CAPSULE SUMMARY
BA-0476
Mill House
18000 Falls Road
Hampstead, Baltimore County
1840 ca.
Private

The Mill House, erected circa 1840 as part of Edward Lawson's sawmill, is located in the vicinity of Beckleysville, in the Fifth District of Baltimore County. Beckleysville, located at the intersection of Beckleysville Road and Gunpowder Road, grew from the paper mill established by Jacob Beckley in the early 19th century. By the 1850s, the town of Beckleysville had not yet taken shape. Nearby, a mill operated by Edward Lawson was located along George's Run on the northwest corner of the Falls Road and Gunpowder Road intersection. Over the next 27 years the town of Beckleysville grew at a significant rate. Lawson's sawmill and related buildings remained the few improvements to the land southwest of Beckleysville. By 1881, Beckleysville had become the "most important town in the district," and reached a population of 400. The 1915 county atlas indicates that the town did not grow significantly during the last quarter of the 19th century through the early 20th century. By the early 1900s, Joseph Armacost was the operator of the sawmill established by Edward Lawson. The dwelling constructed next to the mill is the last remaining remnant of Lawson's milling establishment.

The vernacular Mill House has been completely altered since its initial construction. Twentieth century alterations and the complete re-cladding of the structure in vinyl siding have resulted in a complete change of the structure's appearance. The structure presently fronts north and is banked into a hillside with an exposed foundation The original side-gabled, two-and-a-half-story, four-bay-wide portion of the building is visible at the second and attic stories. Circa 1940, one-story additions with coursed rubble stone foundations and shed roofs were constructed on the north and south elevations, and a one-story wing was added to the west elevation. All roofs are presently clad in asphalt shingles. Two reconstructed exterior chimneys of coursed rubble stone construction rise along the gable ends of the building. An additional exterior chimney, of cinderblock construction, is located on the south elevation. The present façade features a sash-and-paneled single-leaf wood door flanked by two tripartite openings with central one-light fixed windows flanked by eight-light casements, all of which have square-edged wood surrounds. A one-bay-square porch with a gable roof shelters the entry. One six-light casement also pierces the first story. Three 6/6 windows with vinyl surrounds pierce the second story of the main block. A circa 1840 ice house, circa 1940 stable and circa 1940 ruin are also located on the property.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-0476

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other Mill House

2. Location

street and number 18000 Falls Road ___ not for publication

city, town Hampstead ___ vicinity

county Baltimore County

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

name Elizabeth Blanton

street and number 18000 Falls Road telephone Not Available

city, town Hampstead state MD zip code 21074

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 10534 folio 364

city, town Towson tax map 15 tax parcel 107 tax ID number 0504020190

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
___district
_X_building(s)
___structure
___site
___object

Ownership
___public
_X_private
___both

Current Function
___agriculture
___commerce/trade
___defense
_X_domestic
___education
___funerary
___government
___health care
___industry
___landscape
___recreation/culture
___religion
___social
___transportation
___work in progress
___unknown
___vacant/not in use
___other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3		buildings
		sites
1		structures
		objects
4		Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
1

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-0476

Condition

___ excellent ___ deteriorated
___ good ___ ruins
___ fair X_ altered

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

The vernacular Mill House has been completely altered since its initial construction circa 1840. Only a small amount of the building's historic form is evident through exterior architectural survey. Early to mid-20th century alterations and the complete re-cladding of the structure in vinyl siding have resulted in a complete change of the structure's appearance. Additionally, the building's original façade is no longer apparent, and the structure presently fronts north and is banked into a hillside with an exposed foundation, so that the rear elevation appears to be three stories tall. The side-gabled, two-and-a-half-story, four-bay-wide portion of the building, which forms the mid-19th century main block, is visible at the second and attic stories. Circa 1940, one-story additions with coursed rubble stone foundations and shed roofs were constructed along the full width of the north and south elevations, and a one-story wing was added to the west elevation. All roofs are presently clad in asphalt shingles. Two reconstructed exterior chimneys of coursed rubble stone construction rise along the gable ends of the building. An additional exterior chimney, of cinderblock construction, is located on the south elevation. The present façade now features a sash-and-paneled single-leaf wood door flanked by two tripartite openings with central one-light fixed windows flanked by eight-light casements, all of which have square-edged wood surrounds. A one-bay-square porch with a gable roof supported by square wood posts shelters the entry. One six-light casement also pierces the first story. Three 6/6 windows with vinyl surrounds pierce the second story of the main block. The wing features one sash-and-paneled single-leaf wood door with a square-edged wood surround and two 6/6 windows with vinyl surrounds.

