

**CAPSULE SUMMARY**

North 6<sup>th</sup> Street Survey District  
Denton, Maryland

**Description**

The Denton Historic District is located in the town of Denton, the County seat of Caroline County, Maryland. The town is located on the flat land along the south bank of the Choptank River. Denton is laid out in a grid pattern, with Franklin, Market, and Gay Streets as the major east-west corridors, and with First through Tenth Streets crossing the corridors. The major cross streets are Fifth Street, which becomes Fifth Avenue as it broadens and skews eastward south of its intersection with Franklin Street, and Sixth Street, which continues as Route 313 north of the town limits.

The North Sixth Street Survey District consists of early to mid-twentieth century residential structures interspersed with modern commercial intrusions. The district extends from Lincoln Avenue, through the roadway curve at Wilmuth Avenue north to the Denton by-pass. The vernacular residences comprising this district lack the distinction and grandeur of those closer to downtown. While houses within the historic district are typically embellished with stick and scrollwork detailing, those present along this outlying area tend to be plain and exhibit modifications ranging from substantial additions and enclosures to replacement of historic windows, siding, and detailing. While the Denton Historic District includes public buildings, religious structures, residences and commercial structures, North Sixth Street historically was almost purely residential, a reflection of the town's expansion into its agricultural surroundings. Modern commercial establishments have only recently been introduced into the area. Approximately 50 parcels comprise the survey district, including modern commercial buildings, vacant lots, and utilitarian municipal and state facilities. Approximately 24 historic structures remain interspersed within this development.

**Significance**

Denton is significant historically for its role as the seat of Caroline County and as a regional market center along Maryland's Eastern Shore from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century through the mid-1930s. While the Denton historic district includes a wealth of commercial, residential, public, and religious architecture representing various periods, styles and forms, the North 6<sup>th</sup> Street Survey district witnesses the early to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century residential expansion out from the historic town center into adjacent farmland. Given its later development, which was interrupted by the Depression, undeveloped parcels remained available for commercial development through the later twentieth century. As a result, North 6<sup>th</sup> Street beyond the historic district is an amalgam of older residences, modern commercial structures, and utilitarian municipal and state facilities, lacking the integrity to contribute to the extant Denton historic district or to constitute a district independently. With respect to resources contained within the survey district, the modest size of most residences has inspired owners to modify them, further compromising the area's historic qualities.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. CAR-293

1. Name of Property

historic name Denton

common/other name North Sixth Street Survey District

2. Location

street & number N. 6<sup>th</sup> St.: Lincoln to MD 404 not for publication       
city or town Denton vicinity      state MD code 24  
county Caroline code 011 zip code 21629

3. State/Federal Agency Certification N/A

4. National Park Service Certification N/A

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

- private  
 public-local  
 public-State  
 public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)  
 district  
 site  
 structure  
 object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing		Noncontributing		
<u>24</u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	buildings
<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	sites
<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	structures
<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	objects
<u>24</u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	Total

Is this property listed in the National Register?

Yes      Name of Listing       
No X

=====  
6. Function or Use  
=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwellings  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling  
Commerce/Trade Specialty Store  
\_\_\_\_\_

=====  
7. Description  
=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Victorian  
Bungalow/Craftsman  
\_\_\_\_\_

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete/Stone  
roof Asphalt/Asbestos  
walls Vinyl/Wood/Asbestos  
other Brick  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

=====  
8. Statement of Significance  
=====

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

=====  
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
Community Planning/Development

Period of Significance 1880-1950

Significant Dates N/A

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  
N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

=====  
9. Major Bibliographical References  
=====

(Cite the books, articles, legal records, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Maryland Historical Trust, Vertical Files

National Register of Historic Places Inventory Form for Denton Historic District (CAR-284), 1983.

=====  
10. Geographical Data  
=====

Acreage of Property Approximately 10 acres

**Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)**  
Properties along North Sixth Street from Lincoln Avenue to MD 404 Bypass.

**Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)**

Beginning at the edge of the National Register-listed Denton Historic District, the survey area proceeds along a curve in the roadway and creek crossing demarcating the beginning of a stretch of North Sixth Street characterized by deeper lots than downtown. Most lots are wider than those in the grid-patterned historic district, and many properties include more than one parcel. This area is differentiated from the historic district by commercial intrusions such as a car wash, gas station, and strip mall. Still, early to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century houses remain amidst the commercial infill along North Sixth Street up to the MD 404 by-pass, proposed as the northern limit for this survey district.

=====  
11. Form Prepared By  
=====

name/title Jill Dowling  
organization MD State Highway Administration date 9/21/98  
street & number 707 N. Calvert Street telephone 410-545-8559  
city or town Baltimore state MD zip code 21201

=====  
12. Property Owner  
=====

name Various  
street & number North Sixth Street telephone Various  
city or town Denton state MD zip code 21629  
=====

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CAH-293

Section 7 Page 1

North Sixth Street Survey  
name of property  
Denton, MD  
county and state

=====  
Description Summary

The Denton Historic District is located in the town of Denton, the County seat of Caroline County, Maryland. The town is located on the flat land along the south bank of the Choptank River. Denton is laid out in a grid pattern, with Franklin, Market, and Gay Streets as the major east-west corridors, and with First through Tenth Streets crossing the corridors. The major cross streets are Fifth Street, which becomes Fifth Avenue as it broadens and skews eastward south of its intersection with Franklin Street, and Sixth Street, which continues as Route 313 north of the town limits.

The North Sixth Street Survey District consists of early to mid-twentieth century residential structures interspersed with modern commercial intrusions. The district extends from Lincoln Avenue, through the roadway curve at Wilmuth Avenue north to the Denton bypass. The vernacular residences comprising this district lack the distinction and grandeur of those closer to downtown. While houses within the historic district are typically embellished with stick and scrollwork detailing, those present along this outlying area tend to be plain and exhibit modifications ranging from substantial additions and enclosures to replacement of historic windows, siding, and detailing. While the Denton Historic District includes public buildings, religious structures, residences and commercial structures, North Sixth Street historically was almost purely residential, a reflection of the town's expansion into its agricultural surroundings. Modern commercial establishments have only recently been introduced into the area. Approximately 50 parcels comprise the survey district, including modern commercial buildings, vacant lots, and utilitarian municipal and state facilities. Approximately 24 historic structures remain interspersed within this development.

General Description

Historic dwelling types date from the early to mid-twentieth century and include unembellished I-houses, simple frame L-plan houses with Victorian details, bungalows, and side-gabled tract houses. One farm complex maintains its historic outbuildings, and an early twentieth century service station has been converted for residential use.

I-House:

The structure at 429 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street is a typical, unembellished,

wood framed I-house, with a characteristic side gabled roof, shed porch supported by simple square wood posts and a one story gabled rear addition with shed extension. Three bays wide and symmetrical, the main façade has a central doorway flanked by modern windows with aluminum shutters centered beneath smaller modern second story windows above the porch roof, also flanked by aluminum shutters. On the sides, each level has a single window located to the west of the gable.

#### Victorian:

Three of the earlier structures located within the survey district are 2 ½ story, front gabled, ~~✕~~ L-plan ~~✕~~ farmhouses of wood frame construction, two now sheathed in vinyl siding. Distinctive features include wrapped porches, cornice returns, and corbel-capped brick chimneys. The most impressive of these structures, located on a large corner lot at the corner of Caroline Street and North 6<sup>th</sup> Street, has turned porch supports with gingerbread detail and maintains its original wood siding and some outbuildings, including several small barns.

