

**Carroll County  
Historic Site Summary Sheet**

**Survey No:** CARR-278  
**Name:** Helen Hoffman House  
**Location:** 422 Hanover Pike, Hampstead, Maryland  
**Date:** ca. 1900  
**Access:** Private

**Description**

The Helen Hoffman House, located adjacent to MD 30 on the south side of Hampstead near the county line, is adjacent to a number of large industrial complexes located immediately to the north. The 1900 frame dwelling, probably built by Charles M. Murray for his daughter, Helen Hoffman, has been utilized as a tenant farm for most of the twentieth century. The farmland is rented independently of the house, and there are no extant original outbuildings. A garage and shed constructed within the last few decades are the sole outbuildings and do not contribute to the significance of the site.

**Description**

**Significance Summary**

The Helen Hoffman House is a ca. 1900, simple ell-shaped frame dwelling, utilized primarily as a tenant house. With little integrity as an agricultural property, and an example of a ubiquitous house type, with no significant historical association, the Helen Hoffman House has little architectural or historical importance.

Survey No. \_\_\_\_\_

Magi No. \_\_\_\_\_

DOE  yes  no

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Helen Hoffman House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 422 Hanover Pike

N/A  not for publication

city, town Hampstead

vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_

congressional district

Eighth

state MD

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	<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 Olin H. Hoffman

street & number PO Box 294

telephone no.: \_\_\_\_\_

city, town Hampstead

state and zip code MD 21074

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Courthouse

liber 340

street & number

folio 308

city, town Westminster

state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing

Historical Surveys

title

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

depository for survey records

city, town

state

# 7. Description

Survey No. CARR 278

**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.

**Contributing Resource: 1**  
**See Continuation Sheet 7.1**

# 8. Significance

Survey No. CARR 278

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 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 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 CA. 1900 Builder/Architect Unknown

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



**CARR-278  
Helen Hoffman House  
Hampstead  
Carroll County, Maryland**

**Continuation Sheet 7.1  
Description**

The Helen Hoffman House, located adjacent to MD 30 on the south side of Hampstead near the county line, is adjacent to a number of large industrial complexes located immediately to the north. The 1900 frame dwelling, probably built by Charles M. Murray for his daughter, Helen Hoffman, has been utilized as a tenant farm for most of the twentieth century. The farmland is rented independently of the house, and there are no extant original outbuildings. A garage and shed constructed within the last few decades are the sole outbuildings and do not contribute to the significance of the site.

The dwelling is a large ell-shaped, two and one-half story frame structure, which is clad with asbestos shingles. It is oriented to the east and is located on the west side of MD 30, at its intersection with Doss Garland Road. The structure is built into a slight rise on the east, thus the basement level is partially exposed on the west end. The principle, side-gabled block parallels MD 30, and a large, full-height ell extends from the rear, or west elevation. A one-story open porch, located on the south side of the ell, extends its width to the full expanse of the west elevation of the main block, and thus the ground plan has a rectangular configuration. It is partially enclosed on the west end. There are two entrances to the main or ground floor and one into the basement level. These entrances are located in the center bay of the east facade (the principle entrance), in the forward bay of the south side of the ell, and at the rear of the ell at the basement level. The structure is supported on a brick, concrete block and rubble masonry foundation, and approximately seven windows, mostly two-pane fixed windows are located in the exposed sections of the foundation. The sole chimney emerges from the roof near (but inside of) the west end wall of the ell wing. The roofing is composed of standing seam metal.

The fenestration is regular and is largely composed of two-over-two sash windows with simple board surrounds. The cornices are boxed and returned on the gable ends.

