

APPENDIX B – AGENCY COORDINATION - SECTION 106



United States Department of Agriculture

Research, Education, and Economics
Agricultural Research Service

October 15, 2020

Office of Preservation Services
Attn: Beth Cole; Administrator, Project Review and Compliance
Maryland Historical Trust
100 Community Place, 3rd Floor
Crownsville, Maryland 21032-2023

Re: Draft MIHP Inventory Form and DOE Submittal for Building 11A (PG: 61-87); Beltsville
Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Prince George's County, Maryland

Dear Ms. Cole:

Enclosed for your review are draft documentation materials for Building 11A (PG: 61-87), a former Bioscience Research Laboratory Building within the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) Campus. BARC is a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligible district (PG: 62-14). The enclosed materials include a draft Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) form, a draft Determination of Eligibility (DOE) form, and associated supporting documentation, including photographs. The building is currently slated for demolition, an undertaking subject to compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). These materials are being submitted to request your office's input and concurrence regarding the eligibility determinations presented herein.

Please contact me directly with any questions or if additional information is needed.

Sincerely,

Chizo Irechukwu
Asset and Facilities Manager
USDA/NEA/BARC/FS

Enclosure

Property Management Unit
10300 Baltimore Avenue
Building 426, Beltsville, Maryland 20705
USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

Capsule Summary

Name of Property:

Historic: Bioscience Research Building; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)

Other: Building 11A

MIHP Number: PG:61-87**Location:** Beltsville, Prince George's County, MD**Date of Construction:** 1970/1974**Access:** Public**Summary Description:**

The resource is a 1970 laboratory building (reportedly finished in 1974 despite the 1970 cornerstone) associated with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). The modern building exhibits elements of both the International and Brutalist styles and is distinctive in form and styling for the research facility. The building is three stories tall with a basement and is of reinforced concrete frame construction. The building is clad in brick veneer in a running bond pattern over concrete masonry unit walls. The building's elevations form a square when viewed from above with an open central courtyard. The building is simple and unadorned, with a monolithic and geometric appearance.

Statement of Significance:

Building 11A is recommended for National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) inclusion as a contributing resource to the NRHP-eligible BARC historic district (PG:62-14). It was constructed during the period of significance for the district, was associated with its research mission, and retains sufficient integrity to represent its associations with mid- to late-twentieth century activities at the facility and with the associated context of agency decentralization during that period under Criterion A (Farris 2017). Furthermore, the resource is also recommended as contributing to the district under Criterion C. It was designed by the renowned Baltimore-based architecture firm of Rogers, Taliaferro, Kostitsky & Lamb (RTKL Associates, Inc.) and represents a distinct and relatively intact example of its form and style at the BARC facility.

Context:

Building 11A served as a bioscience research center during its tenure of operation. BARC itself is a historic district that was determined eligible for inclusion in the NRHP in 1998 (MIHP# PG:62-14). The period of significance for the

Capsule Summary

facility and its contributing resources ranges from its inception in 1910 to its reclassification as a regional center in 1984. Building 11A represents a period of decentralization at the facility as identified in the district's significance statement. Beginning in the 1950s and continuing through 1984, Federal funding and focus spread to the establishment and support of state research facilities, eventually resulting in BARC becoming a regional rather than national research center (Farris 2017). The building was constructed 2 years prior to a significant reorganization within USDA, though it remained in use until 2014 when it was vacated due to environmental problems. It was abandoned in place and is currently slated for demolition.

References Cited

Farris, Lorin. *Addendum to Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form*. March 17, 2017. Prepared by AECOM.

MIHP FORM

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Bioscience Research Building; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
 other Building 11A

2. Location

street and number 10300 Baltimore Avenue, Building 11A, North Farm not for publication
 city, town Beltsville vicinity
 county Prince George's

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

name U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service
 street and number 10300 Baltimore Avenue telephone _____
 city, town Beltsville state MD zip code 20705

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber _____ folio _____
 city, town Upper Marlboro tax map 0018 tax parcel: 0092 tax ID number: 0070326

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

7. Description

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

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.

The resource is a circa 1970 laboratory building (reportedly finished in 1974 despite the 1970 cornerstone) associated with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). The modern building exhibits elements of both the International and Brutalist styles and is distinctive in form and styling for the research facility. It served as a bioscience research center during its tenure of operation. BARC itself is a historic district that was determined eligible for National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1998 (MIHP# PG:62-14). The period of significance for the facility and its contributing resources ranges from its inception in 1910 to its reclassification as a regional center in 1984. Building 11A represents a period of decentralization at the facility as identified in the district's significance statement. Beginning in the 1950s and continuing through 1984, Federal funding and focus spread to the establishment and support of state research facilities, eventually resulting in BARC becoming a regional rather than national research center (Farris 2017). The building was constructed 2 years prior to a significant reorganization within USDA, though it remained in use until 2014 when it was vacated due to environmental problems. It was abandoned in place and is currently slated for demolition.

The building is three stories tall with a basement and is of reinforced concrete frame construction with reinforced concrete beams, slabs, and foundations. The building is clad in brick veneer in a running bond pattern over concrete masonry unit walls. The building's elevations form a square when viewed from above with an open central courtyard. The building's roof is built up with square block-like projections (referred to as mechanical penthouses in some design documents) near the intersecting corners of each elevation, reminiscent of Brutalist themes. The building is simple and unadorned, with a monolithic and geometric appearance.

The primary (southwestern) façade (called south elevation in the attached original plans) is punctuated by four open bay entries accessed by brick stairs with brick and metal railings. The bays are separated by brick piers and are open to a central courtyard containing the building's main entrance. A fifth bay has been opened to the southeast of the original access points to accommodate a wheelchair ramp. Fenestration includes narrow rectangular fixed windows inset in a row above the ground floor. According to the original plans (attached), the windows were aluminum but have since been replaced by more recent metal units. An angular brick "sill" frames the bottom of all window units. The corners of the building feature inset fixed metal window units of varying size that wrap around the adjacent façades. These units are located at the intersections of all of the building's elevations.

The northwestern elevation (identified as west on the attached original plans) is similar to the primary façade in its lack of ornamentation. An open bay entry centered at the ground level provides access to the basement via a driveway. The fenestration on this elevation is similar to that of the primary façade including a row of four narrow rectangular fixed metal windows along the second floor with larger rectangular fixed windows of varying sizes asymmetrically placed along the first floor. The third floor features a square roofline projection (mechanical penthouse) with a cutout around a narrow rectangular window similar in scale to those along the second floor. A brick perimeter wall at the elevation's intersection with the primary façade shields utility machinery.

