

CAPSULE SUMMARY
BA-1886
Oakwood School
5520 Sweet Air Road
Baldwin, Baltimore County
1889 ca.
Private

Although prior documentation suggests that the extant resource is the circa 1889 Oakwood School, no exterior architectural evidence survives to corroborate this possibility. Based on exterior analysis, the building appears to have been constructed circa 1930. Regardless of construction date, however, the building's landscape has changed since the early 20th century. Initially, Sweet Air Road passed to the west of the school property to its terminus at Baldwin Mill Road. This was the case as early as 1850, when the land surrounding the intersection was owned primarily by members of the Baldwin family. By the late 1870s, the land on which the school would be constructed was occupied by Jonathan Harlan, Jason Baldwin, or Isaac Watkins. At that time, the nearby community of Baldwin, named for the family, was thriving. Although it was little more than a cluster of buildings in the mid-19th century, Baldwin grew rapidly and, by 1877, was a post office town with numerous buildings. No school existed at the intersection of Sweet Air and Baldwin Mill Roads as late as 1877. By 1915, however, the school had been constructed at the intersection, and a few more dwellings were erected in the general vicinity. This community on the outskirts of Baldwin has remained rural through the late 20th and early 21st centuries.

The Oakwood School now retains no exterior fabric or form from its 19th century history. Circa 1930, the school was completely altered and converted into a modest Craftsman style bungalow. The one-and-a-half-story wood frame building features a solid concrete parged foundation, wood-shingled wood frame structural system, and asphalt-shingled side gable roof. Wide gabled dormers clad in wood shingles project from the front and back of the roof. The front slope of the roof changes pitch over the deeply inset three-bay-wide porch with decorative metal posts. The façade, or southeast elevation, is centrally pierced by one sash-and-paneled single-leaf wood door flanked by two 6/1 windows. Two 6/1 windows are located in the dormer. All façade openings have square-edged wood surrounds and sills. A central reconstructed stretcher bond brick chimney rises from the interior of the building. Circa 1990, a wood deck was constructed on the southwest elevation. Two circa 1990 sheds are located on the property.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-1886

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Oakwood School

other

2. Location

street and number 5520 Sweet Air Road not for publication

city, town Baldwin vicinity

county Baltimore County

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

name Dorothy Ann and Harry Perry Barber

street and number 5520 Sweet Air Road telephone Not Available

city, town Baldwin state MD zip code 21013

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 14566 folio 263

city, town Towson tax map 45 tax parcel 231 tax ID number 1118011075

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> 1 </u> <u> 2 </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> 1 </u> <u> 2 </u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	<u> 1 </u>

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-1886

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

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

Reportedly constructed circa 1889, the Oakwood School now retains no exterior fabric or form from its 19th century history. Circa 1930, the school was completely altered and converted into a modest Craftsman style bungalow. The one-and-a-half-story wood frame building features a solid concrete parged foundation, wood-shingled wood frame structural system, and asphalt-shingled side gable roof. Wide gabled dormers clad in wood shingles project from the front and back of the roof. The front slope of the roof changes pitch over the deeply inset three-bay-wide porch with decorative metal posts. The façade, or southeast elevation, is centrally pierced by one sash-and-paneled single-leaf wood door flanked by two 6/1 windows. Two 6/1 windows are located in the dormer. All façade openings have square-edged wood surrounds and sills. A central reconstructed stretcher bond brick chimney rises from the interior of the building. Circa 1990, a wood deck was constructed on the southwest elevation.

Two circa 1990 sheds are located on the property. Both wood frame buildings feature wood block foundations and asphalt-shingled roofs. The vinyl-shingled shed is capped by a front gable roof above a louvered double-leaf wood door with a square-edged wood surround while the second shed is pierced by a central double-leaf door flanked by jalousie metal windows below a side gable roof.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-1886

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 checked="" 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 1889 ca.-1930 ca. **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates 1889 ca., 1930 ca., 1990 ca.

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.)

