

CARR-1379

John W. Davis Farm
Taneytown (vicinity)

c. 1860-62

The John W. Davis farm was purchased by Davis in 1844 for \$1492.87½. The modest price for 114¾ acres suggests that the brick house was not standing. Indeed, it may have been an unimproved parcel. In 1854, Davis added a 62½-acre parcel, and again the price of \$657.30 suggests little or no improvement to the tract. The 1862 map shows Davis living in this vicinity. There are two houses shown, one on each side of the road. The 1866 assessment states that Davis's farm was improved with a brick house and log barn, and was worth \$6,195, a substantial increase. It does not list any other buildings on the property. The house was almost certainly built, then, between 1845 and 1865, and presumably in 1860-62 to replace an earlier structure on the opposite side of the road. He sold the farm in 1867 to Samuel Weant of Mt. Joy Township in Pennsylvania for \$7,000. Later that same year Weant insured his property with The Planters' Mutual Insurance Company of Washington County, Maryland. The dwelling house was valued at \$1,400. The barn was worth only \$200. In January 1870, Weant took out an additional policy on his property that covered a new barn worth \$1,700. This is probably the barn still standing on the property, and it was no doubt constructed in 1869. In August 1884, John W. Weant purchased the Davis Farm for \$4,512.68. Less than four years later he sold the farm to H. David Hess for \$5,250. The farm remained in the Hess family until 1971.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. CARR-1379

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic John W. Davis Farm

and/or common Cowlick Farm

2. Location

street & number 4780 Piney Creek Road not for publication

city, town Taneytown 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Louis & Karen Hobson

street & number 4780 Piney Creek Road telephone no.: 756-2552

city, town Taneytown state and zip code Maryland 21787

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Courthouse Annex liberCCC 691

street & number 55 North Court Street folio 716

city, town Westminster state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

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

Summary:

The John W. Davis Farm is located at 4780 Piney Creek Road, on the northwest side of the road, about 1 mile southeast of Harney and 3½ miles north of Taneytown in northwestern Carroll County, Maryland. The farm complex consists of a brick house, frame bank barn, corn crib, smokehouse, shed, and springhouse. The house faces southeast, toward the road, and is a five-bay by two-bay, two-story structure. It has a rubble stone foundation, stretcher bond brick on the southeast elevation, and 6-1 common bond brick elsewhere. The southeast elevation has a center entrance with a six-light transom, and sidelights with four lights above a panel. There is a brick dentil course with a wood box cornice above. The first floor plan is a modified center-passage, double-pile plan. The passage is only one room deep. The stairs have been completely rebuilt. There is a bank barn about 100 feet northeast of the house. The forebay faces southeast. The lower story has rubble fieldstone, the upper has vertical-board siding on three sides, and the gable roof has inverted-V-seam metal and a northeast-southwest ridge. The upper story has a hay mow on each end with two center threshing floors and a granary in the west corner. There are five hewn, heavy-timber bents with pegged mortise-and-tenon joints. There are five posts, but the center post does not extend above the top girt. The roof purlins are supported by a queen post truss.

Contributing Resources: 6

The John W. Davis Farm is located at 4780 Piney Creek Road, on the northwest side of the road, about 1 mile southeast of Harney and 3½ miles north of Taneytown in northwestern Carroll County, Maryland. The farm complex consists of a brick house, frame bank barn, corn crib, smokehouse, shed, and springhouse. The ground is relatively flat throughout the complex.

The house faces southeast, toward the road, and is a five-bay by two-bay, two-story structure. It has a rubble stone foundation, stretcher bond brick on the southeast elevation, and 6-1 common bond brick elsewhere. The brick has been sandblasted and the mortar joints were cut out with a saw and repointed. According to the owner, the house had been painted and striped before they did this work. The gable roof has asphalt shingles and a northeast-southwest ridge. There is a rebuilt interior brick chimney on each gable end. The southeast elevation has a 6/6 sash in the east bay of the foundation. The ground level appears to have been raised, as the window now sits in

Description (continued)

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a well and is primarily below ground. The window, like all of them in the house, has a mitered frame with a beaded interior edge, a wood sill, and a wood lintel with plain corner blocks. It also has shutter hardware. The first story has a center entrance with a stone sill, a six-light transom, and sidelights with four lights above a panel. The fielded panels are sunk and have ogee panel moulds. Each jamb has one panel below the headrail and a small square panel above. The soffit has one panel. These panels are identical to those in the sidelights. The surround has a beaded interior edge and recently added trim on the outer edge. The door is new. There are two 6/6 sash to each side. The second story has five 6/6 sash. There is a brick dentil course with a wood box cornice above.

The southwest elevation has two openings in the foundation with wood lintels and corner blocks. The south bay has a vent with wood louvers that are diamond in section and are now covered by a new window. The frame of the vent has a beaded interior edge. The west bay has a metal grate that slides back into the wall, and behind it a six-light sash that has been cut down to fit the opening. There are two 6/6 sash on both the first and second stories and two four-light sash in the gable end. The latter have beaded interior-edge frames, wood sills, and no lintels. There are two star anchors centered on the wall, one at the second floor level and one at the attic floor.

The northwest elevation is three bays. The first story has a 6/6 sash to the north. There is a door in the center bay with four lights over two panels and a three-light transom. The frame has a beaded interior edge and the wood lintel has plain corner blocks. Between the center and west bays are a pair of more recent six-light casements. There is a one-story, shed roof porch that has been rebuilt. The west bay of the porch has been enclosed with German siding. The southwest and northwest elevations of this enclosure have a 6/6 sash with a beaded interior-edge frame and shutter hardware. The northeast elevation has a four-panel door. The rubble stone cheek wall on the southwest end of the porch is tied into the house foundation. There is also a stone wall between the center and west bays, under the northeast wall of the enclosure. The stone wall under the northeast elevation of the porch is also tied into the house, and has a beaded-edge vertical-board door set into it. The second story has three 6/6 sash and there is a brick dentil course and box cornice above it.

