

**CAPSULE SUMMARY**  
**BA-1149**  
**Old Jordan House**  
**White Hall, Baltimore County**  
**1870-1885**  
**Private**

Old Jordan House is located near the historic village of West Liberty in the Seventh District of Baltimore County. The small village of West Liberty is located between the villages of Shane and Gorsuch Mills. The Seventh District was one of the largest and most populated regions of the county in the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, which had an area of 59.93 square miles and a population of 3,074 by 1870. It is bounded on the north by Pennsylvania, the south by the Eighth District, the east by Harford County, and the west by the Fifth and Sixth Districts. Arable fields for plantings of wheat, corn, oats, and fruits supported the district. It was known for its dairy production and the breeding of cattle. In addition, the waterpower of the Gunpowder Falls and its tributaries supported numerous farms and mills throughout the district. This house first appears on the 1877 Atlas as the residence for Mrs. Keller. Seen on the 1915 atlas, George E. Cooper owned this farm of 169 acres.

Constructed between 1870 and 1885, this L-shaped wood frame house is four bays wide and two stories in height. It sits on a solid parged stone foundation and is reclad with aluminum siding. The façade is illuminated with six 2/2 double-hung wood sash windows, and accessed through two single-leaf wood light and panel doors. Three interior-end brick chimneys with corbeled caps rise above the cross gable roof sheathed with asphalt shingles. Across the full-width of the façade is a two-story high porch supported with wood fluted columns. The roof features an aluminum cornice with returns and overhanging eaves. The rear ell has one replacement cinderblock exterior-end chimney. The rear ell is two stories in height and has a shed addition with a corbeled chimney. There are six historic outbuildings, three historic structures, and one non-historic structure associated with this property.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-1149

## 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Old Jordan House

other

## 2. Location

street and number 20415 Old York Road \_\_ not for publication

city, town White Hall \_\_ vicinity

county Baltimore County

## 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Wayne C. & Harriet H. McGinnis

street and number 20415 Old York Road telephone Not Available

city, town White Hall state MD zip code 21161

## 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 6484 folio 783

city, town Towson tax map 8 tax parcel 106 tax ID number 702020370

## 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District  
 Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
 Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
 Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
 Recorded by HABS/HAER  
 Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	7	1
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	3	1
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	10	1
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education		Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary		
		<input type="checkbox"/> government		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry		
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape		
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture		
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
		<input type="checkbox"/> social		
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
			<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b> <u>1</u>	

---

## 7. Description

---

Inventory No. BA-1149

### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

---

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Facing southwest, this dwelling is situated on a level grassy lot with foundation plantings and a gravel driveway. Including the dwelling, there are seven historic buildings and one historic structure associated with this site. One circa 1980 tractor sheds is located on the property.

Constructed between 1870 and 1885, this L-shaped wood frame house is four bays wide and two stories in height. It sits on a solid parged stone foundation and is re clad with aluminum siding. The façade is illuminated with six 2/2 double-hung wood sash windows, and accessed through two single-leaf wood light and panel doors. Three interior-end brick chimneys with corbeled caps rise above the cross gable roof sheathed with asphalt shingles. Across the full-width of the façade is a two-story high porch supported with wood fluted columns. The roof features an aluminum cornice with returns and overhanging eaves. The rear ell has one replacement cinderblock exterior-end chimney. The rear ell is two stories in height and has a shed addition with a corbeled chimney.

In front of the house is a random rubble stone well from circa 1900. It is covered with gable roof clad with wood shingles supported with square wood posts. Next, is a circa 1940 wood frame garage one story high and one bay wide. The foundation is not visible, and it is clad with vertical board siding. The gable roof is clad with standing-seam metal, and the façade is covered with a pent roof supported with wood brackets.

Next, is a wood frame dairy barn constructed between 1930 and 1945. The side gable roof and walls are clad with standing-seam metal. It has one two-leaf sliding standing-seam metal door. A shed addition of cinderblock construction is seen on the side elevation. Two concrete stave silos, circa 1930, are adjacent to the dairy barn.

Adjacent to the dairy barn is the wood frame milkhouse. It is clad with horizontal boards and the front gable roof is covered with standing-seam metal. It has one single-leaf 1-light paneled wood door and overhanging eaves. The building is capped with a front gable roof clad with standing-seam metal.

A circa 1930 drive-in barn is sited next to the dairy barn. It is wood frame and clad with vertical board siding. Capped with a front gable roof sheathed with corrugated sheet metal, the façade has one open bay and one 6/6 double-hung wood sash window.