The northeastern elevation (identified as north on the attached original plans) features paired windows at each level at the center of the building. All are fixed metal units with those on the ground floor being larger than those at the second and third levels. Other rectangular fixed units of varying sizes are placed intermittently at each level, and the brick roofline projection on this façade features a cutout but no associated window unit.

The southeastern elevation (identified as east on the attached original plans) features a pair of centrally located, bay-sized fixed metal-frame window units, each with an associated glass and metal personnel entry door. Fenestration on this façade is similar to the other elevations, with fixed framed rectangular and square inset metal window units with angular brick sills intermittently spaced along all three levels. The brick projection on this elevation features a cutout with associated window unit.

A site plan of the building as well as proximity map showing its location within the BARC facility, elevation drawings from the original plan set, and photographs of the building are included as attachments.

8. Significance

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" 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	1970-1984	Architect/Builder	Rogers, Taliaferro, Kostritsky & Lamb (Architects and Planners)
Construction dates	1970/1974		

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.)

Building 11A is recommended for NRHP inclusion as a contributing resource to the NRHP-eligible BARC historic district (PG:62-14). It was constructed during the period of significance for the district, was associated with its research mission, and retains sufficient integrity to represent its associations with mid- to late-twentieth century activities at the facility and with the associated context of agency decentralization during that period (Farris 2017). Furthermore, the resource is also recommended as contributing to the district under Criterion C. It was designed by the renowned Baltimore-based architecture firm of Rogers, Taliaferro, Kostritsky & Lamb (RTKL Associates, Inc.) and represents a distinct and relatively intact example of its form and style at the BARC facility.

BARC was first documented as a historic property in the 1970s with updated survey and official NRHP eligibility determination occurring in 1998. The boundaries of the NRHP district include the entire 6,582-acre research center. It is eligible under both Criteria A and Criteria C. Under Criterion A, the facility is significant for its role in “the development of a national center for agricultural experimentation and testing.” It maintains associations with the New Deal and Federal Depression-era programs of the 1930s and 1940s, and the “diversity of the scientific research conducted at BARC has influenced many aspects of 20th century living for the farmer as well as the consumer” (P.A.C. Spero & Company 1998). Under Criterion C, the facility is significant as a designed landscape with significant influences from “the planning team of A.D. Taylor, landscape architect, and Delos Smith, architect” during the 1930s. It also maintains associations with the Civilian Conservation Corps and was influenced by the individual divisions within BARC and their research missions. Contributing features of the landscape include “major paved roads, including Powder Mill Road, minor service roads, field and research crops, pasture lands, seasonal ponds, forests, sustainable meadows, other landscape features, and buildings” (P.A.C. Spero & Company 1998).

MHT maintains a 6-volume set of the original Historic Site Survey (report PR 299), and a number of both systematic and piecemeal documentation efforts have occurred in the intervening years to identify contributing features of the district. In 2017, an addendum to the significance statement for the district further defined significant historic contexts for evaluation of contributing resources, some of which extend further into the twentieth century. Significant themes identified included the Federal role in agricultural research, experimental agricultural research, New Deal policies and programs, landscape architecture, experimental agricultural architecture, and Georgian Revival architecture, each encompassing numerous subthemes. Reference to the previous studies is included here for background information regarding historical development at the BARC facility.

Building 11A is significant under Criterion A for its representation of the Federal role in agricultural research. More specifically, it maintains associations with the period of decentralization at BARC as Federal funding was increasingly allocated to state research facilities. It is also significant for its associations with experimental agricultural research, representing a period when the experimental research fields at BARC expanded and diversified during the mid-twentieth to late-twentieth century. Notable contributions to agricultural science attributed to BARC researchers during the 1970s included the discovery of plant viroids “a new class of disease-causing particles 80 times smaller than viruses” (Farris 2017).

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:61-87

Bioscience Research Building (11A); Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

Building 11A is also significant under Criterion C as a distinctive example of its form, style, and type at the BARC facility. It dates to the period of significance for the NRHP-eligible landscape at BARC and is distinctively representative of the emergence of modern architecture at the facility during the mid-to-late-twentieth century. Modern architectural styles were incorporated at the facility as BARC's mission shifted and the types of experimental research conducted there increased during the second half of the twentieth century. In addition, the building was designed by the renowned Baltimore-based architecture firm of RTKL Associates, Inc. The firm was known primarily for its urban planning and architecture, both in Maryland and throughout the United States. Building 11A represents a distinct institutional example of the firm's work.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

Bowlin, Lauren. *Individual Property/District Maryland Historical Trust Internal NR-Eligibility Review Form*. Prepared by Robinson and Associates. February 23, 2000. Copy on file at MHT.

Dwyer, Michael F. *Maryland Historic Trust, Inventory Form for State Historic Sites Survey: U.S.D.A. – Beltsville Agricultural Center*. Prepared by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. January 25, 1973. Copy on file at MHT.

Farris, Lorin. *Addendum to Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form*. March 17, 2017. Prepared by AECOM. (see continuation page)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property _____

Acreage of historical setting _____

Quadrangle name Beltsville

Quadrangle scale: 1:24k

Verbal boundary description and justification

Within 6,582-acre boundary of the BARC Historic District (see Attachment 1).

