

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

File #867

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Rowland House

AND/OR COMMON

Dempsey House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Rout 222 just north of the town of Rowlandsville

CITY, TOWN

Rowlandsville

 VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Cecil

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

John and Jane Dempsey

Telephone #: 378-3880

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Route 222

CITY, TOWN

Rowlandsville

 VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

21921

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Liber #: WAS 60

Folio #: 192

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Rowland House c. 1900-1930 is a 2 story frame house that is perched on a hill overlooking the Octorara Creek. The house faces the road which leads to Kilby Corner from Rowlandsville (Route 222). The house has a southwest/northeast gable orientation with the main facade facing southwest.

The main block is approximately square, being 2 bays across by 2 bays deep. The gable end forms the primary facade. There have been no major additions to the structure. A single story front porch extends across the main facade.

The house rests on an uncoursed stone foundation and is sheathed with narrow weatherboards. The composition tile roof is of medium pitch with extended eaves and open soffits. A small stone flue protrudes out of the northeast gable.

The southwest (main) facade is two bays across by 2 bays deep. The entrance is in the eastern bay. The window openings have multi-pane sash. The surrounds are plain. The second floor windows are a pair of sash windows in each bay. The front porch has a square newel post and square balusters and a plain handrail.

The eastern and western sides have basically the same ornamentation with differences only in the placement of windows. The east side has a door with a small one bay porch and plain balustrade. The north (rear) side of the structure is again similar.

The interior of this house was not open for inspection but assumed basically intact due to the untouched exterior and rather late date. There has probably been no need for extensive change due to its late date.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

CE-885

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The house does not appear on any 19th century map but does retain significance in that it is part of the now non-existent town of Rowlandsville. A few structures remain and this is one of the latest. The house does overlook the iron mill and it wouldn't be surprising if this was the mill manager's house.