The east elevation facing MD 30 is three bays wide, with a simple centered door sheltered by a one-story porch supported by lathe turned spindles. The porch is supported on brick corner plinths, with a simple painted

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**Continuation Sheet 7.2  
Description**

**lattice shirt located in the interstices. A simple two-light transom surmounts the door. The north elevation, composed of the gable end of the principle block and the side plane of the ell, is four bays in length, with tall, two-light sash regularly arrayed at both levels. One small basement window, built into the masonry foundation with angle quoins composed of brick, is exposed near the west end.**

**The west, or rear elevation, constitutes the rear of the ell wing, and extends the full width of the principle block, having been extended by a partially enclosed porch on the south side. Much of the height of the brick and masonry foundation is exposed, with a door accessing the basement, and a six-over-six sash window providing light. It is located immediately beneath the windows on the first and second levels. The two, fixed-pane four-light windows in the attic level, interrupts the regularity of the fenestration which are offset to the center on either side of the chimney.**

**The south elevation is mostly above grade, with four exposed windows at the foundation level, and a bulkhead entrance to the basement. There are four bays of windows at the main the second levels, with a doorway in the east bay of the ell accessed by means of a covered porch and a steep outside wooden stair. A porch railing with simple board balusters and railings further defines the porch.**

**A garage is located off the northwest corner of the house. The vehicular garage door is oriented to the north with a pedestrian door on the rear. Immediately to the west is a metal storage shed.**

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Helen Hoffman House  
Hampstead  
Carroll County, Maryland**

**Continuation Sheet 8.1  
Statement of Significance**

**Significance Summary**

**The Helen Hoffman House is a ca. 1900, simple ell-shaped frame dwelling, utilized primarily as a tenant house. With little integrity as an agricultural property, and an example of a ubiquitous house type, with no significant historical association, the Helen Hoffman House has little architectural or historical importance.**

**The Helen Hoffman House is located to the south of Hampstead and north of the Upperco community, in a farming community, which was truncated by the construction of the Baltimore, and Hanover Railroad between 1876 and 1879. In addition to the railroad, which caused the removal of numerous buildings and the destruction of farms in the immediate vicinity of the Helen Hoffman House, the integrity of the area was further compromised by the construction of a string of industrial complexes along MD 30 immediately to the north of the dwelling.**

**The dwelling has been functionally severed from the farmland encompassed by its tax parcel boundaries because the house has been leased separately from the land for many decades. The dwelling, although retaining integrity, no longer has a compliment of outbuildings, thus its historical association with farming has been further eroded.**

**Charles M. Murray likely constructed this dwelling in ca. 1900 shortly after he acquired the property. Within a few years it passed to his daughter Helen who lived in it for a few years. She evidently moved to the center of Hampstead, living with her husband Olin Hoffman. She rented the property after her move to the town, where she continued to reside until her recent death (ca. 1997).**

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Helen Hoffman House  
Hampstead  
Carroll County, Maryland**

**Continuation Sheet 8.2  
Statement of Significance**

**Significance**

The Helen Hoffman House, although constructed in ca. 1900 as part of an agricultural complex, was removed from that context with the truncation of the farm and its use as separate tenanted properties. The Helen Hoffman House property is located immediately adjacent to MD 30 (former Hanover to Reisterstown Turnpike) and was affected by the construction of the Hanover-Baltimore Railroad, as the farmland owned by her family on the opposite side of MD 30 was truncated by the railroad. It has been analyzed within the context of architecture, and in relation to an historic period of increasing industrialization and urbanization (Maryland Historical Trust Historic Context--*Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870 to 1930*), which was closely tied to the continued development of an extended transportation network.

Throughout the mid-nineteenth century the infrastructure of Carroll County increased in complexity. Among the additions to the transportation network was the construction, beginning in 1852, of the Baltimore, Carroll and Frederick Railroad, later the Western Maryland Railroad (Lee 1982:48). Stages ran between Manchester and Baltimore, along Route 30 within the project area, from the 1830's until 1879.

New growth in Carroll County was encouraged by the discovery of gold in the vicinity of what are today Melrose and Ebbvale in 1860 (well north of Hampstead). Nonetheless, transportation improvements were executed throughout the county and into the Hampstead area. To assist in the search for mineral wealth, the Bachman Valley Railroad was constructed about 1871. It spawned a series of small towns in Carroll County (Schlichter 1961:231).

