>[Signature]</u>	Date: <u>5/10/98</u>

*[Handwritten mark]*

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References Survey No. CH-422 (PACS A36)

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See Continuation Sheet

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name Hughesville, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

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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

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Name/title Caroline Hall

organization P.A.C. Spero & Company

date January 1997/revised February 1998

street & number 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 412

telephone (410) 296-1635

city or town Baltimore

state Maryland

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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 purposes 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

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: John and Ethel Roberts Property

SURVEY NO.: CH-422 (PACS A36)

ADDRESS: 7910 Leonardtown Road (MD 5), Hughesville vicinity, Charles County

**9. Major Bibliographical References** (Continued)

- Bland, John R., ed. The Maryland Directory and State Gazetteer. Baltimore: The Baltimore Publishing Company, 1887.
- Brown, Jack D., et al. Charles County, Maryland, A History. La Plata: Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.
- Charles County Department of Assessment and Taxation. 101 Catalpa Drive, La Plata, Maryland.
- Charles County Land Records Office. Charles County Courthouse, Charles Street, La Plata, Maryland.
- Fisher, R.S. Gazetteer of the State of Maryland, Compiled from the Returns of the Seventh Census of the United States, and Other Official Documents. Baltimore: James S. Waters, 1852.
- Gannett, Henry. A Gazetteer of Maryland. Department of the Interior, United States Geological Survey, Bulletin No. 231, Series F, Geography, 39. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1904.
- ttfried, Herbert and Jan Jennings. American Vernacular Design, 1870-1940. Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press, 1988.
- Gowans, Alan. Styles and Types of North American Architecture. New York: Harper Collins, 1992.
- Grow, Lawrence. Country Architecture. Pittstown, NJ: The Main Street Press, 1985.
- Hinkel, John V., ed. See Charles County, Maryland, founded in 1658. Compiled by John V. Hinkel & Associates. La Plata: Charles County Chamber of Commerce, 1959.
- KCI Technologies, Inc. Draft Historic Context for the U.S. 301 South Corridor Transportation Study, Prince George's and Charles Counties, Maryland. Prepared for the Maryland Department of Transportation, State Highway Administration, August 1996.
- Klaphor, Margaret Brown, and Paul Dennis Brown. The History of Charles County, Maryland. La Plata: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.
- Klein, Marilyn W. and David P. Fogle. Clues to American Architecture. Washington D.C. and Philadelphia: Starrhill Press, 1986.
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CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: John and Ethel Roberts Property

SURVEY NO.: CH-422 (PACS A36)

ADDRESS: 7910 Leonardtown Road (MD 5), Hughesville vicinity, Charles County

## 9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

- Martenet, Simon J. New Topographical Atlas of the State of Maryland. Baltimore: Simon J. Martenet, 1873.
- Martenet, Simon J. Martenet's Map of Maryland and District of Columbia, Including a Sketch of Delaware and Parts of Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. Baltimore: Simon J. Martenet, 1885.
- Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia State Gazetteer and Business Directory 1906-1907. Baltimore: R.L. Polk & Co., 1906.
- McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1983.
- Meyer, Richard E., ed. Voices of American Culture. Ann Arbor, Michigan: UMI Research Press, 1989.
- P.A.C. Spero & Company. Maryland Historic Context, Montgomery County and Prince George's County, Intercounty Connector Project. Volume I. Prepared for the Maryland Department of Transportation, State Highway Administration. Baltimore: P.A.C. Spero & Company, October 1996.
- Rifkind, Carole. A Field Guide to American Architecture. New York: Signet Press, 1980.
- Rivoire, J. Richard. Homeplaces, Traditional Domestic Architecture of Charles County, Maryland. La Plata: Southern Maryland Studies Center, 1990.
- State Gazette and Merchants and Farmers Directory for Maryland and the District of Columbia. Baltimore, 1871.
- Upton, Dell. "The Origins of Chesapeake Architecture." 3 Centuries of Maryland Architecture: A Selection of Presentations made at the 11th Annual Conference of the Maryland Historical Trust. Crownsville, Maryland, 1982.
- Wearmouth, John M. Charles County's Railroad. Prince George's County Historical Society, Glendale, Maryland.
- Wells, Camille, ed. Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture, Columbia, Missouri: University of Missouri Press, 1986.
- Wells, Camille, ed. Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture, II, Columbia, Missouri: University of Missouri, 1987.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

