

APPENDIX



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MAR 28 2003

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND


OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

OFFICE OF THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

MEMORANDUM

March 26, 2003

TO: Derick Berlage, Chair
Montgomery County Planning Board

FROM: 
Michael L. Subin, President
Montgomery County Council

SUBJECT: Alternative Alignment of Bethesda-Silver Spring Segment of the Inner Purple Line

As you know, the County Council has endorsed construction of the Inner Purple Line Light Rail system between Bethesda and New Carrollton, using the Georgetown branch alignment between Bethesda and Silver Spring. Last week, Governor Ehrlich endorsed the Inner Purple Line. In so doing, he agreed to review competing alignments for the Bethesda-Silver Spring segment, including the Georgetown branch. The Governor has also agreed to review an alternative alignment along Jones Mill and Jones Bridge Roads.

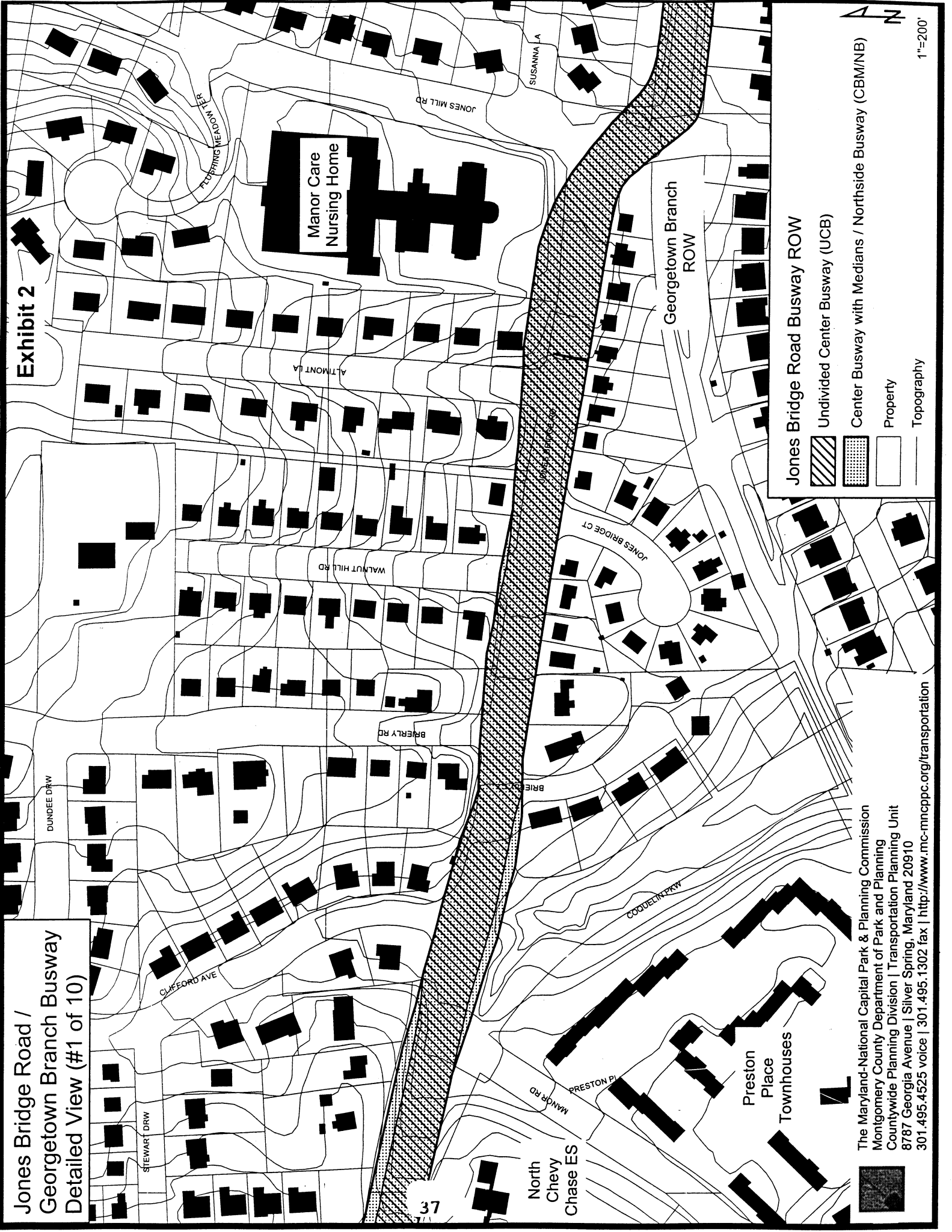
I would appreciate the Planning Board's prompt review of this alternative alignment, because the possibility that a full review of this alternative may delay the project for years, we request that your review be completed by July 30.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Cc: Councilmembers
Glenn Orlin

**Jones Bridge Road /
Georgetown Branch Busway
Detailed View (#1 of 10)**

Exhibit 2



Jones Bridge Road Busway ROW

Undivided Center Busway (UCB)

Center Busway with Medians / Northside Busway (CBM/NB)

