

The Porter House is a 2½ story stuccoed stone Colonial Revival House overlooking US Route 1. A chain of title, however, traces this property back to the Hall Family ownership. The property was auctioned in 1873 and contained 128½ acres with a good brick dwelling house, large frame barn with carriage house and other outbuildings. This undoubtedly predates Route 1 and the present residence. For some reason the brick house disappeared and the stone house built with orientation to the road instead of the Susquehanna.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

FILE # 860

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Porter House

AND/OR COMMON

Merristn Propety

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Just west of Route 222 Kilby Corner on Route 1

CITY, TOWN

Conowingo

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

1

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Cecil

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY OWNERSHIP STATUS PRESENT USE

- DISTRICT PUBLIC OCCUPIED AGRICULTURE MUSEUM
- BUILDING(S) PRIVATE UNOCCUPIED COMMERCIAL PARK
- STRUCTURE BOTH WORK IN PROGRESS EDUCATIONAL PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- SITE PUBLIC ACQUISITION ACCESSIBLE ENTERTAINMENT RELIGIOUS
- OBJECT IN PROCESS YES: RESTRICTED GOVERNMENT SCIENTIFIC
- BEING CONSIDERED YES: UNRESTRICTED INDUSTRIAL TRANSPORTATION
- NO MILITARY OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

SOLO TO EOLMAN AND MARGARET LITTLE

Telephone #: 378-2096

STREET & NUMBER

Route 1 P.O. Box 151

CITY, TOWN

Conowingo

STATE, zip code

VICINITY OF

Maryland 21918

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Liber #: NDS 10

Folio #: 532

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" 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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The ~~Robertson~~^{Porter} House c. 1878-1900? is a Colonial Revival stuccoed stone structure located on a hill overlooking Route 1. The house is just west of the crossroads known as Kilby Corner. The main facade faces south while the primary gable runs east/west.

The 2½ story main block is 5 bays across by 2 bays deep with a continuation of the main roof for another two bays to form a two story rear addition. Another shed roof extends off the east side of the rear section. The entire house rests on an uncoursed stone foundation. The entire house has been stuccoed and the main block is capped with a medium sloped asphalt tile roof.

The main facade is five bays across with the entrance in the central bay. The fenestration is symmetrical, the window sash is 6/6 with simple beaded surrounds, there are no shutters on the house. The 19th century double door has 4 panels with a glazed upper section. The main entrance is emphasized with plain pilasters that support a fairly plain entablature. Frosted sidelights flank the main entrance and a 3 light transom is found above. A front porch extends across the central bay and is supported by square piers. A solid banister encloses the porch. The banister is solid panels with late 19th century molding.

There is a modillioned cornice at the base of the roof. Interior end chimneys protrude at each gable end. There is one dormer in the center of the roof with a 4 2/2 sash. The upper section is arched. The eaves are extended.

The east and west sides of the main block are similar with a 6/6 sash on each side of the chimney pile. There are two 4 pane attic window that flank the chimney stack. The rear section has similar detailing and left fairly plain.

The center hall has a large room that flanks it on each side. The kitchen is located in the back of the house.

The main hall has a very simple tapered newel with oval handrail and square balusters. The stringer is closed. The stair rises to the third floor. The room to the west of the hall is presently the dining room and possesses a Federal influenced Mantel with ½ round fluted pilasters that support projecting end blocks and a stepped out shelf. The end blocks and center block have slight oval indentations.

The east room has a replaced mantel.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

The second floor retains most of its interior detailing but it remains on a plain level of ornamentation. There is a full uncoursed stone basement with a concrete floor.

Outbuildings remain on the property without the stucco finish. A spring house is located at the lower end of the property. It is 2 bays across by 1 room deep. It is covered with a low gable tin roof. There is a board door in the southern bay of the west side. And a 4 pane window is also on this side. The eaves are extended and left open. An interior stair descends approximately 20'.

Another fieldstone building is located behind the main house. It is about 15' by 10' with an entrance in the south facade. It may have been a meat house. Other wagon sheds and barn buildings of frame construction are on the property.


SIGNIFICANCE

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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The ^{Porter}~~Robertson~~ House is architecturally significant in that it is one of two Colonial Revival house in the Conowingo area. The structure does not appear on the 1877 Lake Atlas. The title search takes the property back to ownership of the Hall Family in the early to mid 19th century. This house undoubtedly dates fifty years ^{after}~~beyond~~ this date. It can be assumed that the brick dwelling referred to in the title search was one of the Hall properties that was later demolished for probable road building. The present house seems oriented to the road and may have been built in conjunction with a road after 1877.