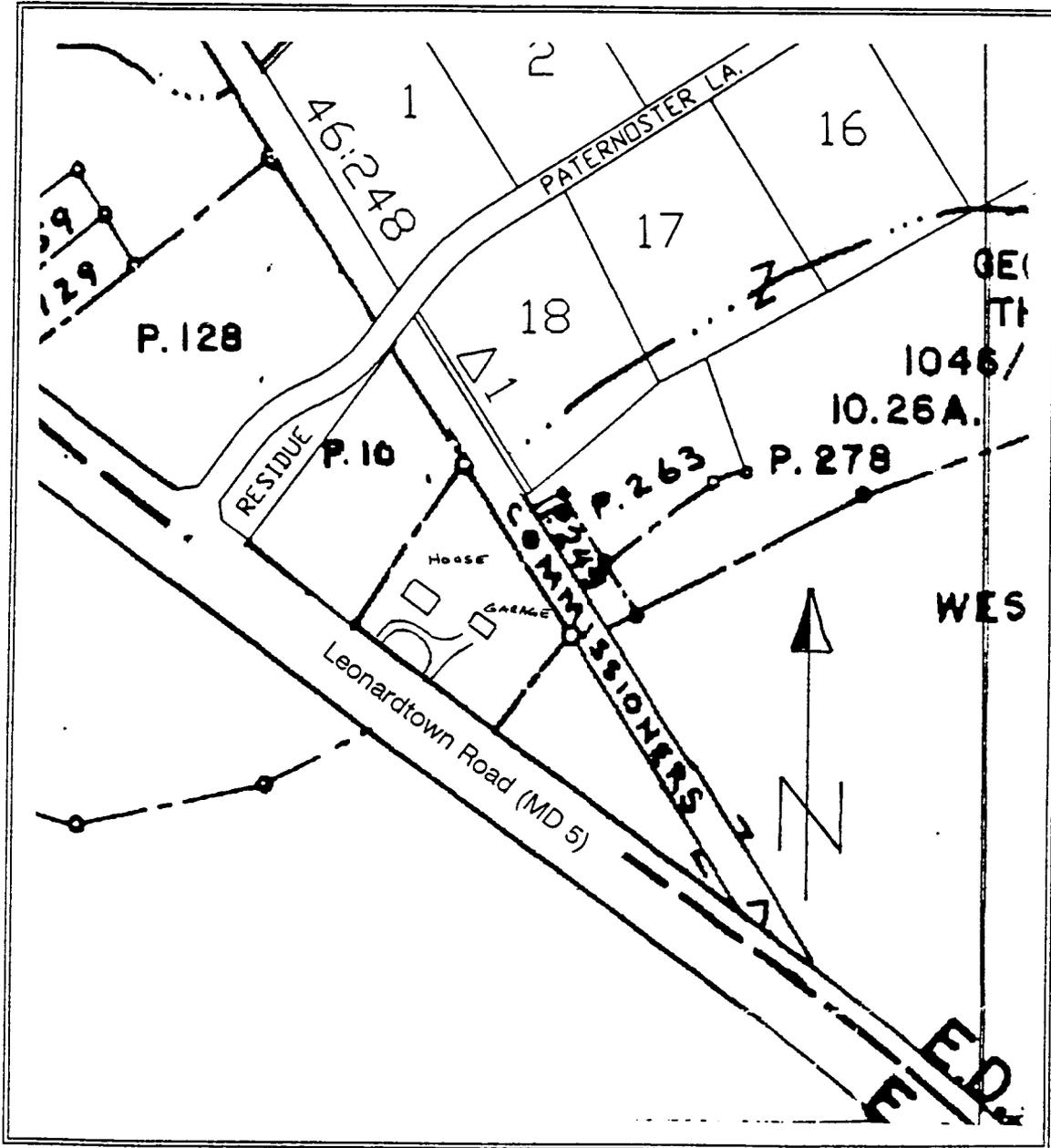
RESOURCE NAME: John and Ethel Roberts Property

SURVEY NO.: CH-422 (PACS A36)

ADDRESS: 7910 Leonardtown Road (MD 5), Hughesville vicinity, Charles County

10. Geographical Data (Continued)

Resource Sketch Map:



CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: John and Ethel Roberts Property

SURVEY NO.: CH-422 (PACS A36)

ADDRESS: 7910 Leonardtown Road (MD 5), Hughesville vicinity, Charles County

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet

Historic Context:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period Theme (s):

Modern Period A.D. 1930-present

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):

Residence

Known Design Source (write none if unknown):

