

HO-1017
Forest Motel
10021 Baltimore National Pike
Private

Description:

The Forest Motel is located on the south side of the road near Ellicott City in eastern Howard County, Maryland. The motel is a large, U-shaped, one-story complex of brick veneer with a gable roof that has asphalt shingles. There is parking inside the U on all three sides, with a grassy common area inside of the parking that also contains a swimming pool. The roof projects forward beyond the front wall to cover a walkway around all three interior sides, and the roof is supported by ironwork posts. At the north end of the east arm of the complex is a two-story brick office with a gable roof that has an east-west ridge. There is a frame addition on the north side of this office, creating a "catslide" roof, and the addition has T1-11 siding. On the west side of this addition is a porte cochere with a flat roof and ironwork posts. Attached to the north end of this addition is a hexagonal frame wing with T1-11 siding, asphalt shingles, and a louvered ventilator box at the peak of the turret roof. There is a modern wood deck around the west and north sides of the wing, giving access to a sales window on the north side. This window is covered by an awning advertising soft ice cream for sale.

Significance:

As the U.S. highway system began to develop in the 1920s, followed closely by the construction of state roads in Maryland, the need for overnight accommodations for motorists grew rapidly. Route 40 was built during the Great Depression as the major link between Baltimore and Piedmont Maryland. The bridge over the Patapsco River was built first, in 1936, with the road added later. Motels developed out of tourist camps as a response to this growing need, and were typically "mom-and-pop" operations. They were most commonly built in an "L", "T", or "U" form, with ample parking around them, and were often only one-story buildings. The Forest Motel, with its "U" plan, fits comfortably within this tradition though it was a relative late-comer, apparently being first built in 1960 around two sides of the existing Forest Diner. William Carl Childress apparently started the business, but shortly sold it to the Weal family. The two businesses clearly relied upon each other for survival, but were not always operated by the same owners. Both businesses also took advantage of the spread of suburbia to the west of Baltimore, especially after the beginning of development of Columbia, and the increased traffic that development brought. The motel closed in early 2009 and will be demolished and replaced with an office and retail complex.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-1017

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Forest Motel

other

2. Location

street and number 10021 Baltimore National Pike __ not for publication

city, town Ellicott City vicinity

county Howard

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

name Forest Motel, Inc.

street and number 10021 Baltimore National Pike telephone

city, town Ellicott City state MD zip code 21043

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse liber 479 folio 581

city, town Ellicott City tax map 24 tax parcel 72 tax ID number

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 at MHT
- Other: _____

6. Classification

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

7. Description

Inventory No. HO-1017

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

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

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8. Significance

Inventory No. HO-1017

| 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government |
| <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> community planning | | <input type="checkbox"/> maritime history | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____ |

Specific dates N/A **Architect/Builder** unknown

Construction dates 1960

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 projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

As the U.S. highway system began to develop in the 1920s, followed closely by the construction of state roads in Maryland, the need for overnight accommodations for motorists grew rapidly. Route 40 was built during the Great Depression as the major link between Baltimore and Piedmont Maryland. The bridge over the Patapsco River was built first, in 1936, with the road added later. Motels developed out of tourist camps as a response to this growing need, and were typically “mom-and-pop” operations. They were most commonly built in an “L”, “T”, or “U” form, with ample parking around them, and were often only one-story buildings. The Forest Motel, with its “U” plan, fits comfortably within this tradition though it was a relative late-comer, apparently being first built in 1960 around two sides of the existing Forest Diner. William Carl Childress apparently started the business, but shortly sold it to the Weal family. The two businesses clearly relied upon each other for survival, but were not always operated by the same owners. Both businesses also took advantage of the spread of suburbia to the west of Baltimore, especially after the beginning of development of Columbia, and the increased traffic that development brought. The motel closed in early 2009 and will be demolished and replaced with an office and retail complex.¹

¹ Jennifer Choi and Derek Simmons, “Diner’s Demise: Over Easy,” *Howard County (Maryland) Times*, 19 February 2009, <http://www.explorehoward.com/news/15804/diners-demise-over-easy/>

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO-1017

See footnotes

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1.65 A
Acreage of historical setting 1.65 A
Quadrangle name Ellicott City

Quadrangle scale: 1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries consist of the property lines for tax map 24, parcel 72, which encompasses all of the historic structures on the property.

