

F- 3 - 158
James Houck Farm
8032C Liberty Road
Frederick County

This complex of farm buildings dates from the 1870s to the early 20th century. It is located approximately 1/4 mile west of the Monocacy River on the north side of Liberty Road (Route 26), northeast of Frederick City. The property consists of a 2 1/2-story brick dwelling, probably dating to the 1870s; a brick carriage house/garage (late 19th century/early 20th century); a brick barn (originally, late 19th century/early 20th century; with a contemporary alteration); a wood pump house (early 20th century); and a modern Ranch house (second half, 20th century). Apart from the Ranch house, the property is significant architecturally as an intact farmstead from the Industrial/Urban Dominance period of development in the Piedmont region and is particularly noteworthy for the quality and scale of the main residence. It sits upon lawn owned in 1858 by Ezra Houck that passed into the hand of James Houck by 1873. The dwelling was most likely constructed by James Houck close to the start of the fourth quarter of the 19th century. James Houck was a prominent landowner, farmer, and bank president of the period.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
 MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. F-3-158

1. Name of Property

historic name James Houck House
 common/other name Lynch Property

2. Location

street & number 8032C Liberty Road not for publication _____
 city or town Frederick vicinity X state Maryland code MD
 county Frederick code _____ zip code 21701

3. State/Federal Agency Certification N/A

4. National Park Service Certification N/A

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

		Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>			buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>			sites
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>			structures
<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>			objects
				Total

Is this property listed in the National Register?

Yes Name of Listing _____
 No

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

Inventory No. F-3-158

8032C Liberty Road
Frederick County, Maryland

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6. Function or Use
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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>Single Dwelling</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>Secondary Structure</u>
<u>AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE</u>	<u>Barn</u>
<u>AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE</u>	<u>Agricultural Outbuilding</u>

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	Sub: <u>Business</u>
<u>VACANT</u>	_____
_____	_____

=====
7. Description
=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Italianate

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone
roof Cross Gable: Patterned Slate Shingles
walls Brick: 7:1 Bond
other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

8032C Liberty Road
Frederick County, Maryland

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8. Statement of Significance
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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

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Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance circa 1870s

Significant Dates circa 1870s

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation _____

Architect/Builder Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

8032C Liberty Road
Frederick County, Maryland

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, legal records, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Bond, Issac. Map of Frederick County, 1858

Frederick County Land Records

Frederick County Will Records

Holdcraft, Jacob M. Names in Stone, v. 1. Privately published. 1966

Martin, John S. Genealogical Index to Frederick County, Maryland.
Privately published, 1992.

Sharf, J. Thomas. History of Western Maryland, v. 1. Philadelphia:
L.H. Everts and Co., 1882, p. 545.

Titus, C.O. Atlas of Frederick County, Maryland, 1873.

Williams, T.J.C., and Folger McKinsey. History of Frederick County,
Maryland. Frederick: L.R. Titsworth & Co., 1910. Revised
1979, Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Co., pp. 1375-1376.

8032C Liberty Road
Frederick County, Maryland

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10. Geographical Data
=====

Acreage of Property less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property designated 8032C Liberty Road is identified as such on a 1995 Addition Plat, Worman's Mill's Addition to Lynch and Lynch's Addition to Worman's Mill.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries include the parcel of land which contains a cohesive complex of 19th and 20th-century residential, associated residential and agricultural buildings.

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11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title Kimberly Prothro Williams, Architectural Historian
organization _____ date June 1, 1998
street & number 2220 20th Street, N.W. telephone 202/483-7558
city or town Washington, D.C. state ____ zip code 20009
=====

12. Property Owner
=====

name _____
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state ____ zip code _____
=====

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. F-3-158

Section 7 Page 1

James Houck House
name of property
Frederick County, MD
county and state

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SUMMARY

This complex of farm buildings dates from the 1870s to the early 20th century and is located approximately 1/4 mile west of the Monocacy River on the north side of Liberty Road (Route 26), northeast of Frederick City.

The property consists of the following historic structures:

- 1) a 2 1/2-story, brick house, probably dating to the 1870s;
- 2) a brick carriage house/garage (late 19th-century/early 20th-century);
- 3) a brick barn, now encased within a 20th-century veterinarian clinic (late 19th century/early 20th century); and
- 4) a small, wood pump house (early 20th century).