Two historic outbuildings and one ruin are also located on the property. The one-story stable, which is built into the hillside, appears to be a circa 1940 re-use of random rubble stone walls that date to circa 1840. The four-bay-wide building has a shed roof clad in corrugated sheet metal with weatherboard and German siding surrounding the roof at the cornice level. Three wide doorways with braced flush-vertical-board double-leaf wood doors pierce the façade, or south elevation. Five of the leaves are divided, while the sixth leaf is undivided and features a six-light window in the upper portion of the door. Additionally, one braced flush-vertical-board single-leaf wood door with a six-light window is located on this elevation.

The two-story, one-bay-square circa 1840 ice house is also banked into the hillside. The structure features a coursed rubble stone foundation and a vinyl-clad second story below a pyramidal roof clad in asphalt shingles. The entry contains a flush-vertical-board single-leaf wood door with lights. One 6/6 window pierces each of the remaining three sides. One 6/6 window with a square-edged wood surround and stone lintel and one flush-vertical-board single-leaf wood door with lights pierce the two exposed first-story walls, respectively.

A concrete block foundation comprises the circa 1940 ruin.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-0476

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

Specific dates	1840 ca.-1940 ca.	**Architect/Builder**	Unknown
Construction dates	1840 ca., 1940 ca.		

Evaluation for:

_____ National Register _____Maryland Register ____X____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 Mill House, erected circa 1840 as part of Edward Lawson's sawmill, is located in the vicinity of Beckleysville, in the Fifth District of Baltimore County. Beckleysville, located at the intersection of Beckleysville Road and Gunpowder Road, grew from the paper mill established by Jacob Beckley in the early 19th century.[1] By the 1850s, the town of Beckleysville had not yet taken shape. At that time, George Beckley operated the paper mill. Nearby, an "old" mill that was operated by Edward Lawson was located along George's Run on the northwest corner of the Falls Road and Gunpowder Road intersection. Edward Lawson's residence was sited across Falls Road from the mill. To the south of the Lawson mill was a blacksmith's shop. The surrounding community, however, remained rural, and relatively few buildings were located along the primary roads.[2]

Over the next 27 years, however, the town of Beckleysville grew at a significant rate. Several dwellings, a hotel, fraternal hall and schoolhouse had been constructed along Gunpowder Road. To the west, the land surrounding the intersection of Falls Road and Gunpowder Road had not developed. Lawson's sawmill and related buildings remained the few improvements to the land.[3] By 1881, Beckleysville had become the "most important town in the district," and reached a population of 400. Lutheran and Methodist Episcopal churches served the religious needs of the community.[4] The 1915 county atlas indicates that the town did not grow significantly during the last quarter of the 19th century through the early 20th century. By the early 1900s, Joseph Armacost was the operator of the sawmill established by Edward Lawson.[5] The dwelling constructed next to the mill is the last remaining remnant of Lawson's milling establishment.

[1] Neal A. Brooks and Eric G. Rockel, *A History of Baltimore County* (Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979), p. 215.
[2] J.C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).
[3] *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).
[4] 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. 869.
[5] *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-0476

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	.10 Acre		
Acreage of historical setting	Unknown		
Quadrangle name	Hampstead	Quadrangle scale:	1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its circa 1840 construction, the Mill House has been associated with the one acre of land known as tax parcel 107 of map 15 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	May 15, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

