

CARR-1454

Peter Ritz Farm  
Mexico (vicinity)

**Summary:**

The Peter Ritz Farm seems to have started as small parcels of other farms in the neighborhood. Ritz acquired a 28-acre tract in 1879 for \$700 and added 7 acres for \$188.89 ten years later. The house is a heavy timber, mortised-and-tenoned-and-pegged frame structure that was probably built c. 1879 by Ritz. The barn is a later structure of circular-sawn heavy timber, with a bay added to the southeast sometime after construction. There is a date of 1916 painted inside the upper-story door. This could be the date either of construction or of expansion, since the construction of the barn dates it to after 1890. This was a small farm, which suggests the probability that Ritz had another occupation that brought in surplus income, while the farm provided food for his family, but no surplus to sell at market.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Peter Ritz Farm

and/or common

## 2. Location

street &amp; number 624 Leister's Church Road

\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Mexico

 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 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Jean Yeakel

street &amp; number 624 Leister's Church Road

telephone no.: 876-2418

city, town Westminster

state and zip code MD 21157

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Courthouse Annex

liber

street &amp; number 55 North Court Street

folio

city, town Westminster

state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

# 7. Description

Survey No. CARR-1454

<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 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 Peter Ritz Farm is located at 624 Leister's Church Road. The complex consists of a frame house, a summer kitchen, a frame bank barn, a binder shed, and a wood shed. The house is a three-bay by two-bay, two-story structure that is banked on the northwest and has a two-bay ell on the northwest elevation. The southeast elevation foundation is thus exposed. The foundation is rubble stone. There is new weatherboard, and the gable roof has standing-seam metal. The first story has a center entrance with a new door and a one-light transom and two new 6/6 sash. There is a one-story raised porch with a shed roof of standing-seam metal. The second story has new 6/6 sash in the end bays with no opening in the center bay. The summer kitchen is a one-story, one-bay square building, with a rubble stone foundation, weatherboards with corner boards, and a gable roof of standing-seam metal over wood shingles. There is an interior brick chimney on the southwest end. The bank barn has a rubble stone lower story with horizontal boards under the forebay, and a vertical-board upper story. The forebay faces southwest. The gable roof has asphalt shingles. The northeast elevation upper story has two pair of wagon doors on rollers in the center. The upper story has two center wagon floors with a hay mow on each end and a granary in the north corner. It has a circular-sawn, heavy-timber, mortised-and-tenoned-and-pegged frame and a Queen post truss. On the interior upper story door is painted "H. M. 1916."

Contributing Resources: 5

The Peter Ritz Farm is located at 624 Leister's Church Road, about 3 1/4 miles northeast of Westminster and 1 mile southeast of Mexico Road, in central Carroll County, Maryland. The farm is located on the southwest side of Leister's Church Road, on a long drive set well back from the road. The site has a gradual slope down to the southeast. The complex consists of a frame house, a summer kitchen, a frame bank barn, a binder shed, and a wood shed.

The house is a three-bay by two-bay, two-story structure that is banked on the northwest and has a two-bay ell on the northwest elevation. The southeast elevation foundation is thus exposed. The foundation is rubble stone. There is new weatherboard, and the gable roof has standing-seam metal and a northeast-to-southwest ridge. There is an interior brick chimney on each end with new brick. The southeast elevation foundation has a new door in an original opening in the south bay and two new 6/6 sash. The first story has a center entrance with a new door and a one-light transom and two new 6/6 sash. There is a one-story raised porch with a shed roof of standing-seam metal. The porch has a new railing and four new posts. The second story has new 6/6 sash in the end bays with no opening in

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 2

the center bay. There is a wood box cornice with returns. The southwest elevation foundation has a new 6/6 sash in the south bay. The first and second stories have two new 6/6 sash, and there are two louver vents in the gable end. The southwest elevation of the ell has a one-story porch with a shed roof of standing-seam metal. The south half of the porch is enclosed. The second story has two new 6/6 sash. The gable roof of the ell has standing-seam metal and a southeast-to-northwest ridge. The northwest elevation of the ell has a new exterior brick chimney. The northeast elevation of the main block has two new 6/6 sash on the first and second stories, and two louvered vents on the gable end. The ell has two new 6/6 sash on both the first and second stories.

