

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. CARR-8093

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Durbin Family Farm

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 640 Spring Mills Road not for publication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 type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" 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 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 Jerry M. Russell

street & number 640 Spring Mills Road telephone no.: 848-6230

city, town Westminster state and zip code Maryland 21157

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Courthouse Annex liber 399

street & number 55 North Court Street folio 97

city, town Westminster state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title MHT Inventory Form "Myerly Log House" CARR-809

date December, 1984 federal state county local

pository for survey records Maryland Historic Trust

city, town Crownsville state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. CARR-809

| | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one | |
| <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 | 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.

Summary:

The Durbin Family Farm is located at 640 Spring Mill's Road on the west side of Ridge Road (Rt. 27) about 1 3/4 miles southwest of Westminster in central Carroll County, Maryland. The farm complex consists of a log house, a shop, a wagon shed, a corn crib, two sheds, the foundation of an old barn, and a new barn. The site contains rolling hills and is bordered by a ridge to the northwest. The house faces south and is a two-story, five-bay by one-bay log structure with V-notch cornering and a gable roof of standing-seam metal with an east-west ridge. There is an interior brick chimney on each end. There is also a two-story log ell on the north elevation with a gabled roof that has a north-south running ridge. On the south elevation the eastern three bays were built first, and the western two bays were added later. The logs were originally whitewashed and then given a later treatment of circular-sawn lath that is laid vertically and fastened with cut nails and then rough-casted. Most of this later treatment has been removed. The first story also has a five-bay one-story porch of 2 x 4 construction that is circular sawn. The porch foundation is concrete. The east elevation has a rubble stone foundation and German siding nailed with cut nails to circular sawn vertical nailers. There are rows of cut lath nails in the logs beneath the siding that suggests that the east elevation had once been lathed and rough-cast. The north elevation of the main block has asphalt shingle siding. There is a cellar under the west addition only. On the first story the house is now divided in two by a wall that runs north-south and is set between the center and east-center bays. This wall appears to be later. The western log wall of the original house has been removed to create a three-bay room on the west end. There is an interior stone fireplace centered on the west wall. It is built of Sam's Creek metabasalt and has very finely cut ashlar.

Contributing Resources: 7

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The house faces south and is a two-story, five-bay by one-bay log structure with V-notch cornering and a gable roof of standing-seam metal with an east-west ridge. There is an interior brick chimney on each end. There is also a two-story log ell on the north elevation with a gabled roof that has a north-south running ridge. On the south elevation the eastern three bays were built first, and the western two bays were added later. The logs are

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Description (continued)

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white-washed. The first story, from west to east, contains a window in a beaded interior-edge frame. The 6/6 sash was added recently but is an old sash. Next is a window in a beaded interior-edge frame with a recently added 6/6 sash. This opening was originally a door. There is a full-height board about 1½ inches thick that is pegged to the log ends with wood pegs that indicates that this was originally a doorway. The east end of the door frame abuts a vertical post that is the east end of the addition. This post is hewn. The center bay which is the west bay of the original east section of the house, has a new 6-panel door with circular sawn wood in the frame. This opening was originally a window. There are 1 to 1½-inch-thick boards pegged to the logs that indicate the original window opening and that the logs below have been cut out at a later date. The east center bay was originally a central doorway. Here the framing boards or planks are 1¾ to 2 inches thick and are the full height of a doorway. They are pegged to the log ends with wood pegs. This opening has now been infilled with a 6/6 sash. The frame has a beaded interior edge and a bullnose set inside it. The east bay has a 6/6 sash in a beaded interior edge frame. The window is nailed in with cut nails. The original jamb board is 2 inches wide with about a ¾-inch-wide board attached to it on the west side, thus making the window opening narrower than it originally was. It appears that the first story windows were originally shorter and all of the openings were lowered slightly and narrowed. According to the owner, a fire in 1965 blew out many of the first story windows. The logs were originally whitewashed and then given a later treatment of circular sawn lath that is laid vertically and fastened with cut nails and then rough casted. Most of this later treatment has been removed. The first story also has a 5 bay one story porch of 2 x 4 construction that is circular sawn. The porch foundation is concrete.

On the second story of the south elevation, the west bay and the three eastern bays have 2/2 sash with an architrave that has an ovolo backband. There is no opening in the west center bay. The logs of the second story retain ghosts of vertical lath for rough casting. The top log of the western addition laps over the eastern post of the addition. There is no evidence that any of the logs are pegged into this post. How they are fastened could not be determined. The house has a wood boxed cornice. There is a metal strap fastened from the vertical post to the log in the east section to connect the addition to the original house and apparently to prevent settlement from separating the two.

The east elevation has a rubble stone foundation and German siding nailed with cut nails to circular sawn vertical nailers. There are rows of cut lath nails in the logs beneath the siding that suggests that the east elevation had once been lathed and rough cast. The bottom two logs in the center of this elevation are cut out where a narrow rubble stone and part brick chimney is located. It is about 3 feet 8 inches wide by 2 feet 8 inches high. There are boards on either side of the chimney nailed into the log ends, not pegged. There are no openings on the first or second stories. The gable end has a four light sash set north of center and some asphalt shingles at the top of the gable.

Description (continued)

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The north elevation of the main block has asphalt shingle siding and a single 6/6 sash in a beaded interior edge frame on the first story. The east elevation of the ell is two bays and two stories. The gable roof has standing seam metal and the walls are covered with asphalt shingle siding. The first story has no opening in the south bay. The north bay has a 6/6 sash in a broken field frame that has an ogee moulding at the break. The second story south bay has a 6/6 sash with a surround that has a beaded interior edge. The north bay has a wider 6/6 sash with a plain surround. The northeast corner of the ell has a deteriorated vertical corner post.

The north elevation of the ell has an exterior rubble stone fireplace of Sam's Creek metabasalt and some Wissahickon schist. According to the owner, who is a geologist, the Sam's Creek stone is not native to this farm, but the schist is. This fireplace is topped with brick and at the very top has been repaired with new brick. On the second story east of the chimney, is a four light sash. West of the chimney the first story has German siding that is wire nailed. This siding also covers the north end of the west porch. The second story has clapboard with corner boards and near the top some asphalt shingle siding remains.

The west elevation of the ell has an enclosed porch on the first story with German siding underneath the asphalt shingles. This porch has undergone relatively recent alterations. The west wall of the ell is log and is covered by vertical lath that appear to be circular sawn. The north bay of the first story has a six-light top sash over a board. The architrave has a double bead on the back band. There is a new door with new trim on the south bay. The porch is of circular-sawn 2 x 4 construction. The second story of the ell has two nine-light casements with architraves that have a beaded interior edge. The north elevation of the western addition to the house on the first story is covered by sheet rock underneath the porch roof. The second story has a 6/6 sash in a beaded interior edge architrave. The west elevation of the west addition has a rubble stone foundation with a cellar entrance of concrete in the south bay. There are no openings on the first or second stories. The gable end has two four-light sash in beaded-interior-edge surrounds.

There is a cellar under the west addition only. The joists are hewn on top and bottom and are 5 to 6¼ inches deep by 8¼ to 9 inches wide and are spaced 25 to 27 inches on centers. They run north-south and rest on an approximately one-inch-thick board placed on the foundation walls. There is a stone fireplace support on the west wall. The hearth of the first story fireplace is supported by a nailer on the side of the joist which in turn supports tongue and groove boards that are placed with one end on the nailer and the other end on the stone support. Above these boards are small rubble stones set in mortar with bricks above them that appear to be dry laid. Set on top of the bricks are rough stones that comprise a later hearth. The eastern section of the house has a crawl space only. There are ¾-round log joists that also run north-south. They are approximately 6 to 7 inches deep by 7 to 9

Description (continued)

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inches wide and are spaced 28 to 30 inches on centers. The same $3\frac{7}{8}$ inches wide circular sawn flooring runs east-west across the whole building. A portion of the older and possibly original flooring survives under the west addition. It is tongue and grooved and is $6\frac{3}{4}$ or 7 inches wide. It runs east-west and was left in place because it is underneath a horizontal log that appears to be sawn. This log is not part of the wall structure, but it is not possible at this time to determine what it was used for or why it was placed on top of the flooring.

On the first story the house is now divided in two by a wall that runs north-south and is set between the center and east-center bays. This wall appears to be later. Portions of the wall contain brick infill but there does not appear to be any foundation in the crawl space underneath the wall. The southern portion of this wall is brick, then comes a wide opening with a partial infill of shelves. The surround on this opening is identical to the others on the first story. North of this opening is about a 20-inch-wide section of brick covered in plaster, then north of this brick is a sawn vertical timber that is about two inches wide. The diagonal saw marks run in two directions creating a checkerboard pattern that may indicate that this timber is pit sawn. North of this timber, the wall is brick at the top, and below the brick is circular-sawn lath with cut nails. The flooring throughout the whole first story is $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch-wide pine that runs north-south and is approximately 20 years old, according to the owner. The east room now has paneling on three walls while the east wall is covered by chipboard. A portion of this chipboard has been removed to reveal the earlier wall behind it. This earlier wall has a brick fireplace that is now closed off centered on the east elevation. It also has a later rough rubble stone hearth. The mantle is missing, but there is a ghost of it that survives on the wall. The bed mould appears to have been a large ogee. In the northeast corner is a winder stair with a new board and batten door that replaces an earlier one on butt hinges. Between the winder stair and the fireplace is a closet. The door to this closet is missing, but was hung on butt hinges. Above the door opening are beaded-edge vertical boards. South of the fireplace is a later built-in cupboard with shelves. The doors are missing. The surround has an ogee with kick that matches the baseboard. This appears to be a later alteration to the room. The baseboard has the ovolo and kick moulding on the top. The window surrounds are plain, with the top piece overlapping the sides. The baseboard and surrounds are placed over top of the paneling. It appears that they were removed when the paneling was removed, and then replaced. South of the fireplace, and only actually visible from the exterior, this room has hand split lath that is laid vertically. North of the fireplace, and also only visible from the exterior, there is circular sawn lath also laid vertically. The $2\frac{1}{4}$ inch tongue-and-groove flooring is laid underneath of the winder stair in the northeast corner. There is a doorway on the north wall that leads to the ell and a wide opening in the west wall.