Another barn, circa 1940s, is sited in the cluster of outbuildings near the dairy barn. It is wood frame, clad with vertical boards. It has a double-leaf vertical board sliding door, a single-leaf vertical board door in the upper half story, and a single-leaf vertical board door on the first story. It is capped with a side gable roof clad with standing-seam metal. It has shed addition on both side elevations with open bay.

Next, is a circa 1950 wood frame tractor shed clad with standing-seam metal, and capped with a side gable roof covered with standing-seam metal. It has three open bays on the façade.

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
**Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No. BA-1149

Name Old Jordan House, White Hall, Baltimore County  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 7 Page 1

---

One non-historic tractor shed is wood frame clad with corrugated sheet metal and is capped with a shed roof covered with corrugated sheet metal. This building has four open bays on the façade.

# 8. Significance

Inventory No. ~~BA-1146~~

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

<b>Specific dates</b>	1870-1885	<b>Architect/Builder</b>	Unknown
<b>Construction dates</b>	1870-1885		

Evaluation for:

National Register
  Maryland Register
  not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Old Jordan House is located near the historic village of West Liberty in the Seventh District of Baltimore County. The small village of West Liberty is located between the villages of Shane and Gorsuch Mills. The Seventh District was one of the largest and most populated regions of the county in the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, which had an area of 59.93 square miles and a population of 3,074 by 1870. It is bounded on the north by Pennsylvania, the south by the Eighth District, the east by Harford County, and the west by the Fifth and Sixth Districts. Arable fields for plantings of wheat, corn, oats, and fruits supported the district. It was known for its dairy production and the breeding of cattle. In addition, the waterpower of the Gunpowder Falls and its tributaries supported numerous farms and mills throughout the district. This house first appears on the 1877 Atlas as the residence for Mrs. Keller. Seen on the 1915 atlas, George E. Cooper owned this farm of 169 acres.

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

---

Inventory No. BA-1149

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.* Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.  
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.  
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.  
*Map of Baltimore County.* Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.  
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.  
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.
- 

## 10. Geographical Data

---

Acreage of surveyed property 78.09 Acre  
Acreage of historical setting Unknown  
Quadrangle name Norrisville, MD-PA Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

---

### Verbal boundary description and justification

This house constructed between 1870 and 1885, is located at 20415 Old York Road in White Hall in the Seventh District of Baltimore County. It has been historically associated with tax map 8, parcel 106 since its construction.

---

## 11. Form Prepared by

---

name/title	K. Baynard, Architectural Historian		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Incorporated	date	May 22, 2002
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

---

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600

42'30"

