

CAPSULE SUMMARY
BA-2562
Tollgate Keeper's House
10620 Harford Road
Glen Arm, Baltimore County
1819
Private

The history of the Tollgate Keeper's House at 10620 Harford Road is intertwined with that of the Harford Turnpike, which connected Baltimore City to Harford County. Formed in 1816, the Baltimore and Harford Turnpike Company organized with capital stock of \$60,000. By 1830, the road was complete as far as the Gunpowder Falls, and the first three tollgates were established along this stretch of the road. The extant Tollgate Keeper's House was the dwelling associated with the third gate. Constructed in 1819, the building was initially occupied by the first gatekeeper, Robert S. Downs. Downs kept his position for five years before resigning in 1824. Thereafter Jacob Buck served as gatekeeper until his death in 1827. Jacob A. Grace followed, staying in the position for the next thirteen years. Over the next forty to fifty years, Jacob Shearman served as gatekeeper. It was during Shearman's tenure that the turnpike was extended north of the Gunpowder Falls and completed by 1860. Only one additional tollgate, in Reckord, was built along this last stretch of road to be finished. Although the condition of the turnpike was favorable during the first half of the 19th century, portions of it quickly demised, and complaints by residents in 1864 and again in 1891 resulted in poor relations between the turnpike company and the public at large. It was the extension of the streetcar lines from Baltimore City into the county that sealed the fate of the Harford Turnpike. Decreased use of the thoroughfare resulted in decreased funding for its maintenance. This combination of negative factors spiraled downward until 1910, when the nearly seventeen-mile portion of the road in Baltimore and Harford Counties was sold to the state of Maryland. Afterward, the Tollgate Keeper's House was converted into a private dwelling. It appears as though L.A. Graham occupied the building in 1915.

This vernacular building fronts close to the road at the edge of a ravine leading to the Gunpowder Falls. The random rubble stone house stands two-stories high with an asphalt shingled side gable roof. To the northeast of the main block is a three-bay-wide, two-story-high wing on a concrete block foundation. This wood frame section is clad in wood shingles. Spanning the length of both sections is a half-hipped enclosed porch added circa 1930 on a concrete block foundation. A shed roof dormer with a three-light jalousie window projects from the roof of the main block. Piercing the façade of the second-story of the wing is are two 1/1 vinyl windows and one 2/2 window all with square-edged wood surrounds. A brick central-interior chimney rises between the two section of the house. To the southwest is a concrete block and wood frame addition with a shed roof that is banked into the hill. To the northeast is a one-story garage built into the hill circa 1930.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-2562

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Tollgate Keeper's House

other

2. Location

street and number 10620 Harford Road __ not for publication

city, town Glen Arm __ vicinity

county Baltimore County

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

name Not Available

street and number Not Available telephone Not Available

city, town Not Available state MD zip code Not Available

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber Not Available folio Not Available

city, town Towson tax map N/A tax parcel N/A tax ID number Not Available

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	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	2
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	0
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	buildings
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	0
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	sites
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	0
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	0
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	0
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	2
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			1
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-2562

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.

Constructed in 1819 facing southeast, this vernacular building fronts close to the road at the edge of a ravine leading to the Gunpowder Falls . The random rubble stone house stands two-stories high with an asphalt shingled side gable roof. To the northeast of the main block is a three-bay-wide, two-story-high wing on a concrete block foundation. This wood frame section is clad in wood shingles. Spanning the length of both sections is a half-hipped enclosed porch added circa 1930 on a concrete block foundation. A shed roof dormer with a three-light jalousie window projects from the roof of the main block. Piercing the façade of the second-story of the wing is are two 1/1 vinyl windows and one 2/2 window all with square-edged wood surrounds. A brick central-interior chimney rises between the two section of the house. To the southwest is a concrete block and wood frame addition with a shed roof that is banked into the hill.

To the northeast is a one-story garage built into the hill circa 1930. The poured concrete foundation supports a wood frame structure clad in weatherboard siding. The building features an asphalt shingled, front gable roof and a double-leaf sliding door made with plywood.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-2562

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates 1820 ca.-1910 **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates 1820 ca., 1930 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.)