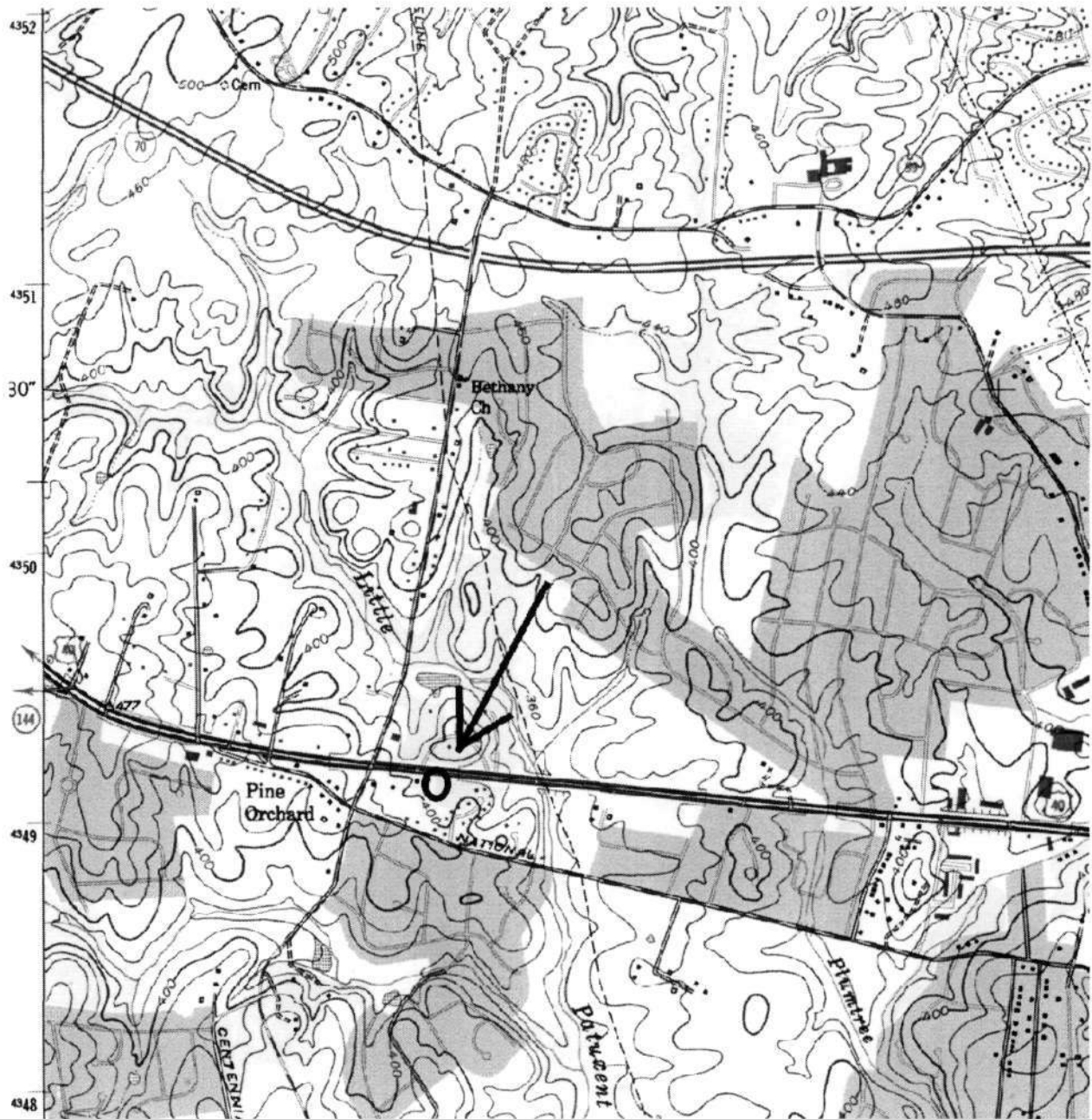
11. Form Prepared by

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------|---------------|
| name/title | Ken Short | | |
| organization | Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning | date | February 2010 |
| street & number | 3430 Courthouse Drive | telephone | 410-313-4335 |
| city or town | Ellicott City | state | Maryland |

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 21032-2023
410-514-7600



HO-1017
Forest Motel
10021 Baltimore National Pike
Ellicott City quad

HO-1017
Forest Motel
10021 Baltimore National Pike
Howard County, Maryland
Ken Short, photographer

Photo Log

Nikon D-70 camera
HP Premium Plus paper
HP Gray Photo print cartridge

HO-1017_2010-01-21_01
East wing, north & west elevations

HO-1017_2010-01-21_02
East wing, west elevation

HO-1017_2010-01-21_03
View southeast of east wing and center section, north elevation

HO-1017_2010-01-21_04
West wing, east & north elevations



HO-1017

Forest Motel

10021 Baltimore National Pike

Howard County, MD

Ken Short

Jan 21, 2010

East ^{MDS#PO} wing, north & west elevations

1/4



HO-1017

Forest Motel

10021 Baltimore National Pike
Howard County, MD

Ken Short

Jan. 21, 2010

MD SHPO

East wing, west elevation

2/4



HO-1017

Forest Motel

10021 Baltimore National Pike
Howard County, MD

Ken Short

Jan 21, 2010

MD SHPO

view southeast of east wing and center
section, north elevation

3/4



HO-1017

Forest Motel

10021 Baltimore National Pike

Howard County, MD

Ken Short

Jan 21, 2010

MD SHPO

west wing, east & north elevations

4/4