A brick summer kitchen with attached frame chicken houses/sheds (late 19th century) was also located on the property. It was demolished between 1996 and 1998. The parcel also has a one-story modern Ranch-style dwelling at the north, or rear end of the lot.

The property is situated close to a busy interchange, increasingly commercial in nature. The house's immediate setting is still residential; enhanced by formal shrubs and mature trees.

Main Dwelling

The main dwelling is an impressive, 2 1/2-story Italianate brick structure of L-shaped footprint with a cross-gable patterned slate roof. The house was likely built in the 1870s, based on visual evidence and historic maps. The main block is five-bays wide with a central gable that spans nearly the entire elevation

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James Houck House
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and a one-story bracketed front porch. The porch has a concrete base, square piers, scroll-sawn brackets, and a dentil molding. The brick walls of the house are constructed in 7:1 American bond, and currently painted white. The ashlar stone foundation is slightly raised above ground level. The roof is slate (scalloped and plain shingles), and extends in deep eaves with simple molding. Interior chimneys are located at the east and west gable ends of the main section.

A two-story rear service wing extends from the northwest corner of the main section. This wing is four bays long and may have been built in two stages (indicated by a seam in the roof). On the west elevation, a one-story entry porch and doorway are located at the junction of the wing and main section.

Segmentally arched windows prevail throughout the house. Those on the facade are 1/1 and those on the wing, 2/2. The windows on the south elevation of the main block are full-length on the first floor and feature louvered shutters on the second. The center window on the second floor is paired. The windows in the gable ends are full size and feature round heads. The interior features intact interior shutters.

The main entryway on the south elevation features a flat transom and narrow sidelights. Scroll brackets flank the door rail. The door itself suggests an early 20th-century replacement. A smaller doorway on the east side of the rear wing suggests the original configuration: arched molding forming twin panels over a raised panel base.

The gable walls of the main block are two bays deep. The south bay of the west wall features a one-story, three-sided bay window with dentil molding and scroll brackets, segmental arched

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windows, and a paneled base. The attic level of each gable elevation contains a single round-arched window centered in the gable.

The rear wing of the house originally had a two-story open porch recessed into the east elevation; a typical Frederick County form. The last bay of this wall protrudes from the recessed porch in an original brick enclosure that probably housed a pantry on the first floor and perhaps a storage room or closet on the second floor. The first story of the porch has a concrete base which covers an underground cistern. A modern wood exterior stairway at the northeast corner of the wing leads to one of the second-story apartments. At the northwest corner of the wing, an original window on the first story has been altered to provide a door into the first-floor unit. The opening has been partially infilled with brick. In the early 1950s, the second story porch on the east wall of the wing was enclosed. The new exterior is press board horizontal lapped siding. Modern casement windows light this enclosed area.

The original plan featured a central-passage, two-room deep main block and a service wing. Although the floor plan is still relatively intact, a considerable number of additional partition walls erected in the mid-20th century can be found in the northeastern part of the first floor. These were mostly added to create a bathroom, closets, and a dressing area. The staircase features a mahogany top rail; dark-stained, turned balusters and newel post; and bracketed closer design. The second story landing is now enclosed. The first story floors are covered with carpet in most areas, but the stair treads and other visible sections are pine boards. The plaster walls are covered with mid-20th century wallpaper. The door frames in the center hall have shallow pediments and crossetted frames. In the

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flanking parlor spaces, the door and window frames are slightly pedimented, but do not have crossettes. In both sides of the first story, the fireplace openings are closed off and the mantelpieces have been removed.

There are two rooms located on the first floor of the rear service wing. The one nearest the main section apparently served as the original dining room. A simple wood mantelpiece with wood brackets is located on the wall between the two rooms of the wing. Its exterior chimney is still intact above the slate roof of the wing. The northernmost room of the wing, the original kitchen, has been considerably altered, but an enclosed stairway to the second floor is still located at the north end of the room.

The second story of the house has much of the same door and window trim as in the first story. Two small, simple wood mantels with Tudor-arched openings and plain surfaces are located in the chambers to either side of the main hall.