The western log wall of the original house has been removed to create a three-bay room on the west end. This room now has sheet rock on the walls and the same surrounds

Description (continued)

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and baseboards as are found in the east room. The west addition surrounds on the first story are nailed over top of mitered architraves that have a beaded interior edge. There is an interior stone fireplace centered on the west wall. It is built of Sam's Creek metabasalt and is very finely cut ashlar. The splayed jambs are well finished and it also has well cut voussoirs and keystone. It appears that the joints were once painted white. It also appears that there was once a wide low mantle that left about 8½ inches of stone exposed on all three sides of the opening. Later, a taller, narrower mantle was installed with lead anchors sunk in the stone. The hearth is new. There is a winder stair in the northwest corner that has a new board-and-batten door that replaces an earlier one that hung on butt hinges. There is a closet door under the stairs that is made of tongue-and-groove beaded-edge vertical-board doors and has a surround with an ogee with kick. The door was hung on cast iron butt hinges. The narrow board floor goes only part way under this winder stair. In the corner of the wall is hand split vertical lath that laps over the stair treads. This suggests that the stairs must be original. The lath is nailed with cut nails. The logs underneath the lath were white washed, as is the chinking, suggesting that the logs were originally exposed before being lathed and plastered. It appears that there was a door on the north wall of this room in the west bay. The opening is now filled with shelves.

The first story ell room on the north had a fire and the floor was replaced with concrete. The north wall has new brick. The stone fireplace has splayed jambs. There is now paneling on the walls.

The east chamber has a plastered brick chimney on the east wall and a winder stair to the attic in the northeast corner. This stair has a beaded-edge vertical-board door on cast iron butt hinges and a beaded-interior-edge frame. It appears that there was a door, or at the very least a beaded-interior-edge frame, to the stairway leading down to the first story. The head rail to this opening survives, but the rest of the enframing of the opening is now missing. South of the chimney is a beaded-edge-and-center vertical-board closet wall and door. The random width pine floor runs east-west. The baseboard has a beaded top edge on the north and south, is plain on the west, and there is no baseboard on the east. The window architraves have a beaded interior edge and an ovolo backband. The top board overlaps the side boards, then the backband has been added with a miter cut. The chamber is two bays wide. The west wall of the chamber is probably much later. There is a door in this wall that leads to the north center chamber. This doorway has a beaded-interior-edge architrave and a beaded-interior-edge vertical-board door on cast iron butt hinges. The cast iron box lock has no marks. The east chamber also has a door on the north elevation leading to the ell chamber. This door has a plain architrave and the door is the same as that on the east wall.

Description (continued)

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The center chamber is now divided in two by an east-west running wall. The north-center chamber has a beaded-edge baseboard on the north and west and a plain baseboard on the south and east. There is a plain architrave on the east doorway and a beaded-interior-edge architrave on the west doorway. The latter has a four-panel door with sunk fielded panels and narrow ogee panel moulds. It also has a cast iron box lock and cast iron butt hinges. The south wall is sheetrock with a four-panel door that has sunk fields and no panel moulds. It, too, has a cast iron box lock. The south central chamber is now a bathroom. The window in this chamber has an original architrave like that found in the east chamber.

The west chamber has a plastered chimney centered on the west wall. The winder stairway in the northwest corner from the first story does not lead to the attic. This chamber has a random width pine floor that runs east-west and has no baseboards. The floor level in this chamber is raised about 2 inches above the level of the east section. The window architraves have a beaded interior edge and the backband has a steep ogee with a bead inside of it. The sides lap the ends of the top member, then the backband is added with a miter cut. There is a beaded-edge-and-center vertical-board wall and door in the southwest corner that creates a closet.

The ell chamber has a random-width pine floor that runs north-south and a plain baseboard. The architraves have a beaded interior edge and the north wall has a knotty pine wall with V-grooved vertical boards and three doors. The ceiling has circular-sawn lath and wire nails. The attic joists are nominal 2 x 6's, are circular sawn, and run east-west.

The east half of the attic has joists that are hewn on all four sides and are 3½ to 4 inches wide by 5 to 5½ inches deep. They are spaced 26½ to 29½ inches on centers. The joists have whitewash on their sides and there is whitewash on the bottom of the attic floor boards, suggesting that the joists and floor boards were exposed in the east chamber originally. There is a tongue-and-groove vertical-board wall that divides the east two bays from the western one bay of the original eastern second story. What was originally the west chamber of the house and is now part of the center chamber appears to have split lath on the ceiling and probably was always plastered. The top east-end log is notched over the north log, but the joists just rest on the north log. The joists and the top east log overlap the north log by about 9 inches. There is a 1-inch-wide board false plate nailed to the tops of the joists at their end. The rafter feet are cut off and are spiked to the plate. They appear to be set over top of the joists. The rafters on the eastern half are hewn on all four sides and have a half lap and peg at the ridge. They are 2¾ to 3¼ inches deep at the peak by 3 to 3½ inches wide and are spaced 24 to 30 inches on centers. They have sawn Roman numerals and support lath and circular-sawn shingles that are fastened with cut nails. The west end rafter pair of the original eastern portion has some surviving clapboard siding. This appears to be

Description (continued)

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hand split or rived, as there are no saw marks on the back side. The clapboard is fastened with cut nails. The German siding on the east gable end is mill sawn.

The west addition rafters are hewn on all four sides and have a half lap and peg at the ridge. There are six pairs that are numbered in order 1 through 6 with sawn Roman numerals. These same numbers can be found on the east section rafters proving that the roof dates to two different construction periods. In addition, the lath on the west section does not align with the lath on the east section. Only a few of the shingles have definite circular saw marks, but they are all nailed with cut nails. Most of the rafters on the west end have several shingles that are used as shims near the ridge underneath the lath. These rafters are $2\frac{3}{4}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep by 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide and are spaced 27 to $30\frac{1}{2}$ inches on centers. Most of the rafter feet are cut off and set on a shim on top of the board plate. The floor in the attic is mill sawn and tongue and grooved. The attic joists are hewn on all four sides and are $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 inches wide by 6 inches deep. They are spaced $27\frac{1}{2}$ to 30 inches on centers and the rafters are set over top of the joists. Between each pair of joists is slab wood with bark still on it that is approximately 1 to 2 inches thick. It apparently serves as a nailer for the lath. Each piece of slab wood seems to overlap another piece in the center of the room. It is not possible to tell if these pieces run from the center of the room all the way back to the north and south walls. There is no whitewash on these joists.

Where the west section abuts the original eastern building, there is no separate log wall on the east wall on the west section. The west section was added as only a three walled structure. There is a 1-inch-wide board nailer attached to the west wall of the east section. It apparently is there to support the eastern ends of the west attic floor boards. Between this nailer and the log wall of the eastern half is a smooth plaster finish with either white paint or whitewash on it. This finish is set above the ceiling level of the western addition so it could not be an interior wall unless there was an earlier addition here that was demolished and replaced with the existing log western section, or unless the walls were for some reason plastered first and the ceiling lathed and plastered later. This plaster finish could be rough casting on the exterior but it is a very smooth finish. It is set on diagonal lath that must be hand split because the ends of the lath are not of equal thickness. The log wall beneath the plaster or rough-casting has whitewash on the outer face, which is the western face, suggesting that this was the first exterior finish.

The ell roof rafters are 2 x 4's. The narrow side appears to be circular sawn and the long appears to mill sawn. A ridge beam is used on only part of the roof. The roofing lath consists of reused boards, some of which are whitewashed and one of which has a beaded edge. They are fastened with cut nails and support wood shingles.

Description (continued)

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About 40 feet southeast of the house is a shop building with a concrete foundation, German siding, and corner boards nailed on top of the German siding. The gable roof has a north-south ridge and inverted V-seam metal. The north elevation has a beaded-edge-and-center vertical-board door set to the west. The east and west elevations both have two two-light sash. The south elevation has a pair of beaded-edge-and-center vertical-board wagon doors. This building is built with 2¾ by 4 inch circular sawn studs and rafters. The latter are mitered at the ridge and support lath.

About 60 feet south of the house is a wagon shed with a rubble stone foundation, board-and-batten siding with some later infill of beaded-edge-and-center boards, and a gable roof with an east-west ridge and corrugated metal. The east elevation has beaded-edge-and-center vertical-board double doors on rollers. These are later and replace double wagon doors that were hung on strap hinges. The west elevation is identical to the east elevation. The sills, plates and some of the girts in the structure are hewn, while the posts, braces and other girts are sawn. They are very regular, but have no saw marks. The frame is mortised-and-tenoned-and-pegged. It is not possible to tell whether the hewn pieces are reused, whether the sawn pieces are later replacements, or whether this is all original construction. The rafters are sawn, are approximately 2 x 4 inches, are mitered at the ridge, and support lath. There is a shed-roof addition on the south elevation that has inverted V-seam metal. The south elevation of this addition has widely spaced horizontal boards. The west elevation has a beaded-edge-and-center vertical-board door to the south, with an open wagon door to the north. It also has vertical-board siding. The east elevation has both vertical board siding and beaded-edge-and-center vertical-board siding. The openings are identical to those on the west elevation. There is a corn crib in the southeast corner of this addition. The addition is constructed of circular-sawn 2 x 4's.

