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FINAL SUBMITTAL

**HISTORIC SITE SURVEY
BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER**

BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND

PREPARED FOR:

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE
CONTRACT NO. 53-3K15-5-9071
TASK ORDER NUMBER 14**

**VOLUME III
BUILDING FORMS**

JUNE 1998

**ROBINSON & ASSOCIATES, INC.
RHODESIDE & HARWELL, INC.**

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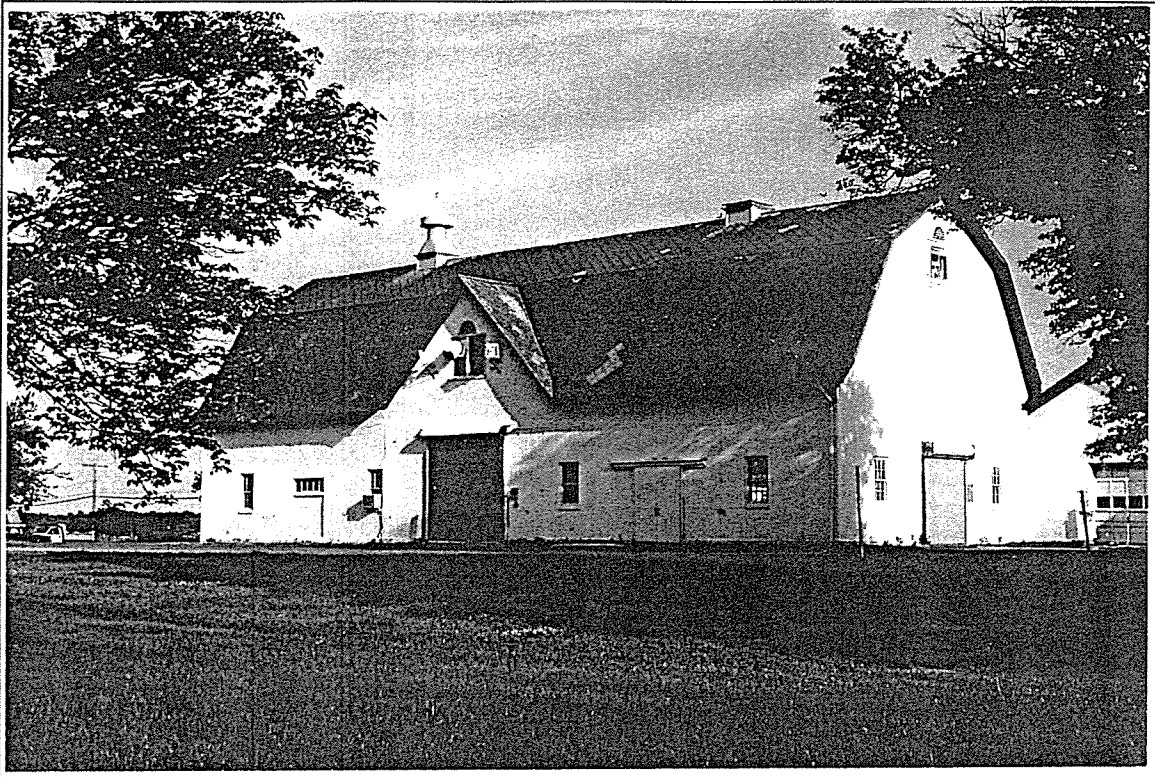
BERNARD JOHNSON YOUNG INC.

Architecture • Engineering • Planning • Systems

BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER
BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND

STRUCTURE FORMS

VOLUME 3



Prepared for:
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

Prepared by:
ROBINSON & ASSOCIATES, INC.
&
RHODESIDE & HARWELL, INC.

In association with:
BERNARD JOHNSON YOUNG, INC.

FINAL SUBMISSION
JUNE 1998

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BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER
BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND

STRUCTURE FORMS (001-085B)
VOLUME 3

Prepared for:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

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Prepared by:

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**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 001	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: B-7
Building Name/Historic Name: South Building		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/Circle Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1941-1942/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Offices and Laboratories		



Photo ID: Building 001, East and North Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

See Continuation Sheet

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes ___ No ___

Retains Integrity: Yes X No ___

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch.
Building 426, BARC
Plans for Buildings at BARC (located at BARC Building 426).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Buildings 001-7, and Buildings 009-11 have been determined eligible for listing on the National Register as part of the [BARC] North Farm Survey District (MHT # PG 61-20).

Name of Surveyor: Carol Hooper	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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Description

The South Laboratory is one of five buildings that are sited along a curved drive (Circle Drive) facing southeast onto Baltimore-Washington Boulevard (Route 1). Formally positioned behind a large grassy lawn, this collection of buildings constitutes both the "front door" to the North Farm, and one of the most public faces of the entire BARC complex.

The South Laboratory and its twin, the North Laboratory (Building 005), flank the central connected buildings (Buildings 002, 003, 004). The building is a three-and-a-half story brick, Georgian Revival structure with a slate roof and wood and stone detailing. It is a shallow "H" in plan with a gabled roof along the length of the front facade, and cross gables running along the sides of the building.

The front (east) elevation is a symmetrical composition. It is 16 bays long and is divided into projecting three-bay end sections and a long recessed central ten-bay section in the center of the building. The major focus of the front facade is the central half-round projecting portico capped with a decorative metal rail. Windows throughout the building are replacement six-over-six, double-hung sash. All windows have stone sills.

At the first floor level, a flight of concrete steps with decorative wrought iron railing leads to the portico and the building's main entrance. The main entrance doors are double half-glass doors with a metal grill in each window. The doors are topped with a transom embellished with decorative metal work. Flanking the doors and under the projecting portico are four-over-four, double-hung sash windows. The windows at the first and second floor level, and at the third floor level at the end sections, have flat arches with stone keystones. Above the third floor is a denticulated wood cornice and the slate roof of the attic story. Four gabled dormers, located on the long central section of the facade, pierce the roof. Each has six-over-six, double-hung sash. On the end sections of the building, the attic area is embellished with stone ornamentation consisting of a central shield and attached swags. The central area of the shield is glass. To the sides of the ornamentation, stone trophies top the ends of the gabled section (above the quoining). Above the shield motif are paired brick chimneys with stone caps.

The south (or side) elevation of the building follows the general styling and fenestration of the front facade. It is eight bays wide with a gabled roof and has quoining around the corners of the building only. The entrance to this side of the building is located in the basement level. It consists of two half-glass doors surmounted by a glass transom with decorative metal grille. To either side of the door are pilasters and four-over-four, double-hung sash. A decorative lantern is positioned above the transom. Windows on the first and second floor level of this facade have flat arches with stone keystones. The attic story features three gabled dormers with six-over-six double hung sash. On the sides of the building above the quoining are stone trophies, and, at the ridge line, chimneys.

The north (side) elevation of the building is divided into three sections: a central four-bay pedimented section and end sections each consisting of two bays. Quoining is used to demarcate the edges of the building and its pedimented section. The entrance to this side of the building is located at the first floor level. It is marked by a solid stone entrance piece which includes a pediment and cornice at the top and has openings for the entrance and for the two four-over-four, double-hung sash to either side of the entrance. The actual entrance, which is recessed, consists of two half-glass doors surmounted by a glass transom with decorative metal grille. Windows at the first and second floor level of this facade have flat arches with stone keystones. At the third floor level, only the windows in the central pedimented section are so ornamented. The attic story features three gabled dormers with six-over-six, double-hung sash. On the sides of the building above the quoining are stone trophies, and, at the ridge line, chimneys.

The rear facade of the building is largely similar to the front facade. Here, however, the basement level is above grade and the entry is at the basement level. This entrance, which is less elaborate than the front entrance, consists of two half-glass doors surmounted by a glass transom with decorative metal grille. To either side of the door are pilasters and four-over-four double-hung sash. A decorative lantern is positioned above the transom. This facade is stepped with three bays on either side of a central projecting eight bay section. A one-story brick addition now covers much of the back facade at the basement level.

History and Significance

The South Laboratory (also known as Building C and Building No. 4) was one of four laboratory/offices constructed at the North Farm to replace existing structures located at the Department of Agriculture Bureau of Plant Industry Arlington farm facility in Arlington, Virginia. Construction of the building began in 1941; it was completed in 1942.

In October 1933, the Bureau of Plant Industry purchased part of what is now the North Farm of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center and the site officially became known as the "U.S. Horticultural Field Station at Beltsville, Maryland." Initial development included constructing the first buildings on the site, clearing the land, putting in utilities, and constructing roads and walks. A second group of buildings and improvements at the site were funded under 1938 appropriations.

The third major flurry of development on the North Farm came as a result of the closing of Arlington Station, which was the Bureau of Plant Industry's first experimental station, located in Arlington, Virginia. Pressure from the War Department to release the Arlington land had begun prior to the purchase of the North Farm, however it increased dramatically as defense activities expanded in the late 1930s. After continual lobbying on the part of the Department of Agriculture for funds to move the Arlington facility, on October 9, 1940, an appropriation for \$3,200,000 in the Department of War's budget was approved for the operation. The appropriation was used for the acquisition of 606 acres of land (at the North, South, and Linkage Farms) and for the construction of 15 buildings, most on the North Farm.

The building, like the Administration Building, North Laboratory, and Soils Laboratory, were all constructed by the J.D. Hedin Construction Company, located on Michigan Avenue, N.E., in Washington, D.C. A contract for the construction of the building was signed with Hedin on June 27, 1941. The original contract price was \$585,000 for the construction of both the North and the South Laboratories. As was true on most of the buildings constructed at Beltsville during this period, substantial work related to the building was completed by force account. In this case initial site preparation, grading, landscaping, walks, drainage, and utilities (on the exterior) and screens, blinds, painting, and the installation of lab equipment (on the interior) were not included in the contract. The total cost for the project including these items was \$325,912.28. The contract price for the building amounted to \$299,168.26 of the total. The building was completed around November 1942.

Plans for the building were drawn up by the USDA's Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, Division of Plans and Service, and approved in May 1941. During the mid to late 1930s the Division was designing literally dozens of buildings at one time for USDA facilities throughout the country. The Division was responsible for the design of a majority of pre-1950 buildings at BARC. In addition to preparing plans for all buildings, the Division of Plans and Services also prepared specifications and cost estimates for all buildings. The Coordinator of the NARC Construction Program acted as a go-between between the Division of Plans and Services and the designated individuals from the Bureau who determined program and budget.

Since its construction, Building 001 has been one of the major office/laboratory facilities on the North Farm. The building was originally planned as a laboratory building for Forage, Tobacco, Sugar, Cereal, Rubber, and other units. (An Herbarium and Herb units dropped out during the planning process.) Its earliest occupants appear to have been the following divisions: Cotton and Other Fiber Crops, Forage Crops and Diseases, Cereal Crops and Disease, Sugar Plants, Rubber Investigations, and Tobacco Investigations. In contrast to the building's twin (Building 005) more of the South Laboratory's space was devoted to laboratory, rather than office space.

Cereal crops research that was conducted in Building 001 included the work of numerous important plant breeders including research relating to corn conducted by G.F. Sprague. Early work on one of the major crop diseases in the world, wheat rust, was conducted in the 1940s by Dr. "Roddy" Rodenheiser. He was active in the international testing for strains of rust-resistant wheat. His work in Puerto Rico permitted the safe testing of various dangerous strains of wheat rust. Work on oats conducted by H.C. Murphy, related to the crossing of wild oats from the Mediterranean region to establish strains of oats that were resistant to crown rust. His work brought to light thousands of new strains of oats.

The new strains were maintained in Building 001 in the ARS' Small Grains Germplasm Collection. What is now the single largest collection of grain seeds from around the world was begun in 1948. It was originally housed in the basement of Building 001, later moved to a different building on the North Farm, and finally moved away from Beltsville in 1988.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 002	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: B,C-7
Building Name/Historic Name: Cold Storage Building		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/Circle Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1938/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Offices and Laboratories		

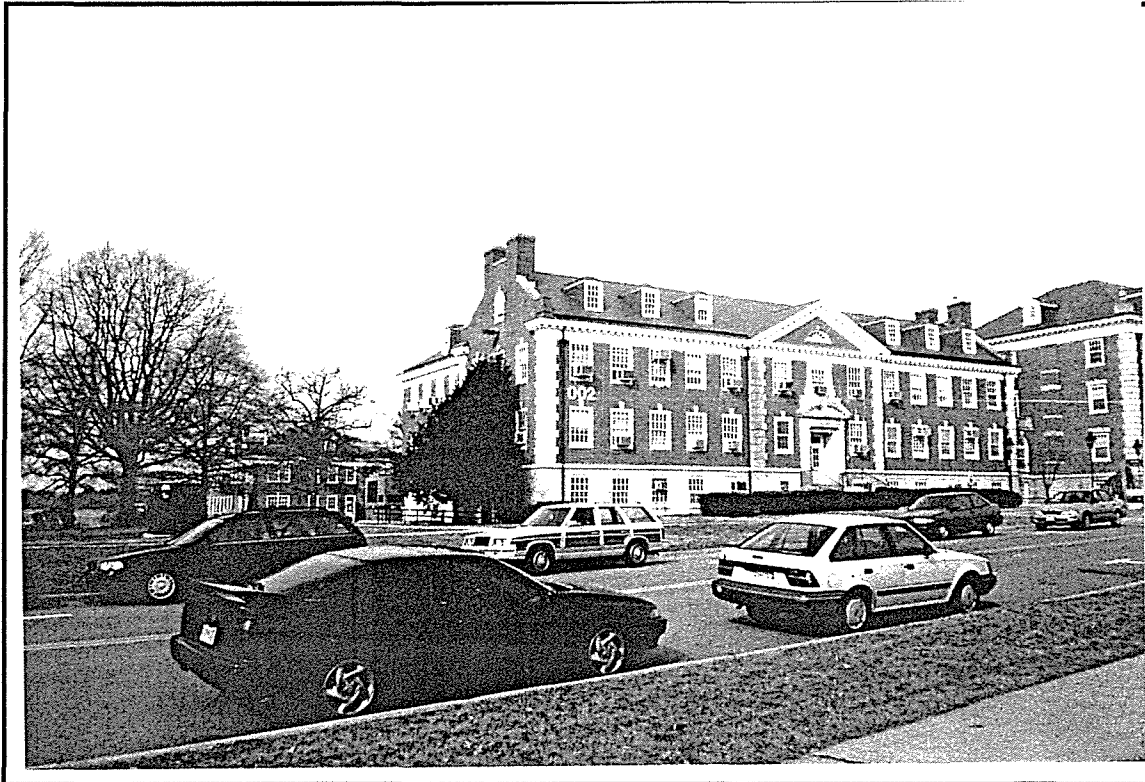


Photo ID: Building 002, East and South Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

See Continuation Sheet

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes X No

Retains Integrity: Yes X No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC
Plans for Buildings at BARC (located at BARC Building 426).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Buildings 001-7, and Buildings 009-11 have been determined eligible for listing on the National Register as part of the [BARC] North Farm Survey District (MHT # PG 61-20).

Name of Surveyor: Carol Hooper	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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Description

Located at the North Farm of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Beltsville Agricultural Research Station, the Cold Storage Building faces southeast onto a large grassy area fronting Route 1. The building is a three-story, reinforced-concrete and brick, Georgian Revival structure with a slate roof and wood and limestone detailing. The building's massing is complicated in that at the basement and first floor levels the building is largely rectangular and at the second floor level the building becomes U-shaped. (This is due to the fact that part of the building does not continue to the second floor level.) The roof structure is gabled along the length of the front facade, and hipped over the ends of the "U."

The front (southeast) elevation is a symmetrical composition. It is 13 bays long and is separated into thirds by quoining at the ends of the building and around the slightly projecting central 3-bay section. This central section is pedimented. Windows throughout are eight-over-eight, double-hung sash. All windows have stone sills. The front facade features a partially raised basement.

The major focus of both the first and the second stories is the central bay. At the first floor, a flight of concrete steps with decorative wrought-iron railing leads to the building's main entrance. Surrounding the door is a stone entrance-piece consisting of Ionic columns with a broken pediment above. The main entrance doors are double half-glass doors topped with a five-pane transom. The windows at the first floor level only have flat arches with stone keystones. At the second floor level the central window above the entrance bay is surrounded by decorative stone lateral consoles. Above the second floor is a denticulated wood cornice, copper gutter and the broad slate roof of the attic story. Six gabled dormers, located on either side of the central pedimented section, pierce the roof. Each has six-over-six, double-hung sash. Twin brick chimneys bracket the ends of the building.

The side elevations are asymmetrical due to the building's gable configuration. The three bays on the front end of each side facade (which correspond to the ends of the gable that runs the length of the front facade) project slightly and are set off by quoining. The three bays in the first and second floor levels in this section are eight-over-eight, double-hung sash with flat arches and stone keystones. The longer, rear end of the side elevations (which corresponds to the hip roofed ends of the "U") consists of five bays. Windows in this section have flat arches with stone keystones only above the first floor windows. Above the denticulated cornice (which runs along the non-cross-gabled section of this facade only), two dormers pierce the roof. The attic story of the cross-gabled section features a single arched window flanked by double chimneys. The concrete basement is also visible on the side facades. The fenestration follows the pattern of the other levels of the building however and entrance is located in the center bay of the cross gable.

The rear facade of the building is the open end of the "U." On this facade the basement level is above grade. At the basement and first floor level, the machine room projects from the facade of the building. Otherwise, the fenestration pattern, as well as the cornice and roof line is largely similar to the other facades of the building. A single entranceway on this facade is through double doors in the middle of the facade (i.e., the inner end of the U.). Each of the ends of the "U" are five bays wide.

Major alterations to the building include the construction of a connecting structure in the early 1940s. As part of the construction of the Administration Building (Building 003) a three-bay brick connecting hyphen was built between the Cold Storage Building and the Administration Building. The hyphen, which connects the basement and first floors of the two buildings, is slightly set back from the front of the building. It features two windows and a door at the basement level, and three floor-length round-headed windows at the first floor level. Above each of the windows is a keystone and above these is a stone balustrade.

History and Significance

The Cold Storage Building, constructed in 1938, was at the time it was constructed, one of the best equipped such laboratories for the study of the storage of produce and other plant-derived food products in the world.

In October 1933, the Bureau of Plant Industry purchased part of what is now the North Farm of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center and the site officially became known as the "U.S. Horticultural Field Station at Beltsville, Maryland." Initial development included constructing the first three buildings on the site, clearing the land, putting in utilities, and constructing roads and walks. Although the Cold Storage Building was initially planned as part of the first grouping of buildings at the site, insufficient funding delayed its construction until 1938, when a second round of expansion came to the site. In addition to the Cold Storage Building, the Central Heating Plant (Building 014) and Range 2 Greenhouses (Building 010) were also funded in part under the Public Works Administration Appropriations Act of 1938. Approval for these projects apparently came in August, within a short period of when construction had to be initiated and there appears to have been significant hurry to place the buildings. In August, the exact placement of the building had not yet been solidified.

The building was constructed by John McShain, Inc., of Baltimore, Maryland. A contract for the construction of the building was awarded for \$194,200, and McShain started work in November 1938. As was true on many of the buildings constructed on the grounds of the Beltsville Research Center during this period, substantial work related to the building was completed by force account. In this case the foundations and substructure of the building were completed in November 1938 by force account and were not included in the contract. Funding for the construction of the building came from both the Works Progress Administration (\$45,000 -- used for the site preparation and foundation work) and the Public Works Administration (\$255,000 -- for contractual work and other costs). The building apparently was occupied by December 1939.

The contractor for the building, John McShain, was one of Washington's most prolific builders of the mid-twentieth-century. The son of an Irish carpenter, he worked as a foreman for the construction company owned by his father and uncle before obtaining his license as a journeyman carpenter and broadening his education at the Drexel Institute of Technology; there he studied mechanical engineering, steel work, and masonry, among other fields. Out on his own, his first construction project was the Philadelphia Board of Education Building, constructed in 1930. By 1936, his business had become more active, and he established a reputation of being able to figure the cost of a job tighter than most other builders of the time. His greatest era of building in Washington began in the 1930s and lasted for several decades. During World War II, McShain had \$150 million worth of construction projects underway simultaneously. In addition to the Cold Storage Building, a partial list of Washington-area buildings constructed by McShain includes: National Airport, the Jefferson Memorial, the Pentagon, the General Accounting Office, the State Department, Building 10 (Clinical Center) at the National Institutes of Health, the Bethesda National Naval Medical Center tower, the Bureau of Engraving, and the Kennedy Center. In addition, McShain constructed the Roosevelt Library in Hyde Park, New York, and renovated the White House for President Truman.

Plans for the building were drawn up by the USDA's Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, Division of Plans and Service, and approved in May 1941. During the mid to late 1930s, the Division was designing literally dozens of buildings at one time for USDA facilities throughout the country. The Division was responsible for the design of most pre-1950 buildings at BARC. In addition to preparing plans for all buildings, the Division of Plans and Services also prepared specifications and cost estimates for all buildings. The Coordinator of the NARC Construction Program acted as a go-between between the Division of Plans and Services and the designated individuals from the Bureau who determined program

and budget.

Prior to the turn of the century there was little if any long-distance commercial production of fruits and vegetables. Aside from those living in climates that permitted year-round production, for most of the country fruit was available only seasonally from local producers. Around the turn of the century the first efforts were made to transport fruits and vegetables long distances via train car. The research conducted in Building 002 was aimed at studying how to extend the keeping qualities of fruits and vegetables to the maximum extent possible, by researching the effects of temperature, humidity, and certain treatments (such as wax coatings, etc.). Work conducted in the Cold Storage Lab was aimed mostly at arriving at prescribed temperatures for keeping specific types of fruits and vegetables. Research papers that were produced by the scientists working in Building 002 recommended appropriate temperature ranges for hundreds of different types of produce.

As the site of the offices and home bases of the Branch Chief and Investigation Leaders, Building 002 was also the symbol of the nationwide research on the subject.

The official purpose of the building was:

To supply controlled facilities for carrying on research work having as its purpose the determination of the best storage conditions for fruits, vegetables, nuts and ornamentals. To provide quarters where the exact effects of temperature, humidity, respiration and other factors on stored horticultural products can be determined. To study the effect of waxes, colors, and disinfectants applied to fruits, vegetables, nuts and ornamentals on the keeping qualities of these materials (NARA, RG 54, Entry 151A).

The laboratory was designed to replace an obsolete facility at Arlington Farm. Part of the justification for the building was that the Division of Fruit and Vegetable Crops and Diseases had already been moved to the Horticultural Station. The following reason was also stated:

It is extremely advantageous to have the Handling and Storage Investigations likewise headquartered there as this makes readily available for storage experiments supplies of fresh materials from the cultural and breeding work now conducted at the Station. Moreover, more complete collaboration between the physiologists, pathologists, geneticists, pomologists and horticulturists is made possible through this bringing together of the various units (NARA, RG 54, Entry 151A).

The Handling, Transportation, Storage and Market Disease Investigations Section, the original occupants of the building,¹ studied "the relation of environment to disintegration, determining what changes occur after a product is grown and harvested, and how the processes of disintegration can be arrested or controlled." The building originally housed 14 specialists in the subject matter. It provided a space to conduct these types of experiments out of the way of commercial producers, "without fear of premature exploitation."

The building itself was designed with 22 temperature-controlled rooms that produced temperatures ranging from -15 degrees to +110 degrees. Each of these rooms had a capacity of approximately half a carload. The walls of the temperature control rooms are plastered with "Enamelite," insulated with sheet

¹The building also housed the Administrative and Business Offices of the Division of Fruit and Vegetable Crops.

cork and finished with aluminum paint (to prevent mold).

The machinery to support the temperature control rooms was extensive. Three nine-ton ammonia compressors (one of which was for standby emergency use), two shell and tube condensers, two brine tanks, and one tank for mixing low-temperature brine with return brine. This setup permitted the brine to be kept in three ranges of temperatures, provided flexibility, and enabled high atmospheric humidity to be maintained even at low temperatures. Temperatures in each of the temperature-controlled rooms was continuously recorded.

The building also held a ripening room where temperature and humidity were automatically maintained, and a fruit and vegetable washing and packing facility.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER – BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 003	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: C-6
Building Name/Historic Name: Administration Building		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/Circle Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1942-1943/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Offices and Laboratories		



Photo ID: Building 003, East Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

See Continuation Sheet

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes X No

Retains Integrity: Yes X No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Buildings 001-7, and Buildings 009-11 have been determined eligible for listing on the National Register as part of the [BARC] North Farm Survey District (MHT # PG 61-20).

Name of Surveyor: Carol Hooper	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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Description

The Administration Building is one of five buildings that are sited along a curved drive (Circle Drive) facing southeast onto Baltimore-Washington Boulevard (Route 1). Formally positioned behind a large grassy lawn, this collection of buildings constitutes both the "front door" to the North Farm, and one of the most public faces of the entire BARC complex.

The Administration Building is the central element in the assemblage of buildings facing Route 1. Of the five buildings, it is the most elaborate in design and materials. It is flanked by, and connected to, the Cold Storage Building (Building 002) to the south and the Horticulture Building (Building 004) to the north. The building is a three-and-a-half story brick, Georgian Revival structure with a slate roof and wood and stone detailing. Stone quoining is used at the outside edges of the building. The building is generally T-shaped in plan with a gabled roof along the length of the front facade and hipped roofs off of the rear facades.

The front (southeast) elevation is symmetrical in design. It is 17 bays long, with seven bays on either side of the dramatic three-bay-wide three-story Corinthian portico. A clock tower, which rises above the portico, is a central focus of attention for the building. Windows throughout the building are replacement six-over-six, double-hung sash. All windows have stone sills.

At the first floor level, a flight of stone steps (divided into thirds by metal rails) leads to what were originally three separate entrances. (The two side bays have been converted to windows and only the central bay now has an operational door.) The main entrance doors are double three-panel wood doors, topped with a decorative glass transom. At the side entrances the openings have been filled with fixed, multi-pane windows. Around the openings are stone surrounds surmounted by rounded pediments. On the central bay the pediment is broken, with a decorative element centered between the openings. The pediments are supported by brackets at the sides. The windows at the first floor level have stone flat arches with stone keystones. At the second floor level, the fenestration is uninterrupted by the portico and the windows have stone flat arches with stone keystones. At the third floor level also, the fenestration and detailing is consistent with the other floors. Above the third floor is a denticulated wood cornice and the slate roof of the attic story. Six gabled dormers, located on either side of the central clock tower, pierce the roof. The dormers have round-headed windows. The clock tower is of brick and wood construction. The first level of the tower is a square brick structure with brick quoining and a single round window which is centered on the structure. This section is topped with a wood balustrade with trophies located on the four corners. Above the first level, the tower is of wood construction. The second level features a single round-headed window centered on each facade. The third and final level of the tower is the site of the clock, which is centered on the front facade. The other facades of the tower are unornamented. The metal roof cap of the clock tower is bell shaped and is crowned with a weather vane.

The basement level, is partially exposed on the front facade. It is of concrete construction. This floor, as well as the first floor are attached to the Cold Storage Building (Building 002) and the Horticulture Building (Building 004) through connecting passages of brick and concrete construction.

The side elevations of the building consist of a four-bay section towards the front of the building (which corresponds to the end of the gable that runs the length of the front facade) and the seven-bay long side elevation of the auditorium wing. The three bays in the first and second floor levels in this section are eight-over-eight, double-hung sash with flat arches and stone keystones. The longer, rear end of the side elevations (which corresponds to the hip roofed ends of the "U") consists of five bays. Windows in this section have flat arches with stone keystones only above the first floor windows. Above the denticulated cornice (which runs along the non cross-gabled section of this facade only), two dormers pierce the roof.

The attic story of the cross gabled section features a single arched window flanked by double chimneys. The concrete basement is also visible on the side facades. The fenestration follows the pattern of the other levels of the building, however, and the entrance is located in the center bay of the cross gable.

The rear facade of the building is less ornate than the front facade. The central feature of the rear is the three-bay-wide auditorium wing of the building which extends from the center of the facade. The fenestration on this facade is similar to that on the other facades. The windows at the rear of the wing are blind.

In the ^{early} mid-1990s, additions were made to the rear of this facade, including the addition of a one-story, brick service area. *no security renovation*

The main section of the building is of reinforced concrete construction, with roof rafters of heavy timber wood construction. The rear wing of the building is of fire-proofed steel construction. The roof framing in this section of the building is of steel.

History and Significance

The Administration Building (also known as Building A and Building No. 6) was one of four laboratory/offices constructed at the North Farm to replace existing structures located at the Department of Agriculture Bureau of Plant Industry Arlington farm facility in Arlington, Virginia. Construction of the building was begun in 1942 and completed in 1943. Since its construction, the building has been used primarily to house administrative functions.

In October 1933, the Bureau of Plant Industry purchased part of what is now the North Farm of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center and the site officially became known as the "U.S. Horticultural Field Station at Beltsville, Maryland." Initial development included constructing the first three buildings on the site, clearing the land, putting in utilities, and constructing roads and walks. A second group of buildings and improvements at the site were funded under 1938 appropriations.

A third major flurry of development on the North Farm came as a result of the closing of Arlington Station, which was the Bureau of Plant Industry's first experimental station, located in Arlington, Virginia. Pressure from the War Department to release the Arlington land had begun prior to the purchase of the North Farm, however it increased dramatically as defense activities expanded in the late 1930s. After continual lobbying on the part of the Department of Agriculture for funds to move the Arlington facility, on October 9, 1940, an appropriation for \$3,200,000 in the Department of War's budget was approved for the operation. The appropriation was used for the acquisition of 606 acres of land (at the North and South Farms) and for the construction of 15 buildings, most on the North Farm. One of the buildings constructed was the Administration Building.

The Administration Building, like the North and South Laboratories, and the Soils Laboratory, were all constructed by the J.D. Hedin Construction Company, located on Michigan Avenue, N.E., in Washington, D.C. A contract for the construction of the building was signed with Hedin for \$414,506.17 on January 12, 1942, and work on the project began within ten days. As was true on most of the buildings constructed on the grounds of the Beltsville Research Center during this period, substantial work related to the building was completed by force account. In this case grading, landscaping, walks, drainage, and utilities on the exterior and screen, blinds, painting, and the installation of auditorium and laboratory equipment on the interior were not included in the contract. The total cost for the project

including these items was \$443,300. The building contract, including change orders amounted to \$414,506.17.

Final acceptance of the building was made on December 29, 1943. The front portion of the building was occupied in May 1943, while occupancy of the rear wing was not completed until November 1943. Delays in completing the building were largely attributable to war-time shortages of materials. In particular the contractor's inability to secure sufficient steel for the rear wing resulted in severe delays in completing the project.

Plans for the building were drawn up by the USDA's Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, Division of Plans and Service, and approved in May 1941. During the mid to late 1930s the Division was designing literally dozens of buildings at one time for USDA facilities throughout the country. The Division was responsible for the design of most pre-1950 buildings on the North Farm. In addition to preparing plans for all buildings, the Division of Plans and Services also prepared specifications and cost estimates for all buildings.

Since its construction, Building 003 has been one of the major office facilities on the North Farm. The building was planned for, and first occupied by, the administrative offices of the Plant Industry Station, as well as other Bureau of Plant Industry offices including some of the offices of the Division of Cotton and Other Fiber Crops. It also was designed to include the Bureau of Plant Industry library and auditorium. Most of the usable space was occupied by offices. Although certain offices moved from and to the building throughout its years of occupation, its main administrative function has remained constant. After 1972, with the restructuring of all ARS research into geographical "areas," Building 003 became the administrative center for BARC as a whole, which was one of the eight geographical areas.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 004	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: C-6
Building Name/Historic Name: Horticulture Building		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/Circle Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1934/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Offices and Laboratories		



Photo ID: Building 004, East and North Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

See Continuation Sheet

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District

Yes X No ___

Retains Integrity: Yes X No ___

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Buildings 001-7, and Buildings 009-11 have been determined eligible for listing on the National Register as part of the [BARC] North Farm Survey District (MHT # PG 61-20).