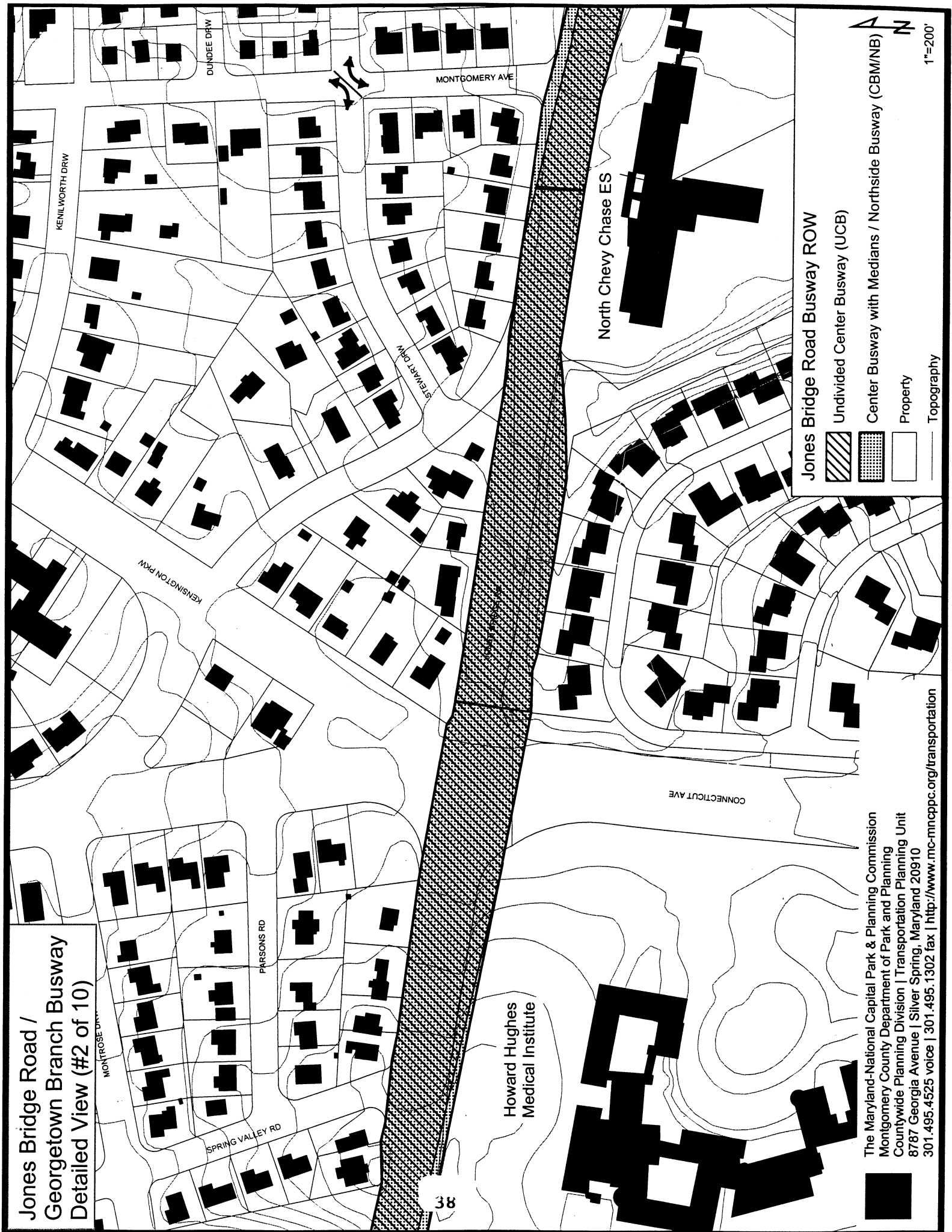
Property

Topography





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1"=200'

Jones Bridge Road /
Georgetown Branch Busway
Detailed View (#2 of 10)

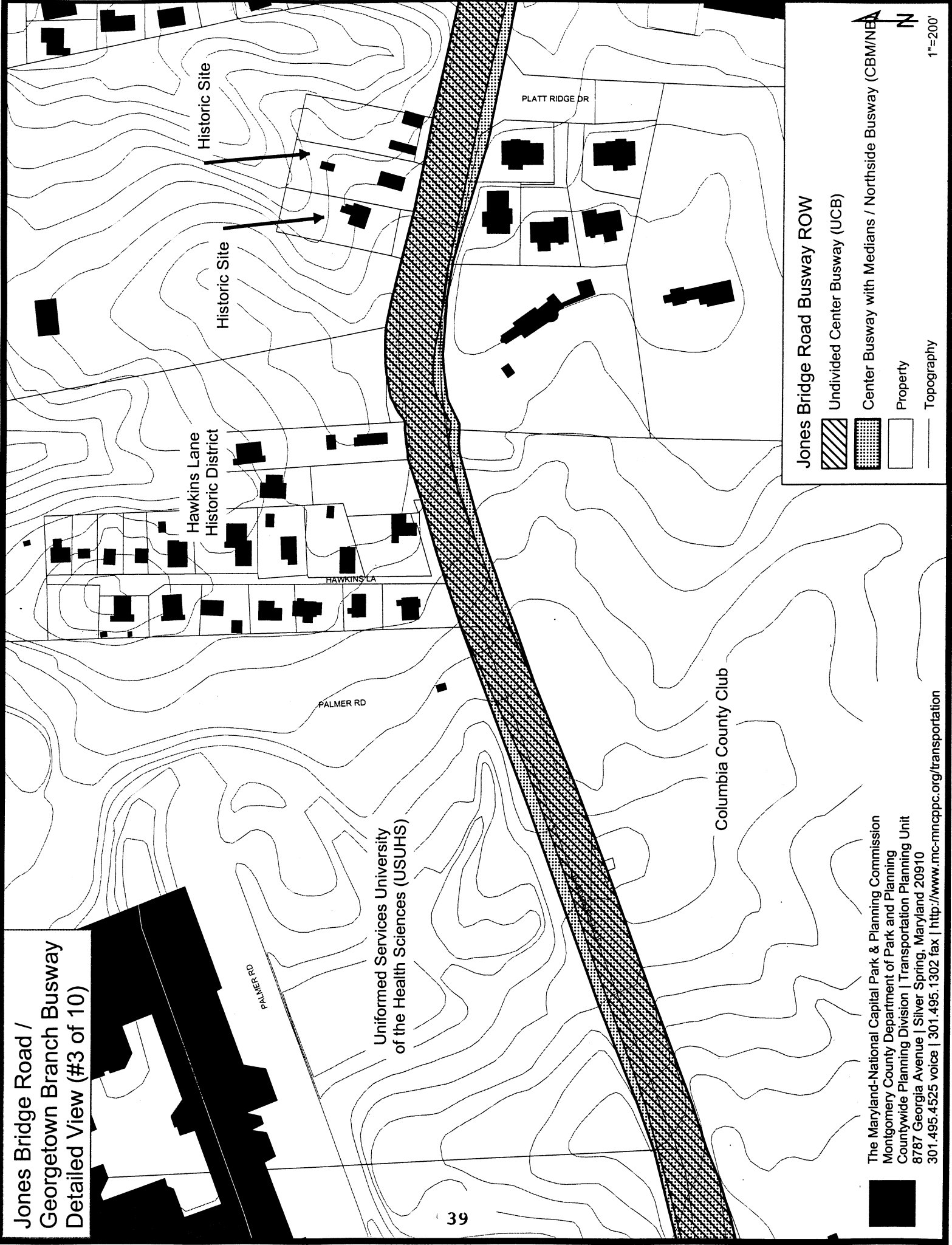


Jones Bridge Road Busway ROW



-  Undivided Center Busway (UCB)
-  Center Busway with Medians / Northside Busway (CBM/NB)
-  Property
-  Topography