About 20 feet south of the wagon shed is the rubble stone lower story of a bank barn that was destroyed by a tornado around 1979. A new structure has been rebuilt on the foundation in 1988.

About 20 feet west of the barn is a corn crib set on three concrete piers. It has horizontal boards with spaces set between them and a gable roof of standing seam metal with a north-south running ridge. The east elevation has two hatch doors set high on the wall. The south elevation has a door and there are no openings on the north and west elevations. The corn crib is built with a mortised and tenoned and pegged frame. Most of the members are sawn, though several are hewn. No obvious saw marks are visible. Inside the frame are nailed braces and 2 x 4's. Vertical lath is nailed to the outside of the frame, then wire mesh over the lath, and finally the horizontal boards are nailed over top of the mesh. The rafters are sawn, are about 3 x 4 inches, are mitered at the ridge, and support lath.

Description (continued)

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About 10 feet southwest of the crib is a structure of unknown use. It is a two-story, two-bay by four-bay building with horizontal beaded-edge-and-center board siding on the east, and on the west elevation to the south. The west elevation to the north on the first story has V-grooved siding and on the second story has beaded-edge-and-center board siding. This suggests that the building was built in two sections, though the siding on both is nailed with wire nails. The building is set on concrete piers, and has a shed roof of standing seam metal that slopes to the west. The south elevation has horizontal boards with spaces between them. The southern two feet of the west elevation has this same treatment. The east elevation from south to north on the first story has a beaded-edge-and-center vertical-board door, a new 1/1 sash in an original frame, no opening, and a new door in an original frame. The second story has, in the south bay, a door identical to that in the first story, then two of the same 1/1 sash in original openings, and the same door in the north bay that can be found in the south bay. The south elevation has two hatch doors set low on the second story. They match the siding on this elevation. The west elevation has one 1/1 sash in an original opening in the south center bay of the first story. The north elevation has a one-story shed-roof addition. This addition has a concrete foundation, beaded-edge-and-center vertical-board siding, and an inverted-V-seam roof that slopes to the west. The east elevation of this addition has a 6/6 sash. The north elevation has a single bi-fold door that matches the siding and the west elevation has one wide opening. There are no openings on the north elevation of the main building above the addition.

In the interior of this structure the first story is divided in half by a wall that runs east-west and has a door in it. The walls of the north room have a later covering. The first story south half flooring runs east west and the north half or the north room flooring runs north south. This flooring is set on top of the south floor at the doorway between the two rooms. The southern room has circular-sawn 2 x 4 studs and 2 x 8 joists. There is a two-story corn crib on the south end with a horizontal beaded-edge-and-center board wall with a doorway that divides the corn crib from the south room. There is a straight run of stairs along the west wall of the south room leading to the second story. The second story appears to have been built all at once. It is of circular-sawn 2 x 4 construction and has mill-sawn 2 x 8 rafters. There is a horizontal beaded-edge-and-center board wall on the south dividing the corn crib from the second story. The same siding is used vertically on a door into the corn crib. There is also a hatch door of horizontal siding into the crib.

About 30 feet south of the barn foundation is a newer barn with a concrete foundation, beaded-edge-and-center vertical-board siding, and a gable roof of standing seam metal with a north-south ridge. This barn is two stories and five bays by two bays. The first story of the west elevation has five 1/1 sash that are new but are set in original openings. The north-center and south-center bays have paired doors set above the windows that match the siding. The second story has five wood louvered vents. The north elevation has a beaded-

Description (continued)

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edge-and-center vertical-board dutch door in the center of the first story. At the west end is a beaded-edge-and-center vertical-board door on the first story. The east elevation on the first story has from south to north three 1/1 sash, a beaded-edge-and-center vertical board door, and a 1/1 sash in the north bay. The second story has five vents. The south elevation on the first story has 3 cross-buck dutch doors. Just south of the barn is a terra cotta tile silo. The roof is now missing. According to the owner, there is a datestone in the top of the silo, but it is not clear if the date reads 1913 or 1918. Just east of the barn is a CMU milk house.

About 100 feet southwest of the new barn is a shed with a concrete foundation and beaded edge and center vertical board siding that is wire nailed. The gable roof has corrugated metal and an east west ridge. The north elevation has a door and two pairs of wagon doors on rollers, going from east to west. The structure is built of circular sawn 2 x 4's and 4 x 4's, with 2 x 4 rafters that are mitered at the ridge.

About 15 feet north of the house is a small structure with a concrete foundation, rock-faced concrete block walls, and a gable roof with a north-south running ridge and inverted-V-seam metal. The building has a new door on the south elevation. This building is similar in size to smokehouses in Carroll County, but its actual use is unknown at present.

8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-809

| 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/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input 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 c.1800-1815;c.1840's **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:

This property was erroneously described in an inventory form of December, 1984 as the Myerly Log House. The Myerly log house was actually located on the farm just north of this one (CARR-798). The Durbin Family Farm is made up of numerous small parcels that were accumulated over about a 100-year period. William Durbin sold his sister, Charity Durbin, 9¼ acres of land in 1813. This price suggests that the land was unimproved. William's son sold Charity an additional 6 acres in December, 1820 for \$270, or \$45 per acre. The price suggests that it was improved. One is tempted to speculate that William Durbin had built a house on his land for his sister to live in. If true, this would place the date of construction of the house probably no sooner than 1800. The house could date as late as 1815, too. Charity wrote her will in early February, 1844, leaving her son, Thomas, both tracts of land and all her personal property, and died later that month. One can only conjecture on whether Thomas Durbin expanded the log house while his mother was still alive, or after her death. It is worth noting that the stone fireplace on the first story of the addition is unusual, is of finely crafted stone work, and is very similar to the stone fireplace that stood in Kanaan Sprengle's house (CARR-1329). A date in the 1840's for the construction of Durbin's log addition seems reasonable. Thomas Durbin added 10 acres in 1845 and 3 acres in 1849. In July 1858, Thomas' son, George W., usually referred to as Washington Durbin, was left the remainder of the property for a sum of \$2,200. Durbin must have gotten into trouble since he turned his farm over to a trustee in 1876. The farm was then sold privately to John H. Bowers. He probably bought this parcel for investment or as a tenant farm. The property has changed hands numerous times in the twentieth century, and has probably been a tenant house, or vacant, for over 100 years. Despite this and alterations in the past twenty years, a majority of its original features survive, often hidden behind later accretions. Few log houses in Carroll County retain this much historic fabric, making this a structure very worthy of preservation.

Geographic Organization Period: Piedmont

Chronological/Development Period: Rural-Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815;

Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870; Industrial/Urban Dominance

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. CARR-809

Significance (continued)

Section 8 Page 2

A.D. 1870-1930

Historic Period Themes: Agriculture, Architecture

Resource Types: Small family farm, Rural vernacular

This property was erroneously described in an inventory form of December, 1984 as the Myerly Log House. The Myerly Log House was actually located on the farm just north of this one (CARR-798).

The Durbin Family Farm is made up of numerous small parcels that were accumulated over about a 100-year period, which makes the chain of title very involved, indeed complicated. It is possible, however, to confidently trace which small parcel held the existing log house with the help of the available maps and tax records. Unfortunately, the genealogical information available on the Durbin family is confused or simply wrong, which tends to muddle the picture.

William Durbin sold his sister, Charity Durbin, 9¼ acres of land in 1813 for \$180, or \$19.46 per acre. This price suggests that the land was unimproved. William Durbin died on 28 August 1820 and in his will left his sister, Charity, \$40 a year for life. William's son and executor, Nicholas Durbin, sold Charity an additional 6 acres in December, 1820 for \$270, or \$45 per acre. This parcel was most likely adjacent to the first one, and the price suggests that it was improved. One is tempted to speculate that William Durbin had built a house on his land for his sister to live in, and this is what she purchased. How early the house may have been built is open to conjecture, as well. This land had been part of Lot 5 of Legh Master's lands, which suggests that it was subdivided after his death and sold. He died in 1796 and, if true, this would place the date of construction of the house probably no sooner than 1800. William Durbin bought a 318½-acre tract of land from the trustees of Master's estate as late as 1813, too. The 1798 Federal District Tax does not help to illuminate the case, but the 1825 tax book does. In it, Thomas W. Durbin is assessed for 15 acres of "Leigh furnace," with a log house and stable. Thomas was the son of Charity.

There is nowhere an explanation of who Thomas' father was, what happened to him, or whether Thomas was illegitimate or Charity was an in-law of her benefactor, William Durbin. William Durbin had been the local tax assessor in 1798 and Thomas followed him in that regard in 1835. At that time, the 15 acres his mother owned, but which was assessed to him, had a log house and barn. The 1841 assessment noted that he had livestock worth \$126, an average amount for a small farm of under 40 acres. He must have had another occupation, since 15 acres was too small to live off of solely by farming, but whatever his trade or profession might have been is unknown. In any case, Charity wrote her will in early February, 1844, leaving her son, Thomas, both tracts of land and all her personal property, and died later that month. Unfortunately, no inventory was made of the contents of the log house. One can only conjecture on whether Thomas Durbin expanded the log

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. CARR-809

Significance (continued)

Section 8 Page 3

house while his mother was still alive, or after her death because his family was outgrowing the space. It is worth noting that the stone fireplace on the first story of the addition is unusual, is of finely crafted stone work, and is very similar to the stone fireplace that stood in Kanaan Sprenkle's house (CARR-1329) 2¾ miles to the south. This house was probably built about 1847, and it seems likely that the same hand was responsible for both chimney stacks. Thus, a date in the 1840's for the construction of Durbin's log addition seems reasonable.