Name of Surveyor: C. Hooper

Affiliation: R&A

Date: February 1997

Description

Located at the North Farm of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Beltsville Agricultural Research Station, the Horticulture Building faces northwest onto a large grassy area fronting Route 1. The building is a brick, U-shaped Georgian Revival structure with a slate roof and wood and stone detailing. The roof structure is gabled along the length of the front facade, and hipped over the ends of the "U."

The front (southeast) elevation is a symmetrical composition. It is 13 bays long and is separated into thirds by quoining at the ends of the building and around the slightly projecting central three-bay section. This central section is pedimented. Windows throughout are eight-over-eight, double-hung sash, with the exception of the large central window on the second floor. All windows have stone sills. The front facade features a slightly raised basement.

The major focus of both the first and the second floor is the central entrance bay. The entrance is reached via concrete steps, and through a projecting stone portico. The entrance doors are double half-glass doors topped with a wide, twelve-pane transom. The windows at the first floor level have flat arches with stone keystones. The second floor level is largely similar to that of the first floor. Here, however, the portico supports a single-bay-wide decorative wrought-iron railing. Above the railing is the large central window (the only ten-over-ten window on the building) which itself is surmounted by a decorative design executed in brick and stone, consisting of a half circle with a stone keystone. Inside the semicircle, a circle with wedge shapes to either side are outlined in stone. Above the second floor is a denticulated wood cornice and the broad slate roof of the attic story. Six gabled dormers containing six-over-six, double-hung sash pierce the roof, and twin brick chimneys bracket the ends of the building.

The side elevations are asymmetrical due to the building's gable configuration. The three bays on the end of each side facade, which correspond to the ends of the gable that runs the length of the front of the building, project slightly and are set off by quoining. The three bays in this section include triple windows on either side that consist of six-over-six windows bracketed by two-over-two windows. The longer end of the side elevations consists of six bays. This section corresponds to the hip roofed ends of the "U." Windows at the first level and at both the first and second levels at the cross-gabled section have flat arches with stone keystones. Above the denticulated cornice (which continues on the non-cross-gabled section of this facade), two dormers pierce the roof. The attic story of the cross-gabled section features an arched window and double chimneys. The concrete basement is also visible on the side facades. The fenestration here is identical to that at the other levels of the building.

The rear facade of the building is the open end of the "U." On this facade the basement level is above grade. Here, the fenestration pattern, as well as the cornice and roof line is largely similar to the other facades of the building. A single entranceway on this facade is through double doors in the middle of the facade (i.e., the inner end of the U.).

A significant alteration to the building was made in connection with the construction of the Administration Building (Building 003) in the early 1940s. At that time a three-bay brick connecting hyphen was built between the Horticulture Building and the Administration Building. The hyphen, which connects the basement and first floors of the two buildings, is slightly set back from the front of the building. It features two windows and a door at the basement level, and three floor-length, round-headed windows at the first floor level. Above each of the windows is a keystone and above these is a stone balustrade.

At the time this survey was conducted, renovations to Building 004 were being initiated.

History and Significance

The Horticulture Building (also known as the Administration Building prior to the construction of Building 003) was the first major building to be constructed at the North Farm. The building was occupied in January 1935.

In October 1933, the Bureau of Plant Industry purchased part of what is now the North Farm of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center and the site officially became known as the "U.S. Horticultural Field Station at Beltsville, Maryland." Initial development included clearing the land, putting in utilities, and constructing roads and walks and constructing the first three buildings on the site, one of which was the Horticulture Laboratory. All of these improvements were funded using federal Depression-era programs, most notably Public Works Administration funds.

Specifications for the Horticulture Building, as well as for the Range 1 greenhouses and head houses, and the Cold Storage Building were prepared in January 1934. When bids were opened the prices proved prohibitive and the cold storage project was dropped for the time being. A contract was finally awarded for everything except the cold storage project to the North-Eastern Construction Company of Baltimore. This firm was also constructing at least two other buildings on the Central Farm. The construction cost of the Horticulture Building was \$128,732 and site work and utilities brought the overall price to \$137,782. The building was officially occupied January 11, 1935.

Plans for the building were drawn up by the USDA's Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, Division of Plans and Service, and approved in December 1933. During the mid to late 1930s the Division was designing literally dozens of buildings at one time for USDA facilities throughout the country. The Division was responsible for the design of most pre-1950 buildings at BARC. In addition to preparing plans for all buildings, the Division of Plans and Services also prepared specifications and cost estimates for all buildings. The Coordinator of the NARC Construction Program acted as a go-between between the Division of Plans and Services and the designated individuals from the Bureau who determined program and budget.

Since its construction, the Horticulture Building has been one of the major office/laboratory facilities on the North Farm. It was constructed to hold offices of the Horticultural Field Station, a part of the Division of Fruit and Vegetable Crops and Diseases. It was first occupied by a variety of scientists of the Division who were moved from offices in Washington.

The building has remained in horticultural-related uses for most of its history.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 005	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: C-6
Building Name/Historic Name: North Building		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/Circle Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1941-42/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Offices and Laboratories		

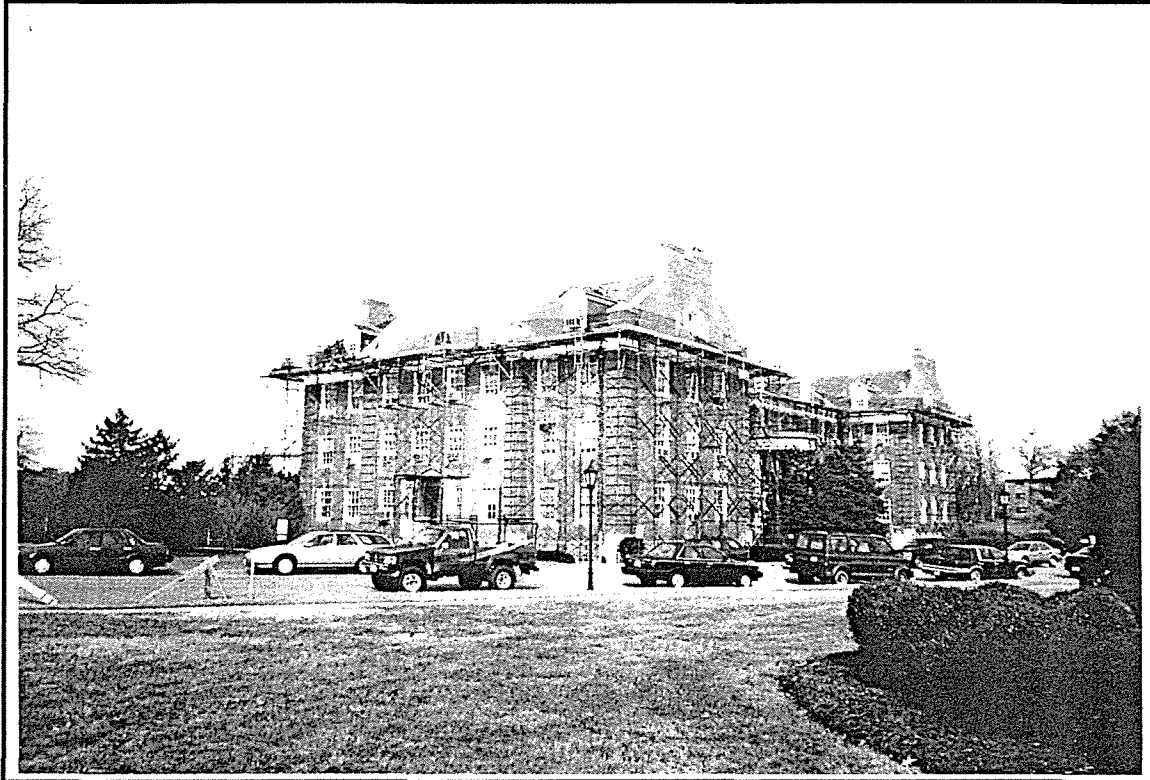


Photo ID: Building 005, South and East Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

See Continuation Sheet

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes X No

Retains Integrity: Yes X No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC
Plans for Buildings at BARC (located at BARC Building 426).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Buildings 001-7, and Buildings 009-11 have been determined eligible for listing on the National Register as part of the [BARC] North Farm Survey District (MHT # PG 61-20).

Description

Located at the North Farm of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC), the North Laboratory is one of five buildings that are sited along a curved drive (Circle Drive) facing southeast onto Baltimore-Washington Boulevard (Route 1). Formally positioned behind a large grassy lawn, this collection of buildings constitutes both the "front door" to the North Farm, and one of the most public faces of the entire BARC complex.

The North Laboratory and its twin, the South Laboratory (Building 001), flank the central connected buildings (Buildings 002, 003, 004). The building is a three-and-a-half story, brick, Georgian Revival structure with a slate roof and wood and stone detailing. It is a shallow H in plan with a gabled roof along the length of the front facade, and cross gables running along the sides of the building.

The front (east) elevation is a symmetrical composition. It is 16 bays long and is divided up into projecting three-bay end sections and a long recessed central ten-bay section in the center of the building. The major focus of the front facade is the central half-round projecting portico capped with a decorative metal rail. Windows throughout the building are replacement six-over-six, double-hung sash. All windows have stone sills.

At the first floor level, a flight of concrete steps with decorative wrought-iron railing leads to the portico and the building's main entrance. The main entrance doors are double half-glass doors with a metal grill in each window. The doors are topped with a transom embellished with decorative metal work. Flanking the doors and under the projecting portico are four-over-four, double-hung sash windows covered with a decorative metal grille. The windows at the first and second floor level, and at the third floor level at the end sections, have flat arches with stone keystones. At the second floor level the central bay of the building (above the entrance door) consists of paired four-over-four, double-hung sash. At the third floor level the fenestration pattern is uninterrupted and consists entirely of six-over-six, double-hung sash. Above the third floor is a denticulated wood cornice and the slate roof of the attic story. Four gabled dormers, located on the long central section of the facade, pierce the roof. Each has six-over-six, double-hung sash. On the end sections of the building, the attic area is embellished with stone ornamentation consisting of a central shield and attached swags. The central area of the shield is glass. To the sides of the ornamentation, stone trophies top the ends of the gabled section (above the quoining). Above the shield motif are paired brick chimneys with stone caps.

The basement level, which is only partially visible on this facade, follows the same fenestration pattern as the upper floors.

The north (or side) elevation of the building follows the general styling and fenestration of the front facade. It is eight bays wide with a gabled roof and has quoining around the corners of the building only. The entrance to this side of the building is located in the basement level. It consists of two half-glass doors surmounted by a glass transom with decorative metal grille. To either side of the door are pilasters and four-over-four, double-hung sash. A decorative lantern is positioned above the transom. Windows on the first and second floor level of this facade have flat arches with stone keystones. The attic story features three gabled dormers with six-over-six, double-hung sash. On the sides of the building above the quoining are stone trophies, and, at the ridge line, chimneys.

The south (or side) elevation of the building is divided into three sections: a central four-bay pedimented section and end sections each consisting of two bays. Quoining is used to demarcate the edges of the building and its pedimented section. The entrance to this side of the building is located at the first floor level. It is marked by a solid stone entrance piece which includes a pediment and cornice at the top and

has openings for the entrance and for the two four-over-four double-hung sash to either side of the entrance. The actual entrance, which is recessed, consists of two half-glass doors surmounted by a glass transom with decorative metal grille. Windows at the first and second floor level of this facade have flat arches with stone keystones. At the third floor level, only the windows in the central pedimented section are so ornamented. The attic story features three gabled dormers with six-over-six, double-hung sash. On the sides of the building above the quoining are stone trophies, and, at the ridge line chimneys.

The rear facade of the building is largely similar to the front facade. Here, however, the basement level is above grade and the entry is at the basement level. This entrance, which is less elaborate than the front entrance, consists of two half-glass doors surmounted by a glass transom with decorative metal grille. To either side of the door are pilasters and four-over-four, double-hung sash. A decorative lantern is positioned above the transom.

History and Significance

The North Laboratory (also known as Building B and Building No. 5) was one of four laboratory/offices constructed at the North Farm to replace existing structures located at the Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Plant Industry Arlington farm facility in Arlington, Virginia. Construction of the building began in 1941; it was completed in 1942.

In October 1933, the Bureau of Plant Industry purchased part of what is now the North Farm of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center and the site officially became known as the "U.S. Horticultural Field Station at Beltsville, Maryland." Initial development included constructing the first three buildings on the site, clearing the land, putting in utilities, and constructing roads and walks. A second group of buildings and improvements at the site were funded under 1938 appropriations.

A third major flurry of development on the North Farm came as a result of the closing of Arlington Station, which was the Bureau of Plant Industry's first experimental station, located in Arlington, Virginia. Pressure from the War Department to release the Arlington land had begun prior to the purchase of the North Farm; however, it increased dramatically as defense activities expanded in the late 1930s. After continual lobbying on the part of the Department of Agriculture for funds to move the Arlington facility, on October 9, 1940, an appropriation for \$3,200,000 in the Department of War's budget was approved for the operation. The appropriation was used for the acquisition of 606 acres of land (at the North, South, and Linkage Farms) and for the construction of 15 buildings (most on the North Farm) including the North Laboratory building.

The building, like the Administration Building, South Laboratory, and Soils Laboratory, were all constructed by the J.D. Hedin Construction Company, located on Michigan Avenue, N.E., in Washington, D.C. A contract for the construction of the building was signed with Hedin on June 27, 1941. The original contract price was \$585,000 for the construction of both the North and the South Laboratories.

As was true for most of the buildings constructed on the grounds of the Beltsville Research Center during this period, substantial work related to the building was completed by force account. In this case initial site preparation, grading, landscaping, walks, drainage, and utilities (on the exterior) and screens, blinds, painting, and the installation of lab equipment (on the interior) were not included in the contract. Total expenditures for the building were \$309,390.42; of this, the contract price amounted to \$287,888.45. The building was completed around October 1942 and occupied the same month.

Plans for the building are dated May 1941 and were drawn up by the USDA's Bureau of Agricultural

Engineering, Division of Plans and Service. During the mid-to-late 1930s the Division was designing literally dozens of buildings at one time for USDA facilities throughout the country. The Division was responsible for the design of most pre-1950 buildings at BARC. In addition to preparing plans for all buildings, the Division of Plans and Services also prepared specifications and cost estimates for all buildings.

Since its construction, Building 005 has been one of the major office/laboratory facilities on the North Farm. The first occupants of the building were the offices and laboratories of the Divisions of Soil Survey, Plant Exploration and Introduction, Forest Pathology, Dry Land Agriculture, Irrigation Agriculture, Mycology and Disease Survey, and part of the rubber investigations. In contrast to the building's twin (Building 001) more of the North Laboratory's space was devoted to office, rather than laboratory space.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 006	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: B-6
Building Name/Historic Name: Fruit Products Laboratory		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/1st Street		
Date of Construction/Source: 1935/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Offices and Laboratories		



Photo ID: Building 006, South and East Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

See Continuation Sheet

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC
Plans for Buildings at BARC (located at BARC Building 426).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Buildings 001-7, and Buildings 009-11 have been determined eligible for listing on the National Register as part of the [BARC] North Farm Survey District. (MHT # PG 61-20).

Name of Surveyor: C. Hooper	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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Description

The Fruit Products Laboratory is sited on the eastern part of the campus, behind the row of buildings that front on Route 1. It is a two-and-a-half-story, hipped-roof building of Georgian Revival styling. Of brick construction, the building has a slate roof and wood and stone detailing. The building is symmetrically organized on all facades. The plan of the rectangular building consists of a central corridor, with short corridors leading off from it to the northwest. Renovations to this building occurred between the years of 1986 and 1989.

The front (northeast) facade has a three-part composition and is nine bays wide. Stone quoining separates the two end bays from the central seven bays. With the exception of the single large window above the entrance on the second floor, windows throughout are replacement six-over-six, double-hung sash. Windows on the end bays are paired. Flat arches, that top the first floor windows, include stone keystones at the centers and, on the windows on the ends, also at the sides of the arch.

The major focus of the front facade at both the first and second floor level is the central bay, which is the site of an elaborate entrance feature. The entrance way consists of an Ionic portico supporting a small decorative metal balcony. On the plane of the building, a double door surmounted by a fanlight is flanked by quoining which stretches up to the balcony level. The quoining continues around the large eight-over-eight second floor window above the balcony. Above the second floor level, the building features a simple wood cornice. Above the cornice, three dormers pierce the large slate hipped roof. The gabled dormers feature round-headed windows with decorative leaded panes.

The largely identical side facades are five bays wide, with, as on the front, paired windows on the outside bays. Windows are all six-over-six, double-hung sash, again with flat arches on the first floor level. A single dormer, identical to the those on the front facade pierces the side facades. Because of the sloped elevation of the land, the basement level is evident on the northwest facade. Here, a stone water table separates the concrete basement level from the brick upper stories. This floor has three entrances and five bays. Double doors surmounted by a wide glass transom are located at the end bays and in the center of the building.

The rear (southwest) facade of the building is 11 bays wide. Like the front and side facades, the two end bays have paired windows. The entrance on this side of the building is located on the southern end. It consists of double half-glass doors surmounted by a glass transom. It, like the other windows on the first floor level is surmounted by a flat arch with a stone keystone. At the attic level, the rear facade, like the front facade, is pierced by three gable-roofed dormers. Part of the basement level is visible on this facade.

History and Significance

The Fruit Products Laboratory (also known as the West Building and Building No. 2) was one of the first three buildings constructed at the North Farm. The building was occupied in August 1935.

In October 1933, the Bureau of Plant Industry purchased part of what is now the North Farm of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center and the site officially became known as the "U.S. Horticultural Field Station at Beltsville, Maryland." Initial development included clearing the land, putting in utilities, and constructing roads and walks and constructing the first three buildings on the site, one of which was the Horticulture Laboratory. All of these improvements were funded using federal Depression-era programs, most notably Public Works Administration funds. Federal allocations for the Fruit Products laboratory came to \$139,500.

The building was constructed in part by the Laacchi Construction Company, Baltimore, Maryland, which also constructed one of the major laboratory buildings on the Central Farm. In addition to constructing the Main Nutrition Lab (Building 200) the company also constructed the nearby Small Animal Building.

Plans for the building were drawn up by the USDA's Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, Division of Plans and Service. During the mid to late 1930s the Division was designing literally dozens of buildings at one time for USDA facilities throughout the country. The Division was responsible for the design of most pre-1950 buildings at BARC. In addition to preparing plans for all buildings, the Division of Plans and Services also prepared specifications and cost estimates for all buildings. The Coordinator of the NARC Construction Program acted as a go-between between the Division of Plans and Services and the designated individuals from the Bureau who determined program and budget.

Building 006 was planned to provide space for the Potato Disease Division and the Fruit and Vegetable Section of the Bureau of Plant Industry.

The official description of the building supplied to secure funding states:

The building is to provide facilities for work in preservation of fruits and vegetables by canning, freezing, and drying, for the making of unfermented and fermented fruit juices, and laboratories for the fundamental physiological, biochemical, and microbiological investigations underlying and directing the practical and experimental work in the various phases of manufacture and utilization (NARA, RG 54, Entry 151A, Box 1).

Plans for the building indicate that there was originally intended to be research related to the production of alcohol conducted in the building. Numerous anecdotal sources have suggested that with the advent of prohibition it was decided that such research would be inappropriate in federal buildings. However, plans for the building date to 1934, the year after the repeal of prohibition--so although negative reaction to the federal government funding research related to alcohol production may have influenced changes to the design of the building, this was not a function of the legal mandates of prohibition.

The potato disease specialists moved into the building in the latter part of August 1935. The fruit and vegetable section began moving from Washington and Arlington Farm in September. Fruit and vegetable utilization staff did not occupy the buildings until mid-October.

Early on, the building was used in part by scientists working on research relating to light, the most notable of which was Dr. Harry Borthwick. One of the most innovative experiments in this area involved the setting up of a large prism in the basement of Building 006. With the incoming white light broken up into its component colors, plants were placed to catch the individual colors of lights. The results of their growth, fruiting, etc., were then compared.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER — BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 007	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: B-7
Building Name/Historic Name: Soils Building		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/South Drive and 1st Street		
Date of Construction/Source: 1942-1943/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Offices and Laboratories		



Photo ID: Building 007, East Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

See Continuation Sheet

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes X No ___

Retains Integrity: Yes X No ___

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Buildings 001-7, and Buildings 009-11 have been determined eligible for listing on the National Register as part of the [BARC] North Farm Survey District. (MHT # PG 61-20).

Name of Surveyor: C. Hooper	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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Description

The Soils Laboratory is sited on the eastern part of the campus, behind the row of buildings that front on Route 1. It is a three-and-a-half-story, gable-roof brick building. Of Georgian Revival styling, the building has a slate roof and wood and stone detailing. The building is symmetrically organized on all facades. The building was renovated in 1988, and again in 1993.

The 15 bay-wide front facade has a three-part composition consisting of three-bay wide pedimented end sections which bracket the long central section. Windows throughout are replacement six-over-six, double-hung sash with flat arches and keystones.

The two end sections and the center bay are the major decorative focuses of the front facade. The end sections feature three-story brick pilasters located between each bay and outlining the edges of the sections. The pediments of these sections feature a central round window outlined with stone with stone swags attached to either side. The central bay of at both the first and second floor level is the site of an elaborate entrance feature. The entrance way consists of an Ionic portico supporting a small decorative metal balcony. On the plane of the building facade, a double door surmounted by a fanlight is flanked by quoining which continues up to the balcony level. The quoining continues around the large eight-over-eight, second-floor window above the balcony. Above the second floor level, the building features a simple wood cornice. Above the cornice, three dormers pierce the large slate hipped roof. The gabled dormers feature round-headed windows with decorative leaded panes.

The largely identical side facades are five bays wide, with, as on the front, paired windows on the outside bays. Windows are all six-over-six, double-hung sash, again with flat arches on the first floor level. A single dormer, identical to the those on the front facade pierces the side facades. Because of the sloped elevation of the land, the basement level is evident on the northwest facade. Here, a stone water table separates the concrete basement level from the brick upper stories. This floor has three entrances and five bays. Double doors surmounted by a wide glass transom are located at the end bays and in the center of the building.

The rear (southwest) facade of the building is 11 bays wide. Like the front and side facades, the two end bays have paired windows. As on the sides, quoining is used only on the sides of the building. The entrance on this side of the building is located on the southern end. It consists of double half-glass doors surmounted by a glass transom. It like the other windows on the first floor level is surmounted by a flat arch with a stone keystone. At the attic level, the rear facade like the front is pierced by three gable-roofed dormers. Part of the basement level is visible on this facade.

History and Significance

The Soils Laboratory was one of four laboratory/offices constructed at the North Farm to replace existing structures located at the Department of Agriculture Bureau of Plant Industry's Arlington farm facility in Arlington, Virginia. Construction of the building was begun in 1942 and completed in 1943.

In October 1933, the Bureau of Plant Industry purchased part of what is now the North Farm of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, and the site officially became known as the "U.S. Horticultural Field Station at Beltsville, Maryland." Initial development included constructing the first three buildings on the site, clearing the land, putting in utilities, and constructing roads and walks. A second group of buildings and improvements at the site were funded under 1938 appropriations.

A third major flurry of development on the North Farm came as a result of the closing of Arlington

Station, which was the Bureau of Plant Industry's first major experimental station in the Washington area, located in Arlington, Virginia. Pressure from the War Department to release the Arlington land had begun prior to the purchase of the North Farm; however, it increased dramatically as defense activities expanded in the late 1930s. After continual lobbying on the part of the Department of Agriculture for funds to move the Arlington facility, on October 9, 1940, an appropriation for \$3,200,000 in the Department of War's budget was approved for the operation. The appropriation was used for the acquisition of 606 acres of land (at the North, South, and Linkage Farms) and for the construction of 15 buildings, most on the North Farm.

The building, like the Administration, and North and South Laboratories, was constructed by the J.D. Hedin Construction Company, located on Michigan Avenue, N.E., in Washington, D.C. Bids were issued in November 1941, and a \$384,400¹ contract for the construction of the building was awarded to Hedin on January 12, 1942. As was true on all of the buildings constructed on the grounds of the BRC during this period, substantial work related to the building was completed by force account. In this case all preliminary site work as well as grading, landscaping, walks, drainage, and utilities (on the exterior), and screens, blinds, painting, and the installation of auditorium and laboratory equipment (on the interior) were not included in the contract. The total cost for the project including these items was \$431,693.

Although the contract with Hedin called for completion within 320 calendar days, final acceptance of the building was not made until September 15, 1943. The building was occupied a few weeks before the date. Delays in completing the building were attributable both to labor troubles and to war-time shortages of materials.

Although original plans for the building have not been located, it is likely that they were drawn up by the USDA's Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, Division of Plans and Service. During the mid to late 1930s the Division was designing literally dozens of buildings at one time for USDA facilities throughout the country. The Division was responsible for the design of most pre-1950 buildings at BARC. In addition to preparing plans for all buildings, the Division of Plans and Services also prepared specifications and cost estimates.

¹This amount was later reduced to \$378,058.19 due to the necessity to substitute less expensive materials for other materials which were not available.

BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES

GENERAL

Building No.: 008	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: A,B-7
Building Name/Historic Name: AEC Greenhouse and Office		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/South Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1950/Photograph; NARA, RG 16G, Box 3		
Historic Use/Current Use: Greenhouse/Laboratory		



Photo ID: Building 008, East and North Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

Description

This is a one-story, rectangular, red brick laboratory or headhouse building with a raised basement and an attached greenhouse on the southwest elevation. It is of brick construction with a concrete foundation. Throughout the building are 12-pane metal windows with cement sills. The five-bay-wide front facade, which faces northeast, features a wooden door with nine panes of glass surmounted by a flat arch with a pronounced central keystone. A lunette with radial muntins is located over the arch. The building's double hipped roof has a cross gable with gable returns and a small vent in the gable area. There is no eave overhang. The roof is covered with slate shingles and there are various types of ventilators on the roof. There are gable dormers with two-over-two wood sashes on the side elevations. The attached greenhouse has a concrete foundation and glass panels with a gable roof. Copper gutters are present. The building is in excellent condition and continues to be used for research purposes.

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes ___ No ___

Retains Integrity: Yes X No ___

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and 54; Architectural Drawing Collection. Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: S. Foell

Affiliation: R&A

Date: February 1997

History and Significance

Building 008 was constructed in 1950 specifically to conduct plant research, most relating to nutrition, using radioisotopes. Much or all of the \$250,000 cost of the building was supplied by the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC).

In the late 1940s, the Bureau of Plant Industry had started to conduct research using nuclear materials. Some or all of this research was supervised by Dr. Lyman A. Dean. Then, in early 1949, an agreement was reached between the AEC and the USDA to conduct an extensive new program of research in a facility to be built by the AEC at Beltsville. All of the research to be conducted under the program in some way involved the effect of radioactive substances in the soil. The AEC was interested in learning more about how radioactive elements behave in the soil in order to come up with disposal methods for spent nuclear material. Plant researchers were interested in utilizing radioactive trace elements to show the mechanism by which different crop plants take up nutrients in different types of soil. In essence, using radioisotopes "tags" (such as radioactive phosphorus) that could be followed with Geiger counters as they are taken up and used by the plant.

Other areas of research which were to be conducted under the joint AEC-USDA program were:

1. The development of appropriate procedures for safe use of radioactive isotopes in soil and crop research.
2. Supplying fertilizers incorporating radioactive trace elements to other agricultural research agencies.
3. Developing a group of scientists at the USDA and at cooperating state agricultural stations skilled in using work with radioisotopes in soil and crop research.

The building was designed specifically for this use, and a number of aspects of its design reflect this. The basement apparently included a constant-environment growth room and a room called "the well" where large quantities of radioactive materials were handled. Access to and from this room involved going through two other areas where street clothes were removed, showers were taken, etc. The greenhouse was originally divided into three sections, which corresponded to the level of exposure to radioactivity. Double doors at the side permitted movement of materials between the sections and to the outside rather than through the center as is true in most greenhouses. Other design innovations that reflect the use of nuclear materials include large automatic blowers and specially designed sinks which piped contaminated wastes into a special container. Long-handled tools, lead shields, and other specialized equipment were used by the researchers in handling the "hot" items.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER — BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 009	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: B-7
Building Name/Historic Name: Range 3		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/Range 3 Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: c. 1941/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Research Laboratories/Greenhouses		



Photo ID: Building 009, East and North Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

See Continuation Sheet

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes ___ No ___

Retains Integrity: Yes X No ___

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC.
Plans for Buildings at BARC (located at BARC Building 426).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Buildings 001-7, and Buildings 009-11 have been determined eligible for listing on the National Register as part of the [BARC] North Farm Survey District. (MHT # PG 61-20).

Name of Surveyor: Carol Hooper

Affiliation: R&A

Date: February 1997

Description

Range 3 consists of a long horizontal headhouse and six greenhouses attached at right angles to the headhouse. The front of the building faces northeast onto Range 3 Drive. Because of its sloped site, and to prevent shading of the greenhouses, the building is stepped to follow the contours of the topography. The one-and-one-half story Georgian Revival headhouse is of concrete block construction with brick veneer walls and concrete foundations. All downspouts and gutters are copper, and the roof throughout is of slate. Decorative detailing is of limestone, with the exception of windowsills and interior door lintels, which are of cast stone.

The 390-foot-long and 26-foot-wide Range 3 Headhouse is separated into six stepped sections, each of which leads to a separate greenhouse. With the exception of the eastern-most section, each of the six sections of the headhouse are nearly identical. Each of these sections of the headhouse has six bays, with four windows to the east side, then a door, and a single window to the west. This portion of the building has a gabled roof with dormers located over the first and third windows of each section and over the door. The small gabled dormers feature two-over-two, double-hung windows. The entrances in this section of the building have simple flat arches with decorative limestone keystones. The steel casement-style windows used here and throughout the building consist of twelve panes, the central four of which pivot open from the top. The building has half-glass doors with two vertical panels below and nine panes above. The slightly more elaborate east end section of the building is developed as a separate pavilion with a hipped roof and a central, projecting gabled section. The central projecting section of this unit has a single half-round lunette outlined with stone centered above the door. This pavilion is clearly modeled after the pavilion at the east end of Building 011. The west end of the east section is identical to the middle sections. The side elevations of the two end sections of the headhouse are simpler, but largely similar to the front facades. The visible portion of the rear facade of the headhouse is stucco.

Each of the six greenhouses is 260 feet long and 40 feet wide. The greenhouses are attached to the headhouse at a 90-degree angle. A central seven-foot ramp connects the houses. The greenhouses are of the "half-metal" type of frame construction. All rafters, doors, frames, sash, ridges, etc., used in the buildings are of heart cypress, while trusses and all other fittings are of galvanized steel. The gabled roof structures consist of rectangular 16-inch by 24-inch double-strength sash panels. Panels on the side walls and the ridge open for ventilation.

Alterations to the headhouse have been minor and appear to be reversible. They consist in general of the insertion of a number of window-unit air conditioners, security lights at the entrances, and assorted vents which penetrate the roof. On the interior, greenhouses have been altered by the introduction of various modern mechanical systems including air-conditioning units and various revamped heating systems. Certain portions of the interior of the headhouses, such as those that house laboratory facilities, have been significantly altered over time.

Significance and History

Range 3 was constructed to replace existing greenhouses located at the USDA's Arlington farm facility in Arlington, Virginia. An innovative feature of the building is the provision made for controlled temperature rooms, located in the basement section of Greenhouse 1.