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**Jones Bridge Road /
Georgetown Branch Busway
Detailed View (#3 of 10)**

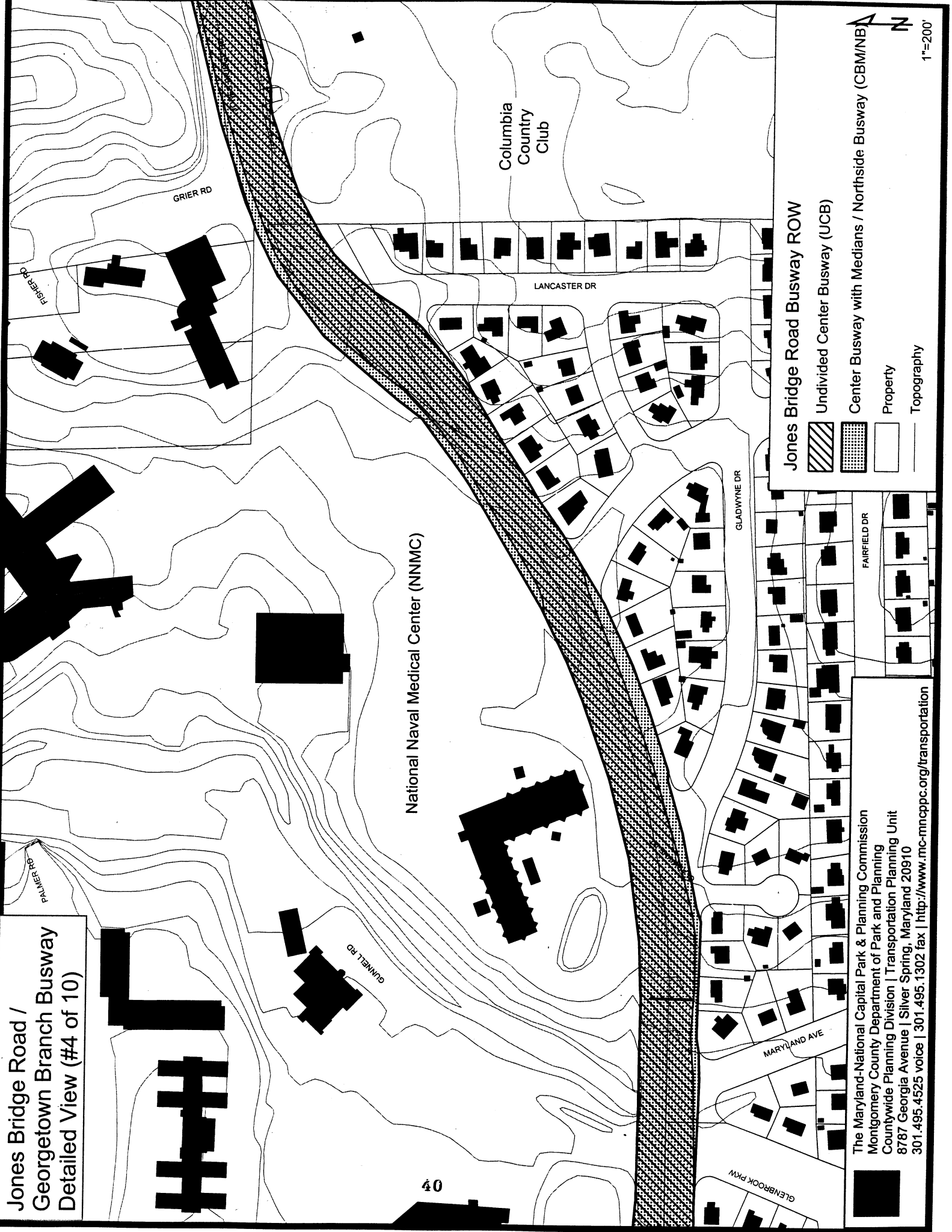


Jones Bridge Road Busway ROW

-  Undivided Center Busway (UCB)
-  Center Busway with Medians / Northside Busway (CBM/NBA)
-  Property
-  Topography

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**Jones Bridge Road /
Georgetown Branch Busway
Detailed View (#4 of 10)**



National Naval Medical Center (NNMC)

Columbia
Country
Club

Jones Bridge Road Busway ROW

Undivided Center Busway (UCB)