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Brandy Harris		
organization	Burns & McDonnell	date	09/29/2020
street & number	8911 Capital of Texas Highway, Suite 3100	telephone	512-558-2884
city or town	Austin	state	Texas

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
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-697-9591

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:61-87

Bioscience Research Building (11A); Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
Continuation Sheet

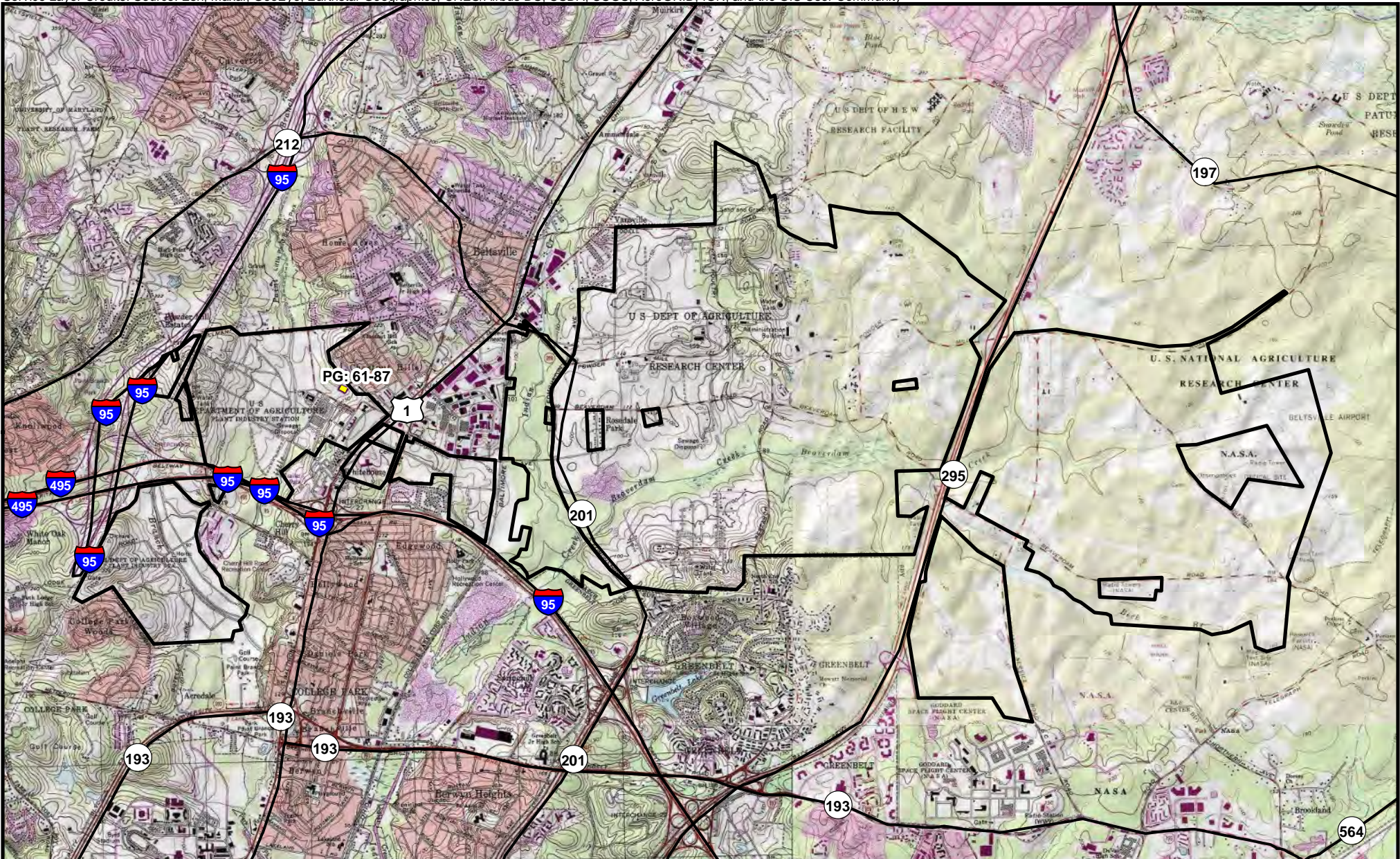
Number 8 Page 1

References Continued:



P.A.C. Spero & Company

1998 Maryland Historical Trust Determination of Eligibility Form, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (PG:62-14). October 1, 1998. Copy on file at MHT.

FIGURES



PG:61-87
 BARC Approximate Boundary


 NORTH

 0 2,000 4,000
 Feet

Pennsylvania
 Maryland
 New Jersey
 Delaware
 DC
 Virginia
 West Virginia



 Project Location



Figure 1
Building Location Map
Beltsville Agricultural
Research Center
USDA
Prince George's County, MD



