

Addendum

Inventory Number: ~~CE-552~~ <sup>CE-1004</sup>  
Fair Hill Race Track  
Cecil County, MD  
C. Mazurek  
June 1998  
Section 7.1

The Fair Hill Race Track and surrounding track buildings are located at the intersection of Maryland route 213 and Maryland route 273 in Cecil County, Maryland.

The central Race Track area has retained the image of a vintage 1930's track, much the same as it was originally built, with board and batten buildings painted white and a turf field. Original structures include the horse stables, betting building, office building, and a tea barn.

However since the last survey was undertaken in 1979 there have been some changes. Some of the original board and batten structures have undergone renovation, such as the office building which has had restroom space added to the north facade. The tea barn has gotten a covering of sheet metal on both the exterior walls, as well as, the roof. Also the announcer stand on the top of the grandstands has a new wood railing, unpainted, entirely surrounding it.

A new office building was built between the tea barn and the horse stables. This has a simple plan, "V"-shaped, with a three story center tower of glass windows in the middle portion of the "V". It faces east and is one and one-half stories tall. Construction features include a covering of square-cut, ashlar stone, without any courses on the exterior facades and also a covering of composition siding on the roof. The center tower has a roof of ribbed sheet metal. One distinctive feature of the office building includes low hanging roof dormers. The windows are typical modern fixed rows that are made out of metal. To the east of the Race Track there are numerous modern structures that make up the exhibition center. These include: a sheet metal storage building; a wood frame restroom building with construction elements of a concrete foundation, vertical wood siding, and a composition roof; and also six stables in a row with concrete block walls and a covering of sheet metal on their roofs. To the north of the Race Track a new training center was built in the mid 1980's. This includes a large dirt training track with a wood fence painted white surrounding it, and a wood frame announcer stand on the sidelines. Scattered further north of this track there are numerous concrete block stables with composition shingle roofs, where horses are kept throughout the year. While these newly built structures are not historic, they complement the historic board and batten structures that have been there since the 1930's.

The condition of these structures, both historic and non-historic, is excellent with maintenance undertaken regularly.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

FAIR HILL RACE TRACK

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

4th

STATE

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

\_\_\_DISTRICT

X\_PUBLIC

X\_OCCUPIED

\_\_\_AGRICULTURE

\_\_\_MUSEUM

X\_BUILDING(S)

\_\_\_PRIVATE

\_\_\_UNOCCUPIED

\_\_\_COMMERCIAL

\_\_\_PARK

\_\_\_STRUCTURE

\_\_\_BOTH

\_\_\_WORK IN PROGRESS

\_\_\_EDUCATIONAL

\_\_\_PRIVATE RESIDENCE

\_\_\_SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

X\_ENTERTAINMENT

\_\_\_RELIGIOUS

\_\_\_OBJECT

\_\_\_IN PROCESS

\_\_\_YES: RESTRICTED

\_\_\_GOVERNMENT

\_\_\_SCIENTIFIC

\_\_\_BEING CONSIDERED

X\_YES: UNRESTRICTED

\_\_\_INDUSTRIAL

\_\_\_TRANSPORTATION

\_\_\_NO

\_\_\_MILITARY

X\_OTHER Recreation

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

State of Maryland, Dept. of Natural Resources Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC Harford County

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Liber #:

Folio #:

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_FEDERAL \_\_\_STATE \_\_\_COUNTY \_\_\_LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CE-1004

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED    DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A complex of structures including stables, betting windows, stands, paddocks, jockey weigh-in stations and numerous ancillary structures. Buildings are in general board and batten frame, painted dark with white trim.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

<b>PERIOD</b>	<b>AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW</b>			
<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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Horse Racing/ Recreation
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

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<b>SPECIFIC DATES</b>	<b>BUILDER/ARCHITECT</b>
1930's	

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The races at Fairhill make two claims; the seventeen jumps of the single remaining meet make it the toughest steeplechase race in the U.S.; and it is the only steeplechase with pari-mutual betting in the country. The operation began in the early 1930's by William DuPont, who had already acquired most of the land surrounding Fairhill (as much as 4000 acres by some accounts). The primary purpose of this consolidation of farm land is unclear, and involves using the Elk Creeks for water for Elkton. Apparently nothing ever became of whatever schemes there were.

