

HO-847, House
9340 North Laurel Road, Laurel
Howard County
Ca. 1893
Private

CAPSULE SUMMARY

The two story frame house at 9340 North Laurel Road is one of three Queen Anne style dwellings in the North Laurel subdivision dating back to the 1890s. It has seen more alteration than the other two houses (HO-799 and HO-846) but retains its cross gabled form with a tower in the L and its 2/2 windows. The house faces south on the east side of North Laurel Road and is surrounded by much later suburban architecture dating to the mid to late 20th century. Infill development is also ongoing in the neighborhood. The house rests on a stone foundation and is currently covered with aluminum siding and capped with a standing seam metal roof. The three story tower in the front L of the house also has a metal roof with flared eaves.

The house at 9340 North Laurel Road is significant under Criteria C in the area of architecture. The house is a good example of a Queen Anne style dwelling, with its original form intact, sited in an early subdivision. Today, the North Laurel subdivision is made up mostly of mid to late 20th century houses, but the house at 9340 North Laurel Road is an important visible reminder that the history of the subdivision goes back to the 19th century and that it is one of the earliest residential subdivisions in the county.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-847

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic House

other

2. Location

street and number 9340 North Laurel Road not for publication

city, town Laurel vicinity

county Howard

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

name George Walter

street and number 9340 North Laurel Road telephone

city, town Laurel state MD zip code 20723

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse tax map and parcel: Map 50, P426

city, town Ellicott City liber 200 folio 524

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report
- Other

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
			Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<u>1</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense		
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic		
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education		
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
		<input type="checkbox"/> government		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry		
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape		
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture		
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
		<input type="checkbox"/> social		
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
			<u>0</u>	

7. Description

Inventory No. HO-847

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered

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

The two story frame house at 9340 North Laurel Road is one of three Queen Anne style dwellings in the North Laurel subdivision dating back to the 1890s. It has seen more alteration than the other two houses (HO-799 and HO-846) but retains its cross gabled front with a tower in the L and its 2/2 windows. The house faces south on the east side of North Laurel Road and is surrounded by much later suburban architecture dating to the mid to late 20th century. Infill development is also ongoing in the neighborhood. The house rests on a stone foundation and is currently covered with aluminum siding and capped with a standing seam metal roof. The three story tower in the front L of the house also has a metal roof with flared eaves.

The front façade of the house is three bays wide with one bay in the front gabled section, one bay in the tower and one bay in the side gabled section behind the tower. The main entrance is located in the center bay in the first story of the tower. Double glazed and paneled doors probably enter into a vestibule or foyer. The left bay (in the front gabled section) holds a 2/2 double hung wood window and the right bay (in the side gabled section) holds a single glazed and paneled door. The second story features two more 2/2 windows in the tower and the front gabled section vertically aligned above the first story openings. The second story of the side gabled section is blank. The property owner, a Mr. George Walter, has owned the house since 1947 and reports that there used to be windows in the third story of the tower that he covered over. The wrap around front porch has also been altered with metal supports replacing what were probably originally turned posts. The porch lacks a balustrade or a decorative frieze, both of which are found on the other two Queen Anne examples in the neighborhood.

The west façade of the house is three bays deep. The side gabled section projects beyond the wall plane of the front gabled section and features windows on its north and south facades as well as its west façade. All windows on this façade are 2/2.

The east façade of the house is also three bays deep. The side gabled section features one window on each story, vertically aligned. There are also windows on the second story of the front gabled section, one on either side of the projecting side gabled section. All of these windows are 2/2. A one story porch across the rear most section of the front gabled section has been enclosed and now has a door and two windows on the east façade.

The rear façade of the house features one window on the second story and two windows on the first story. One of the first story windows is located in the enclosed porch and both first story windows have a paired 1/1 configuration and are probably aluminum. The second story window is a 2/2 double hung wood window.

Unfortunately, the house has lost most of its original decorative elements. Looking at the other two Queen Anne houses in neighborhood, both of which share the identical form to this house, probable areas of decoration include the porch, the gables, and the eaves. The owner reports that the house was originally covered with wood siding.

The interior of the house was not available for survey but a short conversation with the elderly property owner revealed that the interior trim is the expected reeded architrave with bulls eye corner blocks, and that the original fireplaces with stove inserts and their mantles have been removed.

There are no outbuildings on the property.

