

CAPSULE SUMMARY
BA-2644
Rockland Barn
10145 Falls Road
Brooklandville, Baltimore County
1880 ca.
Private

The barn located at 10145 is sited on land that originally comprised a portion of William Fell Johnson's large late 19th century estate, which was known as Rockland and located north of the village with the same name. The Rockland community was originally settled by the Johnson family, who constructed a grist mill in the early 19th century and a number of stone dwellings to house the mill workers. Shortly after the establishment of the mill, the Falls Turnpike Company organized with the intent of creating and maintaining a road from Baltimore City to Hanover, Pennsylvania. The Falls Turnpike passed through Rockland. Although the community's economic activity began with the gristmill, it was supplanted by the Rockland Bleach and Dye Works, which were established in 1831. William Fell Johnson, whose estate was traversed by the Falls Turnpike, became president of the company in 1896 and again in 1904. It was during his tenure as senior officer that the company dissolved due to public outcry over the poor condition of the road. In 1905, Baltimore County assumed responsibility for the road. Johnson retained ownership of his estate through the 1910s. Since 1980, the Rockland Barn has been converted into a single-family residence.

The vernacular five-bay-wide barn, which is banked into the hillside with a one-story façade, or north elevation, and a two-story south elevation. Overall, the structure is two-and-a-half-stories tall and features wood frame construction clad in board-and-batten siding, a solid random rubble stone foundation, and a side gable roof clad in standing seam metal. Two square cupolas pierced by louvered ventilators and capped by pyramidal roofs rise from the center of the roof ridge. The central bay is recessed with a central flush-vertical-board double-leaf wood door flanked by two one-light fixed windows with one-light transoms. Each of the four outer bays, which project beyond the entry, is pierced by two paired one-light casement windows with one-light triangular transom windows. All openings have square-edged wood surrounds and sills. The circa 1980 renovation introduced to the structure one central interior stretcher bond brick chimney and two interior end stretcher bond brick chimneys. The south elevation has been extensively reconstructed with a stretcher bond brick bulkhead and plate glass windows spanning the area below the forebay. Southeast of the barn is a circa 1980 shed of wood frame construction clad in board-and-batten siding with a solid random rubble stone foundation, side gable roof clad in standing seam metal, and two square cupolas with rectangular louvered ventilators.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-2644

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Rockland Barn

other

2. Location

street and number 10145 Falls Road not for publication

city, town Brooklandville vicinity

county Baltimore County

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

name Josephine D. Johnson

street and number 10145 Falls Road telephone Not Available

city, town Brooklandville state MD zip code 21022

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 8762 folio 832

city, town Towson tax map 69 tax parcel 1089 tax ID number 2200003680

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 Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<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:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			1

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-2644

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.

The vernacular barn originally belonging to William Fell Johnson's estate known as Rockland is a circa 1880 structure that was converted into a dwelling within the last twenty years. The five-bay-wide barn, which is banked into the hillside with a one-story façade, or north elevation, and a two-story south elevation. Overall, the structure is two-and-a-half-stories tall and features wood frame construction clad in board-and-batten siding, a solid random rubble stone foundation, and a side gable roof clad in standing seam metal. Two square cupolas pierced by louvered ventilators and capped by pyramidal roofs rise from the center of the roof ridge. The central bay is recessed with a central flush-vertical-board double-leaf wood door flanked by two one-light fixed windows with one-light transoms. Each of the four outer bays, which project beyond the entry, is pierced by two paired one-light casement windows with one-light triangular transom windows. All openings have square-edged wood surrounds and sills. The circa 1980 renovation introduced to the structure one central interior stretcher bond brick chimney and two interior end stretcher bond brick chimneys. The south elevation has been extensively reconstructed with a stretcher bond brick bulkhead and plate glass windows spanning the area below the forebay.