The northeast elevation has two 6/6 in the foundation, first, and second stories, and two four-light sash in the gable end like those on the southwest. There are also two star anchors centered on the ridge, at the second story and attic floor levels.

The cellar is divided in two by a stone center wall that runs northwest-southeast and has a door in it toward the southeast end. The door has beaded-edge vertical boards. The stairs come down into the northeast half of the cellar. There is a large

Description (continued)

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kitchen fireplace on the northeast wall. It has straight brick jambs, a stone rear wall, and a large wood mantle tree. Originally, there were doors on the fireplace but these are now gone. Southeast of the fireplace is a closet with two beaded-edge vertical-board doors, one above the other. The southeast wall of the closet is plastered masonry about 18 inches wide and intended to support a fireplace above. There is a window on either side of the fireplace. They have beaded interior-edge surrounds that are mitered at the corners. There is a door on the northwest wall that has random-width, beaded-edge vertical boards on the exterior and a new covering on the interior. The exterior of this door has panelled jambs with flat, sunk panels, a beaded interior-edge frame that is mitered, and a wood lintel with plain corner blocks. The walls have been replastered and the joists and floor above replaced. The southwest half of the cellar has plastered walls. There is a summer beam that runs southwest-northeast, with a single post in the center. Both are hewn on all four sides. The summer beam is mortised to take a center tenon on top of the post. The summer is $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep by $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, while the post is $5\frac{1}{2}$ by 8 inches. The joists are hewn top and bottom, are about 8 to 10 inches wide by $6\frac{1}{2}$ to 7 inches deep, and are spaced $27\frac{1}{2}$ to 30 inches on centers. The joists run northwest-southeast and rest on top of the summer and on a wood sill about 1-inch thick on top of the stone foundation wall. The southwest wall has stone corbelled out about 6 inches in the center of the wall, near the top, creating a ledge that supports one end of the boards that support the hearth. The other end is supported by a cleat nailed to the side of the joist. The boards under the hearth are mill-sawn.

The first floor plan is a modified center-passage, double-pile plan. The passage is only one room deep. The stairs have been completely rebuilt. Originally, they were apparently enclosed, and ran along the northeast wall of the passage. There is a random-width board floor that runs northeast-southwest. The front entrance stiles between the door and sidelights have a beaded edge. The panels under the sidelights have sunk fielded panels with ogee panel moulds. The doors to each room have six panels with the small panels in the center. The fielded panels are sunk and have no panel moulds. The doors have cast iron butt hinges and box locks with no markings. The door surrounds have a broken field with a beaded interior edge. The woodwork was reportedly originally pea green, later had a combed finish, and is now painted over.

The east room is deep and has two doorways on the southwest wall, one to the south from the passage and one to the west from the west room. There was originally a doorway centered on the northwest wall, but this has been closed off. The door surrounds are wide and plain, with an ogee moulding across the top. The windows have plain splayed jambs. There is a fireplace centered on the northeast wall. The wood mantel has pilaster strips, a frieze with a beaded interior edge and a raised pyramidal panel, and a bed mould that has two ovolos. North of the fireplace is a closet with one door over a single door. The doors are new, but according to the owner, originally

Description (continued)

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matched those on the cellar closet. The rails and stiles of the closet have a beaded interior edge. The baseboards here and throughout the first story have a broken field.

The south room has a fireplace set to the west on the southwest wall. The mantel is identical to that in the east room. The surrounds in this room have a tripartite field that is sunk in the center, with an ogee moulding on either side at the break. There are also plain corner blocks. This same moulding is used under the window sills and in the soffit and jambs. The latter are splayed.

The west room extends behind the center passage. The doors are identical to elsewhere, but the surrounds have a broken field with the inner half bevelled. There is a fireplace on the southwest wall, to the south. The mantel has plain pilasters, a tudor arch, and a plain frieze. There is a cupboard set high up on the northwest side of the fireplace. It has a plain board door on cast iron butt hinges. The random-width pine floor runs northeast-southwest. The walls originally had beaded-edge vertical-board wainscot with a chairrail, but this has been removed. The surround under the window has a beaded bottom edge. The door to the cellar is in this room. It, too, has six panels like the others, and has a Norfolk latch.

The north room door has been moved to a central position on the southwest wall when the room was converted to a modern kitchen. The door surround was re-used. It has a tripartite field; the outer third is raised and the inner third is bevelled. The window jambs are splayed and plain. There was formerly a staircase in the southwest corner of the southwest room, according to the owners.

The second story also has a center passage, with a small chamber at the northwest end of the passage, and originally four chambers, although the floor plan has since been altered. The same six-panel doors are used throughout, with broken field surrounds in the passage. The east and south chamber surrounds have a broken field with an ogee at the break, and a beaded interior edge. The north, west, and northwest chamber surrounds match those found in the north room of the first story. The baseboards on the second story have a beaded top edge. The fireplaces have covers of beaded-edge vertical boards. Many rooms had peg rails with nails, but these were removed when the plaster was redone. The random-width floors run northeast-southwest.