The history of the Tollgate Keeper's House at 10620 Harford Road is intertwined with that of the Harford Turnpike, which connected Baltimore City to Harford County. Formed in 1816, the Baltimore and Harford Turnpike Company organized with capital stock of \$60,000. By 1830, the road was complete as far as the Gunpowder Falls, and the first three tollgates were established along this stretch of the road. The first tollgate was constructed in 1817 on the south side of the road across from the Hillen Road terminus at the Harford Turnpike. This building was sited on the land now known as Clifton Park. The second tollgate was established in Lavender Hill (present-day Parkville), near the Hiss Methodist Church. This building was not constructed until circa 1850. The third tollgate was located south of the Gunpowder Falls. The extant Tollgate Keeper's House was the dwelling associated with the third gate. Constructed in 1819, the building was initially occupied by the first gatekeeper, Robert S. Downs. Downs kept his position for five years before resigning in 1824. Thereafter Jacob Buck served as gatekeeper until his death in 1827. Jacob A. Grace followed, staying in the position for the next thirteen years. Over the next forty to fifty years, Jacob Shearman served as gatekeeper in addition to his position as postmaster in the nearby community of Cub Hill in the 1850s. It was during Shearman's tenure that the turnpike was extended north of the Gunpowder Falls and completed by 1860. Only one additional tollgate, in Reckord, was built along this last stretch of road to be finished.¹

Although the condition of the turnpike was favorable during the first half of the 19th century, portions of it quickly demised, and complaints by residents in 1864 and again in 1891 resulted in poor relations between the turnpike company and the public at large. It was the extension of the streetcar lines from Baltimore City into the county that sealed the fate of the Harford Turnpike. Decreased use of the thoroughfare resulted in decreased funding for its maintenance. This combination of negative factors spiraled downward until 1910, when the nearly seventeen-mile portion of the road in Baltimore and Harford Counties was sold to the state of Maryland. Afterward, the Tollgate Keeper's House was converted into a private dwelling. It appears as though L.A. Graham occupied the building in 1915.²

¹ William Hollifield, *Difficulties Made Easy: History of the Turnpikes of Baltimore City and County* (Cockeysville, MD: Baltimore County Historical Society, 1978), pp. 71-77.

² William Hollifield, *Difficulties Made Easy: History of the Turnpikes of Baltimore City and County* (Cockeysville, MD: Baltimore County Historical Society, 1978), p. 71-77; see also *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G.W. Bromley, 1915).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-2562

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.

Hollifield, William. *Difficulties Made Easy: History of the Turnpikes of Baltimore City and County.* Cockeysville, MD: Baltimore County Historical Society, 1978.

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 .50 Acre
Acreage of historical setting Unknown
Quadrangle name Towson

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction in 1819, the Tollgate Keeper's House has been associated with the parcel of land at 10620 Harford Road.

