



61-012 Sellman House

Building 23 Agricultural Research Center West Beltsville (U. S. Department of Agriculture)

Built circa 1905 by brothers Theodore and Robert Sellman for their two families, the Sellman House is a variant of the American Foursquare style. The brothers purchased 346 acres of Beall's Retreat and soon after built this spacious dwelling. It is two-and-one-half stories in height with a hip roof and is distinguished by its wraparound porch, two-story projecting bays and widow's walk balustrade. In the 1930s, the Sellmans sold the 290-acre farm for the establishment of the Plant Research Station; the house was subsequently used as a residence for USDA employees. It stands on a hill overlooking the adjoining farmland which is now devoted to agricultural research.