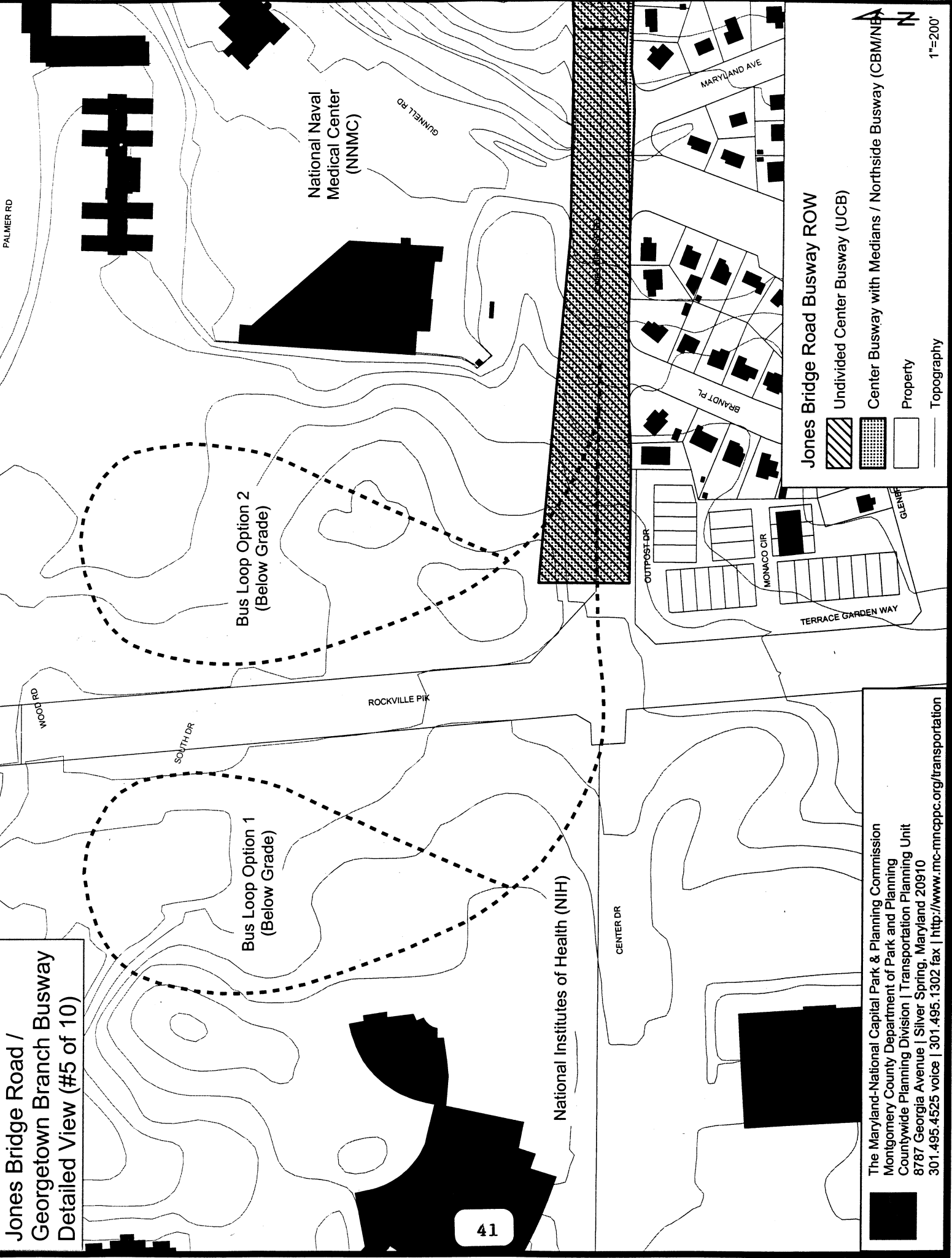
Center Busway with Medians / Northside Busway (CBM/NB)

Property





Topography


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**Jones Bridge Road /
Georgetown Branch Busway
Detailed View (#5 of 10)**



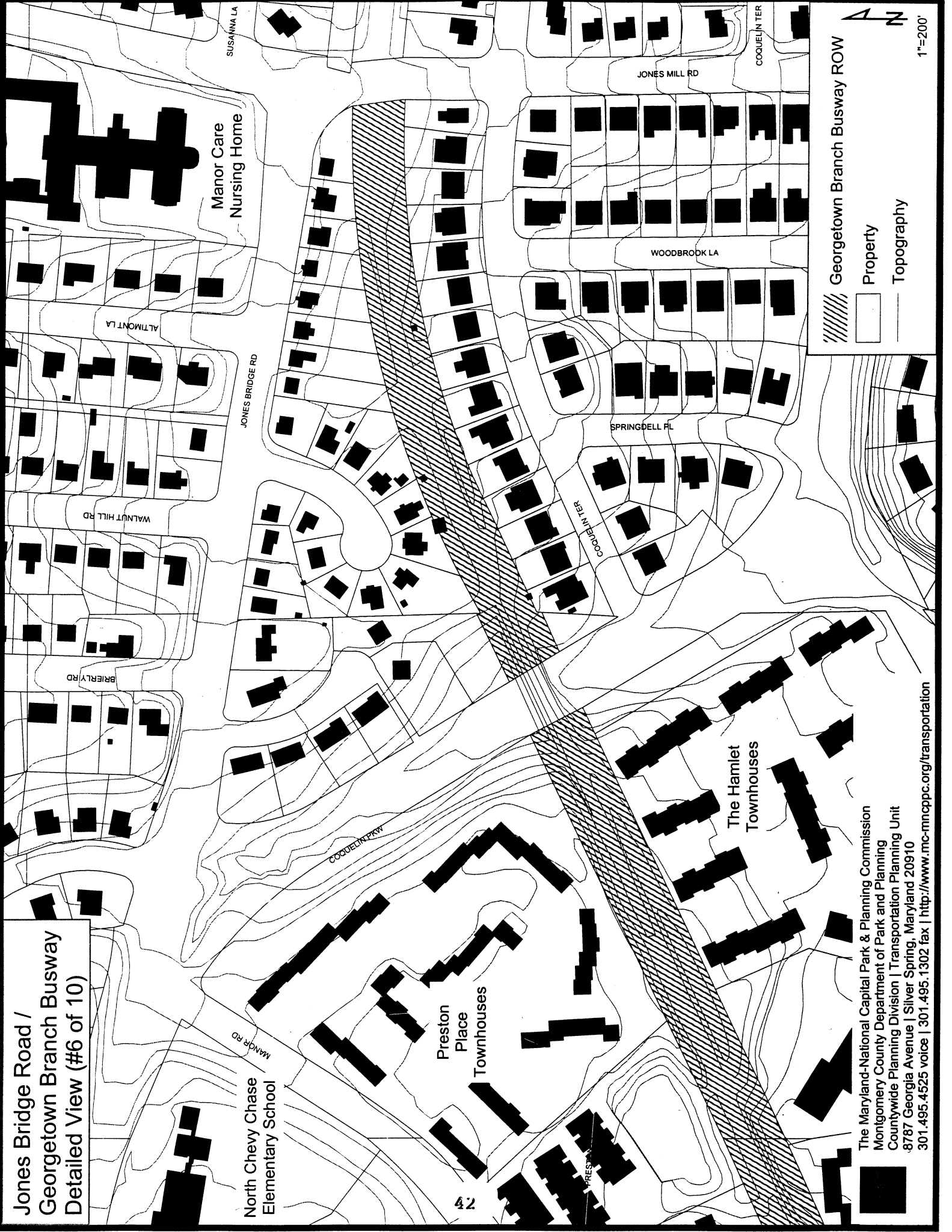
Jones Bridge Road Busway ROW

-  Undivided Center Busway (UCB)
-  Center Busway with Medians / Northside Busway (CBM/NPA)
-  Property
-  Topography