The attic door is in the west chamber, and has beaded-edge vertical boards and cast iron butt hinges. The rafters are mill-sawn and are 2¾ to 3 inches wide by 4 inches deep. They have a center tenon and peg at the ridge, and are spaced 31 to 33 inches on centers. Each pair is inscribed with sawn numerals. The rafter feet have a birds-mouth cut and lap over a false plate nailed to the floor. The rafters support lath, and originally

Description (continued)

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there were wood shingles, with standing-seam metal over that; these have been removed. The attic has a random-width, tongue-and-groove floor that runs northeast-southwest.

Earlier photographs show a front porch that was three bays wide and one story. It had a half-hip roof, turned posts, a spindle-work frieze and sawn brackets. The rear porch had square posts with square-in-plan vertical balusters above a horizontal-board rail.

About 25 feet northwest of the house is a smokehouse. The foundation is concrete, with some stone on the northwest. It is built of 2 x 4 construction with German siding. The gable roof has standing-seam metal and a northwest-southeast ridge. The southeast elevation has a beaded-edge, vertical-board door set at the south corner.

There is a bank barn about 100 feet northeast of the house. The forebay faces southeast. In reality, the ground is flat, and earth has been pushed up on the northwest to create a bridge or ramp to the upper story. The lower story has rubble fieldstone, the upper has vertical-board siding on three sides, and the gable roof has inverted-V-seam metal and a northeast-southwest ridge. The northwest elevation has two pair of wagon doors on rollers on the upper story, with two six-light sash to the west. The southeast elevation has been largely rebuilt on the lower story with CMU's and metal sash for a dairy operation. There is a beaded-edge vertical-board door to the west. The upper story has a vertical-board door on strap hinges to the west, and three small wood-louver vents, with four vents above them, two vents in the gable end and a large vent in the peak. There is a CMU milkhouse attached to the south corner. The northeast elevation has new structures attached to the lower story, and the upper story is identical to that on the southwest, but without the door.

The southeast elevation has CMU's on the south half of the lower story. The east half has a horizontal board wall with, from south to east, a door, four one-light sash, another door, a one-light sash, a new opening, and a one-light sash. The doors are vertical-board dutch doors on strap hinges. The upper story has horizontal-board siding on this elevation only. From south to east there is a pair of wood-louvered vents above another pair of vents, a vertical-board door on strap hinges, a vent set up high, a beaded-edge vertical-board door on rollers, another vent set high, double-vertical board doors with a vent above them, and a pair of vents over another pair of vents.

The lower story stall arrangement has been altered. In the eastern half of the barn there are two summer beams. Some of the joists are $\frac{3}{4}$ round logs and others are hewn on both the top and bottom. They are tenoned into the summer beams. The upper story has a hay mow on each end with two center threshing floors and a granary

Description (continued)

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in the west corner. There are five hewn, heavy-timber bents with pegged mortise-and-tenon joints. There are five posts, but the center post does not extend above the top girt. The roof purlins are supported by a queen post truss. There are sawn rafters of various sizes, with a ridge beam. They support lath.

About 20 feet southwest of the barn is a wagon shed with corn cribs on both the northeast and southwest sides. It is set on stone piers and has a gable roof with corrugated metal and a northwest-southeast ridge. The southeast elevation has a new glazed wood garage door in the center and a beaded-edge vertical-board door on each side. There is German siding above the doors. The northeast and southwest elevations have horizontal-board siding with bevelled edges. The northwest elevation originally had double wagon doors on strap hinges, but has since been closed off. The shed has a mill-sawn heavy timber braced frame with pegged mortise-and-tenon joints. The plate and purlin are hewn. There are $\frac{3}{4}$ round log rafters that support lath.

There is another shed about 20 feet northwest of the corn crib. It has German siding on the northeast, northwest, and southwest, while the southeast elevation is open. The north half of the northwest elevation has vertical-board doors on rollers. The gable roof has corrugated metal and a northeast-southwest ridge. It is built with both hewn and circular-sawn heavy timbers, and has 2 x 4 circular-sawn rafters that are mitered at the ridge. The southeast plate is hewn and has notches on the top outer corner to hold other, large rafters. It also has mortises for two posts on the eastern half of the southeast elevation.

About 6 feet northeast of this shed is a small shed with a corrugated metal gable roof that has a northwest-southeast ridge. There is tongue-and-groove horizontal-board siding on the gable ends, and some survives on the southwest elevation. The building is open on both the northwest and southeast gable ends below the siding. It has a hewn heavy timber frame with $\frac{3}{4}$ round log rafters that are half-lapped and pegged at the ridge. They support lath. Some framing members on the northeast have been removed, and it appears that there was a corn crib on this side originally.

There is a spring house about 30 feet south of the barn. It has beaded-edge vertical-board siding and a salt-box gable roof with inverted-V-seam metal, a northeast-southwest ridge, and the long slope on the southeast side. There is a door on the northeast elevation, to the north, that matches the siding. The northwest and southeast elevations each have a four-light sash.

8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-1379

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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" 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 c.1860-62 **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.

Summary:

The John W. Davis farm was purchased by Davis in 1844 for \$1492.87½. The modest price for 114¾ acres suggests that the brick house was not standing. Indeed, it may have been an unimproved parcel. In 1854, Davis added a 62½-acre parcel, and again the price of \$657.30 suggests little or no improvement to the tract. The 1862 map shows Davis living in this vicinity. There are two houses shown, one on each side of the road. The 1866 assessment states that Davis's farm was improved with a brick house and log barn, and was worth \$6,195, a substantial increase. It does not list any other buildings on the property. The house was almost certainly built, then, between 1845 and 1865, and presumably in 1860-62 to replace an earlier structure on the opposite side of the road. He sold the farm in 1867 to Samuel Weant of Mt. Joy Township in Pennsylvania for \$7,000. Later that same year Weant insured his property with The Planters' Mutual Insurance Company of Washington County, Maryland. The dwelling house was valued at \$1,400. The barn was worth only \$200. In January 1870, Weant took out an additional policy on his property that covered a new barn worth \$1,700. This is probably the barn still standing on the property, and it was no doubt constructed in 1869. In August 1884, John W. Weant purchased the Davis Farm for \$4,512.68. Less than four years later he sold the farm to H. David Hess for \$5,250. The farm remained in the Hess family until 1971.

