

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

Property/District Name: McGinnis Distillery Master's House Survey Number: CARR-1377

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 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 _____

gms

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: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Industry/Processing/Extraction/manufacturing facility

Known Design Source: _____

McGinnis Distillery
Tannery, Westminster
Carroll County

CARR-1377

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:

Industry
Architecture

Resource Type:

Category: Buildings

Environment: Rural

Function & Use:

Domestic/single dwelling residence

Known Design Source: None

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

Survey No. CARR-1377

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic McGinnis Distillery Master's House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 139 N. Gorsuch Road not for publication

city, town Westminster vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Carroll

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 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 Cindy May

street & number 139 N. Gorsuch Road telephone no.:

city, town Westminster state and zip code Maryland 21157

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-1377

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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

SEE CONTINUATION 7.1

Distillery Master's House
7.1 Continuation Sheet

Description

This early twentieth century house is reached by means of a long entrance road which extends south from its junction with North Gorsuch Road. It is located on a rise and overlooks the tracks of the Western Maryland Railroad and the West Branch of the Patapsco River immediately to the south. There are no period outbuildings extant on the property.

The dwelling is large, frame, two-story, rectangularly-shaped structure. The principal facade is oriented to the south, and is three bays wide with a large cross gable centered over the sidelit entrance centered in this elevation. The gable roof parallels this elevation. A cross gable is also centered in the one-story, full width porch which is carried on chamfered posts.

A two bay deep ell extends the full width of the rear, or north elevation of the principal block. A one-story porch is located across the full depth of the main block and ell on the west side, turns the northwest corner and continues across the rear or north side to terminate in a modern looking vinyl sided addition on the northeast corner.

History

The property was purchased by Martin O'Connor and Arthur McGinnis of Baltimore for \$217.50 from Miles Long on February 3, 1900. The company they formed is referred to as the McGinnis, Miginnis or Maginnis Distillery Company. The land on which it was built had been passed down through the Long family from Ludwig Long, to Daniel Long, and Miles Long (JBB 37/14). McGinnis and O'Connor reportedly built the distillery on the site of the combination grist and saw mill that Henry Long had built. The distillery was torn down sometime in 1925 after it was raided. The site of the distillery is located on an adjacent property, the Miles Long Historic Site, which was divided from the tax parcel on which the Distillery Masters house is located.

At one time a French distiller named Fred Bouvier lived in the dwelling, according to John Long. According to an article in the Carroll County Times (Sept. 19, 1979, p. B-1) the McGinnis Distillery closed down around the same time--1932--as the burning of the Tannery which was located further west along the railroad tracks. A Democratic Advocate (Dec. 22, 1933) recounted the proposal of the "Westminster Distillery Company to build a new distillery west of the original distillery site in the vicinity of the burned tannery. The article continued: "The brands manufactured will be Westminster Pure Rye, Glen Rock, Steeplechase, Old Berkshire, Yorkshire, Virginia Pride and Rathbone 'Bone Dry' Gin". Robert L. Long, a long time resident at the time with experience at McGinnis Distillery, was to be the chief distiller. Nothing came of these plans, according to the article.