Outbuildings

Carriage House/Garage: Located behind the house and slightly to the west, this two-story brick building was probably designed as a carriage house or early garage. It features a standing-seam metal roof and two, 1/1 windows in the gable end. The west elevation has a wide area of brick infill, indicating that the building housed a vehicle(s). A door cut and 3/3 window have been added to the south elevation. A metal, leanto garage also has been added to the north wall.

Barn/Animal Hospital: The 1 1/2-story brick structure that is now used as the principal building of the Glade Valley Animal

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Hospital was probably erected in the late 19th century as the main barn. It features the same, scalloped barge board as the summer kitchen and indicates a similar construction period. It is located northwest of the house, parallel to the driveway. A painting of the farmstead done in the 1950s by an owner's daughter showed that the building originally featured a series of vehicle doors along its east elevation. The original barn building is currently encased on three sides by a brick veneered, one-story shed structure that services the Animal Hospital. This addition surrounds the barn, projecting at the northeast corner. The building's gable roof is currently covered with asphalt shingles.

Pump House: This one-story, flush vertical board pump house is located immediately east of the carriage house/garage at the rear of the main dwelling's north wing. Its gable roof is covered in asphalt shingle. A door is cut into the south gable wall and the west wall features a 2/2 window.

Summer Kitchen/Chicken House: Prior to its demolition, this one-story, detached brick structure was located approximately 25 feet from the rear of the ell and likely served as the summer kitchen. It featured a gable roof covered with asphalt shingles and an interior end chimney along the north wall. A paneled and glazed door was located in the west elevation. The building has serpentine barge boards at its eaves; a feature found on several of the outbuildings. The structure featured two, 6/6 windows.

Attached to the north gable end of the summer kitchen are two frame structures likely built in the early 20th century. The northernmost section was probably a free-standing chicken house. It featured board and batten siding and a standing seam metal roof. At a later date, still in the early 20th century, a one-

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story frame structure was built between the north end of the summer kitchen and the chicken house, linking the two. The infill may have been a feed shed, and had tongue-and-groove siding and a shed metal roof.

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James Houck House
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The James Houck farmstead is significant architecturally as a Late Victorian farmstead and represents the distinctive characteristics of this type of property in Frederick County. It was built by one of the members of a locally prominent family. The buildings at the farm reflect the physical layout of a 4th quarter farmyard at a time when farming was the way of life for most residents of the County. The main dwelling is an Italianate mansion befitting a wealthy farmer of the area. The individual outbuildings within the complex represent good examples of domestic and agricultural architecture of the period. The brick construction of the corresponding outbuildings and the barge boards on the eaves of the barn and summer kitchen further unite the grouping of buildings on the lot into a harmonious whole.

The main house appears to have been built by James Houck (1844-1931), a wealthy farmer and president of the Franklin Savings Bank of Frederick, who, with his brothers, held four farms in the immediate area. The Houck family brothers descended from prominent landowner and businessman Ezra Houck (1802-1878) and his wife, Catharine Bentz Houck. James Houck graduated from Frederick public schools and Frederick City College. He entered the drygoods business, but eventually returned to the family's farm to make a living. His home farm (the house documented) contained 205 acres of agricultural land. He also owned three additional farms beyond the Liberty Road farm, making Mr. Houck one of the county's largest land owners. Houck was a Democrat and served for many years as the president of the Franklin Savings bank. He married Alice Cramer in 1869 and had three children.

Houck's dwelling, though not ornate, is imposing in its ample proportions and very soundly constructed. It features the footprint, massing, segmentally arched windows, bracketed porches, and cross-gable roof typical of the development of Frederick County in the beginning of the 4th quarter of the 19th

