

## **CAPSULE SUMMARY**

**BA-1198**

**Keeney's Mill Worker's House #2**

**20660 Keeney Mill Road**

**Middletown, Baltimore County**

**Ca. 1890**

**Private**

Located at 20660 Keeney Mill Road, the Keeney's Mill Worker's House #2 was constructed circa 1890 near Middletown in the Sixth District of Baltimore County. According to oral history, the dwelling was constructed to provide housing for the workers at Keeney's Mill. The gristmill, which was constructed by the middle of the 19th century, was located at the intersection of Ruhl and Keeney Mill Roads. Although the exact date of construction for the house was not determined, architectural evidence and historic maps support a circa 1890 date. Although the mill was constructed by 1850, the dwelling does not appear on either the 1850 J. C. Sidney Atlas or the 1877 Hopkins Atlas. However, by 1915, the house appears on County atlases, despite no occupant being attributed to the dwelling.

Set close to the road, the circa 1890 dwelling is situated at the intersection of Keeney Mill and Ruhl Roads. Rising two-and-a-half stories in height, the vernacular dwelling is constructed of wood frame with a side gable roof, above which two interior end chimneys rise. Currently clad in vinyl siding, the three-bay wide dwelling is on a raised coursed rubble stone foundation. A six-panel, single-leaf wood door and two three-light awning windows pierce this raised foundation. Extending across the façade, or south elevation, is a one-story, full-width porch with a shed roof, a scroll-sawn balustrade, and chamfered wood posts. There is a centered entry with a paneled, single-leaf wood door and a two-light transom. This entry is flanked by 1/1 windows. The openings are mimicked at the second story with three evenly spaced 1/1 windows. Like those on the first story, these have vinyl surrounds and sills. The standing seam metal roof has a boxed vinyl cornice with returns. On the rear of the dwelling, there is a screen-enclosed addition. There are two sheds on the property: an historic machine shed and a non-historic tool shed.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-1198

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

historic

other Keeney's Mill Worker's House #2

## 2. Location

street and number 20660 Keeney Mill Road \_\_ not for publication

city, town Middletown \_\_ vicinity

county Baltimore County

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

name Robert A. and Jane L. Dambrigo

street and number 20660 Keeney Mill Road telephone Not Available

city, town Freeland state MD zip code 21053-9619

## 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 5860 folio 22

city, town Towson tax map 6 tax parcel 20 tax ID number 1600008797

## 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 type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	<u>  2  </u>	<u>  1  </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<u>  2  </u>	<u>  1  </u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
				<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b>	
				<u>  1  </u>	

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## 7. Description

Inventory No. BA-1198

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### 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

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

The Keeney's Mill Worker's House #2 is located at 20660 Keeney Mill Road near Middletown in the Sixth District of Baltimore county. Set close to the road, the circa 1890 dwelling is situated at the intersection of Keeney Mill and Ruhl Roads. Rising two-and-a-half stories in height, the vernacular dwelling is constructed of wood frame with a side gable roof, above which two interior end chimneys rise. Currently clad in vinyl siding, the three-bay wide dwelling is on a raised coursed rubble stone foundation. A six-panel single-leaf wood door and two three-light awning windows pierce this raised foundation. Extending across the façade, or south elevation, is a one-story, full-width porch with a shed roof, a scroll-sawn balustrade, and chamfered wood posts. There is a centered entry with a paneled, single-leaf wood door and a two-light transom. This entry is flanked by 1/1 windows. The openings are mimicked at the second story with three evenly spaced 1/1 windows. Like those on the first story, these have vinyl surrounds and sills. The standing seam metal roof has a boxed vinyl cornice with returns. On the rear of the dwelling, there is a screen enclosed addition.

There are two sheds one the property: an historic machine shed and a non-historic tool shed. The machine shed, constructed between 1915 and 1930, features wood frame construction with German siding and a standing seam metal shed roof. There are three window openings and a door opening. The 1970s tool shed is set on a concrete block foundation with plywood cladding that resembles board-and-batten siding. It has a single-leaf door opening and a side gable roof with rolled asphalt sheeting.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-1198

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:

Specific dates

Architect/Builder Unknown

Construction dates

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.)

Located at 20660 Keeney Mill Road, the Keeney's Mill Worker's House #2 was constructed circa 1890 near Middletown in the Sixth District of Baltimore County. According to oral history, the dwelling was constructed to provide housing for the workers at Keeney's Mill. The gristmill, which was constructed by the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, was located at the intersection of Ruhl and Keeney Mill Roads. In 1885, Keeney's Mill replaced the grinding stones with self-contained roller grinding units that improved the quality of the flour.<sup>1</sup> Although the exact date of construction for the house was not determined, architectural evidence and historic maps support a circa 1890 date. Although the mill was constructed by 1850, the dwelling does not appear on the 1850 J. C. Sidney Atlas or the 1877 Hopkins Atlas. However, by 1915, the house appears on County atlases, despite no occupant being attributed to the dwelling.