 N
 1"=200'

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Jones Bridge Road /
Georgetown Branch Busway
Detailed View (#6 of 10)



Manor Care
Nursing Home

North Chevy Chase
Elementary School

Preston
Place
Townhouses

The Hamlet
Townhouses

Georgetown Branch Busway ROW

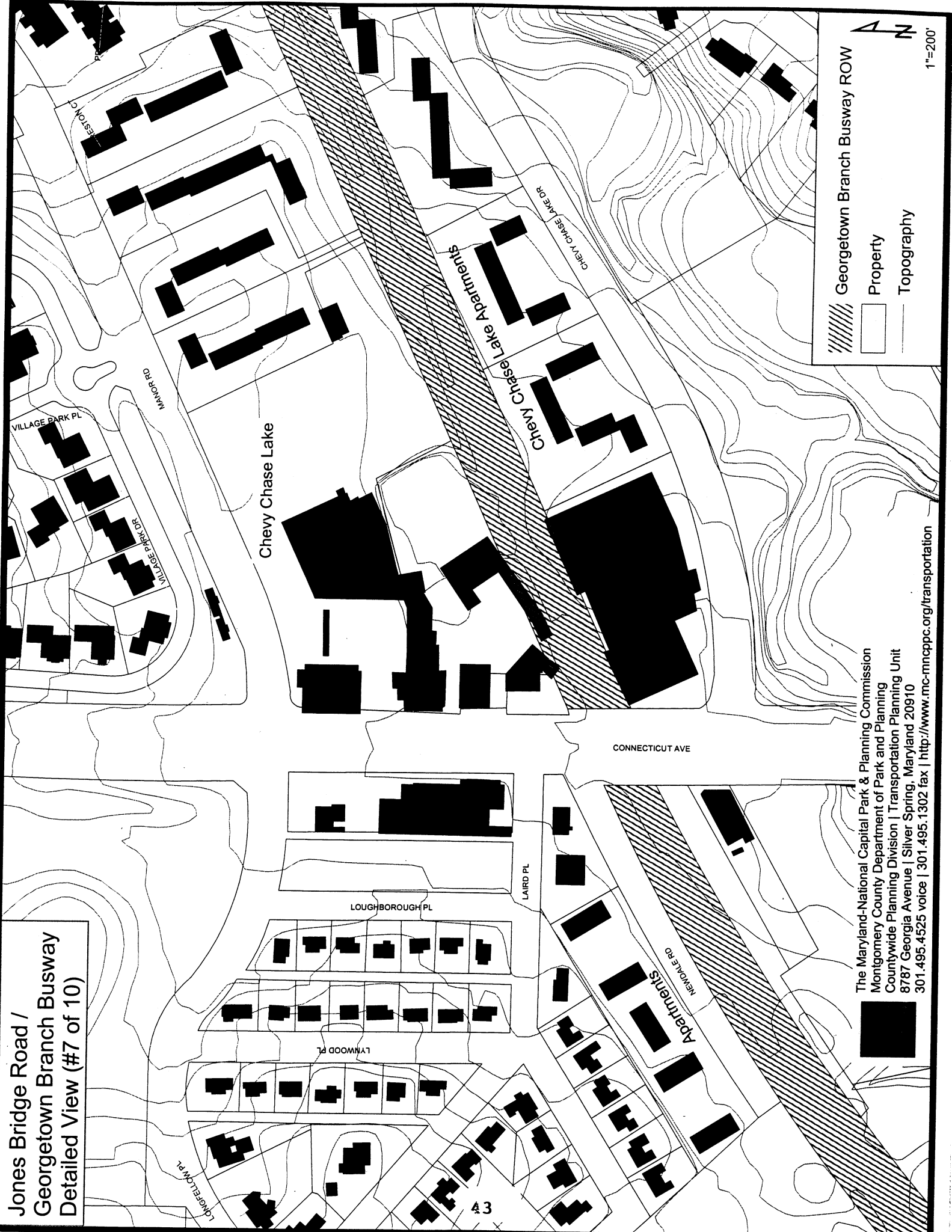
Property

Topography

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1"=200'

Jones Bridge Road /
Georgetown Branch Busway
Detailed View (#7 of 10)