If horses, racing and hunting were a secondary aspect to the property, they have been the most visible, and the most closely associated with it. Hunting is part of the entire tract, and influences the use of the land and buildings, to the point where bridges were built across roads and streams to accomodate the hunters, horses, foxes and hounds. But the steeplechase takes place at the track coming alive once a year for it. The picturesque complex of 1930's buildings is becoming rarer than one might expect, in the context of air-conditiond grandstands at the big tracks.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CE-1004

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

John Hnedak

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

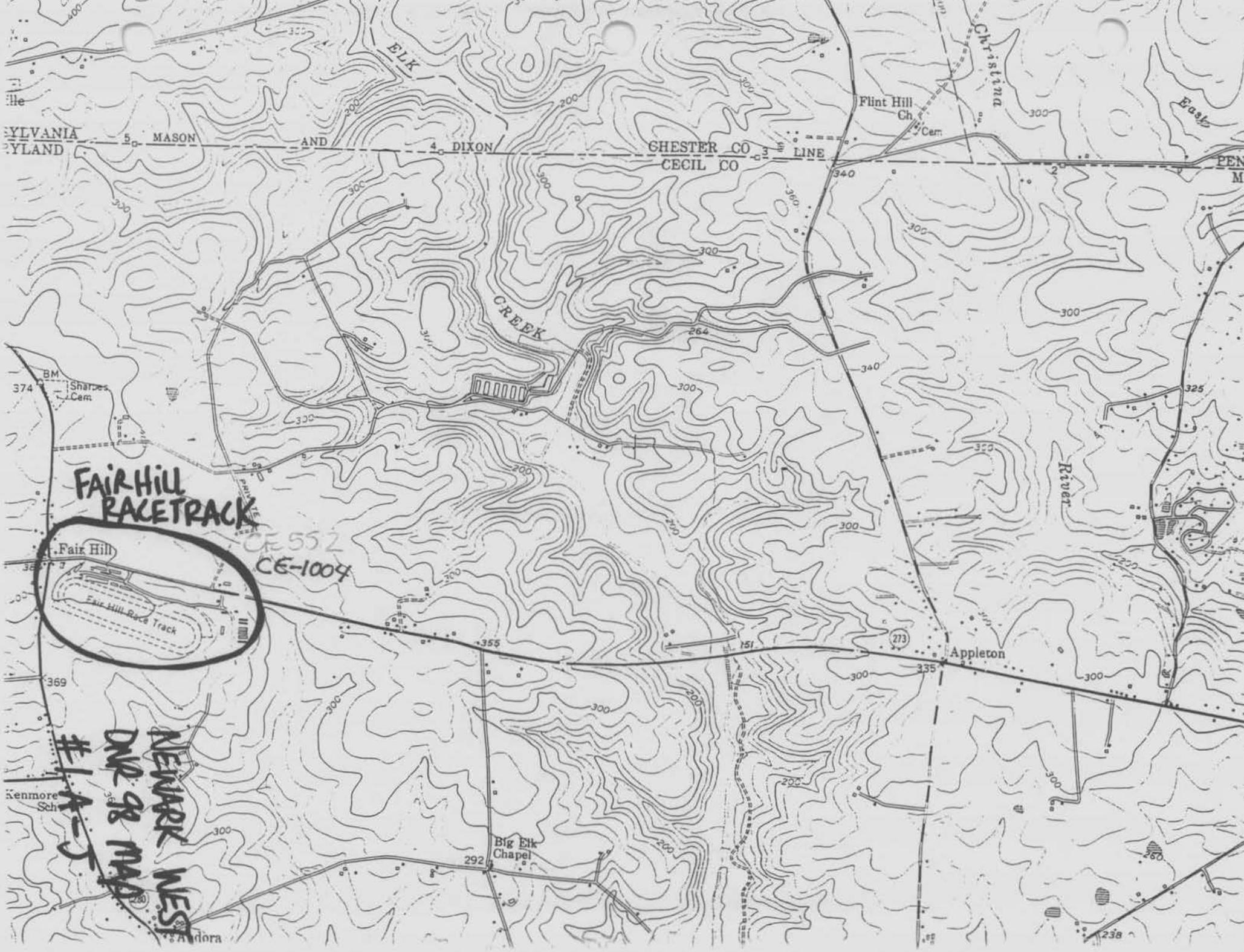
STATE

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.

