

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: August E. Witte House Survey Number: CARR-1342  
Project: Westminster Bypass (MD 140) Agency: SHA  
Site visit by MHT Staff: X no \_\_\_ yes Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility **not** recommended X  
Criteria: \_\_\_A \_\_\_B \_\_\_C \_\_\_D Considerations: \_\_\_A \_\_\_B \_\_\_C \_\_\_D \_\_\_E \_\_\_F \_\_\_G \_\_\_None  
Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)  
This property was determined not eligible for the NR by MHT letter dated 4/27/1994.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Review and Compliance Files

Prepared by: Rita Suffness, Cultural Resources Group Leader, SHA, June 1993

Beth Hannold  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

NR program concurrence: X yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_ not applicable  
Paul \_\_\_\_\_ 5/23/97 \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, NR program \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Handwritten signature*

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:

- Paleo-Indian 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 Period (  prehistoric  historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

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

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: Buildings

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic/Single dwelling:Agriculture/Subsistence/animal facility/barn

Known Design Source: \_\_\_\_\_

August E. Witte House  
Tannery, Westminster  
Carroll County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont  
(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery  
Counties, and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Period:

Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930 A.D.

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes:

Agriculture  
Architecture

Resource Type:

Category: Buildings

Environment: Rural

Function & Use:

Domestic/single dwelling residence

Agriculture/Subsistence/animal facility/barn

Known Design Source: None

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
 HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. CARR-1342

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic August E. Witte House

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 216 Tannery Road  not for publication

city, town Westminster  vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Carroll

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Louis Dubost

street & number 216 Tannery Road telephone no.:

city, town Westminster state and zip code Maryland

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. liber

street & number folio

city, town state

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title

ate  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. CARR-1342

**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved    date of move \_\_\_\_\_

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

SEE CONTINUATION SHET 7.1

# 8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-1342

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below					
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)		

**Specific dates** 1895, 1930's **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or  
Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET 8.1

Form Prepared By

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CARR-1342

Personal communication with Mrs. Louis Dubost, Rev. Dubost  
Ideal Atlas of the World, Rand-Mc Nally, 1916

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Rita Suffness, Leader, Cultural Resources Group

organization Maryland State Hwy. Administration date May 22, 1993

street & number 707 N. Calvert Street telephone 339-1183

city or town Baltimore state maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory 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  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCE  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
.514-7600

August E. Witte House  
Continuation Sheet 7.1

Description

This modest, small farmstead, located on the west side of Tannery Road in the sparsely settled area southeast of Westminster, was begun by August E. Witte very late in the nineteenth century, probably soon after Tannery Road was constructed to connect Old Manchester Road on the north with Gorsuch Station, and Arthur P. Baer's Tannery, to the southeast. The road follows a tributary of the West Branch of the Patapsco River, with hills rising up on both sides. The Witte farmstead is located in a narrow band of level land, sandwiched between the road and stream on the east, and a hill on the west.

Only the barn, house, springhouse and privy are likely to date to Witte's ownership, as a large complement of outbuildings were constructed by William F. Myers and Sons, Meatpackers, in the 1930's for tenant farmers. The only structures which remain of the many that Myers built are the chicken house, which is south of the entrance to the property, and a stable for a brood mare across the entrance from it, and a silo behind the bankbarn.

North of the agricultural complex is a probable turn-of-the-century dwelling, which is oriented to the east. It is three bays wide on the principal east facade, with a gable roof clad in standing seam metal paralleling it. There is a cross gable over the middle bay, and an ell extending westward from the rear of the dwelling. The building has been heavily stuccoed, and an addition, with a bay windows, constructed in the south elevation in 1988. The gable ends and cross gable are clad with vinyl siding, and a full width porch extends the width of the east elevation. A wooden fence encloses the front and side yard to the south, in which is located a small, pyramidal roofed stone springhouse. A small louvered ventilator is located at the apex of the roof. A frame outbuilding, likely a privy, is located north of the dwelling.