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
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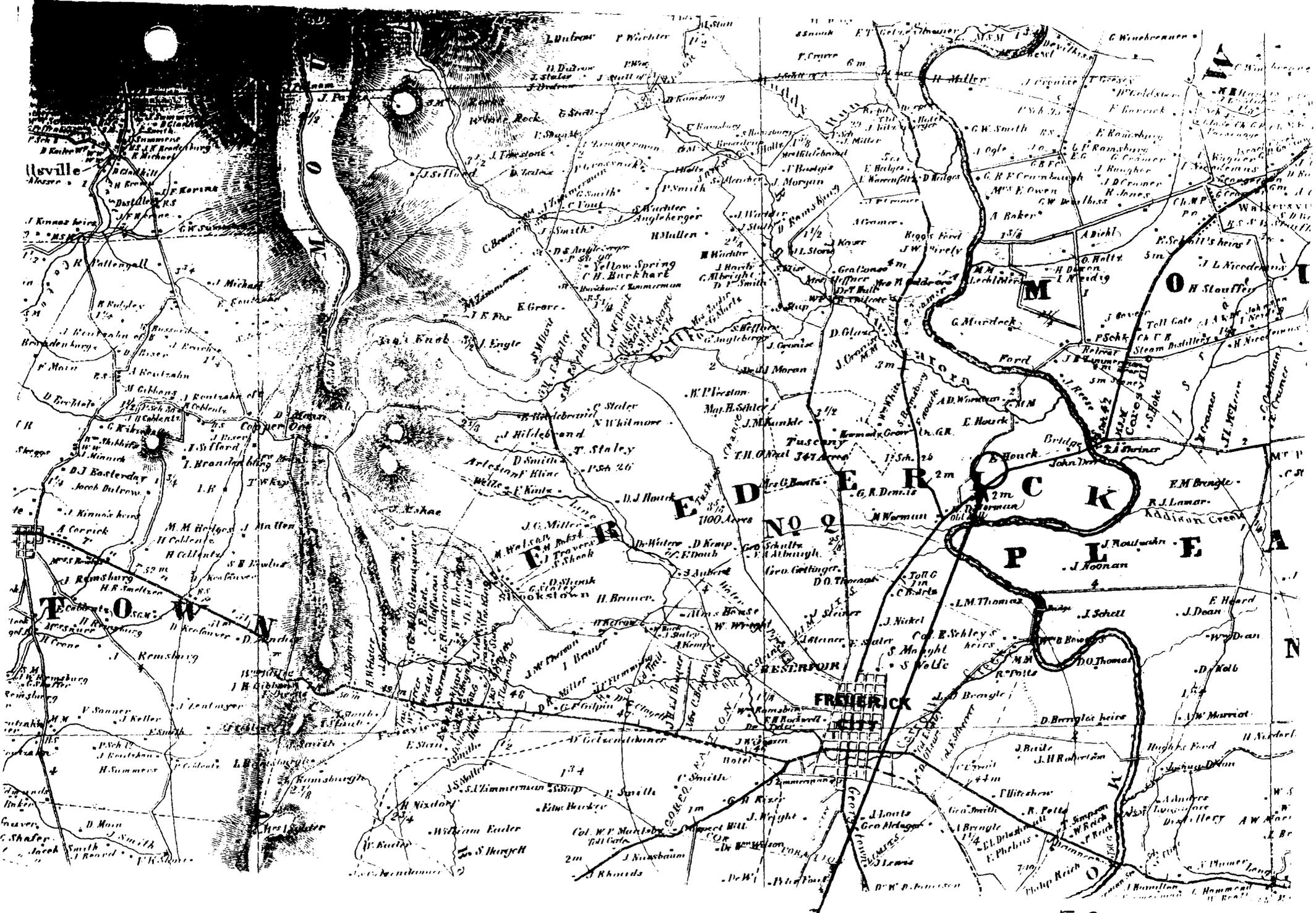
Inventory No. F-3-158

Section 8 Page 2

James Houck House
name of property
Frederick County, MD
county and state

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century.