<p>↓ Photo</p> <p>PG: 61-87</p>	<p>NORTH</p> <p>0 50 100</p> <p>Feet</p>		<p>Figure 2 Site Plan and Photo Locations Beltsville Agricultural Research Center USDA Prince George's County, MD</p>
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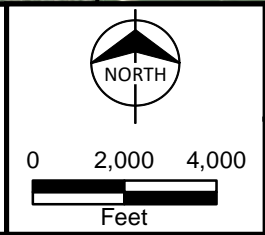
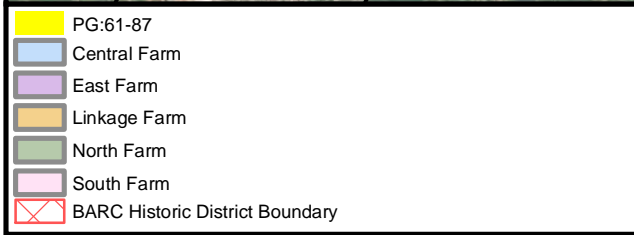
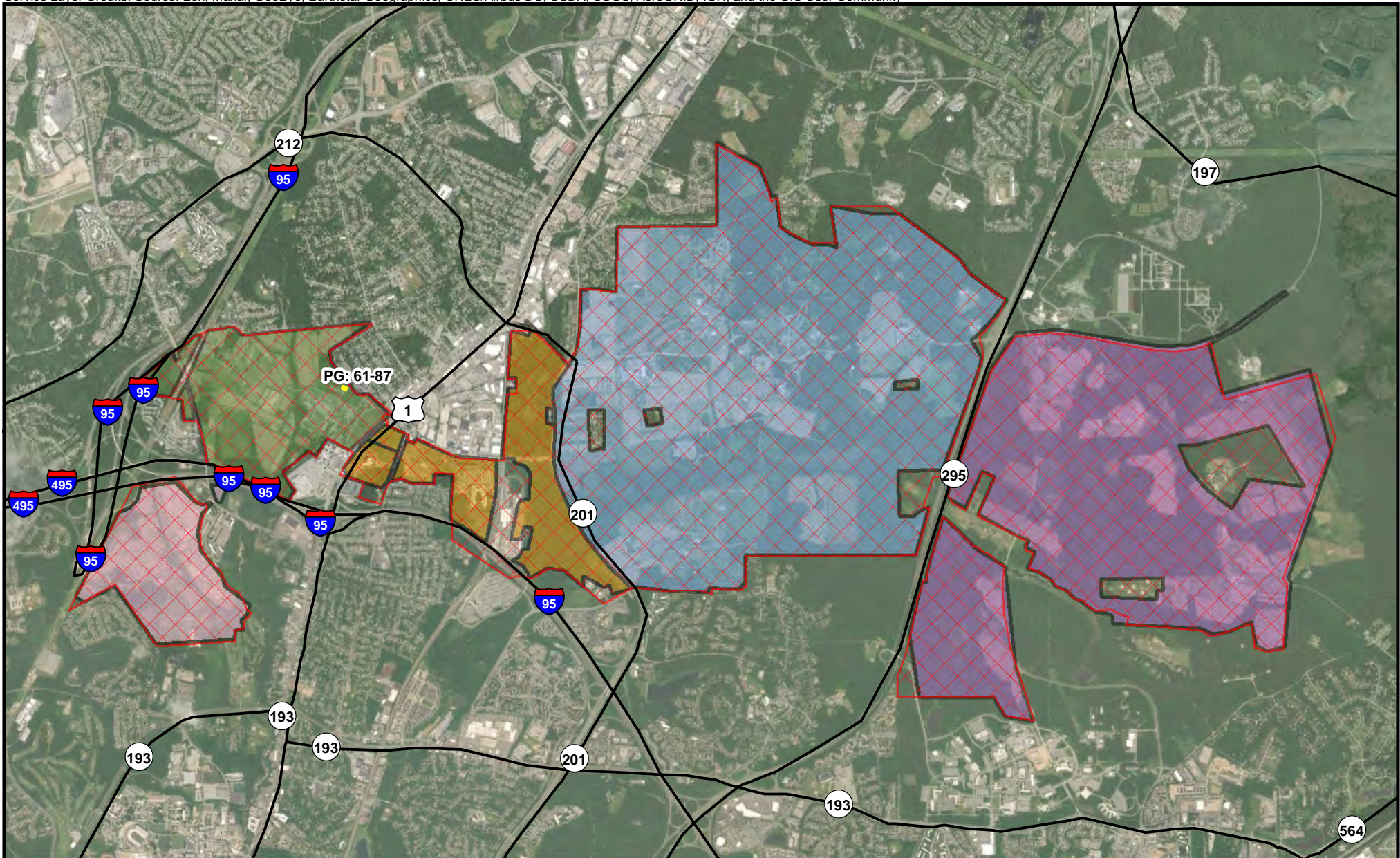
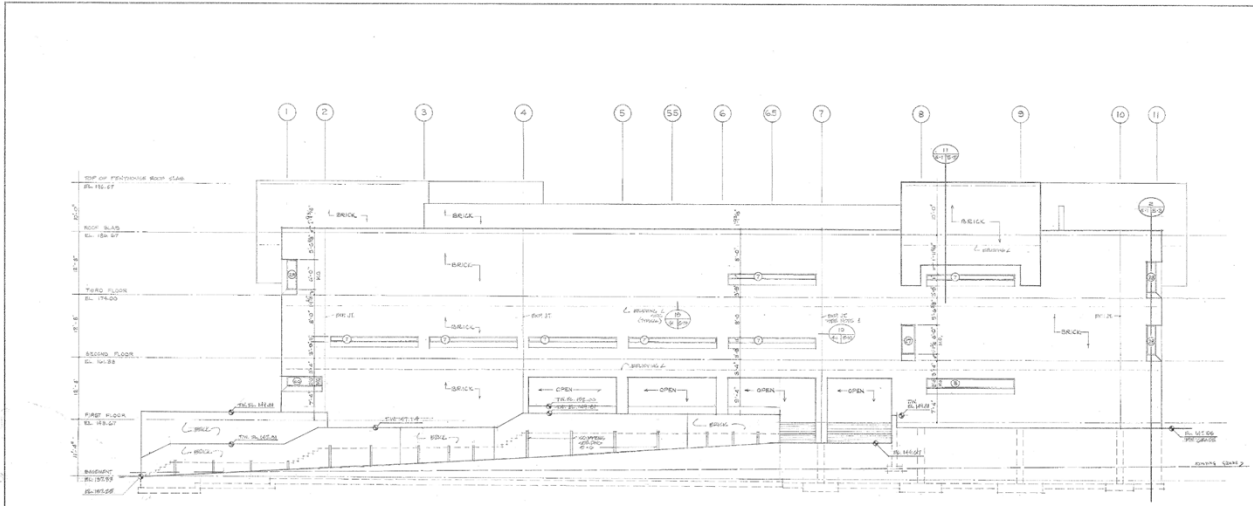
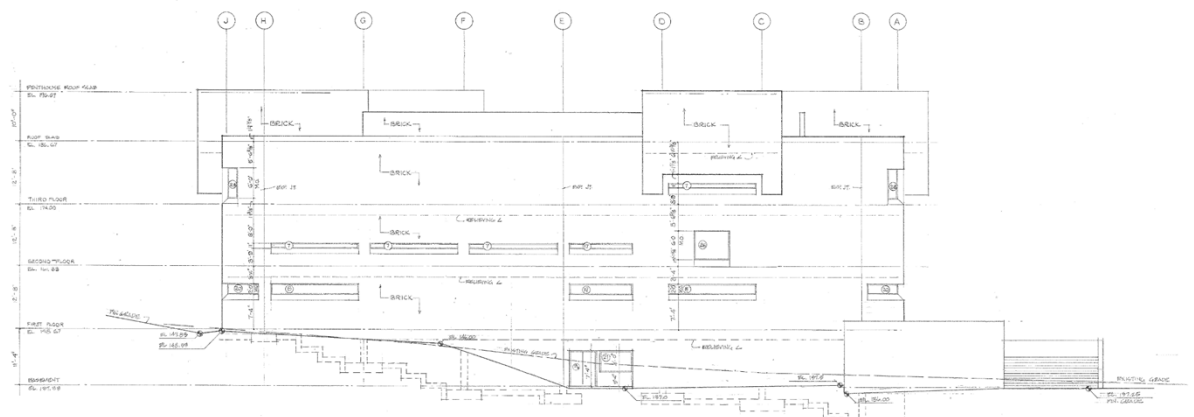


Figure 3
 BARC NRHP District
 Beltsville Agricultural
 Research Center
 USDA
 Prince George's County, MD