The agricultural outbuilding complex includes the 1895 Witte bankbarn, built into a hill on the west on a stone foundation. One accesses the hay mows from the farm access road on the west, and the forebay on the east side is unsupported. The building has louvered openings, which is characteristic of Carroll County frame bankbarns.

Located next to and paralleling Tannery Road is the shed roofed chicken house, partially built over a stream, connecting with a gable roofed stable perpendicular to it. Across the entrance road is a brood mare stable.

This site is currently owned by Louis Dubost who brought it with his brother-in-law in the early 1940's for horse breeding. During the time it was owned by William F. Myers and Sons, Meatpackers, who owned much property along Tannery Road, it was utilized by tenant farmers for the raising of hogs, corn, wheat, cows and chickens.

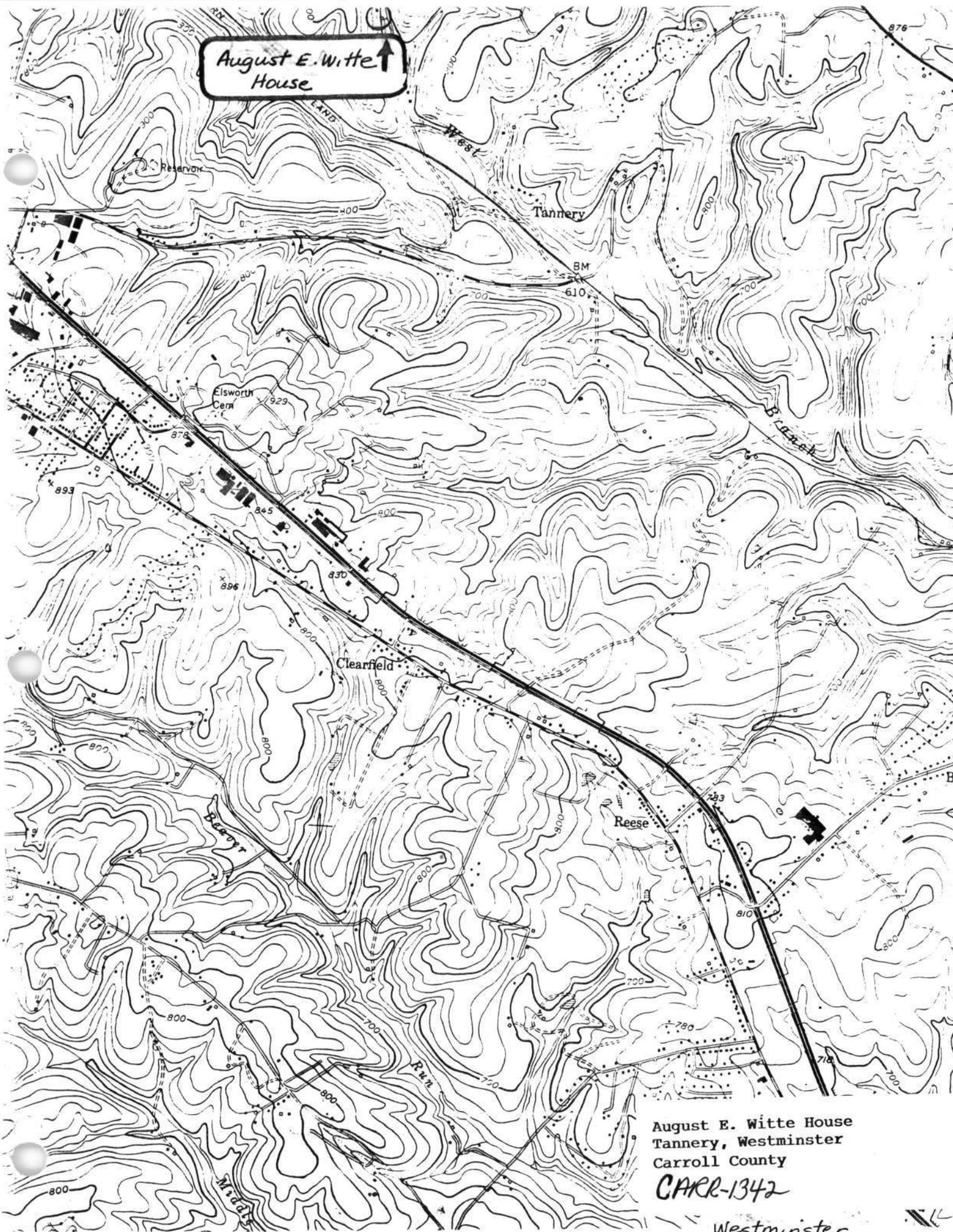
August E. Witte House  
Continuation Sheet 8.1