The Sixth District is located in the northwest corner of Baltimore County and is historically known for its rugged landscape, abundant waterpower, and production of wheat, corn, and oats. The dwelling was constructed during the height of development in Middletown. By 1850, Middletown had begun to thrive, as the mid-century county atlas indicates that the town included a tavern and schoolhouse in addition to several residences along Middletown Road between Freeland and Oakland Road.<sup>2</sup> By 1877, a church had been erected and Middletown had grown from a small crossroads community into a rural center. At that time, the town included a physician's office, schoolhouse, Odd Fellows hall, a store and one "shop."<sup>3</sup> Although the community's 1881 population of only forty-nine inhabitants did not appear significant, the town was nevertheless in a strategic location between two crossroads along Middletown Road.<sup>4</sup> Growth in and around Middletown slowed in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, leaving it a rural community in northern Baltimore County.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> John W. McGrain, *Grist Mills in Baltimore County, Maryland*, (Towson, MD: Baltimore County Public Library, 1980), p. 9.

<sup>2</sup> J. C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).

<sup>3</sup> *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).

<sup>4</sup> J. Thomas Scharf, *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), p. 870.

<sup>5</sup> *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-1198

- 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 4 Acres  
Acreage of historical setting Unknown  
Quadrangle name New Freedom Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Keeney's Mill Worker's House #2 is located at 20660 Keeney Mill Road near Middletown in the Sixth District of Baltimore County. The house has been associated with Tax Map 6, Parcel 20 since its construction circa 1890.

## 11. Form Prepared by

name/title	R. Weidlich, A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Incorporated	date	May 10, 2001
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

FREELAND  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

PA-0633  
1415 OAKLAND ROAD  
FREELAND  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

3A-1364  
MT. ZION U.M. CHURCH  
20901 MT. ZION ROAD  
FREELAND  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-1198  
20660 KEENEY MILL RD.

BA-0519  
20701 KEENEY MILL RD.

BA-1196  
20600 KEENEY MILL RD.