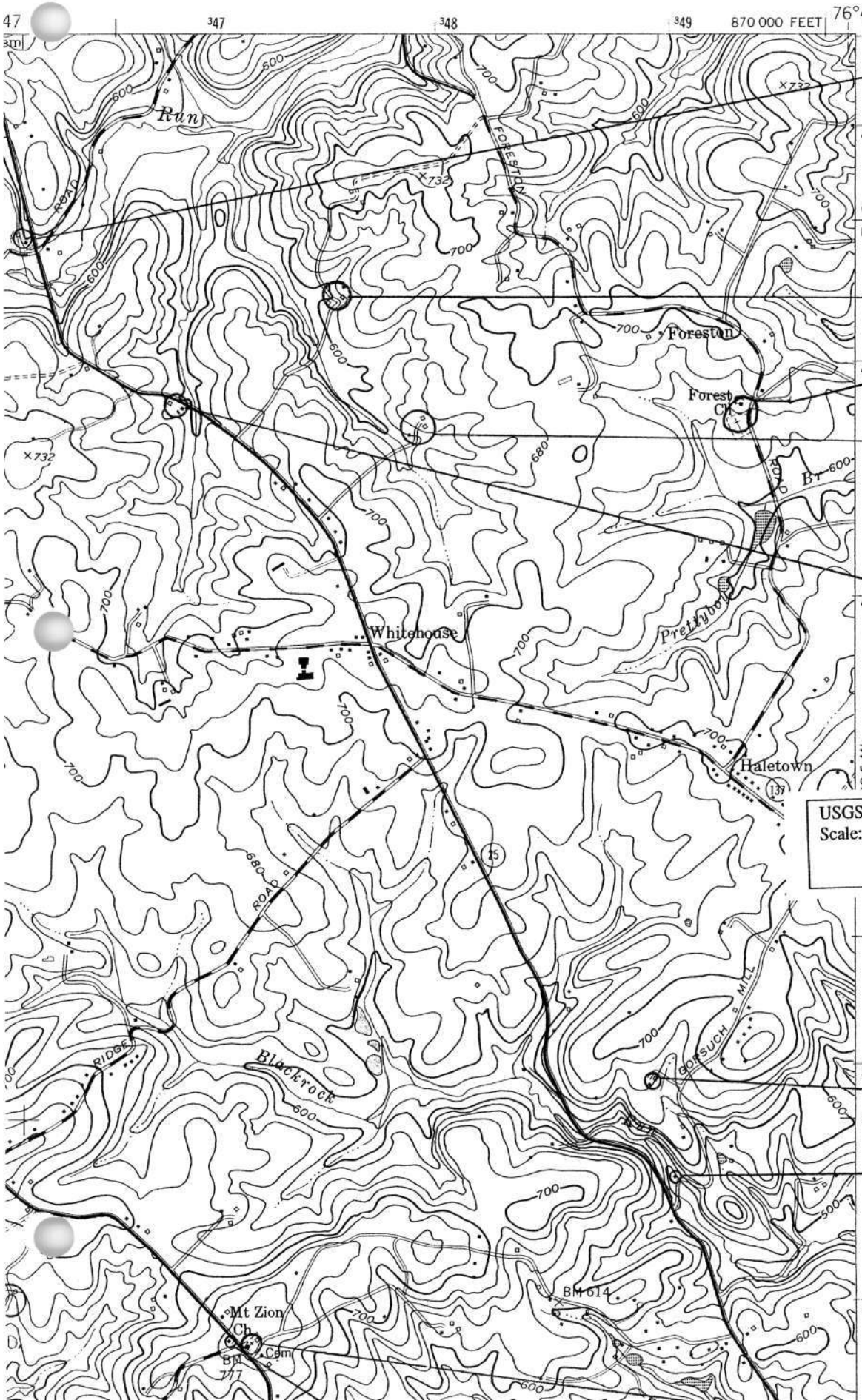
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

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

HAMPSTEAD QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

5663 II NW
(NEW FREEDOM)



BA-0476
18000 FALLS ROAD
HAMPSTEAD,
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-2285
17700 FORESTON ROAD
UPPERCO
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-0560
DAVID WILHELM HOUSE
17517 FALLS ROAD
UPPERCO
BALTIMORE COUNTY