#### Bungalows:

By far, the bungalow is the most prevalent historic house form present in the survey district. Examples of this common house type range from the more stylistically correct 1 ½ story side gabled frame structures with dormers to single story hipped or front gabled cottages that express limited Craftsman/bungalow details. The Lockerman house, located at 502 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street, presents a good example of the bungalow. Constructed circa 1920, the square footprint of the building includes a porch integrated beneath the broad side gabled main roof, flared slightly on the main façade. Four bays wide, the symmetrical façade maintains its historic three over one, paired windows, and is emphasized by the central gabled dormer with bracketed eaves and a metal awning. Textured concrete blocks form the foundation and bases for the wood porch supports. Exposed rafter-ends and bracketed eaves, a corbel-capped exterior brick chimney, and irregular fenestration placement on the side elevations characterize the structure. Once wood sided, the house is presently sheathed in vinyl, altering the historic window and trim profiles. The property also includes a modern garage and large concrete block structure, historically used as a service station and later a grocery store.

#### Side-gabled Tract Houses

A number of simple, single story frame houses constructed circa 1940 exist in the northern portion of North 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Three bays wide with central gable roofed porch entries and central brick chimneys located behind the ridgeline, two of the structures were expanded with telescoping additions. Other alterations to the structures include siding, and modern windows.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CAR-293

Section 8 Page 1

North Sixth Street Survey  
name of property  
Denton, MD  
county and state

=====  
Significance Summary

Denton is significant historically for its role as the seat of Caroline County and as a regional market center along Maryland's Eastern Shore from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century through the mid-1930s. While the Denton historic district includes a wealth of commercial, residential, public, and religious architecture representing various periods, styles and forms, the North 6<sup>th</sup> Street Survey district witnesses the early to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century residential expansion out from the historic town center into adjacent farmland. Given its later development, which was interrupted by the Depression, undeveloped parcels remained available for commercial development through the later twentieth century. As a result, North 6<sup>th</sup> Street beyond the historic district is an amalgam of older residences, modern commercial structures, and utilitarian municipal and state facilities, lacking the integrity to contribute to the extant Denton historic district or to constitute a district independently. With respect to resources contained within the survey district, the modest size of most residences has inspired owners to modify them, further compromising the area's historic qualities.

History

Denton was selected as county seat for Caroline County by an act of the Maryland Assembly in 1774, and by 1781 consisted of a small village. The agrarian economy fostered targeted industrial development, including grist mills, tanneries, blacksmith and wheelwright shops, and a plow factory.

The establishment of a stage line in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century followed by increased steamboat traffic on the Choptank helped Denton communicate and transport goods, keys to economic prosperity.

The early 20<sup>th</sup> century was both a boom period and a transition period in Denton. The lumber and food processing industries gained importance. Shipping of farm products remained important, but overland transport by truck gradually replaced the river steamers.

While commercial development characterized the west end of downtown around the turn of the century, the town's residential sector expanded eastward in response to substantial population growth between 1900 and 1925. Gable-front houses, bungalows, and cottages were built amidst earlier Victorian structures, which were altered in keeping with the architectural fashions of the time. Along Fifth Avenue, the town's

most elegant street saw the construction of large Colonial Revival and Shingle style residences.

The early 20<sup>th</sup> century growth period ended with the Depression of the 1930s. While the Denton Historic District's appearance has changed little since that time, parcels north of the district on North 6<sup>th</sup> Street have become home to a strip mall, grocery store, gas station, and car wash.

