# CH-879

# 3371 Mattawoman Beantown Road

**Architectural Survey File**

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the "vertical files" at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

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***Last Updated: 10-11-2011***

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST**
**NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM** CH-879

Property Name: _____ Inventory Number: ~~CH-006~~

Address: 3371 Mattawoman Beantown Road, Charles County - in the vicinity of Waldorf

Owner: Burch, Mark A and Stacie Q

Tax Parcel Number: 220 Tax Map Number: 15

Project MD 301 Agency State Highway Administration (SHA)

Site visit by SHA Staff: X no __ yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Eligibility recommended __ Eligibility **not** recommended X

Criteria __A __B __C __D Considerations: __A __B __C __D __E __F __G X None

Is property located within a historic district?: X no __ yes Name of District: _____

Is district listed?: X no __ yes

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project Review and Compliance Files

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

The farm complex at 3371 Mattawoman Beantown Road is composed of a single family dwelling, a one-story garage, a one-story shed, and two barns. The wood frame house is one-and-one-half stories in height and three bays in width. The house is covered by a dual-pitched, hipped roof clad in asphalt shingles. The dwelling is symmetrical with a central door. A hipped roof dormer pierces the roof above the entry. The house is clad with horizontal siding. The wood frame garage, located to the east of the dwelling, is covered by a side gable roof. Further to the east, the small shed has a shed roof. Located beyond the shed is a two-story, front gambrel roof barn. The barn is clad with vertical wood siding and has a standing seam metal roof. The second barn is located to the north. It is also a two-story, front gambrel roof barn. The barn is clad with vertical wood siding and has a standing seam metal roof.

Most inhabitants of Charles County were engaged in farming at the time of the first settlement. The barn was the principle building erected on a farm which provided space for cows, horses, equipment, and hay, straw or tobacco storage. Throughout the 19th century, barns increased in size or were newly built to include space for smaller animals, such as poultry and pigs, and as a place for the threshing and storage of grain. Their size also increased

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**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

**Eligibility recommended** __ **Eligibility not recommended** X

**Criteria:** X **A** __ **B** X **C** __ **D** **Consideration** __ **A** __ **B** __ **C** __ **D** __ **E** __ **F** __ **G** __ **None**

_____ 10/20/95

**Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services** **Date**

_____ _____

**Reviewer, NR Program** **Date**

during the 19th century as the introduction of improved equipment led to more efficient and profitable operations, and, consequently, to increased need for storage facilities. Typically, livestock was housed on the lower level, while the upper level was reserved for the storage of hay and straw, and the threshing and storage of feed grains.

The gambrel roof barn increased in popularity in the last quarter of the 19th century. The gambrel roof was easily used with lumber-truss construction, which was developed in the third quarter of the 19th century. Gambrel roofs were also added to barns employing traditional timber bent construction. The advantage of the gambrel roof was the increase in loft capacity. This increase in capacity made barns more efficient for hay storage. As farm sizes increased and more animals needed hay, the increased storage capacity became more desirable.

Charles County's late 19th- and early 20th-century history is dominated by industrial and urban development. The greatest impact upon community growth came from the railroad. The completion of the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad's (B&P) mainline from Bowie in Prince George's County to Pope's Creek in Charles County in 1872 prompted local entrepreneurs to establish stores and other commercial facilities near the railroad stations. The B&P Railroad also made inland farms accessible, thus, increasing their value and revitalizing the practice of agriculture in Southern Maryland.

In the first part of the 20th century, the economy of Charles County was based upon agricultural production, especially tobacco. Charles County was one the of the largest producers of tobacco in the State of Maryland. With its economy geared toward agricultural, Charles County was primarily rural and the housing introduced after World War II was on a small scale in comparison to other areas in the country.

Towards the end of the first quarter of the 20th century, road improvements and developments also contributed to Charles County's community evolution. In particular, the Robert Crain Highway, later expanded as part of U.S. 301, attracted new development to older communities along its corridor. Waldorf became an important interchange on the Crain Highway between the rest of Southern Maryland and Washington, D.C. and expanded in the 1920s both commercially and residentially. In 1922 in anticipation of the Crain Highway, J. Spence Howard surveyed and subdivided the village of Waldorf, which came to include such amenities as a hotel, a general store, several small shops, a two-room school, restaurants and entertainment establishments equipped with slot machines.