Southeast of the barn is a circa 1980 shed of wood frame construction clad in board-and-batten siding with a solid random rubble stone foundation, side gable roof clad in standing seam metal, and two square cupolas with rectangular louvered ventilators. A flush-vertical-board double-leaf wood door flanked by two window openings pierces the façade of the one-and-a-half-story structure. A one-story addition with a shed roof is located on the structure's side elevation.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-2644

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" 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	1880 ca.-1980 ca.	Architect/Builder	Unknown	
Construction dates	1880 ca., 1980 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 vernacular barn located at 10145 is sited on land that originally comprised a portion of William Fell Johnson's large late 19th century estate, which was known as Rockland and located north of the village with the same name. The Rockland community was originally settled by the Johnson family, who constructed a grist mill in the early 19th century and a number of stone dwellings to house the mill workers.¹ Shortly after the establishment of the mill, the Falls Turnpike Company organized with the intent of creating and maintaining a road from Baltimore City to Hanover, Pennsylvania. The Falls Turnpike passed through Rockland.² Although the community's economic activity began with the gristmill, it was supplanted by the Rockland Bleach and Dye Works, which were established in 1831. Brothers James, Thomas, and Robert Wright founded the Rockland Bleach and Dye Works. Their bleaching formula, which included cornstarch, castor oil, chlorine, and pulverized talc, brought great financial success to the company.³ William Fell Johnson, whose estate was traversed by the Falls Turnpike, became president of the company in 1896 and again in 1904. It was during his tenure as senior officer that the company dissolved due to public outcry over the poor condition of the road. In 1905, Baltimore County assumed responsibility for the road.⁴ Johnson retained ownership of his estate through the 1910s.⁵ The Rockland Bleach & Dye Works remains one of the oldest corporations in Baltimore County having been in business for the past 170 years. Rockland has become the world's largest manufacturer of drapery liners. Its success is based largely on the patented fabric Roc-Ion®.⁶ Since 1980, the Rockland Barn has been converted into a single-family residence.

¹ "History of the Area." Located on the Internet on May 22, 2001 at <http://www.bcpl.net/~ruxrider/area-history.html>.

² William Hollifield, *Difficulties Made Easy: History of the Turnpikes of Baltimore City and County* (Cockeysville, MD: The Baltimore County Historical Society, 1978), pp. 42-46.

³ Neal A. Brooks and Eric G. Rockel, *A History of Baltimore County*, (Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, 1978), p. 195.

⁴ William Hollifield, *Difficulties Made Easy: History of the Turnpikes of Baltimore City and County* (Cockeysville, MD: The Baltimore County Historical Society, 1978), pp. 42-46.

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

⁶ "News Makers." Located on the Internet on May 22, 2001 at <http://www.dwcdesignet.com/DWC/Jan'00/newsmk.html>.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-2644

- 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 One Acre
Acreage of historical setting Unknown
Quadrangle name Cockeysville Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction circa 1880, the Rockland Barn has been associated with the 1.95 acres of land known as tax parcel 1089 of map 69 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