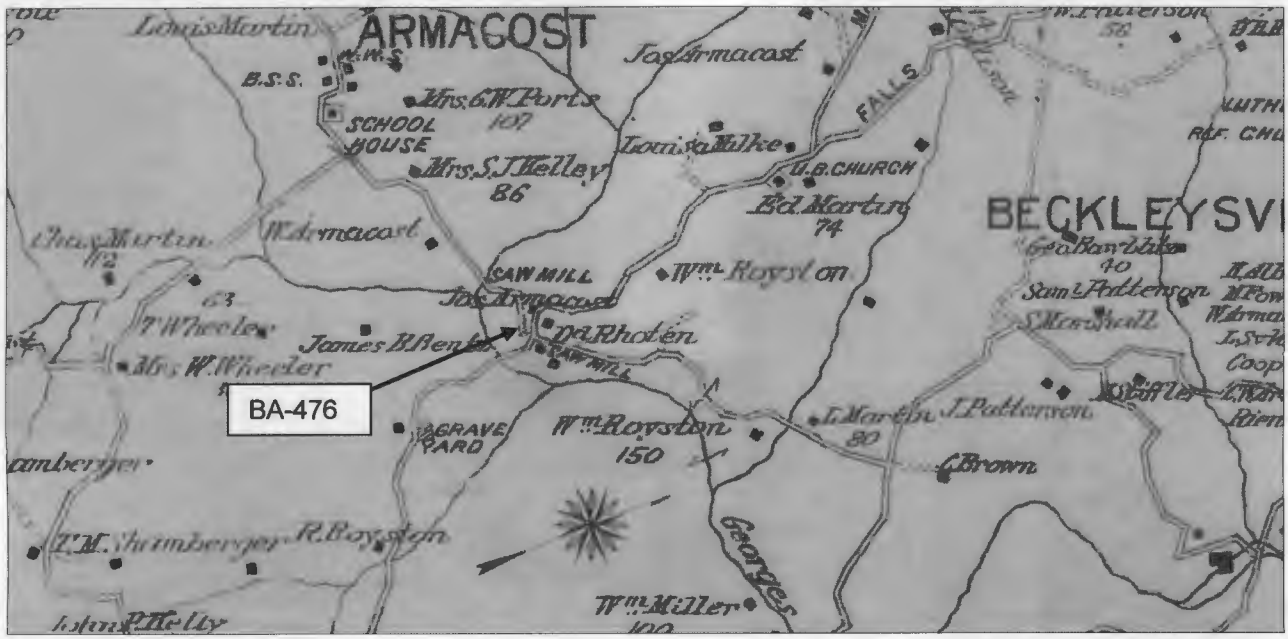
BA-0559
17700 FALLS ROAD
UPPERCO
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-0558
16758 GORSUCH MILL RD.

BA-0557
16710 GORSUCH MILL ROAD
UPPERCO
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-476
Mill House
18000 Falls Road, Hampstead, MD 21074
G.W. Bromley, *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland*, 1898
Plate 30, Part of 5th & 6th Districts
http://mdhistory.net/msaref07/bc_ba_atlases_1876_1915/pdf/bc_ba_atlases_1876_1915-0353.pdf
Accessed 1/9/2015

G.W. Bromley, Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland, 1915 (Isekoff Copy)
Plate 40, 5th and 6th Districts
http://mdhistory.net/msaref07/bc_ba_atlases_1876_1915/pdf/bc_ba_atlases_1876_1915-0769.pdf
Accessed 1/9/2015