DRAWINGS



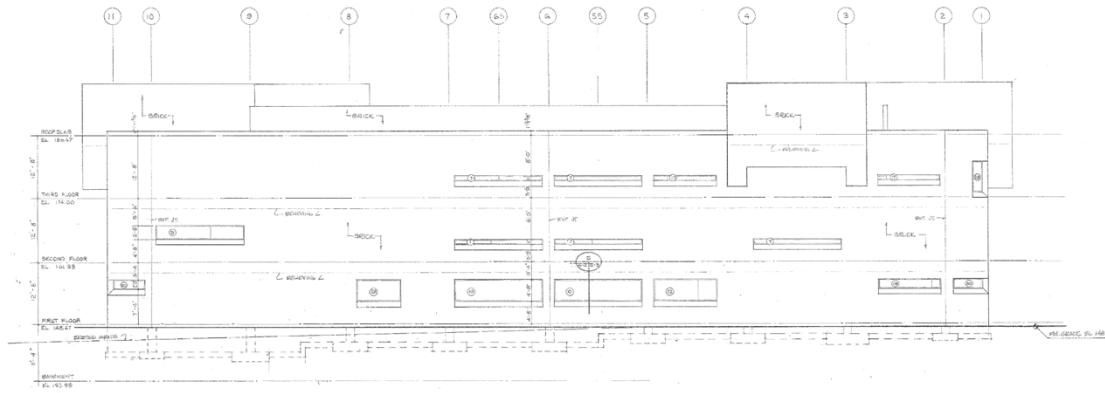
SOUTH ELEVATION
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



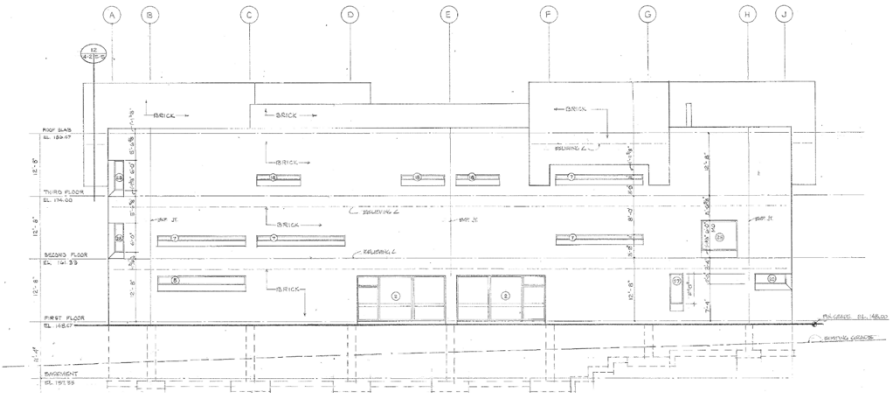
WEST ELEVATION
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

NOTES:
1. CHECKED BY CONTRACTOR JOHN W. WALKER
DATE: 10/15/58

W015862D 9	
ROBERT TALLBERG ARCHITECTURE (NAME) ARCHITECT	
JOHN E. HARRIS AND ASSOC. ARCHITECTS	9
WAL. BRANNIARH P. JAKE STRUCTURAL ENGINEER	BRANNIARH
SSL MECH. ENGINEER	GUMPE MECHANICAL
APPROVED: _____	DATE: _____
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION TRIAL DIVISION, BUREAU OF ARCHITECTURE	
PROJECT: BIOSCIENCE LABORATORY	
LOCATION: BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND	
SHEET: SOUTH C & WEST ELEVATIONS	
DATE: 18125	DATE: _____
SCALE: _____	SCALE: _____
SOUTH C & WEST ELEVATIONS	
DATE: 18 MAY 58	
4-1	



NORTH ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



EAST ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

MD358622 10

ROGERS TRAMER ROBERTSON LANE
PLANNERS

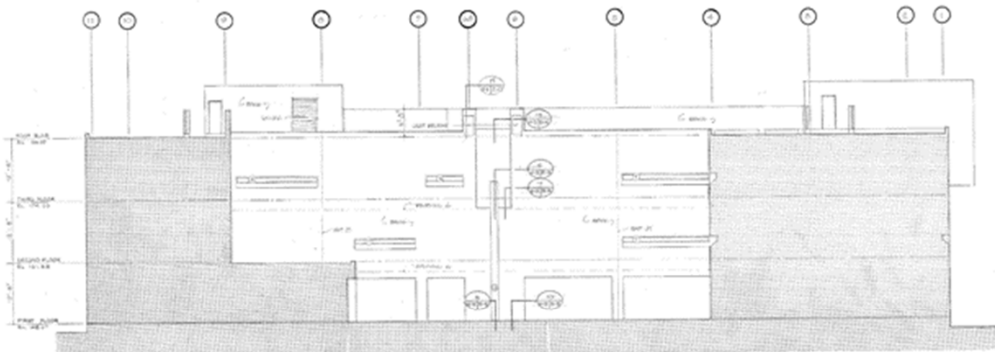
JOHN E. HARRIS and ASSOC. 10
ARCHITECTS
VAN BENSCHOUER R. SAGE
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS
EGEL AND GOSWAMI
MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
PUBLIC BUILDING SERVICE
BIOSCIENCE LABORATORY
BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND

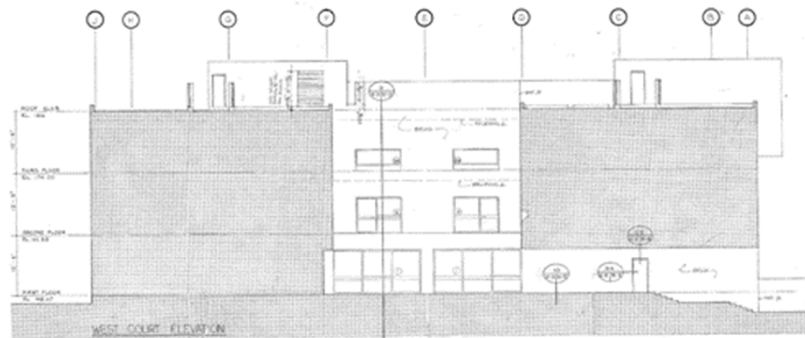
DATE OF DESIGN: 1976
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1976