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Development Period: Agricultural-Industrial Transition 1815-1870

Historic Period Themes: Agriculture, Architecture

Resource Types: Small Family Farm, Rural Vernacular

The John W. Davis farm was purchased by Davis in 1844 for \$1492.87½. The modest price for 114¾ acres suggests that the brick house was not standing. Indeed, it may have been an unimproved parcel. The previous owner, Andrew Ege, is not listed in the tax assessments in 1841, and those books do not survive for 1852, so there is no way to be positive of this, however. In 1854, Davis added a 62½-acre parcel, and again the price of \$657.30 suggests little or no improvement to the tract. The 1862 map shows

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

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Significance (continued)

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Davis living in this vicinity. There are two houses shown, one on each side of the road. Davis's name is connected with the house on the southeast side of the road, suggesting his residence was there and not at this property, which was probably the house on the northwest side of the road. The 1866 assessment states that Davis's farm was improved with a brick house and log barn, and was worth \$6,195, a substantial increase. It does not list any other buildings on the property.

The house was almost certainly built, then, between 1845 and 1865, and presumably in 1860-62 to replace an earlier structure on the opposite side of the road. Certain details of the house help to corroborate this. The use of 6-1 common bond, and all-stretcher bond on the front, generally dates after 1850. The six-panel doors and 6/6 sash, on the other hand, are typically found before 1870. The Tudor arch mantle in the west room is typical of the 1850's, though it is not common in Carroll County, and demonstrates the influence of the pattern books of A. J. Downing and Calvert Vaux. The mantle appears to be original and not a later addition. Finally, there was a building boom in Carroll County in the early 1860's, which is suggestive but not conclusive.

Davis was a successful farmer, judging from the 1866 assessment. His livestock was worth a substantial \$975 and his farming implements another \$340. The house was well furnished, judging from the valuation of \$250, and his carriage was worth another \$95. He must have been ready to retire, too, for he sold the farm in 1867 to Samuel Weant of Mt. Joy Township in Pennsylvania for \$7,000. Later that same year Weant insured his property with The Planters' Mutual Insurance Company of Washington County, Maryland. The dwelling house was valued at \$1,400 and its furnishings at another \$500. The barn was worth only \$200, while a hog house was worth \$300. There was also a wagon shed and cow house that together were valued at \$130. The grain and hay on the property were insured for \$100, and a cow was also listed, though no valuation was given. In January 1870, Weant took out an additional policy on his property that covered livestock worth \$700, farm implements worth \$200, additional grain and hay worth \$600, and most importantly, a new barn worth \$1,700. This is probably the barn still standing on the property, and it was no doubt constructed in 1869.

The new barn is not listed in the tax assessments for 1866-76. The new 1876 assessment simply states that the brick house, bank barn, and other buildings are valued at \$1,376. Weant's furniture was worth another \$180. He had four horses, a mare, eight cows and fourteen hogs, worth a total of \$495, plus a hive of bees worth \$2. The farm implements were valued at \$145 and the buggy and spring wagon at \$70 combined. The 1877 Atlas shows Samuel Weant at this location and no houses on the southeast side of the road. According to Weant family tradition, Samuel built the house at 4855 Piney Creek Road (CARR-1380) as a retirement home and moved there shortly before his

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM**

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Significance (continued)

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death in December 1883 or January 1884. His will ordered that all his real estate be sold.

In August 1884 Samuel Weant's two farms on the County road leading from Piney Creek Meeting House to Two Taverns in Pennsylvania were advertised for sale. This farm was 118 acres, 8 of which were timber, and was ". . . improved with a large two-story Brick Dwelling House, a Switzer Barn, 40 x 75, Wagon Shed, Corn Crib, Wash House, and other outbuildings." The second farm adjoined this and was 60 acres. John W. Weant purchased the Davis Farm for \$4,512.68. The deed was executed in August 1885. Less than four years later he sold the farm to H. David Hess for \$5,250. Hezekiah D. Hess is listed in the 1896 tax assessment as owning two farms. The fact that the Davis Farm was smaller and was listed second suggests that he was not living and farming here. The farm remained in the Hess family until 1971.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. CARR-1379

Significance

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ADDENDA

Samuel Weant purchased the John W. Davis Farm in 1867 from Davis and apparently moved there from Pennsylvania. Two years later he advertised in the Westminster newspaper:

Millwrighting

The undersigned. . . is about to resume his old business, and having had an experience of twenty years, flatters himself that he will be able to give satisfaction. Millers and Machinists are informed that repairing will be promptly attended to. All order [sic] should be addressed to

Samuel Weant
Harney, Carroll County, Md

The same year he had a barn built on his new farm, raising the question of whether he might have built it himself, as it probably would not be beyond his capabilities as a millwright. At present, the extent of his activities in both Pennsylvania and Maryland is unknown.

Source: Westminster Democratic Advocate, 29 July 1869, p. 2, c. 8.