Significance

This modest farmstead was one of a few similar turn-of-the-century farm complexes built along Tannery Road after it was constructed in the late nineteenth century to connect Old Manchester Road on the north with Gorsuch Station and A.P. Baer's Tannery to the southeast. It is reported to be a remnant of a small agricultural complex built by William F. Myers and Sons, Meatpackers, in the second quarter of the twentieth century. It retains a representative sample of domestic and agricultural outbuildings. The Tannery Valley area was desirable for a business like meatpacking because of the availability of transportation afforded by the railroad. Its ownership by Myers associates it with the commercial orientation of the locale, dominated by the tannery operation. It is not likely to be actually associated with tanning, however, as most of the Tannery complex burned in 1932 and, if it continued beyond that, it was at a much reduced scale.

The industrial development of the Tannery area of Carrollton Valley depended upon the abundance of water power made possible by the West Branch of the Patapsco River, and the railroad access made possible when the Baltimore, Carroll and Frederick Railroad began building the line that later became the Western Maryland Railroad in 1852, providing an opening to the Baltimore markets. The original siding at Gorsuch Station at the intersection of Tannery and Gorsuch Roads, was supplemented by one in Tannery when Andrew Weiner of Frederick County and Peter Schlosser of Orange County, Virginia bought land from 1852 to 1870 and started a tannery. It was continued by A.P. Baer after he bought it in 1870, re-naming it the Carroll Oak Tanning Company of Carroll County.

