

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form**  
**U.S. 301 South Corridor Transportation Study**

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

historic Philip A. Sasscer Property

and/or common Benjamin and Ruth Jenkins Property

**2. Location:**street & number 2205 Tara Place  not for publicationcity, town Waldorf  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
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	

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

name Benjamin and Ruth Jenkins

street &amp; number 8500 Potobac Shores Road telephone no.: (301) 932-2780

city, town Port Tobacco state and zip code MD 20677

**5. Location of Legal Description**

Land Records Office of Charles County . liber 153

street &amp; number 101 Catalpa Drive folio 350

city, town La Plata state MD

**6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys**

title

date  federal  state  county  local

depository/survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No.: CH-239 (PACS B1)

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
excellent	___deteriorated	___unaltered	<u>x</u> original site	
___good	___ruins	<u>x</u> altered	___moved	date of move _____
<u>x</u> fair	___unexposed			

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Resource Count: 2

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

The Philip A. Sasscer Property consists of a side-gable I-house, constructed in 1890 and a 2½-story wood-frame barn. The property is located at the end of Tara Place, a dirt lane which extends north from Berry Road in the Waldorf vicinity, Charles County. The residence is a 2½-story, 4-bay I-house with asbestos siding and a concrete foundation. The roof is covered with both asphalt shingles and rolled asphalt covering and an interior brick chimney is located at the east gable end.

The south, or front elevation has two doors and two, 1/1 double-hung wood windows on the first story. A modern wood deck extends from grade level across the full width of the structure. The second story has two, 1/1 double-hung wood windows.

The west elevation has one, 1/1 double-hung wood window on both the first and second stories and a vent in the gable end.

The north, or rear elevation has a 1-story addition which projects to the north. The west elevation of the addition has one window and one door. Both the north and east elevations of the addition have one window. The first story of the north elevation of the house has one 1/1 double-hung window and one 2/2 double-hung window. The second story has one 1/1 double-hung window.

The east elevation has no fenestration and a vent in the gable end.

The only outbuilding on the property is a 2½-story side-gable barn with a 2-story shed roof extension to the south. The barn is covered with vertical wood siding and has double doors on the west elevation. The structure is located southeast of the house.

The Philip A. Sasscer Property is located at the end of Tara Place, which is a long dirt lane. The property's setting remains rural, as it is surrounded by woods and open farmland. Although Berry Road is a busy four-lane artery, it is located a considerable distance to the south of the property, and therefore, has not altered the rural character of the property.

# 8. Significance

Survey No.: CH-239 (PACS B1)

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communication	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates 1890

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 Philip A. Sasscer Property is a typical example of a late-nineteenth century I-house in Charles County. The house was originally situated on 56.96 hectare (140.75 acres) of "Hull", purchased in 1881. According to the records of the Charles County Tax Assessor, a house was constructed on the land in 1890. The parcel associated with the residence was reduced to 55.44 hectare (137 acres) in 1949. The lot was reduced to its current size of 19.9 hectare (49.2 acres) in 1961, when the current owners purchased the property.

The Philip A. Sasscer Property is located in southern Maryland, in northern Charles County. The Native American inhabitants of southern Maryland from the Piscataway and Potobac nations were joined by European settlers beginning in 1634 with the establishment of St. Mary's City by Leonard Calvert. Successive waves of colonists took up tracts of land further inland from the Chesapeake Bay along the Patuxent and Potomac rivers and their tributaries. Charles County was formed in 1658 and Prince George's County was established in 1696. Settlement was confined to inland areas until 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 both Charles and Prince George's counties until the mid-nineteenth century when soil exhaustion necessitated agricultural diversification. The introduction of rail lines in 1873 linked Prince George's and Charles counties with the surrounding area, encouraging trade and settlement. While the suburbanization of Prince George's and Charles counties was ensured by the widespread availability of the automobile in the mid-twentieth century, these southern Maryland counties have also retained their rural and agricultural character.

A standard I-house, such as the dwelling on the Philip Sasscer Property is one room deep and two stories tall with three to five openings on each story. From the front, an I-house is often indistinguishable from a Georgian house. The gable view, however, reveals the greater depth of the Georgian house. Chimneys are located on the interior of the gable ends, however, external chimneys are characteristic in the Chesapeake region. Usually, an I-house has a one-story porch running the length or nearly the length of the long side. On the interior, a central hall separates the two rooms on the first floor; the second floor contains either two or four sleeping chambers. Due to the narrowness of the main core, many I-houses have kitchen wings to the rear.