**NORTH & EAST
ELEVATIONS**
18 MAY 76

4-2



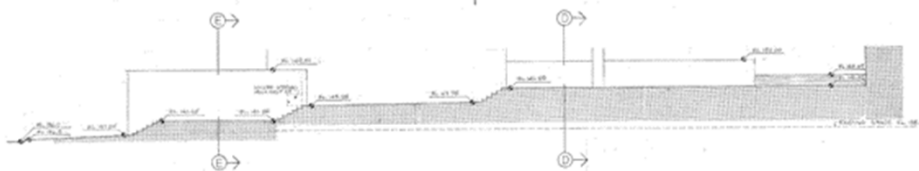
SOUTH COURT ELEVATION
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



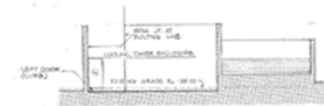
WEST COURT ELEVATION
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



SECTION D-D
SCALE 3/16" = 1'-0"



SECTION C-C
SCALE 3/16" = 1'-0"



SECTION E-E
SCALE 3/16" = 1'-0"

80158622 // 11

STATE OF MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

STATE OF MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

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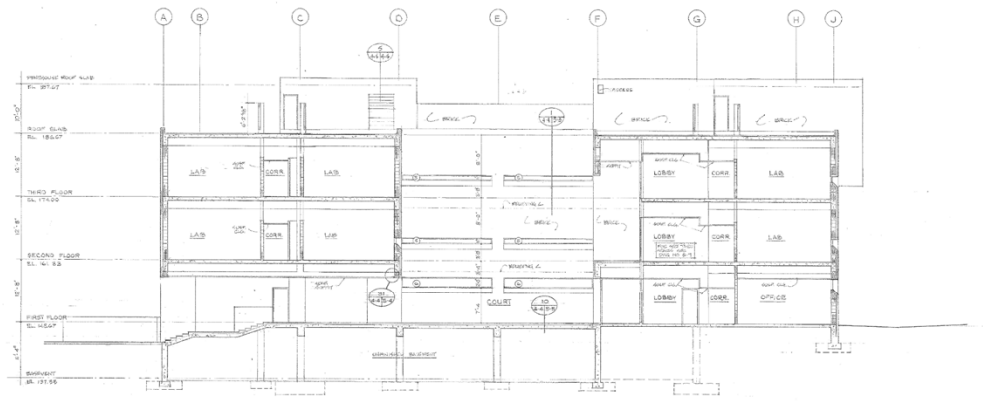
STATE OF MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

STATE OF MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

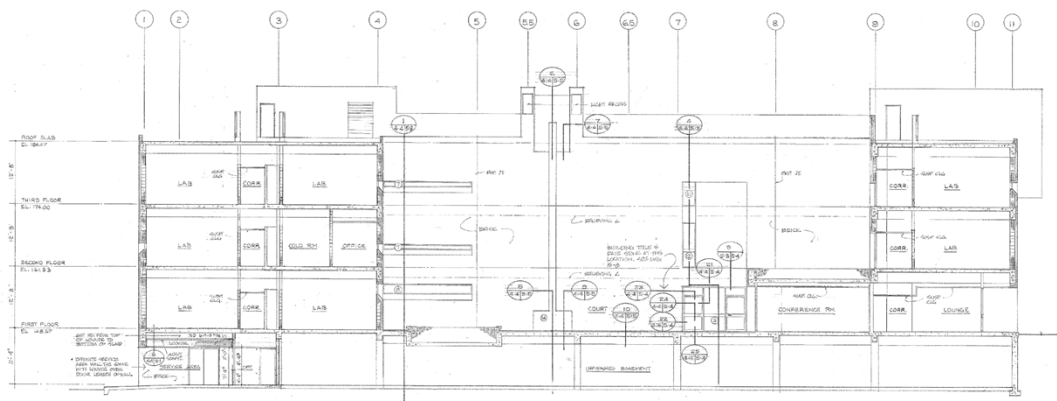
STATE OF MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

STATE OF MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

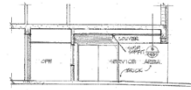
STATE OF MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES



SECTION A-A
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



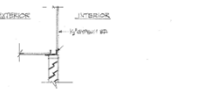
SECTION B-B
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



PARTIAL SECTION B-B (EXTERIOR VIEW)
SCALE 1/2" = 1'-0"



DETAIL - LOUVER
SCALE 1/2" = 1'-0"



DETAIL SERVICE AREA
SCALE 1/2" = 1'-0"

MD1566220 12

DESIGNED	TALAKFERO, RODRIGUEZ, LEUNG
ARCHITECT	JOHN E. HARRIS ASSOC. INC.
ENGINEER	VAN BENSCHOTE & SAKS
GENERAL CONTRACTOR	GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
PROJECT	BIOSCIENCE LABORATORY
LOCATION	MILTSVILLE, MARYLAND
PROJECT NO.	18120
SECTION	SECTIONS AA & BB
DATE	18 MAY 78
DRAWN BY	44

PHOTOGRAPHS

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

Name: Bioscience Research Building; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 1

PHOTO LOG

Name of Photographer: Brandy Harris
Date of Photograph: September 30, 2020
Location of Original Digital File: MD SHPO

Photographs inserted on continuation sheets.

Photo 1 of 47:

Front Façade, camera facing north.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_001

Photo 2 of 47:

Oblique Overview, camera facing north.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_002

Photo 3 of 47:

Overview from Main Drive, camera facing northeast.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_003

Photo 4 of 47:

Overview of Entrance, camera facing north.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_004

Photo 5 of 47:

Overview of Entrance, camera facing north.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_005

Photo 6 of 47:

Overview of PG: 61-87, camera facing northeast.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_006

Photo 7 of 47:

Overview of PG: 61-87, camera facing northeast.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_007

Photo 8 of 47:

Entrance from Parking Lot, camera facing southeast.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_008

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

Name: Bioscience Research Building; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 2

Photo 9 of 47:

**View of Primary (Southwest) and Northwest Façade Intersection, camera facing northeast.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_009**

Photo 10 of 47:

**Overview of PG: 61-87, camera facing northeast.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_010**

Photo 11 of 47:

**Overview of PG: 61-87, camera facing east-northeast.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_011**

Photo 12 of 47:

**Lateral Overview of Northwest Façade, camera facing east-southeast.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_012**

Photo 13 of 47:

**Northwest Façade, camera facing northeast.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_013**

Photo 14 of 47:

**Northwest Façade, camera facing south.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_014**

Photo 15 of 47:

**Entry on Northwestern Façade, camera facing southeast.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_015**

Photo 16 of 47:

**View of Air Conditioning Unit on Northwestern Façade, camera facing south.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_016**

Photo 17 of 47:

**Brick Wall Shielding Utility Machinery on the Northwestern Façade, camera facing south.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_017**

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

Name: Bioscience Research Building; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 3

Photo 18 of 47:

**Brick Wall Shielding Utility Machinery on the Northwestern Façade, camera facing southeast.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_018**

Photo 19 of 47:

**Overview of Northeast Façade, camera facing south-southeast.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_019**

Photo 20 of 47:

**Overview of Northeast Façade, camera facing southeast.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_020**

Additional digital image files are located at the Maryland Historical Trust.