August E. Witte ↑  
House

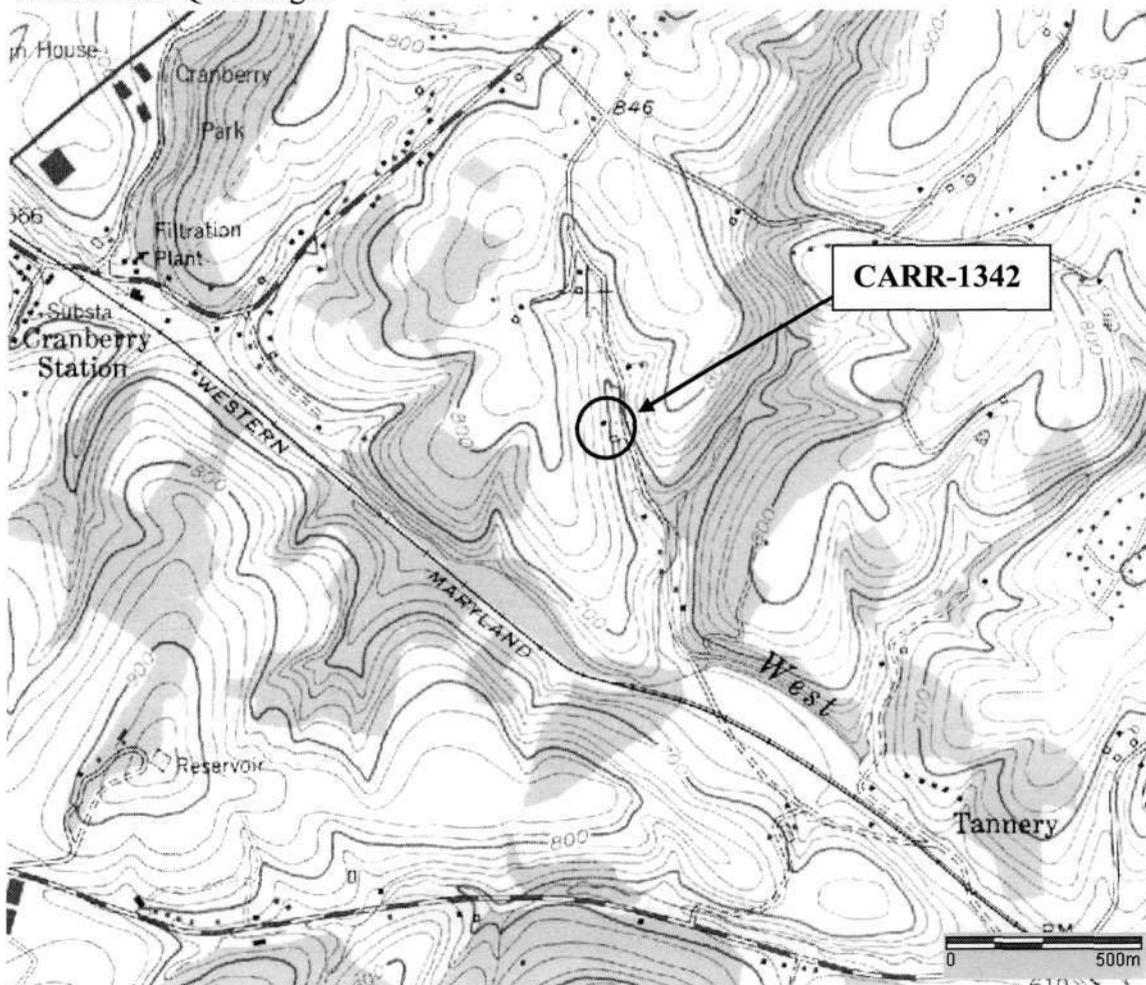


August E. Witte House  
Tannery, Westminister  
Carroll County

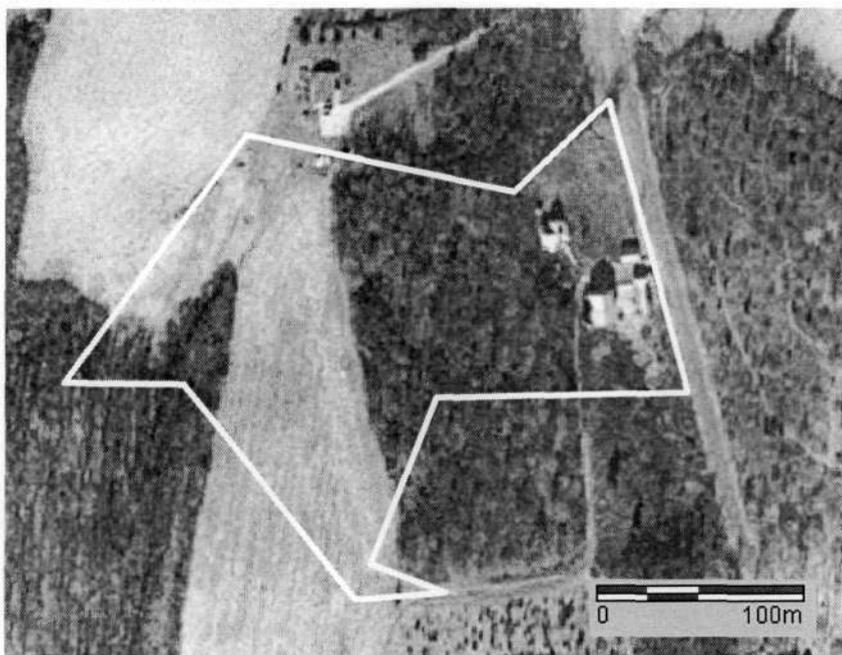
CARR-1342

Westminister  
Quadrangle

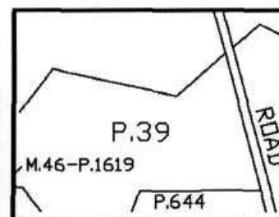
CARR-1342  
August E. Witte House  
216 Tannery Road, Westminster  
Westminster Quadrangle



1998 Aerial Photo



Tax Map 39, P. 39





CARR-1342

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