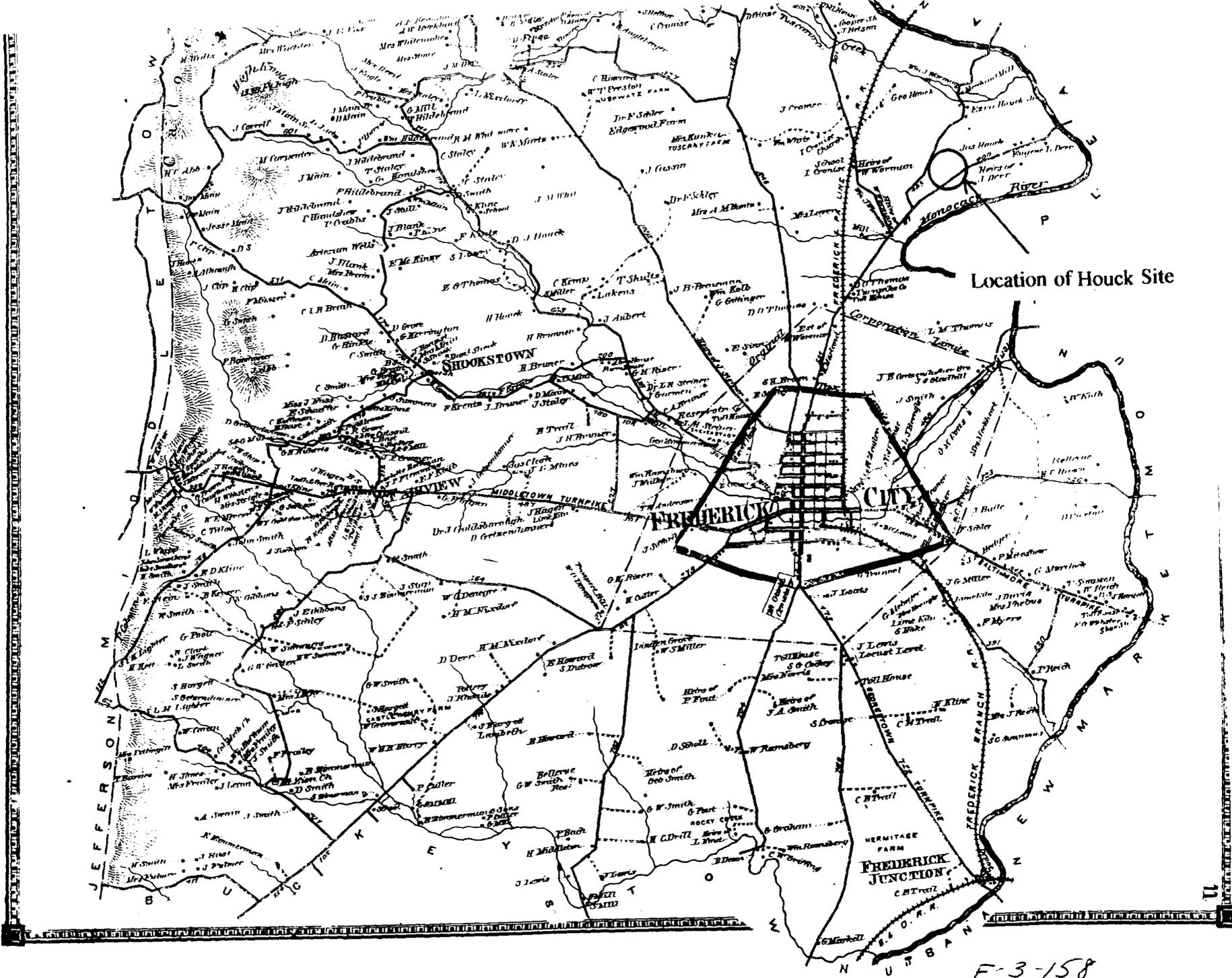
Two other extant Houck houses noted for their architectural significance were built by George and Ezra Houck, Jr. (brothers of James). Spring Bank (MHT form F-3-22; National Register of Historic Places) is an 1880 Italianate villa built by George Houck. The Ezra Houck, Jr. House (or, the Professional Building) at 228 N. Market Street in Frederick (FHD-143) is an 1893 dwelling in an eclectic version of the Queen Anne style. Also significant in architecture, but no longer in existence, was the George Houck House, more commonly called Mill Pond House or the Bowers Farms (MHT Form F-3-138), a circa 1820-1825 brick farmhouse erected by the grandfather of the three Houck brothers.



Isaac Bond Map, Frederick County, 1858

Location of Houck Site

F-3-158
 James Houck Farm
 MD Rt. 26, Frederick County



Atlas of Frederick County, 1873

F-3-158
 James Houck Farm
 MD Rt. 26, Frederick County

NOTE: APPLICATION IS HEREIN MADE FOR ADDING TO ADJOINING INDICATED TRANSFER OF LAND SOLELY FOR ADDING TO ADJOINING HOLDINGS AND NOT FOR DEVELOPMENT. ANY FUTURE SUBDIVISION OF THIS LAND OR BUILDING DEVELOPMENT, WILL BE SUBMITTED IN THE REGULAR MANNER FOR YOUR APPROVAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING SUBDIVISION RULES AND REGULATIONS.