Thomas Durbin added 10 acres in 1845 and 3 acres in 1849. He seems to have scaled back his farm operation by 1852, since his livestock was worth only \$55, and had perhaps retired. In July, 1858, he died. In his will he left his wife, Sarah, the bed of her choice, a mahogany front bureau, and anything else she wanted, for life. These items would then pass to a daughter. Sarah also received the interest on \$1,000 each year that she lived on the homestead, and had the right to occupy the room she was currently in. Thomas' son, George W., usually referred to as Washington Durbin, was left the remainder of the property for a sum of \$2,200 that was to be split amongst Thomas' other children.

There are certain features worth noting from Thomas Durbin's inventory. His livestock consisted of a horse named Tom, two cows, one calf, six hogs, two shoats, and some poultry. He had wheat, rye, and oats in the straw, hay in the barn, and 2½ acres of corn growing in the fields. There were also potatoes and the "contents of garden growing". Unfortunately, the individual items in the garden were not listed, but the mention of the garden is itself unique. All farms had them, but they are never noted, perhaps because they were so common. Other food items noted were corn flour, wheat, flour, and bacon.

Several other items rarely show up in inventories but could be found in Durbin's house, including a quilting frame and a coffee mill. The latter was probably kept in the kitchen, along with the cook stove, kitchen cupboard, kitchen table, and kitchen bench. The other room in the house that was noted was the dining room, which contained a corner cupboard. Items listed before the cupboard, and thus that might have been in the same room, included a ten plate stove, a desk, an eight day clock, and two tables. The house was also furnished with a small table, six Windsor chairs, some old chairs, three arm chairs, a chest of drawers, four beds, a table, two chests, a candle stand, a wash stand, a stand with a looking glass, plus the bed and bureau left to Sarah. The value of the old books in the house, \$3.20, is unusually high for Carroll County inventories and probably indicates a larger-than-average number. Unfortunately, we do not know what books the typical farmer possessed, but these books may have been related to Durbin's occupation. Durbin also owned a buggy, a wagon, and a sleigh.

The list of his tools, other than the many and varied farming utensils, included a maul, ax, two wedges, three axes and hatchet, wood saw, old saw, drawing knife, chisels

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. CARR-809

Significance (continued)

Section 8 Page 4

and augers, shaving horse, honing block, and grind stone and stand. All farmers had several carpenter's tools and axes, but the value was often below a dollar or two. The old saw, drawing knife, chisels and augers were alone itemized at \$3.62½. The shaving horse is not typically seen in inventories. This may or may not be a clue to Durbin's occupation. It is possible that he had retired and sold or gave away some or all of his tools, or was a professional, too.

Washington Durbin apparently wanted to pursue farming and purchased three nine-acre lots in 1863 to expand his holdings, so that he held 60 acres in 1866. By this time, there was a frame barn on the farm to shelter \$525 worth of livestock and \$50 of farm machinery. Durbin must have gotten into trouble since in 1876 he turned his farm over to a trustee who offered it for sale the following year. The advertisement described it as:

The Home Farm, containing 73 acres of land more or less, with a due proportion of Timber and meadow land, and all enclosed with good fencing. The improvements consist of a comfortable and well arranged dwelling house, Spring House. . . , an excellent Barn and all other necessary outbuildings usually found on a first class farm.

The price offered for the farm at the public auction was considered too low and was rejected. Sixty acres of the farm were then sold privately to John H. Bowers for \$2,600.

Bowers owned a lot on Main Street in Westminster with improvements of \$5,500, plus a 111-acre farm and 100 acres of unimproved land, and he probably bought this parcel for investment or as a tenant farm. After his death in 1885, it was sold to Alfred A. Mitten for \$5,967.50, and consisted of 108½ acres. Mitten enlarged the farm and reportedly added a brick house, then divided the farm. The log Durbin house and 106 acres was purchased by Albert C. Schlosser of Culpepper, Virginia, for \$7,200. He apparently lived in the brick house and had a tenant in the log one, judging from the 1917 atlas. The property has changed hands numerous times in the twentieth century, and has probably been a tenant house, or vacant, for over 100 years. Despite this, and alterations in the past twenty years, a majority of its original features survive, often hidden behind later accretions. Few log houses in Carroll County retain this much historic fabric, making this a structure very worthy of preservation. Many of the owners were probably responsible for the many twentieth-century improvements to the farm buildings.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CARR-809

Land Records
1862, 1877, 1917 maps
Tax assessments 1798, 1825, 1835, 1841, 1852, 1866, 1866-76, 1876, 1876-96, 1896-1910
Chancery FTS 29-130
Charity Durbin will JB 1-294 Durbin and Loosden Genealogy, Betty Jewell Durbin Carson, 1991

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 99 acres

Quadrangle name New Windsor

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

| | | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| A | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| C | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| E | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| G | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |

| | | | |
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| B | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| D | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| F | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| H | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

| | | | |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| state | code | county | code |
| state | code | county | code |

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth M. Short, Historic Planner

organization Carroll County Planning Department

date December 5, 1994

street & number 225 North Center Street

telephone (410) 857-2145

city or town Westminster

state Maryland

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
514-7400

CARR-809
 Durbin Family Farm
 640 Spring Mills Road

CHAIN OF TITLE

| GRANTOR | HOME COUNTY | GRANTEE | HOME COUNTY | DATE | LIBER | FOLIO | TRANS-ACTION | COMMENTS |
|--|-------------|--|---|------------|---------|-------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Hilda Jean White | Carroll | E. Ward Russell Evelyn J. Russell Jerry M. Russell | Montgomery | 12-6-1965 | 399 | 97 | Deed fee simple | \$10.00 106 -6+ = 99 acres |
| T. Bryan McIntire, trustee | Carroll | Hilda Jean White | ? | 10-11-1965 | CCC 396 | 413 | Deed fee simple | \$2.00, 99 acres |
| George W. White, Jr. | Carroll | Hilda Jean White | Carroll | 10-11-1965 | CCC 396 | 415 | Deed fee simple | \$2.00 |
| George W. & Hilda Jean White | | T. Bryan McIntire, trustee | | 10-11-1965 | CCC 396 | | Deed | |
| Abbie E. Muller Sammis & husband, Robert | Carroll | George W. & Hilda Jean White, Jr. (wife) | Carroll | 7-14-1950 | EAS 205 | 457 | Deed fee simple | \$10.00, 106 -6+ = 99 acres |
| John S. Hyde, widower | Carroll | Abbie E. Muller | Suffolk Co., NY | 10-14-1941 | LDM 176 | 518 | Deed fee simple | \$10.00, 106 -6+ = 99 acres |
| Westminster Deposit & Trust Co. | MD Corp. | John S. Hyde | Carroll | 6-1-1936 | EMM 164 | 132 | Deed fee simple | \$10.00 106 acres |
| Arbana M. Beagle, widow | Carroll | Westminster Deposit & Trust | MD Corp. | 12-23-1935 | EMM 163 | 235 | Deed fee simple | \$10.00 106 acres |
| Albert C. Schlosser & Kathleen D. (wife) | Westminster | Daniel M. & Arbana M. Beagle (wife) | formerly of Bedford Co., PA, now of Carroll | 4-3-1919 | EOC 134 | 59 | Deed fee simple | \$16,000, 106 acres |

CARR-809
 Durbin Family Farm
 640 Spring Mills Road

CHAIN OF TITLE

| GRANTOR | HOME COUNTY | GRANTEE | HOME COUNTY | DATE | LIBER | FOLIO | TRANS-ACTION | COMMENTS |
|---|-------------|---------------------|---|-----------|---------|-------|-----------------|--|
| Alfred A. & Sarah L. Mitten (wife) | Carroll | Albert C. Schlosser | formerly of Culpepper Co., VA, now of Carroll | 11-2-1911 | ODG 118 | 236 | Deed fee simple | \$7,200, 106 acres part of 2 deeds |
| Annie H. & Clara M. Bankert, heirs of Ephraim Bankert | Carroll | Alfred A. Mitten | Carroll | 7-3-1901 | JHB 93 | 245 | Deed fee simple | Annie - widow, Clara - daughter d. intestate, \$3,420.41, 55½ acres, "Children's Inheritance" with right to water along west side of John H. Bowers mill dam, now owned by Gladhill |
| Mary Jane Bowers, executrix of John H. Bowers | Carroll | Alfred A. Mitten | ? | 4-2-1886 | GAM 63 | 544 | Deed | \$5,967.50 Orphan's Court, 7-14-1885, 12-15-1885, 108½ acres (1) 32 acres (2) 18¼ acres (3) 7 lots - 9¼ acres; 6 acres; 10 acres; 3 acres; 9 acres; 9 acres; 9 acres = 58 acres |

CARR-809
Durbin Family Farm
640 Spring Mills Road

CHAIN OF TITLE

| GRANTOR | HOME COUNTY | GRANTEE | HOME COUNTY | DATE | LIBER | FOLIO | TRANS-ACTION | COMMENTS |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|-----------------|--|
| John H. Bowers & wife | | Ephraim Bankert | | 4-5-1875 | FTS 45 | 28 | | (A) |
| Joseph Orendorff | | John H. Bowers | | 4-27-1874 | JBB 43 | 479 | | (B 1&2) |
| William A. McKellip, trustee | Carroll | John H. Bowers | Carroll | 6-16-1877 | FTS 48 | 238 | Deed | Equity 1702, \$2,600 (B3) |
| George W. & Anna E. Durbin (wife) | Carroll | John H. Bowers | Carroll | 3-31-1876 | FTS 46 | 222 | Deed | trustee gets 7% commission (B3) |
| Thomas W. Durbin | Carroll | George W. Durbin (son) | ? | 9-28-1857 | <u>wills</u> JMP 2 | 398 | Bequest | probated 8-2-1858 (B3) |
| Andrew R. Durbin, et al | Carroll | Washington Durbin | Carroll | 4-27-1863 | GEW 30 | 337 | Deed fee simple | York Company's Defence Nicholas Durbin plat Lot 7 - 9 acres Lot 8 - 9 acres Lot 9 - 9 acres Woodland on Furnace Hill |
| Nicholas Durbin & Sophia (wife) | Carroll | Thomas W. Durbin | Carroll | 1-8-1849 | JS 9 | 144 | Deed | York Company's Defence, 3 acres, \$113.44, part of lot 5 [no previous reference] |