8. Significance

Inventory No. HO-847

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates ca. 1893 **Architect/Builder** unknown

Construction dates ca. 1893

Evaluation for:

National Register Maryland Register not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

The house at 9340 North Laurel Road is significant under Criteria C in the area of architecture. The house is a good example of a Queen Anne style dwelling, with its original form intact, sited in an early subdivision. Today, the North Laurel subdivision is made up mostly of mid to late 20th century houses, but the house at 9340 North Laurel Road is an important visible reminder that the history of the subdivision goes back to the 19th century and that it is one of the earliest residential subdivisions in the county.

The subdivision of North Laurel was first platted in 1891 and revised in 1893. George W. Cissel, who owned the 103 acres on which the subdivision was created, entered into an agreement with a company called Gordon and Brothers to survey and subdivide his land. Gordon and Brothers did just that, producing a plat that delineated 12 different blocks each containing between 30 and 50 individual lots. A plat for additional lots north of the first 12 blocks was completed in 1893. According to the original plats, what is now known as North Laurel Road was originally called Gorman Avenue and the lots that the house at 9340 is located on are numbered 37 and 38 in block N. A cross street called Washington Avenue is shown immediately south of those lots but does not appear to have ever been constructed. One of the most striking things about the plat of North Laurel is that despite the extensive number of lots created, very few seem to have been built upon in the 1890s. Only three Queen Anne houses stand today in the neighborhood which is dominated by mid 20th century domestic architecture. Another interesting thing about the neighborhood is that there were originally windmills located throughout the subdivision that supplied water to nearby residences. These windmills were located on the corners of intersections or in circles in the middle of the intersections shown on the plat. The current owner of 9340 North Laurel Road remembers that when he bought the property, the windmill was still standing on what would have been the southeast corner of the intended Gorman Avenue / Washington Avenue intersection. Windmills are not a feature commonly associated with early subdivisions but evidence from North Laurel suggests that they were more prevalent than one might think. Deed research may illuminate who built the house at 9340 North Laurel Road and when they did so, but it seems very likely that the house was constructed shortly after the subdivision was created, ca. 1893.

Whoever it was built for, the house at 9340 North Laurel Road is an important example of a ca.1890 Queen Anne dwelling. Though many of the decorative details have been removed or covered over, the overall cross gabled form with a tower remains and is distinctive of the Queen Anne period. It is also significant that the house is sited in a late 19th century subdivision. The rise of the Queen Anne style in architecture and the rise of the subdivision in community planning often went hand in hand as the two emphasized the inherent goodness in nature, home and family versus the evil influences of work and cities. Queen Anne style houses were also often built using a balloon framing technique and mass machine manufactured decorative details which allowed houses to be built quickly from stock components, and reduced the level of skill necessary on the part of the builder. The use of stock decorative components and pattern books for house plans explains why the three surviving Queen Anne houses in North Laurel all have, or probably had, identical plans and very similar decorative details. The modern subdivisions of today have their roots in the Queen Anne subdivisions of the late 19th century, and the house at 9340 North Laurel Road and the North Laurel subdivision as a whole are significant reminders of the historic nature of this 'modern' trend.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO-847

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 0.28

Acreage of historical setting 0.28

Quadrangle name Laurel

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Tax map 50, parcel 426. Lots 37 and 38 in Block N of the North Laurel Park plat.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kristin Hill, Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning

date 4/1/04

street and number 3430 Court House Drive

telephone 410-313-4335

city or town Ellicott City

state MD zip code 21043

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name House

Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

Plat of North Laurel. Originally filed in the Howard County Land Records Liber 57, Folio 569, revised plat filed in Liber 60, Folio 643. Removed from the land records and filed in the Plat Books in the Howard County Land Records office, Plat Book 3, Folio 53.