Initially, stone masonry construction was used but by the mid-nineteenth century, as pre-cut lumber became increasingly available, frame construction became the norm. During the Victorian period, pre-cut detailing or a two-tiered porch was commonly grafted onto the traditional I-house. The I-form was popular into the early twentieth century, with examples appearing in catalogs of mass-produced suburban houses (Gowans 1992, 55-6).

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Philip A. Sasscer Property

SURVEY NO.: CH-239 (PACS B1)

ADDRESS: 2205 Tara Place, Waldorf vicinity, Charles County

8. Significance (Continued)

NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION:

The Philip A. Sasscer Property consists of a side-gable I-house, constructed in 1890 and a wood-frame barn. 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 does not meet Criterion C, as the structure is an undistinguished example of a common late nineteenth and early twentieth century building style. In addition, alterations to the property such as aluminum siding, some alteration of the windows, and the construction of a rear addition have compromised the architectural integrity of the structure. Finally, the property 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: Suzanne Pickens Date: 07/21/1997  
Reviewer, NR Program: *Pickens* Date: 4/4/01

*Amg*

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References Survey No.: CH-239 (PACS B1)

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See Continuation Sheet

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## 10. Geographical Data

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

Quadrangle name Piscataway, 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 September 1996

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: Philip A. Sasscer Property

SURVEY NO.: CH-239 (PACS B1)

ADDRESS: 2205 Tara Place, Waldorf vicinity, Charles County

## 9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

- Brown, Jack D., et al. Charles County, Maryland, A History. Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.
- Charles County Retired Teachers Association. A Legacy: One- and Two-Room Schools in Charles County. La Plata: Dick Wildes Publishing Company, 1984.
- Gowans, Alan. Styles and Types of North American Architecture. New York: Harper Collins, 1992.
- Klapthor, Margaret Brown, and Paul Dennis Brown. The History of Charles County, Maryland. La Plata: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.
- Martenet, Simon J. Martenet's Map of Maryland, Atlas Edition. Baltimore, 1866.
- Maryland Geological Survey. [1840] Map of Eastern Maryland with 1860 Additions. Copy on file at Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, MD.
- Voire, J. Richard. Homeplaces, Traditional Domestic Architecture of Charles County, Maryland. La Plata: Southern Maryland Studies Center, 1990.
- Wearmouth, John M. Charles County Railroad. An unpublished paper on deposit at the Prince George's County Historical Society. August 1984.
- Ibid. La Plata, Maryland, 1888-1988, 100 Years, The Heart of Charles County. La Plata: Town of La Plata, 1988.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