Photo 21 of 47:

**View of Northeast Façade, camera facing southeast.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_021**

Photo 22 of 47:

**View of Southeast and Northeast Façade Intersection, camera facing southwest.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_022**

Photo 23 of 47:

**View of Southeast Façade, camera facing southwest.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_023**

Photo 24 of 47:

**View of Southeast Façade, camera facing northwest.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_024**

Photo 25 of 47:

**View of Southeast Façade, camera facing northwest.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_025**

Photo 26 of 47:

**Window at intersection of the Southeast and Northwest Façade, camera facing southwest.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_026**

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

Name: Bioscience Research Building; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 4

Photo 27 of 47:

View of Courtyard and Main Entry, camera facing northwest.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_027

Photo 28 of 47:

View of Courtyard, camera facing west.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_028

Photo 29 of 47:

View of Courtyard, camera facing northeast.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_029

Photo 30 of 47:

View of Courtyard, camera facing southeast.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_030

Photo 31 of 47:

View of Main Entry, camera facing northeast.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_031

Photo 32 of 47:

Signage and Cornerstone, camera facing northeast.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_032

Photo 33 of 47:

View of Parking Lot Associated with PG: 61-87, camera facing northwest.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_033

Photo 34 of 47:

View of Pumping Station Associated with PG: 61-87, camera facing west.
PG61-87_2020-09-30_034

Photo 35 of 47:

Interior Overview
PG61-87_2020-09-30_035

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

Name: Bioscience Research Building; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 5

Photo 36 of 47:

Interior Overview

PG61-87_2020-09-30_036

Photo 37 of 47:

Interior Overview

PG61-87_2020-09-30_037

Photo 38 of 47:

Interior Overview

PG61-87_2020-09-30_038

Photo 39 of 47:

Interior Overview

PG61-87_2020-09-30_039

Photo 40 of 47:

Interior Overview

PG61-87_2020-09-30_040

Photo 41 of 47:

Interior Overview

PG61-87_2020-09-30_041

Photo 42 of 47:

Interior Overview

PG61-87_2020-09-30_042

Photo 43 of 47:

Interior Overview

PG61-87_2020-09-30_043

Photo 44 of 47:

Interior Overview

PG61-87_2020-09-30_044

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

Name: Bioscience Research Building; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 6

Photo 45 of 47:

Stair Detail

PG61-87_2020-09-30_045

Photo 46 of 47:

Stair Detail

PG61-87_2020-09-30_046

Photo 47 of 47:

Stair Detail

PG61-87_2020-09-30_047

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

Name: Bioscience Research Building; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 1



Photo 1 of 47: Front Façade, camera facing north.



Photo 2 of 47: Oblique Overview, camera facing north.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

Name: Bioscience Research Building; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 2



Photo 3 of 47: Overview from Main Drive, camera facing northeast.



Photo 4 of 47: Overview of Entrance, camera facing north.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

Name: Bioscience Research Building; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 3



Photo 5 of 47: Overview of Entrance, camera facing north.



Photo 6 of 47: Overview of PG: 61-87, camera facing northeast.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

Name: Bioscience Research Building; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 4



Photo 7 of 47: Overview of PG: 61-87, camera facing northeast.



Photo 8 of 47: Entrance from Parking Lot, camera facing southeast.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

Name: Bioscience Research Building; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 5



Photo 9 of 47: View of Primary (Southwest) and Northwest Façade Intersection, camera facing northeast.



Photo 10 of 47: Overview of PG: 61-87, camera facing northeast.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

Name: Bioscience Research Building; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 6



Photo 11 of 47: Overview of PG: 61-87, camera facing east-northeast



Photo 12 of 47: Lateral Overview of Northwest Façade, camera facing east-southeast.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

Name: Bioscience Research Building; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 7

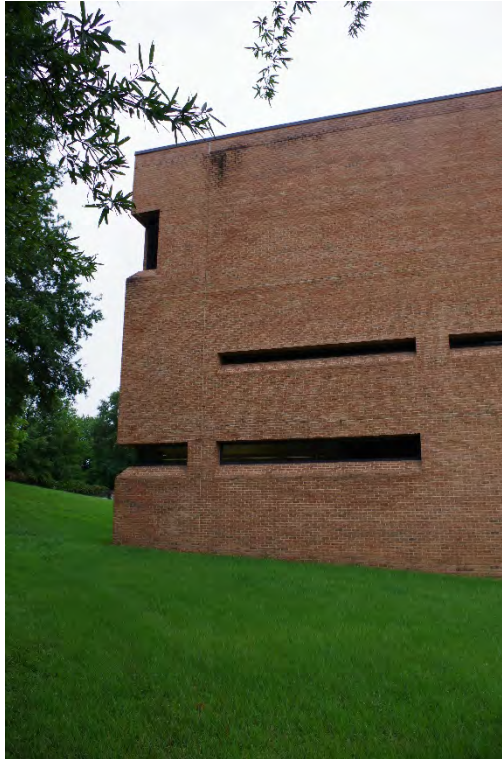


Photo 13 of 47: Northwest Façade, camera facing northeast.



Photo 14 of 47: Northwest Façade, camera facing south.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

Name: Bioscience Research Building; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 8



Photo 15 of 47: Entry on Northwestern Façade, camera facing southeast.



Photo 16 of 47: View of Air Conditioning Unit on Northwestern Façade, camera facing south.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

Name: Bioscience Research Building; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 9



Photo 17 of 47: Brick Wall Shielding Utility Machinery on the Northwestern Façade, camera facing south.



Photo 18 of 47: Brick Wall Shielding Utility Machinery on the Northwestern Façade, camera facing southeast.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG: 61-87

Name: Bioscience Research Building; Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC)
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 10



Photo 19 of 47: Overview of Northeast Façade, camera facing south-southeast.