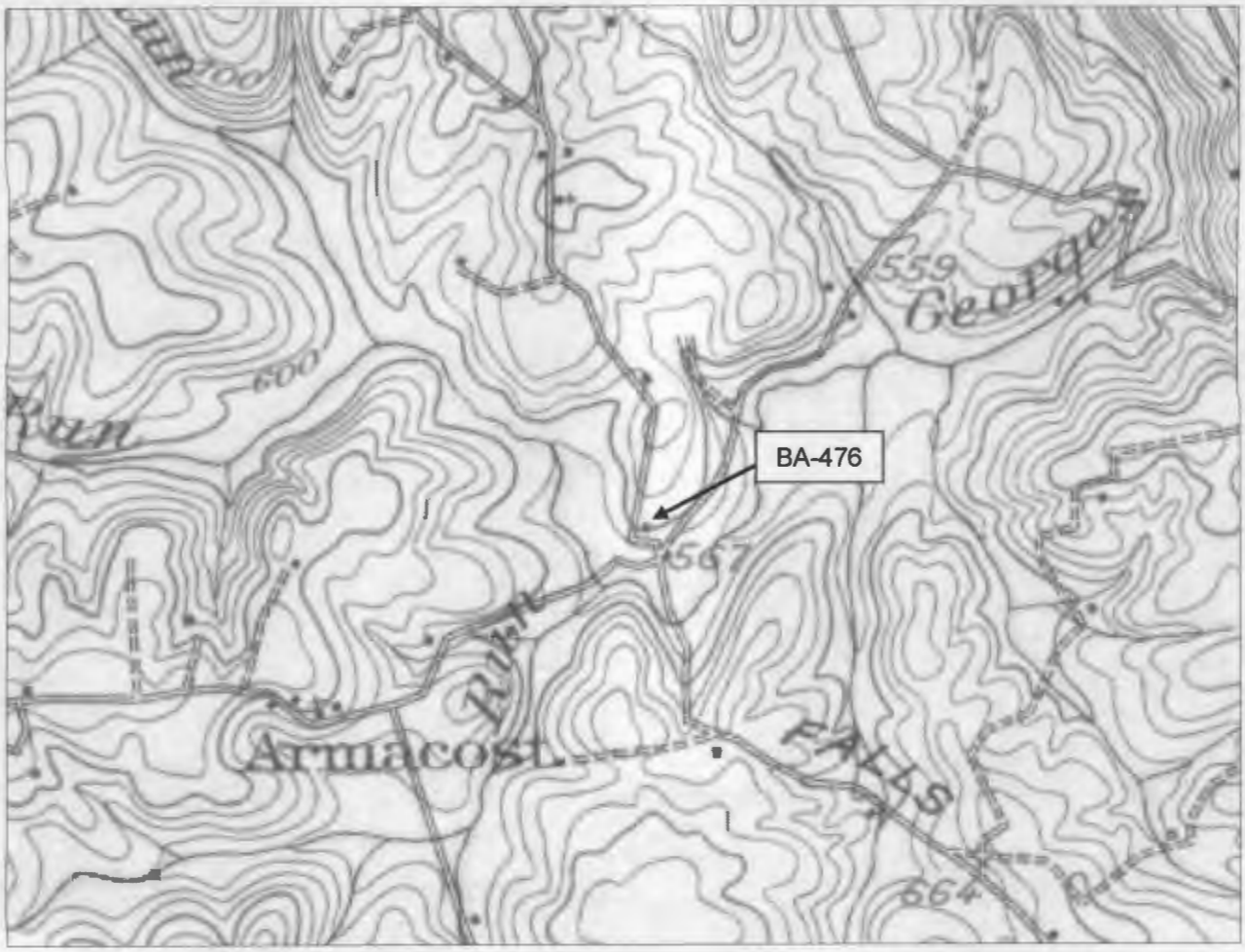


BA-476
Mill House
18000 Falls Road, Hampstead, MD 21074

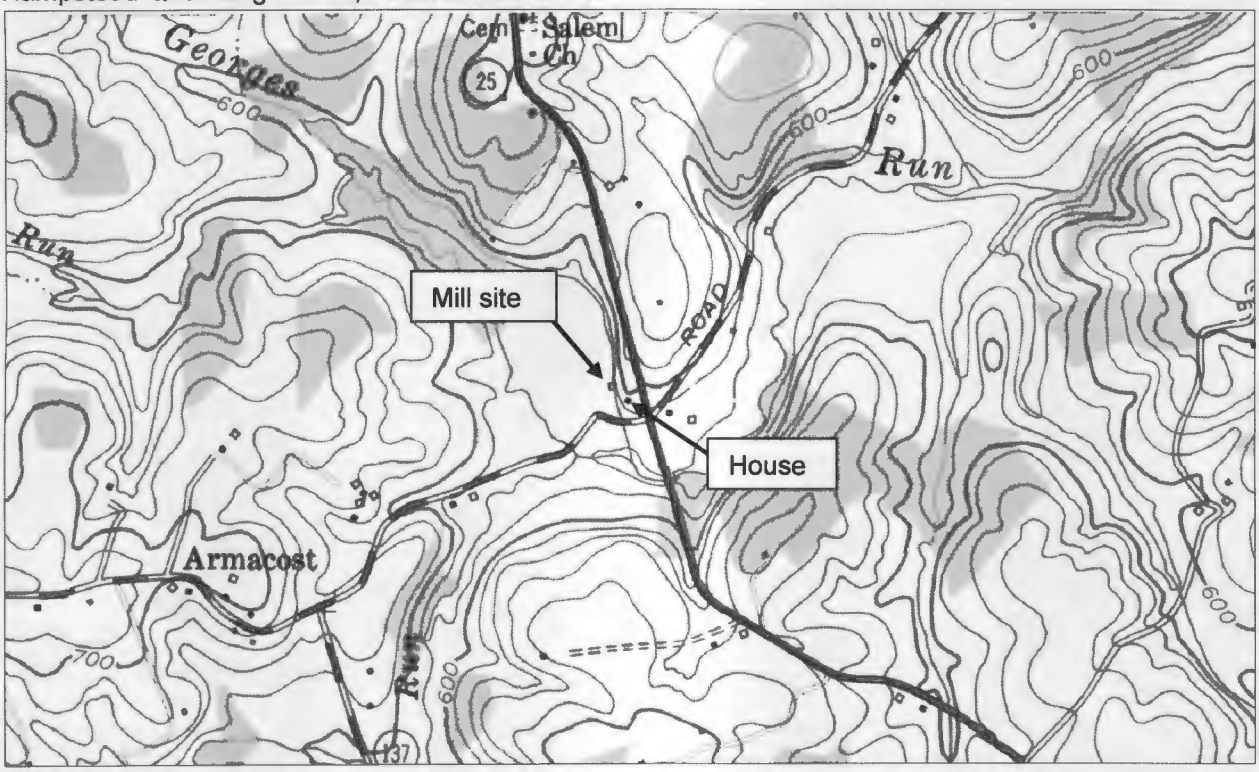
McGrain, John (2006) *The Molinography of Maryland.* (Maryland State Archives) Baltimore County Mills, p. 35.

LAWSONS MILL (5)
The Assessor's Field Book for Election District 5 listed in 1841, Edward Lawson, part of Cold Botton, 135 acres, and one grist mill worth $1000 (#8247 4-40-4, MSA). "Lawsons Old Mill" was shown on Sidney and Browne's 1850 county map while the 1877 atlas showed E. M. Lawson sawmill on Georges Run, west side of Falls Road, just north of the intersection with Beckleysville Road; it was later an Armacost mill. The Transfer Book 1-5 starting in 1879 showed in its 1885 updates (folio 532) that E. M. Lawsons Mill and Small House worth $400 had moved to the tax account of Lewis M. Mielke. The 1898 Bromley atlas showed L. Milke's sawmill on the west side of Falls Road.