CARR-809
 Durbin Family Farm
 640 Spring Mills Road

CHAIN OF TITLE

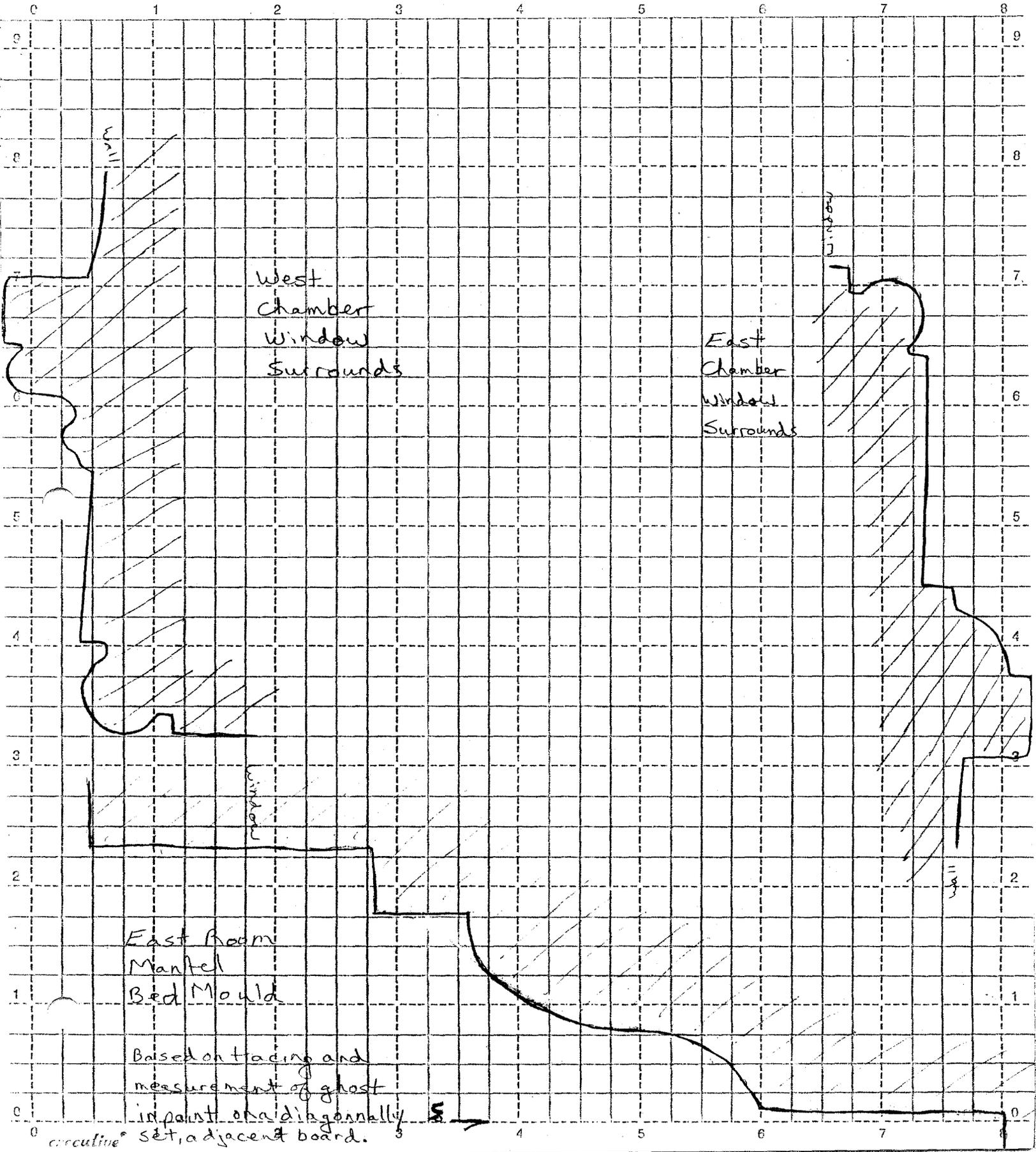
| GRANTOR | HOME COUNTY | GRANTEE | HOME COUNTY | DATE | LIBER | FOLIO | TRANS-ACTION | COMMENTS |
|--|-------------|------------------------|-------------|------------|---------------------------|-------|----------------|--|
| Joshua Smith, exec. of Thomas Wells | Carroll | Thomas W. Durbin | Carroll | 12-23-1845 | JS 5 | 206 | Deed Indenture | York Company's Defense 10 acres, \$2,615.62½ wells will 3-26-1841, lot 12 [no previous reference] |
| Charity Durbin | Carroll | Thomas W. Durbin (son) | ? | 2-5-1844 | <u>wills</u> JB 1 | 294 | Bequest | Probated in 2-19-1844 2 tracts (X) ? (Y) 9¼ acres |
| Nicholas Durbin, exec. of William Durbin | Frederick | Charity Durbin | Frederick | 12-16-1820 | <u>Frederick</u> JS 12 | 581 | Deed Indenture | 6 acres, \$270 sold during William's life, Lot 5 of Legh Masters lands [no previous reference] [\$45/ac] |
| William Durbin | Frederick | Charity Durbin | Frederick | 5-5-1813 | <u>Frederick</u> WR 45 | 120 | Deed Indenture | 9¼ acres, \$180 part of Lot 5 of Legh Masters lands [no previous reference] (Y) |