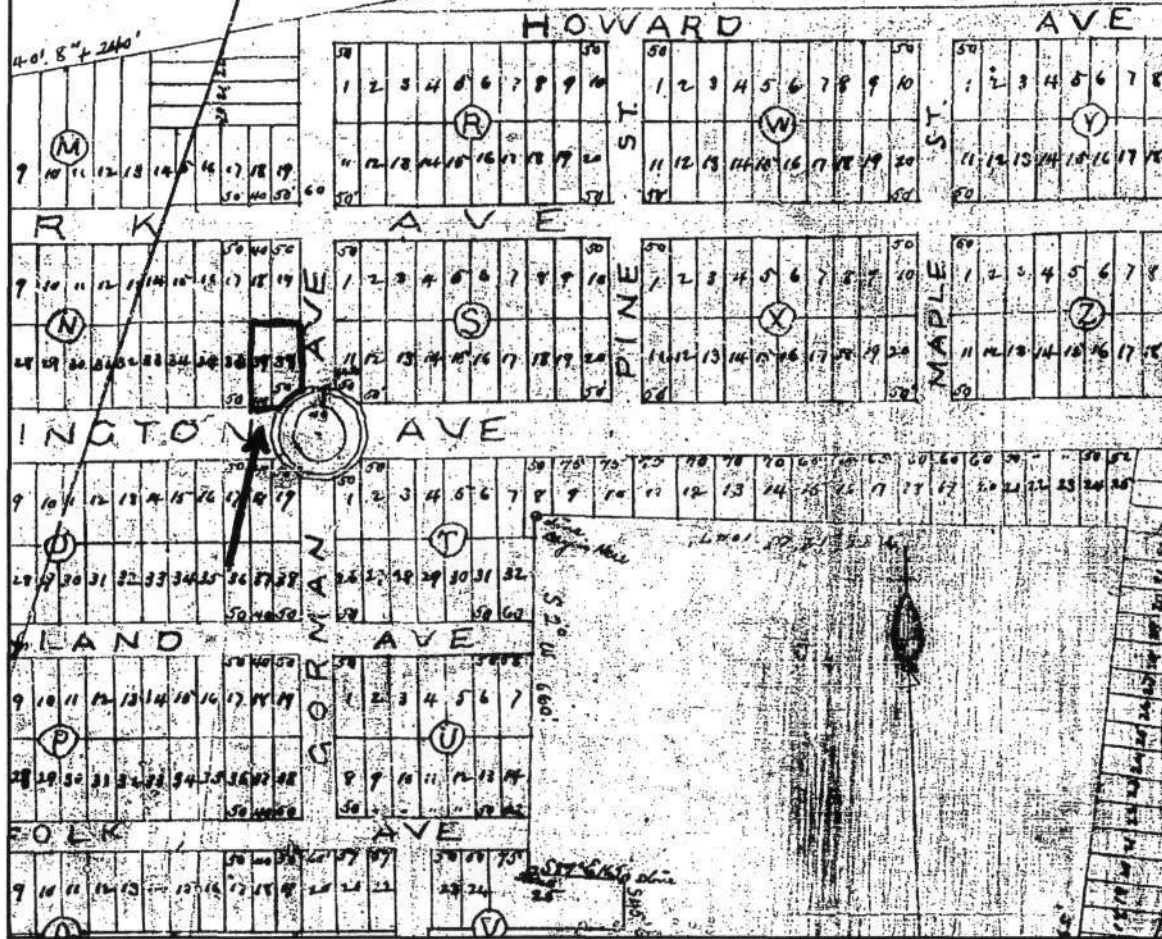
Plat of North Laurel, Addition. Howard County Land Records, Plat Book 61, Page 470.