CARR-1379
John W. Davis Farm
4780 Piney Creek Road

CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR	HOME COUNTY	GRANTEE	HOME COUNTY	DATE	LIBER	FOLIO	TRANS-ACTION	COMMENTS
William A. & Evelyn D. King (wife)	Howard	Louis E. & Karen A. Hobson (wife)	Carroll	12-1-1977	CCC 691	716	Deed fee simple	\$5.00, 113.6485 acres
David William Hess, Sr. & Lamora E. (wife)	Carroll	William A. & Evelyn D. King (wife)	Howard	10-1-1971	CCC 497	503	Deed fee simple	\$10.00, 113.6485 acres, subject to rights-of-way of Piney Creek & Bowers Roads, 2 parcels
Carroll C. Hess, et al, execs. to Elmer S. Hess	Carroll	David W. Hess	?	2-25-1946	EAS 189	109	Deed fee simple	Elmer died 6-29-1945, will leaves "Home Farm" where he resides to David W. for \$4,500, 117 acres (1)
F. Neal Parke, single	?	David W. Hess & Marianna E. (wife)	?	11-10-1952	EAS 214	430		(2)
H. David & Ellen R. Hess (wife)	Carroll	Elmer S. & Lillie E. Hess (wife)	Carroll	11-10-1916	EMM 147	607	Deed fee simple	117 acres, "The Addition to Brooks Discovery of the Rich Land" (1)
John W. & Hannah E. Weant (wife)	Carroll	H. David Hess & Ellen R. (wife)	Carroll	3-29-1889	WNM 69	366	Deed fee simple	\$5,250.00, 117 acres (1)
George W. Weant, exec. to Samuel Weant	?	John W. & Hannah E. Weant	?	8-24-1885	GAM 63	198	Deed	\$4,512.68, 117 acres (1)

CARR-1379
 John W. Davis Farm
 4780 Piney Creek Road

CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR	HOME COUNTY	GRANTEE	HOME COUNTY	DATE	LIBER	FOLIO	TRANS-ACTION	COMMENTS
John W. Davis & Mary Jane (wife)	Carroll	Samuel Weant	Mt. Joy Township, PA	3-7-1867	WAMcK 34	482	Deed Indenture	\$7,000, 2 tracts, total 177 acres [no previous reference] (A) (B) 62½ acres
Peter Grabill & Sarah (wife)	Frederick	John W. Davis	Carroll	3-14-1854	JBB 17	80	Deed Indenture	\$657.30, 62½ acres, "The Addition to Brooks Discovery on the Rich Lands" [no previous reference] (B)
Samuel G. Ohler & A. S. (wife)	Frederick	Peter Grabill	Frederick	3-21-1851	JBB 12	163	Deed Indenture	62½ acres, "The Addition to Brooks Discovery on the Rich Lands" [no previous reference] (B)
Andrew G. Ege & Margaret (wife)	Carroll	John W. Davis	Carroll	6-1-1844	JS 3	482	Deed Indenture	\$1492.87½, 114¾ acres - "The Addition to Brooks Discovery on the Rich Lands" [no previous reference] (A)