The cellar of the main block has a concrete floor. The first-story joists are hewn on top and bottom. The first-story joists in the ell cellar are circular sawn on top and bottom. A new wall divides these two cellar rooms. The first story has a central enclosed stairway with one room on either side. The stairs, floor and doors are all new. There is plain mitered trim throughout the first story. In the northeast room the northeast wall has an enclosed fireplace with a wood mantel. This mantel has plain pilaster strips and a blind Tudor arch in the frieze. It was never a working fireplace. The southwest room had a mantel, but it has been removed. The northwest room had a cook stove on the northwest and a winder stair in the west corner, but these details have been removed. The second story has all new details, and several of the rooms have been subdivided, altering the original floor plan. In the attic there is a summer beam that is hewn on top and bottom, and the joists, which are mill sawn, are mortised and tenoned and pegged to the summer beam. The rafters are  $\frac{3}{4}$ -round logs that are mitered at the ridge. The rafter feet are cut off and fastened to a false plate. The attic on the ell has circular-sawn dimensional 2 x 6 rafters.

There is a summer kitchen about 10 feet south of the house. It is a one-story, one-bay square building, with a rubble stone foundation, weatherboards with corner boards, and a gable roof of standing-seam metal over wood shingles with a northeast-to-southwest ridge. There is an interior brick chimney on the southwest end and a new pent roof added the northwest. The northwest elevation has a new six-panel door set to the north. The northeast and southeast elevations have a 1/1 sash. The building is of 2 x 4 construction. The southwest wall has a brick fireplace with straight jambs and a trammel crane. The wood mantel tree is circular sawn. The building has a floored attic with a ladder nailed to the studs in the south corner.

There is a bank barn about 50 feet southeast of the summer kitchen. It has a rubble stone lower story with horizontal boards under the forebay, and a vertical-board upper story. The forebay faces southwest. The gable roof has asphalt shingles and a southeast to northwest ridge. The northeast elevation upper story has two pair of wagon doors on rollers in the center. The northwest elevation has a six-light sash on the lower story and no

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 3

openings on the upper story. The southwest elevation lower story has two vertical-board dutch doors on strap hinges, a wide opening south of this, and another dutch door in the south bay. The upper story has vertical-board double doors on strap hinges over identical doors with a similar door to the south of them. The southeast elevation is identical to the northwest elevation. The lower story has a summer beam that is circular sawn on all four sides and joists that are circular sawn on top and bottom. The forebay wall is of heavy-timber frame. The upper story has two center wagon floors with a hay mow on each end and a granary in the north corner. It has a circular-sawn, heavy-timber, mortised-and-tenoned-and-pegged frame. Each bent has four posts, and there is a Queen post truss supporting the roof. The roof has 2 x 4 rafters that are mitered at the ridge, and there is a hay track. The southeast bay of the barn was added later. On the interior upper story door is painted "H. M. 1916."

About 40 feet northeast of the barn is a binder shed with a concrete foundation and beaded-edge-and-center, vertical-board siding. The gable roof has asphalt shingles and a northeast-to-southwest ridge. The southwest elevation is open, but originally had doors. The northwest elevation has a 6/6 sash and a door of the same material as the siding. The building is of 2 x 4 and 4 x 4 circular-sawn construction and is wire nailed. The northeast third of the building has a wood floor and a stall.