Between 1876 and 1879, the Baltimore and Hanover Railroad was constructed along the eastern edge of Carroll County. It included stops within and near Greenmount, Maple Grove, and Millers, eventually connecting to the north with the Bachman Valley Railroad. Soon after its completion, the Baltimore and Hanover, along with the Bachman Valley and the Baltimore, Carroll and Frederick Railroad, were joined into the Western Maryland Railroad (Schlichter 1961:232; Lee 1982). Despite the

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Helen Hoffman House  
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**Continuation Sheet 8.3  
Statement of Significance**

establishment of stations along the eastern portion of the county, recognizable towns at Greenmount, Maple Grove, and Millers are not shown on historic atlases until 1916 (Rand McNally 1916). The Murray landholdings (a.k.a. the Helen Hoffman House property), were affected by the construction of the Hanover-Baltimore Railroad, as farmland owned by the family on the opposite side of MD 30 was purchased, and buildings removed (Suffness, CARR-279, Mielke House).

With greater transportation access to urban centers, chickens, eggs, and orchard crops increased in importance.

The Helen Hoffman House conforms to a standard, I-house design that is ubiquitous in Carroll County. Many dwellings in Carroll County, like the Hoffman House, have two-story rear ells that give them an L or, occasionally, a T shape. The main block and ell were likely erected at the same time, not additively. Getty (1987) views two-story rear ells as integral to the designs and plans of many houses, not simply as additions to the common plans, especially in late nineteenth and early twentieth century examples.

The Helen Hoffman also exhibits another design feature found frequently in Carroll County—construction oriented to a slope or mound, giving rise to the bank house configuration. The standard design of this house type is generally two-and-a-half stories high and four bay width, with a lower level built into a bank (the Helen Hoffman house, however, is only three bays wide) Apart from keeping the house and the basement area cool in the summer, the lower level housed a kitchen that warmed the dwelling in the winter. In spite of their likely Germanic origins, the banked levels of these houses were often referred to as an “English or Quaker basement.”

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Helen Hoffman House  
Hampstead  
Carroll County, Maryland**

**Continuation Sheet 9.1  
Bibliography**

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**Helen Hoffman House**  
**Hampstead**  
**Carroll County, Maryland**

**Continuation Sheet 9.2**  
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**Carroll County, Maryland**

**Continuation Sheet 9.3**  
**Bibliography**

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Helen Hoffman House  
Hampstead  
Carroll County, Maryland**

**Continuation Sheet 9.4  
Bibliography**

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Helen Hoffman House  
Hampstead  
Carroll County, Maryland**