CARR-1379

4780 Piney Creek Rd.
Moulding Profiles

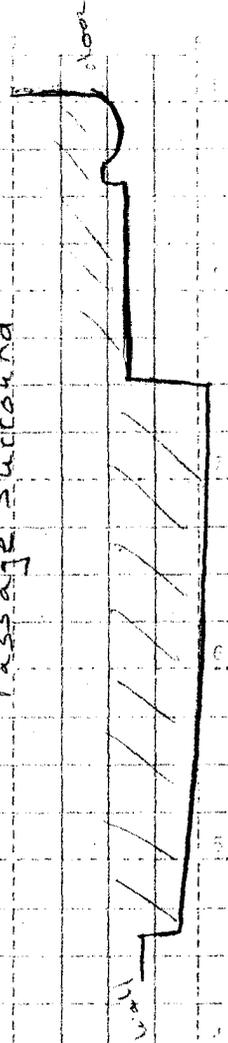
KMS
10 Jan '11

1/2

South Room Surrounds

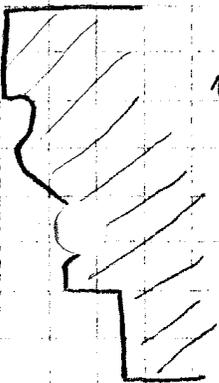


Passage Surround



↑ up

East Room
top surround
cornice



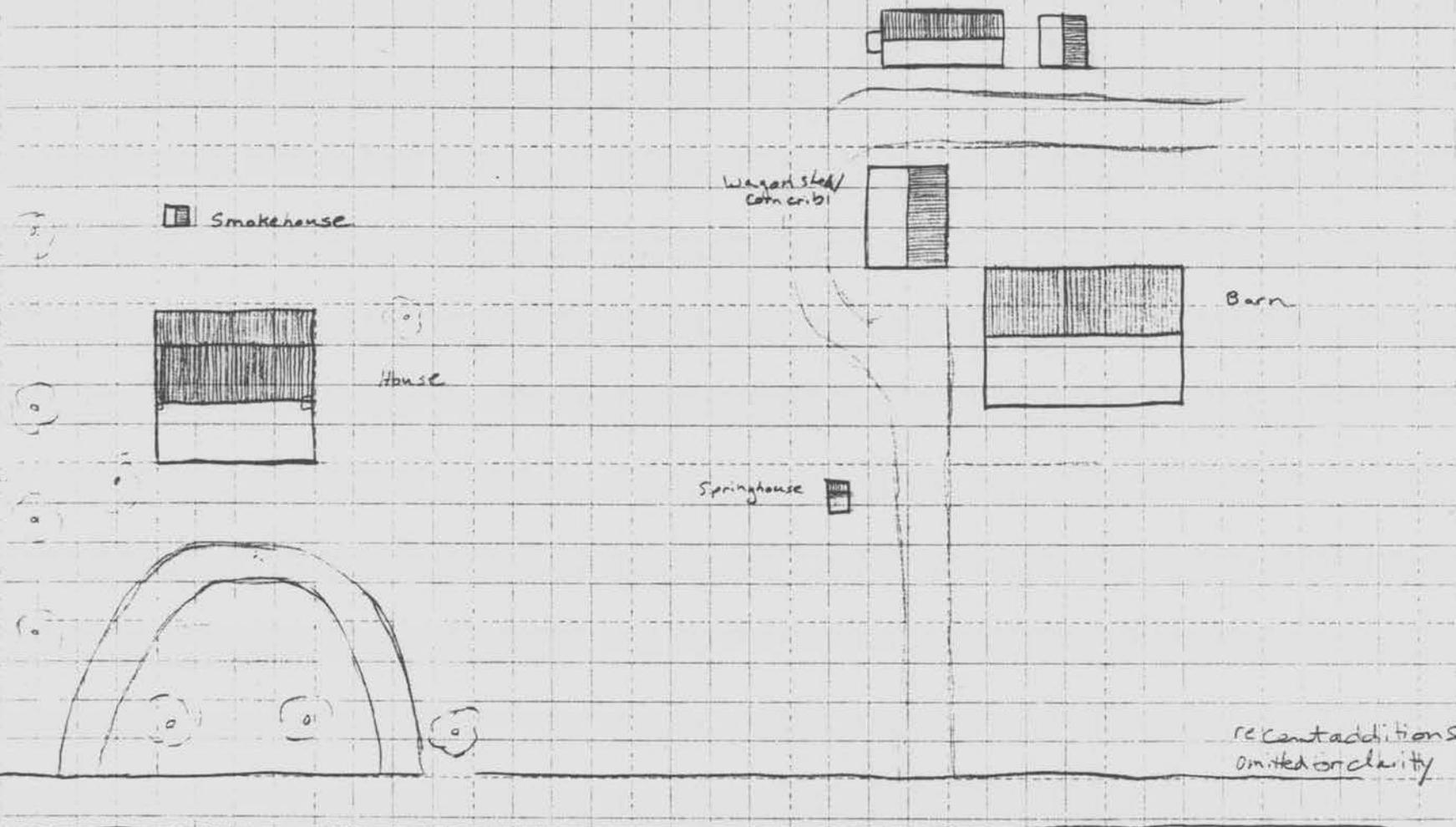
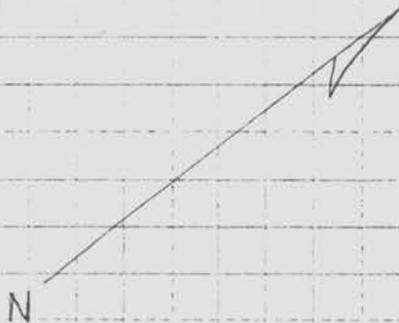
wall