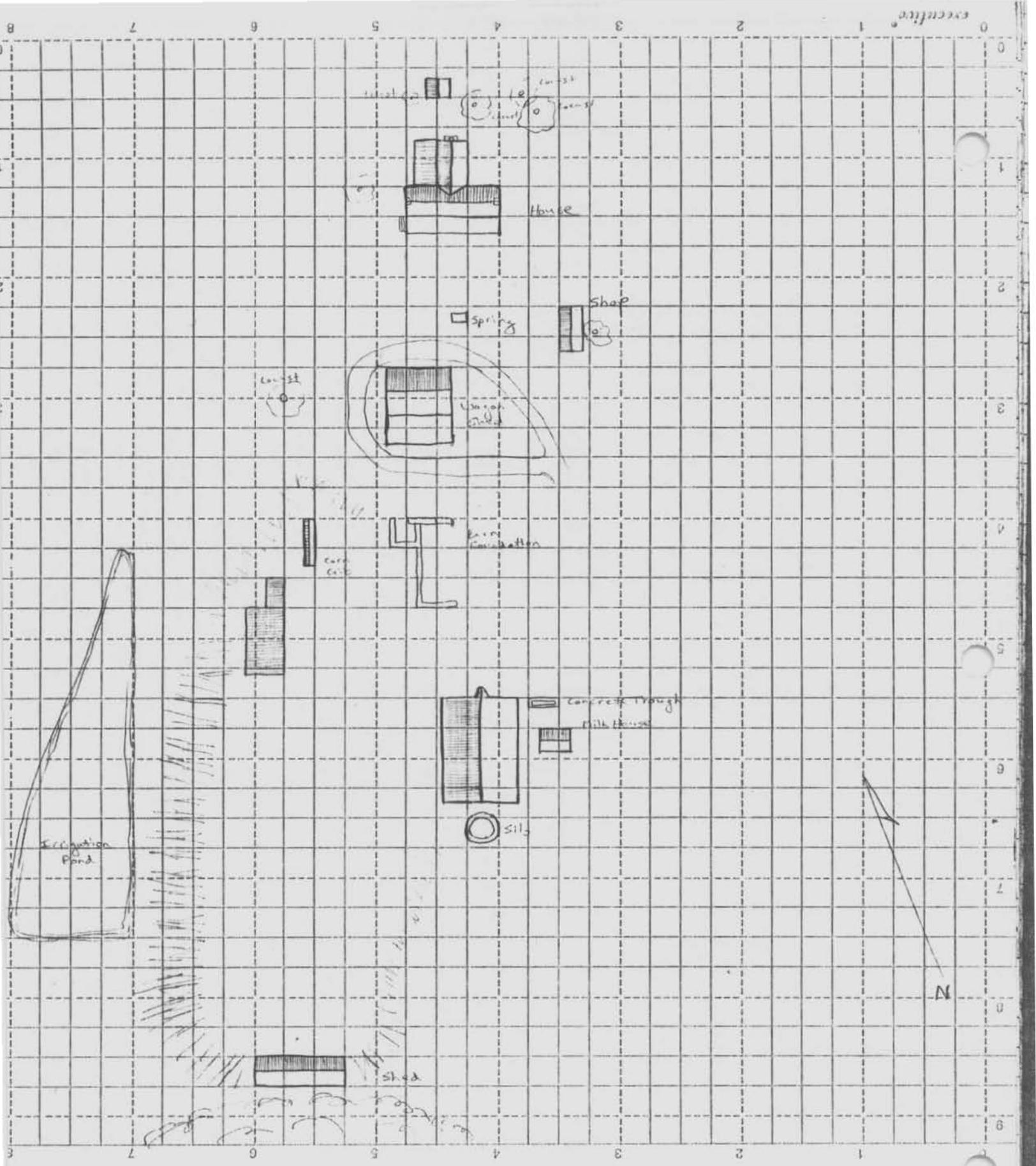
TAPE NO. 1/2

640 Spring Mills Rd
Moulding Profiles

CARR-809

PREPARED BY KMS
DATE 3 Jun '94

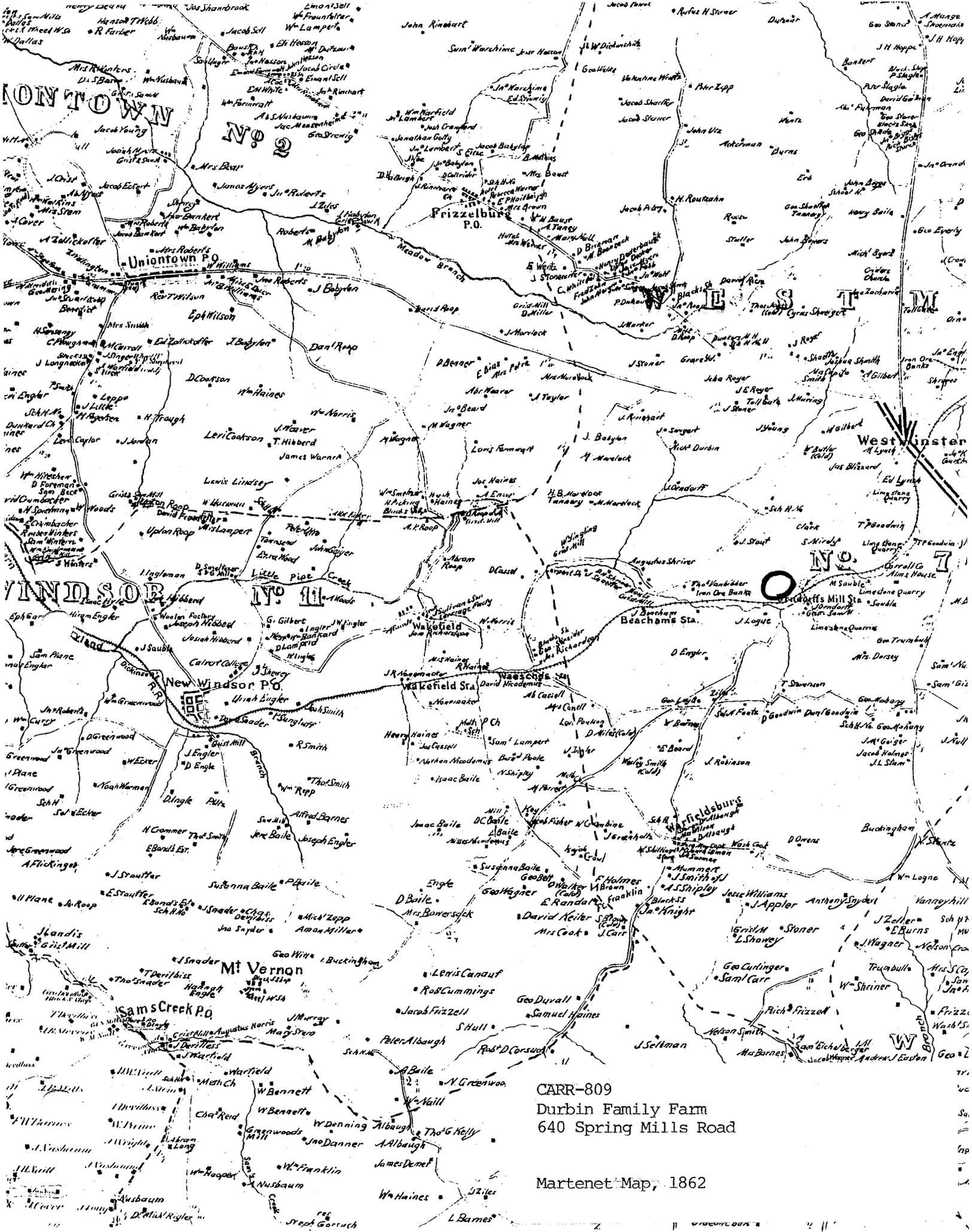




CARR-809
 PREPARED BY KMS
 DATE 6 June 94

640 Spring Mills Rd
 Site Plan

FACE NO. 2/2



UNIONTOWN

No 2

Frizzelburg P.O.

Uniontown P.O.

WINDSOR

No III

New Windsor P.O.

Westminster

No. I

Beachams Sta.

Fieldsburg

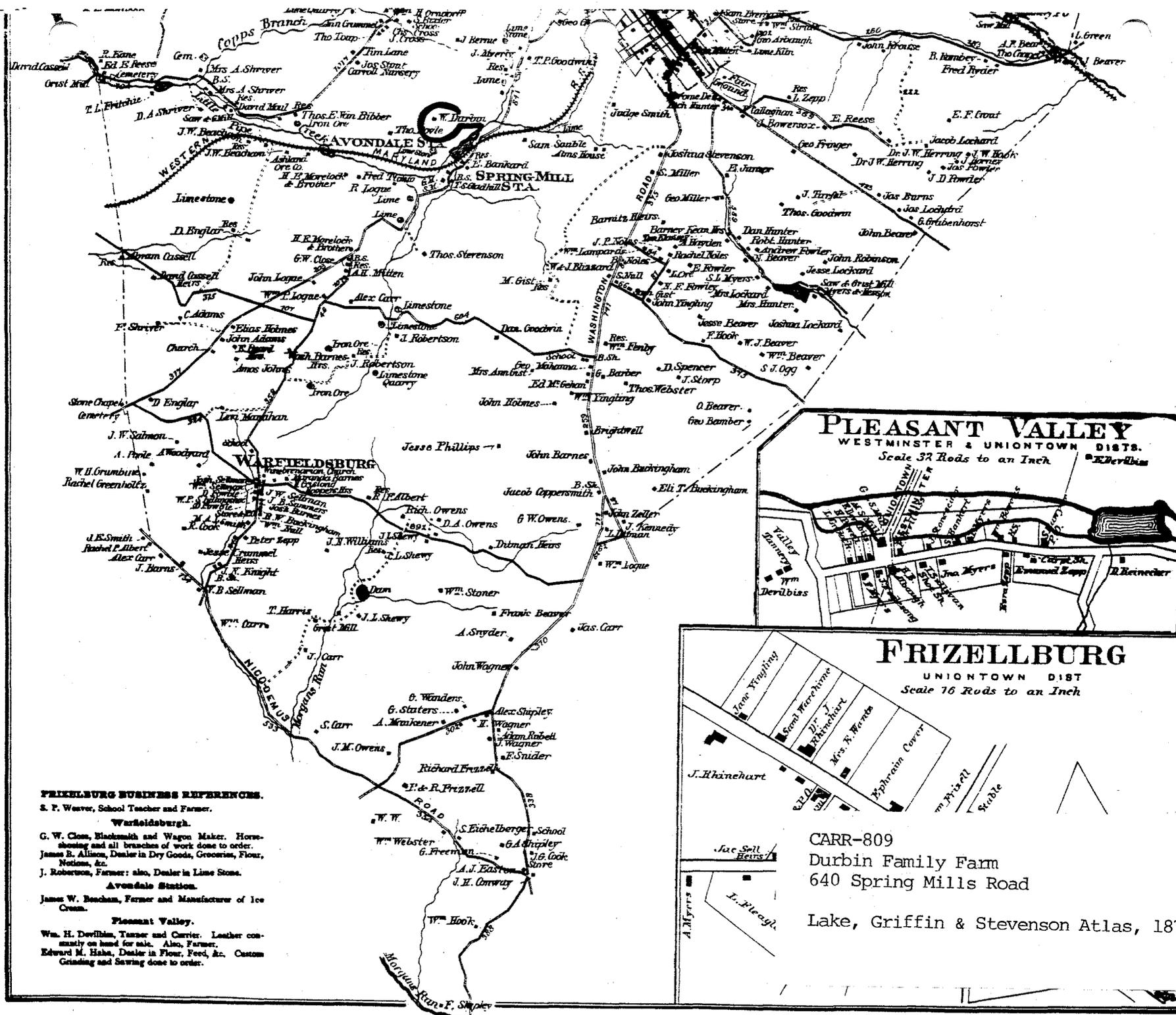
Mt Vernon

Sams Creek P.O.

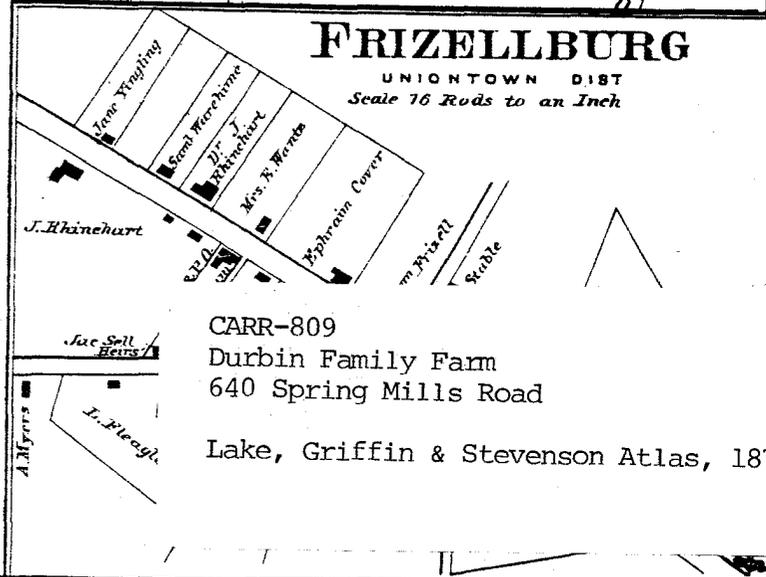
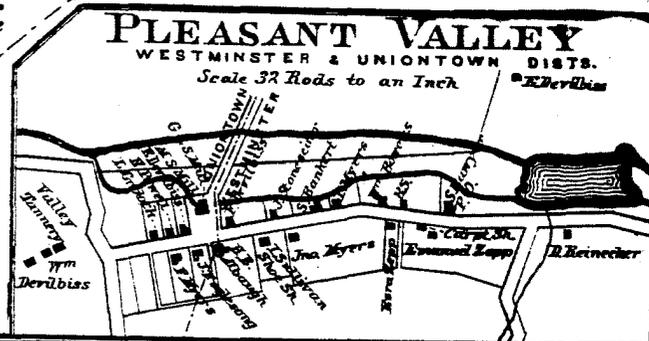
CARR-809
Durbin Family Farm
640 Spring Mills Road

Martenet Map, 1862

WESTMINSTER DISTRICT NO. 7



FRIZELLBURG BUSINESS REFERENCES.
 S. F. Weaver, School Teacher and Farmer.
Wareledsburg.
 G. W. Cross, Blacksmith and Wagon Maker. Horse-shoeing and all branches of work done to order.
 James B. Allison, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Flour, Notions, &c.
 J. Robertson, Farmer; also, Dealer in Limestone.
Avondale Station.
 James W. Beacham, Farmer and Manufacturer of Ice Cream.
Pleasant Valley.
 Wm. H. Devillis, Tanner and Carrier. Leather constantly on hand for sale. Also, Farmer.
 Edward M. Haba, Dealer in Flour, Feed, &c. Custom Grinding and Sawing done to order.