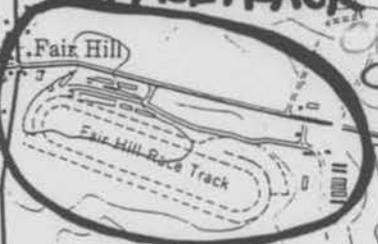
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

PAENNSYLVANIA  
MASON AND DIXON CHESTER CO CECIL CO  
PENNSYLVANIA



**FAIR HILL  
RACETRACK**



CE 552  
CE-1004

#1A-5  
NEWARK WEST  
DNR 98 MAP

Kenmore Sch  
Appleton

Big Elk Chapel

Appleton

Flint Hill Ch

Christina

River

ELK

ELK CREEK

East

PENNSYLVANIA  
MARYLAND

MASON

AN

4. DIXON

CHESTER CO  
CECIL CO  
LINE H

DNR-11 McCLEARY HOUSE  
CE-771

BUNTING H

DNR-23, SCHOOL HOUSE  
CE-758

DNR-28, MCMASTER HOUSE  
CE-562

DNR 14/17, BARN, FEEDMILL

DNR-13 HAY LOFT  
CE-300-C

DNR-04 FINLEY BARN  
CE-381-A

DNR-12 SMOKE HOUSE  
CE-300-B

DNR-03 CACK TAKERS HOUSE

DNR-10 PETERS HOUSE  
CE-300-A

DNR-47 BARN  
CE-364-A

DNR-45 HOUSE  
CE-364

DNR-50  
NEW COVERED BRIDGE

DNR-02 FINLEY HSE  
CE-301

DNR-11 BEERS BARN  
CE-300-A

DNR 03, 93, TRACK STRUCTURES  
CE-552

DNR-103 CLUB  
CE-75

DNR-01 COVERED  
HOUSE CE-738

DNR 90-02 TRACK  
STRUCTURES CE-552

DNR-77 HOUSE CE-544



DNR 51 HOUSE

DNR 52 STABLES

DNR 56 STONE HOUSE CE-363

DNR 61 STONE STABLES CE-366

Providence

Kenmore Sch

Big Elk Chapel

TYSON HOUSE  
RUINS CE-527

GAYLEN HOUSE  
RUINS CE-517

SCOTT MILL D

HOUSE RUIN

COVERED BRIDGE  
SITE CE-516

SCOTT MILL

Andora

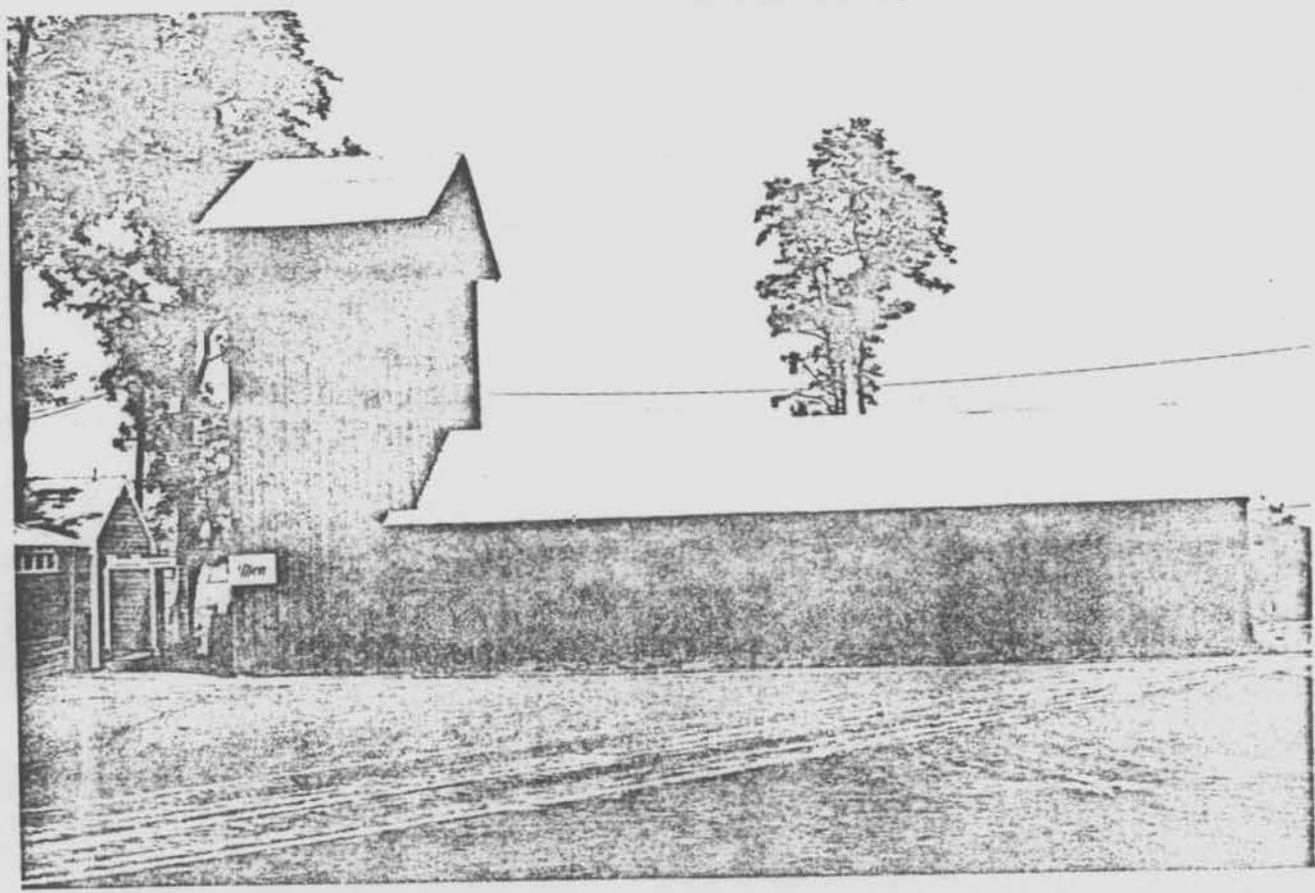
Granies

BM 352

2663 IN NW  
(EAY VIEW)  
LITTLE  
ELK  
CENT HILL 1.5 W

CE-1004

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FAIR HILL RACETRACK; FAIR HILL N.R.M.A.

CECIL COUNTY, MD

C. MAZUREK

12/97

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

FACING EAST

1  
No. 3 82 165 8561 N N N N-03 2



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~~CE-552~~

FAIR HILL RACETRACK; FAIR HILL N.R.M.A.

CECIL COUNTY, MD

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DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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FAIR HILL RACETRACK; FAIR HILL N.R., M.A.

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DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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FAIR HILL RACETRACK, STANDS, FAIR HILL N.R.M.A

CECIL COUNTY, MD

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DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

SOUTH WEST ELEVATION

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FAIR Hill RACETRACK; FAIR Hill N.R.M.A.

CECIL COUNTY, MD

C. MAZUREK

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FAIR HILL RACETRACK; FAIR HILL N.R.M.A.

CECIL COUNTY, MD

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FAIR HILL RACETRACK; FAIR HILL N.R.M.A.

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FAIR HILL RACETRACK; FAIR HILL N.R.M.A.

CECIL COUNTY, MD

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FAIR HILL RACETRACK; FAIR HILL N.R.M.A.