In October 1933, the Bureau of Plant Industry purchased part of what is now the North Farm with Public Works Administration funds. At that time the site officially became the "U.S. Horticultural Field Station at Beltsville, Maryland." In addition to paying for the acquisition of the land, PWA funds for that year and the next few years were used for constructing the first buildings on the site and to clear the land, put

in utilities, and construct roads and walks. Among the first buildings to be constructed was the Range 1 greenhouses and headhouse. These greenhouses were to become the model, in terms of design and layout, for all other greenhouses on the site, including the Range 3 group.

Another major flurry of development on the North Farm came as a result of the closing of Arlington Station, which was the Bureau of Plant Industry's first experimental station. Pressure to release the Arlington land had begun prior to the purchase of the North Farm; however, it increased dramatically as defense activities expanded in the late 1930s and the Department of Defense increased pressure on USDA to release the site. After continual lobbying on the part of the USDA for funds to move the Arlington facility, on October 9, 1940, an appropriation in the Department of War's budget was approved for the operation. The appropriation was used for the acquisition of 606 acres of land (at the North, South, and Linkage Farms) and for construction of 15 buildings, most on the North Farm.

The Range 3 building was part of this "Arlington Farm" wave of construction at the Plant Industry Station. It, along with the North and South Laboratories (Buildings 001 and 005), the Administration Building (Building 003), and the Soils Building (Building 007), were all completed around 1943.

Plans for the building were drawn up by the USDA's Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, Division of Plans and Service, and approved in April 1941. The Division of Plans and Services was the USDA's in-house design office and was responsible for the design of virtually most major buildings at Beltsville. They also designed USDA buildings throughout the country, including the USDA's four regional laboratories.

Contracts for a total of \$302,118.39 were let for the greenhouses and headhouse. Funding came from the \$3,200,000 federal appropriation to move the Arlington Farms facilities. The general contractor for the building was the C.M.H. Construction Company of Washington, DC. Lord and Burnham of Irvington, New York, were the contractors for the superstructure of the six greenhouses.

Lord and Burnham was a greenhouse manufacturing firm founded in 1857. With factories in New York, Illinois, and Ontario, Lord and Burnham catered to large growers throughout the United States and Canada. Their brochure emphasized progressive line production, to foster accuracy and high quality construction.

Work on the foundations for the greenhouses and the headhouse started in April 1941. Construction of the greenhouses especially lagged due to the difficulty in obtaining scarce war-time materials. In particular, the 80 tons of galvanized steel required for the greenhouse construction was hard to obtain. Although Greenhouse 5 was occupied in November 1941, final payment for the project was not made until February 1943.

One of the innovative features of the building was the provision made for controlled temperature rooms which permitted study of plants under very exacting temperature parameters. The basement section of Greenhouse #1 was equipped with 23 insulated rooms. These rooms had floors, walls, and ceilings that were insulated with cork and outfitted with refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment. The design permitted the obtaining of low to medium temperatures. These basement rooms were accessible both directly from the outdoors (for the loading and unloading of material and supplies) and by elevator from the greenhouses. The cost of outfitting these rooms was roughly \$1000 per room.

Since its construction, the building has been in continuous use as experimental greenhouses and associated laboratory, office, and potting space. Research in the building has related to forage crops, tobacco, sugar crops, and alfalfa.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 010	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: B-5,6
Building Name/Historic Name: Range 2		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/Range 2 Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1939/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Research Laboratories/Greenhouses		



Photo ID: Building 010, East and North Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

See Continuation Sheet

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes ___ No ___

Retains Integrity: Yes X No ___

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Buildings 001-7, and Buildings 009-11 have been determined eligible for listing on the National Register as part of the [BARC] North Farm Survey District. (MHT # PG 61-20).

Name of Surveyor: Carol Hooper	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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Description

Range 2 consists of a long horizontal headhouse with associated greenhouses. Originally, five greenhouses were attached at right angles to the rear of the headhouse, and a palmhouse and a large free-standing greenhouse of a more decorative design was linked to its east side. The five greenhouse structures were demolished in 1994 and new greenhouses were built on their site. The Palmhouse was demolished at the same time but was not replaced.

The front of Range 2 faces northeast onto Range 2 Drive. Because of its sloped site, and to avoid shading the greenhouses, the headhouse is stepped to follow the contours of the topography. The one-and-one-half story, Georgian Revival building is of concrete block construction with brick veneer walls and concrete foundations. All downspouts and gutters are copper, and the roof throughout is of slate. Decorative detailing is limestone, with the exception of windowsills and interior door lintels, which are of cast stone.

The Range 2 headhouse is 323 feet long and 30 feet wide. The building is separated into five stepped sections, each of which originally led to a separate greenhouse. All five of the sections feature steel casement-style windows consisting of 12 panes, the central four of which pivot from the top. Doors throughout the building are half-glass with two vertical panels below and nine panes above.

The center three sections of the headhouse are largely identical. Each consists of five bays, with three windows to the east side, then a door, and a single window to the west. Downspouts located between the second and third windows and after the west window subdivide the stepped units into equal sections. This central portion of the building has a gabled roof with dormers located between the first and second windows and over the door. The small shed-type dormers have a hinged window with three fixed panes. Entrances to the building (one leading into each greenhouse) have simple hoods with supporting decorative brackets.

The slightly more elaborate end sections of the headhouse frame the central section. The east end is developed as a separate pavilion with a hipped roof and a central, projecting gabled section. This projecting section has stone quoining with keystones above the door, and a single round ventilator with decorative stone work matching the quoining. This pavilion is identical to that at the east end of Building 011. The west section is longer than the others and includes a section similar to the three middle sections with a pavilion identical to the east pavilion at its end. The side elevations of the two end sections are simpler but largely similar to the front facades. The visible section of the rear facade of the building is stucco. Although originally the rear consisted largely of greenhouses, replacement greenhouses have recently been constructed.

The major alteration to the building was the demolition of the greenhouses and of the Palm House. The greenhouses were gable-roofed with eaves of the "angle iron" type. Roughly 40 feet by 308 feet, they were of galvanized steel construction with wood moldings, sash, and doors. The greenhouses' glass panels were 16 inches by 24 inches. Each had vent sash at the ridge (gable) and on the sides at the eave line of the building. The greenhouses have been replaced.

The Palmhouse was a more ornate structure. Roughly 39 feet wide and 357 feet long, it had curved eaves that resembled an onion dome shape. The central sections of the front and rear facades were designed to project slightly and thus provided a more decorative treatment for these facades. An entrance vestibule was located on the east side of the building. (Secondary entrances were located on the north and south sides of the building.)

Aside from the demolition of the greenhouses, alterations to the rest of the building have been minor. They consist in general of the insertion of a number of window-unit air conditioners, security lights at the entrances, and assorted vents which penetrate the roof surface.

History and Significance

Range 2 was one of the first handful of buildings constructed at what was then known as the Plant Industry Station. It was constructed to replace greenhouses located on the National Mall in Washington, DC. Since 1939, it has been in continuous use as laboratories, offices, and potting space supporting plant research. When the building was constructed, its greenhouses (as stated above, no longer standing) employed a number of innovative improvements, including basement sections that provided constant temperature and light relation rooms. The size of the greenhouses was also important; they were large enough to permit scientists to conduct statistically valid experiments using Latin squares. In later years the greenhouses and headhouse served as the site of important research in the field of nematology.

In October 1933, the Bureau of Plant Industry purchased part of the current North Farm with Public Works Administration funds. At that time the site officially became the "U.S. Horticultural Field Station at Beltsville, Maryland." In addition to paying for the acquisition of the land, PWA funds for that year and the next few years were used for constructing the first buildings on the site and to clear the land, put in utilities, and construct roads and walks. Among the first buildings to be constructed was Range 1. Its greenhouses were to become the model, in terms of design and layout, for all other greenhouses on the site, including the Range 2 group.

Range 2 was specifically built to replace a range of greenhouses located on Constitution Avenue between 12th and 14th Streets in Washington (now the site of the Smithsonian Museum of American History). Although there was no specific reason that the greenhouses had to be moved at the time (i.e., there were no specific construction plans for the site), it was a period when many of the operations of the Bureau of Plant Industry were being consolidated to the Beltsville site. The official rationale for the move was that by having adequate greenhouse space adjacent to outdoor areas, plants could be moved efficiently from one to the other thereby dramatically increasing productivity. It also seems likely that the Bureau took advantage of the opportunity to get easily available PWA and CWA funding for a project that it had likely planned for some time.

Range 2 was part of the second wave of construction at the Plant Industry Station. It, along with the Heating Plant (Building 014) and the Cold Storage Building (Building 002), was completed around 1939 using PWA and CWA funds.

Plans for the building were drawn up by the USDA's Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, Division of Plans and Service, and approved in October 1938. The Division of Plans and Services was the USDA's in-house design office and was responsible for the design of most major buildings at Beltsville. They also designed USDA buildings throughout the country, including the USDA's four regional labs.

Bids were opened in November of that year and contracts for a total of \$169,213 were awarded soon after. Contractor for the headhouses and structure was Victor R. Beauchamp, Inc. of Crittenden Street in Washington.

The contractor for the original greenhouses and palm house was American-Moninger Greenhouse Manufacturing Corporation, located in Brooklyn, New York. American-Moninger Greenhouse Manufacturing Corporation was a successor organization to American Greenhouse Manufacturing Company. American-Moninger advertised itself as a leader in its field, responsible for a number of innovations including the "first and only drip proof and leak proof gutter" and the first to advocate standard sizes for benches, houses, and standard slopes for greenhouse roofs. In addition to Range 2, the company also designed and built greenhouses at the USDA's U.S. Plant Introduction Station in nearby Glenn Dale, MD and designed and built the U.S. Botanic Gardens greenhouse located on the National Mall in Washington, DC. Their circa 1928 brochure suggests that in addition they designed facilities at "various experimental stations."

The greenhouses included a number of unique design features. Particularly innovative were the basement sections which provided constant temperature and light relation rooms. Also innovative for the date was the widespread use of unit heaters. A total of 53 unit heaters were installed in the range. These were used in coordination with manually controlled pipe coils located on the side walls of each section. The later were used to maintain a "base" temperature while the unit heaters were thermostatically controlled to compensate for fluctuations in temperature. This system allowed (for the time) unusually close control of temperature in the greenhouses. The use of unit heaters at the site was undoubtedly linked to experimental work done earlier on the heaters at facilities at the Bureau of Plant Industry's original research facility at Arlington.

Perhaps the most important innovation connected with the greenhouses was simply their size. According to one source, these were the first greenhouses designed in units large enough to permit "the laying out of Latin squares on roses, carnations, tomatoes, cucumbers, or other forcing crops (RG 54, Entry 135B)." By having enough space to grow large numbers of these plants, results obtained from experiments could be statistically valid.

When constructed, the Range 2 greenhouses were set aside for "breeding, cultural, nutrition, variety and other lines of work." Some 47 people were transferred to the North Farm with the completion of the new greenhouses.

By the early 1950s, the building was used for nematology research. Beltsville has been called the "cosmic center" for the study of nematodes (or eelworms), which are parasitic unsegmented worms that live in soil, water or plants. Nematodes are a concern to plant scientists because they often infest plants or are associated with plant disease. Over the years, USDA researchers have led the field in developing control methods for nematodes. In the 1960s, the Range was the location of the North Farm's cafeteria.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 011	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: B-5,6, C-6
Building Name/Historic Name: Range 1		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/North Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1935/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Research Laboratories/Greenhouses		

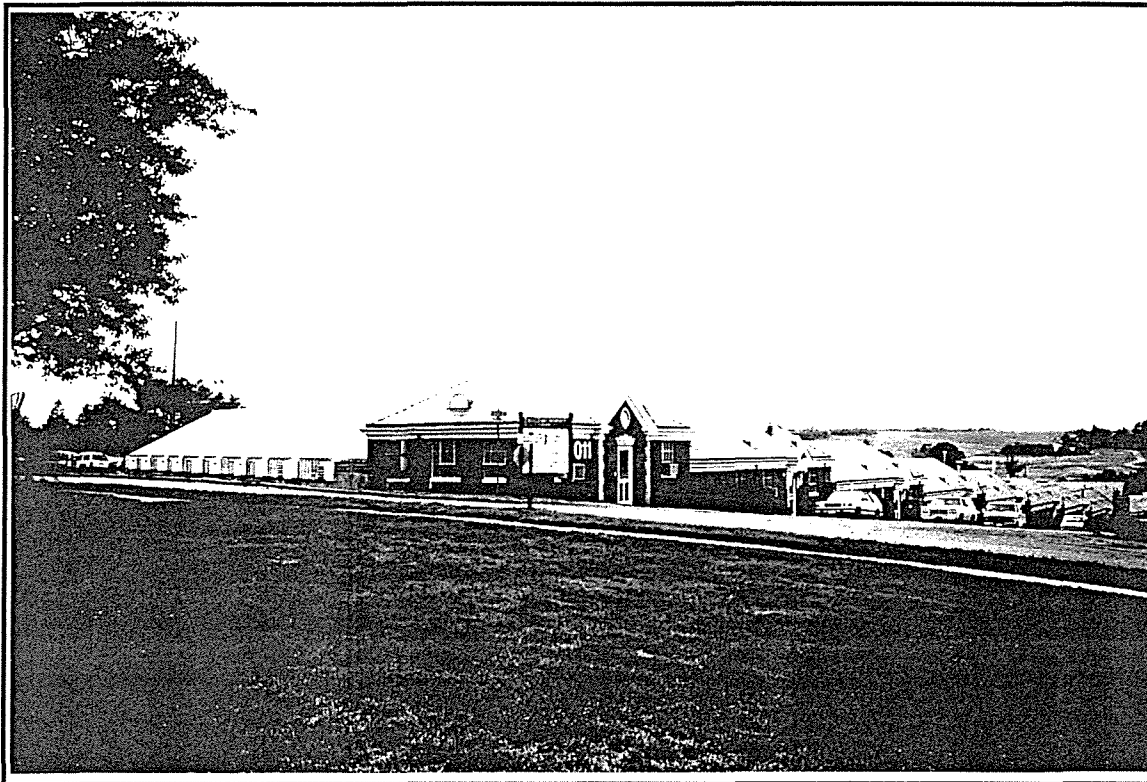


Photo ID: Building 011, North Facade, 6/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

See Continuation Sheet

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes ___ No ___

Retains Integrity: Yes X No ___

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Buildings 001-7, and Buildings 009-11 have been determined eligible for listing on the National Register as part of the [BARC] North Farm Survey District. (MHT # PG 61-20).

Name of Surveyor: Carol Hooper

Affiliation: R&A

Date: June 10, 1997

Description

Range 1 consists of two adjacent buildings each consisting of a long horizontal headhouse with multiple attached greenhouses. The buildings are sited on a sloped area, and both are stepped to both avoid shading the greenhouses and to follow the contours of the topography. The two buildings are not generally referred to individually; instead, reference is made to specific greenhouses or headhouses in each building. Thus the more easterly building is known as Headhouses (and Greenhouses) 1-8 and the more westerly building is generally referred to as Headhouses 9-19 and Greenhouses 9-11 and 14-18 (see site plan).

Each of the buildings has a similar configuration, consisting of a one-and-one-half story brick headhouse which faces North Drive, and multiple single-story greenhouses, attached either at right angles (in the case of the west building) or at more acute angles (for the east building) to the rear of the headhouse.

The two headhouses, although not constructed at the same time, were designed to be virtually identical on the front (main) facade. Both buildings use the same Georgian Revival decorative motifs and the same materials including brick veneer walls (over concrete-block construction), concrete foundations, copper downspouts and gutters, slate roofs, and metal windows. Windows and doors are also consistent for the two buildings. The casement-style windows consist of 12 panes, the central four of which pivot from the top. Doors are half-glass with a single wood panel below and nine panes above. The ventilators/dormers on both buildings are half round.

Completed in 1934, the east building incorporating Headhouses 1-8 is 528 feet long and 30 feet wide. It is separated into eight stepped sections, each of which leads to separate greenhouses. With the exception of the two end sections, each of the sections was originally identical. Each of the middle six sections of the building has five bays, with three windows to the east side, then a door, and a single window to the west. Downspouts located between the second and third bays and after the fifth bay subdivide the units into equal sections. This central portion of the building has a gabled roof with dormers/ventilators located over the first, third, and fifth bays of each section. The entrances to the building in this section have projecting pediments with supporting decorative brackets.

The slightly more elaborate end sections of the building frame the central section. The east end is developed as a separate pavilion with a hipped roof and a central, projecting gabled section. Its central projecting section has stone quoining with stone keystones above the door, and a single round ventilator delineated with stone to match the quoining. The west section is longer than the other sections and includes a section similar to the six middle sections and a pavilion constructed as the powerhouse at its end. The powerhouse section has a cross gable and three bays, all of which are windows. Decorative stone is also used for quoining at the flat arch above the windows and surrounding the single round ventilator that is centered in the middle of the section of the building. The window openings in this section are longer than those on the rest of the facade; they originally consist of 24 panes in a fixed metal window, but are now filled in with brick. The side elevations of the two end sections are simpler but largely similar to the front facade.

The visible section of the rear facade of the building consists almost exclusively of the greenhouses. Each greenhouse is roughly 125 feet long and 35 ½ feet wide with eaves roughly six feet above the floor of the house. The houses are attached to the headhouses at a 60-degree angle. The greenhouses are of the half-iron type of frame construction -- meaning all doors, frames, sash, sills, ridges, etc. used in the building are of tidewater red cypress, while all other fittings are of galvanized metal. The buildings are gabled roofed with eaves, of the angle iron type. Glass is double-strength A-quality glass cut in 16-inch by 24-inch panels. Panels on the side walls and the ridge open for ventilation. These sash are operated

by an arm-and-rod type of vent gear with a hand wheel.

Alterations to the east section of Range 1 are, in general, fairly minor. They consist of the insertion of a number of window-unit air conditioners, security lights at the entrances, the filling in of the dormers/vents, and a few patches in the brick where alterations (or other openings) have been filled. The most severe example of this is the filling in of the window openings in the powerhouse. The greenhouses have been altered by the introduction of various modern mechanical systems including air conditioning units and various revamped heating systems. Certain portions of the headhouses, such as those that house laboratory facilities, have been significantly altered over time.

Headhouses 9-19, which constituted the west building, were completed in sections between the 1930s and 1960s. For the most part, each section was designed to match the others and to match the east section of the Range. The headhouse is 672 feet long and 22 feet wide (in some sections 27 feet wide). It is separated into six stepped sections of unequal lengths. There are ten greenhouses attached to the headhouse, which are often referred to as headhouses 9-19. Because this building has been constructed in such a disparate fashion, a number of the sections differ in, for instance, the appearance of the brick. The east end of the building consists of a pavilion with a central projecting cross-gabled section. The middle sections of the building have a varying number of bays. Each, however, is subdivided by downspouts. This central portion of the building has a gable roof with dormers/ventilators located over (usually) the first, third, and fifth bays of each section. The entrances to the building in this center section have projecting pediments with supporting decorative brackets.

Both ends of the rear facade of the building consist largely of greenhouses. The greenhouses, because they were built at a variety of times, vary in their length and width (they average approximately 120 feet long and 35 feet wide). The greenhouses are attached to the headhouses at a 90-degree angle. Doors, frames, sash, sills, etc., used in the greenhouses are of wood, while other fittings are of galvanized metal. All have gable roofs and panels on the side walls and ridge that open for ventilation. These sash are operated by an arm-and-rod type of vent gear with a hand wheel. Each greenhouse is separated into three or four segments of varying lengths.

Because of its extended period of construction, Headhouses 9-19 vary in a number of details, although the basic materials and Georgian Revival stylistic vocabulary are consistent throughout. In some cases, it is impossible to determine whether variations represent subsequent alterations or minor differences in the original construction. For instance, it is not clear whether Headhouse 12 is missing its entrance gable or whether it was constructed without one. Similarly, variations in windows could be attributable to either cause. For the most part the windows are similar to those used in Headhouses 1-8, i.e., metal 12-pane windows the central four of which pivot open from the top. In Headhouses 11 and 12, the windows change to six-pane windows, the lower two of which pivot upward. Headhouse 16 employs bronze glass Pela-type replacement windows. At Headhouse 17, the windows consist of three horizontal sections, the lowest of which pivots open. At Headhouse 19, the windows are vertical six-pane units in which the bottom two panes pivot open.

The most significant clearly original difference between sections of the building relates to brick. The brick used for part of Headhouse 16 and for Headhouses 17A and 18 differs significantly from that used in the other sections of the building.

Greenhouses have been altered by the introduction of various modern mechanical systems including air-conditioning units and various revamped heating systems. Certain portions of the headhouses, such as those that house laboratory facilities, have been significantly altered over time.

History and Significance

Range 1 was one of the first two major buildings constructed at the Plant Industry Station. Since 1934, it has been in continuous use for plant experimentation. As such, it has served as the site of important experiments relating to fruits and vegetables, in particular, potatoes, tomatoes, and, currently, citrus fruit.

Plans for Range 1, Headhouses 1-8, were drawn up by the USDA's Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, Division of Plans and Service, and signed off on by December 1933. The Division of Plans and Services was the USDA's in-house design office and was responsible for the design of most major buildings at Beltsville. They also designed USDA buildings throughout the country, including the USDA's four regional labs. A total of \$124,833.57 was spent on the greenhouses with funding coming from the PWA. The building was completed by 1935. It was to become the model for later greenhouses on the site. Although very little information about the building and its construction has been uncovered, one particularly unusual aspect of its design is the angled layout of the greenhouses. This likely was done as a way of maximizing light coming into the greenhouses, but is rarely used in greenhouse design. It is interesting to note that this was one of the few aspects of the Range 1 design that were not copied in the Range 2 and Range 3 designs.

The west half of the range was completed in segments spanning over 30 years. Certain greenhouses in the west half of Range 1 were completed by 1933, but it seems likely that these were greenhouses that were later replaced. The two hotbeds, six cold frames, a tomato seed house and a sash storage house completed in 1933 with PWA funds, however, likely included some of the cold frames currently associated with the building. Photographs taken around 1938 show a number of freestanding greenhouses; none of these appear to correspond to existing greenhouses. The first of the existing greenhouses and headhouses -- Headhouses 14, 15, and, possibly part of 16 -- were constructed around 1937. It appears that Headhouses 9 and 10 (Greenhouses 9-12) were constructed between 1937 and 1939 and Greenhouse and Headhouses 15 and 17 likely were completed in 1939. The other headhouses were completed between 1957 and 1967 in a number of sections.

Since their construction, Range 1 has been used largely for fruit and vegetable research. The older section of Range 1, however, was also used for significant work, conducted by Dr. Harry Borthwick, on photoperiod. Dr. Borthwick was an early pioneer in research related to photoperiod and phytochrome. Today, the east section of Range 1 is being used mostly for citrus research. (It was formerly used for apple, bean, potato, and tomato research.) The west section is currently used for potato, soybean, and alfalfa research.

BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES

GENERAL

Building No.: 012	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: A-5
Building Name/Historic Name: Farm Service Building A/Headquarters Service Building		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/Range 2 Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1939/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Service Building		



Photo ID: Building 012, East and North Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

Building 012 is a large one-and-one-half story brick storage/service building constructed in an open-air courtyard arrangement. Building 012 faces northeast onto Range 2 Drive and has vehicular access to the interior courtyard from the southeast. The rectangular building has a long (20-bay) front (northeast) facade that features a central gabled pavilion with a central bullseye window. The building's hipped roof has shingle roofing and hipped dormers. The building has recently been stuccoed, painted, and given metal replacement windows. (They consist of a fixed upper section and a lower pane that pivots.) The central courtyard provides parking and additional service entrances for the building. The building is in good condition. The building was constructed in two pieces. Farm Service Building C, a small section of the building was completed in 1938. Farm Service Building A, the rest of the building, was constructed in 1941.

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes ___ No ___

Retains Integrity: Yes X No ___

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: Carol Hooper	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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History and Significance

In 1938, two new service buildings, Building 012 and the central heating plant, were planned for an area close to the main part of the North Farm. Both buildings were needed to provide services for existing and planned structures and personnel located in the area close to Route 1. The placement of the buildings was informed to some degree by Malcolm Kirkpatrick's 1938 master plan of a portion of the North Farm. The master plan called for the two buildings to be located immediately adjacent to the Range 2 greenhouses, and envisioned the service building as C-shaped in footprint, with a reversed C opposite that contained the heating plant. Kirkpatrick's aim was clearly to set up a separate, though integrated, area for service functions. Although the two buildings were actually constructed slightly farther away from Range 2 than appears in the plan, and the service building itself assumed more of the shape planned for the combination of the two buildings, the spatial relationship between the two buildings is more or less as it appears in the plan.

The original section of Building 012 dates to 1939. It was part of the second wave of construction at the Bureau of Plant Industry site, with funding coming from a combination of PWA, WPA, and Bureau of Plant Industry monies. It, along with the first section of Building 29A, were constructed at a total cost of \$12,666.98.

The rest of Building 012 dates to 1942. The money for what was called Service Building "C" came from the Arlington Relocation monies. The cost was \$39,055.48. Plans for both the original portion of the building and for the addition were executed by the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering.

Once constructed, the building was used to house a number of service functions. Historically the main function of "the bull pen" (as it was referred to) was to house vehicles. In addition, the building has housed the mail distribution facilities for the area. It also has housed space related to sugar beet investigations, a photo lab, electric and refrigeration shops, and a typewriter repair shop.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 013	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: A-5
Building Name/Historic Name: Mechanical Shop		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/5th Street		
Date of Construction/Source: Post-1943/NARA Photographs		
Historic Use/Current Use: Service		

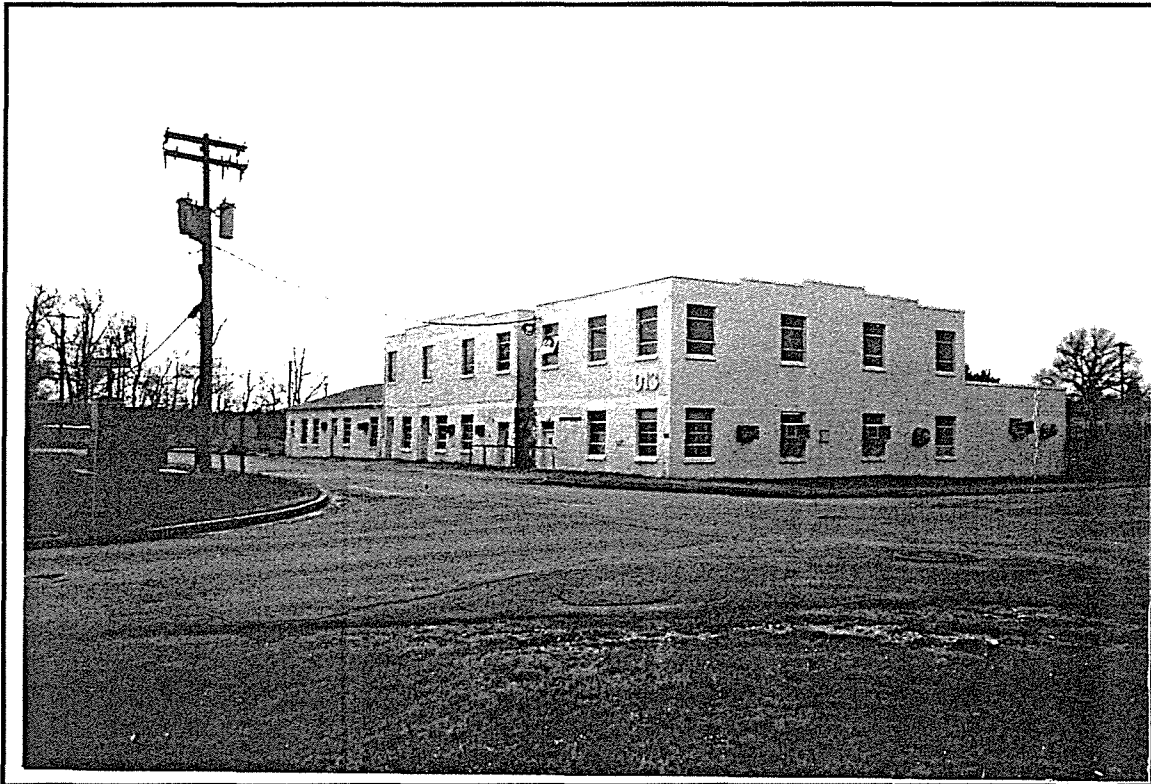


Photo ID: Building 013, East and North Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

Building 013 consists of two separate (though adjacent) utilitarian, two-story painted concrete-block and brick buildings that together form an L-shaped shop area.

One section of the building faces north. Its four-bay-wide front facade has brick facing and a flat roof with a stepped parapet. Window openings have flat arches and the metal windows themselves consist of four horizontal panes, the two center panes of which pivot. The rear and side facades of the building are of painted concrete block. There is a one-story concrete block addition to the west. The rear features a roll-type garage door at the second-story level. Both buildings are in fair condition.

The other section of the building is located roughly three feet from the first, and faces southeast onto 5th Street. It is a rectangular building of painted concrete block construction. The building's metal windows consist of four horizontal panes, the two center panes of which pivot. A long narrow addition has been added to the south end of the building. The rear elevation features two roll-type garage doors at the first-floor level and one at the second-story level.

Little information is available about the early uses of these buildings, which are today used for mechanical shops. Because the buildings do not appear on a detailed 1942 site plan or a 1943 aerial photograph, it is likely that they were constructed on the site after that date. In 1957, the building housed the carpenter shop, paint shop, plumbing shop, and shop office. After 1960, an addition to the building was constructed, and the refrigeration and electric shops were moved from Building 012 to Building 013. The buildings have most recently been used for mechanical and electrical shops and it is likely that this also is their original purpose. They are sited in close proximity to Building 012, the Headquarters Service Building, thus their location would appear to be an attempt to loosely group the service buildings that need to be located close to the greenhouses/headquarters area. The building dates from the period of significance and advanced the research mission of the Bureau of Plant Industry. Therefore, it is considered a contributing feature of the larger potential historic district at BARC.

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
 Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: Carol Hooper	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 013A	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: A-5
Building Name/Historic Name: Storage Building for Mechanical Shops		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/North Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: c. 1934		
Historic Use/Current Use: Storage		

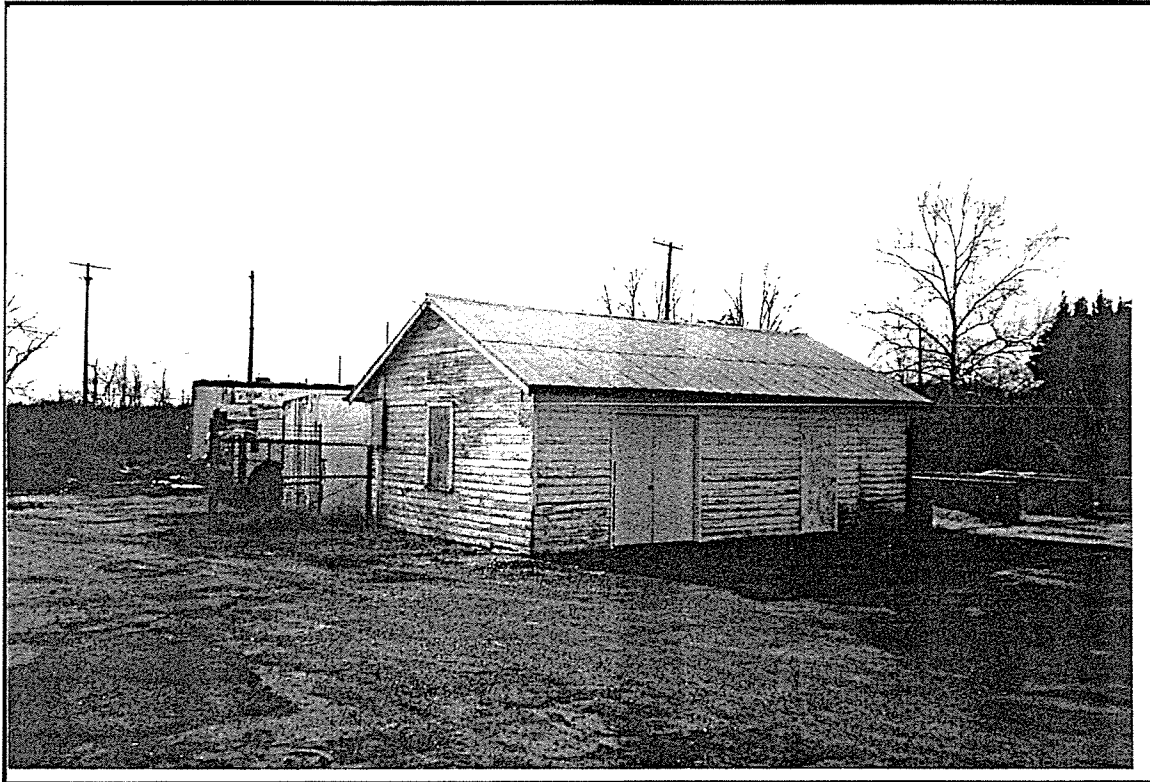


Photo ID: Building 013A, East and North Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This small, rectangular, storage building is located behind Building 013. Its front facade faces north onto North Drive. The wood building has a gable roof with standing-seam metal covering. It has horizontal wood siding, and concrete floors and foundations. The building is two bays wide and one bay deep. The front of the building features two openings, two double doors on the south side and a single entrance to the north. (The former has recently been enlarged from a single door.) The windows in the building have been boarded up but otherwise the building is in good condition.