Georgetown Branch Busway ROW

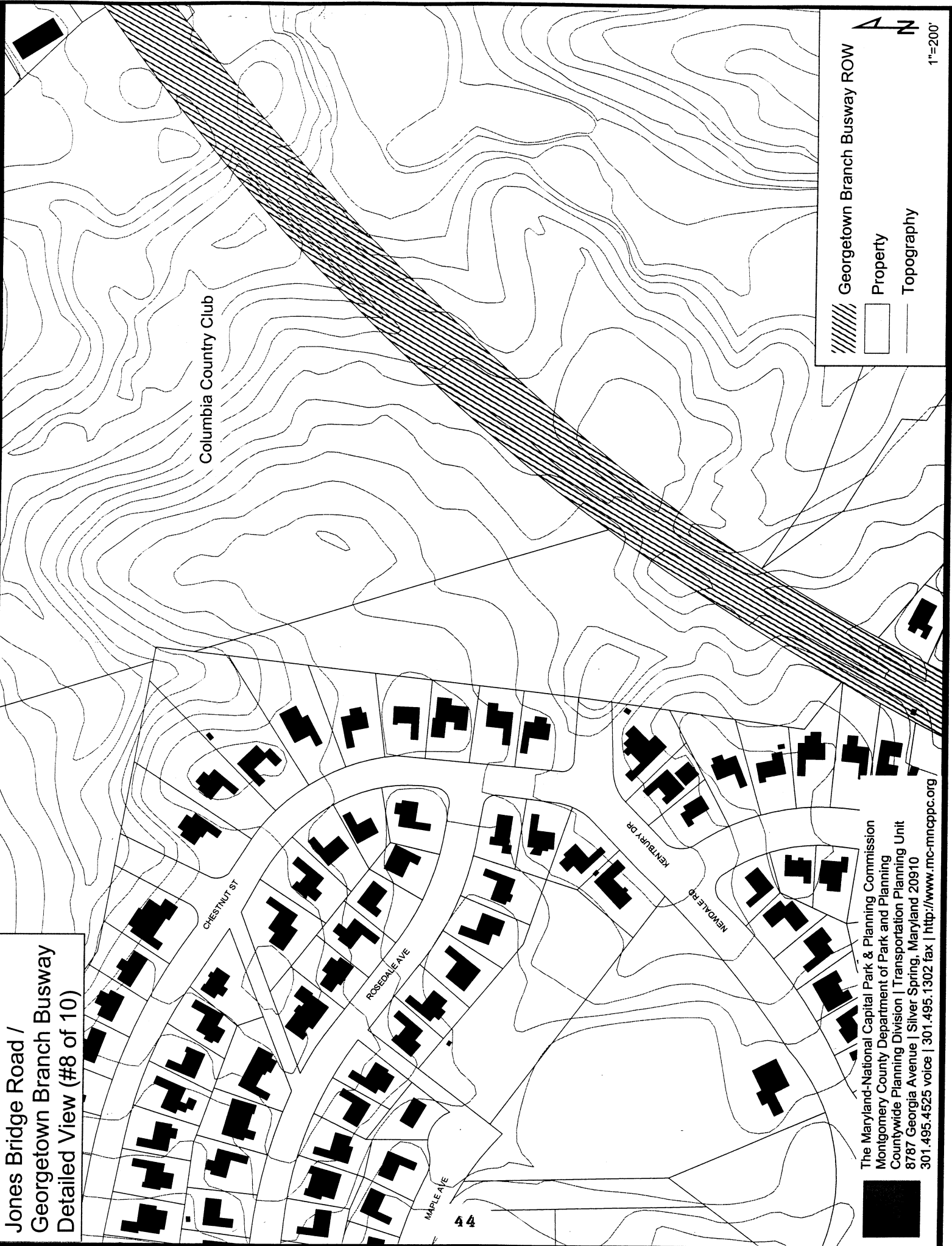
Property

Topography

1"=200'

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Jones Bridge Road /
Georgetown Branch Busway
Detailed View (#8 of 10)



Columbia Country Club

MAPLE AVE

CHESTNUT ST

ROSEDALE AVE

KENTUCKY DR

NEMOLE RD

Georgetown Branch Busway ROW

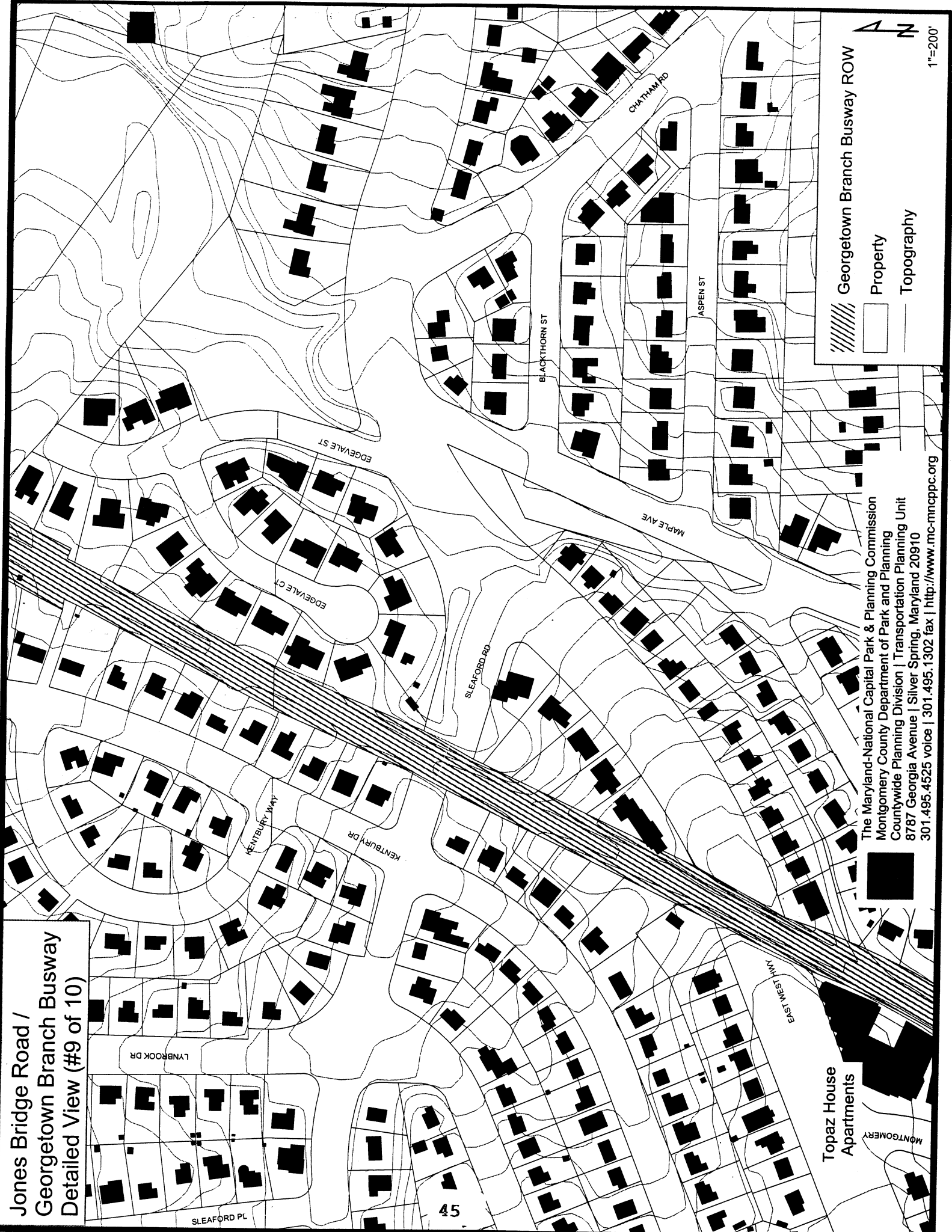
Property

Topography

1"=200'