YORK, PA. 20 MI.  
1.7 MI. TO INTERSTATE 83

4395

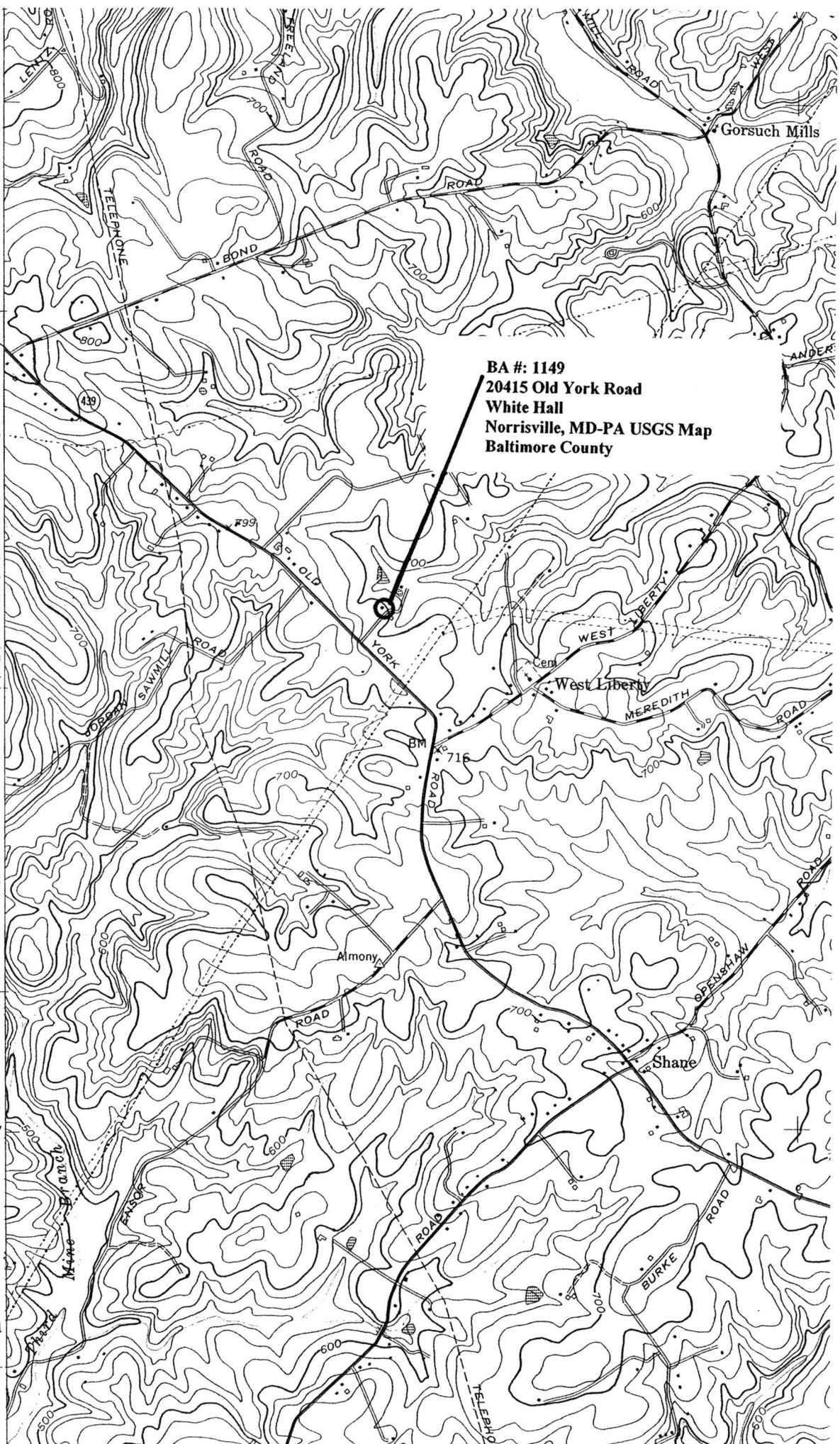
5663 II NW  
(NEW FREEDOM)

4393

4392

40'

4391



**BA #: 1149**  
**20415 Old York Road**  
**White Hall**  
**Norrisville, MD-PA USGS Map**  
**Baltimore County**



BA-1149

OLD JORDAN HOUSE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2002

MD SHPD

MAIN HOUSE, SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

1 of 7



BA-1149  
OLD JORDAN HOUSE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD  
TRALERIES  
3/2002  
MD-SHPD  
MAIN HOUSE, WEST CORNER  
2 of 7



BA-1149

OLD JORDAN HOUSE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILERIES

3/2002

MD SHPD

MAIN HOUSE, EAST CORNER

3 of 7



BA-1149

OLD JORDAN HOUSE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILERIES

3/2002

MD SHPO

Garage, VIEW LOOKING NORTHEAST

4 of 7



BA-1149

OLD JORDAN HOUSE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILERIES

3/2002

MD SHPO

OUTBUILDINGS, VIEW LOOKING NORTH EAST

5 of 7



BA 1149

OLD JORDAN HOUSE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2002

MD SHPO

OUTBUILDINGS, VIEW LOOKING NORTH

6 of 7



BA-1149

OLD JORDAN HOUSE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2002

MD SHPO

MILKHOUSE, NORTHWEST CORNER

2 of 7

OLD JORDAN HOUSE - Before 1859 - Old York Road, east side, 0.1 mile south of Gibson Road, West Liberty

vicinity. On the tract "Rural Retreat". Shown as B.J. Jordan's in 1877 and 1915 atlases. Jordan's steam sawmill was across the road and is extinct. Large frame house in vernacular style, covered with aluminum siding; two stories; 5 bays wide; gable roof; front porch; long, rambling rear wing of several segments. Excellent condition. T.J. Scharf states in his county history that B.F. Jordan acquired Rural Retreat through his marriage to Juliet E. Anderson, whose father James Anderson "reclaimed it from the wilderness" after 1791. Jordan was born 1823 in York County, moving here in 1852. Of northern Irish descent, he served as a county commissioner from 1870-74 (HBCC, p. 871). A new house and sawmill was charged to Julia E. Jordan in 1859 transfers. A new frame house worth \$1,000 was charged to B.J. Jordan in 1891.