The building's materials and construction are similar to buildings constructed on the North Farm in the mid 1930s. However, the building does not appear on a detailed 1943 site plan of this area. An oral history source verifies that the building was moved to its current location after 1960, when a concrete floor was added. The building was used for material storage for the electric/refrigeration shops and the plumbing shop. Because the building dates from the period of significance, it is a contributing feature to the larger potential district at BARC.

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
 Yes X No

Retains Integrity: Yes X No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC; Ongoing oral history interviews with Preston Enzo, former BARC employee

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: Carol Hooper	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 014	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: A-5,6
Building Name/Historic Name: Central Heating Plant		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/Range 3 Drive and 4th Street		
Date of Construction/Source: 1939/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Utilities		



Photo ID: Building 014, East and South Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

See Continuation Sheet

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District

Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: Carol Hooper	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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Description

Building 014 is a two-story brick powerplant with concrete details and base. Unlike the other buildings on the North Farm from this era (all of which have Georgian Revival details), the decorative elements of this building show some influence of the Modern movement in its style.

The building is largely T-shaped in massing. The most dramatic feature of the building, and the one that most conveys the Modern feeling is the strongly vertical front (east) facade (the top of the "T") that originally provided support for the very prominent, tall smokestack. This front tower section is embellished on the south side with an elliptical-headed vertical window grouping consisting of one 45-sash window and a smaller 12-pane window above. The window is framed by brick buttresses with stone detailing.

Buttresses are located on the long lower section of the building (the stem of the "T"), interspersed with a series of long elliptical-headed window groupings. (Windows throughout the building consist of industrial metal sash which have central sections that pivot upward.) Stone keystones cap the arched openings. Entrances (including loading docks) are located on the sides of building. On the south facade of the building is a lower one-story section which appears to be an addition.

Major alterations to the building include the adding on of 40 feet to the length of the building and the removal of the tall smokestack. Otherwise, the building is relatively unaltered.

History and Significance

In 1938, two new service buildings, the central heating plant and Building 012, were planned for an area close to the main part of the North Farm. Both buildings were needed to provide services for existing and planned structures and personnel located in the area close to Route 1. The placement of the buildings was informed to some degree by Malcolm Kirkpatrick's 1938 master plan of a portion of the North Farm. The master plan called for the two buildings to be located immediately adjacent to the Range 2 Greenhouses, and envisioned the service building as C-shaped in footprint, with a reversed C opposite that contained the heating plant. Kirkpatrick's aim was clearly to set up a separate, though integrated, area for service functions. Although the two buildings were actually constructed slightly farther away from Range 2 than appears in the plan, and the service building itself assumed more of the shape planned for the combination of the two buildings, the spatial relationship between the two buildings is more or less as it appears in the plan.

The original section of the Central Heating Plant was completed in 1939. Funding for the building, which cost \$146,980, came from PWA and WPA sources. Within a few years, an addition to the building and replacement of some of the equipment inside the building became necessary as a result of the relocation of the Arlington facilities.

A contract was signed with the Norair Engineering Corporation on October 22, 1941, and work started soon thereafter. Due to war-time shortages, the contractor experienced difficulties in securing some of the materials needed for the building. This resulted in delays in completing the building, which was not in use until December 1943. The addition to the building was constructed at a cost of \$128,730. Funding for the expansion came from the Arlington relocation appropriation.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 016	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: A-7
Building Name/Historic Name: Ramsburg House		
Farm Area/Street Address: North Farm		
Date of Construction/Source: pre-1935/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Residence		



Photo ID: Building 016, North and East Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

See Continuation Sheet

The Ramsburg House was named for one of its residents in the 1930s, Morris M. Ramsburg. The building appears to date to the 1920s or 1930s. The building is located on the former Sellman tract, and existing documentation is not clear as to whether it was on the site when it was purchased, whether it was constructed anew, or perhaps, moved to its present location, prior to 1935. The building is described in that year as a "frame house with eight small room and bath and unpaved cellar, no furnace; approximate value \$2500. Located on Canary Road along the southeast side of the Station land, and about 500 feet east of Little Paint Branch Creek." The building is currently unoccupied.

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
 Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Building 016 has been determined not individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. (MHT # PG 61-33)

Name of Surveyor: H. Ewing	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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Description

The Ramsburg House is a two-story, wood-frame house with clapboard siding and a raised concrete-block foundation. The asphalt shingle roof is cross gabled. Storm windows have been added to the original six-over-one, double-hung windows. All windows have distinctive vertical board shutters.

The east facade (which faces Second Street) features the secondary cross gable, which resembles an oversized dormer. There is a screened, wood-frame, shed-roofed porch, which extends nearly halfway across the elevation. The door to the porch is off center and has two concrete stairs leading to it. The porch is supported by concrete corner blocks, and the crawl space beneath the porch has been closed off with wooden lattice. There is a single, one-over-one, double-hung window on the first story and two, evenly spaced, one-over-one, double-hung windows on the second level.

The west facade (which faces Little Paint Branch) features the secondary gable. There is a screened porch with a smaller gable roof covering the first level of the house. Several concrete stairs lead to the screen porch door, which is off center. The roofing material is consistent with the core building and a gutter system is present. A crawl space beneath the porch has been enclosed by wooden lattice. There are two, six-over-one, double-hung windows on the second level.

The south elevation contains the primary gable. There is a small, frame, entrance porch with a flight of six concrete stairs leading up to it. Three one-over-one double-hung windows are evenly spaced on the first story, and a single one-over-one, double-hung window is centered on the second story. A centered stair in the concrete block foundation leads to the basement ; it is flanked on each side by a small square window.

The north elevation contains the primary gable. There are two, six-over-six, double-hung windows on the first level and one on the second level. The concrete block foundation forms a raised basement which contains several small rectangular windows.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER — BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 017	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: A-7
Building Name/Historic Name: Brown House		
Farm Area/Street Address: North Farm/2nd Street		
Date of Construction/Source: Pre-1941/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Residence/Child Care Center		



Photo ID: Building 017, West Facade

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

Building 017 is a modest, one-and-a-half story wood bungalow with horizontal wood siding and a concrete block foundation. The building has a gabled roof covered with asphalt shingles. Windows throughout are one-over-one double-hung replacement windows. The massing of the building consists of a main block to the south and a smaller recessed section -- possibly an addition -- on the north end of the building. The front (west) facade of the building has a central entrance located under a small stoop. The entrance is flanked on the north by a grouping of three windows and on the south by two windows. This facade of the smaller recessed section has a single paired grouping of windows. The south facade features two windows at the first floor level and an attic window and vent. The north facade has a single window. The east (rear) facade has a door on the north end and four windows of various sizes distributed along the rest of the building.

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes X No

Retains Integrity: Yes X No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: D. Bloom	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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History and Significance

Building 017 is one of a number of residences that were maintained on Bureau of Plant Industry land for the use of Bureau employees. It, and the land on which it was originally located, was purchased using funds from the appropriation for the relocation of the Bureau's Arlington facilities.

In October 1940, an appropriation in the Department of War's budget was approved to provide \$3,200,000 for the relocation of the Arlington Farms facilities. The appropriation was to have a sweeping effect on the Plant Industry Station and was to permanently establish the size and layout of the North and South Farms. It was used for the acquisition of 606 acres of additional land (at the North and South Farms) and for the construction of most of the major buildings and many of the minor buildings on the North and South Farms.

The North Farm parcels expanded the site to the south and west and roughly doubled the Bureau's holdings along Route 1. Two houses came along with the new North Farm purchases. One, Building 017, was on the 19.494-acre Brown property, about 100 feet south of Building 001. Soon after its purchase, the building was moved on skids by two tractors to its present location near Canary Road. It was placed on a new foundation and extensively renovated. A contemporary document describes it as "a very comfortable one story, five room house with small basement, hot water heat, plumbing, electricity, etc." (RG 54, Entry 151A, Box 1) The building was home to a long line of Bureau employees, most of whom were associated with shop or field operations. The building is currently used for a day-care facility.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 018	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: B-7
Building Name/Historic Name: Foreman's House		
Farm Area/Street Address: North Farm		
Date of Construction/Source: 1933/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Residence		



Photo ID: Building 018, South and West Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

See Continuation Sheet

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes ___ No ___

Retains Integrity: Yes ___ No ___

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Building 018 has been determined not individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. (MHT # PG 61-34)

Name of Surveyor: Heather Ewing	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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Description

The Smallwood House is a one-story, wood-frame bungalow with clapboard siding and a concrete-block foundation. In some details it resembles the catalog houses popularized by Sears, Roebuck and Co. in the 1920s and 1930s. The overhanging roof consists of a main gable which runs west to east. A smaller porch gable on west facade also runs west to east, off-center from the main gable. A secondary gable is perpendicular to the main gable and protrudes to the south. This secondary gable is split into two sections, with the smaller section continuing south from the larger section. At the middle point of the main gable is a chimney.

The principal (or west) facade is dominated by an off-center gabled screen porch. The right side of the porch aligns with the right side of the main gable roof. Within the gable of the porch is a long narrow vent, and a square vent is set within the main gable. There is a single, one-over-one, double-hung window on the first story of the main house. A long set of concrete stairs leads to the porch, which was screened in during subsequent alterations.

The south elevation contains the below-grade garage door leading to the basement level. The garage door is part of the smaller gable section. Above the garage door are two, one-over-one, double-hung windows. A small square attic vent is centered in the gable.

The east elevation has a small entry porch leading to the rear door. There are a pair of small, one-over-one, double-hung windows and a larger, one-over-one, double-hung window on the first story; and a small one-over-one double-hung window is centered in the apex of the gable.

The north elevation has a small, central, one-over-one, double-hung window flanked on each side by a larger, one-over-one, double-hung window. There are also two smaller rectangular basement windows in the concrete-block foundation.

History and Significance

Building 018 was constructed as a "laborers" or "foremans" house by the Bureau of Plant Industry soon after the purchase of the North Farm. It appears to be the only early dwelling on the North Farm constructed by the Bureau.

Building 018 was constructed using 1933/34 PWA funds (F.P. 79) and likely was completed in 1933 or 1934. As such, it is part of the first group of buildings (most of which were small service buildings) to be constructed on the North Farm. The building was designed by the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering and completed for a cost of \$3,449.17. It was originally located about 150 feet west of Building 006.

The building has been continuously occupied by Bureau of Plant Industry employees. The first occupant appears to have been Eugene May, Jr., and his family. In 1935, May's title was Principal Scientific Aide, and his salary given as \$2,900 per year. By the 1940s, Mr. May had moved and the house was occupied by a Mr. Smallwood. Some time between 1943 and 1950, the building was moved to its current location.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 019	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: B-7
Building Name/Historic Name: Pump Station		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/North Farm Road		
Date of Construction/Source: 1933/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Utilities		

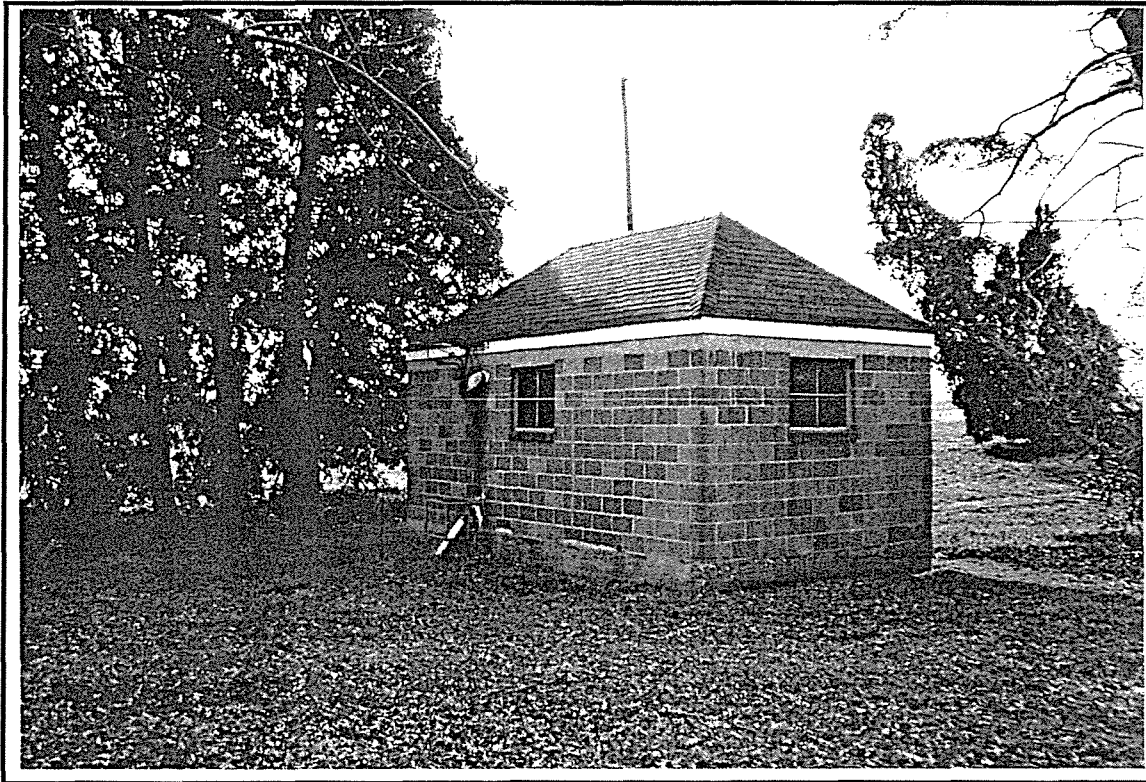


Photo ID: Building 019, East and North Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This is small, rectangular, concrete-block pump house located adjacent to Little Paint Branch. The building's single wood entrance door is located on its west side. The remaining elevations have single, metal, four-pane windows located high on each wall. The building has a hipped roof with shingles.

This pump station appears to have been constructed in 1933 using Bureau of Plant Industry funds. As such, it is part of the first group of service buildings (and, indeed, the first buildings) to be constructed on the North Farm. Unlike most of the other service-related buildings from this first period of construction Building 019 was built of concrete block. This may suggest that the building was rebuilt in the late 1930s and early 1940s, or more likely, that because of the presence of water concrete block was seen as a more practical building material. Building 019 is also very similar to other pumphouses constructed throughout BARC in the 1930s and 1940s.

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District

Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

[Empty box for additional information or photographs]

Name of Surveyor: Carol Hooper	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES

GENERAL

Building No.: 022	Master Plan Page: P-3	Grid: F-3
Building Name/Historic Name: Yowell House		
Farm Area/Street Address: North Farm/Off of West Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: early 1930s/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Residence		



Photo ID: Building 022, South and East Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

Building 022 is a small, one and one-half story, side-gable house. The house, which sits on a raised concrete-block foundation, is a simple square box. The gabled roof overhangs substantially, especially on the end-gable elevations. Centered along the ridge of the roof is an interior chimney. There are entrances on both the north and south elevations, each characterized by an overhanging shed-roof porch. The north and south elevations are three bays wide, and the side elevations are two bays across; each elevation has two windows. The principal (or north) facade features a large shed-roof porch that extends along almost the entire facade. The porch, supported by four simple posts, shelters the central entrance door and two flanking one-over-one windows. Both the windows and the door have simple wooden surrounds. The south facade is now used as the primary access to the house. The entrance that is located in the central bay is slightly off center. Flanked by two one-over-one windows, the door is sheltered by a projecting shed roof supported by two simple posts, and accessed by a flight of stairs. The east and west (or end-gable) facades are each punctuated by two windows. Set in the concrete foundation are two small windows, opening into the basement. In the apex of the gables are small vents. The house has recently been entirely renovated; new windows, a new roof, vinyl siding, and a new porch were included in the renovation.

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes X No

Retains Integrity: Yes X No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Building 022 has been determined not individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. (MHT # PG 61-36)

Name of Surveyor: H. Ewing	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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History and Significance

Building 022 was constructed in the early 1930s by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for use as a laborer's cottage. Named the Yowell House for its first government occupant, Albert Yowell and his family, the residence was used to house government farm laborers. It was one of two houses erected by the government for use as employee housing. Neither house was equipped with water, a furnace, or electricity. By the mid 1930s, the Yowell House was considered in poor condition and valued at approximately \$1,200. A description of it in the inventory of residences listed it as "a cheap 5-room frame house built principally from second-hand lumber, no furnace." Albert H. Yowell, a farm laborer who earned \$70 a month, occupied the house with his wife and two children. House rent of five dollars a month was deducted from his pay. Because there were no amenities, there were no extra charges deducted for heat, light, or power. In 1938, the Yowell house was one of a number of residences that was painted, using Public Works Administration monies. It was listed third in order of importance, among six houses named. Another item on the list of improvements to be undertaken was the installation in the Yowell House of kitchen plumbing, bathroom fixtures, a septic tank, tile field, shallow well pump and tank, and a pipeless furnace. Since its construction, the house has continued in its use as an employee residence. It seems likely that initially the house was intended for laborers' responsible for work in the North Farm area.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 023	Master Plan Page: P-3	Grid: E,F-4
Building Name/Historic Name: Sellman House		
Farm Area/Street Address: North Farm/West Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: c. 1900/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Residence/Vacant		

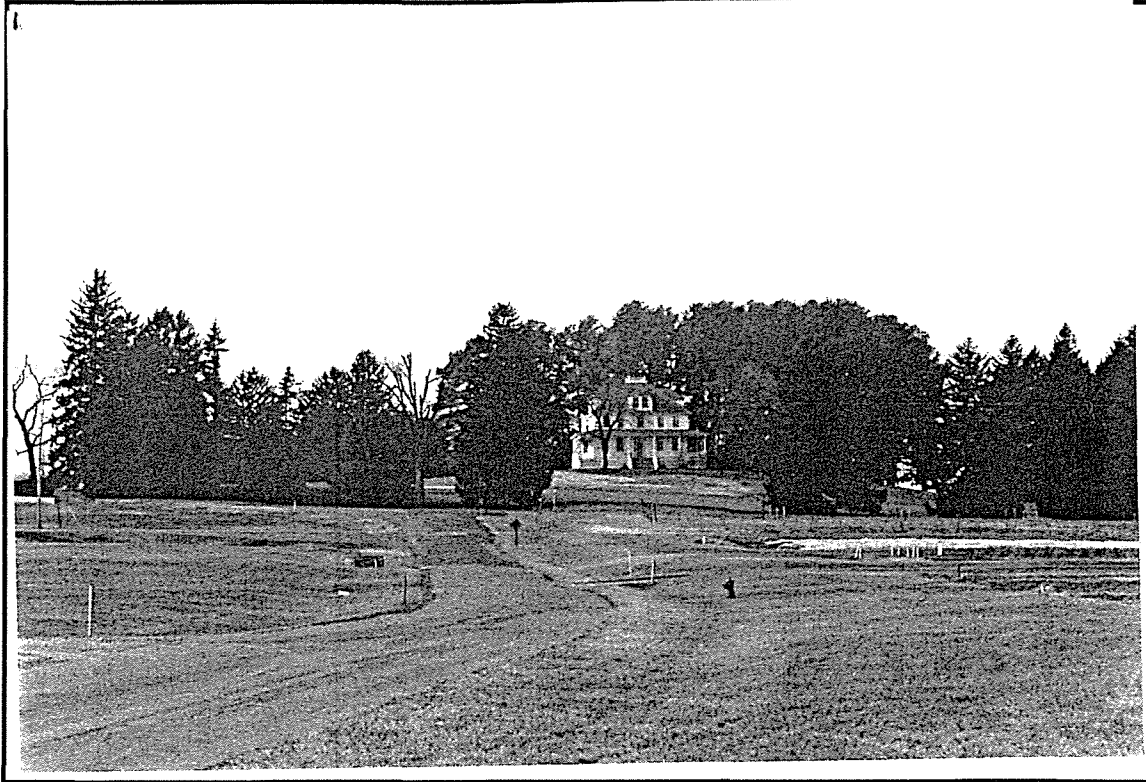


Photo ID: Building 023, South Facade, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

See Continuation Sheet

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes ___ No ___

Retains Integrity: Yes X No ___

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 54

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Building 023 has been determined individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.
(MHT # PG 61-12)

Name of Surveyor: HPE;CEH	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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Description

The Sellman House is a large, two-and-one-half-story, frame dwelling, with a hipped roof and a wrap-around porch on the first floor. Situated at the crest of a gently sloping hill, surrounded by mature trees, this Colonial Revival-style house faces east, positioned at a slight angle to the southeast. On its north, west, and south sides, the building is bordered by drives; to the east is the open lawn leading down to the main administrative area of the North Farm. To the rear of the property (on its west side, across a gravel drive) are two small secondary structures--a gabled barn and a shed.

The house is clad in white clapboard siding. It has a hipped roof covered in asphalt shingles, topped by a widow's walk. On three of the four elevations of the house there are large paired-window dormers each capped by a small hipped roof. The dormers are flush with the facades of the building. The west elevation does not have a dormer window.

The primary facade faces east, towards Route 1. This symmetrical front facade is five bays wide, with a wrap-around porch on the first floor. The porch, which is slightly elevated, is supported by six evenly spaced wooden columns. These columns rest on raised, rusticated stone block bases and are connected by a balustrade with turned balusters. The roofline of the porch extends on either side of the main facade and wraps around to the north and south elevations, creating a pyramidal effect on the primary facade, as it lines up with the main roofline. The front door is reached through the porch in the central bay of the first floor, framed by sidelights and a transom window. Throughout the structure, the windows are elongated, rectangular, two-over-two, double-hung, wood-sash windows, without shutters.

The nearly identical north and south side elevations are three bays wide, with the center bay featuring a two-story bay window. The division between the first and second levels of the bay window is marked by a scallop-shingled skirt that appears to have been recently reshingled on the south facade. The wrap-around porch continues from the main facade around each side elevation and terminates at its junction to the bay window. The window placement on both the north and south elevations consists of a window flanking either side of the bay window and three window openings in the bay window. This pattern is repeated on the second floor. On the south elevation, the western end has two smaller, two-over-two, double-hung units stepped in relation to one another. The building has two brick chimneys, located towards the rear of the house on the western side of either gable dormer.

The west (or rear) elevation features a two-story porch that is quite different in character from the gracious wrap-around porch of the main facade. The porch is divided into three sections, articulated by simple square posts. The open upper story features a balustrade, while the lower story is enclosed by a screen and has smaller wood frames dividing the space into six sections. The fenestration on the second level of the porch consists of five openings. Three of the openings are windows comparable to those on other facades of the house.

History and Significance

The Sellman House (Building 023) is an unusually large example of the hip-roofed Foursquare vernacular house form popular throughout the country in the first decades of the twentieth century. As one of the principal structures extant on the land that comprised the Agriculture Department's North Farm parcel purchase, the Sellman House was identified for use as the Superintendent's house during the development of the Plant Industry division. The acquisition of Building 023 occurred at the height of growth for the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). It has been used continuously until recent years as a residence for employees.

The Sellman House was constructed between 1900 and 1903 by the Sellman brothers, Theodore A., Robert Lee, and Thomas F. Sellman. The Sellman brothers were farmers of German ancestry who came to Prince George's County around 1887. They first rented the Beall family parcel (on which the house was later constructed) in 1893. In December 1900, Theodore and Robert Sellman purchased the 346-acre parcel at a cost of \$7,000. Because the land was in the hands of multiple heirs, the Sellmans petitioned the court for confirmation of a contract to sell the land. The court ratified the sale and authorized Charles H. Stanley, as the trustee, to make the sale. Prior to the Sellman's use of the land, it had been associated with the Beall family for approximately 60 years. The land was first purchased by George Beall in February 1833. He bought the land at a price of \$8.25 per acre from the heirs of Zepheniah Cissel. George Beall left the property to his nephew, Thomas B. Beall. Thomas Beall inherited the land in September 1833, only a few months after George Beall acquired it. At the time of Thomas B. Beall's death in 1879, the property went to his wife Jane B. Beall. After her death it passed to their six children.

Theodore Sellman, the oldest of the three brothers, is listed in the 1900 census records as the head of the household, while Robert and Thomas were listed as farm laborers. Tax assessment records for 1900, when the brothers were still renting the property, list "Sellman and Brothers" as owning \$1,100 in livestock, farming implements, furniture, and jewelry. By the 1903 tax assessment, the records showed Sellman and Brothers owning 345 acres of land valued at \$15 an acre and improvements of \$3,000. The miscellaneous equipment and furniture was still valued at \$1,100. The total value of their property was \$9,275. By the 1910 Census, Thomas Sellman was no longer living at the Sellman farm. In the house were the families of Theodore, still the head of the household, and Robert Sellman. Theodore had by then been married for 22 years and had one son, age 13. Robert was also married, and had one son and one daughter. The property continued to maintain its value at approximately \$9,000 until 1916. At this time, 300 acres of the land jumped in value from \$15 to \$30 per acre and the improvements increased to \$4,200. This change in the property's value likely reflects the growth of the nearby Department of Agriculture facilities, as well as the development of the University of Maryland, and the continued growth in residences along the railroad lines between Washington and Baltimore, as the commuter population grew.

In 1930, with growing concern over the future of the location of its Arlington Farm site, the Agriculture Department operated began searching for additional property for its Bureau of Plant Industry's Division of Fruit and Vegetable Crops and Diseases to conduct long-term experiments with tree fruits, nuts, and grapes. After evaluating a number of sites, the Department focused on two farms in the Beltsville area, near to the Experimental Farm operated by the Department's Bureau of Animal Husbandry. Working through a middle man, the Division approached the owners of the two farms, the Millers and the Sellmans, and secured options for the lease and purchase of the land. The lease with Theodore Alexander and Robert Lee Sellman for their 290-acre farm, effective February 1, 1932, established a rent of \$2,740 per year and an option for the government to purchase at \$150 per acre. Extant on the property at that time were the following buildings, wells, and springs:

- 1 dwelling house (14 rooms and basement, hot water heating system, water and bath, telephone, and Delco electric plant).
- 1 barn 45 x 72 ft., about 50 ft. high, with granary, basement and electric lights.
- 1 wagon shed about 35 x 50 with upstairs storage space.
- 2 implement sheds (fertilizer room in one, corn crib in the other).
- 1 2000 bushel corn crib.
- 1 potato cellar (about 20 x 30 x 8) with upstairs storage room.
- 1 five-room tenant house.
- 1 three-room tenant house.
- 1 four-room tenant house.

- 1 garage (16 x 20).
- 1 woodshed and pumphouse.
- 2 wells and three springs all working.
- 2 chicken houses.

Work began in February 1932 on the leased Sellman and Miller properties (totaling 424.5 acres). The land was divided between the different projects of the Division of Fruit and Vegetable Crops and Diseases. Peach, apple, nut, and other fruit trees, as well as a few indicator crops, were planted in the spring of 1932. These properties were purchased a year later, in 1933. The Sellman property, including extant improvements, was purchased for \$43,419.75, with funds approximately divided between the PWA and the WPA.

The Sellman house, the largest house on the property, became home to the Superintendent of what was then referred to as the U.S. Horticultural Field Station at Beltsville, Maryland. After its acquisition in 1933, the Sellman house was first occupied by James H. Beattie, Senior Horticulturist and later Superintendent of the [Plant Industry] Station. Born in 1882, in Zanesville, Ohio, Beattie did his undergraduate studies at Ohio State, from which he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in 1904. He began working for the Department of Agriculture that same year, and apparently spent his entire career at the USDA. In 1930, he completed a Master of Science at American University. Beattie was a prolific author and during his tenure at the Department of Agriculture, he published hundreds of articles. Many of these pieces appeared in the Department's *Farmers' Bulletin* and they covered a variety of topics varying from watermelons, corn, sweet potatoes, and peanuts, to how to grow cucumbers for pickling, and tips on home storage of vegetables and fruits. Beattie also wrote on the issue of greenhouse construction and heating. The Sellman house in 1935 was valued at \$5000, and Beattie had \$360 a year deducted from his pay of \$4600 for the cost of rent and utilities. In 1944, the Department of Agriculture valued the house at \$7500.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 023A	Master Plan Page: P-3	Grid: E-3
Building Name/Historic Name: Garage		
Farm Area/Street Address: North Farm/West Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: c. 1903/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Garage/Vacant		

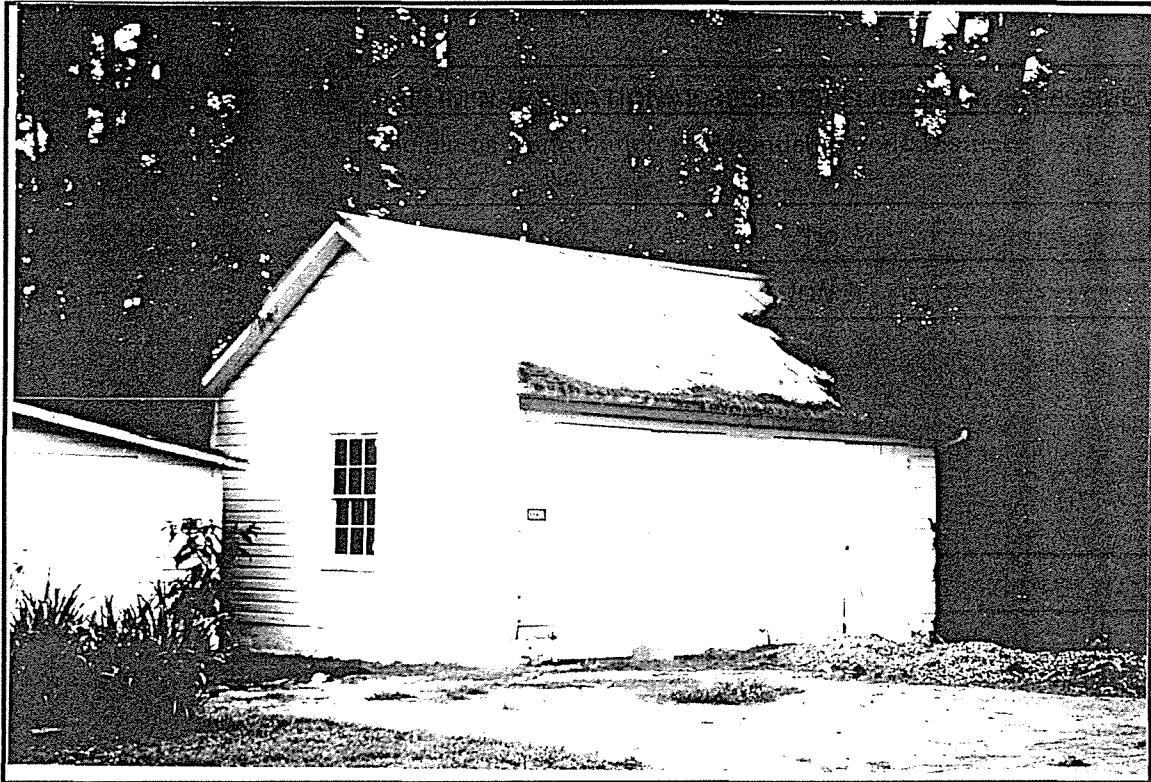


Photo ID: Building 023A, South and East Facades, 6/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

Building 023A is a rectangular, one-story, side-gable garage, situated on the slope of a hill. As the hill drops off in the rear, the structure's poured concrete foundation is visible. At each gable end, there is a single, double-hung, six-over-six, wood sash window. Along the east facade, facing the main house are two pairs of wooden doors. The roof is covered with tin.