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Jones Bridge Road /
Georgetown Branch Busway
Detailed View (#9 of 10)



Topaz House
Apartments

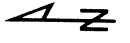
MONTGOMERY

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Georgetown Branch Busway ROW

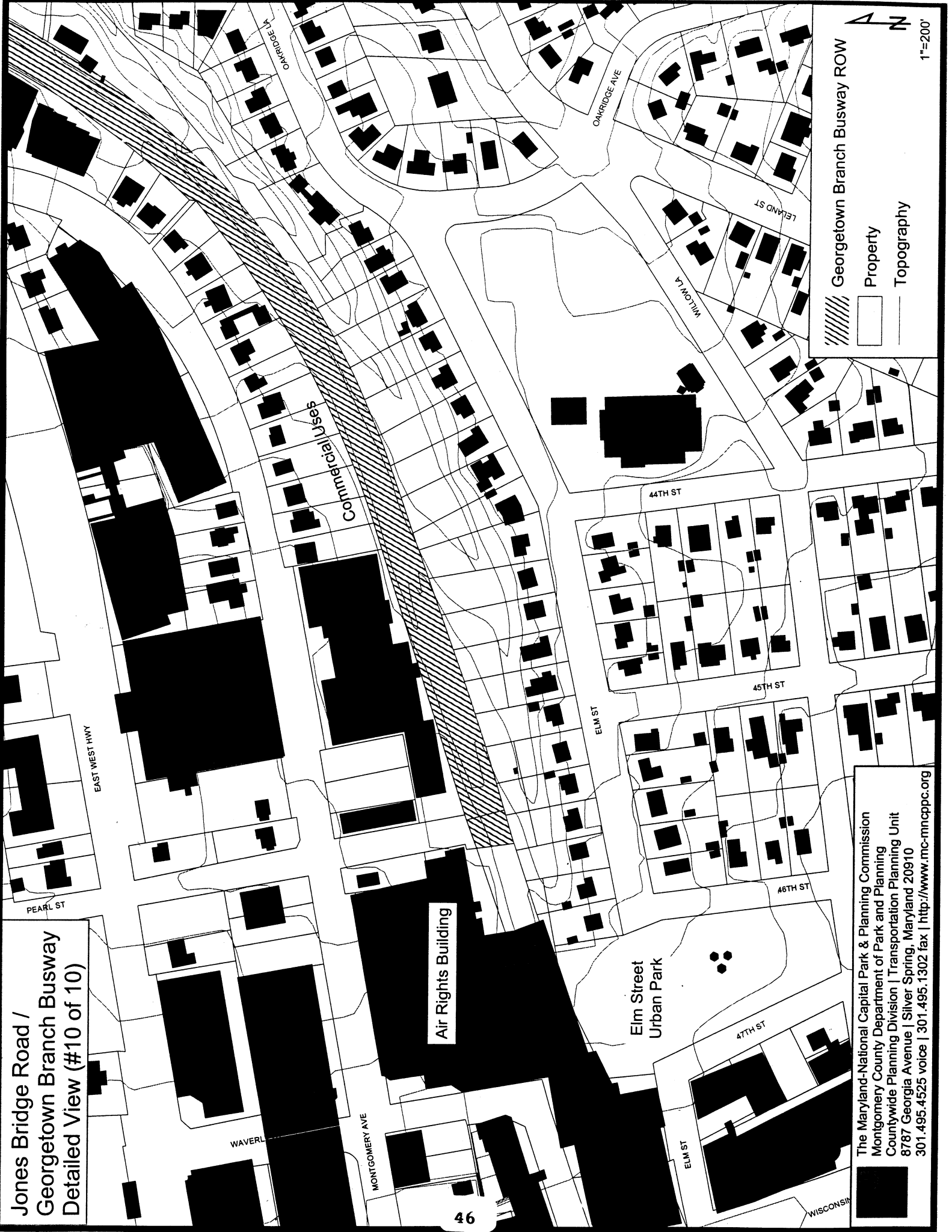
Property

Topography



1"=200'

Jones Bridge Road /
Georgetown Branch Busway
Detailed View (#10 of 10)