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

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

2/5/79

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

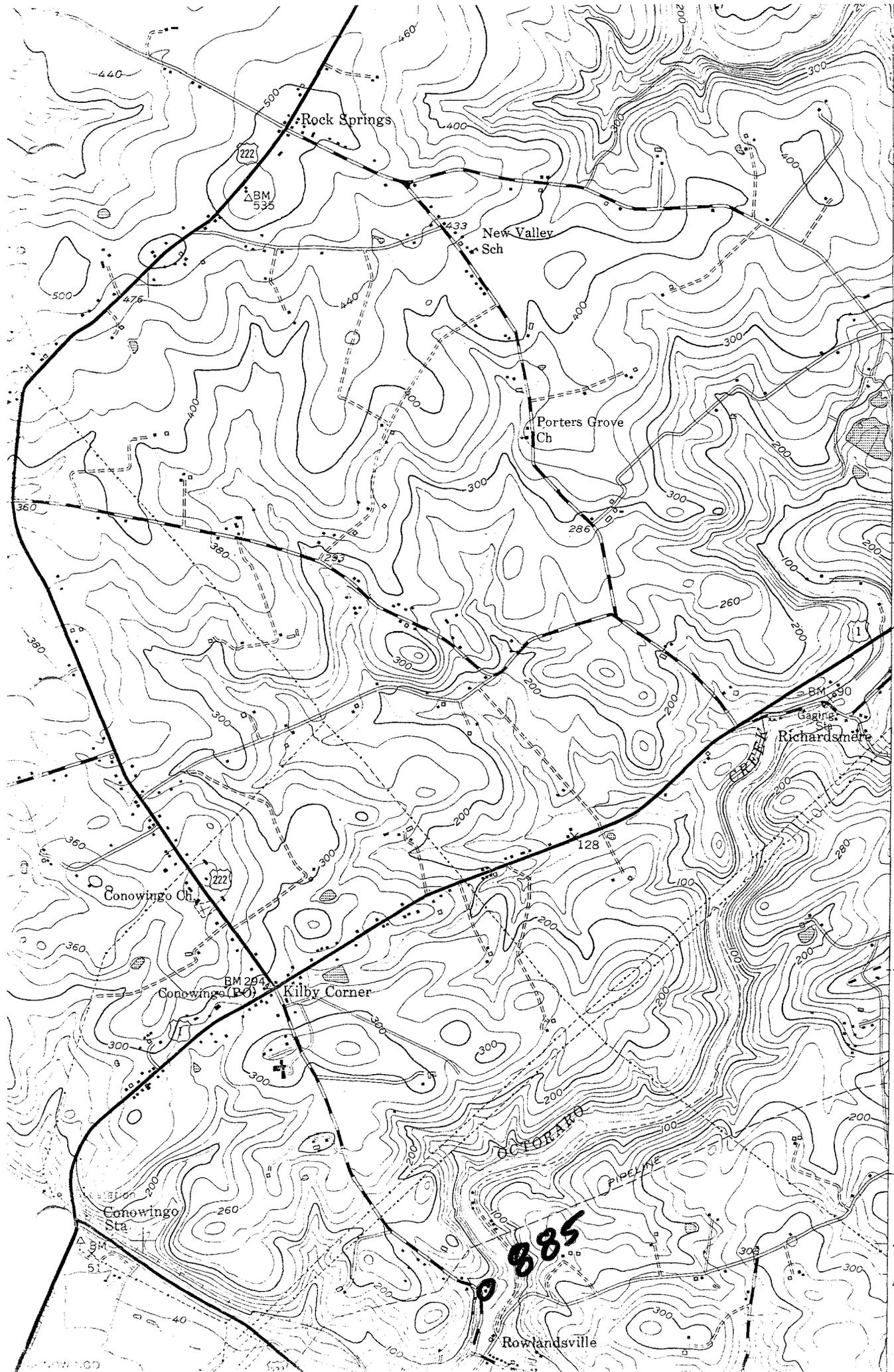
## Rowlandsville

CE-42, CE-789, <sup>CE-881</sup> CE-882, CE-883, CE-884, CE-885, CE-886, CE-887

Rowlandsville derives its name from the Rowland family who have lived along the banks of the Octoraro Creek since their first purchase of a tract of land called "Glass House" in 1749. A number of factors have contributed to the economic and community development of the town. Grist and saw mills have operated on both the Octoraro Creek and its tributary Bason's Run (Beeson's Run) in the 18th Century along with the manufacture of iron in the very late 18<sup>th</sup> Century and most of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Nineteenth Century continuation of grain processing remained under the name of Davis Christy and Co. The McCullough Iron Company continued the manufacture of iron in mid century after buying the property in 1859. Extensive remains of the factory attest to the importance this iron manufacturer played in boosting Rowlandsville to more than a grist mill community. Like many industrial complexes, mill housing was constructed to house company workers and their families. Three sturdy granite and fieldstone structures (CE-886) once housed iron company employees along the east bank of the Octoraro Creek.

Residential and commercial structures were built on both sides of the Octoraro Creek which are now connected by a late 19th Century Pratt Through Truss Bridge. Steep hillsides restricted extensive town development but did not contain construction to the relatively few flat plots of ground. Frame structures with elevated and exposed basements compensated for the drastic change in slope. (CE-882) Rowlandsville was also blessed with the presence of a town railroad depot for the Phila. Balt. Central R.R. This

asset undoubtedly provided Rowlandsville the exposure it needed to remain vital through the 19th and early 20th Centuries. Morocoto Paper Co. bought the iron mill complex in 1892 and produced roofing paper into the early 20th Century, until the operation burned and left the structures in ruin. Trains no longer pass through Rowlandsville and like many of its kind, the town is a quiet residential community. Two elevated train bridges were built south of Rowlandsville to cross the Octoraro. The first one was built by A and P Roberts Company at Pencoyd Iron Works in 1901. (CE-881) It is a single lane reinforced iron wall bridge with supporting granite piers that runs through the mammoth reinforced concrete arches of the higher two lane Penn Central Bridge (CE-883). These two structures, although dramatically placed, do not bring commerce to Rowlandsville only over it.



4397  
4396  
42'30"  
4395  
4394  
4393  
4392  
40'  
4391

RISING SUN 3.3 MI.  
PHILADELPHIA, PA. 58 MI.

(RISING SUN)  
5763 II NE

CE-885

CONOWINGO  
DAM QUAD.

885



Moore  
~~Rowland~~ - Dempsey House

CE-885

Rowlandsville, MD.

South Elevation

NEG. / MD HIST. TRUST

This house was built by <sup>c. 1920</sup> Mr. Clarke Moore,  
son of the owner of Morocoto Paper Co.



ROWLAND - DEMPSEY HOUSE

CF. 885

ROWLANDSVILLE, MD.

EAST ELEVATION

NEG. / MD. HIST. TRUST

FPT

9/78