Building 023A is one of two existing outbuildings on the Sellman site. For additional information on the significance of the site, see the Building 023 form.

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District

Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 54

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: HPE

Affiliation: R&A

Date: June 1997

BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES

GENERAL

Building No.: 023B	Master Plan Page: P-3	Grid: E-3
Building Name/Historic Name: Sellman Shed		
Farm Area/Street Address: North Farm/West Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: c. 1903/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Storage/Vacant		

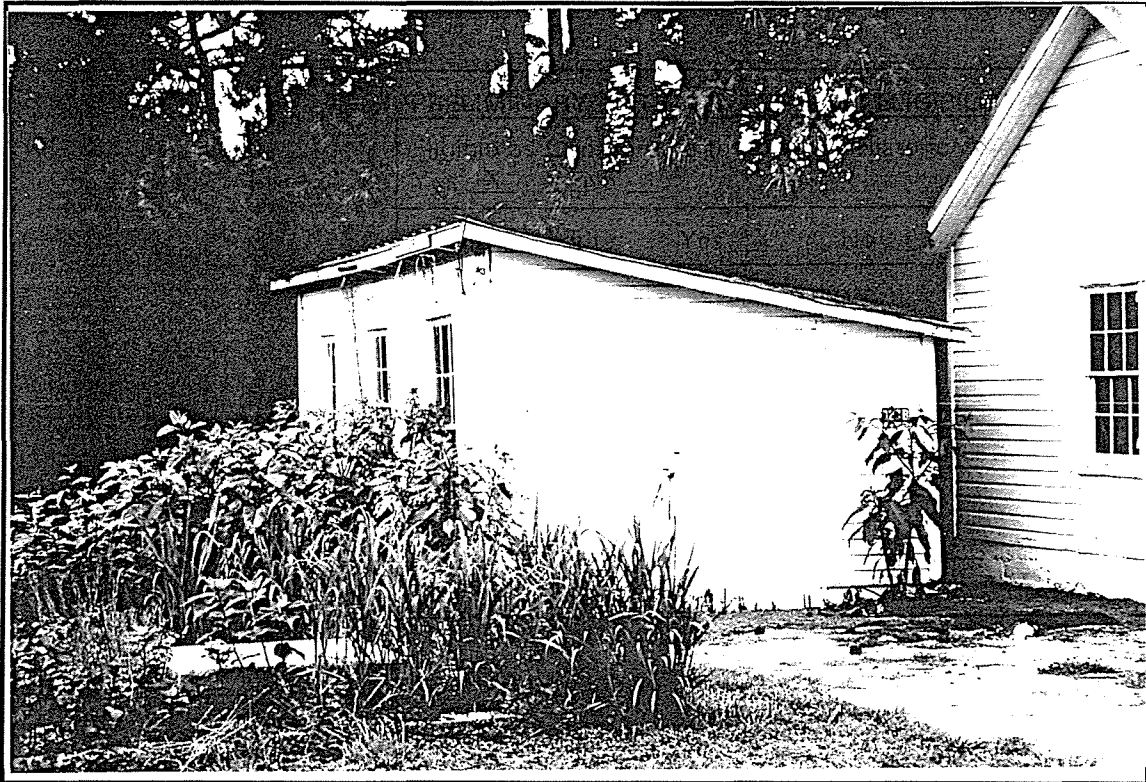


Photo ID: Building 023B, South and East Facades, 6/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

Building 023B is a one-story shed with a single pair of double barn doors on the east facade. The taller south elevation, which faces a garden features three large six-over-six windows. The shed roof is covered with tin, and slopes downward to the north.

Building 023B is one of two existing outbuildings on the Sellman site. For additional information on the significance of the site, see the Building 023 form.

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 54

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: HPE	Affiliation: R&A	Date: June 1997
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**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 024	Master Plan Page: N-3	Grid: E-3
Building Name/Historic Name: Storage/Screen House for Fruit Laboratory		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/Shop Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1941/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Screen House for Fruit Laboratory/Storage		

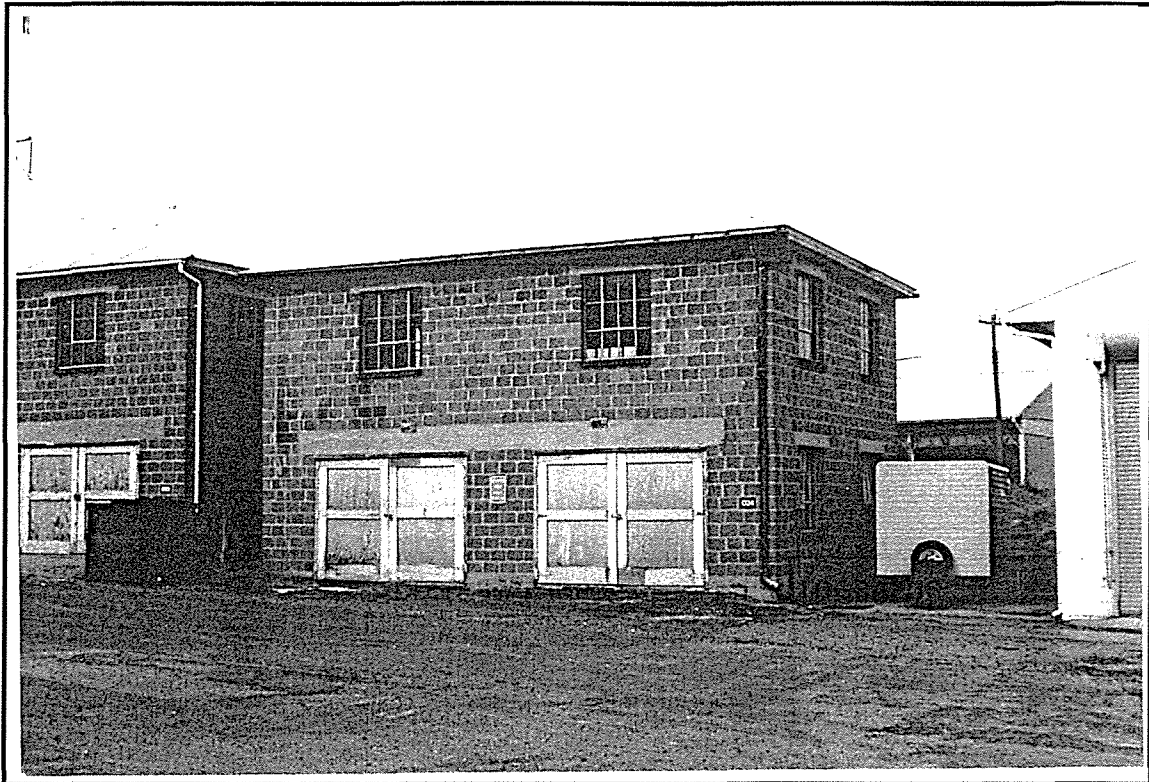


Photo ID: Building 024, South and East Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This is a two-story, rectangular, concrete-block building with a concrete foundation. It has two bays on the front (south) facade. Two sets of double wooden doors are on the first level. A long concrete strip, alluding to flat arches on the second level, is present over the doors. Twelve-pane windows with four central panes that pivot outward are located on the second level. Flat arches, executed in concrete, are present over the windows. The hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Copper gutters are present. The building is in good condition.

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes ___ No ___

Retains Integrity: Yes X No ___

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

History and Significance

Buildings 024 and 025 were constructed in 1941 in the North Service Area as storage buildings. They were support facilities for experimental work that was conducted on the North Farm.

The North Service area was planned and implemented beginning in 1938. The impetus for moving the center of service activities to the west of its previous location is unclear, although its effect was clearly to concentrate service facilities in a more remote location not visible from the main North Farm buildings. Two buildings were constructed in 1939. A plan for the area drawn up c. 1938-1942 clarifies that the area was to be centered on the axis of Building 023 (the Superintendent's Residence). This plan shows the service area as being rectangular (longer north/south than east/west), with three lines of planned buildings running parallel to the already-existing Buildings 029A and 030. In 1941, a total of six buildings including Buildings 024 and 025 were added to the service area, more or less as called for in the plan. Although all of the North Service Area buildings are very similar to each other in terms of materials (concrete block, steel sash) and design (hipped roof, multi-paned windows), the 1941 buildings are nearly identical in appearance.

Building 024 and 025 were constructed at a cost of \$5,000, the funding for which came from Bureau of Plant Industry sources. The buildings were designed for, and continue to be used for farm storage.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 025	Master Plan Page:	Grid:
Building Name/Historic Name: Service Building		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/Shop Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1941/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Storage		

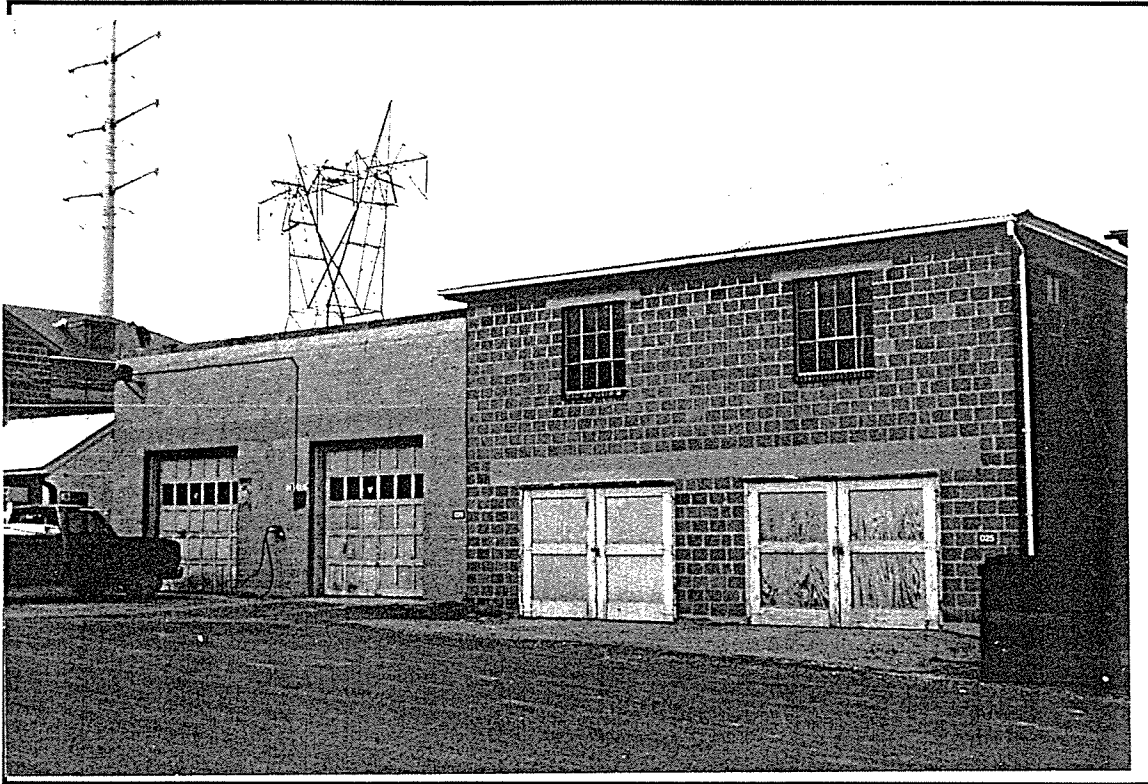


Photo ID: Building 025, South Facade, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This is a two-story, square, concrete-block building with a concrete foundation. It has two bays on the front facade, which faces south. There are two sets of wooden doors on the first level. Over both doors is a long concrete strip, which alludes to flat arches, also concrete, located on the second level above the windows. Twelve-pane windows with center sections that pivot outward are on the second level. The hipped roof is covered with corrugated tin roofing material. There are galvanized gutters present. The building is in good condition and is attached to Building 026.

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: S. Foell	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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History and Significance

Buildings 024 and 025 were constructed in 1941 in the North Service Area as storage buildings. They were support facilities for experimental work that was conducted on the North Farm.

The North Service area was planned and implemented beginning in 1938. The impetus for moving the center of service activities to the west of its previous location is unclear, although its effect was clearly to concentrate service facilities in a more remote location not visible from the main North Farm buildings. Two buildings were constructed in 1939. A plan for the area drawn up c. 1938-1942 clarifies that the area was to be centered on the axis of Building 023 (the Superintendent's Residence). This plan shows the service area as being rectangular (longer north/south than east/west), with three lines of planned buildings running parallel to the already-existing Buildings 029A and 030. In 1941, a total of six buildings including Buildings 024 and 025 were added to the service area, more or less as called for in the plan. Although all of the North Service Area buildings are very similar to each other in terms of materials (concrete block, steel sash) and design (hipped roof, multi-paned windows), the 1941 buildings are nearly identical in appearance.

Building 024 and 025 were constructed at a cost of \$5,000, the funding for which came from Bureau of Plant Industry sources. The buildings were designed for, and continue to be used for farm storage.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 027	Master Plan Page: P-3	Grid: E-3
Building Name/Historic Name: Gas Station		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/Shop Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: Post-1944/Map		
Historic Use/Current Use: Gas Station		

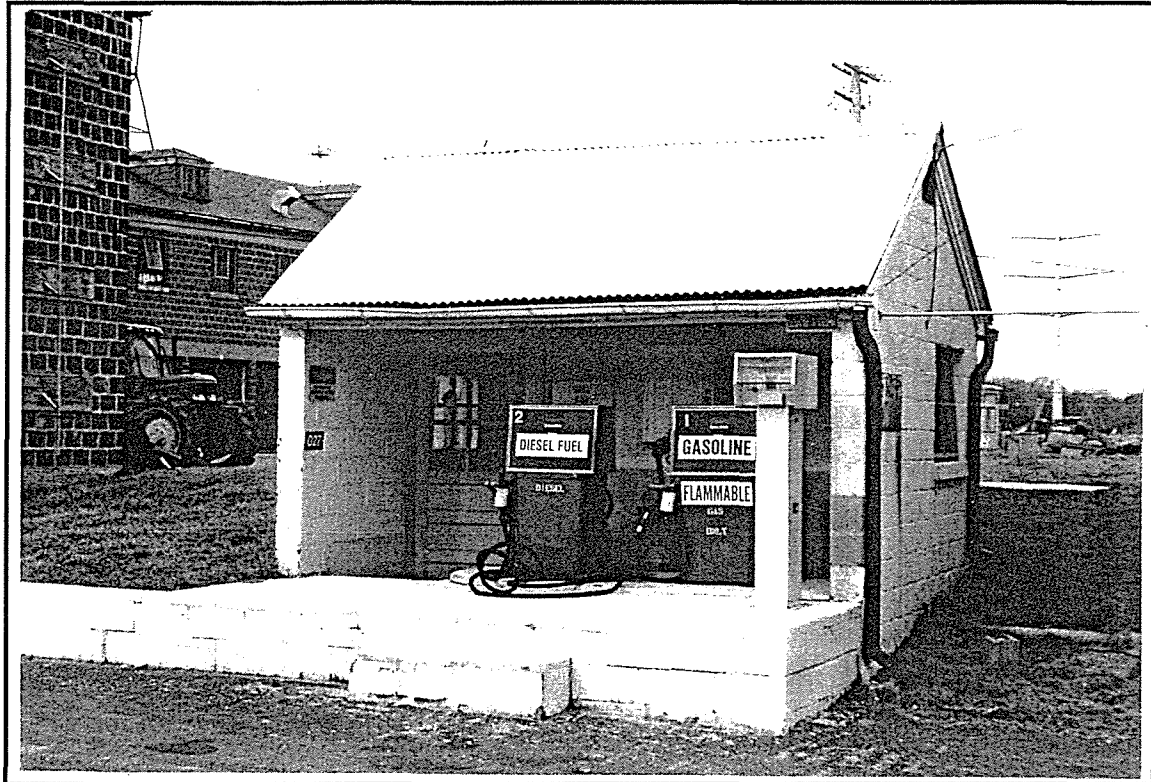


Photo ID: Building 027, South and East Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This is a small, rectangular, one-story, painted concrete-block gas station. The front facade, which faces south, is open. There are small four-pane windows located on the east and west elevations of the building. A side gable roof which is covered with corrugated metal roofing material. Galvanized gutters are present. The building is in good condition.

This building was constructed as part of a complex of buildings that were designed to service machinery used in experimental work on the North Farm.

Little historical documentation has been located about this small gas station building. Although the traditional date given for the building is 1940, it does not appear on a 1943 era map of the site, nor does it appear in a 1944 inventory of buildings on the site. Its materials would appear to suggest a 1940s to 1950s date.

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
 Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: S. Foell

Affiliation: R&A

Date: February 1997

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 028	Master Plan Page: P-3	Grid: E-3
Building Name/Historic Name: Tobacco Barn		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry/Shop Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1942/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Tobacco Curing Barn/Storage		

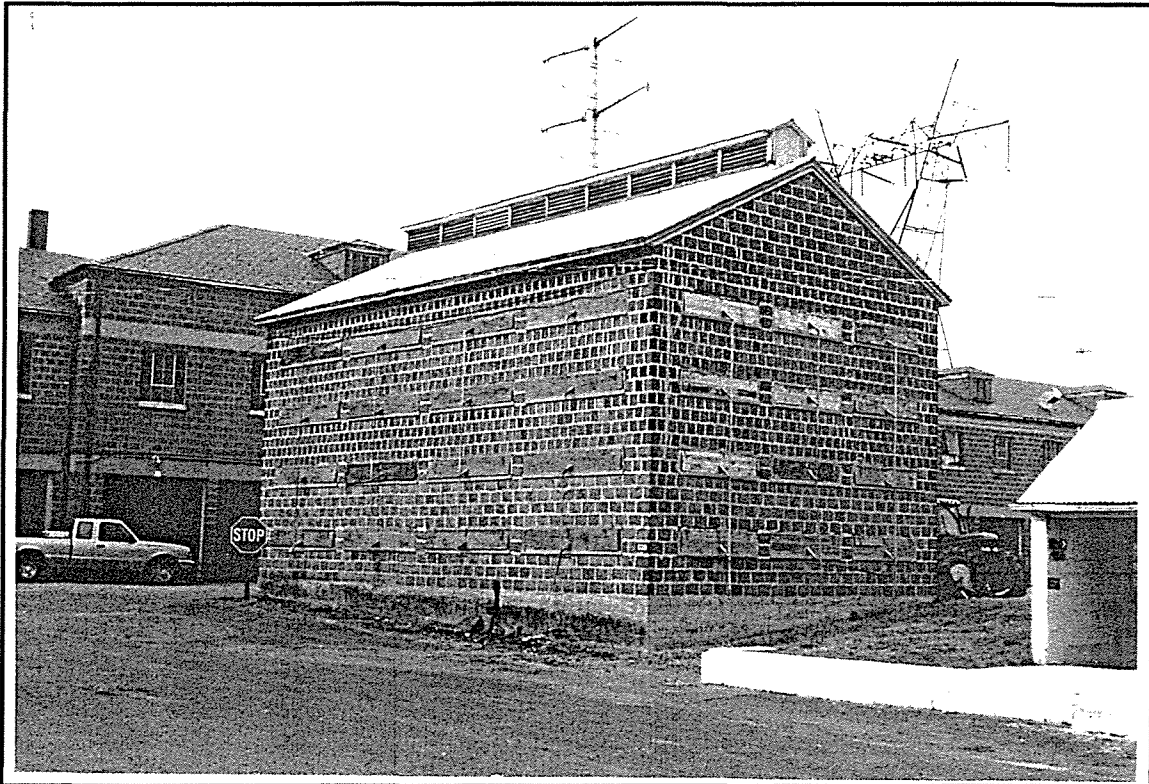


Photo ID: Building 028, South and East Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This is a large, concrete-block rectangular tobacco barn with a concrete aggregate foundation. There are double wood doors and a single door with glass panes on the west gable end. All elevations feature horizontal ventilator panels made of wood strips with connecting metal rods which open and close an entire section of panels. The side gable roof is covered with standing-seam metal roofing material. There are ventilators along the ridge line, which have the appearance of a monitor skylight.

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District

Yes X No

Retains Integrity: Yes X No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: S. Foell

Affiliation: R&A

Date: February 1997

History and Significance

Building 028 was constructed as a replacement facility for a wood tobacco barn located on the Arlington Farm site. Although now used for general storage, it was historically used for curing tobacco, most of which was grown on the Linkage Farm. Unlike the rest of the buildings located at the North Service area, Building 028 has a direct research-related function.

Building 028 was constructed at the North Service area as part of the Arlington Replacement facilities. The North Service area was planned and implemented beginning in 1938. Two buildings were constructed in 1939. A plan for the area drawn up c. 1938-1942 clarifies that the area was to be centered on the axis of Building 023 (the Superintendent's Residence) and shows the service area as being rectangular (longer north/south than east/west), with three lines of planned buildings running parallel to the already-existing Building 029A and 030. In 1941, a total of six buildings were added to the service area, more or less as called for in the plan. In 1942, the Tobacco Barn as well as the massive Service Building E were constructed to replace facilities located at Arlington Farms, again more or less following the 1938-42 plan. All of the historic North Service Area buildings share certain basic characteristics in the form of materials (concrete block, steel sash) and design (hipped roof, multi-paned windows).

The Tobacco Barn was constructed, and likely designed by, the Bureau of Plant Industry. The \$2,049 cost of the building was paid for out of Arlington Relocation funds. Around July 1941, Bureau of Plant Industry scientist Dr. Garner requested that a 24 feet by 40 feet frame building without floor be built on the North Farm to replace the facility he was using at Arlington. BPI Chief Horticulturalist James Beattie in a 1942 letter made input into the design and the location of the building. On the latter he wrote:

Service Building "E" [Building 029] to be erected in Farm Group "B" will have provision for two Tobacco cars, that is, a space approximately 20 feet in width and the depth of the Building, 36 feet . . . The tobacco barn could be built nearby, the height and width desired matching existing and proposed buildings in that area. I might add that the total height of the tobacco barn with basement would not match existing buildings in that area. If desired the tobacco barn can be erected on the Sunnyside tract [linkage farm] near the land which it is proposed to use for tobacco.

It seems likely that the location of the Tobacco Barn was a function of the proximity to the tobacco cars and the ease of constructing a number of buildings out of the same materials at the same place.

No information has been located about the actual use of the tobacco barn. Tobacco barns are generally designed for different methods of drying tobacco leaves (which in turn is related to the type of tobacco being cured). Barns for flue-curing are relatively small and include a furnace and system of flues. After being stripped of its leaves, flue-cured tobacco is housed in the barn for a single day during which heat generated by the furnace dries the tobacco. Air-cured tobacco (such as burley), on the other hand, is cured for a longer period of time using only air to dry the leaves. Barns used for air curing have a venting system and are typically larger in scale than those used for flue curing. Given the venting system, Building 028 likely was used for air-cured tobacco.

BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES

GENERAL

Building No.: 029	Master Plan Page: P-3	Grid: E-3
Building Name/Historic Name: Farm Service Building E/North Farm Service Building		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/Shop Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1942/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Storage Space for Farm Machinery		

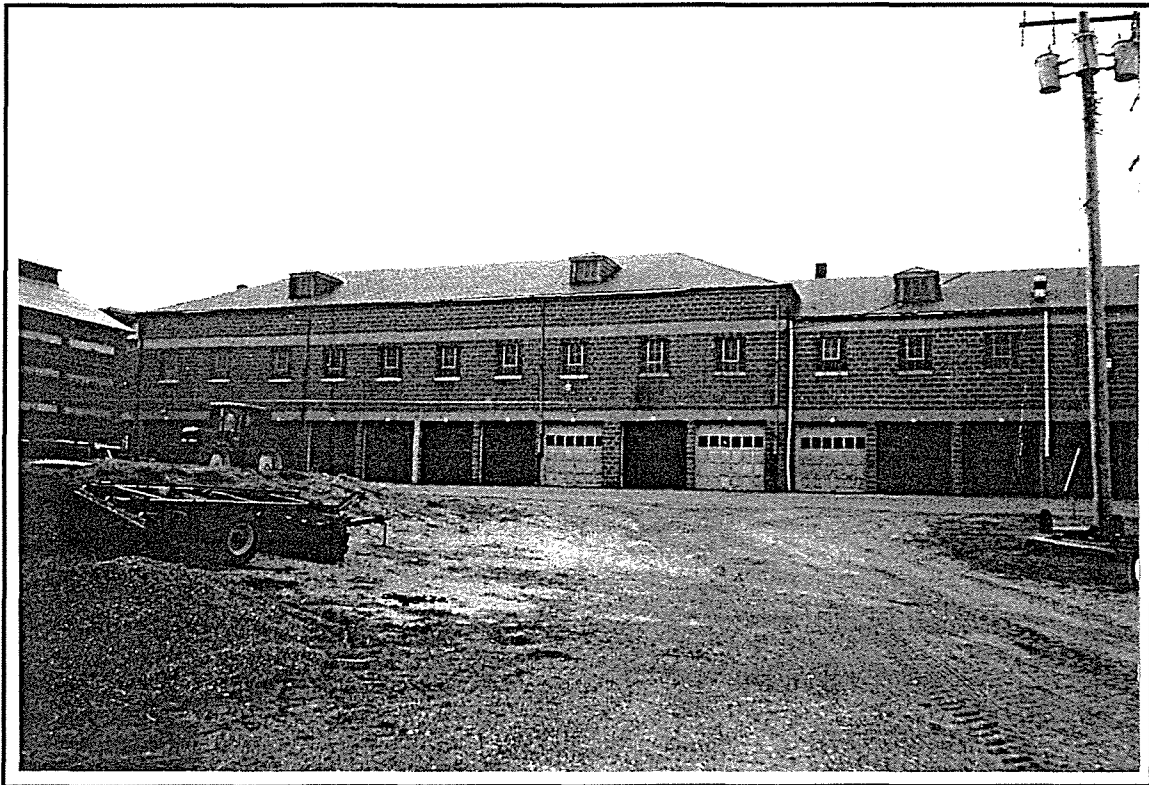


Photo ID: Building 029, East Facade, 2/97.

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This is a massive, rectangular, concrete-block service building which was constructed in the side of a hill. The three-part design of the building includes a central section 40 feet wide by 108 feet long and wings each 36 feet by 109 feet. It is connected to Building 029A on its south end to form an L-shaped complex. There are two stories on the front (southeast) facade and one story on the rear (northwest) facade. The hipped roof of the building reflects the building's tripartite design, with the center portion rising above the two flanking sections to include an attic level. The roof is covered with slate shingles and has hipped roof dormers above each three-bay unit. The dormers have three ribbon lights. There are interior brick chimneys and a large smokestack is attached to the building. A gutter system is present.

The front facade is 30 bays long. At the lower level of this facade, most of the bays have overhung garage doors with six panes of glass, although some bays are filled in with either boards or concrete blocks. The second level on this facade has 12-pane fixed windows with four central panes which pivot open. The rear facade features only overhung garage doors on ground level. The building is in good condition.

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch,
Building 426, BARC
Plans for Buildings at BARC (located at BARC Building 426).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: S. Foell	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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History and Significance

Building 029, referred to as Farm Service Building E or the North Farm Service building, is the principal building at the North Farm Service area. It was constructed as part of a complex designed to service farm machinery and equipment used in experimental work on the North Farm.

The North Service area was planned and implemented beginning in 1938. The impetus for moving the center of service activities to the west of its previous location is unclear, although its effect was clearly to concentrate service facilities in a more remote location not visible from the main North Farm buildings. Two buildings were constructed in 1939. A plan for the area drawn up c. 1938-1942 clarifies that the area was to be centered on the axis of Building 023 (the Superintendent's Residence). This plan shows the Service Area as being rectangular (longer north/south than east/west), with three lines of planned buildings running parallel to the line of the already-existing Buildings 029A and 030. At least two shorter buildings (rather than a single long building) were planned for the site of Building 029. In 1941, six new buildings were completed in the North Service area using Bureau of Plant Industry funds.

Similar to the North Farm as a whole, another major building campaign in the North Farm Service Area came about as a result of the closing of the Arlington Farm facilities. Funding from the 1940 relocation appropriation funded Building 029, as well as the tobacco barn, and the alteration of part of Building 029 for use in cultivating mushrooms.

Building 029 was constructed at a cost of \$56,044. Plans for the building were prepared by the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering in January 1942. The building was planned to accommodate garages, storage, shop facilities, and other facilities formerly located at Arlington. It was completed in 1942.

The most northerly section of the building was specially outfitted for use as a mushroom shed to replace one in Arlington. As planned, the space was to conform to commercial practice. Arlington relocation monies in the amount of \$2,590 were specifically used for constructing insulated rooms, and installing of refrigeration, plumbing, air conditioning, heat electricity, insulation, etc. The design for the mushroom facilities was likely done by Bureau of Plant Industry personnel.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 029A	Master Plan Page: P-3	Grid: E-3
Building Name/Historic Name: Farm Storage Building B		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/Shop Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1938/ Plans		
Historic Use/Current Use: Storage		



Photo ID: Building 029A, North Facade, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

See Continuation Sheet

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch,
Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: C. Hooper

Affiliation: R&A

Date: February 1997

Description

This is a grouping of five separate concrete block service buildings that have been attached to form a single structure. All of the buildings are two stories on the north (front) facade and one story on the south (rear) facade. The five buildings have hipped roofs, fixed metal windows with central windows that pivot open, and concrete block foundations. The buildings have garage entrances on the north side (into the North Service Area).

The first section of the building to be constructed (adjacent to Building 30) is five bays wide. On the north side it consists of five double-door garage openings with replacement wood doors on the first floor level and, at second floor level, five 12-pane metal windows with central windows that pivot. A band of concrete outlines the garage doors. On the south side of the building, there is a single entrance flanked by double windows. Brick window ledges are used below windows.

The four other sections of the building were built contemporaneously as separate buildings. They were subsequently joined, likely in the 1950s.

The second section of the building moving from the east is a three-bay wide, red, concrete block building. It has a corrugated metal roof. The north facade features a central garage door (which has been altered) with 12-pane windows on either side. A band of concrete delineates the two floor levels. There are two multi-paned windows at the second story level. The south facade features a central entrance flanked by multi-paned windows.

The third section is similar to the second section; however, the garage door entrance on the north is not altered.

The fourth and fifth sections are largely the same. Both are of gray concrete blocks and have slate roofs. Each is three bays wide and features a single garage entrance and single multi-pane window on the north facade (two multi-paned windows at the second-story level), and a single garage door flanked by multi-paned windows on the south facade.

History and Significance

The easternmost section of Building 029A (originally a separate farm storage building called Farm Service Building B), and Building 30 were the first buildings to be located in the North Service Area of the North Farm.