**Historic Context**

**Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data**

**Geographic Organization: Piedmont**

**Chronological/Developmental Period (s):**

**Industrial-Urban Dominance, 1870-1930**

**Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme: Architecture**

**Resource Type**

**Category: Buildings**

**Historic Environment: Rural**

**Historic Function (s) and Use (s):**

**Domestic/Single Dwelling/Residence**

**Domestic/ Outbuildings/Garage/Metal Shed**

**Known Design Source: None**

**CARR-278  
Helen Hoffman House  
Hampstead  
Carroll County, Maryland**

**Continuation Sheet 7.2  
Description**

**Chain of Title**

**Helen Murray Hoffman  
and Olin Hoffman**      **To**      **Ralph Hoffman**      **340/305  
10/11/1961**

**Charles M. Murray**      **To**      **124 acres  
Helen Murray**      **Will**

**Three Tracts**

**1) John Wisner**      **To**      **Charles Murray**      **116/344  
3/31/1911  
140 acres**

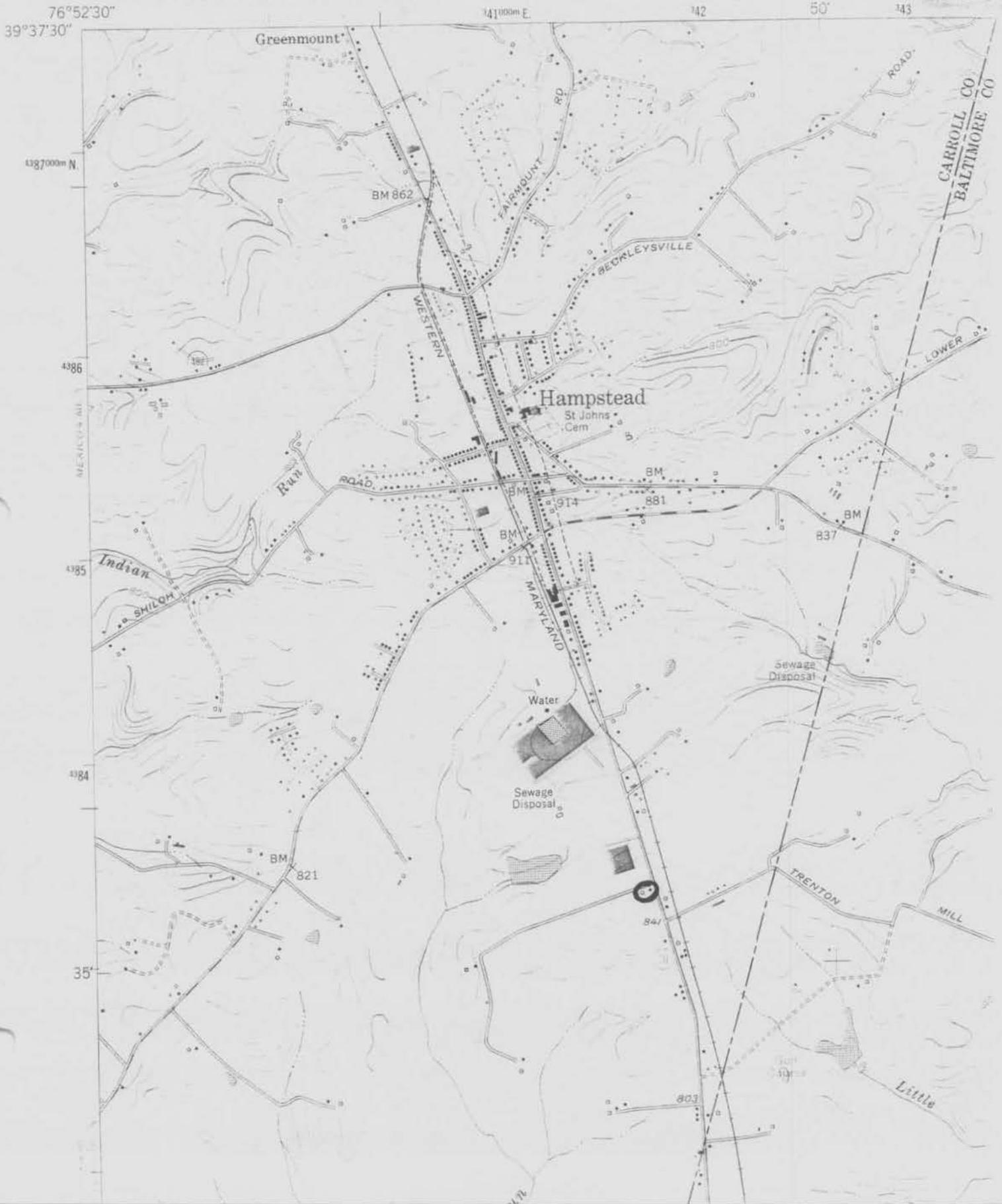
**2) Whitfield Murray**      **To**      **Elmer Murray**      **8/13/1901  
93/398**

**3) Charles M. Murray  
and Susan Murray**      **To**      **Charles W. Murray**      **100/311  
10/24/1904  
\$6,500**  
**Landoff and Merrymans Meadows**

5663 (11 NW  
1:250,000  
MANCHESTER)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

CARR-278  
Helen Hoffman House  
Hampstead  
Carroll County, Maryland  
Hampstead, Maryland





CARR 278

Helen Hoffman House  
Hampstead

R Suffren E/98

degs at MDSHPD

Dwelling

SE Corner

1/5



DOSS GARLAND

CARR 278

Helen Hoffman Home

Hampstead

R Suffner 8/98

rep at MD SHIPC

Dwelling

NE Corner

2/5



CARR 278

Helen Hoffman House  
Hampstead

R Suffern 8/58  
MD SHPC

Dwelling  
SW corner  
316



CARR 278

Helen Hoffma Name  
Hampstead

R Suffren 8/58  
MD SHPO

Dwelling

SE Corner  
4/6



QARR 278

Neben Hoffman Home

Hampstead

R Saffner 8/98

near MDSHPO

metal shed (non-contributing)

616



ARR 278

Helen Hoffman Home  
Hampstead

R Suffren 8/98

M D S H P O

Garage

NE Corner

5/6