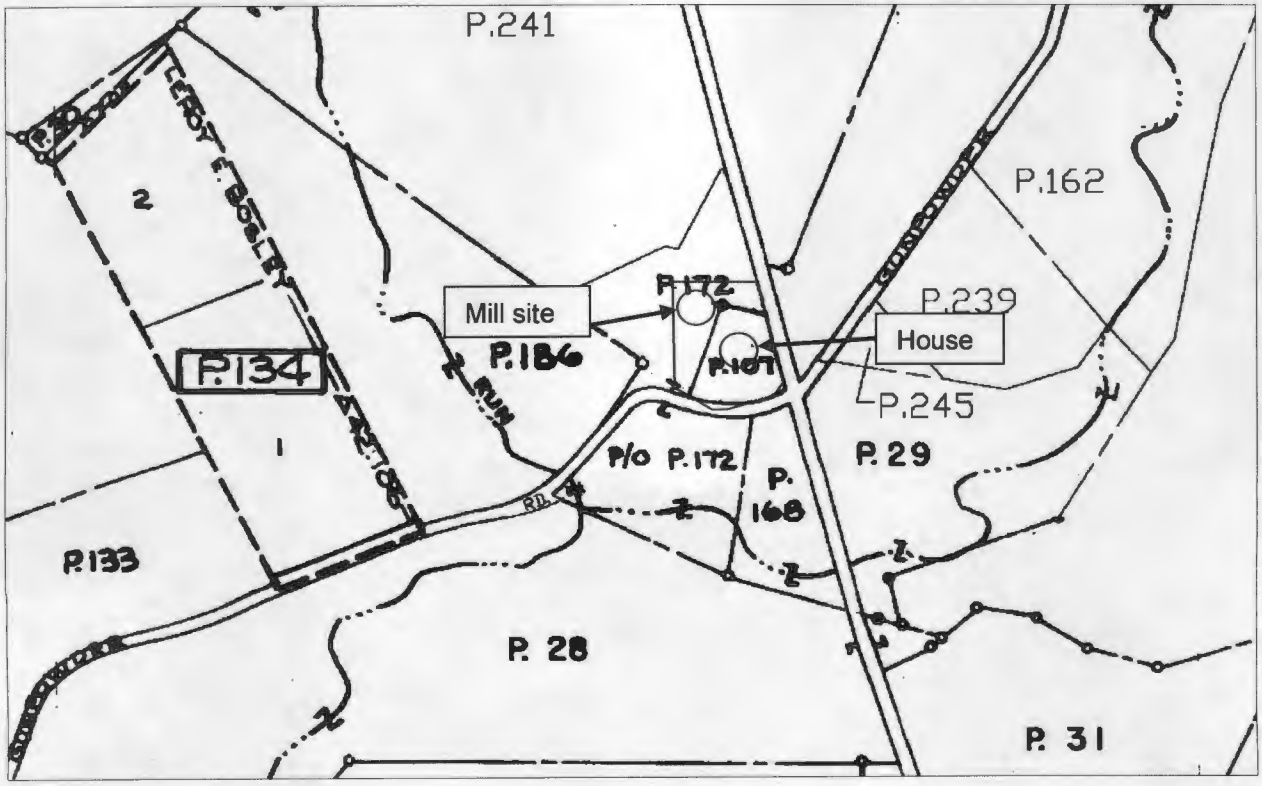
Westminster 15' quad, 1905 (Surveyed 1902, 1903)



BA-476
Mill House
18000 Falls Road, Hampstead, MD 21074
Hampstead Quadrangle 1953, Photorevised 1974



Baltimore County Tax Map 15, Parcel 107 (Mill site on P. 172)



BA-0476
18000 FALLS ROAD
HAMPSTEAD
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRACERIES
3/2001
MD-SHPO
N LORNER

BA-0476
18000 FALLS ROAD
HAMPSTEAD
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRACERIES
3/2001
MD-SHPO
S CORNER
2 of 3

BA-0476
18000 FALLS ROAD
HAMPSTEAD
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRALERIES
3/2001
MD-SHPO
OUTBUILDINGS

3 of 3

BA- **476** **MILL HOUSE** - 1800-1850 - Northwest corner of Falls Road and Lower Beckleysville Road. A survival of the Lawson's Old Mill listed in the 1841 tax ledger and shown on the 1850 map and of the E.M. Lawson sawmill in the 1877 atlas. The 1859 additions to the transfer book charged Edw. H. (or M.) Lawson with a "Frame House" worth $500. Bromley's 1915 atlas showed the Joseph Armacost sawmill. The mill, now extinct, had been powered by George's Run. The road was mentioned in an 1869 deed as the "road from Edward Lawson's Saw Mill to Hampstead Carroll County". Three-story frame and clapboard house with gable roof; painted white; shutters painted red; stone wall; dwelling is perched on a slope and screened by trees. Two stables. Excellent condition. Owner: Ronald F. Billings.