In 1938, a new service area was planned for an area to the west of the existing service area (i.e., to the west of Building 023). The impetus for moving the center of service activities is unclear, although its effect was clearly to concentrate service facilities in a more remote location not visible from the main North Farm buildings. 1938 PWA and WPA monies were secured to construct Building 030 and Farm Service Building B, on the new site. Work needed to start by August 15 on the projects so that the funds would not be lost. A memo dated August 6, 1938, from E.C. Auchter, Chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry, included a drawing of the layout for the new service area.

Perhaps because of the pressure to start work by August 15, an October 1938 progress report indicates that the location of both the site for the new "farmhouse group" (a reference to its location relative to the Superintendent's House) and the location for the "washroom and lavatories for farm laborers" and farm storage building had been moved multiple times. (The site for the Washroom/Lavatory alone was moved three times, much to the frustration of the engineers.) Plans for Farm Storage B were prepared on October 21, 1938, an estimate for the building was prepared on December 19, 1938, and the building was

completed in 1939.

The other sections of Building 029A followed the first section by only two years. The four other sections of the building were constructed as separate buildings also for farm storage use. The buildings were completed at a cost of \$10,000 using Bureau of Plant Industry funds.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 030	Master Plan Page: N-3	Grid: E-3, E-4
Building Name/Historic Name: Washroom and Lavatory		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/Shop Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1938/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Washroom/Office		

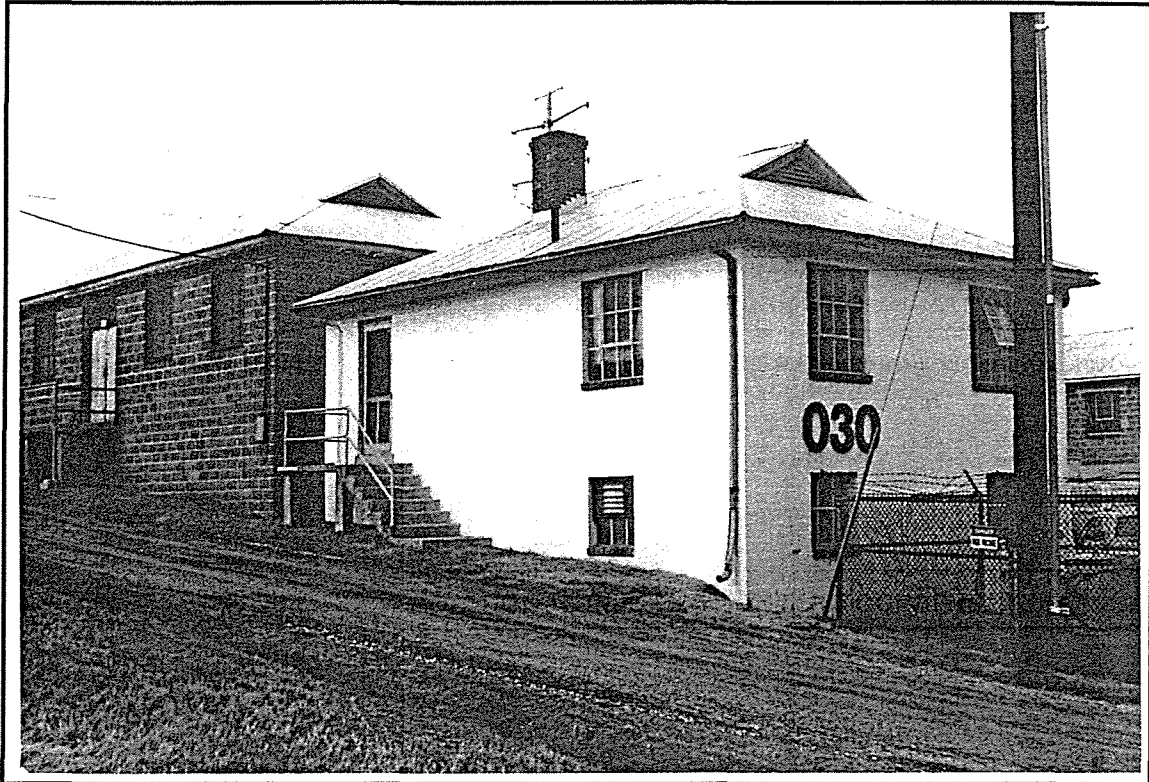


Photo ID: Building 030, South and East Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This rectangular, two-story, painted concrete-block building is located in the North Farm Service Area. The building features a modified hipped roof with standing-seam metal roofing, concrete footings, multi-pane steel sash with a central area that pivots (six-pane units on the first floor, 12-unit windows on the second floor). The building's front (north) facade faces the service area and has three windows and a single entrance at the first floor level and two large windows at the second floor level. The north facade of the building has a single entrance and window at the first floor level and a smaller window at the basement level. The building is in good condition.

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch,
Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: Carol Hooper

Affiliation: R&A

Date: February 1997

History and Significance

Building 030 was constructed as a men's washroom and lavatory. It, along with the easternmost section of Building 029A, were the first buildings to be located in the North Service Area of the North Farm.

In 1938, a new service area was planned for an area to the west of the existing service area (i.e., to the west of Building 023). The impetus for moving the center of service activities is unclear, although its effect was clearly to concentrate service facilities in a more remote location not visible from the main North Farm buildings. PWA and WPA monies were in 1938 secured to construct Building 030 and a section of what is now Building 029A, on the new site. Work needed to start by August 15 on the projects so that the funds would not be lost. A memo dated August 6, 1938 from E.C. Auchter, Chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry, included a drawing of the layout for the new service area.

Perhaps because of the pressure to start work by August 15, an October 1938 progress report indicates that the location of both the site for the new "farmhouse group" (a reference to its location relative to the Superintendent's House) and the location for the "washroom and lavatories for farm laborers" and farm storage building had been moved multiple times. (The site for the Washroom/Lavatory alone was moved three times, much to the frustration of the engineers.)

Building 030 (Project 39047) was completed in 1939 at a cost of \$6,610. Half of the cost of the building came from PWA funds and the other half came from WPA funds. The first floor of the building was used for a locker room and office. The basement level housed washrooms. The building is currently used as an office for the service area.

BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES

GENERAL

Building No.: 031	Master Plan Page: P-3	Grid: F-4
Building Name/Historic Name: Service Building for Nut Investigations/Nut House		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/Shop Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1937/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Nut Storage/General Storage		

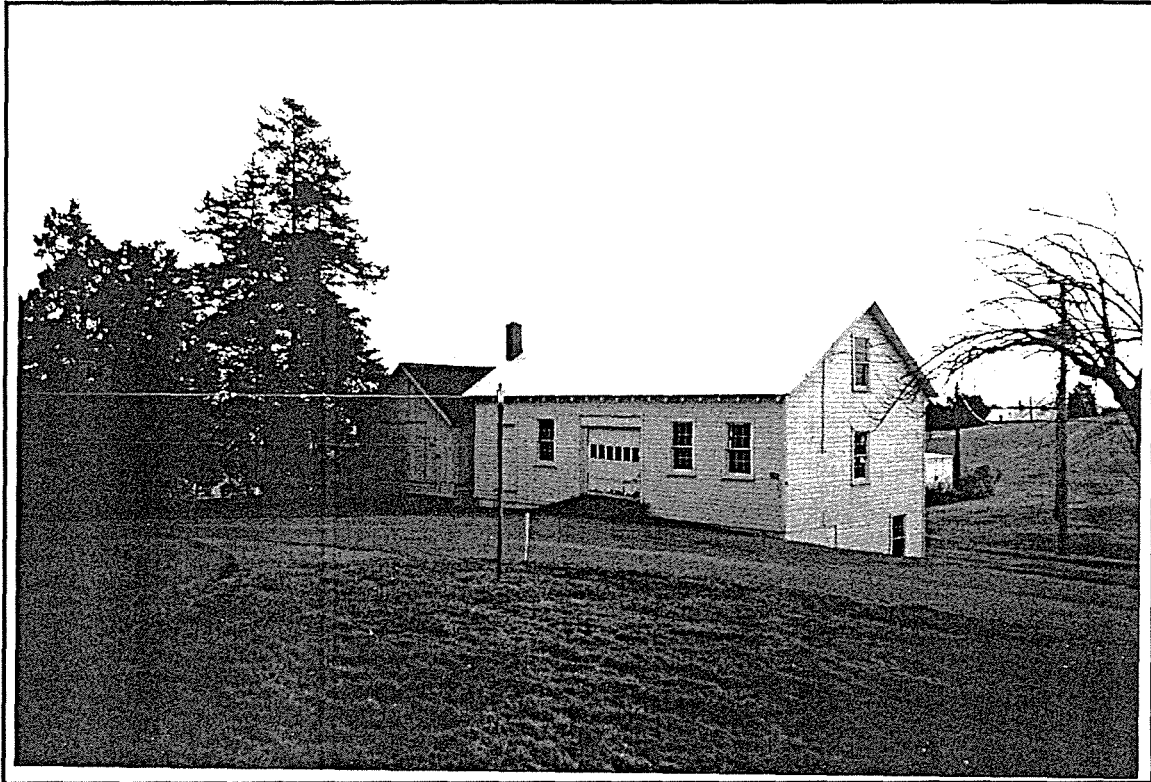


Photo ID: Building 031, West and North Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This is a small, rectangular wood storage building which is built into a hill. It has a poured concrete foundation which is visible on the east, west, and south elevations. The building's side gable roof is covered with corrugated metal roofing and has a large eave overhang. The one-story front (north) facade has five bays: three six-over-six wood sash windows, an original wood entrance door and a replacement overhung door. The rear (south) facade is two complete stories with three overhung garage doors on the lower level and six-over-six wood sash windows above. The east and west facades also feature the same type of windows. The exterior brick chimney on the building's gable end appears to have been rebuilt using new bricks. The building is in fair condition and is currently used for miscellaneous storage.

The Nut House was constructed as a service building in support of experimental plant research conducted on the North Farm.

Constructed in 1937 at a cost of \$1,500, the Service Building for Nut Investigations was paid for using Bureau of Plant Industry monies. The building was constructed in an area to the east of the Sellman house, which early on was used for service buildings, before what came to be known as the "north service area" was created farther to the west. The buildings in this area share a common architectural vocabulary: most are small wood structures with wood siding and gabled roofs. All of the buildings in this area, which were (and are) largely used for storage, are architecturally indistinguishable from outbuildings constructed by farmers throughout the United States at this time.

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District

Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawings Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

[Empty box for additional information or photographs]

Name of Surveyor: S. Foell

Affiliation: R&A

Date: February 1997

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 032	Master Plan Page: P-3	Grid: F-4
Building Name/Historic Name: Tool Shed		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Drive/Shop Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1933/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Storage/Chemical Insecticide Mixing and Storage		

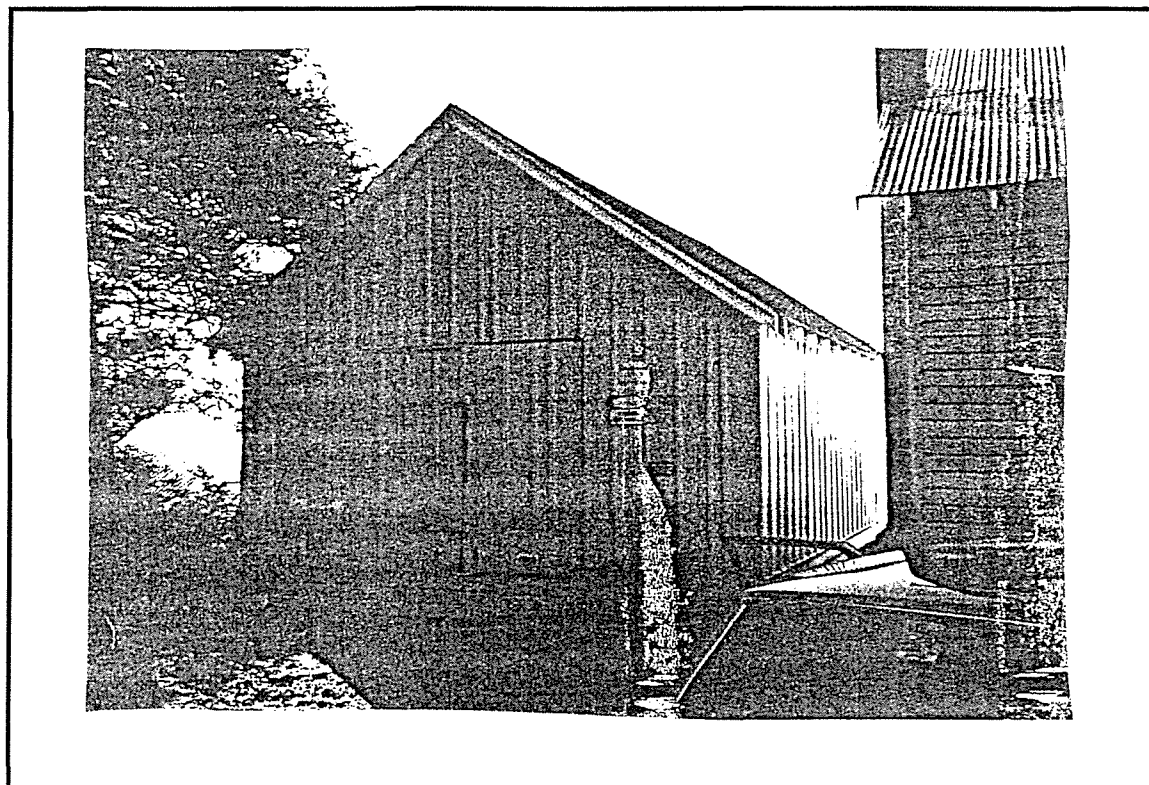


Photo ID: Building 032, South Facade, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This is a one-and-one-half story, rectangular, board-and-batten storage building which is built into the side of a hill. It has a poured concrete aggregate foundation. There are three bays on the north facade, which features three original wood doors with strap hinges. The front gable roof has exposed rafters and asphalt shingle roofing material. The rear (south) elevation is two complete stories with the top story executed in board and batten. The lower story is poured concrete; it holds an original wood door with nine panes of glass. The building is in fair condition and is currently used for chemical storage.

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes ___ No ___

Retains Integrity: Yes X No ___

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC
Plans for Buildings at BARC (located at BARC Building 426).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: S. Foell	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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History and Significance

It appears likely that this small frame building was one of the early group of buildings constructed using 1933-34 PWA funds. As such, it is part of the first group of service buildings (and, indeed, the first buildings) to be constructed on the North Farm. Located to the east of the Sellman House, this area was used primarily for service buildings. Later, the "north service area" was created farther to the west. The buildings in this area share a common architectural vocabulary: most are small wood structures with wood siding and gabled roofs. All of the buildings in this area, which were and are largely used for storage, are architecturally indistinguishable from outbuildings constructed by farmers throughout the United States at this time.

The Tool Shed was designed by personnel from the Bureau of Plant Industry and likely completed in 1933. Although the building was constructed as a tool shed, for most of its existence it has been used to house chemicals which were used as part of field crop experiments conducted by the Bureau of Plant Industry.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 033	Master Plan Page: P-3	Grid: F-4
Building Name/Historic Name: Garage		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry/Intersection of West Drive and Shop Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: c. 1933/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Storage for Spray Equipment		

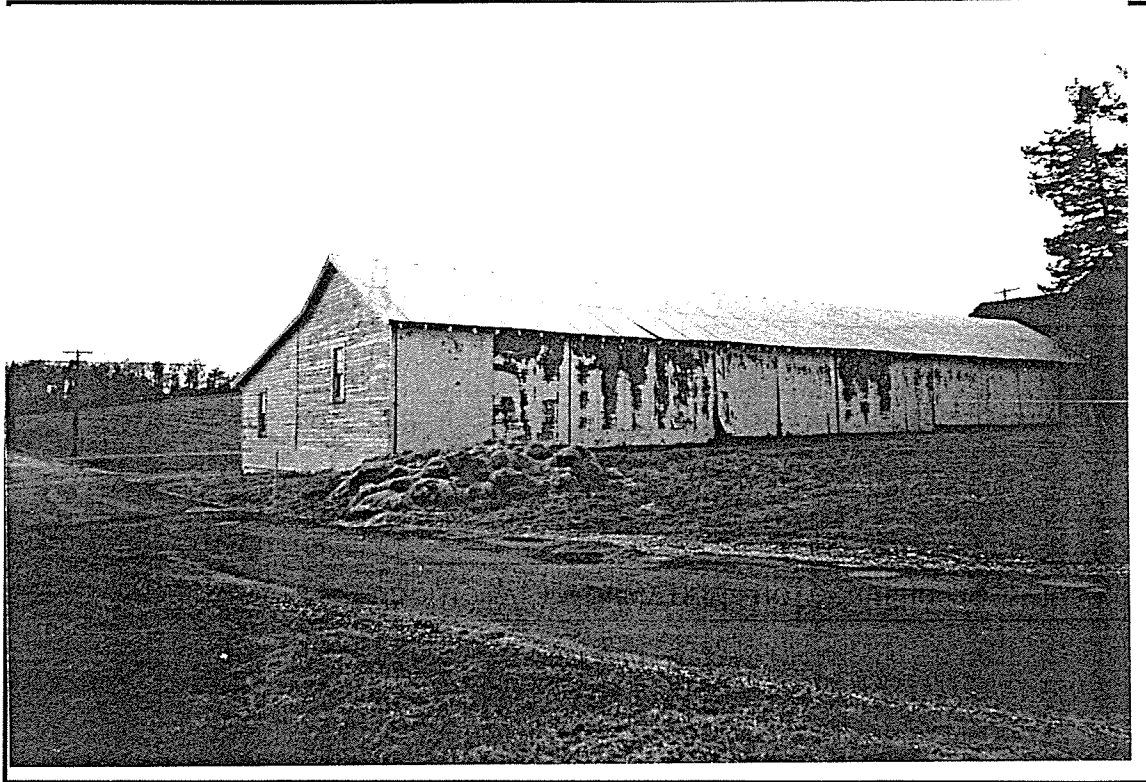


Photo ID: Building 033, South Facade, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This is a rectangular one-story shed addition to Building 034 which is numbered independently. The addition is clapboard which has been painted. The south (front) elevation contains nine sets of double wooden doors. The shed roof has exposed rafters and is covered with corrugated metal. The north elevation is attached to Building 034. Building 033 is in fair condition.

This shed-roofed addition to a garage was constructed using 1933/34 PWA funds, and was likely completed in 1933 or 1934. As such, it is part of the first group of service buildings (and, indeed, the first buildings) to be constructed on the North Farm. Located to the east of the Sellman House, this area was used primarily for service buildings. Later, the "north service area" was created farther to the west. The buildings in this area share a common architectural vocabulary: most are wood structures with wood siding and gabled roofs. All of the buildings in this area, which were and are largely used for storage, are architecturally indistinguishable from outbuildings constructed on farms throughout the United States during the mid 1930s.

Building 033 was constructed for the storage of farm vehicles. In the recent past, however, it has been used for activities relating to pesticide sprays.

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
 Yes ___ No ___

Retains Integrity: Yes X No ___

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection; Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: S. Foell	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES

GENERAL

Building No.: 034	Master Plan Page: P-3	Grid: F-4
Building Name/Historic Name: Garage		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry/Intersection of Shop Drive and West Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: c. 1934/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Equipment Storage		

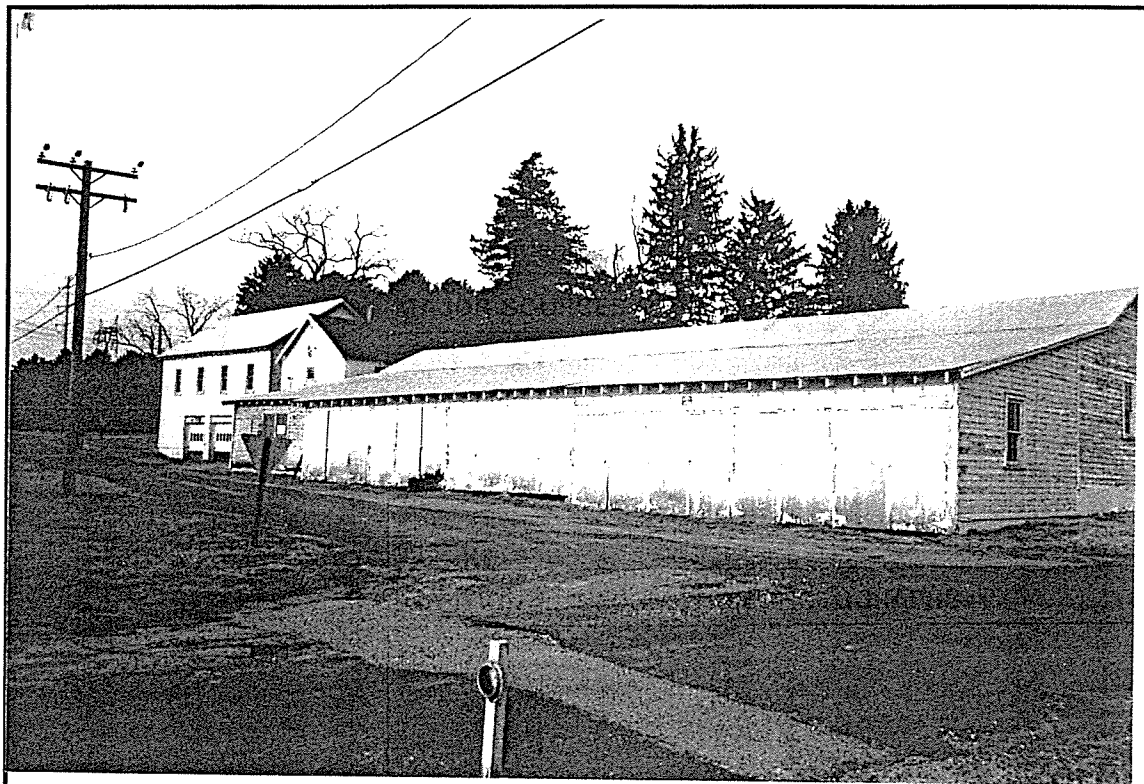


Photo ID: Building 034, North and East Facades, 2/97.

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

Building 034 is part of a small group of south-facing buildings located to the east and south of the Sellman House. It is a rectangular one-story wood and metal panel storage building with a poured concrete foundation. There is wood clapboard siding on the gable ends (east and west elevations). The north and south elevations are covered with hung metal sheets. There are six-over-six, wooden-sash windows located on gable ends. There are metal replacement doors on the north elevation. The building has a side gable roof with corrugated metal roofing material. There are also exposed rafters on the roof. The building is in fair condition. It is attached to Building 033.

This portion of a garage building was constructed using 1933/34 PWA funds, and completed in 1934 or 1935. As such, it is part of the first group of service buildings (and, indeed, the first buildings) to be constructed on the North Farm. Located to the east of the Sellman House, this area was used primarily for service buildings. Later, the "north service area" was created farther to the west. The buildings in this area share a common architectural vocabulary: most are wood structures with wood siding and gable roofs. All of the buildings in this area, which were and are largely used for storage, are architecturally indistinguishable from outbuildings constructed on farms throughout the United States during the mid 1930s.

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
 Yes ___ No ___

Retains Integrity: Yes X No ___

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: S. Foell	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 035	Master Plan Page: P-3	Grid: F-4
Building Name/Historic Name: Sweet Potato House		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/North Farm Road and West Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1933-34/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Storage		

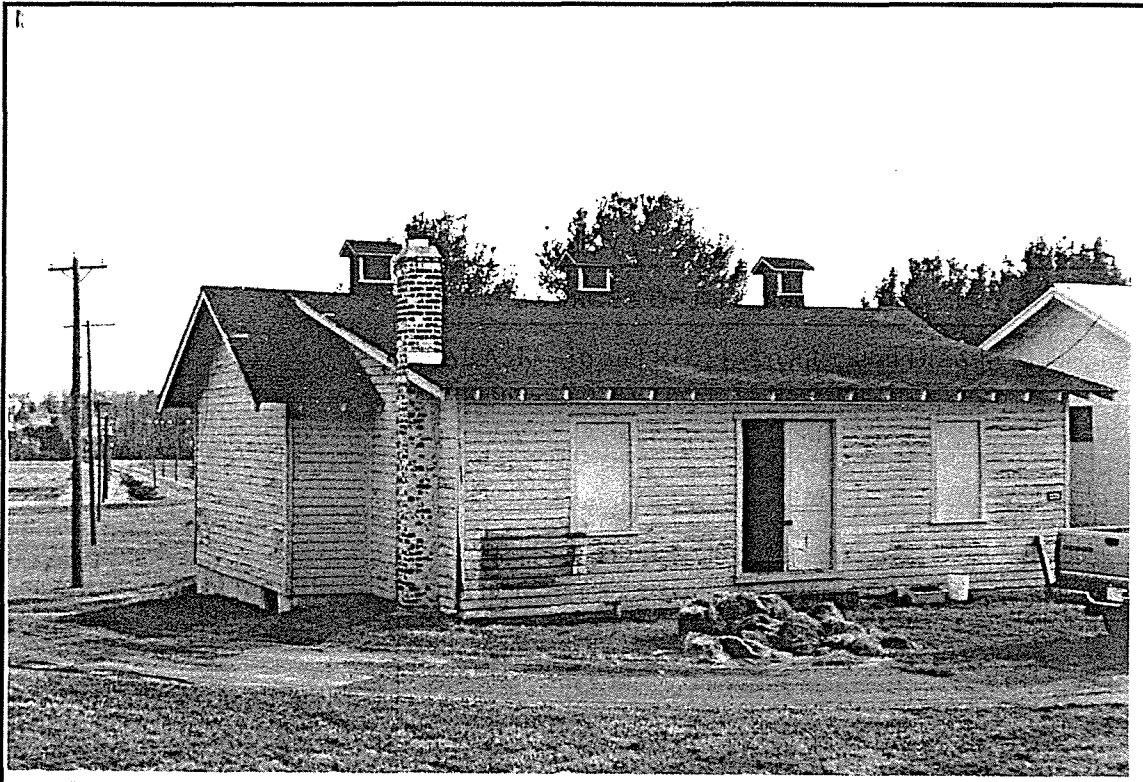


Photo ID: Building 035, West and North Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This is a simple, rectangular, farm storage building of wood construction. The three-bay wide building faces northwest and is the northernmost building in an L-shaped building grouping that also includes Buildings 036 and 037. The building has horizontal wood siding, a gable roof with asphalt shingles, concrete foundations, and a central, wood, two-leaf door. Alterations to the building include the infilling of windows located on the side of the building and the addition of three prominent vents at the roofline. The building is in good condition.

The Sweet Potato House was constructed using 1933/34 PWA funds (F.P. 74), and likely was completed in 1933 or 1934. As such, it is part of the first group of service buildings (and, indeed, the first buildings) to be constructed on the North Farm. Located to the east of the Sellman House, this area was used primarily for service buildings. Later, the "north service area" was created farther to the west. The buildings in this area share a common architectural vocabulary: most are small wood structures with wood siding and gabled roofs. All of the buildings in this area, which were and are largely used for storage, are architecturally indistinguishable from outbuildings constructed on farms throughout the United States during the mid 1930s.

The Sweet Potato House was designed by personnel from the Bureau of Plant Industry and was constructed at a cost of \$2,000. Although the building is now used for other types of storage, it was constructed and used for storing sweet potatoes until recently.

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
 Yes ___ No ___

Retains Integrity: Yes X No ___

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

[Empty box for additional information or photographs]

Name of Surveyor: C. Hooper	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 036	Master Plan Page: P-3	Grid: F-4
Building Name/Historic Name: Soil and Fertilizer Building		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/West Drive and North Farm Road		
Date of Construction/Source: 1934/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Storage		

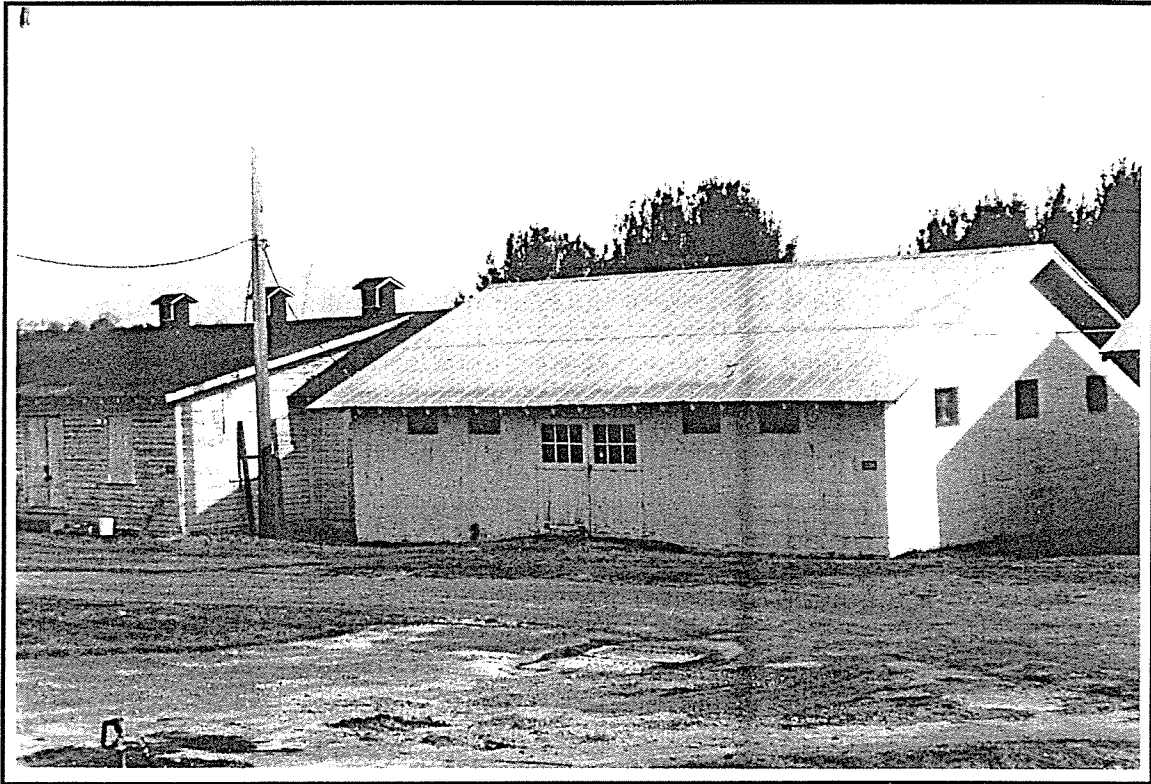


Photo ID: Building 036, West and South Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This is a simple concrete-block storage building. A rectangular building, which faces west, it is five bays wide and three bays deep. The building has a gabled roof with standing-seam metal roofing. Its small, fixed, metal windows are located high on the building -- almost to the eaves. It has central wood garage-type entrance doors on both the front and the rear of the building.

The Soil and Fertilizer Building was constructed using 1933/34 PWA funds (F.P. 84), and likely was completed in 1934. As such, it is part of the first group of service buildings (and, indeed, the first buildings) to be constructed on the North Farm. Located to the east of the Sellman House, this area was used primarily for service buildings. Later, the "north service area" was created farther to the west. Although most buildings in this area share a common architectural vocabulary (small wood structures with wood siding and gabled roofs), Building 036 was designed to store fertilizers and the choice of concrete block was appropriate for safety reasons. All of the buildings in this area, which were and are largely used for storage, are architecturally indistinguishable from outbuildings constructed on farms throughout the United States during the mid 1930s.

The building was designed by personnel from the Bureau of Plant Industry and was constructed at a cost of \$1,500. The building has always been used for the storage of fertilizer and soil.