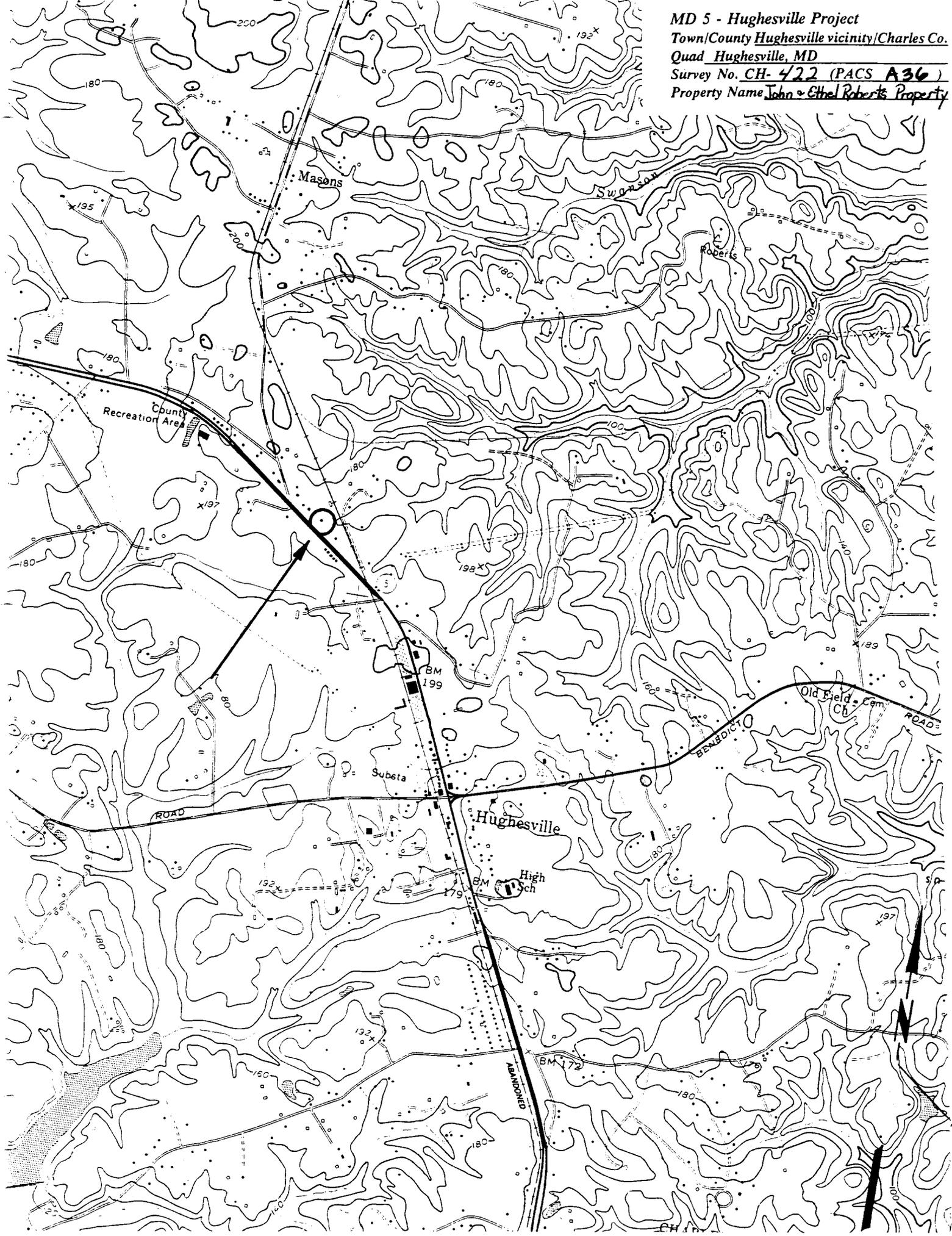
None

Preparer:

P.A.C. Spero & Company

January 1997/revised February 1998

MD 5 - Hughesville Project  
Town/County Hughesville vicinity/Charles Co.  
Quad Hughesville, MD  
Survey No. CH-422 (PACS A36)  
Property Name John & Ethel Roberts Property





- 1 CH-422
- 2 John & Ethel Roberts Property
- 3 Charles County, MD
- 4 Caroline Hall
- 5 January 1997
- 6 MD SHPo
- 7 West elevation, view E
- 8 1 of 5



- 1 CH-422
- 2 John & Ethel Roberts Property
- 3 Charles County, MD
- 4 Caroline Hall
- 5 January 1997
- 6 MD SHPO
- 7 North elevation, view South
- 8 2 of 5



1 CH-422

2 John & Ethel Roberts Property

3 Charles County, MD

4 Caroline Hall

5 January 1997

6 MD SHPO

7 East elevation, view W

8 3 of 5



1 CH-422

2 John & Ethel Roberts Property

3 Charles County, MD

4 Caroline Hall

5 January 1997

6 MD SHPO

7 South elevation, view N

8 4 of 5



1 - CH-422

2 - John & Ethel Roberts Property

3 - Charles County, MD

4 - Caroline Hall

5 - January 1997

6 - MD SHPO

7 - garage, view E

8 - 5 of 5