

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

Property/District Name: Lowes School Survey Number: CARR-1348

Project: Westminster Bypass (MD 140) Agency: SHA

Site visit by MHT Staff:  no  yes Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility not recommended

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:  yes  no  not applicable

Bzk \_\_\_\_\_ 5/23/97 \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, NR program Date

*Jmg*

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

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

Lowes School  
Tannery, Westminster  
Carroll County

CARR-1348

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.  
Modern Period 1930 - Present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes:

Education  
Architecture

Resource Type:

Category: Buildings

Environment: Rural

Function & Use:

Domestic/single dwelling residence

Known Design Source: None



# 7. Description

Survey No. CARR-1348

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		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 7.1

# 8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-1348

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 type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates	1870's	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria:	<input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	
and/or		
Applicable Exception:	<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	
Level of Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input type="checkbox"/> local	

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

SEE CONTINUATION 8.1



Lowe's School  
Continuation Sheet 7.1

Description

The original one-story, one-room brick schoolhouse, located on a knoll overlooking a tributary of the West Branch of the Patapsco River on the east and North Gorsuch Road on the west, has been converted into a residence. The building, as constructed, was composed of a single, gable roofed structure with an entrance vestibule located on the south gable end. This structure has been sandwiched between a two-story addition on the north, with a garage at ground level, and a one-story frame addition on the south completely disguising the entrance vestibule. Changes to the structure include converting windows into doorways, adding a stairway to a newly excavated basement on the east side, and building walls in the interior of the structure. This is one of eighty-eight schoolhouses of the period extant in Carroll County.

The structure was constructed between 1862 and 1877 on land donated by John Lowe, who lived on the opposite side of North Gorsuch Road from the land he donated for the school. It was constructed to a design standard for Carroll County schools of the time, and is typical in size and shape for schoolhouses. Unfortunately, because of the numerous alterations to the structure and its being sandwiched between two newer sections, it has lost integrity and no longer conveys a strong association with the past.

William Patterson, long time resident of Tannery, remembers attending Lowe's school after his family moved to the area in the later years of the Depression (Carroll County Times, Sept. 19, 1979. p. B-1). This one-room schoolhouse was in operation as late as 1940, he remembers, with classes from the first to the sixth grade.