door

North room surround

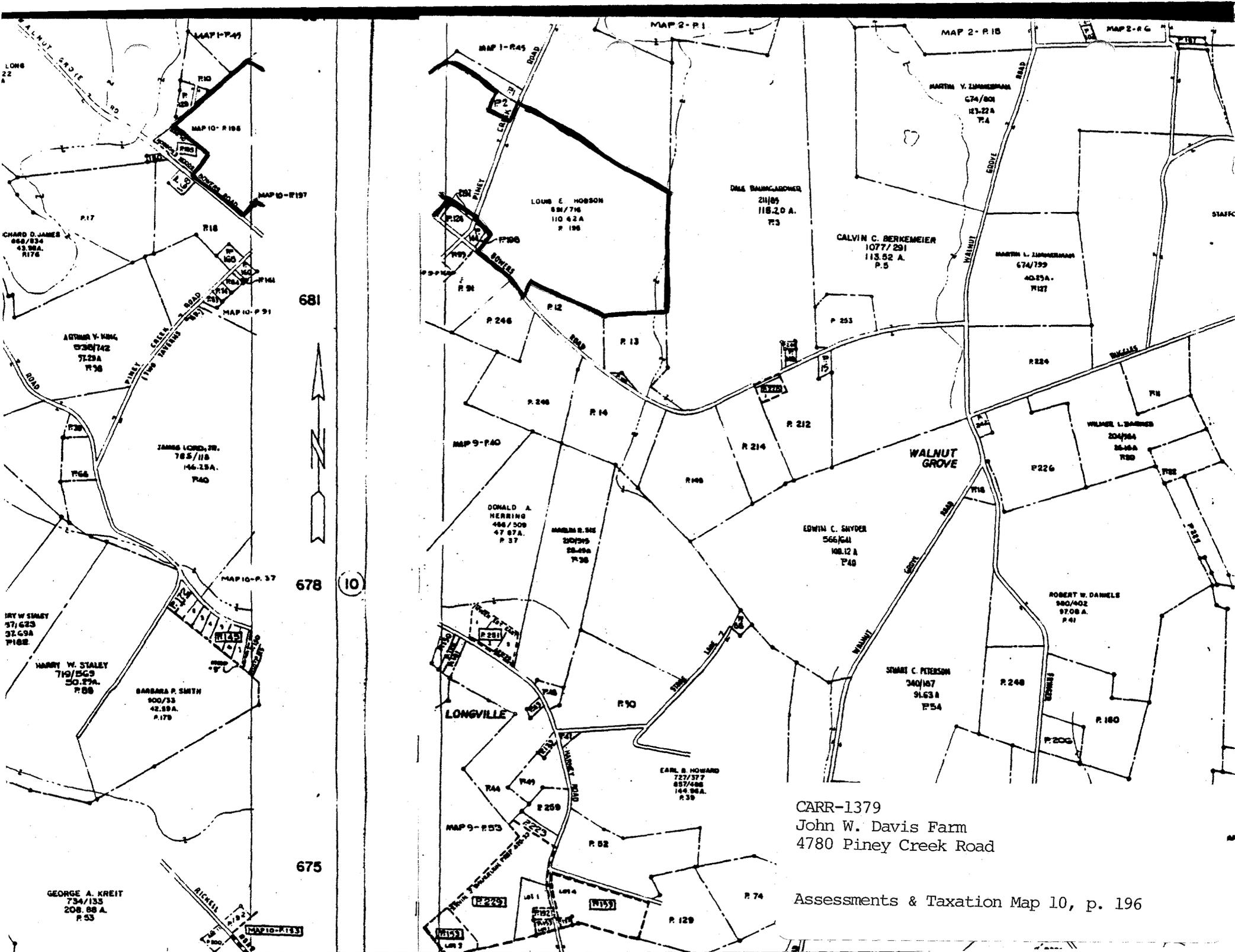
4780 Piney Creek Rd
Site Plan





CARR-1379
John W. Davis Farm
4780 Piney Creek Road

Martenet Map, 1862



LONG 22 A

CHARD D. JAMES
666/834
43.98A.
P.176

ADITHAN V. NING
636/742
71.23A
P.98

JAMES LORD, JR.
785/118
146.15A.
P.40

IRVING STANLEY
57/623
37.69A
P.102

HARRY W. STALEY
719/569
50.57A.
P.88

BARBARA P. SMITH
900/33
42.89A.
P.178

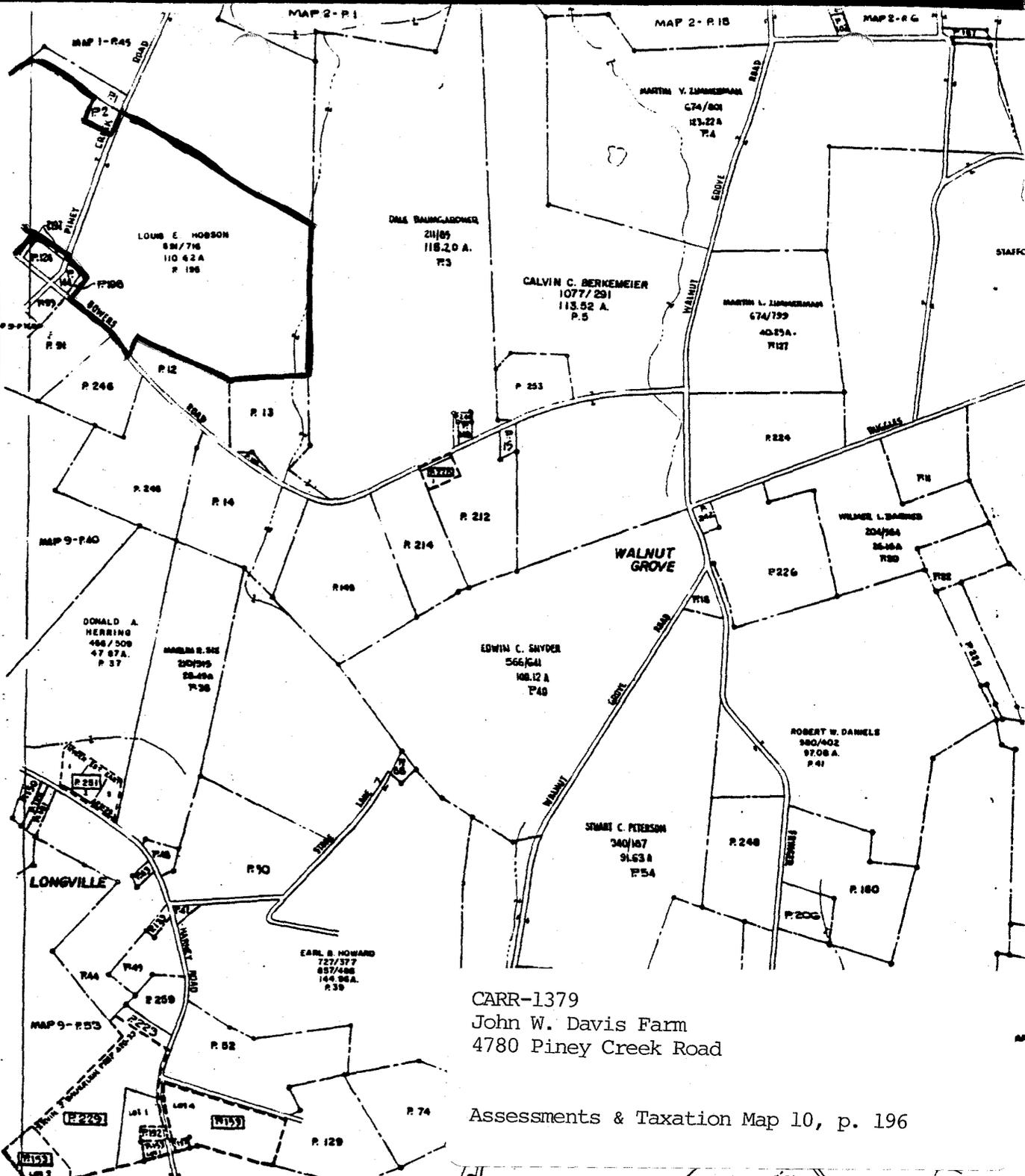
GEORGE A. KREIT
734/133
208.88 A.
P.53

681

678

675

10



LOUIS E. HOBSON
881/716
110.42 A
P.196

DALE BAUMGARDNER
211/89
118.20 A.
P.3

CALVIN C. BERKEMEIER
1077/291
113.52 A.
P.5

MARTIN V. ZIMMERMAN
674/801
133.22 A
P.4

MARTIN L. ZIMMERMAN
674/199
40.85A.
P.117

WILMER L. BARNES
204/864
35.46A
P.80

EDWIN C. SNYDER
566/641
108.12 A
P.40

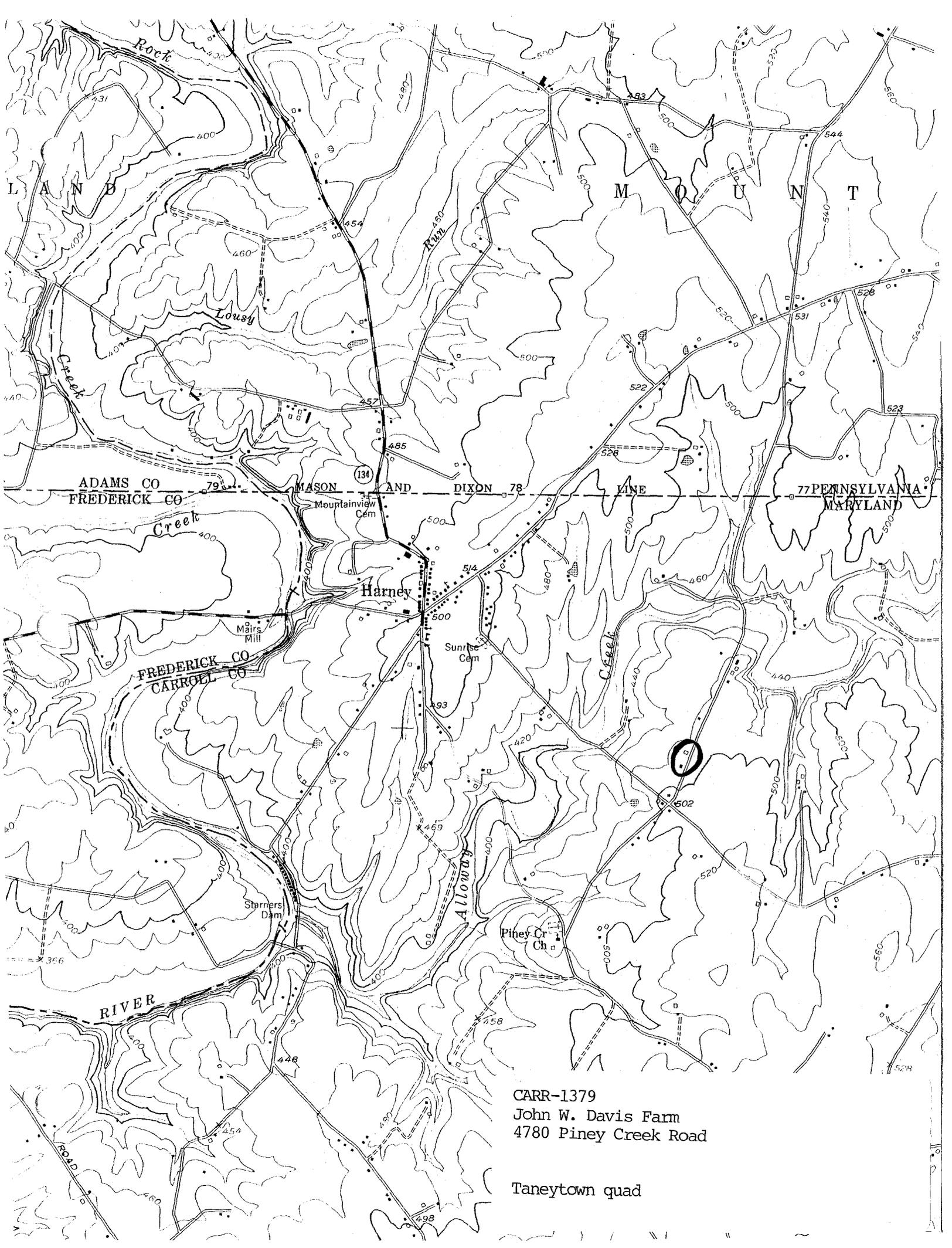
ROBERT W. DANIELS
380/402
87.08A.
P.41

STUART C. PETERSON
340/187
91.63 A
P.54

EARL B. HOWARD
727/377
837/488
144.98A.
P.39

CARR-1379
John W. Davis Farm
4780 Piney Creek Road

Assessments & Taxation Map 10, p. 196



CARR-1379
John W. Davis Farm
4780 Piney Creek Road

Taneytown quad



John W. Davis Farm
4780 Piney Creek Rd.
Carroll County, Maryland
Photo: Kenneth M. Short
Date: January 1994
Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
House - SW & SE elevations
1/4



CARE-1379

John W. Davis Farm

4780 Piney Creek Rd.

Carroll County, Maryland

Photo: Kenneth M. Short

Date: January 1994

Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust

House - NE & NW elevations

2/4



John W. Davis Farm

4780 Piney Creek Rd.

Carroll County, Maryland

Photo: Kenneth M. Short

Date: January 1994

Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
east room fireplace

3/4



John W. Davis Farm

4780 Piney Creek Rd.

Carroll County, Maryland

Photo: Kenneth M. Short

Date: January 1994

Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust

Barn - SE elevation

4/4