CARR-809
 Durbin Family Farm
 640 Spring Mills Road
 Lake, Griffin & Stevenson Atlas, 1877



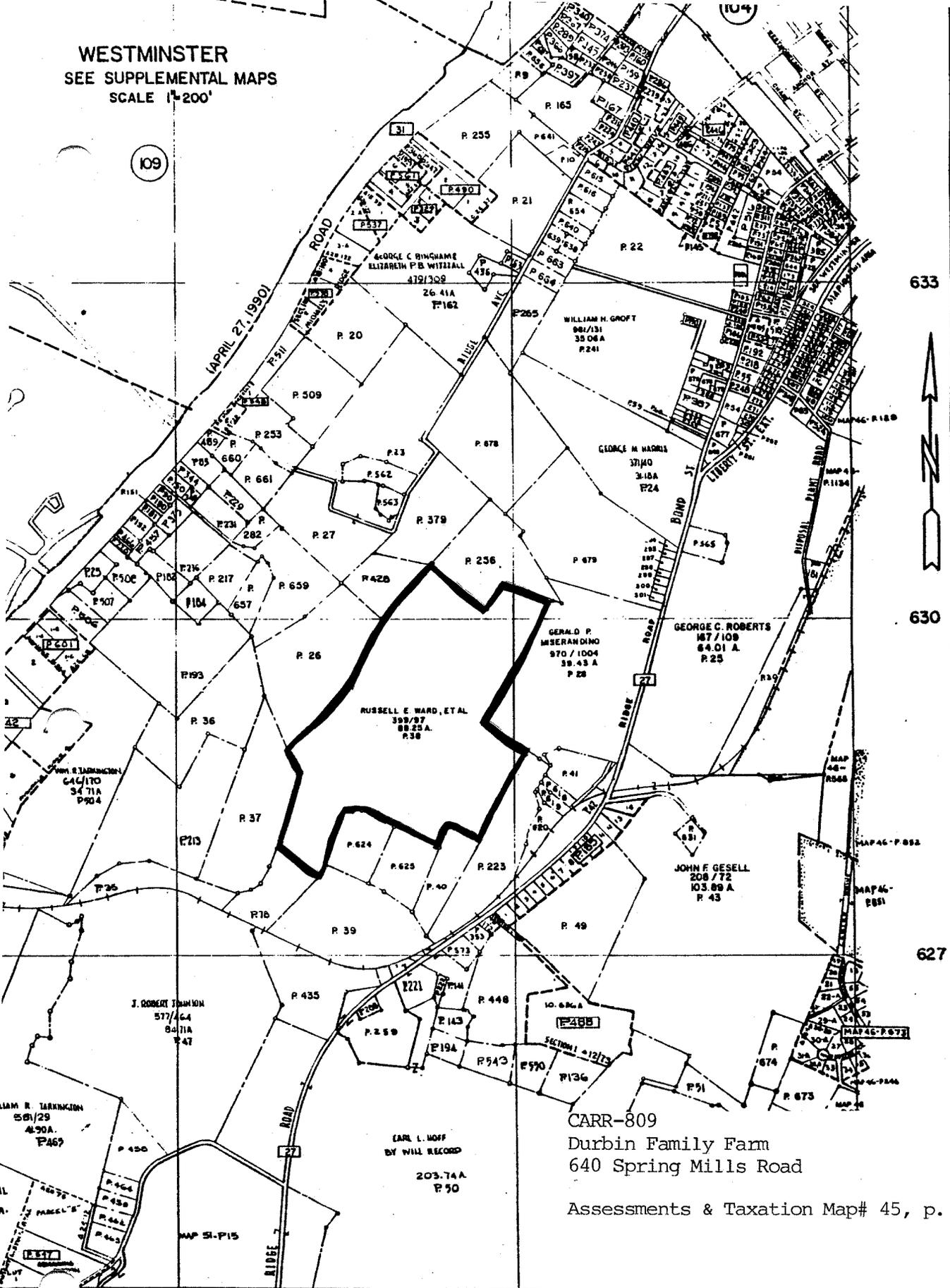
WESTMINSTE
 ELECTION DISTRICT No. 7.
 CARROLL CO. MD.



CARR-809
 Durbin Family Farm
 640 Spring Mills Road
 Rand McNally Atlas, 1917

WESTMINSTER
SEE SUPPLEMENTAL MAPS
SCALE 1"=200'

109



633

630

46

627

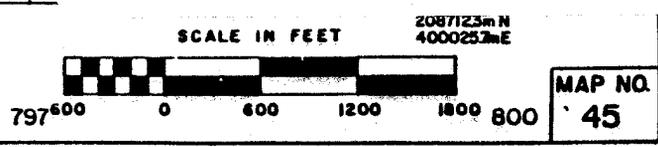
CARR-809
Durbin Family Farm
640 Spring Mills Road

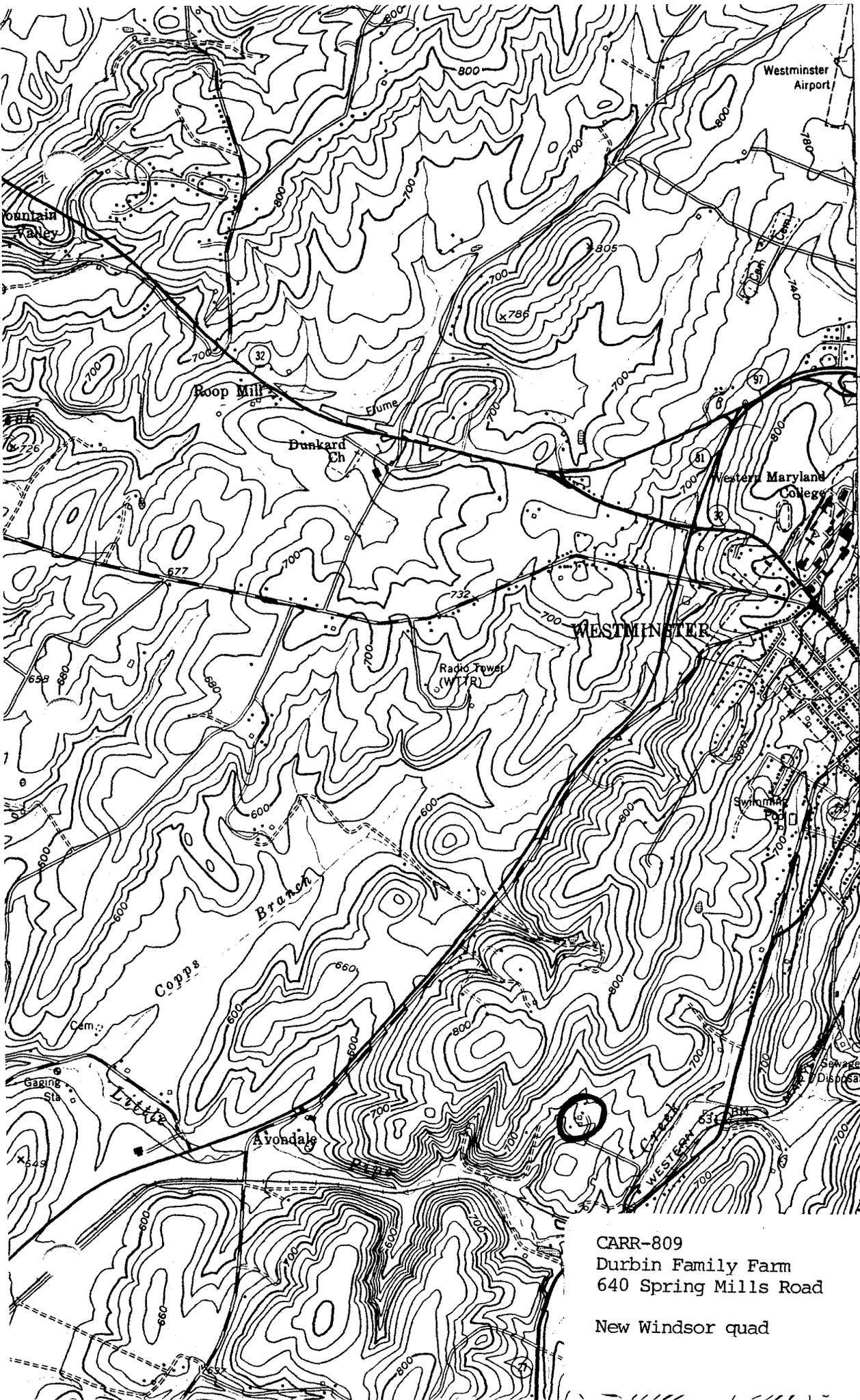
Assessments & Taxation Map# 45, p. 38

PROPERTY LINE
SUB-DIVISION BOUNDARY
CONTINUING OWNERSHIP - Z L E - Z
PARCEL NUMBER - P. 349 (ASSIGNED TO IDENTIFY AND UNDER OWNERSHIP MUST BE PRECEDED BY MAP NUMBER)

SCALE: 1" = 600'

| LINE | BY | LAST R. NO. | PARCELS | SUBDIVISION |
|------|--------|-------------|---------|-------------|
| 1274 | M.M.M. | 681 | 375/3 | |





4385

0.1 MI. TO U.S. 140

4384

35
FENBY 3.9 MI.
23 MI. TO U.S. 40

(WESTMINSTER)
5663 1/2 SW WESTMINSTER (JUNC. MD. 32) 0.3 MI.