The North 6<sup>th</sup> Street Survey District is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) and the Commissioners of Denton considered this area and eliminated it from the Denton historic district boundaries in 1983 based on the intrusion of modern commercial development. The historic resources remaining in the survey district are not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history, nor are they associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. The structures do not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction, represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values. Finally, based on consultation with staff archeologists, the survey district is not likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

<b>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW</b>	
Eligibility recommended <input type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: _____	
_____	
_____	
_____ Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	_____ Date 10/20/98
_____ Reviewer, NR program	_____ Date 10/20/98

**MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT**

**I. Geographic Region:**

- Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
- Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
- Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
- Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

**II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:**

- Paleoindian 10000-7500 B.C.
- Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
- Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
- Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
- Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
- Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D.900
- Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
- Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
- Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
- Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
- Modern Period A.D. 1930- Present
- Unknown Prehistoric
- Unknown Historic

**III. Prehistoric Period Themes:**

- Subsistence
- Settlement
- Political
- Demographic
- Religion
- Technology
- Environmental Adptation

**IV. Historic Period Themes:**

- Agriculture
- Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
- Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
- Government/Law
- Military
- Religion
- Social Educational/Cultural
- Transportation

**V. Resource Type:**

Category: District

Historic environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Residential/Domestic

\_\_\_\_\_

Known Design Source: N/A





1) CAR-293

2) N 6<sup>th</sup> St. From Wilmoth to RR tracks, N 6<sup>th</sup> St Survey District

3) Caroline County, MD

4) Jill Dowling

1RD - 1151993 1011 N 1442 1

5) Sept. 1998

6) MD SHPO

7) N 6<sup>th</sup> St. - from Wilmoth to RR tracks looking SW

8) # 1 of 18



1) CHAR-293

2) West Side N<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> St, N 6<sup>th</sup> St Survey District

3) Caroline Co. MD

4) Jill Dawling

5) Sept 1998

1AP

R147983 1211 MNHPT \*

6) MD 511PO

7) Corner of N 6<sup>th</sup> St and Wilmouth, SE facade

8) # 2 of 18



1) CAR-293

2) 411 N 6<sup>th</sup> St, N 6<sup>th</sup> St Survey, District

3) Caroline Cos MD

4) Jill Dowling

5) Sept 1998

MD - F153300 0821 14 14 14-1 2 of

6) MD 5480

7) West Side N 6<sup>th</sup> St, looking Southwest

8) # 3 of 18



1) CAE-293

2) 417 N 6<sup>th</sup> St., N 6<sup>th</sup> St Survey District

3) Caroline Co MD

4) Jill Dowling

1AD - P107583 1071 14410

5) Sept 1998

6) MD SHPO

7) W. side N<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> St., facing SW showing N & E  
facades