Georgetown Branch Busway ROW
Property
Topography

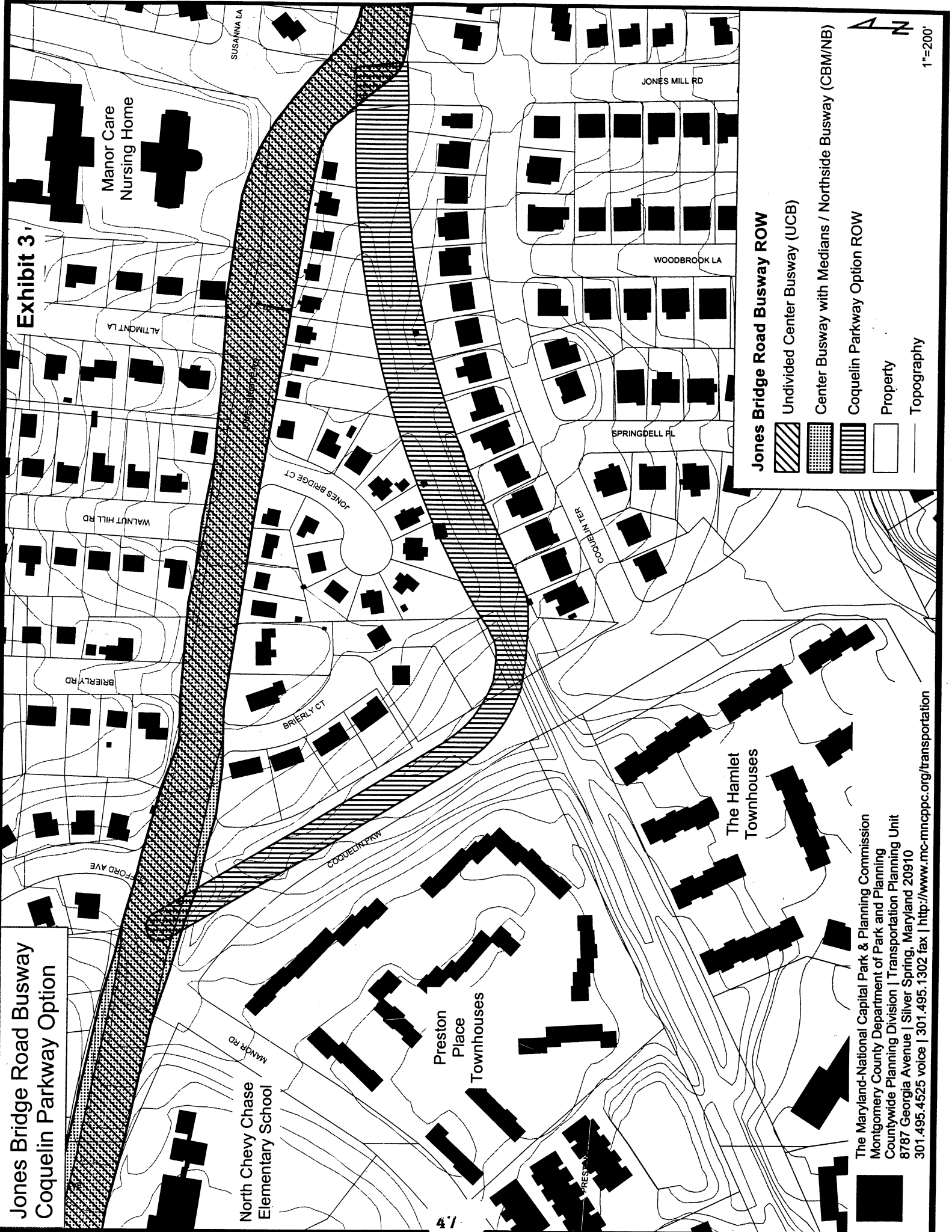
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Air Rights Building






Elm Street
Urban Park

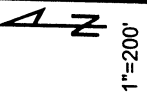
Jones Bridge Road Busway Coquelein Parkway Option

Exhibit 3



Jones Bridge Road Busway ROW

-  Undivided Center Busway (UCB)
-  Center Busway with Medians / Northside Busway (CBM/NB)
-  Coquelein Parkway Option ROW
-  Property
-  Topography



Manor Care Nursing Home

Manor Rd

North Chevy Chase Elementary School

Preston Place Townhouses

The Hamlet Townhouses

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Exhibit 4. Definition of Environmental Features

Wetlands	According to both Federal and State wetlands statutes, a wetland is an area covered or saturated by surface or ground water for a long enough period to support a vegetation community that typically can live and adapt to water-saturated soil conditions. Only certain plants are able to grow and thrive in such wet conditions. In addition, many species of animals use wetlands for some portion of their life. Other species are completely dependent on damp soils and standing pools of water for their long-term survival. Wetland impacts were defined as the amount of wetlands within the road right-of-way. This definition provides a measure of direct, physical disturbance, but does not necessarily reflect such impacts as: fragmentation of a wetland system; degradation of wetland plant community through reduction in size, introduction of non-native, invasive species along disturbed edges; degradation of a wetland system through change in hydrology in and around the wetland.
Floodplains	Floodplains are low-lying areas adjacent to streams, subject to intermittent flooding. Building permits are restricted within floodplains. This coverage was derived from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Soil Survey of Montgomery County, Maryland, because actual floodplain delineations have not been done uniformly over the entire county.
Stream Crossings	Stream crossings have a direct and significant negative impact on water quality. This is because not only sensitive buffer habitat is permanently removed and fragmented, but also crossings allow highly polluted road run-off to drain directly into the stream without the benefit of filtering through a naturalized buffer area. GIS generally underestimates the location of streams, especially in headwater areas but is useful in comparing impacts among alternatives.
Stream Buffers	These were initially delineated by measuring a buffer of 150 feet from the outer edge of each side of the stream. Stream buffers are important because they generally contain environmentally sensitive areas such as the natural stream channel, riparian forests, floodplains, wetlands and adjacent steep slopes. Alteration of these areas exacerbates watershed erosion/sedimentation and contributes significantly to water quality degradation.
Park Property	Park property is defined as State, Federal, M-NCPPC, WSSC, Municipal, and Revenue Authority.
Forests	A forest cover layer for the county was created by combining the existing woodland planimetric layer with 1999 state forest resource inventory attribute data. The layer was then updated using the forest inventories completed as part of recent master plans. The resulting updated layer was used as the basis for delineating significant forest.
Significant Forests	Defined as upland forest stands that are at least 100 acres in size, but also include riparian forest corridors that are at least 300 feet wide. Impacts to these areas were considered of primary importance to track. Larger forest stands contain more species diversity, provide higher levels of forest functional benefits, and have the potential to provide increasingly rare habitat for forest interior dwelling plant and animal species. Riparian forest corridors provide habitat and are avenues for wildlife movement, and they are critical for the protection of stream resources.
Forest Interior Habitat	Defined as any portion of a forest stand that is at least 300 feet inside the outer edge of the stand. Interior forest habitat losses are a combination of direct disturbance associated with a road, plus loss of interior resulting from the penetration of the forest interior and the creation of new outer forest edges, often resulting in a total loss of interior habitat exceeding direct impacts.