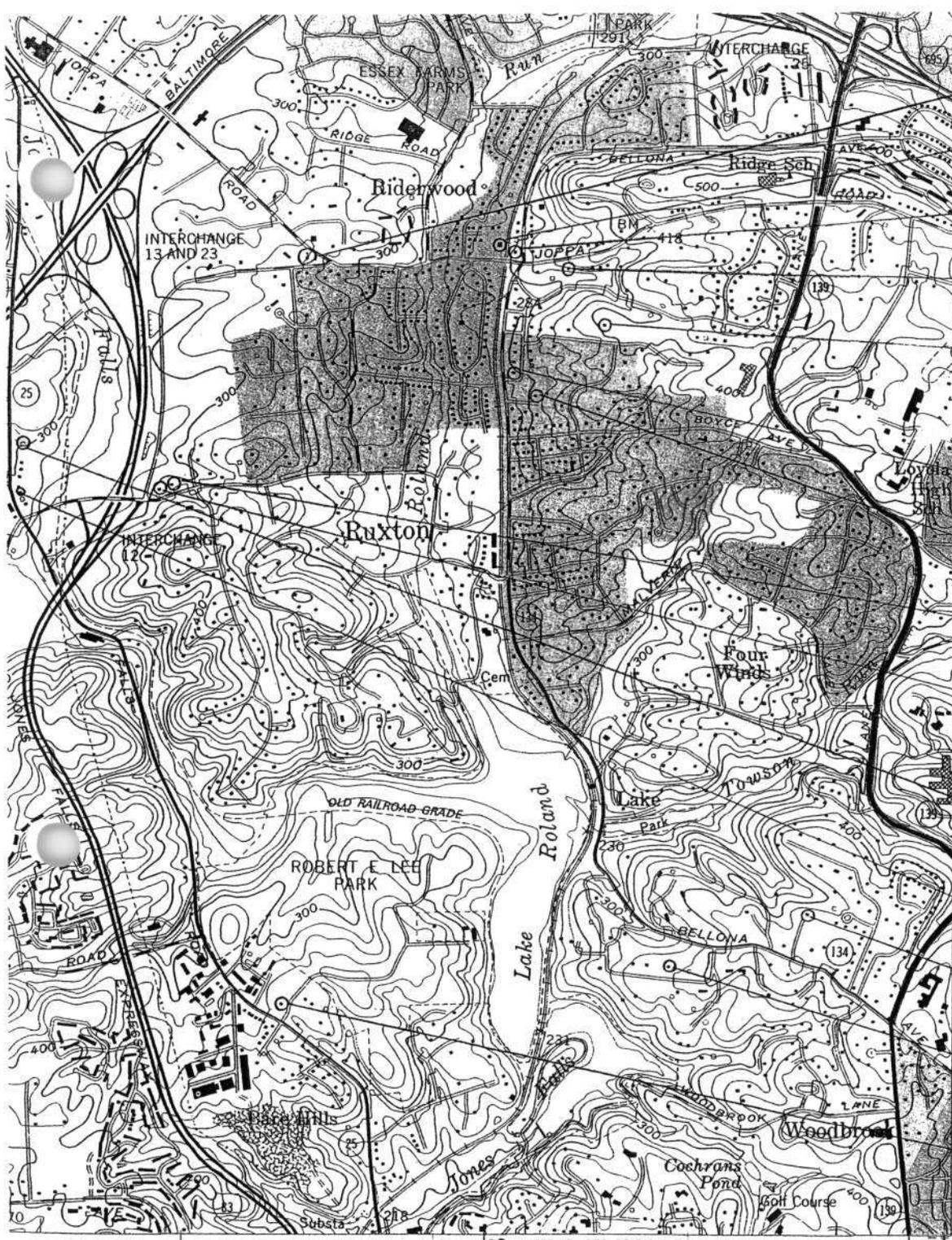
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Incorporated	date	May 23, 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-0216
1901 WEST JOPPA ROAD
RIDERWOOD, BALTIMORE COUNTY
- BA-2141
1006 WEST JOPPA ROAD
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- BA-2359
1600 WEST JOPPA ROAD
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- BA-2425
1517 WEST JOPPA ROAD
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- BA-1775
1400 WALNUT HILL LANE
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- BA-2360
1500 OLD ORCHARD LANE
BALTIMORE, BALTIMORE COUNTY
- BA-2202
2004 RUXTON ROAD
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- BA-2203
2008 RUXTON ROAD
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- BA-2614
10145 FALLS ROAD
BROOKLANDVILLE
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- BA-2372
10113 FALLS ROAD
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY

25'
4364
1 MI. TO INTERCHANGE 28
TOWSON VIA MD. 481 (1 MI.)

4362

4361

4360000m.N.

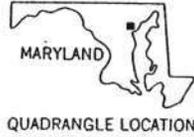
40' 358 359000m.E 39°22'30" 76°37'30"

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1986
BALTIMORE (JUNC. U.S. 1) 4.5 MI.

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Heavy-duty ————— Light-duty —————
- Medium-duty ————— Unimproved dirt - - - - -
- Interstate Route ◻ U.S. Route ○ State Route

(BALTIMORE EAST)
5662 / SE



COCKEYSVILLE, MD.
39076-D6-TF-024

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled by the Geological Survey from aerial photographs taken 1983 and other sources. This information not field checked. Map edited 1986

1957
PHOTOREVISED 1986
DMA 5662 I NW—SERIES V833

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



BA-2644

10145 FALLS ROAD, BROOKLANDVILLE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

4/2001

MD SHPO

NW CORNER

1 of 3



BA-2644

10145 FALLS ROAD, BROOKLANDVILLE
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

4/2001

MD SHPD

S. ELEVATION

2 of 3



BA-2644

10145 FALLS ROAD, BROOKLANDVILLE
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

4/2001

MD SHPO

NE CORNER + CARRIAGE HOUSE

3 of 3