There is a wood shed about 20 feet north of the binder shed. It has vertical-board siding and a shed roof of corrugated metal that slopes to the northeast. It has a wide opening on the southwest elevation. It is of 2 x 4 construction. According to the owner, there was a machine shed and shop east of the house and two chicken houses, an outhouse, and a corn crib where the road now is. There was a smokehouse southwest of the house and a hog pen south of the house.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-1454

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 checked="" 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

### 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.

Geographic Organization: Piedmont  
Chronological/Development Period: Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930  
Historic Period Themes: Agriculture, Architecture  
Resource Types: Small family farm, Rural vernacular

The Peter Ritz Farm seems to have started as small parcels of other farms in the neighborhood. Ritz acquired a 28-acre tract in 1879 for \$700 and added 7 acres for \$188.89 ten years later. The house is a heavy timber, mortised-and-tenoned-and-pegged frame structure that was probably built c. 1879 by Ritz. The barn is a later structure of circular-sawn heavy timber, with a bay added to the southeast sometime after construction. There is a date of 1916 painted inside the upper-story door. This could be the date either of construction or of expansion, since the construction of the barn dates it to after 1890. This was a small farm, which suggests the probability that Ritz had another occupation that brought in surplus income, while the farm provided food for his family, but no surplus to sell at market.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CARR-1454

Land Records  
1877 & 1917 maps

# 10. Geographical Data

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

Quadrangle name Westminster

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

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 Kenneth M. Short, Historic Planner

organization Carroll County Planning date January 24, 1996

street & number 225 North Center Street telephone (410) 857-2145

city or town Westminster state MD

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/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
514-7600

CARR-1454

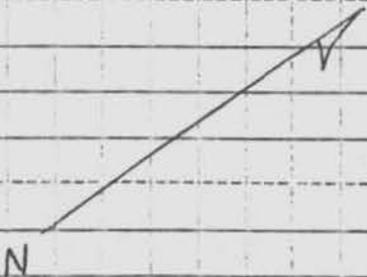
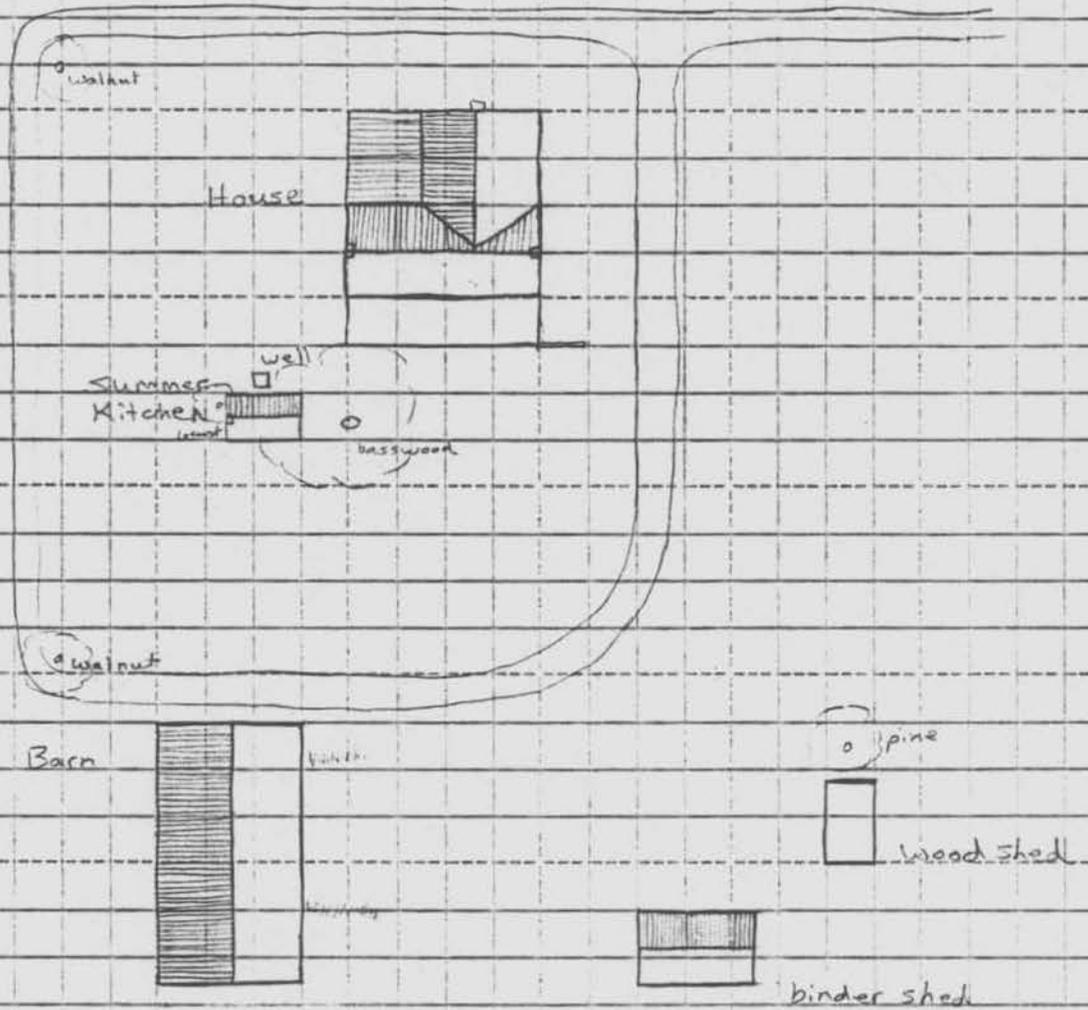
DESIGNED KMS