ORIGINAL 482/114	122752	OR	2.8180 ACRES
- PAR "B"	4367	OR	0.1003 ACRES
- PAR "A"	4367	OR	0.1003 ACRES
- PAR "C"	5766	OR	0.1324 ACRES
NEW AREA 482/114	128518	OR	2.9504 ACRES

KEY MAP
TAX MAP 57
PARCEL 132
1" = 400'

OWNER'S CER

WE, DONALD R. LYNCH AND ELEA DEVELOPMENT CO., AND FREDERICK THE OWNERS OF THE PROPERTIES HEREBY ADOPT THIS PLAN OF SURVEY OF THE APPROVAL OF THIS PLAN ESTABLISH THE MINIMUM BUILDING DEDICATE THE STREETS, WALKWAYS FOR PUBLIC USE, UNLESS OTHERWISE

DATE DONALD R. LYNCH
DATE WORMALD DEVELOP. C.

SURVEYOR'S C

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FIELD SURVEY AND THE BEST OF MY PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE IS CORRECT. THAT IT IS A SURVEY CONVEYED BY GRACE L. THOMPSON AND BY ROBERT K. WORMALD, JR. AND PART OF THE LAND PREVIOUSLY CONVEYED BY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND, ON DEC. 12, 1949 AND MAY 24, 1980, AND RECORDED AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND, LIBER 482 FOLIO 114, LIBER 1-24 PAGE 166.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
OCT 26 1995

DATE

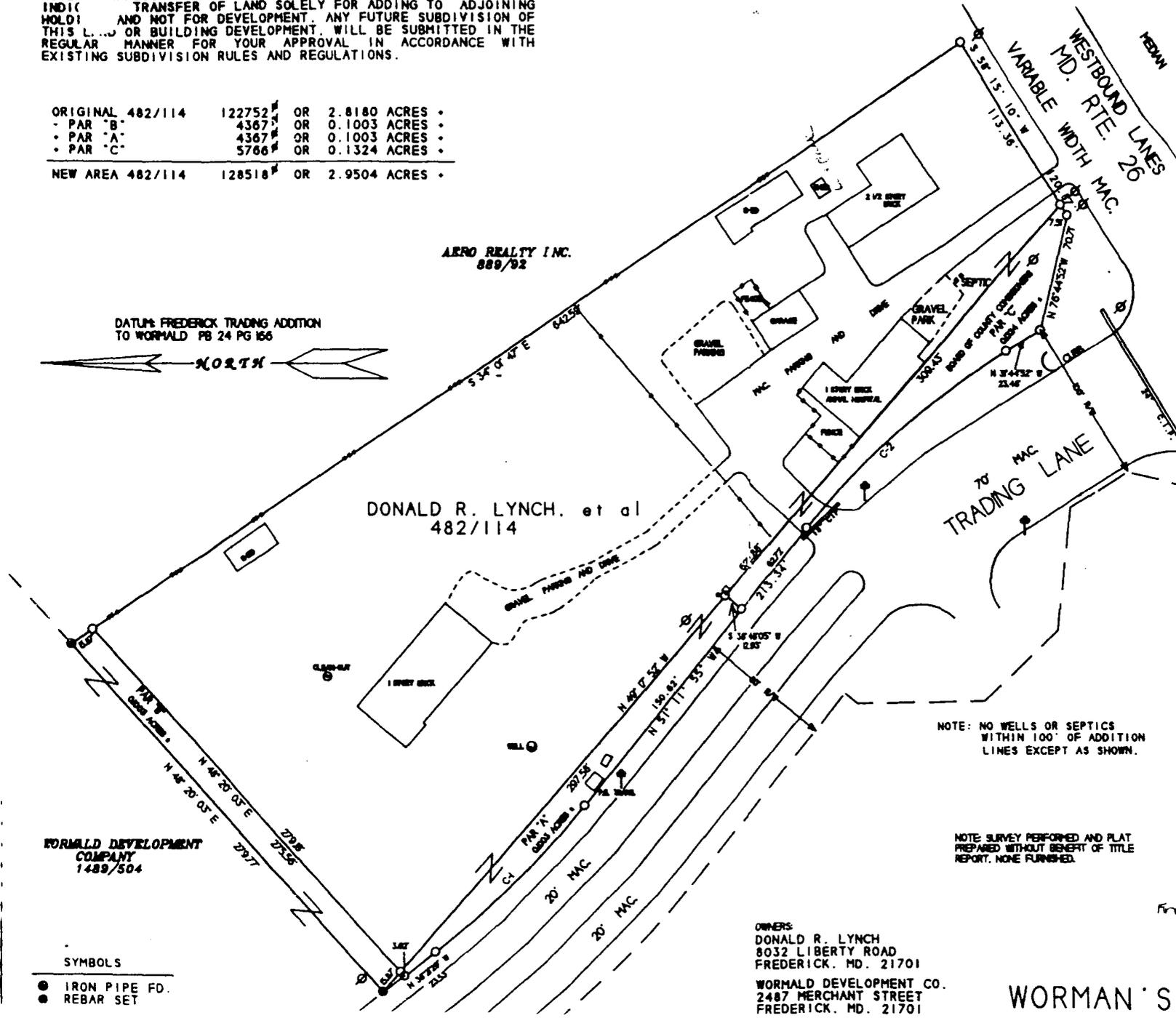
THE OWNERS HAVE SIGNED AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS DAY OF