The present house retains a good deal of its interior woodwork and exterior character.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

[Faint, mostly illegible text describing the verbal boundary description of the property.]

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

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Paul B. Touart Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION
Cecil County Committee

DATE
9/29/78

STREET & NUMBER
Cecil County Courthouse

TELEPHONE
398-7568

CITY OR TOWN
Elkton

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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

CE-878

REAL ESTATE.

TRUSTEES' SALE

OF A

HIGHLY DESIRABLE FARM,

Near Rowlandsville, in Cecil county.

By virtue of a decree of the Circuit Court for Cecil county, in chancery, the undersigned, as Trustees, will offer at Public Sale, at Smith's Hotel, in Port Deposit, Cecil county, Md., on

Saturday, the 8th day of November, 1873,

ALL THAT FARM,

NOW OWNED BY RICHARD D HALL, and containing 128 1-2 ACRES OF LAND,

MORE OR LESS.

This Farm is situated on the road from Rowlandsville to Conowingo, one mile from the former place, which is a Station on the Philadelphia and Baltimore Central Railroad, and adjoins lands of Dr. W. B. Rowland, W. M. Porter, heirs of Commodore Connor and others.

The improvements consist of a good BRICK DWELLING HOUSE, large frame Barn, with Carriage-house and other outbuildings.

The land is of excellent quality, conveniently divided into fields, and well watered. There is a good supply of Fruit on the farm. The neighborhood is good, and churches, schools, stores and mills are convenient.

TERMS OF SALE—One-third of the purchase money to be paid in cash on the day of sale; one other third in one year thereafter, and the balance in two years from day of sale. Credit payments to bear interest from day of sale and be secured to satisfaction of Trustees.

Sale to commence at 2 o'clock P. M.

W. J. JONES,
L. M. HAINES,

Trustees.

Oct 11, 1873—ts

... agree ...
I have this 80 ...
... A.D. 1873 ...
... purchaser of the property ...
... described in the annexed ...
... advertisement, at the pub- ...
... lic sale therein advertised ...
... at and for the sum ...
... of Eight Thousand ...
... dollars and I hereby ...
... agree to comply with ...
... the terms of sale.

W. J. Porter

JAMES E. H. GILLESPIE AND WIFE
 WEB 2/2 ($\frac{1}{2}$ INTEREST) TO GERTRUDE HAINES 8/6/1935

WEB 2/4 $\frac{1}{2}$ INTEREST ARGUS ROBINSON AND WIFE 1935
 TO JAMES E. H. GILLESPIE

WEB 2/3 JAMES E. H. GILLESPIE
 TO ARGUS F. ROBINSON
 $\frac{1}{2}$ INTEREST

WEB 2/2 JAMES E. H. GILLESPIE
 TO GERTRUDE HAINES 8/6 1935

SRA 5/118 NIVEN D GILLESPIE + WIFE 7/25/1928
 ($\frac{1}{2}$ INTEREST) TO JAMES E. H. GILLESPIE

SRA 16/187 GERTRUDE E. HAINES FEB. 1932
 TO JAMES E. H. GILLESPIE

~~RECORDED~~ EUGENIA F. PORTER 1912

CK 6/136 TO GEORGE W. GILLESPIE
 "MT. WELCOME" GERTRUDE E. HAINES

~~8~~ - RCH 1/24 PLAT RECORDED
 128 $\frac{1}{2}$ ACRES

EXECUTORS OF SARAH PORTER (DEATH OF SARAH PORTER)
 □
 EUGENIA PORTER

□

EUGENIA PORTER

AD 1 4/25 WILLIAM PORTER

DEC. 24, 1875

TO SARAH PORTER

DS 10/429 WILLIAM J. JONES AND L. MARSHALL HAINES

FEB. 24, 1874

TO WILLIAM E PORTER

TRUSTEE

ASE
435 2/218

CHANCERY COURT

APRIL 4, 1873

BETWEEN W^M E. PORTER &
RICHARD + MARGARET HALL

MORRISON - (CONT)

MORTGAGE FROM R.S. HALL + WIFE TO

MARCH 3, 1870

DS 3/460

WILLIAM E. PORTER

(~~100 1/2 ACRES~~
167 ACRES)

ACH 1/23

WASHINGTON HALL

JULY 26, 1846

TO RICHARD D. HALL

EXCEPTING PROPERTY SOLD TO CHAS. HALL IN
1853 (H. H. M. 1/446) → 12 ACRES

"ALL THAT PART OF THIS MANSION FARM IN
CECIL COUNTY, APRESAID, THE SAME BEING
PART OF THE LAND WHICH ELIZABETH HALL, EARLIER
OR SMALL WASHINGTON HALL DIED SEIZED WITH
IS CONTAINED WITHIN LOTS "A" + "B" AS LAID
DOWN ON THE PLAN.