8) #4 27 18

417



1) CAM-293

2) 425 N 6<sup>th</sup> St

N 6<sup>th</sup> St Survey District

3) Caroline Co. MD

4) Hill Drawing

5) Sept 1998

6) MDSHPD

7) W Side N 6<sup>th</sup> St

Showing S & E Facades

8) # 5 of 18

425



1) CAR-293

2) 427 N 6th St, N 6th St Summary District

3) Carastine Co. MD

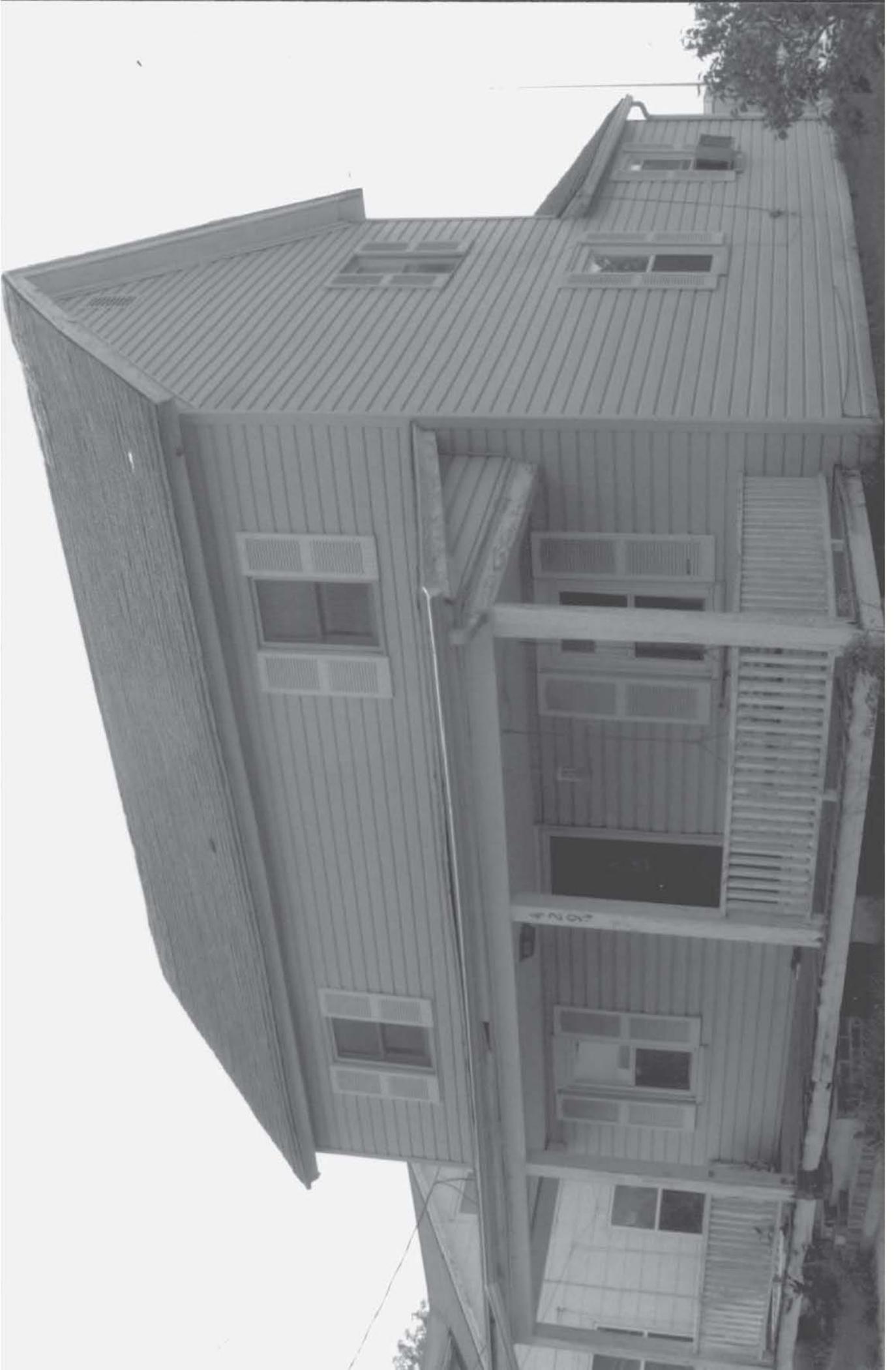
4) ~~MD~~ ~~1027983 0211 1414142~~ ~~14~~  
GMI Drawing

5) Sept 1948

6) MTDSSHPD

7) W Silo N 6th St Summary N 8 E Ferguson  
E 217

8) # 68918



1) CAA-293

2) 429 N 6th St W 6th St Elementary District

3) Comprehensive Co MD

4) John Deering

5) Sept 1998

6) MD State

7) W side N 6th St. Showing N & E facade

8) # 70218

733 N N N- 4L-1



1) CAR-293

2) Corner of Caroline & N 6<sup>th</sup> St, N 6<sup>th</sup> St Survey District

3) Caroline County, MD

1RD 0021983 0211 NNNND \*

4) Jill Dawling

5) Sept 1998

6) MDSHPO

7) W side N 6<sup>th</sup> St at corner w/ Caroline  
Showering N & E facades, facing SW