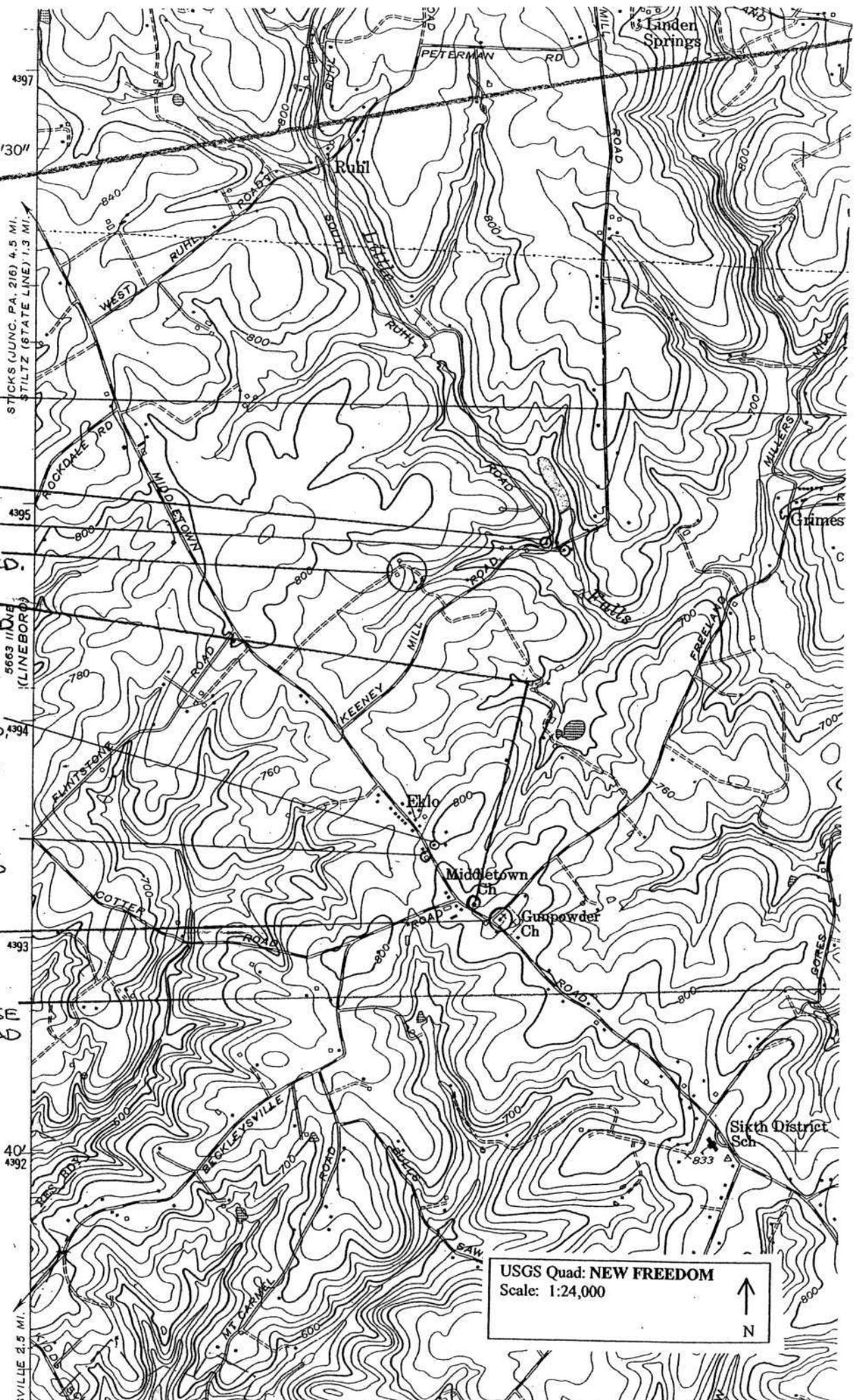
BA-1229  
20109 FREELAND ROAD

BA-1223  
E. SCHOOL  
20221 MIDDLETOWN RD.  
FREELAND  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-1222  
210 FELLOWS LODGE  
20220 MIDDLETOWN RD  
FREELAND  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-0586  
20075 FREELAND ROAD  
FREELAND  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

3A-0402  
VALLEY PAPER MILL HOUSE  
20008 VALLEY MILL ROAD  
FREELAND  
BALTIMORE COUNTY



USGS Quad: NEW FREEDOM  
Scale: 1:24,000  
N



BA-1198

20660 KEENEY MILL ROAD

FREELAND

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILERES

3/2001

MD-STPB

SW CORNER

1 of 3



BA-1198

20660 KEENEY MIL ROAD

FREELAND

DALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILERIES

3/2001

MD-SHP0

E ELEVATION

2 of 3



BA-1198  
20660 KEENEY MILL ROAD  
FRELAND  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD  
TRACERIES  
13/2001  
MO-SHPU  
SHED  
3 of 3

VI-NEW-1198

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

MAGI #0311985504

## NOMINATION FORM

BA-1198

for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: Keeneys Millworker house #2			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: North side of Keeneys Mill Road about 100'			
CITY OR TOWN: near E Kto west of <sup>junction of</sup> South Ruhl Road			
STATE: Maryland		COUNTY: Baltimore	
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>			
<b>CATEGORY</b> (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<b>OWNERSHIP</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	
		<b>STATUS</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied 3/1/78 <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress not really its renovation	
<b>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</b> Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
<b>PRESENT USE</b> (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b> TAX MAP 6 PARCEL 20 OWNER'S NAME: <del>Jefferson</del> Keeneys Mill <sup>FARMS</sup> Associates STREET AND NUMBER: Jefferson Baltimore CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore STATE: Md 21204			
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: BALTIMORE COUNTY COURTS BUILDING			
STREET AND NUMBER: BOSLEY AVE.			
CITY OR TOWN: Towson		STATE: MD 21204	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 1339/263 NO.			
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>			
TITLE OF SURVEY: BALTIMORE COUNTY HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY			
DATE OF SURVEY: Ongoing since 1964 BA-1198 ENTERED 2/26/78			
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST			
STREET AND NUMBER: 21 STATE CIRCLE			
CITY OR TOWN: ANNAPOLIS		STATE: MARYLAND 21401	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3/1/78

3/1/78

3/1/78

3/1/78

field check for loc. + address: A. Marten 3/1/78

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

 Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

 Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

 Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Small Frame <sup>(German siding)</sup> clapboard house, 2 stories high, on stone <sup>set above level of road but close to head</sup> foundation, 3 bays by 1, facing south. <sup>Rectangular</sup> Oblong, the pitched roof ridge line runs east-west. Windows have 2 lights on 2. ~~A~~ A one-story porch runs across the south side of the house.

As of 3/1/78: this house has also been recently & attractively renovated, the siding painted yellow ochre, windows trim a dark brown.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian
- 15th Century
- 16th Century
- 17th Century
- 18th Century
- 19th Century
- 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                      |   |  |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry    | losophy                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention   | <input type="checkbox"/> Science        | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | Architecture                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature  | itarian                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music       | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Probably built for a mill-worker's family, this simple house is being renovated by a family who can commute to Baltimore and enjoy this pleasant site by the mill stream.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

BA-1198

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Empty box for Major Bibliographical References.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE	
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 20/1 A. (entire development tract?)