11. Form Prepared by

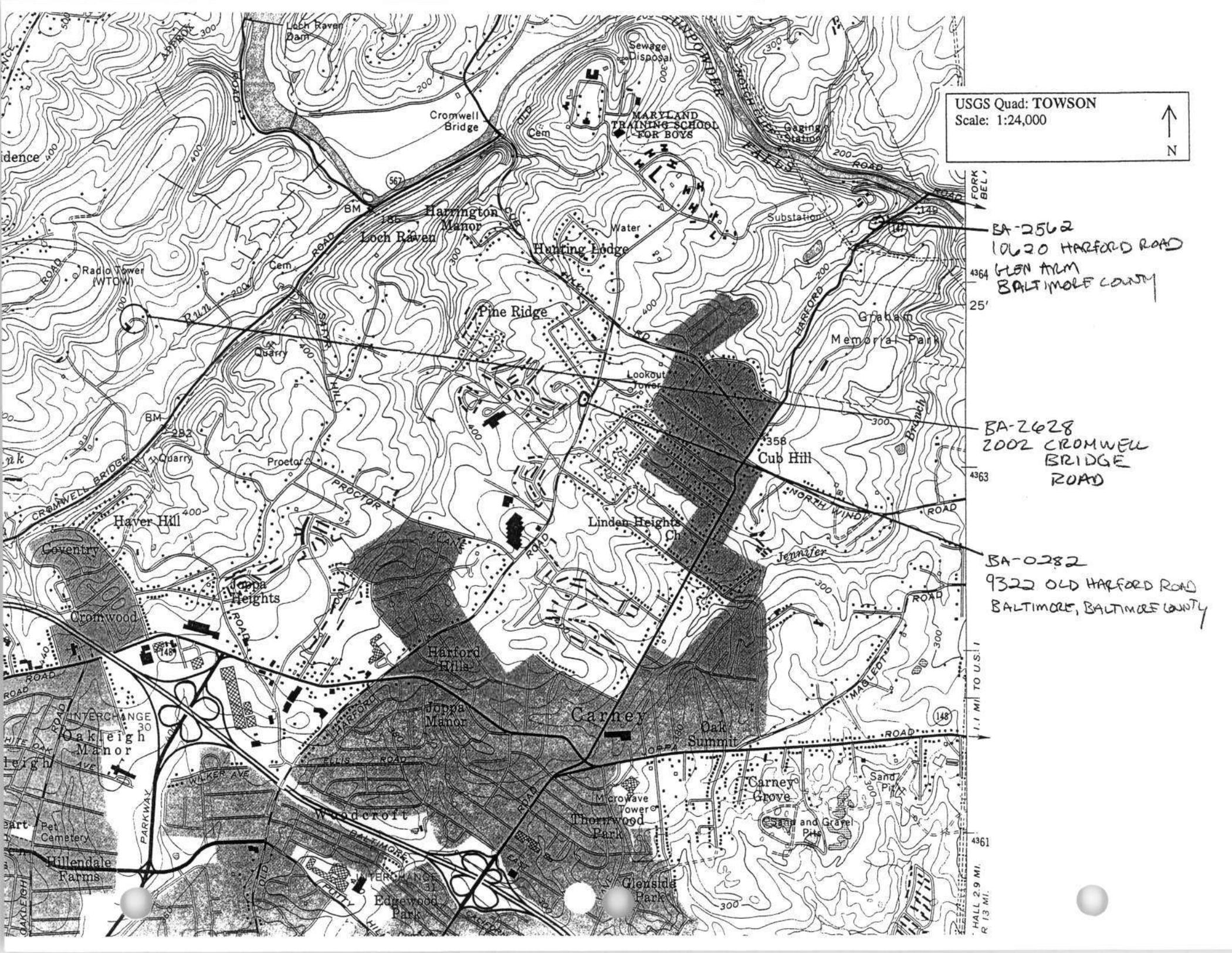
name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Incorporated	date	May 29, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

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

USGS Quad: TOWSON
Scale: 1:24,000



BA-2562
10620 HARFORD ROAD
GLEN ARM
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-2628
2002 CROMWELL
BRIDGE
ROAD

BA-0282
9322 OLD HARFORD ROAD
BALTIMORE, BALTIMORE COUNTY

1.1 MI TO U.S. 1
HALL 2.9 MI.
R 13 MI.



BA-2562

1062 Harford road

GLEN ARM

Baltimore County, MD

Traceries

3/2001

MD-SHPO

South corner

1 of 4



BA- 2562
1062 Harford Road
GLEN ARM
Baltimore County, MD
Traceries
3/2001
MD SHPO
southeast elevation



BA-2562
1062 Harford Road
GLEN ARM
Baltimore County, MD
Traceries
3/2001
MD SHPO
East corner

3 of 4



BA-2562

1062 Harford Road

GLEN ARM

Baltimore County, MD

Traceries

3/2001

MD SHPO

west corner

4 of 4

BA - 2562

TOLLGATE KEEPERS HOUSE - ca. 1819 - 10620 Harford Road, Glen Arm. Long house close to road, part stone, part frame, with full-width front porch. The tollgate was established here in 1819 with Robert S. Downs as first gatekeeper (See Difficulties Made Easy, p. 73)
Owner: Casper E. Payne.