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District

Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: C. Hooper

Affiliation: R&A

Date: February 1997

BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES

GENERAL

Building No.: 037	Master Plan Page: P-4	Grid: B-7
Building Name/Historic Name: Garage and Implement Shed		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/West Drive and North Farm Road		
Date of Construction/Source: 1934-35/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Storage		

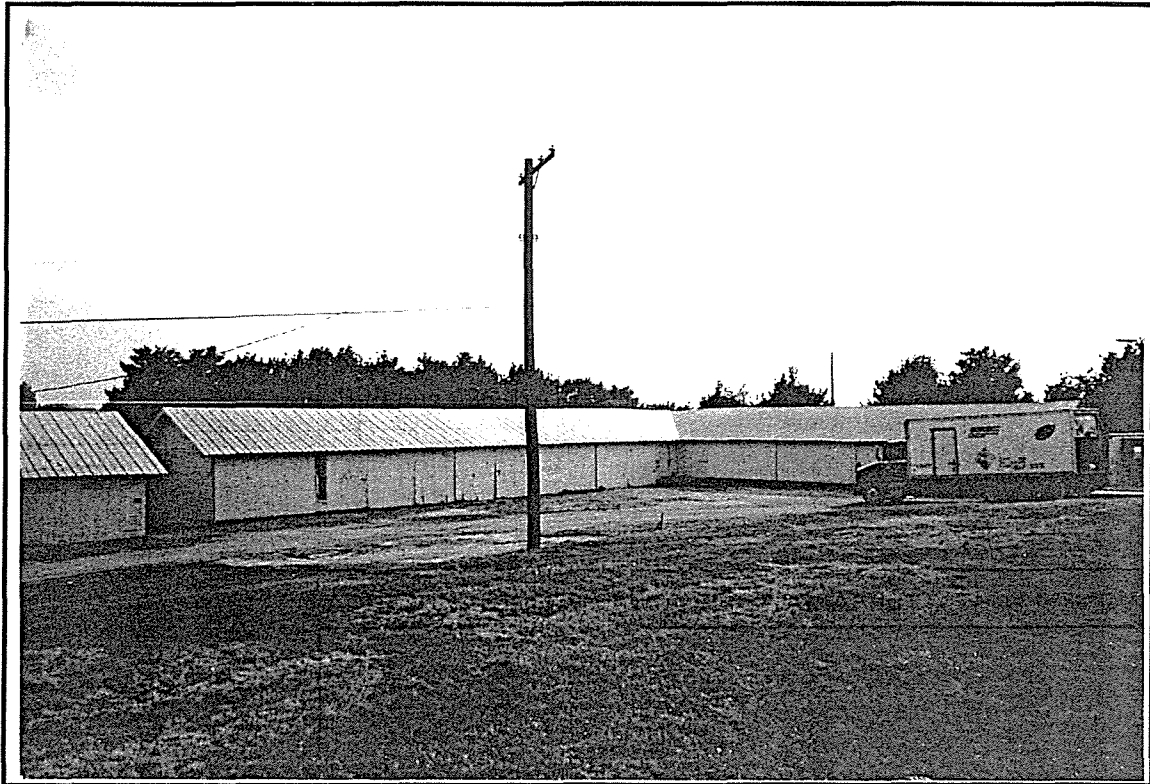


Photo ID: Building 037, West and North Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This L-shaped wood storage building/garage was originally constructed as two separate buildings. It features large sliding galvanized storage doors hung along the entire front facade (facing west and north). The building has a gabled roof with metal roofing material and concrete foundations. The rear (east) facade has five, wood, six-over-six, double-hung windows and horizontal wood siding. The building is in good condition.

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes X No ___

Retains Integrity: Yes X No ___

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: C. Hooper	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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History And Significance

The Garage and Implement Shed was constructed (as two buildings) using 1933/34 PWA funds. The implement shed (the southern section of the building) was likely completed in 1934, and the garage was likely completed in 1934 or 1935. As such, the building is part of the first group of service buildings (and, indeed, the first buildings) to be constructed on the North Farm. Located to the east of the Sellman House, this area was used primarily for service buildings. Later, the "north service area" was created farther to the west. The buildings in this area share a common architectural vocabulary: most are small wood structures with wood siding and gabled roofs. All of the buildings in this area, which were and are largely used for storage, are architecturally indistinguishable from outbuildings constructed on farms throughout the United States during the mid 1930s.

The southern portion was constructed to house farm implements. A section of this part of the building was also used for a carpenter shop. The other section of the building was constructed to store cars and farm vehicles. Both buildings were designed by personnel from the Bureau of Plant Industry.

BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES

GENERAL

Building No.: 038	Master Plan Page: P-3	Grid: E-5
Building Name/Historic Name: Potato House		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry/Intersection of Service Road and West Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: c. 1933/Phase III Report		
Historic Use/Current Use: Potato Storage		

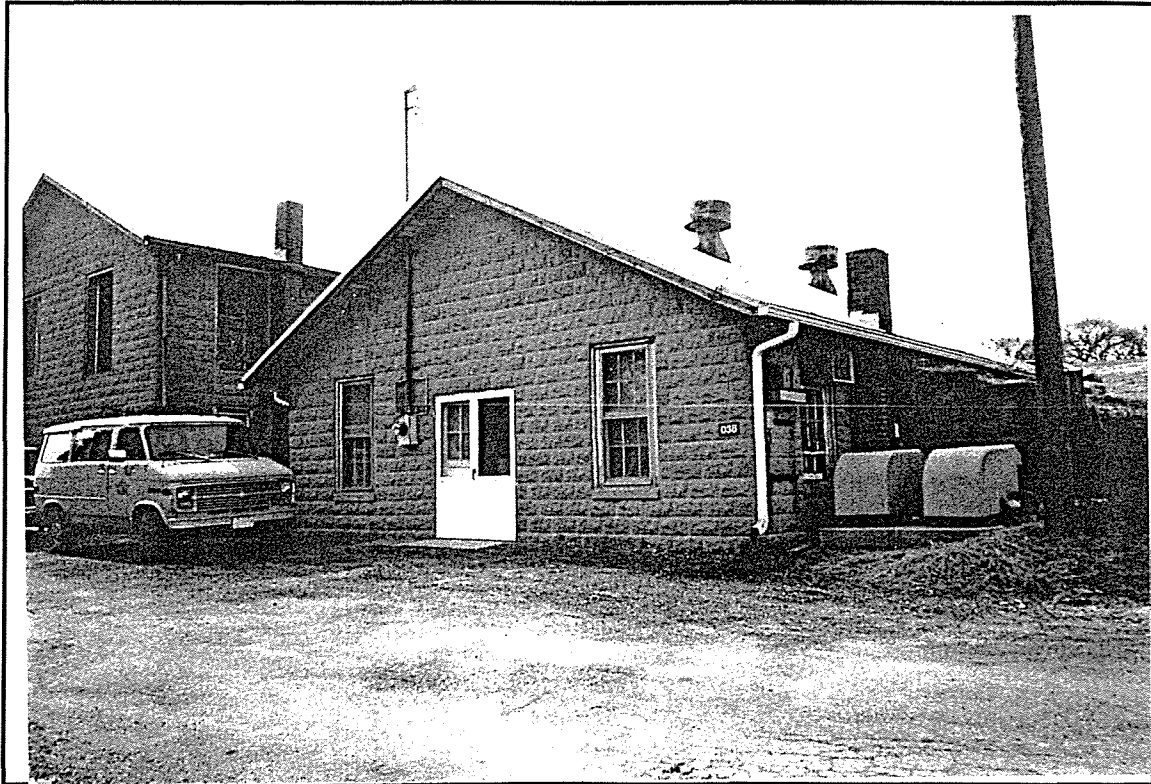


Photo ID: Building 038, East and North Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This is one of three partially subterranean plant material storage buildings. The one-story rectangular building faces east and is of rock-faced, cast-concrete block construction. The building foundation is not visible. It has three bays on the east facade, which feature replacement storm doors and original wood doors. Storm windows cover original six-over-six, double-hung wood windows on the east, north, and south facades. The west facade is built into the side of a hill. The front gable roof is covered with corrugated metal roofing material. The roof also features exposed wooden rafters with a large overhang and there are aerators on the ridgeline. The building currently contains office space and a potato storage area. It is in good condition.

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District

Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: S. Foell

Affiliation: R&A

Date: February 1997

History and Significance

This building is one of three "Bank Storage Buildings" which were used to house plant products needing cold storage. The Bank Storage Buildings (Buildings 038, 039, and 040) were constructed using 1933/34 PWA funds (F.P. 73) and likely completed in 1933 or 1934. As such, the buildings are a part of the first group of service buildings (and, indeed, the first buildings) to be constructed on the North Farm. Although two of the three buildings (Buildings 039 and 040) are now abandoned, when occupied all were in continuous use as storage facilities for experimental stock.

Located to the east of the Sellman House, this area was used primarily for service buildings. Later, the "north service area" was created farther to the west. The Bank Storage Buildings are the most geographically separated of the buildings located in the first service area and are distinguishable from the others also in terms of material.

The three buildings were constructed at a cost of \$5,000. Preliminary sketches of the buildings were prepared by personnel from the Bureau of Plant Industry and approved by the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering. 1933/34 CWA funds were used to construct shelves, tables, and a concrete floor in the building.

Building 038 was constructed for use by the Division of Fruit and Vegetable Crops and Diseases for the storage of potatoes. Through its history, the Division's facility at BARC conducted extensive research on potatoes. It was responsible for the creation of many of the types of potatoes currently in use in the United States.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 039	Master Plan Page: P-3	Grid: E-5
Building Name/Historic Name: Bulb House		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry/ Intersection of Service Road and West Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: c. 1933/ Phase III Report		
Historic Use/Current Use: Bulb Storage/ General Storage		

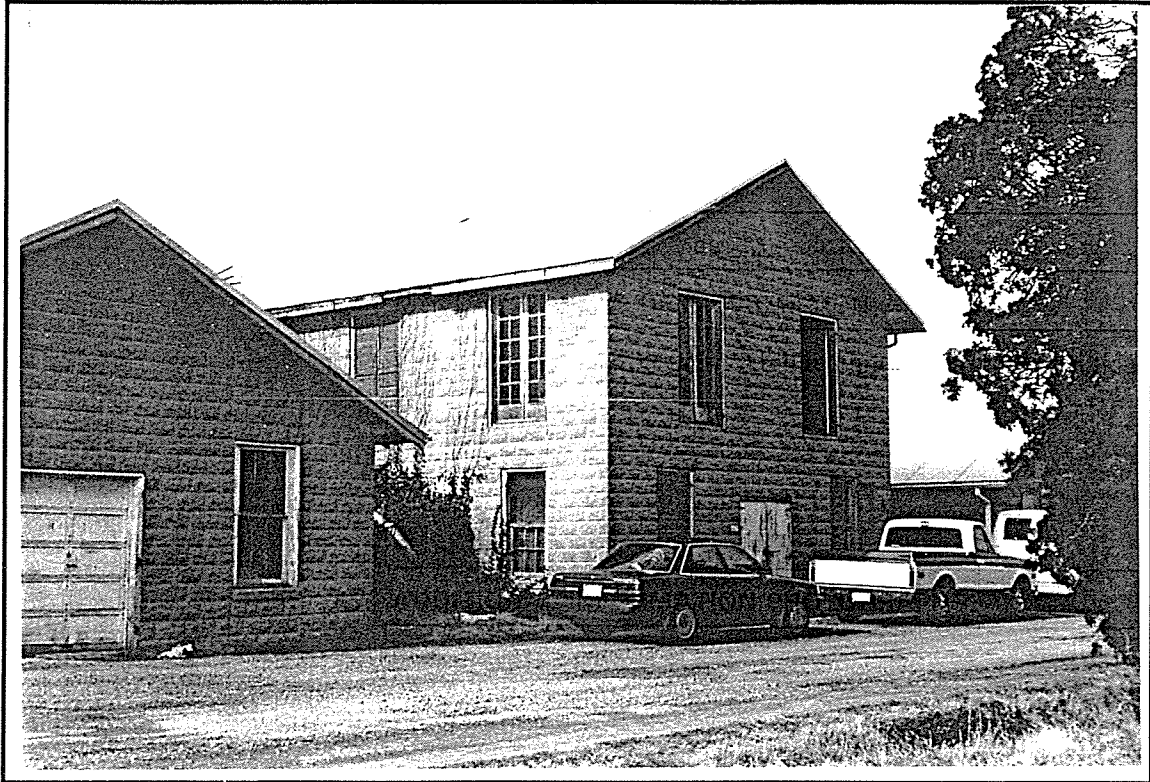


Photo ID: Building 039, South and East Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This is one of three partially subterranean plant material storage buildings. The two-story rectangular building faces east and is of rock-faced cast-concrete block construction. The buildings foundations are not visible. There are three bays on the east facade, which features large double wooden doors on the first floor and ten-pane double wood doors on the second floor. Six-over-six, double-hung wood sash windows are located on the first floor. Some of the doors and windows on the second floor are covered with wood shutters. There are galvanized gutters. The roof is a front gable design and is covered with corrugated metal panels. The building is in good condition. A retaining wall runs between Buildings 039 and 040.

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes X No

Retains Integrity: Yes X No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: S. Foell	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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History and Significance

This building is one of three "Bank Storage Buildings" which were used to house plant products needing cold storage. These three buildings (Buildings 038, 039, and 040) were constructed using 1933/34 PWA funds (F.P. 73) and likely completed in 1933 or 1934. As such, the three buildings are a part of the first group of service buildings (and, indeed, the first buildings) to be constructed on the North Farm. Although two of the three buildings (Buildings 039 and 040) are now abandoned, when occupied all were in continuous use as storage facilities for experimental stock.

Located to the east of the Sellman House, this area was used primarily for service buildings. Later, the "north service area" was created farther to the west. The Bank Storage Buildings are the most geographically separated of the buildings located in the first service area and are distinguishable from the others also in terms of material.

The three buildings were constructed at a cost of \$5,000. Preliminary sketches of the buildings were prepared by personnel from the Bureau of Plant Industry and approved by the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering.

Building 039 was used for the storage of bulbs. Through its history, the Bureau of Plant Industry's facility at BARC did extensive work on bulb plants. For instance, research by the Bureau of Plant Industry produced the first American Easter lily bulbs, which had previously been imported from Japan.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 040	Master Plan Page: P-3	Grid: E-5
Building Name/Historic Name: Fruit Storage Building		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/Service Road and West Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: c. 1933/Phase III		
Historic Use/Current Use: Storage		

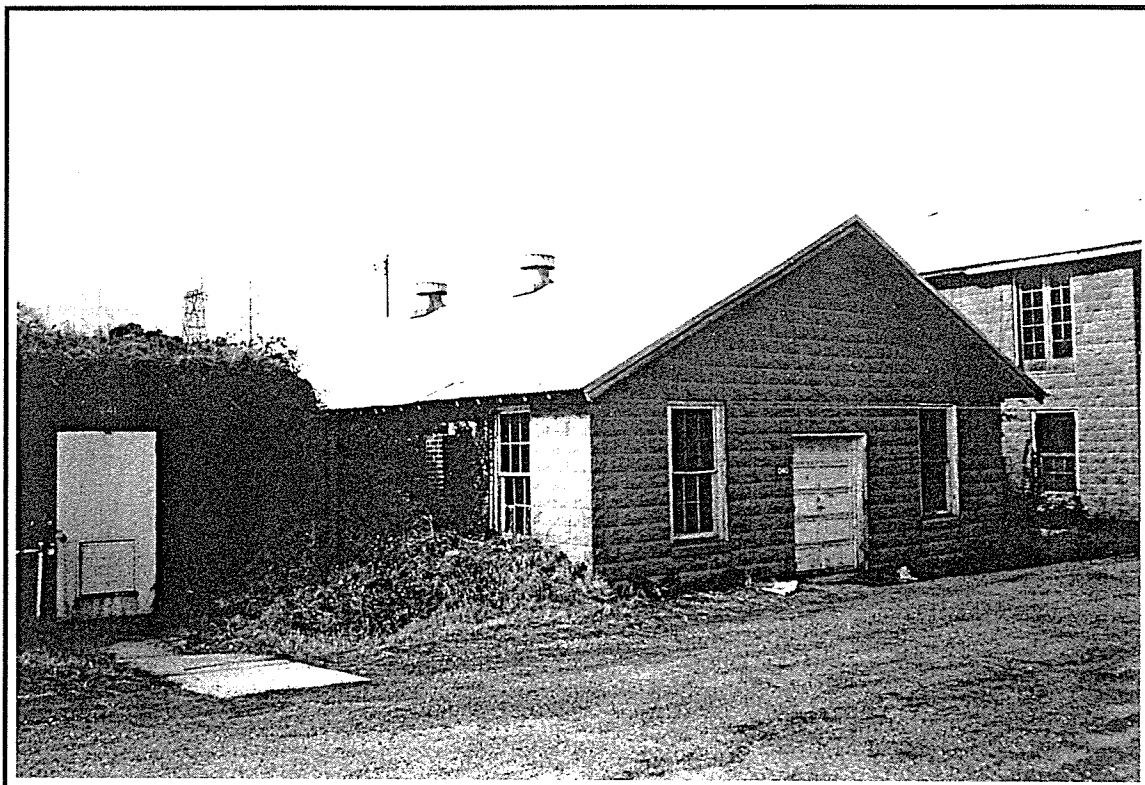


Photo ID: Building 040, East and South Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

Building 040 is one of three partially subterranean plant material storage buildings. The two-story rectangular building faces east and is of rock-faced, cast-concrete block construction. The exposed, front (east) facade features three bays. The central bay consists of a roll-type garage door, the side bays consist of six-over-six, double-hung windows. The partially exposed side facades feature a single bay. The building has a gable roof with corrugated metal roofing and two ventilators. The building is little altered (although plexiglass has been added to the windows) and is in good condition. The building foundation is not visible. A retaining wall runs between Buildings 039 and 040.

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes X No

Retains Integrity: Yes X No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

[Empty box for additional information or photographs]

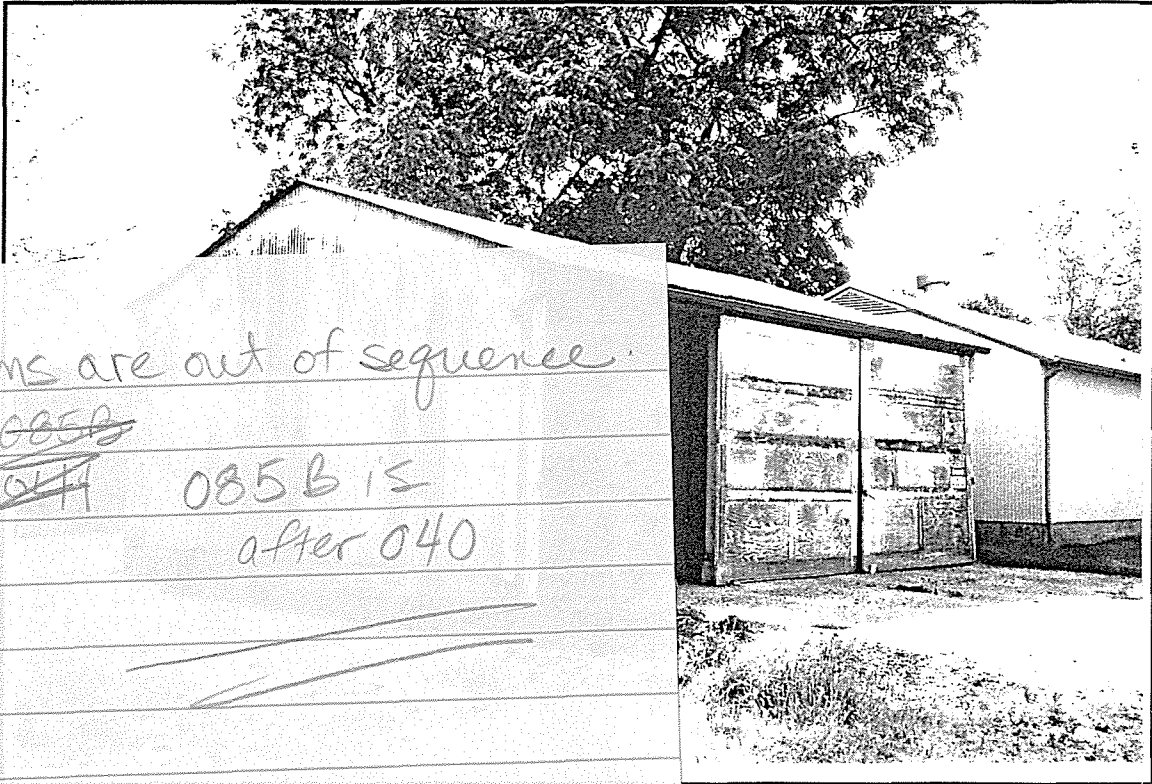
Name of Surveyor: C. Hooper	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD

SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES

GENERAL

Building No.: 085B	Master Plan Page: P-5	Grid: A-3
Building Name/Historic Name: Granary Garage		
Farm Area/Street Address: Central Farm/Bureau of Dairy Industry/Powder Mill Road		
Date of Construction/Source: 1935/BAMS; 1933/Drawings		
Historic Use/Current Use: Support/Equipment Building for Granary		



Forms are out of sequence.

~~085B~~

~~040~~

085B is

after 040

Photo ID: Building 085B, North and West

DESCRIPTION (notable features, significant characteristics)

This building is a small metal shed with a wood substructure. It has a gable roof. Both the siding and the roofing material are corrugated metal. The only openings are on the south side, which has two large sliding doors.

It has a poured concrete foundation and sliding doors.

This building was constructed as a support building for the granary. The granary served as a processing plant for regular feeding operations for the Bureau of Dairy Industry. For more information on the granary, see the building form for Building 085.

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District

Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16, 17, 152, 310 and 54, Entry 135 D, Box 4; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

[Empty box for additional information or photographs]

Name of Surveyor: D. Bloom	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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History and Significance

This building is one of three "Bank Storage Buildings" which were used to house plant products needing cold storage. These three buildings (Buildings 038, 039, and 040) were constructed using 1933/34 PWA funds (Project F.P. 73) and likely completed in 1933 or 1934. As such, the three buildings are a part of the first group of service buildings (and, indeed, the first buildings) to be constructed on the North Farm. Although two of the three buildings (Buildings 039 and 040) are now abandoned, when occupied all were in continuous use as storage facilities for experimental stock.

Located to the east of the Sellman House, this area was used primarily for service buildings. Later, the "north service area" was created farther to the west. The Bank Storage Buildings are the most geographically separated of the buildings located in the old service area and are distinguishable from the others also in terms of material.

The three buildings were constructed at a cost of \$5,000. Preliminary sketches of the buildings were prepared by personnel from the Bureau of Plant Industry and approved by the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering.

Building 040 was used for the storage of fruit products and/or nursery stock by the Division of Fruit and Vegetable Crops and Disease. Through its history, the Division's facility at BARC did extensive research relating to fruit products.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 041	Master Plan Page: P-3	Grid: E-5
Building Name/Historic Name: Fallout Shelter		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - North Farm/Service Road and West Drive		
Date of Construction/Source: 1943-1963/Oral History Source		
Historic Use/Current Use: Storage		

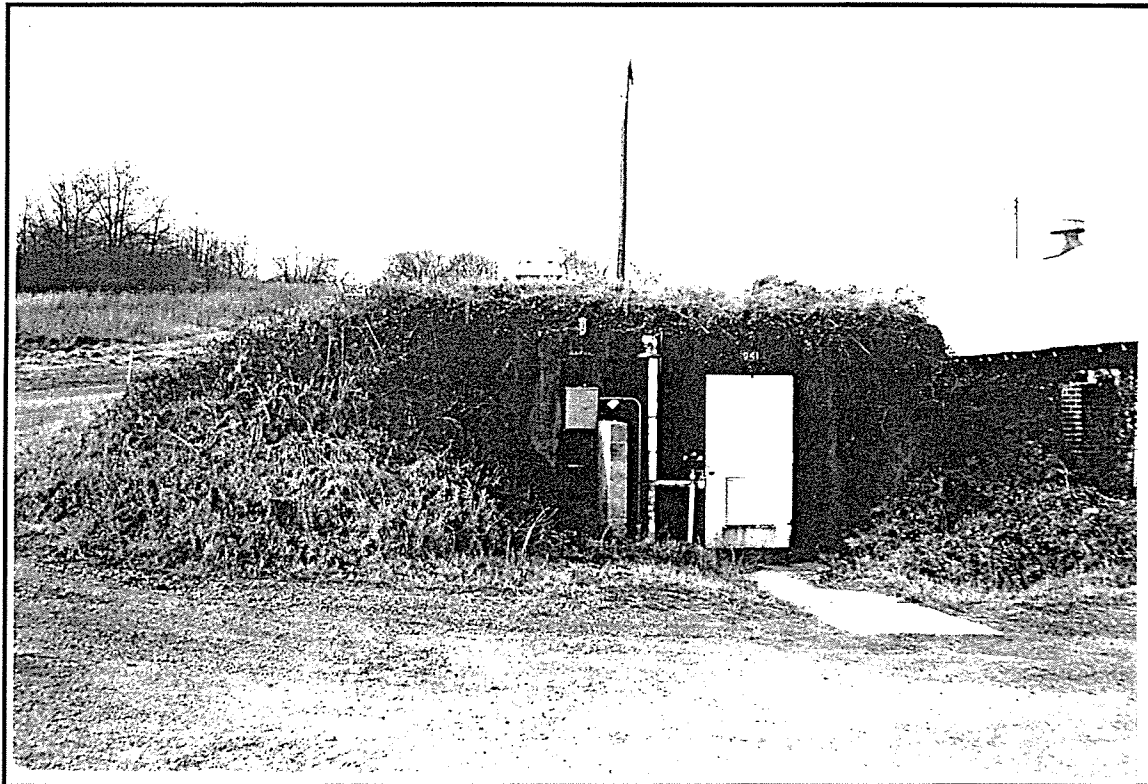


Photo ID: Building 041, East Facade, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This building is one of a grouping of four buildings located in the north-central area of the North Farm. It is a small subterranean bunker of concrete construction. The building is built into an earth mound and only a door and a portion of a concrete wall are exposed.

No written documentation relating to Building 041 has been located. However, according to oral history sources, it was constructed as a fallout shelter, perhaps in the early 1960s, to house records and documents in the event of nuclear attack. The building is part of a grouping of earlier concrete-block buildings but does not appear to have any direct relationship to them. The building site was likely chosen to take advantage of the hilly location.

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Oral History Telephone Interview with Preston Enzian, 1/15/97; NARA, RG 16 and RG 54; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES

GENERAL

Building No.: 057	Master Plan Page: P-9	Grid: D-5
Building Name/Historic Name: Pumphouse		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - South Farm/Off of Orchard Loop		
Date of Construction/Source: c. 1941-55/Maps		
Historic Use/Current Use: Pumping Station		

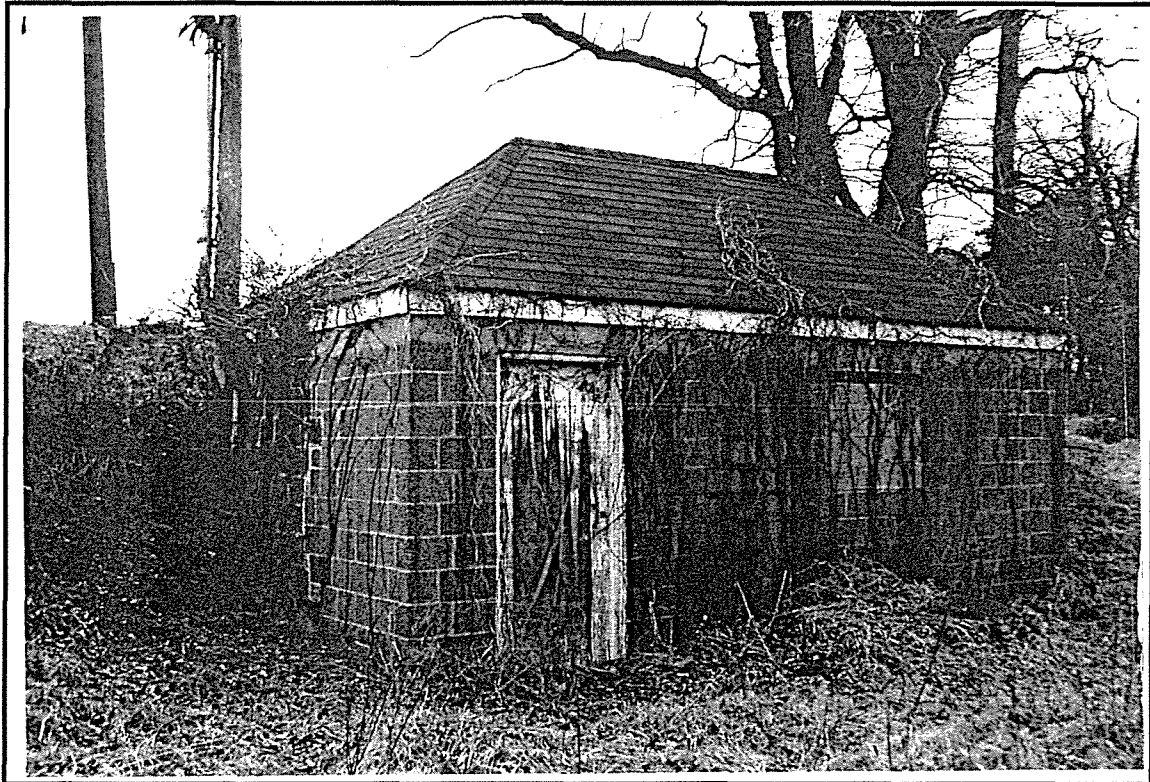


Photo ID: Building 057, East and South Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This is a small, one-story, rectangular, concrete-block pump house with a hipped roof covered in roll-type asphalt shingles. Set into the side of a small hill, it is located immediately to the west of Paint Branch. The building faces west towards one of the main service roads of the South Farm. The front or west facade of the building features a single wood door in the north end bay and a window opening that has been filled in. The single window openings on the north and south facades of the building have also been filled in. The building is covered in vines, but appears otherwise to be in good condition.

Building 057 is located approximately 50 feet from Orchard Loop on the slope adjacent to Little Paint Branch Creek. Only the hipped roof of this building is visible from the road. A compact group of mature evergreens, consisting of mostly holly (*Ilex opaca*) and pine (*Pinus sp.*), with some understory trees and shrubs, stands north of Building 057. This planting was established prior to the development of the Bureau, as it is a prominent feature of the 1937 aerial photographs. Until recently, these evergreens represented the only large-scale vegetation growing along the banks of the Creek. The riparian vegetation presently growing along both embankments appears to have been allowed to develop only within the last several years. For more specific information on the South Farm landscape, see the Landscape Survey Form.

Although construction information about the pump house has not been located, it appears to have been constructed between 1943 and 1955. The pump house was part of the combined potable and irrigation water system which serviced the entire South Farm. From the time of its construction, the building provided support facilities for the farm operations of the South Farm. During the 1940s and 1950s, research conducted on the farm included a variety of scientific experiments on plants, related in particular to field crops. The South Farm is now on a municipal water system and the building no longer functions as a pump house.