Built circa 1920, this vernacular dwelling and associated outbuildings are not eligible for the National Register. While this farm complex is an earlier example of agricultural development surrounding Waldorf, this resource lacks

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**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

**Eligibility recommended** __ **Eligibility not recommended** __

**Criteria:** __ **A** __ **B** __ **C** __ **D** **Consideration** __ **A** __ **B** __ **C** __ **D** __ **E** __ **F** __ **G** __ **None**

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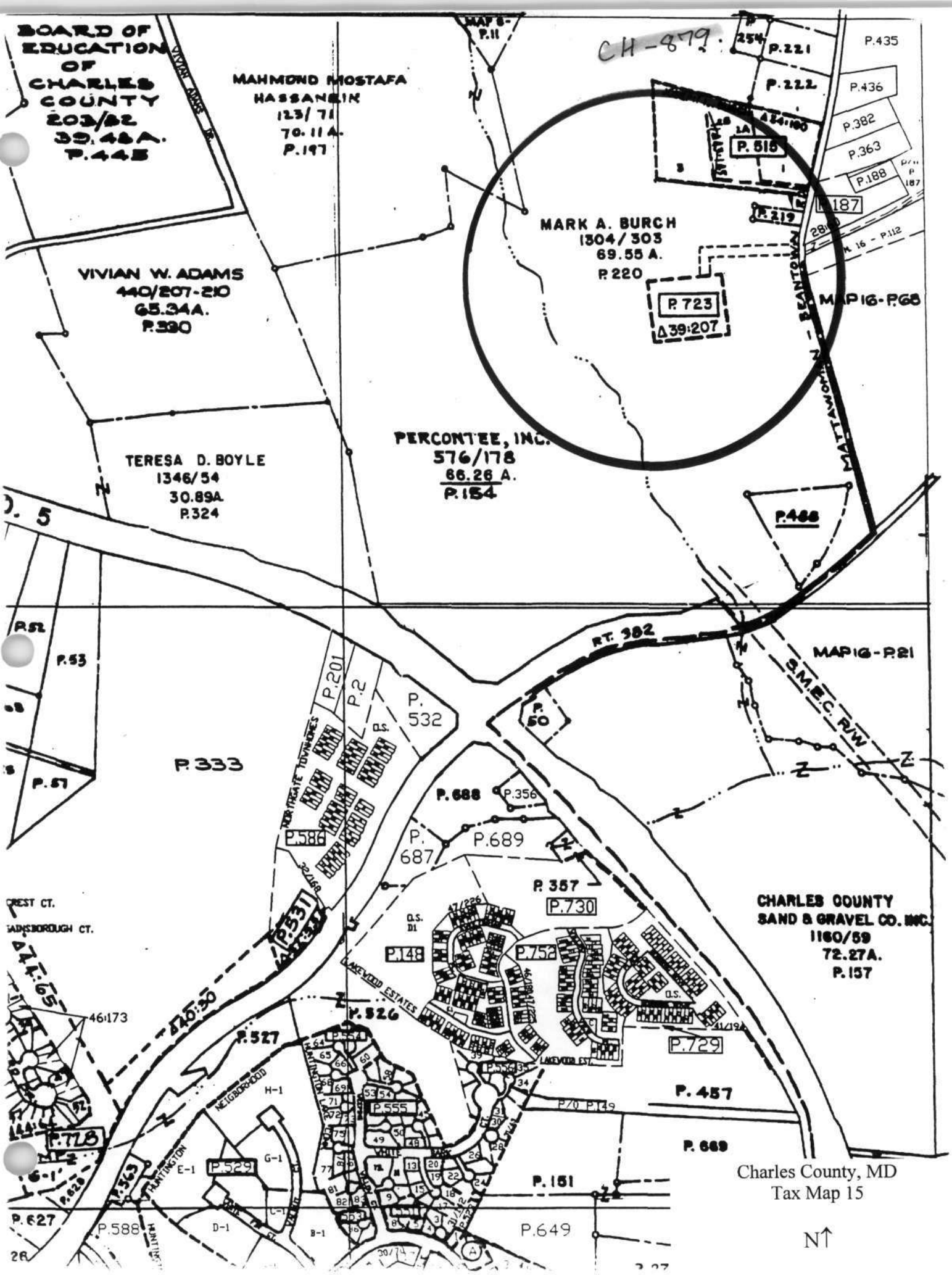
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**Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services** **Date**