Distillery Master's House
8.1 Continuation Sheet

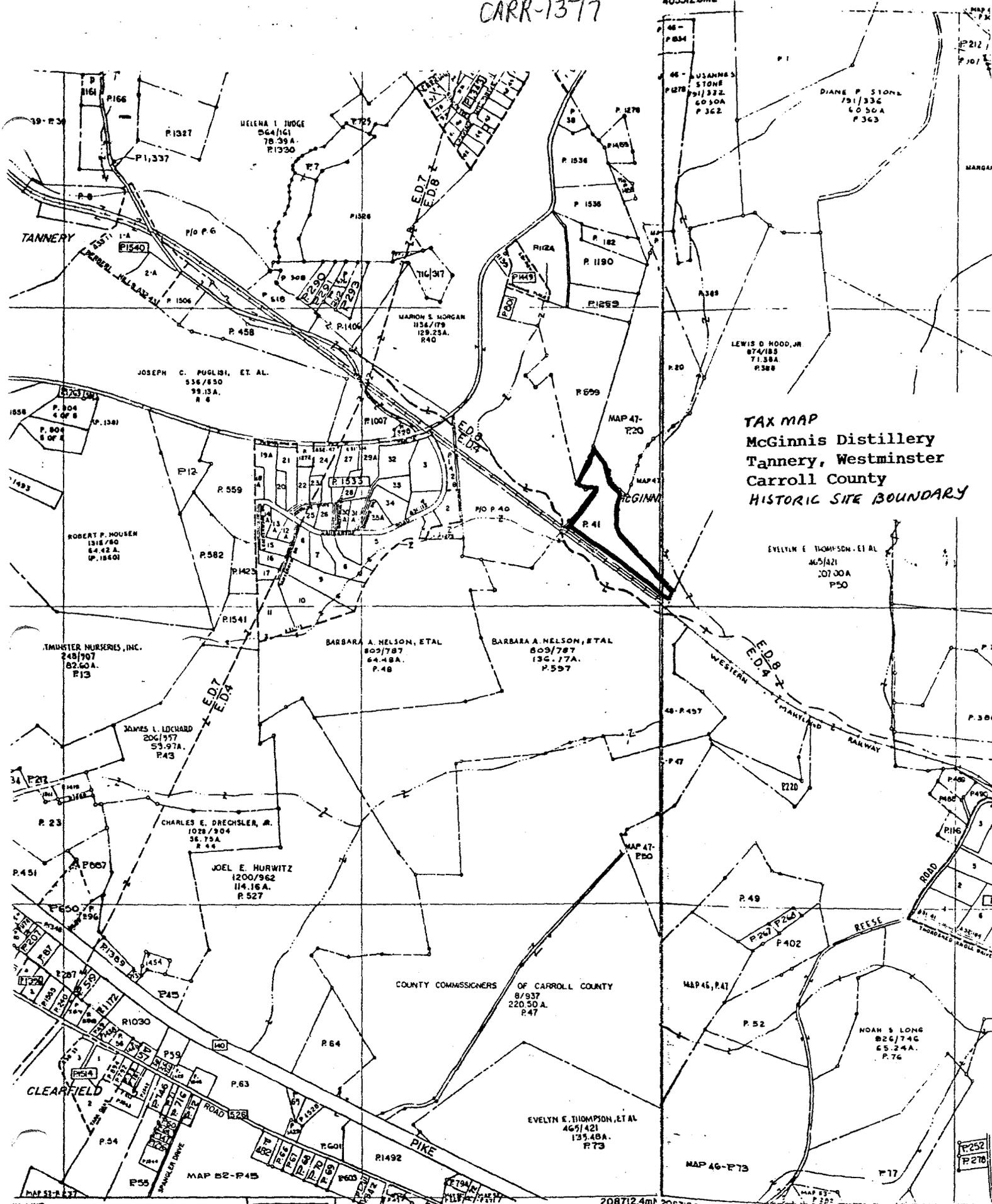
Significance

This house, built by Messrs. O'Connor and McGinnis, was part of the McGinnis Distillery complex, most of which was located downslope of the dwelling along the north bank of the West Branch of the Patapsco River and the Western Maryland Railroad. Closed down during Prohibition, this distiller of rye whiskey never re-opened at this location, although Sanborn's Insurance Map of 1918 shows an A. McGinnis and Company Distillery at Charles and Ralph Streets in Westminster, Maryland.

This Distillery Master's House is the sole remnant of the distillery operation of the early twentieth century.