CARR-809
Durbin Family Farm
640 Spring Mills Road
New Windsor quad



Durbin Family Farm

640 Spring Mills Rd.

Carroll County, Maryland

Date: June, 1994

Photo: Kenneth M. Short

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
house - west & south. elevations



CHRR-809

Durbin Family Farm
640 Spring Mills Rd.

Carroll County, Maryland

Date: June, 1994

Photo: Kenneth M. Short

Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
house - east - north elevations



Durbin Family Farm

640 Spring Mills Rd.

Carroll County, Maryland

Date: June, 1994

Photo: Kenneth M. Short

Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
house - west room fireplace



Durbin Family Farm -
640 Spring Mills Rd.
Carroll County, Maryland

Date: June, 1994

Photo: Kenneth M. Short

Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust

Shed? & corn crib

South & east elevations



Durbin Family Farm
640 Spring Mills Rd.
Carroll County, Maryland

Photo: Kenneth M. Short

Date: May 1995

Neg. Loc.: May 1995
west room fireplace

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Myerly Log House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number dirt lane w. of Md. Rt. 27^(Ridge Road) at Spring Mills not for publication

city, town Westminster vicinity of congressional district Sixth

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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

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

name Russell E. Ward et. al.

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Carroll County Courthouse Annex liber

street & number 55 N. Court Street folio

city, town Westminster state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Westminster Planning District Survey

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. CARR-809

| | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one | |
| <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 | 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.

SUMMARY:

The Myerly Log House was built in 1855 by Jacob Myerly. It was originally a 20 by 22 feet log structure covered in weatherboard. It has had an addition of two bays on the east gable end and the exterior is currently covered in asphalt siding.

DESCRIPTION:

The house was part of a farm known as Parr's Ridge and is described in an article from the June 12, 1886 edition of the Democratic Advocate which states that it "is a log house, weatherboarded, built by Mr. Jacob Myerly in 1855. It is 22 feet by 20, two stories high, with a backbuilding 12 by 37 feet, the whole containing ten rooms. The building is surrounded with a lawn, in which is a variety of shade trees, shubbery, and flowers. . . The dwelling is adorned with a handsome porch, supported by large turned pillars. The backbuilding is adorned by a double porch, supported by four large turned pillars, giving it an imposing appearance and a handsome finish. It is occupied by Mr. Calvin Myerly, son of the proprietor, who farms the entire place."

The house today contains an addition of two bays on the east gable end and has an exterior covering of asphalt siding. The structure stands as a five bay by one bay main section with an asymmetrical facade (perhaps from the closure of a second story window when the modern covering was applied). There is a central entrance with six-over-six sash windows on the first story and two-over-two sash on the second story.

Out buildings on the property include an concrete block garage, a chicken house and a early 20th century barn with a tile silo. This barn is apparently a reconstruction of an earlier structure. The newspaper article describes the outbuildings of 1886 as: "The barn on this part of the farm was built by Mr. Myerly in 1856. It is a bank barn, 37 by 40 feet, with a broad drive into the main door, a threshing floor, two hay mows, and stabling for four horses and six cows. The dairy is built of concrete--lime sand and gravel. It is twelve feet square, with a large cement trough, through which flows the water from a superb spring, conducted in iron pipes, a distance of about one hundred yards. Thence it is piped to the barn yard for the cattle and other stock."

8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-809

| 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 1855 **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 Myerly Log House presents an example of mid- 19th century log construction for a Carroll County farmhouse. The farm complex is typical of the mid-to-late 19th century farm operation.

HISTORY:

The Myerly Log House is on a parcel of land 20 acres that was purchased by Jacob Myerly from James Blizzard in 1851. Myerly, who worked in the Register of Wills Office for Carroll County, had the land cleared and constructed a log house in 1855. In 1856, he had a bank barn constructed. The early history of the farm complex and the Myerly properties is described in an article entitled "Parr's Ridge--The Residence of Jacob Myerly" in the June 12, 1886 edition of the Democratic Advocate.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CARR-809

"Parr's Ridge--The Residence of Jacob Myerly." Democratic Advocate, June 12, 1886

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name New Windsor

Quadrangle scale ¹:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

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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

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joe Getty

organization Carroll County Dept. of Planning

date December 1984

street & number 225 N. Center Street

telephone 848-4500

city or town Westminster

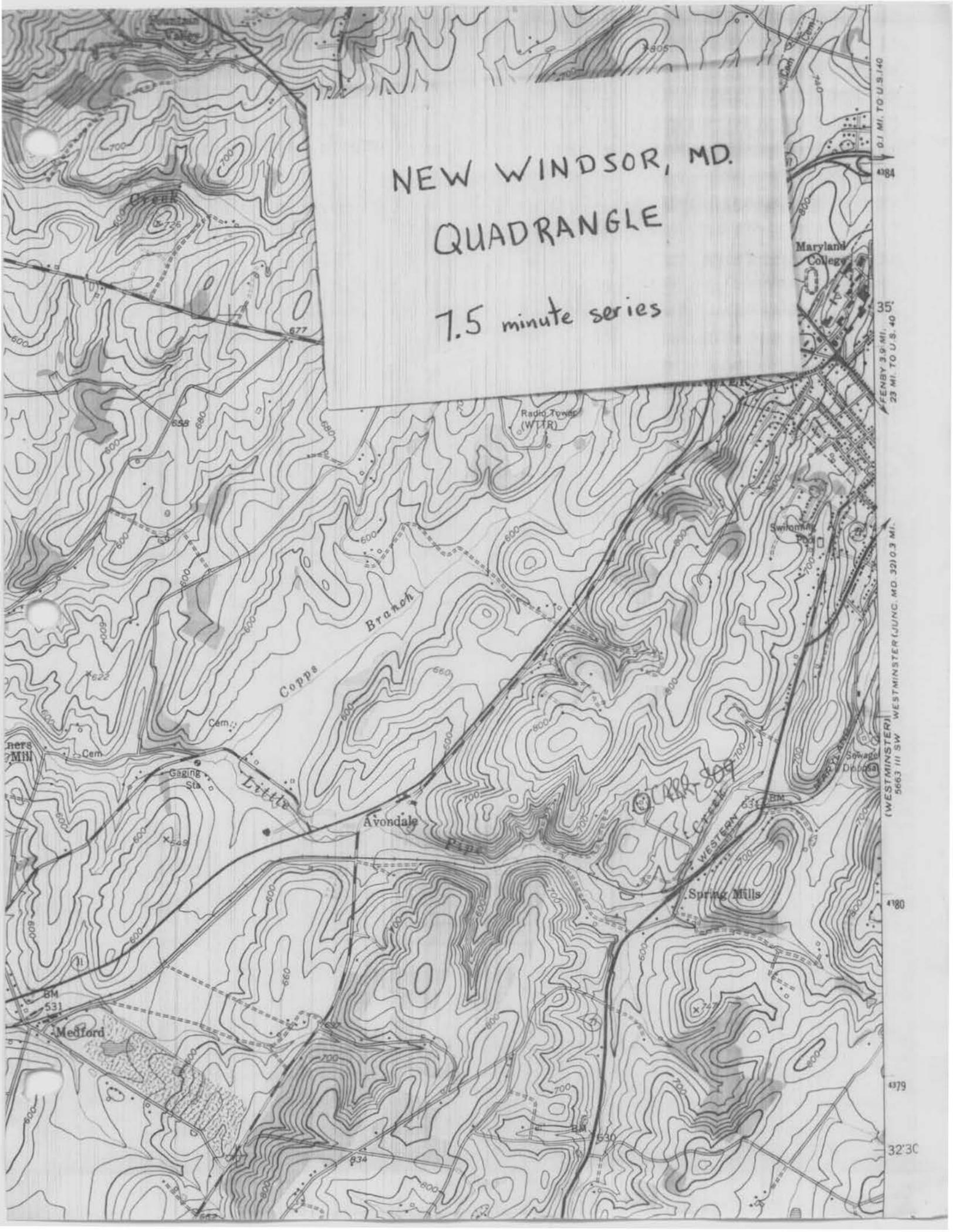
state MD

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.

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4180

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32°30'



1. Myerly Log House

2. Carroll Co. Md.

3. Joe Getty

4. Dec. 1984

5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis Md

6. East & South elevations

7. 1/3

CARR 809



1. Myerly hog House
2. Carroll Co. Md
3. Joe Getty
4. Dec. 1884
5. Md. Hist. Trust Annapolis Md
6. West. & South elevators
7. 2/3

CARR 809



1. Nyealy hog house

2. Laurel Co. Md.

3. Joe Betty

4. Dec. 1984

5. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis Md

6. Barn & tile silo

7. 3/3

CARR 809