Although prior documentation suggests that the extant resource is the circa 1889 Oakwood School, no exterior architectural evidence survives to corroborate this possibility. Based on exterior analysis, the building appears to have been constructed circa 1930.¹ Regardless of construction date, however, the building's landscape has changed since the early 20th century. Initially, Sweet Air Road passed to the west of the school property to its terminus at Baldwin Mill Road.² This was the case as early as 1850, when the land surrounding the intersection was owned primarily by members of the Baldwin family.³ By the late 1870s, the land on which the school would be constructed was occupied by Jonathan Harlan, Jason Baldwin, or Isaac Watkins. At that time, the nearby community of Baldwin, named for the family, was thriving. Although it was little more than a cluster of buildings in the mid-19th century, Baldwin grew rapidly and, by 1877, was a post office town with numerous buildings.⁴ No school existed at the intersection of Sweet Air and Baldwin Mill Roads as late as 1877. By 1915, however, the school had been constructed at the intersection, and a few more dwellings were erected in the general vicinity.⁵ This community on the outskirts of Baldwin has remained rural through the late 20th and early 21st centuries.

¹ Interior architectural survey and further historical research would aid in the confirmation of a construction date for this building.

² Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

³ J.C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).

⁴ *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, 1877).

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-1886

- 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.
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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property .50 Acre
Acreage of historical setting Unknown
Quadrangle name Jarrettsville Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction circa 1889, the Oakwood School has been associated with the one acre of land known as tax parcel 231 of map 45 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Incorporated	date	May 20, 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

BA-1886

Click here for a plain text ADA compliant screen.



Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation
BALTIMORE COUNTY
Real Property Data Search

[Go Back](#)
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Account Identifier: District - 11 Account Number - 1118011075

Owner Information

Owner Name: BARBER DOROTHY ANN HALL
BARBER HARRY PERRY
Use: RESIDENTIAL
Principal Residence: YES
Mailing Address: 5520 SWEET AIR RD
BALDWIN MD 21013-9709
Deed Reference: 1) /14566/ 263
2)

Location & Structure Information

Premises Address
5520 SWEET AIR RD

Legal Description
1.00 AC NES
5520 SWEET AIR RD
NW BALDWIN MILL RD

Map	Grid	Parcel	Sub District	Subdivision	Section	Block	Lot	Group	Plat No: Plat Ref:
45	1	231						82	

Special Tax Areas		Town Ad Valorem Tax Class	County Use	
Primary Structure Built	Enclosed Area	Property Land Area	County Use	
1912	1,124 SF	1.00 AC	04	
Stories	Basement	Type	Exterior	
1 1/2	NO	STANDARD UNIT	WOOD SHINGLE	

Value Information

	Base Value	Value As Of 01/01/2003	Phase-in Assessments	
			As Of 07/01/2004	As Of 07/01/2005
Land:	63,000	63,000		
Improvements:	52,510	56,390		
Total:	115,510	119,390	118,096	119,390
Preferential Land:	0	0	0	0

Transfer Information

Seller: BARBER DOROTHY ANN HALL Type: NOT ARMS-LENGTH	Date: 06/30/2000 Deed1: /14566/ 263	Price: \$0 Deed2:
Seller: HALL DOROTHY ANN Type: NOT ARMS-LENGTH	Date: 08/29/1990 Deed1: / 8580/ 717	Price: \$0 Deed2:
Seller: Type:	Date: Deed1:	Price: Deed2:

Exemption Information

Partial Exempt Assessments	Class	07/01/2004	07/01/2005
County	000	0	0
State	000	0	0
Municipal	000	0	0

Tax Exempt: NO
Exempt Class:

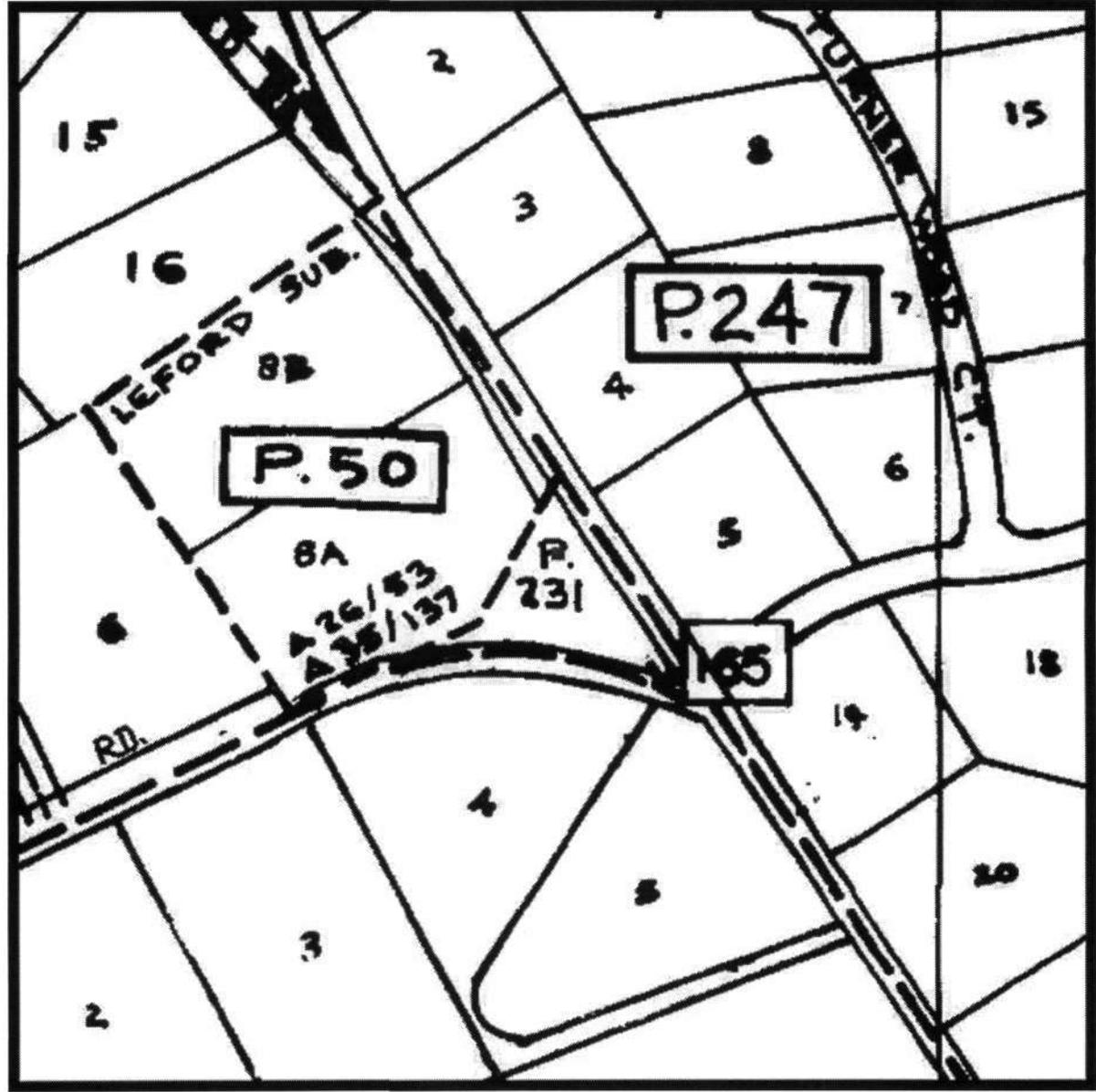
Special Tax Recapture:

