

AL-V-A-119
Blank Frame House
Blank Road, Mount Savage
1881

Blank Framehouse was built by John Edward Blank in 1881. He was a fireclay miner for the Union Mining Company, in Mount Savage. "During the late nineteenth century" the Union Mining Company" was the largest manufacture of firebrick in the country." Blank purchased a three acre tract to farm, smaller holdings of this type are typical in the mining region where many miners became farmers.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Blank Frame House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Blank Road Sixth

CITY, TOWN Mt. Savage CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE Maryland Allegany COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	X STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME John .C Blank Telephone #: 264-4116

STREET & NUMBER Route 1 Box 98

CITY, TOWN Mt. Savage STATE, zip code Maryland 21545

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 169

Folio #: 13

STREET & NUMBER 30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN Cumberland STATE Maryland 21502

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

AL-7-6-117

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Blank Frame House is located on Blank Road north of Mt. Savage.

The building consists of a rectangular two story three bays wide frame structure covered with asbestos shingles. It rests on a high foundation of random rubble stone with a plain water table. The foundation is of random ashlar stone on the southeastern side. The gable flank roof is covered with tar paper. Eaves consist of a boxed cornice, soffit, and returns. Wall reatures include cornerboards. Two original brick chimneys are located inside end, one with a corbeled cap.

The main entrance is in the center of the southeastern facade. An elaborate door includes one pedimented light, foliated scrolled wooden decorations, and five recessed panels. Windows are pegged two over two lights with wooden slipsills. A shed roofed porch is on the northwest.

A gabled frame addition on the northwest rests on a random rubble foundation. Windows are pegged six over six lights, One brick chimney is located inside end.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Blank Frame House was built by John Edward Blank in 1881. Blank was a fireclay miner for the Union Mining Company which was based in nearby Mount Savage. (1) Fireclay was mined from the mountains and firebricks were produced beginning in 1839. (2) " During the late 19th century " the Union Mining Company" was the largest manufacturer of firebrick in the country." (3)

Blank, who was a member of a Pennsylvania farming family, built this frame house on Fireclay Mountain where he had purchased a three acre tract to farm. (4) Katherine Harvey, in her book The Best Dressed Miners, lists agricultural land as selling from fifty to seventy dollars an acre in 1887, a price which matches the purchase price of Blank's three acres .(5) Blank Frame House stands as a reminder of the way of life experienced in western Allegany County during the late 19th century.

- (1) Interview with Mrs. Carl Blank, May 24, 1979
- (2) Harry Stegmaier, et al. Allegany County-A History (Parson, W. Va.: McClain Printing Co.), p. 135 and 137
- (3) Ibid, p-210
- (4) Interview with Mrs. Carl Blank and Allegany County Land Records Liber 57, Folio 17
- (5) Katherine Harvey, The Best Dressed Miners, pp.91-92 and Allegany County Land Records Liber 57, Folio 17.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allegany County Land Records
Katherine A. Harvey, Best Dressed Miners: Life and Labor in the Maryland Coal Region, 1835-1910 (Ithaca: Cornell University Press)
Stegmaier, Harry et al Allegany County-A History (Parsons W Va. : McClain Printing Co.)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA 3.44 Acres
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE	David A. Dorsey, Historic Sites Coordinator	
ORGANIZATION	Allegany County Historic Sites	DATE May 24, 1979
STREET & NUMBER	3 Pershing Street	TELEPHONE 777-5944
CITY OR TOWN	Cumberland	STATE Maryland 21502

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

TITLE SEARCH

Blank Frame House
AL-V-A-119

Allegany County Deed; Liber 168, Folio 13
Grantee: John Carl Blank and Annie May Blank
Grantor: Julia Burkett et al
Notes: All are children of Perry Blank died 1931

Date: June 11, 1932

Allegany County Deed: Liber 155, Folio 702
Grantee: Perry Blank and Elizabeth Blank
Grantor: Chalres Burkett, et ux
Notes: Conveyed their interest to Perry Blank

Date: March 19, 1927

Allegany County Deed: Liber 86, Folio 336
Grantee: Perry Blank
Grantor: John Edward Blank and Ceclia Blank (wife)
Notes: Three acres

Date: April 4, 1899
Consideration: \$850.00

Allegany County Deed: Liber 57, Folio 17
Grantee: John Edward Blank
Grantor: Elias F. Bittner
Notes: 3 acres tract.