8) # 8 of 18



1) CAK-293

2) Corner of Caroline & N 6<sup>th</sup> St N 6<sup>th</sup> St Survey District

3) Caroline Co MD

4) Gill Dowling

190

11/4/1983 0211 MNM 32

5) Sept 1998

6) MID SHA 70

7) W side N 6<sup>th</sup> St S & W facade + outbuildings  
facing NE

8) # 9 of 18



1) CAR 293

2) W side N<sup>m</sup> 6<sup>m</sup> St N 6<sup>m</sup> St Survey District

3) Caroline Co MD

4) Gill Township

1990 DISTRICT 0211 NNNN2 #

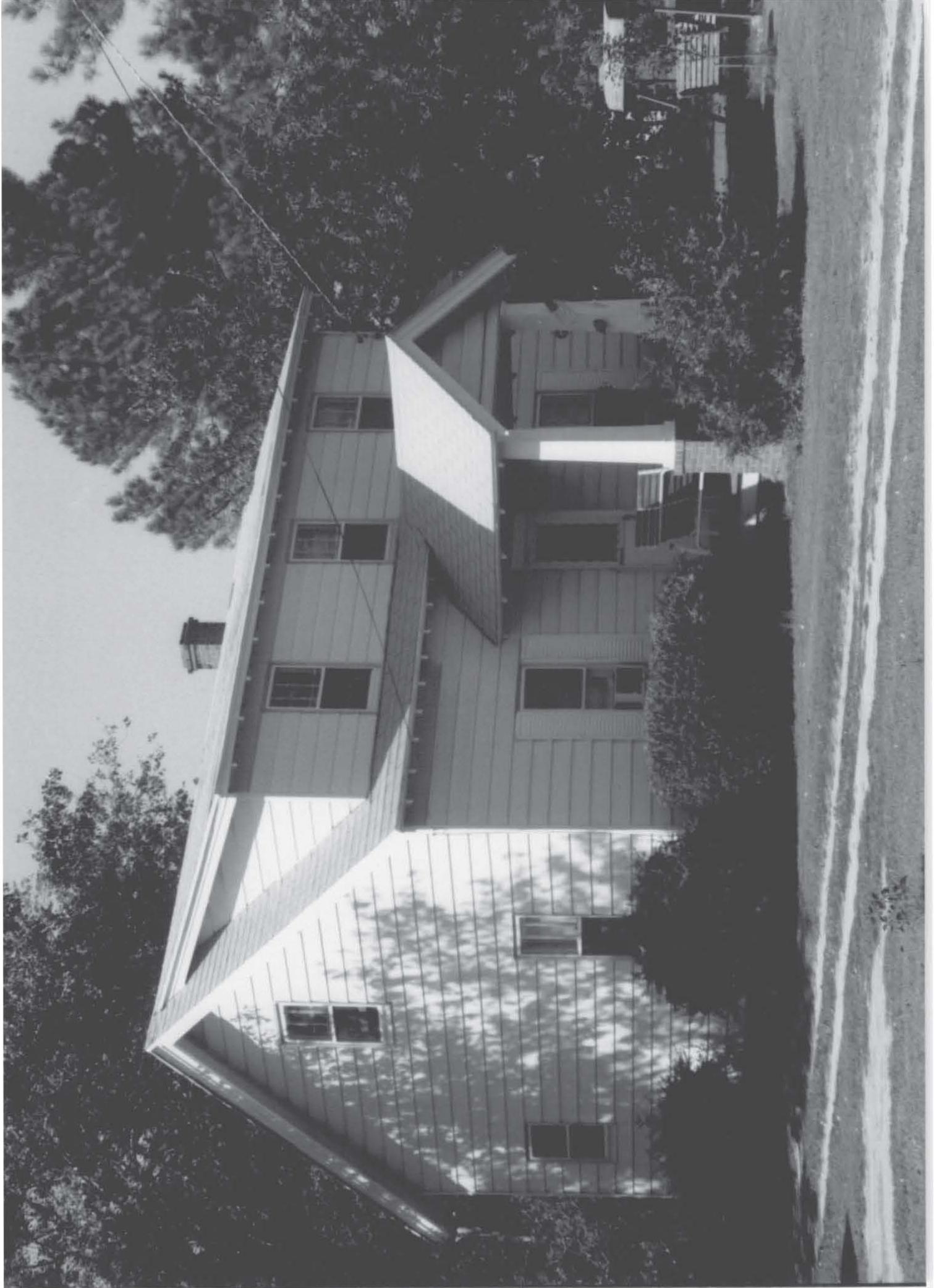
5) Sept 1998

6) MD SHARD

7) W side N<sup>m</sup> 6<sup>m</sup> St between Caroline and MD 404  
Bays

-facing Nw, showing S & E facades

8) #10 of 18



1) CAR-293

2) W Side N 6<sup>th</sup> St. N 6<sup>th</sup> St Survey District

3) Caroline Co. MD

4) <sup>MD</sup> Gill Dordling

PLANNING HUNN

5) Sep 1 1998

6) MD SHPO

7) W Side N 6<sup>th</sup> St. between Caroline & MD 400 By Permit  
Facing NW, Sherman St & E. Conceding