NOTARY PUBLIC

Final S.O. 95-49

ADDITION PLANNING
WORMAN'S MILL'S ADDITION

DATUM: FREDERICK TRADING ADDITION TO WORMALD PB 24 PG 166



AERO REALTY INC.
889/92

DONALD R. LYNCH, et al
482/114

NOTE: NO WELLS OR SEPTICS WITHIN 100' OF ADDITION LINES EXCEPT AS SHOWN.

NOTE: SURVEY PERFORMED AND PLAT PREPARED WITHOUT BENEFIT OF TITLE REPORT, NONE FURNISHED.

OWNERS:
DONALD R. LYNCH
8032 LIBERTY ROAD
FREDERICK, MD. 21701

WORMALD DEVELOPMENT CO.
2487 MERCHANT STREET
FREDERICK, MD. 21701

WORMALD DEVELOPMENT COMPANY
1489/504

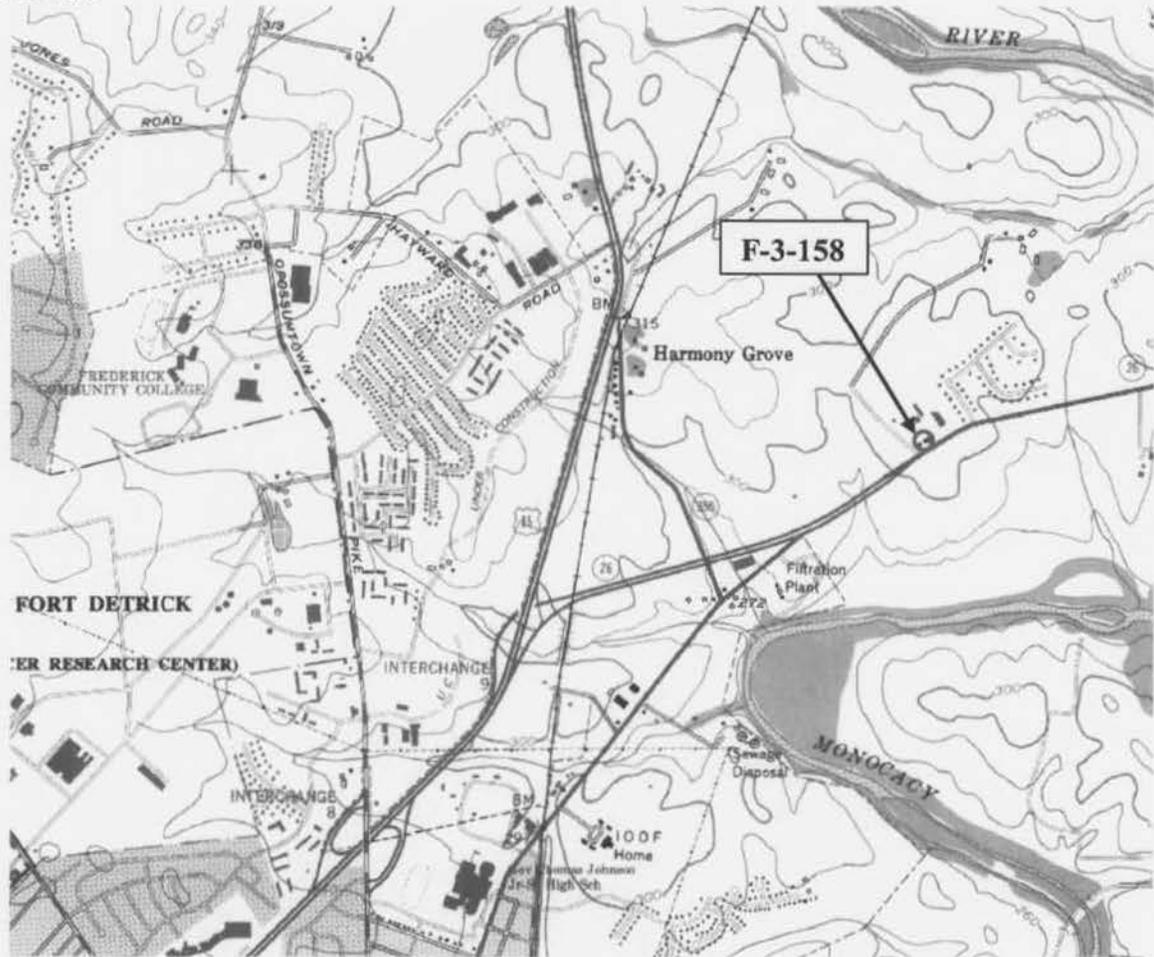
SYMBOLS

- IRON PIPE F.D.
- REBAR SET

JAMES HOUCK HOUSE (F-3-158)

SITE PLAN

F-3-158
James Houck Farm, site (Lynch Property)
8032C Liberty Road (MD 26)
Frederick
Private





F-3-158

LYNCH PROPERTY / JAMES HOUCK HOUSE

8032 LIBERTY RD

FREDERICK COUNTY, MD

MAY 1998

MD SHPO

VIEW LOOKING NW

4/10



98 4 26

F-3-158

LYNCH PROPERTY / JAMES HOUCK HOUSE

8032 LIBERTY RD

FREDERICK, MD

KIM WILLIAMS

MAY 1998

MD SHPO

VIEW LOOKING NE

2/10



F-3-158
LYNCH PROPERTY / JAMES HOUCK HOUSE