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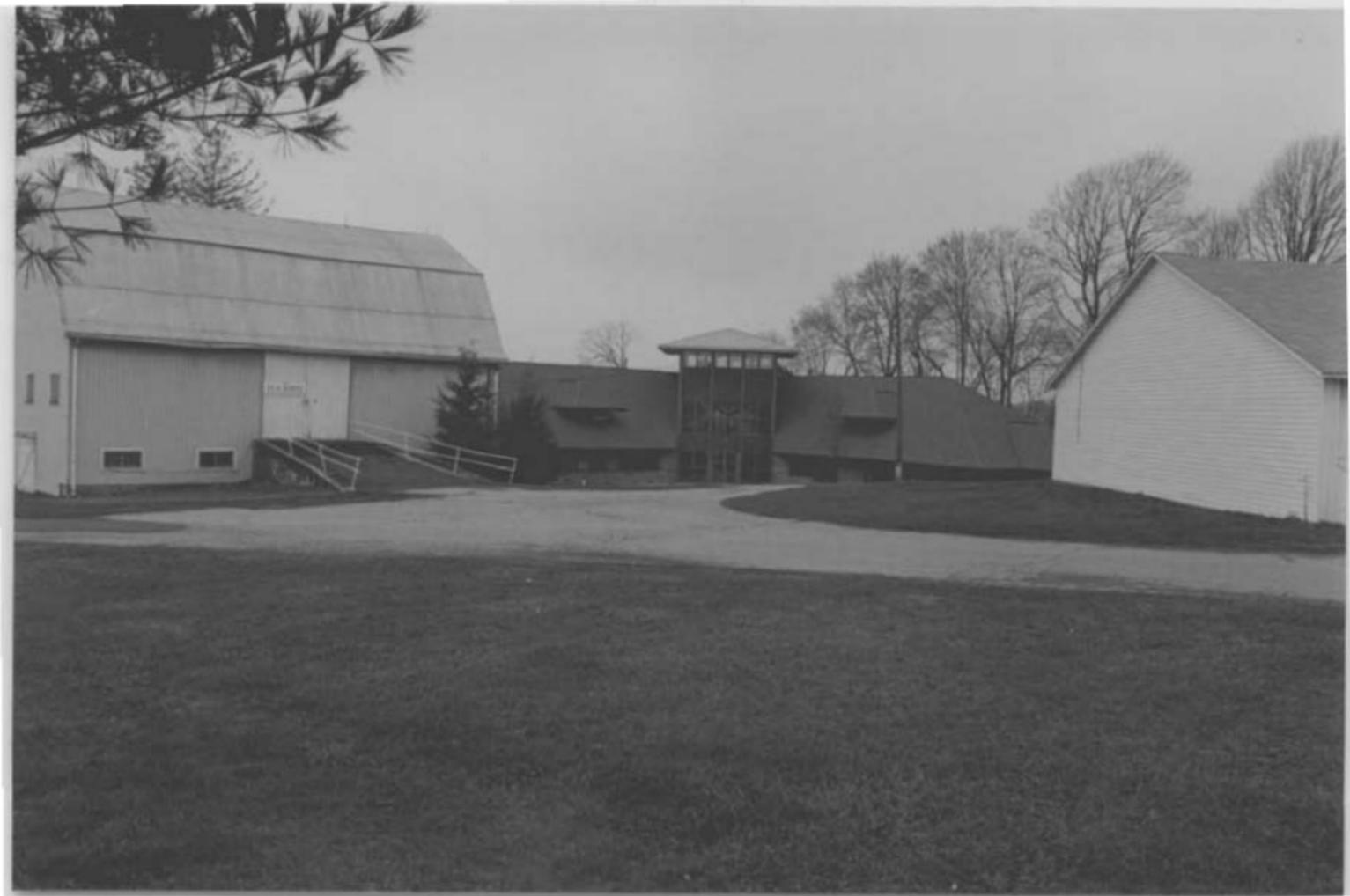
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FAIR HILL RACETRACK; FAIR HILL N.R.M.A.