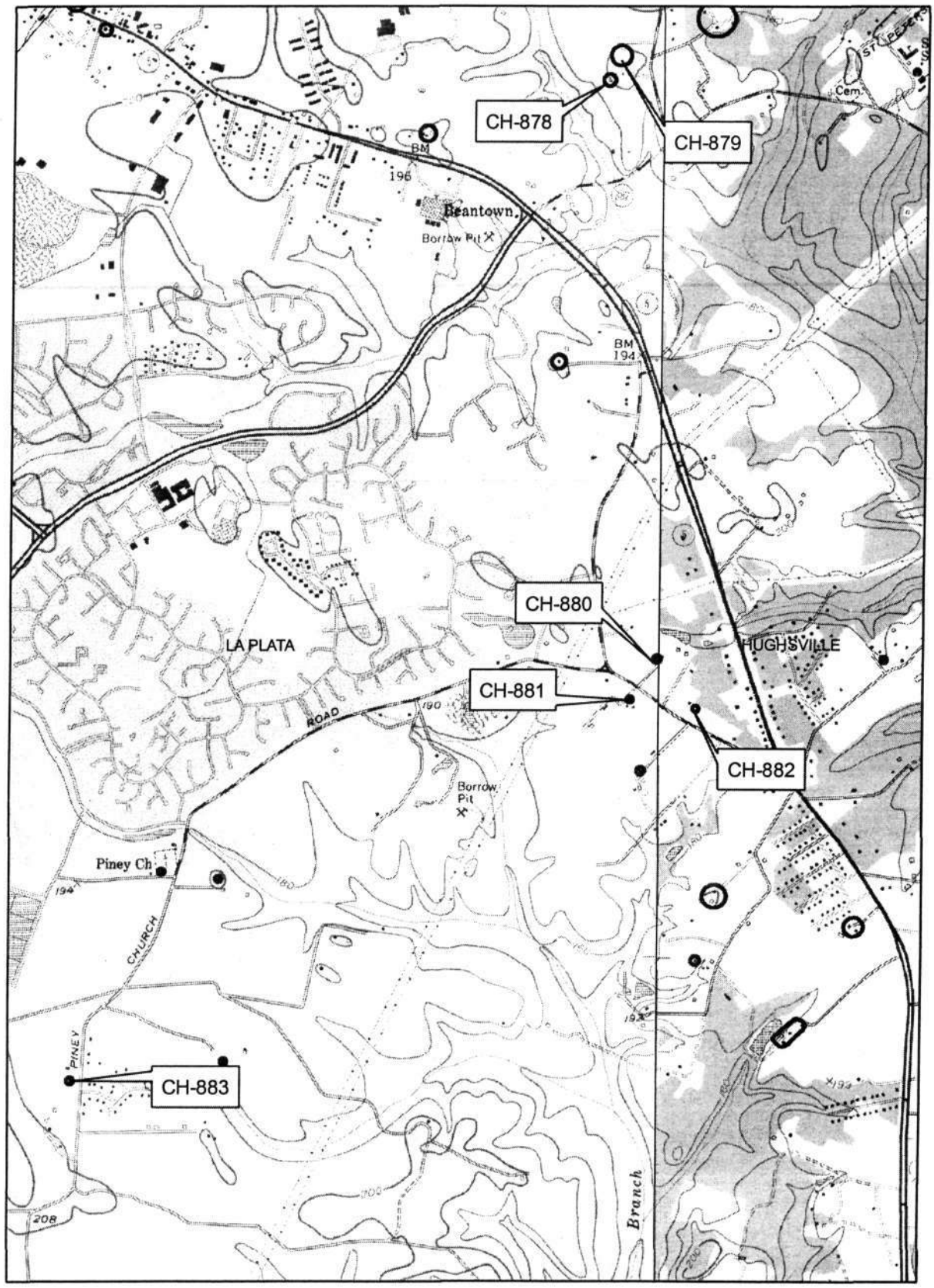
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significance related to events, persons, or architecture. Criterion D, information potential, was not assessed for this study.


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Δ44:65
Δ46:30
Charles County, MD
Tax Map 15
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CH-879
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3371 Mattawoman Beantown Road
Charles County, MD
Traceries
June 1999
MD SHPO
View looking Southwest
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~~E-0006~~ CH-879
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View looking west
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