8) # 11 of 18



1) CAK-293

2) W Side N 6<sup>th</sup> St N 6<sup>th</sup> St. Survey District

3) Caroline Co MD

4) Gill Dowling  
1990

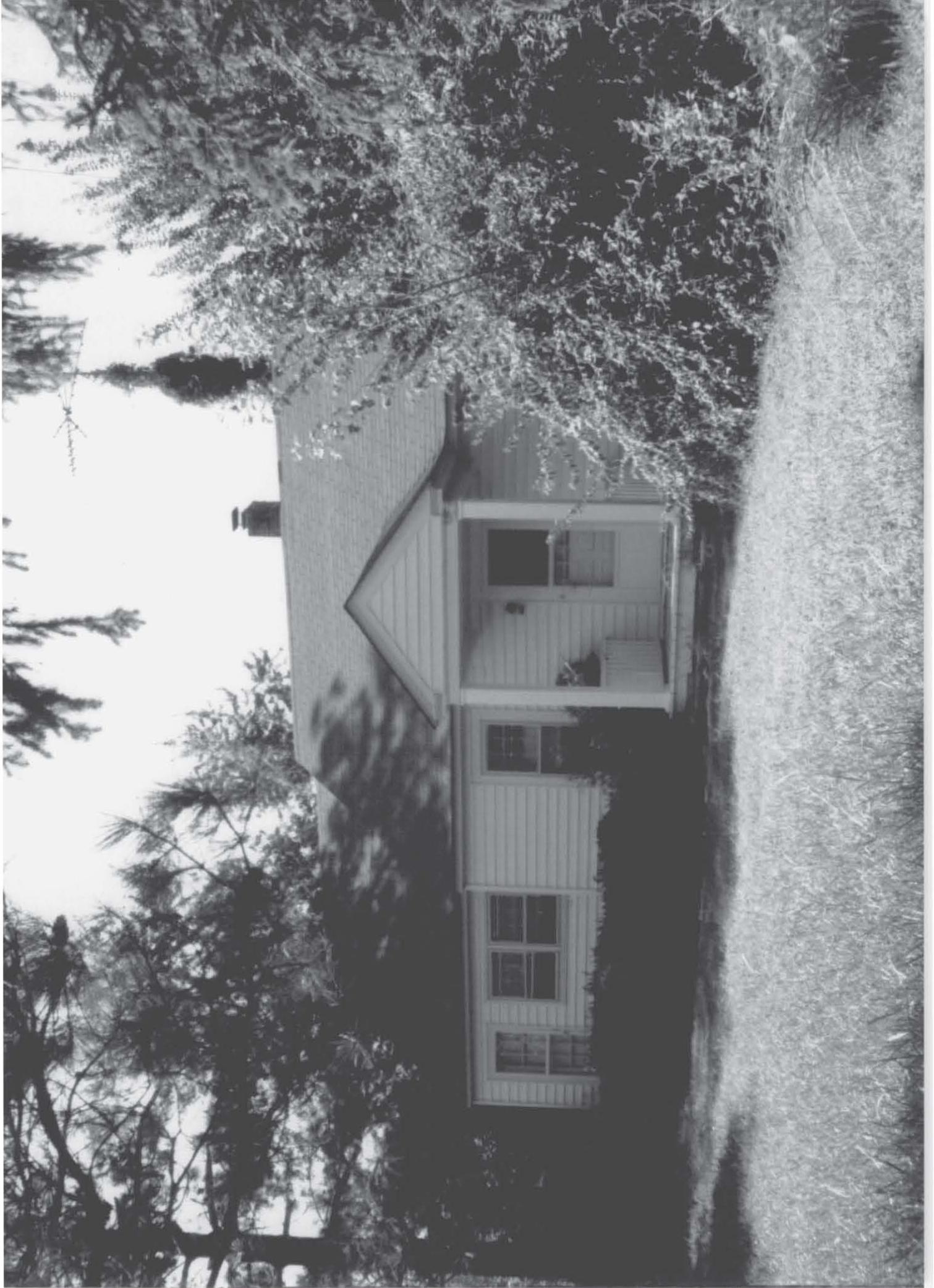
1990-1991

5) Sept 1998

6) MD SHPO

7) W Side N 6<sup>th</sup> St between Caroline & MD 404 Bypass  
facing NW, showing E and S facades

8) # 12 of 18



1) CAC-293

2) W side N 6<sup>th</sup> St, N 6<sup>th</sup> St Survey, District

3) Caroline Co. MD

4) Gill T. ~~Darlington~~  
PRESIDENT

5) Sept 1998

6) MD 8400

7) W side N 6<sup>th</sup> St between Caroline & MD 401 Bypass

EAST facade

8) # 13 of 18



1) CAR-293

2) W side N 6<sup>th</sup> St N 6<sup>th</sup> St Survey District

3) Caroline Co. MD

4) Gill Dowling

MD DISTRICT 0211 4/14/98

5) Sept 1998

6) M D SHPO

7) W Side N 6<sup>th</sup> St between Caroline & M D SHPO

Showing N & E facade

8) # 14 of 18

By Plans



1) CAR-293

2) Lockerman Property, Corner N 6<sup>th</sup> St & Camp Ground Rd  
E Side N 6<sup>th</sup> St N 6<sup>th</sup> St Survey District

3) Caroline Co MD

180 1231983 1011 141412

4) Gill Dowling