PROPERTY OF
 NORTH LAUREL
 PARK COMPANY

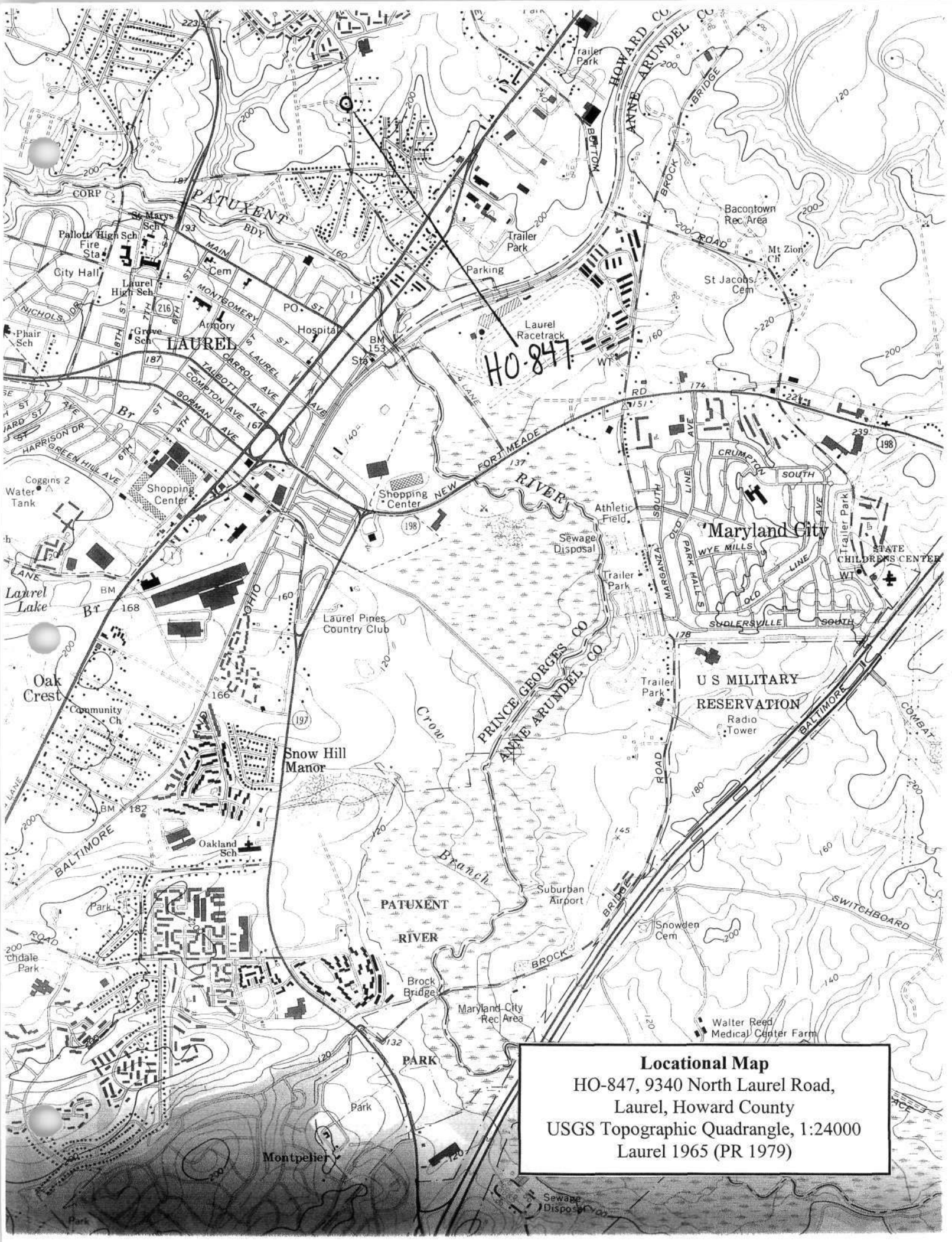
J.H. 061/970

SALE 1 inch = 240 feet

SURVEYED AND MAPPED BY
 E.C. FOREMAN, C.E. 1893
 NORFOLK, VA. 1890 G. 15.54'



Plat of North Laurel Park, Addition
 Showing location of HO-847
 Drawn 1893
 From Howard County Plats
 Book 61, page 470



Locational Map
HO-847, 9340 North Laurel Road,
Laurel, Howard County
USGS Topographic Quadrangle, 1:24000
Laurel 1965 (PR 1979)



HO-847, House
9340 North Laurel Road
Howard County, Maryland
Kinstin Hill, 3/04
Negative at MDSHPO
Front (south) facade

06 21+01 NNNNN 159

117



HO-847, House

9340 North Laurel Road

Howard County, Maryland

Kristin Hill, 3/04

Negative at MDHPO

07 21+01 NNNNN 158

SE elevation

2/7



HO-847, House

9340 North Laurel Road

Howard County, Maryland

Kristin Hill, 3/04

01 21+01 NNNNN 158

Negative at MDSHPD

SE elevation

3/7



H0-847, House

9340 North Laurel Road

Howard County, Maryland

Kristin Hill, 3/04

02 21+01 HHHHH 150

Negative at MD5HPO

East elevation

4/7



H0847, House

9340 North Laurel Road
Howard County, Maryland

Kristin Hill, 3/04

Negative at MDSHPO 04 21+01 NNNNN 158

East elevation

5/7



HO-847, House

9340 North Laurel Road

Howard County, Maryland

Kristin Hill, 3/04

03 21+01 NNNNN 150

Negative at MDSHPO

Rear (north) elevation

6/7



HO-847, House

9340 North Laurel Road
Howard County, Maryland

Kristin Hill, 3/04

05 21+01 NNNNN 158

Negative at MDSHPD
SW elevation

7/7