DATE 12 Jul '95

624 Leicester's Church Rd

Site Plan

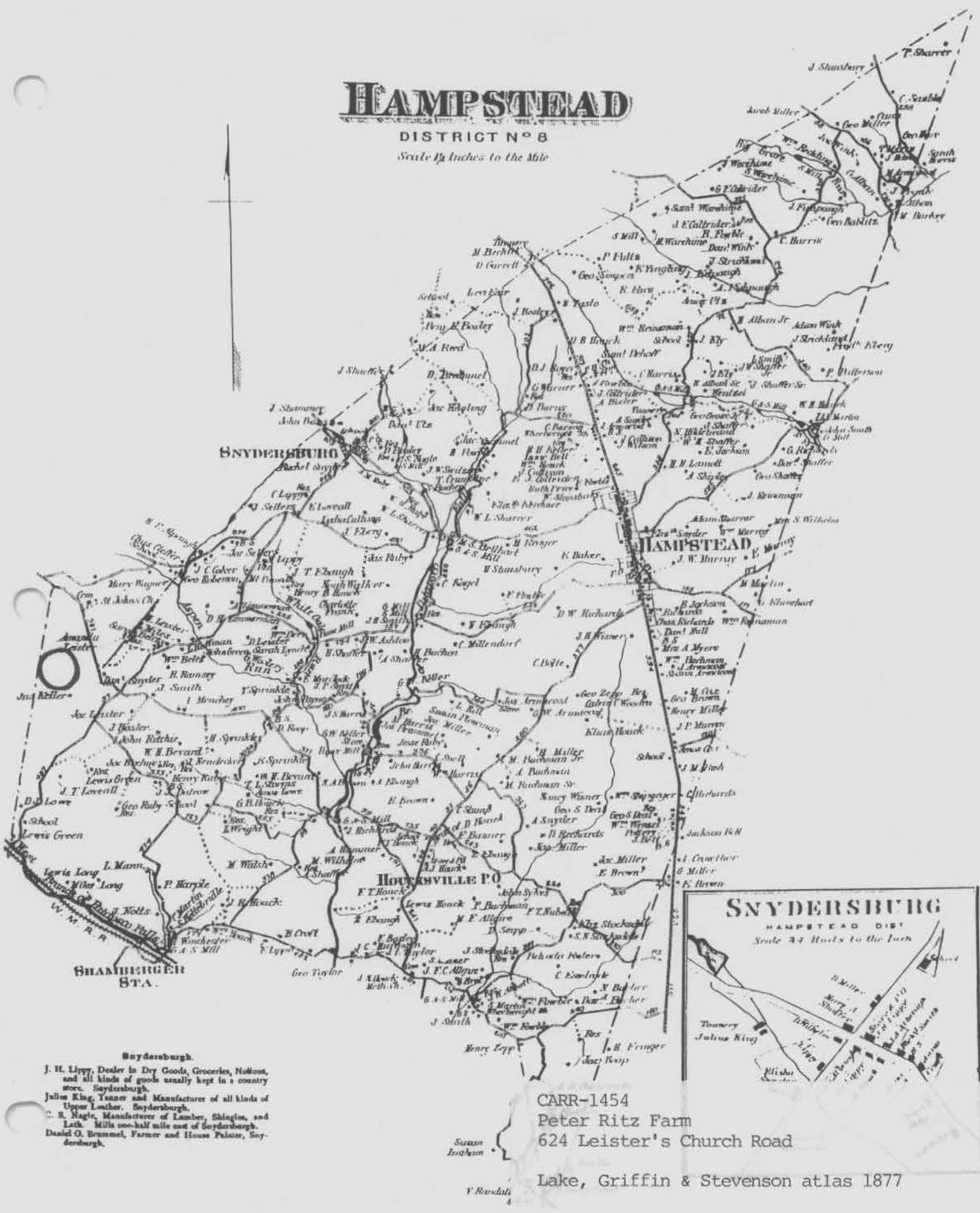
1/1



# HAMPSTEAD

DISTRICT N<sup>o</sup> 8

Scale 1/4 inches to the Mile



**SNYDERSBURG**

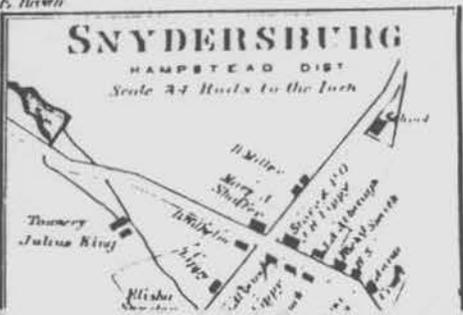
**HAMPSTEAD**

**HOUSEVILLE P.O.**

**SHAMBERGER STA.**

**SNYDERSBURG**

HAMPSTEAD DIST  
Scale 1/4 inch to the mile



- Snyder'sburg**
- J. H. Lipp, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Notions, and all kinds of goods usually kept in a country store. Snyder'sburg.
  - Julius King, Tanner and Manufacturer of all kinds of Upper Leather. Snyder'sburg.
  - C. S. Hagie, Manufacturer of Lumber, Shingles, and Lath. Mills one-half mile east of Snyder'sburg.
  - Daniel O. Brummel, Farmer and House Painter, Snyder'sburg.