CARR-1377

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405512 OmE

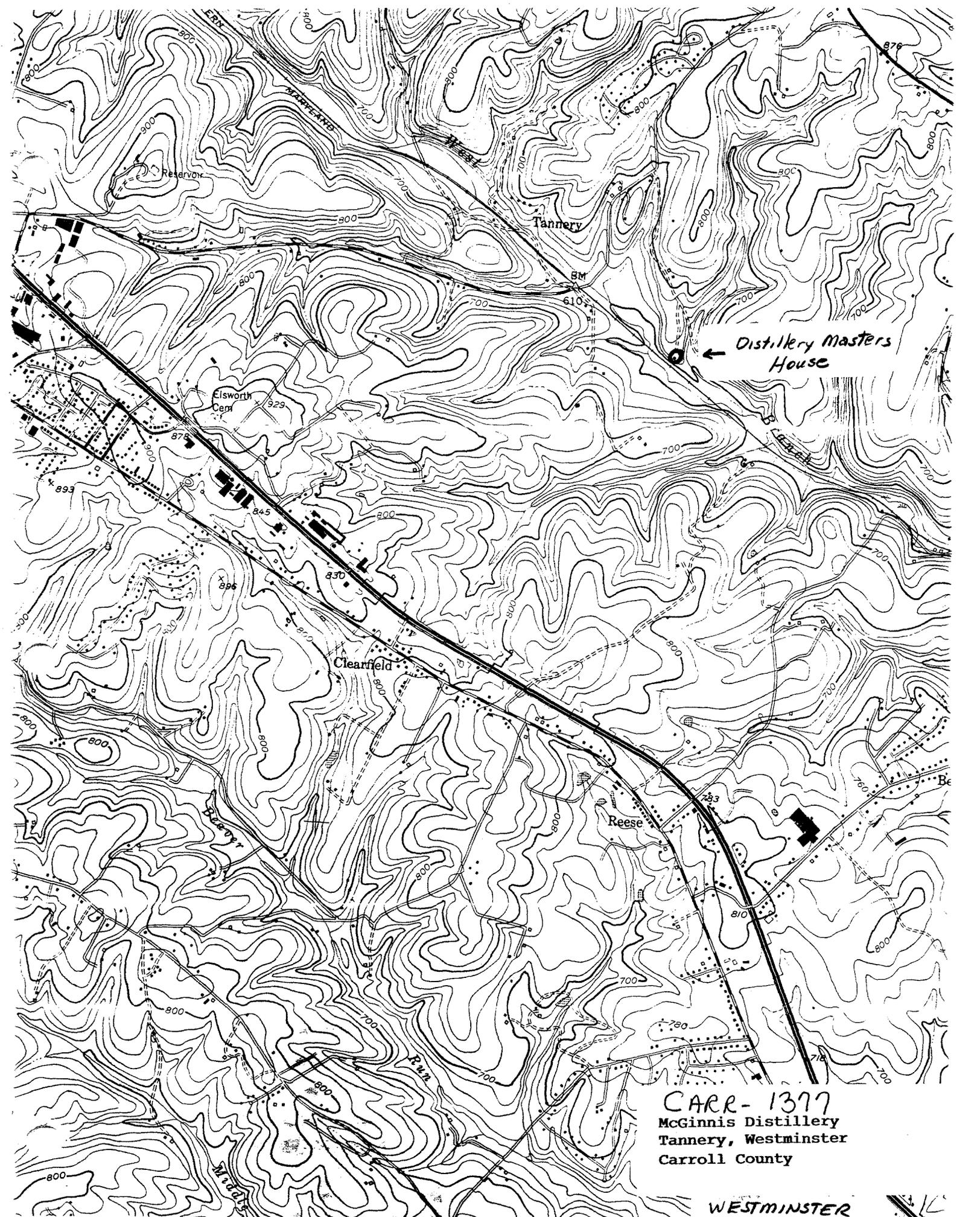


TAX MAP
McGinnis Distillery
Tannery, Westminister
Carroll County
HISTORIC SITE BOUNDARY

Y LINE
 OWNERSHIP - Z LE - Z

SCALE IN FEET

208712.4m
 405512.0mE



← Distillery Masters House

CARR-1377
McGinnis Distillery
Tannery, Westminster
Carroll County

WESTMINSTER
QUADRANGLE



CARR-1377

MAR 1993



MAR 1993





CARR-1377

MAR 1993



MAR 1993





CARR-1377

MAR 1993

STATION

STATION

MAR 1993

STATION

STATION



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SALES