

New Bridge  
Private

CE-896, CE-897, CE-898, CE-899

A small grouping of late 19th Century residential structures stand near the northern most Maryland crossing of the Octoraro Creek at New Bridge. The small community developed under the influence of the once active Sun Paper Mill along the east side of the Octoraro. A sturdy iron Pratt through-truss span (CE-896) replaced its predecessor in the late 19th Century under the direction Charles H. Latrobe. The commission and construction of the bridge were completed during the term of County Commissioners, William Potter, Wilson Pierson, and Elis Sentman. Local oral tradition links the crossings name of "New Bridge" with the completion of the new span. The J. S. Ray store and residence (CE-897) is a typical two story three bay frame house with a commercial bay attached to the west gable end. Other structures in the immediate area are modest two story two or three bay frame houses. (CE-898, 899)

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Richards House

AND/OR COMMON

Biddle House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

New Bridge Road  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile of the south side of the road before New

CITY, TOWN

New Bridge

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Bridge

VICINITY OF

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 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	<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

James E. Biddle

Telephone #: 658-4688

STREET &amp; NUMBER

New Bridge Road

CITY, TOWN

Conowingo

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21918

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

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Liber #:

Folio #:

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

CE-898

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<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 Richards House c. 1870 is a 2 story frame house located on New Bridge Road just west of the Octorara Creek. The house faces east with the main gable running north/south.

The main block is 2 bays across by 1 room deep. The house rests on an uncoursed stone foundation and is totally covered with aluminum siding. The medium sloped roof is covered with asphalt shingles. This house has been totally remodeled and stripped of any late 19th century detailing on the exterior.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

CE-898

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 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 structure is only significant in that it appears on the 1877 atlas and helps form a small grouping of houses in the general area around the bridge.

Across the road is another house of similar design without much remaining detail which is not on the 1877 map. The house has a slate roof and shed roof extensions off the main 2 bay by 1 bay block. Similar form but slightly different appearance.

**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

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

*CONOWINGO*  
*RISING SUN*  
*Quarry*  
Lees M

150 000 FEET  
(PA.)

4399

4398

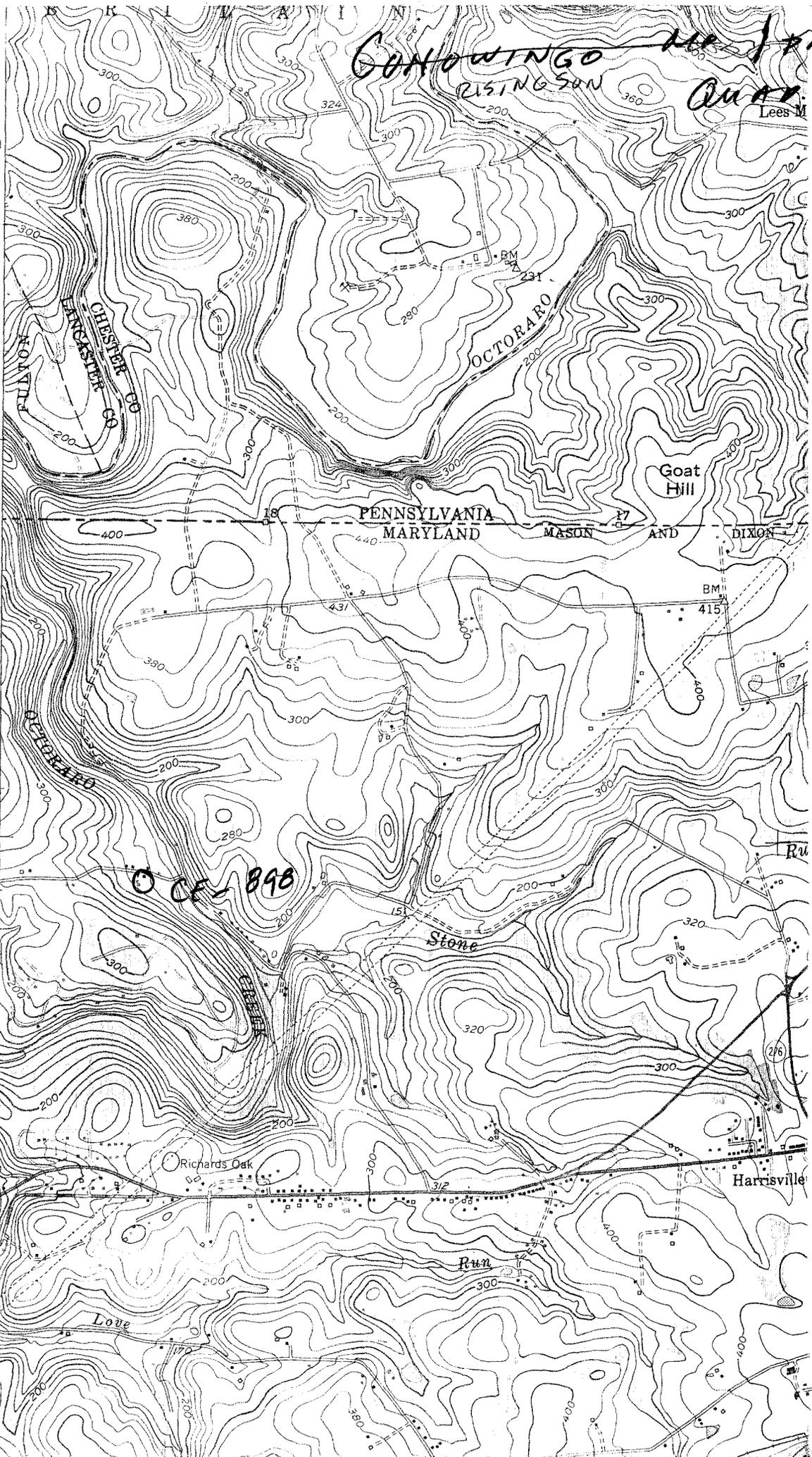
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FULTON  
CHESTER CO  
LANCASTER CO

OCTORARO

PENNSYLVANIA  
MARYLAND

MASON AND DIXON

Goat Hill

OCE 898

Stone Run

Richards Oak

Harrisville

Love Run

Run

BEL AIR 15 M.  
CONOWINGO DAM 3.2 M.

5763 (NW)  
(CONOWINGO DAM)



RICHARDS - BIDDLE House  
CONOWINGO, MD.  
EAST ELEVATION

CE-898

PBT

9/78