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
 Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: C. Hooper

Affiliation: R&A

Date: January 1997

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 060	Master Plan Page: P-9	Grid: C-6
Building Name/Historic Name: Service Building "D"		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - South Farm		
Date of Construction/Source: 1942/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Farm Equipment/Storage		

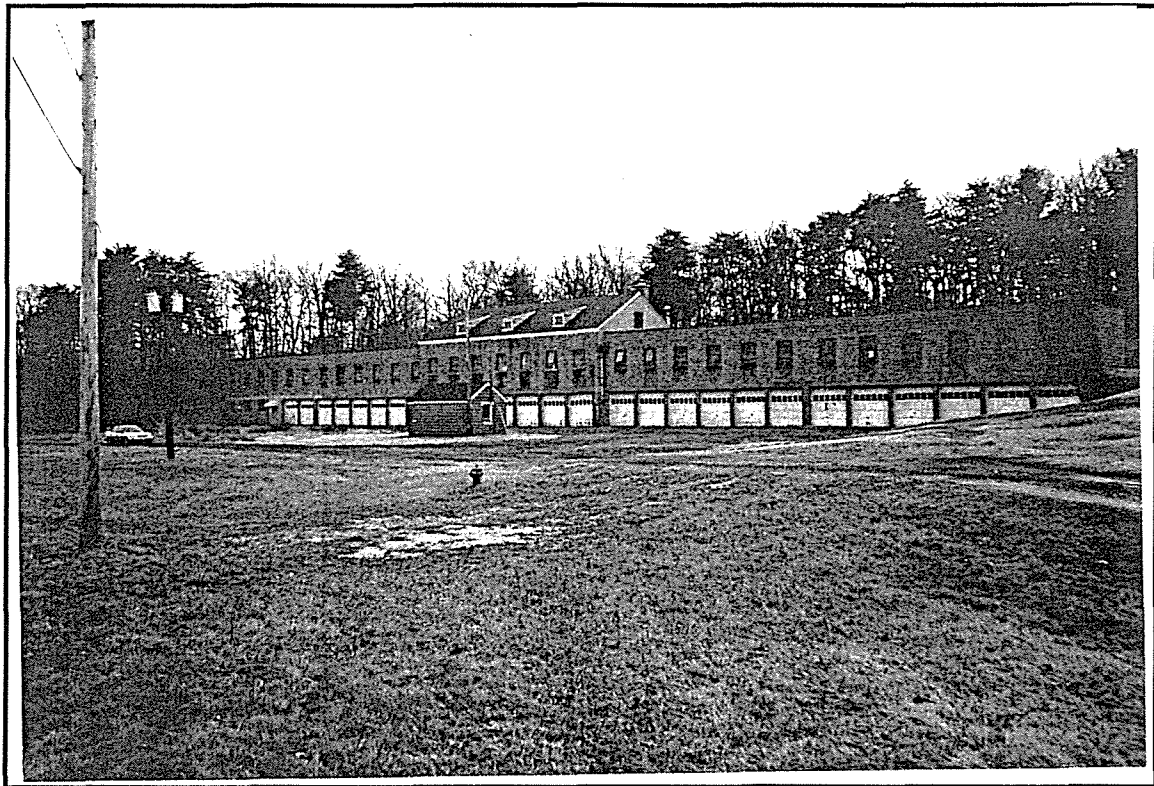


Photo ID: Building 60, North Facade, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

See Continuation Sheet

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes X No

Retains Integrity: Yes X No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 54, Entry 151A, Box 1
Telephone Interview with Preston Enzian, former BARC employee, April 25, 1997
Building Plans (located in Facilities and Engineering, Building 426, BARC)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: Carol Hooper	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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Description

This is an extremely long (31 bays) concrete-block service/storage building, oriented along an east-west axis and set into a hill at the southwestern perimeter of the South Farm property. The building consists of three sections: two side sections (each 122 feet long) with flat roofs, and a central section (73 feet long) with a side-gabled roof punctuated by three shed-roof dormers. The front or north facade of the building is two-and-a-half stories high with a continuous row of wooden garage doors at the first-floor level and metal casement windows at the second-floor level. The one-story rear or south facade has roll-type garage doors along the side sections and a window and a central entrance in the middle section. The metal windows that are used throughout the building are fixed multipane sash with a central pivoting section. The building contains approximately 23,000 square feet of floor space.

Landscape Features

The site of Building 060 had once been part of a mature woodland that was classified by the Maryland Board of Forestry in 1912 as "culled hardwood and scrub pine." Analysis of historic maps indicates that a portion of this land was cleared sometime between circa 1912 and 1937. As early as 1941, the Bureau of Plant Industry utilized the cleared area for the cultivation of grasses. A 1943 Soil Conservation Service (SCS) plan recommended that the area continue to be used for similar research and also proposed contour cultivation to control erosion.

The 1943 plan did not succeed on this part of the South Farm, and Building 060 was subsequently constructed on the open land. A thick stand of trees and understory continues to cover the portion of the area where the historic woodland once grew. Today, the woodland surrounds Building 060 on the south and west, screens the adjacent lands, and provides habitats for wildlife, such as the red fox. A 1997 site visit revealed that this wooded area is used for research, and also for the disposal of materials, such as construction debris.

South Farm Road provides access to Building 060. This paved road divides in two west of the building, with one segment continuing to Building 062 and the other looping up and around the east, south and west sides of Building 060. The loop provides access to the second story of the building on the long southern side, where it was built into the slope of a hill. For more specific information on the South Farm landscape, see the Landscape Survey form.

History and Significance

Building 060 is associated with the large building boom at the Bureau of Plant Industry's facilities at Beltsville in the 1940s that accompanied the closing the Bureau's facility in Arlington, Virginia. From the time of its construction, the building provided support facilities for the farm operations of the South Farm. During the 1940s and 1950s, research on the South Farm included a variety of scientific experiments on plants, related in particular to field crops.

The building was designed by the Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, Division of Plans and Service. The building's plans, which date to November 1941, show that it was designed originally to have a cupola marking the center of the building. According to a contemporary description, Building 060 was constructed "to care for the needs of the South Farm . . ." From its construction until it was vacated in the 1990s, the building was used for service-related functions on the South Farm. The first floor was used for garages, shops, and (horse) stables. The second floor housed a farm office, storage space for machinery and tools, and repair facilities for equipment.

The land that comprises the South Farm was acquired in 1940 with funds appropriated for the relocation of Arlington Farms. Although the Bureau of Plant Industry had maintained a major presence in Beltsville since 1933, when it established its experimental work on what is today the North Farm, a major flurry of development came as a result of the closing of the Bureau's Arlington Station. The USDA's first significant plant-research facility in the Washington area, Arlington Farm was located on the Potomac River on land now incorporated as part of the Arlington National Cemetery site and the Pentagon site. Given its prime location, other government agencies pressured the USDA to release the Arlington land beginning as early as 1911; these efforts increased dramatically as defense activities expanded in the late 1930s. The Department of Agriculture continually lobbied Congress for funds to move the Arlington facility. Finally, on October 9, 1940, an appropriation in the Department of War's budget was approved to provide \$3,200,000 for the relocation of Arlington Station. The appropriation was used for the acquisition of 606 acres of additional land (including all of the South Farm) and for the construction of fifteen buildings. In addition to a number of large buildings on the North Farm (i.e., Building 001, 003, 005, and 007), the appropriation funded Service Building "D" (Building 060). It was completed in 1942 at a cost of \$47,770.22.

BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES

GENERAL

Building No.: 061	Master Plan Page: P-9	Grid: C-6
Building Name/Historic Name: Gas Station		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - South Farm		
Date of Construction/Source: 1941-55/Oral History		
Historic Use/Current Use: Gas Station/Vacant		



Photo ID: Building 061, South and East Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

Building 061 is a small, one-story, utilitarian storage building of concrete-block construction. It is located immediately to the north of the South Farm's main farm service building, Building 060. The unpainted building has a side-gabled roof covered with asphalt shingles. The rectangular building's front entrance (located on the south facade facing Building 060) has a central wood panelled door, with six lights in the upper half. The east and west end-gable facades each features a single six-over-six, double-hung, wood-frame window, with concrete lintels and sills; there is a small louvered vent in the apex of the gable. There are no openings on the north facade.

No construction information has been located about Building 061. Oral history sources and the building's materials suggest, however, that it was constructed as part of the extensive construction effort of service-type buildings on the North and South Farm during the mid-1940s. Much of this construction was funded by the Arlington Farms relocation appropriation. From the time of its construction onward, this building provided support facilities for the farm operations on the South Farm. During the 1940s and 1950s, research on the South Farm included a variety of scientific experiments on plants, related in particular to field crops.

The building was constructed for use as a gas station, and was used for many years for that purpose. The building later was used for the storage of pesticides, during which time the gas tanks were filled with a sludge-concrete mixture.

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District

Yes ___ No ___

Retains Integrity: Yes X No ___

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 54, Entry 151A, Box 1
Telephone interview with Preston Enzian, former BARC employee, April 25, 1997.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

[Empty box for additional information or photographs]

Name of Surveyor: Carol Hooper	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 062	Master Plan Page: P-9	Grid: B-6
Building Name/Historic Name: Threshing Barn		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - South Farm		
Date of Construction/Source: 1942/NARA		
Historic Use/Current Use: Farm Equipment/Storage		



Photo ID: Building 062, South and East Facades, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

Building 062 is a rectangular garage/storage building of concrete-block construction. This utilitarian one-story building has a hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles and capped by two louvered cupolas. A concrete belt course encircles the building at the cornice level. The main (east and west) facades each have two large metal garage doors; the west facade has a central filled-in window between the two doors. The north and south end facades each feature one garage door in the easternmost bay and a single filled-in window opening at the westernmost bay. Windows throughout have been filled in, but otherwise the building is in good condition. The building is 80 feet long by 36 feet wide and has a concrete floor.

Building 062 is located northwest of Building 060. It was constructed in a low area that consists of woods, sloped research fields, and a drainage channel, which runs into Little Paint Branch Creek. This channel runs its course parallel to the eastern segment of South Farm Service Road.

Building 062 is also served by South Farm Service Road and is sited beyond Building 060. The road ends at Building 062 and circles to the rear of the building, providing access to all facades. For more specific information on the South Farm landscape, see the Landscape Survey form.

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes X No

Retains Integrity: Yes X No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 54, Entry 151A, Box 1
Telephone interview with Preston Enzian, former BARC employee, April 25, 1997

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: C. Hooper	Affiliation: R&A	Date: February 1997
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Building 062 is associated with the large building boom at the Bureau of Plant Industry's Beltsville facilities in the 1940s that accompanied the closing of its facility in Arlington, Virginia. From the time of its construction, the building provided support facilities for the farm operations on the South Farm. During the 1940s and 1950s, this research included a variety of scientific experiments on plants, related in particular to field crops.

According to a contemporary source, the threshing barn was used "to house equipment for handling cereal, forage, and sugar beet seeds to replace the structure abandoned at Arlington." The garage-door entrances to the building accommodated large equipment and the handling and storage of quantities of experimental materials. The building housed threshing machines, in particular for soybeans. Housing the threshing machines inside permitted threshing to take place when conditions outside were unfavorable.

The land that comprises the South Farm was acquired in 1940 with funds appropriated for the relocation of Arlington Farms. Although the Bureau of Plant Industry had maintained a major presence in Beltsville since 1933, when it established its experimental work on what is today the North Farm, a major flurry of development came as a result of the closing of the Bureau's Arlington Station. The USDA's first significant plant-research facility in the Washington area, Arlington Farm was located on the Potomac River on land now incorporated as part of the Arlington National Cemetery site and the Pentagon site. Given its prime location, other government agencies pressured the USDA to release the Arlington land beginning as early as 1911; these efforts increased dramatically as defense activities expanded in the late 1930s. The Department of Agriculture continually lobbied Congress for funds to move the Arlington facility. Finally, on October 9, 1940, an appropriation in the Department of War's budget was approved to provide \$3,200,000 for the relocation of Arlington Station. The appropriation was used for the acquisition of 606 acres of additional land (including all of the South Farm) and for the construction of fifteen buildings. In addition to a number of large buildings on the North Farm (i.e., Building 001, 003, 005, and 007), the appropriation funded the Threshing Barn (Building 062). The building was completed in 1942 at a cost of \$8,738.43.

BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES

GENERAL

Building No.: 063	Master Plan Page: P-9	Grid: B-6
Building Name/Historic Name: Cold Storage Cellar		
Farm Area/Street Address: Bureau of Plant Industry - South Farm		
Date of Construction/Source: c.1942-1946/Oral History Source		
Historic Use/Current Use: Produce Storage/Vacant		



Photo ID: Building 063, North Facade, 2/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

Building 063 is a bunker-like subterranean storage building of concrete construction. The structure is built into a small hill and the only visible part of the building is the entrance, which faces north towards Building 062. The visible north facade consists principally of a pair of large wooden hinged garage-type doors, with six lights in each upper half and louvers in each lower half. The doors to the building are in poor condition; the building otherwise appears to retain integrity. The interior of the building is still outfitted with shelves for storing farm produce.

Landscape Features

Building 063 is located on South Farm Service Road, south of Building 062. This building was constructed into the side of an embankment, or berm, which is now overgrown with shrubs and vines that almost completely cover the building.

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 54, Entry 151A, Box 1
Telephone interview with Preston Enzian, former BARC employee, April 25, 1997

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

This building was likely constructed prior to 1946. It appears probable that it was one of the minor support buildings (described as "Garages and Misc. Service Structures - South Farm") constructed with funds from the Arlington Relocation appropriation. As such, Building 063 is associated with the large building boom at the Bureau of Plant Industry's Beltsville facilities in the 1940s that accompanied the closing of its facility in Arlington, Virginia. From the time of its construction, the building provided support facilities for the farm operations on the South Farm. During the 1940s and 1950s, the research conducted on the South Farm included a variety of scientific experiments on plants, related in particular to field crops. Building 063 was used for many years for the storage of sugar beets; it is now vacant.

The land that comprises the South Farm was acquired in 1940 with funds appropriated for the relocation of Arlington Farms. Although the Bureau of Plant Industry had maintained a major presence in Beltsville since 1933, when it established its experimental work on what is today the North Farm, a major flurry of development came as a result of the closing of the Bureau's Arlington Station. The USDA's first significant plant-research facility in the Washington area, Arlington Farm was located on the Potomac River on land now incorporated as part of the Arlington National Cemetery site and the Pentagon site. Given its prime location, other government agencies pressured the USDA to release the Arlington land beginning as early as 1911; these efforts increased dramatically as defense activities expanded in the late 1930s. The Department of Agriculture continually lobbied Congress for funds to move the Arlington facility. Finally, on October 9, 1940, an appropriation in the Department of War's budget was approved to provide \$3,200,000 for the relocation of Arlington Station. The appropriation was used for the acquisition of 606 acres of additional land (including all of the South Farm) and for the construction of fifteen buildings. In addition to a number of large buildings on the North Farm (i.e., Building 001, 003, 005, and 007), the appropriation funded a number of smaller support buildings, including this underground storage building.

**BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES**

GENERAL

Building No.: 085	Master Plan Page: P-5	Grid: A-3
Building Name/Historic Name: Granary Warehouse		
Farm Area/Street Address: Linkage Farm		
Date of Construction/Source: 1936 with a 1939 addition/Drawings		
Historic Use/Current Use: Granary Warehouse		

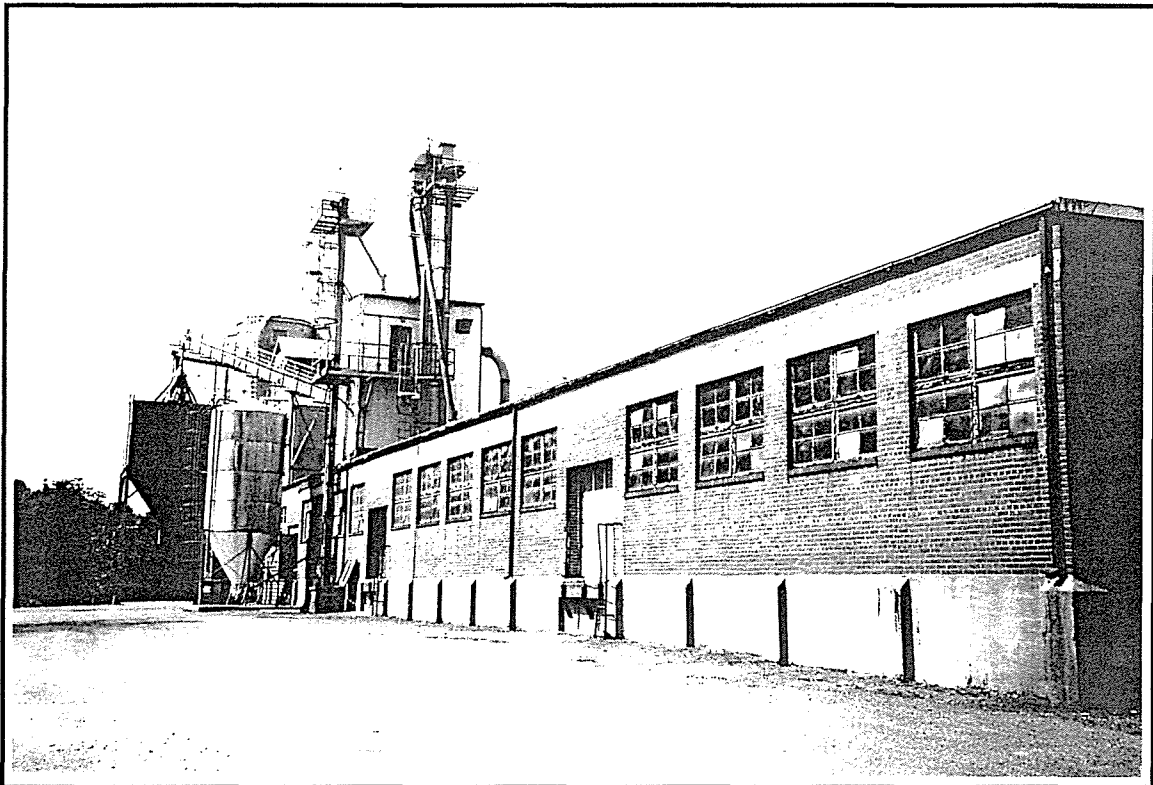


Photo ID: Building 085, East Facade, 6/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

See Continuation Sheet

See Continuation Sheet

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District

Yes X No

Retains Integrity: Yes X No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16, 17, 152, 310 and 54, Entry 135 D, Box 4; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

[Empty box for additional information or photographs]

Name of Surveyor: D. Bloom/S. Foell

Affiliation: R&A

Date: February 1997

Description

Building 085 is divided into three sections. The east section is dominated by four poured-concrete silos. The middle section is a three-story, poured-concrete building with a gabled roof and clerestory on a north-south axis. The west section is a one-story brick building with a concrete foundation and a flat roof. There is a large amount of mechanical equipment on the roof and a concrete band around the entire section just above the windows. The east facade consists of the four silos at the north end. Attached to the silos is a poured-concrete structure four stories high with a flat roof. It is approximately 10 feet wide and 25 feet high. The first story has a filled in window. The second and third stories each have a single, 15-light, metal-sash window and the fourth story has a 10-light window. Attached to this structure is a large concrete-block storage space that appears to be an addition. It is about 25 feet high and completely open on the east side. The north facade has a large loading apparatus at the east end which is attached to the silos. The north facade of the middle section has concrete steps leading to a door-size opening and two six-over-six metal windows on the first story. The second story has five small vents in a row. The third story has a central 24-light window that is flanked on both sides by an 8-light window. The north facade of the west section is 17 bays wide. One of the bays is a door and two others are garage doors. The remaining bays are windows consisting of a set of four four-light metal windows. The west facade has a concrete-block ramp leading to a garage door. The south facade of the west section has six garage doors with one sliding door for every two openings. There are two other garage door openings that have been filled in at the east end, and the large windows between the doors have also been filled in with matching brick. A concrete loading dock spans the entire facade. The south facade of the middle section has large mechanical equipment on the ground. The first story has a metal door with concrete steps, a single window and a vent. The second story has five small vents in a row. The third story has a central 24-light metal window flanked on the west by an eight-light window. On the east, it is flanked by a door with metal decking that extends over the large storage area to stairs on the south facade of the large storage area. Directly south of Building 085 is a coal yard.

History and Significance

A memo dated July 28, 1933 from Karl E. Parks, Dairy Engineer, to the Sprout Waldron Company (RG 152, Entry 5, Box 77) mentions that in 1931, mill equipment for BARC was purchased from the company. At the time of the purchase, money was not available for the construction of a building suitable for the installation of the equipment; therefore, a barn was used to temporarily house the equipment. However, according to the 1933 memo, Parks indicated that funds would soon become available for the construction of a granary. The letter to Sprout Waldron requested assistance in planning the building and installing the equipment. The building and the equipment were to be used for the preparation of grain feed rations for dairy cattle. Shelled corns, oats, and other grains were to be used. The plan that Parks envisioned included a receiving hopper on the west side of the building for grain that was delivered in bulk. An elevator would discharge the grain into a receiving separator and from the separator, it would be elevated onto a conveyor in the attic which discharged into the whole grain storage bins. A return conveyor on the ground floor returned the grain to the same elevator. In case of heating, the grain could be transferred from one storage bin to another by means of the same elevator and the two conveyors. The elevator could also discharge into check bins over the mill room and from these bins, the grain would go to various mills. The ground feed would be conveyed from the mills to a sacking elevator if it were to be bagged or to a different elevator which would discharge into the ground feed storage bins. Space was provided for four different types of mills, although the initial installation was to include the burr mill and the oat crusher only. A trolley hopper scale provided under the ground feed bins would weigh feeds to be mixed. From the hopper scale, the ground feed went to the second elevator and discharged into the feed mixer. Bagged grain elevated to the mixer would be dumped into a hopper at floor level on the second elevator. All mixed feed would be bagged directly from the feed mixer and hauled to the several stables as required. Parks proposed to install a suitable exhaust fan and duct system

in the attic connected to all elevator heads, storage bins, conveyors and other locations where dust could be eliminated. No response from Sprout Waldron to the 1933 memo was located in the files and there is no correspondence concerning the granary until 1936. While it is possible that Sprout Waldron responded with suggestions for changes, the milling process would have functioned in a similar manner.

On June 25, 1936, the Chief of the Dairy Bureau, Oliver Reed, requested \$50,000 of Public Works Administration funds for the construction of a granary and feed mill at BARC (RG 152, Entry 8, Box 43). However, Reed was concerned that the construction of the granary might interfere with other nutritional studies conducted by the Bureau of Dairy Industry. Responding to Reed's memo, Paul H. Appleby, Assistant to the Secretary of the USDA, stated that the purpose of the granary was to further centralize the work at BARC, giving the bureaus less autonomy and the USDA more control. Appleby alludes to an argument that Reed previously presented, saying it was more cost effective for individual bureaus to govern themselves. Appleby responded that centralization was more likely to be cost effective, and regardless, costs issues of the USDA were the responsibility of the Department. Appleby assured Reed that the granary would be used for regular feeding operations only and would have no effect on procuring special feeds for dietary research of the Bureau.

Three proposed plans for the building exist. All differ only slightly from each other and from the actual building that was constructed. The plans reflect the 1936 date, which coincides with the memo from Appleby to Reed. It is possible that the changes made were based on the suggestions made by the Sprout Waldron Company as a result of Parks' inquiry. Unlike other bureaus, which relied on the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering for building designs, the Bureau of Dairy Industry designed its own buildings, using employees such as Parks who were dairy engineers.

A cost estimate for an addition to the granary warehouse was located in the records of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, Division of Plans and Services. The estimate, dated October 1, 1938, stated that a total of 85,530 cubic feet would be added at a cost of \$12,294. A handwritten addition to the estimate, dated December 1, added \$3,800 to the total, bringing the new total to \$16,094. The costs included excavation, concrete and cement work, plumbing and electric work, and lumber, siding, and painting. The warehouse addition to the granary resembles Building 085A in appearance. Both buildings are brick, with identical metal windows. According to NARA files, the warehouse was constructed in 1939, which would coincide with the date of the addition to the granary.

BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES

GENERAL

Building No.: 085A	Master Plan Page: P-5	Grid: A-3
Building Name/Historic Name: Granary Service Building		
Farm Area/Street Address: Central Farm/Bureau of Dairy Industry/Powder Mill Road		
Date of Construction/Source: 1935/BAMS; 1939 and 1950/Drawings		
Historic Use/Current Use: Support building for main granary		

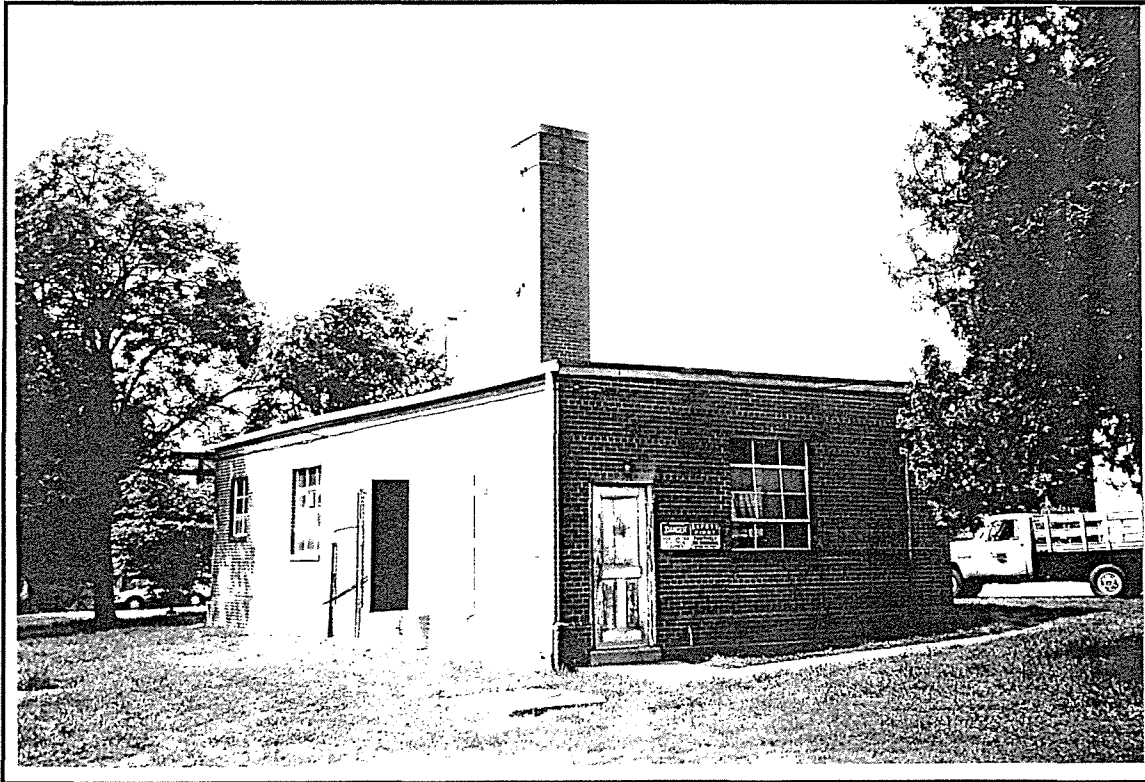


Photo ID: Building 085A, South and West Facades, 6/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This is a one-story brick building. It has a flat roof with a central brick chimney. The north facade has double metal doors which are raised off of the ground. There are also two metal windows, one with 6 lights, the other with 12 lights. The west facade has a wood door and a 12-light window. The south facade has a wood door and four 12-light windows. The east facade has a wood door and a 6-light window.

This building was constructed as a support building for the granary. The granary served as a processing plant for regular feeding operations for the Bureau of Dairy Industry. Building 085A resembles a 1939 addition to Building 085, the granary. Both buildings are constructed of red brick, with identical metal windows. It is likely that the Building 085A and the addition to Building 085 were constructed at the same time. For more information on the granary, see the building form for Building 085.

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
 Yes No

Retains Integrity: Yes No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16, 17, 152, 310 and 54, Entry 135 D, Box 4; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

Name of Surveyor: D. Bloom

Affiliation: R&A

Date: February 1997

BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER—BELTSVILLE, MD
SURVEY FORM: STRUCTURES

GENERAL

Building No.: 085B	Master Plan Page: P-5	Grid: A-3
Building Name/Historic Name: Granary Garage		
Farm Area/Street Address: Central Farm/Bureau of Dairy Industry/Powder Mill Road		
Date of Construction/Source: 1935/BAMS; 1933/Drawings		
Historic Use/Current Use: Support/Equipment Building for Granary		

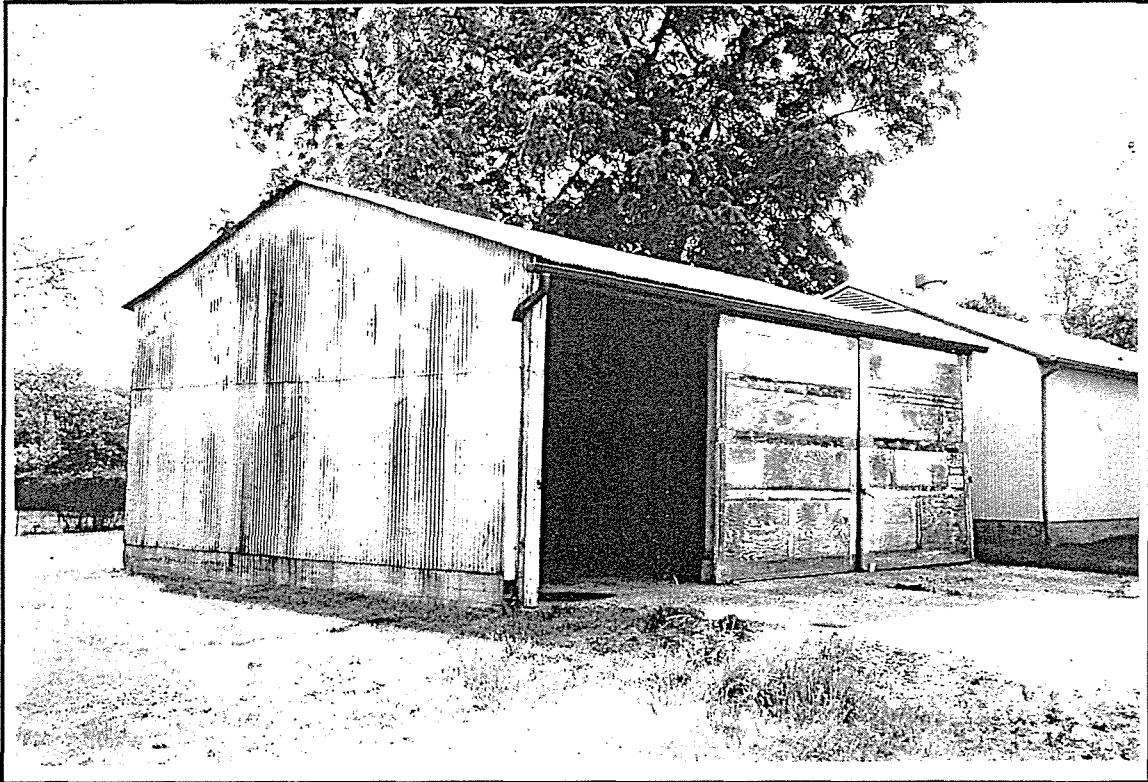


Photo ID: Building 085B, North and West Facades, 6/97

DESCRIPTION (Notable features; significant alterations)

This building is a small metal shed with a wood substructure. It has a poured concrete foundation and floor, and a gable roof. Both the siding and the roofing material are corrugated metal. The only openings are on the south facade, which has two large wood sliding doors.

This building was constructed as a support building for the granary. The granary served as a processing plant for regular feeding operations for the Bureau of Dairy Industry. For more information on the granary, see the building form for Building 085.

PRELIMINARY NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Eligible as Contributing to Potential Historic District
Yes X No

Retains Integrity: Yes X No

MAJOR SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NARA, RG 16, 17, 152, 310 and 54, Entry 135 D, Box 4; Architectural Drawing Collection, Facilities and Engineering Branch, Building 426, BARC.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/PHOTOGRAPHS

[Empty box for additional information or photographs]

Name of Surveyor: D. Bloom

Affiliation: R&A

Date: February 1997

BARC HISTORICAL SURVEY
BUILDING LOCATION MAPS