- 167 1/2 ACRES

TWO PARCELS A + B -	A CONTAINING	128 1/2 A.
	B	39.0 A.

CHANCERY COURT CASE

CHANCERY COURT CASE
AWM 1/33

IN 1877 THE ROAD TO THE CONOWINGO DAM FROM "KILBY CORNER" WAS ONLY A LINE ^{HAYING} TO THE PROPERTY OF W. E. PORTER'S. A BRICK DWELLING HOUSE BOUGHT IN 1870 FROM ~~WAS~~ RICHARD D. HALL, AND WHICH WAS PROBABLY THE HOME OF ELIHA HALL'S.

THE PRESENT ^{STONE} HOUSE WAS PROBABLY BUILT IN ~~THE~~ LATE 19th OR EARLY 20th CENTURY.

? QUESTION CONCERNING ^{COUNTY} ~~BOARDS~~ ROADS AND ACQUISITION OF LAND AND DEMOLITION OF HOUSES IN PREVIOUS YEARS.

MORRISON } SOLD TO ZOLMAN S. AND MARGARET A LITTLE
WAS 359/432 } p 164 16 ACRES
NDS 10/532
P O Box 151
CONOWINGO, MD
21918

DONALD B. & IOLA M. WEAVER

APRIL 23, 1976

TO CARROLL MORRISON
16.32 a. SUSIE A. MORRISON

WAS 307/181

~~DEED~~ DALE LEE ROBERTSON

FEB 23, 1973

TO DONALD B. &
16.32 A. IOLA M. WEAVER

16.32 A.

10 CARROLL MARRISON
Susie A. MARRISON

CE-878

WAS 307/181

~~DATE~~

DATE LEE ROBERTSON

FEB 23, 1973

TO DONALD B. Y

16.32 A.

IOLA M. WEAVER

N.A.S. 189/228

CARROLL C. THOMAS JR.

APRIL 9, 1966

16.32 A.

TO DATE LEE ROBERTSON

KG

RAY G. OSBORNE

4/1/1959

WAS 14/15

TO CARROLL C. THOMAS JR.

16.32 A

DORIS J. THOMAS

WAS 68/366

MILDRED M. BARRETT

12/1/1958

PART OF TRACT 1.