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FAIR HILL RACETRACK; FAIR HILL N.R.M.A.

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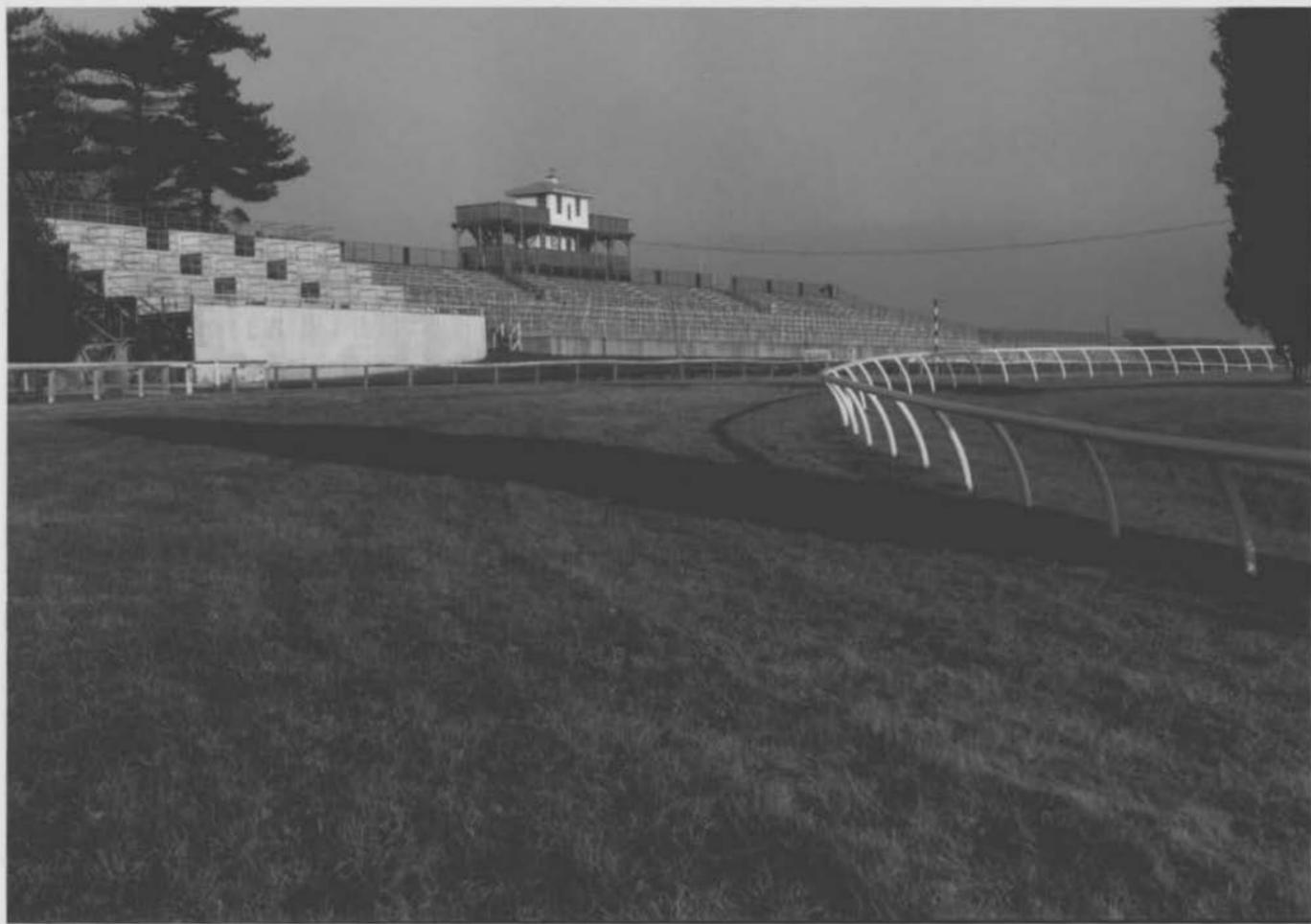
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FALG HILL RACE TRACK