Photo 20 of 47: Overview of Northeast Façade, camera facing southeast.

DOE FORM

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: **yes X**
no ___

Property Name: Bioscience Research Building 11A Inventory Number: PG: 61-87

Address: 10300 Baltimore Avenue, Building 11A City: Beltsville Zip Code: 20705

County: Prince George's USGS Topographic Map: Beltsville

Owner: U.S. Department of Agriculture Is the property being evaluated a district? ___yes

Tax Parcel Number: _____ Tax Map Number: _____ Tax Account ID Number: _____

Project: Building 11A Demolition Project Agency: USDA ARS

Site visit by MHT Staff: ___no ___yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Is the property located within a historic district? Xyes ___no

<i>If the property is within a district</i>	District Inventory Number: <u>62-14</u>
NR-listed district ___yes Eligible district <u>X</u> yes	District Name: <u>Beltsville Agricultural Research Center</u>
Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource <u>X</u> yes ___no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ___	

<i>If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)</i>	
Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ___yes ___no	

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)

The resource is a circa 1970 laboratory building (reportedly finished in 1974 despite the 1970 cornerstone) associated with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). The modern building exhibits elements of both the International and Brutalist styles and is distinctive in form and styling for the research facility. It served as a bioscience research center during its tenure of operation. BARC itself is a historic district that was determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1998 (MIHP# PG:62-14). The period of significance for the facility and its contributing resources ranges from its inception in 1910 to its reclassification as a regional center in 1984. Building 11A represents a period of decentralization at the facility as identified in the district's significance statement. Beginning in the 1950s and continuing through 1984, Federal funding and focus spread to the establishment and support of state research facilities, eventually resulting in BARC becoming a regional rather than national research center (Farris 2017). The building was constructed 2 years prior to a significant reorganization within USDA, though it remained in use until 2014 when it was vacated due to environmental problems. It was abandoned in place and is currently slated for demolition.

The building is three stories tall with a basement and is of reinforced concrete frame construction with reinforced concrete beams, slabs, and foundations. The building is clad in brick veneer in a running bond pattern over concrete masonry unit walls.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended ___	Eligibility not recommended ___
Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D	Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None
Comments: _____	
_____ Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	_____ Date
_____ Reviewer, NR Program	_____ Date

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Continuation Sheet No. 1

MIHP No: PG: 61-87

The building's elevations form a square when viewed from above with an open central courtyard. The building's roof is built up with square block-like projections (referred to as mechanical penthouses in some design documents) near the intersecting corners of each elevation, reminiscent of Brutalist themes. The building is simple and unadorned, with a monolithic and geometric appearance. Other significant details included asymmetrically placed rectangular metal fixed frame windows of varying sizes with angular brick sills and fixed frame windows at the intersections of all building elevations that wrap around to the adjacent façades (see associated MIHP form for full description).

Building 11A is recommended for NRHP inclusion as a contributing resource to the NRHP-eligible BARC historic district (PG:62-14). It was constructed during the period of significance for the district, was associated with its research mission, and retains sufficient integrity to represent its associations with mid- to late-twentieth century activities at the facility and with the associated context of agency decentralization during that period (Farris 2017). Furthermore, the resource is also recommended as contributing to the district under Criterion C. It was designed by the renowned Baltimore-based architecture firm of Rogers, Taliaferro, Kostriksy & Lamb (RTKL Associates, Inc.) and represents a distinct and relatively intact example of its form and style at the BARC facility.

Building 11A is significant under Criterion A for its representation of the Federal role in agricultural research. More specifically, it maintains associations with the period of decentralization at BARC as Federal funding was increasingly allocated to state research facilities. It is also significant for its associations with experimental agricultural research, representing a period when the experimental research fields at BARC expanded and diversified during the mid-twentieth to late-twentieth century. Notable contributions to agricultural science attributed to BARC researchers during the 1970s included the discovery of plant viroids "a new class of disease-causing particles 80 times smaller than viruses" (Farris 2017).

Building 11A is also significant under Criterion C as a distinctive example of its form, style, and type at the BARC facility. It dates to the period of significance for the NRHP-eligible landscape at BARC and is distinctively representative of the emergence of modern architecture at the facility during the mid-to-late-twentieth century. Modern architectural styles were incorporated at the facility as BARC's mission shifted and the types of experimental research conducted there increased during the second half of the twentieth century. In addition, the building was designed by the renowned Baltimore-based architecture firm of RTKL Associates, Inc. The firm was known primarily for its urban planning and architecture, both in Maryland and throughout the United States. Building 11A represents a distinct institutional example of the firm's work.

References Cited

Farris, Lorin. *Addendum to Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form*. March 17, 2017. Prepared by AECOM.

Prepared by: Brandy Harris

Date Prepared: 09/29/2020



Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

November 16, 2020

Chizo Irechukwu
Asset and Facilities Manager
USDA ARS
10300 Baltimore Avenue, Building 426
Beltsville, MD 20705
Sent via email to: chizo.irechukwu@usda.gov

Re: USDA Beltsville Agricultural Research Center Surplus Building Demolition Initiative
Determination of Eligibility for the Bioscience Research Building 11A (PG:61-87)
Prince George's County, Maryland

Dear Ms. Irechukwu:

Thank you for your recent letter, dated and received by the Maryland Historical Trust (Trust), Maryland's State Historic Preservation Office, on October 22, 2020, continuing consultation for the above-referenced undertaking pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The letter provided documentation, prepared by Burns & McDonnell, to support the USDA's assessment of eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) for Building 11A. Trust staff reviewed the materials and we concur that the Bioscience Research Building 11A (PG:61-87) is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A and C as a contributing resource to the NRHP-eligible Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (MIHP No. PG:62-14). We have added this documentation to our inventory records. We understand that the building is slated for demolition as part of the USDA's demolition initiative at BARC. We await further consultation with USDA and other consulting parties to complete the Section 106 consultation for this demolition initiative, as planning proceeds. If you have questions or need further assistance, please contact Beth Cole at beth.cole@maryland.gov. Thank you for providing us this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth Hughes".

Elizabeth Hughes
Director / State Historic Preservation Officer

EH/EJC/202004630

cc: Bill Howl (USDA / bill.howl@usda.gov)
Brandy Harris (Burns & McDonnell / bmharris@burnsmcd.com)
Shari Cannon-Mackey (Burns & McDonnell / scannonmackey@burnsmcd.com)