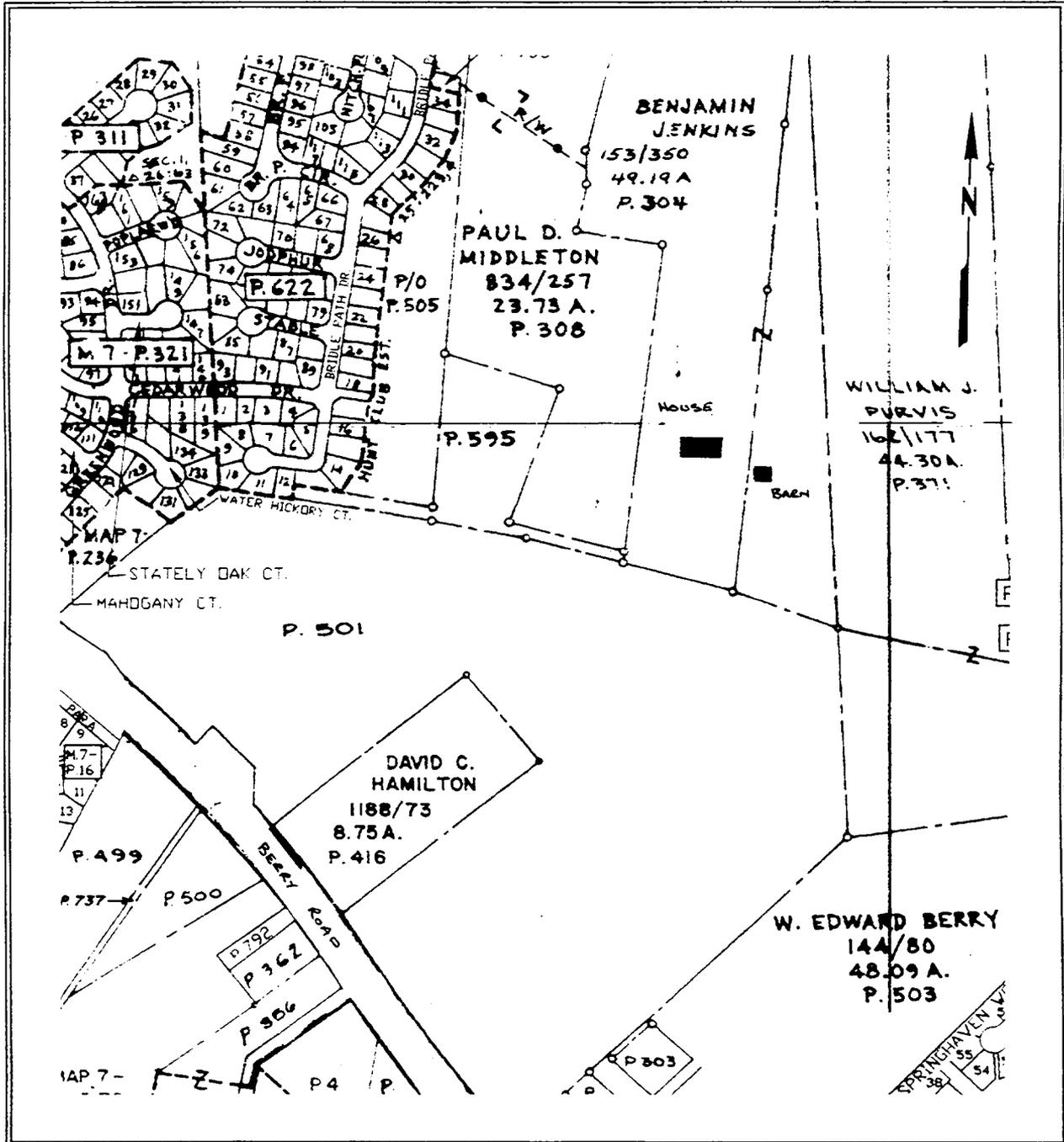
RESOURCE NAME: Philip A. Sasscer Property

SURVEY NO.: CH-239 (PACS B1)

ADDRESS: 2205 Tara Place, Waldorf vicinity, Charles County

10. Geographical Data (Continued)

Resource Sketch Map:



**Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet**

Philip A. Sasscer Property; CH-239 (PACS B1)  
2205 Tara Place, Waldorf vicinity, Charles County

**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):**

Buildings; Private Ownership; Public Acquisition - Not applicable; Occupied;  
Not accessible; Private Residence