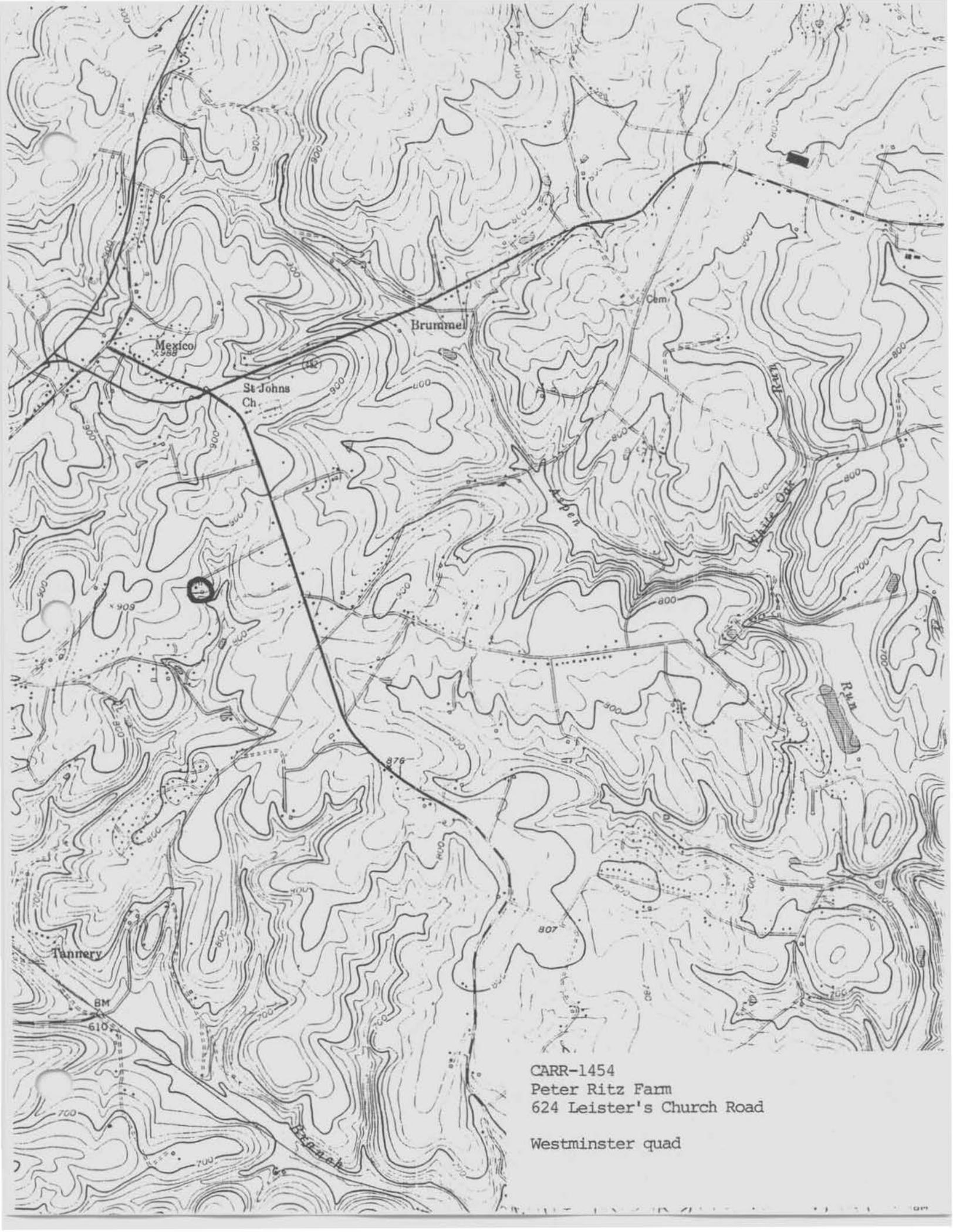
CARR-1454  
Peter Ritz Farm  
624 Leister's Church Road

Lake, Griffin & Stevenson atlas 1877

Susan Graham

V. Roush





CARR-1454  
Peter Ritz Farm  
624 Leister's Church Road  
Westminster quad



Peter Ritz Farm  
624 Leister's Church Rd.  
Carroll County, Maryland

Photo: Matt Hankins

Date: July 1995

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust  
house - SE elev.

1/3



Peter Ritz Farm

624 Leister's Church Rd.  
Carroll County, Maryland

Photo: Matt Hankins

Date: July 1995

Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust  
Summer Kitchen - NW elev.

2/3



CARR-1454

Peter Ritz Farm  
624 Leister's Church Rd.  
Carroll County, Maryland

Photo: Matt Hankins

Date: July 1995

Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust  
barn - SW elev.

3/3

72 0111 N N N-2 2 18 06