TO RAY G. OSBORNE

RRC 16/76

ELMER W. DORSEY + ALICE

3/9/1946

TRACTS 1 & 2 TO MILDRED M. BARRETT DIED APRIL 21, 1957

MILDRED M. BARRETT TRACT 1 20.45 ACRES

(MOUNT WELCOME) ~~TRACT 2~~ MENTIONS
OLD HALL GRAYSON 109.05 ACRES

VEB 2/540

GERTRUDE E. HAINES } WIDOWS

6/12/1936

PEARLE GILLESPIE }

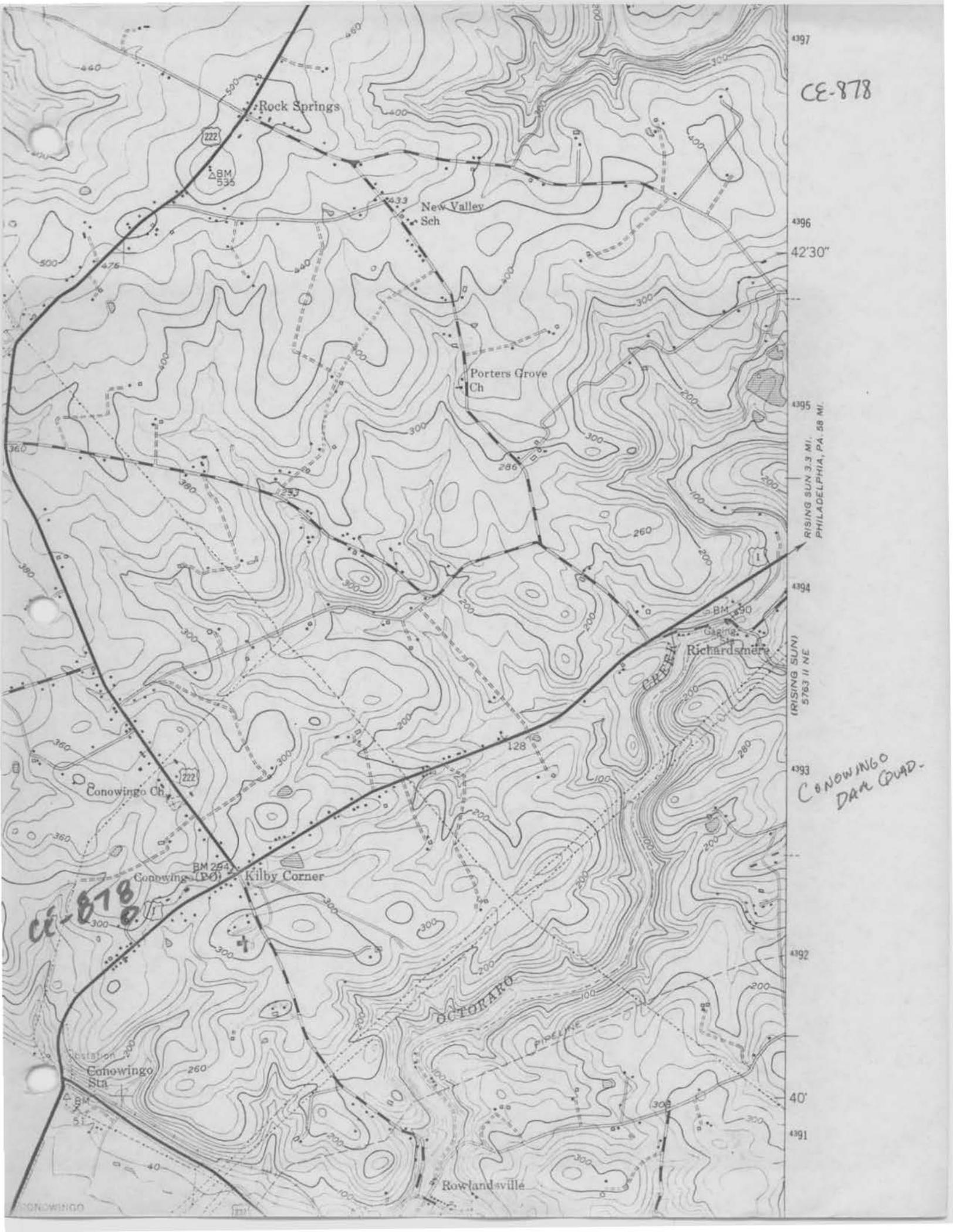
TO ELMER + ALICE DORSEY

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION -

TRACT 1 - } BOTH TRACTS CONTAINING

TRACT 2 - } 130 ACRES

CE-878





Porter - House - Gillespie
~~Morrison~~ House

CE-87Y

Kilby Corner, MD.

South Elevation

NEG. / MD. HIST. TRUST

PBT

9/28



PORTER HOUSE
MIRKISON HOUSE

CE-878

KILBY CORNER, N.P.

SOUTH FACADE

NEG / N.P. 141 ST. FIRST ST

FAT

9/78



Porter House
MORRISON PROPERTY

CE-878

KILBY CORNER, MD.

EAST ELEVATION

NEG. / MD. HIST. TRUST

PBT

9/28



PORTER HOUSE
MORRISON PROPERTY

PE-878

KILBY CORNER, MD.

SOUTH ELEVATION OF ALTERED OUTBUILDING
OF UNKNOWN USE (= POSSIBLE DAIRY OR
SMITHOUSE)

NEG. MD. HIST. TRUST

PBT

9/78



Porter House
MORRISON Priority

CE-878

KILBY CORNER, MD.

MAIN STAIR

NEG./MO HIST. TILLOT

PPT

9/78



Porter House
Morrison Property

CE-878

KILBY CORNER, M.D.

WEST ROOM MANTEL

NEG. / M.D. WEST. TRUST

PBT

9/28



Porter House
Morrison Property

CE-878

Old Kilby Corner, MD.

WEST ELEVATION

SPRING HOUSE

NEG./MD. HIST TRUST

PBT

9/28