* NONE *

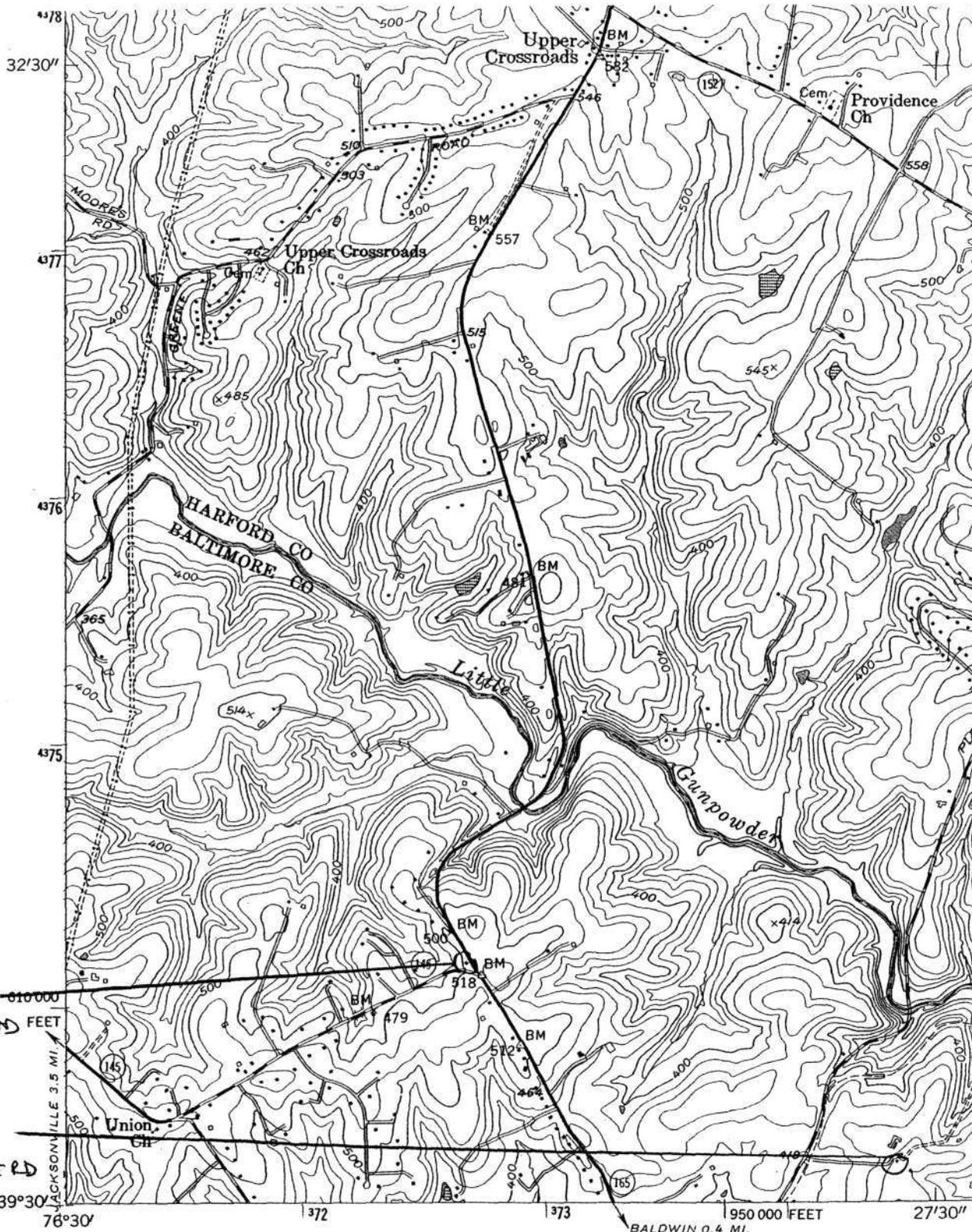
BA-188p

	Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation BALTIMORE COUNTY Real Property Data Search	Go Back View Map New Search
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District - 11 Account Number - 1118011075



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 For more information on electronic mapping applications, visit the Maryland Department of Planning
 web site at www.mdp.state.md.us/webcom/index.html



BA-1886
5520 SWEET AIR ROAD
BALDWIN, BALTIMORE
COUNTY

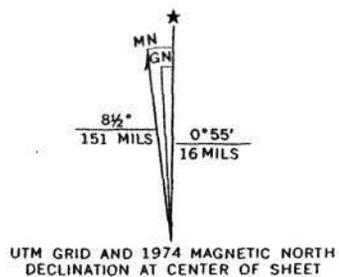
BA-1882
13801 PLEASANTVILLE RD
BALDWIN
BALTIMORE COUNTY

(TOWSON)
5862 N/E

USGS Quad: **JARRETTSVILLE**
Scale: 1:24,000
↑
N

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE
Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods
otographs taken 1954. Field check 1956
: projection. 1927 North American datum
oot grid based on Maryland coordinate system
eter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
shown in blue

Unchecked elevations are shown in brown
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial
photographs taken 1974. This information not field checked
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983,
move the projection lines 7 meters south and
28 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks





BA-1886

5520 SWEET AIR ROAD, BALDWIN
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

SE ELEVATION

1084



BA-1886

5520 SWEET AIR ROAD, BALDWIN
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

N. CORNER

2 of 4



BA-1886

5520 SWEET AIR ROAD, BALDWIN
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

W. CORNER

3 of 4



BA-1886

5520 SWEET AIR ROAD, BALDWIN
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPB

SW ELEVATION

4 of 4