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

Rural

**Historic Function(s) and Use(s):**

Residence

**Known Design Source (write none if unknown):**

None

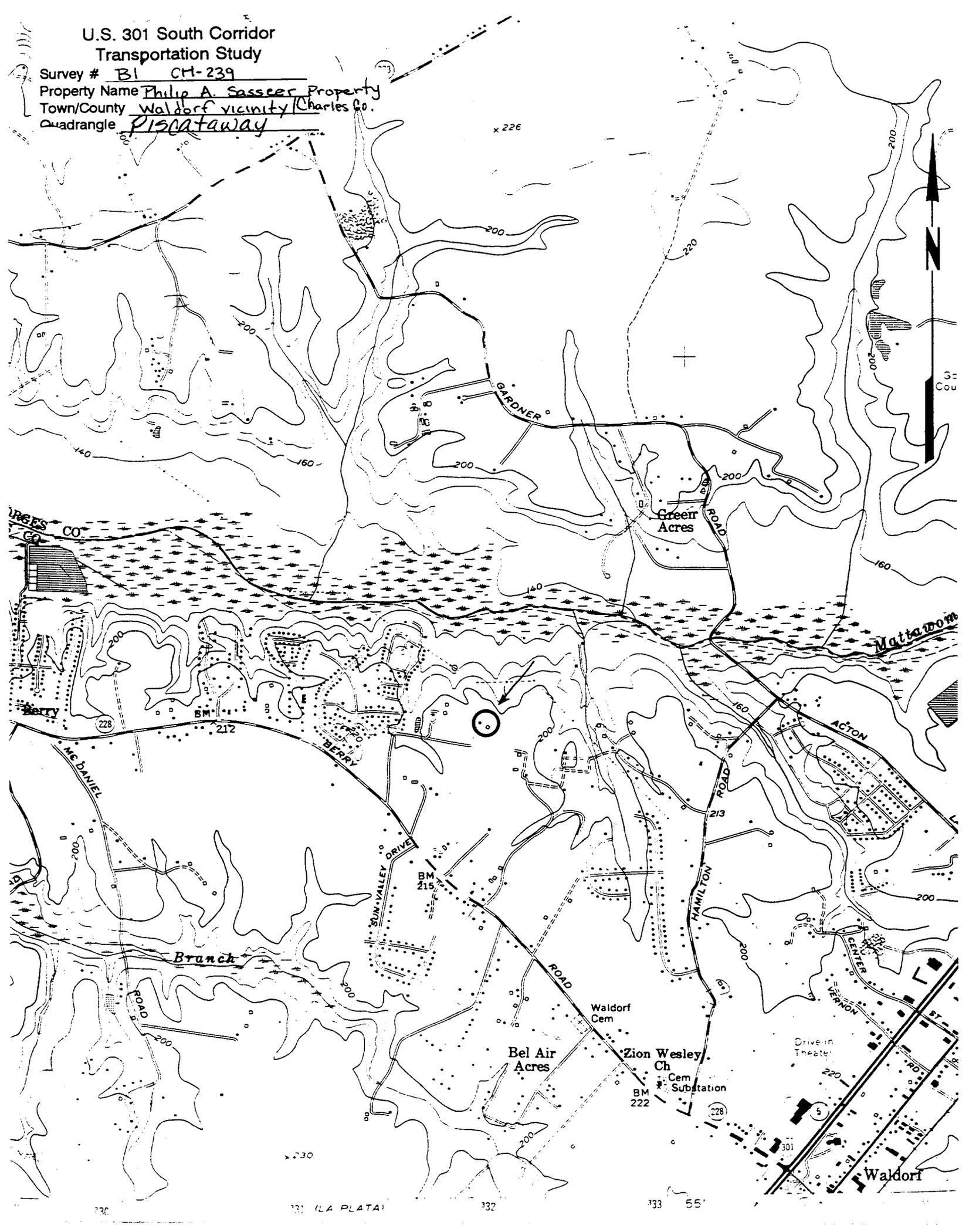
U.S. 301 South Corridor  
Transportation Study

Survey # BI CH-239

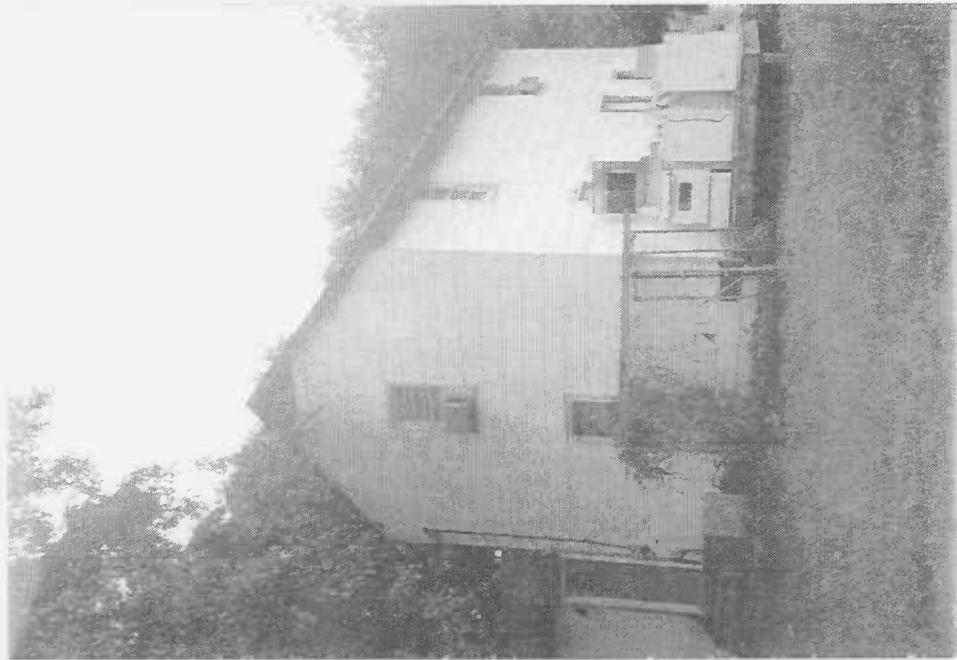
Property Name Philip A. Sasseer Property

Town/County Waldorf vicinity Charles Co.

Quadrangle Piscataway



CH-239



CH-239