Date: June 6, 1881
Consideration: \$195.00

INVENTORY NO: _____

189

DATE: _____

AL-V-A-119

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

11/24

NAME OF PROPERTY: Mrs. Karl Blank 264-4116

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: Blank Rd

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: 130° SE

V. A 119

MAP 2 p 113

NAME OF OWNER: John C Blank 165/13 3.44A

ADDRESS: Rt 1 Box 98 Mt Savage 21545 Frederick, Md.

264 4116

STORIES: 1() 2(✓) 3(✓) 4() 5() 6() BAYS: 1() 2() 3(✓) 4() 5() 6() 7() ()

WINGS, ADDITIONS: 1/2 story may be added rubble found, interior brick covered chimney shed porch roof

DWELLING SHAPE: (square, cross, rectangular) orig L 2 bays 1 1/2 stor comic bed. simple

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- (✓) FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)
- () BRICK: Bond type - common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
- () STONE: Bond type - rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
- () LOG
- (✓) OTHER: Coverings asbestos

WALL FEATURES: Belt Course, Pilasters, Others corniceboard

FOUNDATIONS: High, Low, Brick, Stone rubble

WATER TABLE: None, Plain, Beveled, Moulded Brick - exposed ashlar front

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1() 2/2(✓) 6/6(✓) 9/6() 9/9() other() SL in sills

pegged(✓) nailed() wide() narrow() mitred() pediment()

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: center SE 12 light

HARDWARE: original(✓) replaced()

FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN Paneled, Vertical, Horizontal Boards 45° 1 Horiz panel. shelf & ped.

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: (crown, fascia, soffit, bed) original(✓) replaced() rafter ends, modillions, dentils, frieze, architrave

ROOF: Gable front, Gable flank, Hip, Shed, Mansard, Gambrel, Flat, Dormers #

MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt; original() replaced()

TARPAPER

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed() hip() gable()

CHIMNEYS: Number: 2 Brick(✓) Stone() Corbeled() original(✓) replaced()

Location: Flush end() Inside end(✓) Outside end() Central() Interior()

ARCHES: Door & Windows: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

COMMENTS:

USE: _____
 SIGNIFICANCE: _____
 DATE CONSTRUCTED: _____
 CONDITION: _____

Barn photo for house



ALLEGANY CO

MARYLAND

SAVAGE

AL-V-A-119
BLANK FRAME HOUSE
BLANK ROAD MT. SAVAGE
USGS FROSTBURG QUAD
1:24,000
1949

Sampson Rock
BMA 2934

BIG

42'30"

4397

Srip Mine

Dutch Hollow Sch

BARRELVILLE 1.8 MI.
CUMBERLAND 9.3 MI.

Mount Savage

4396

Borden Tunnel

2000

PA
PENNSYLVANIA

(CUMBERLAND)
5263 III NE

Slabtown

4394

Morantown

Handwritten notes: "Savage" and "M-V"



AZ. V-A-119

BLANK FRAME HOUSE

BLANK RD MOUNT SAVAGE

DAVID A. DORSET

11/24/78

South



AL-U-A-119

BLANK FRAME HOUSE

BLANK RD MOUNT SAVAGE

DAVID A. DORSEY

11/24/78

NORTH



AL-U-A-119

OUTBUILDING

BLANK FRAME HOUSE

BLANK RD MOUNT SAUSAGE

DAVID A. DORSEY

11/24/78

EAST