5) Sept 1998

6) MDSHPD

7) E Side N 6<sup>th</sup> St Corner of N 6<sup>th</sup> St and Camp Ground Rd  
Showing West facade of Lockerman House & former  
Service Station

8) # 15 of 18



1) CAR-293

2) E Side N<sup>m</sup> 6 St. N 6<sup>th</sup> St Survey District

3) Caroline Co MD

190 1123000 0211 1114112 2

4) Gill Dowling

5) Sept 1998

6) MD SH80

7) E Side N<sup>m</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> St between Camp Ground Rd  
& MD 404 Bypass

Showing S & W features

8) # 16 of 18



1) AAC-293

2) E Side N 6<sup>th</sup> St, N 6<sup>th</sup> St Survey District

3) Caroline Co MD

180

180

4) Gill Dowling

5) Sept 1998

6) MDSHPD

7) E Side N 6<sup>th</sup> St between Camp Ground Rd &  
MD 404 Bypass  
Showing N & W facade

8) # 17 of 18



1) CAR-293

2) E side N 6<sup>th</sup> St N 6<sup>th</sup> St Sorvey District A

3) Caroline Co MD

4) Gill Dausling  
1400  
FRIGSON UNIT 10 1410 11

5) Sept 1998

6) MD SHPO

7) E side N<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> St between Camp Ground Rd &  
MD 464 Bypass

8) # 18 of 18