Acreage Justification:

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

STATE:	COUNTY:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: JEAN S. EWING

ORGANIZATION: MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST DATE: 1/93

STREET AND NUMBER: 2525 RIVA ROAD

CITY OR TOWN: ANNAPOLIS STATE: MARYLAND

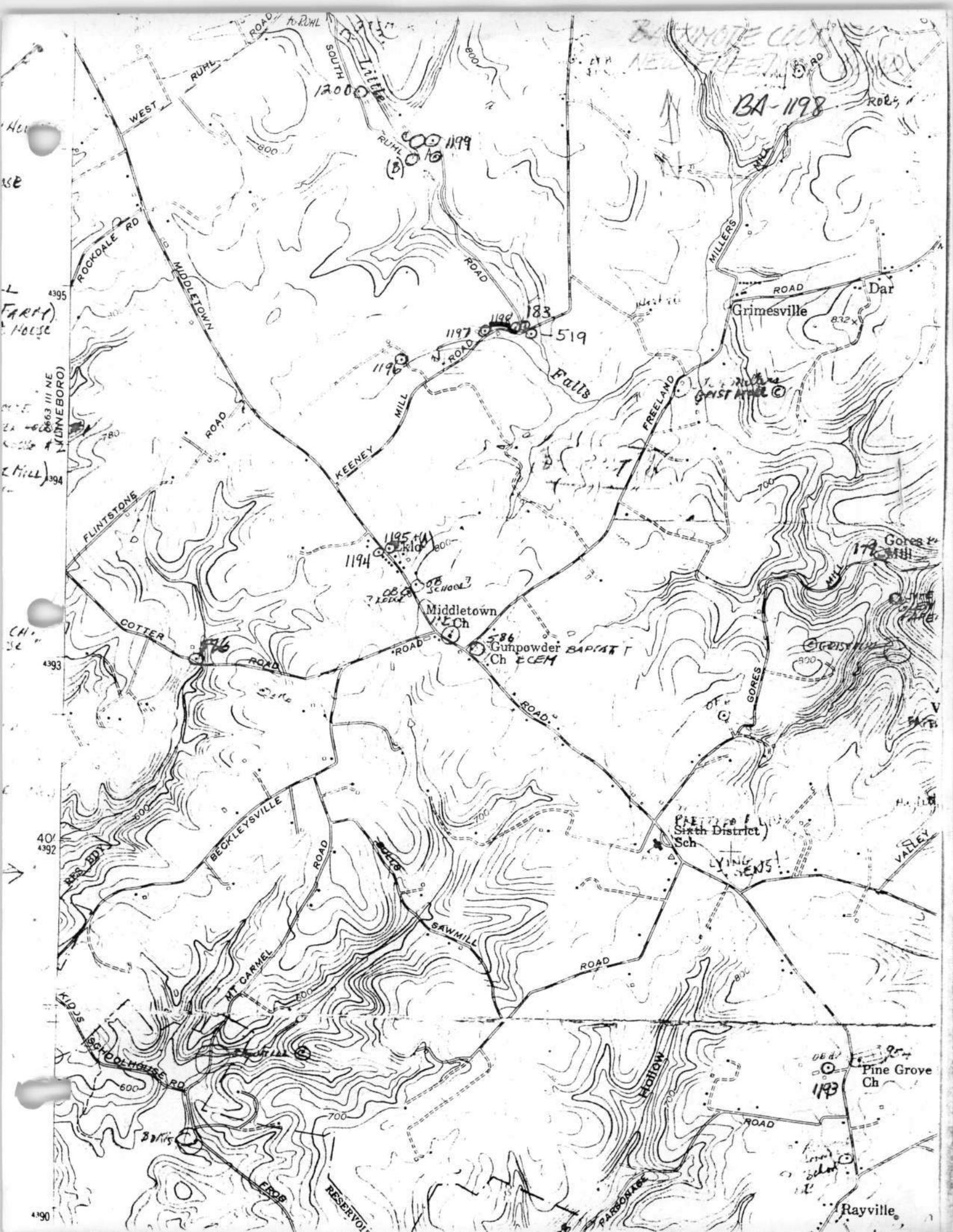
12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National  State  Local

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



BA-1198

1199  
1196

1197  
1192  
183  
519

1194  
1195

MIDDLETOWN Sch

GUNPOWDER Sch

Grimesville

179

SIXTH DISTRICT Sch

1193  
Pine Grove Ch

Rayville

FERRY HOUSE

663 III NE  
MINNEBORO

394

CH. SC

4393

40  
4392

4390



BA-1198

**5286**

VI-NEW-1198 KEENEY'S MILLWORKER HOUSE #2  
KEENEY MILL ROAD, ERLO VICINITY

PHOTO: JEAN S. EWING (MHT) 1/73 (frame 13)