Lowe School  
Continuation Sheet 8.1

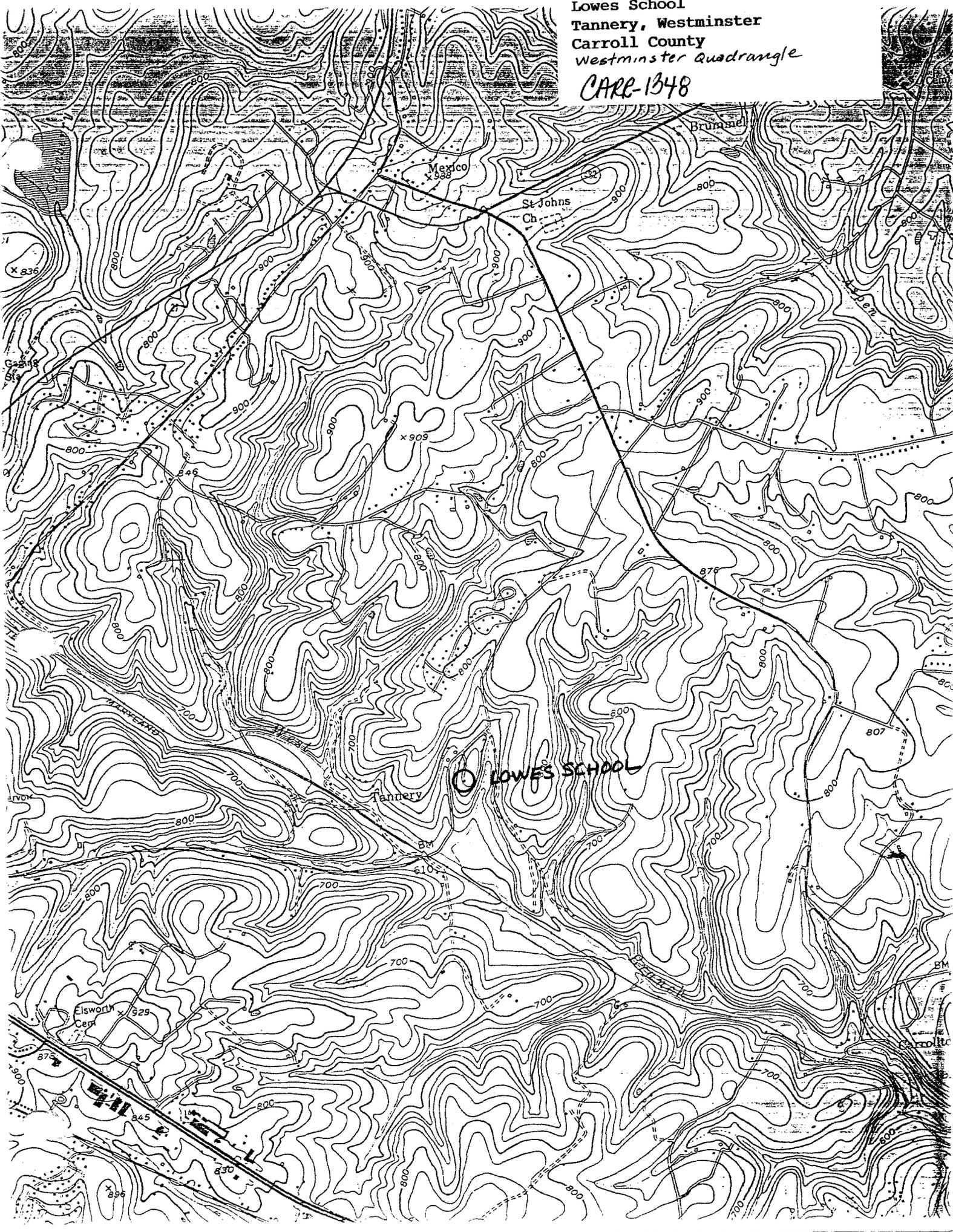
Significance

Built for the Tannery community, composed of the Thomas Methodist Chapel, a tannery, the McGinnis Whiskey Distillery and farms, as recounted by John Lewis Green in Schoolbells and Slates, the Lowe School was built on land donated by Robert Lowe, who lived on the opposite side of North Gorsuch Road. A number of local inhabitants taught at the school. The brother of John Lewis Green, for example taught there after he lost an arm in an accident in the Tannery. Miles Long, who lived slightly east of and downhill from the schoolhouse, and who sold some of his land along the Middle Branch of the Patapsco River to the McGinnis Whiskey Distillery, is described in Thomas Scharf's History of Western Maryland, p.891, as a school trustee. His descendent, John Long, also reports that he was a teacher at Lowe School.

Despite the fact that it is one of the few remnants of the general Tannery community, the school, because of its considerable loss of integrity on both the exterior and interior, fails to convey a strong association with the past history of the Tannery - McGinnis industrial area.

Lowes School  
Tannery, Westminster  
Carroll County  
Westminster Quadrangle

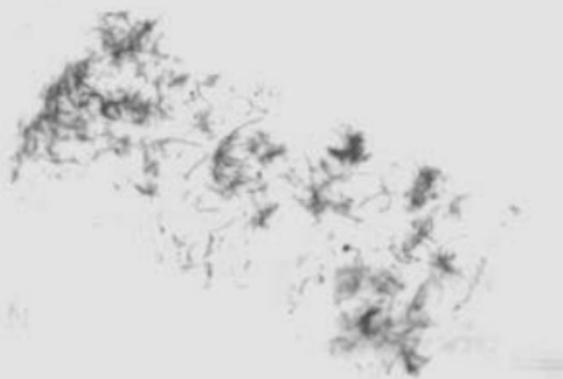
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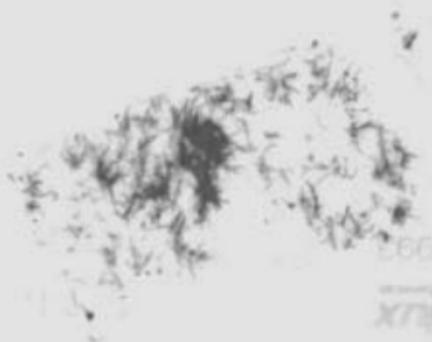


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