8032 LIBERTY ROAD
FREDERICK COUNTY, MD
KIM WILLIAMS
MAY 1998
MD SHPO
VIEW LOOKING WEST
3/10



F-3-158

LYNCH PROPERTY / JAMES HOUCK HOUSE

8032 LIBERTY ROAD

FREDERICK COUNTY, MD

KIM WILLIAMS

MAY 1998

MD SHPO

VIEW LOOKING SOUTH

4/10



F-3-158

LYNCH PROPERTY / JAMES HOUCK HOUSE

8032 LIBERTY ROAD

FREDERICK COUNTY, MD

KIM WILLIAMS

MAY 1998

~~BE~~ MD SHPO

DETAIL OF BAY, SW ELEVATION

5/10



F-3-158

LYNCH PROPERTY/JAMES HOUCK HOUSE

8032 LIBERTY RD.

FREDERICK COUNTY, MD

KIM WILLIAMS

MAY 1998

MD SHPO

GARAGE (VIEW LOOKING WEST)

6/10



98 4 26

F-3-158

LYNCH PROPERTY/JAMES HOUCK HOUSE

8032 LIBERTY RD

FREDERICK CO, MD

KIM WILLIAMS

MAY 1998

MD SHPO

CENTER STAIR HALL

7/10



F-3-158

LYNCH PROPERTY/JAMES HOUCK HOUSE

8032 LIBERTY RD

FREDERICK CO, MD

KIM WILLIAMS

MAY 1998

MD SHPO

VIEW FROM CENTER STAIR HALL

LOOKING INTO WEST FRONT PARLOR

8/10



F-3-158

LYNCH PROPERTY/JAMES HOUCK HOUSE

8032 LIBERTY RD

FREDERICK CO, MD

KIM WILLIAMS

MAY 1998

MD SHPO

2ND FLOOR FRONT BEDROOM

9/10



F-3-158

LYNCH PROPERTY/JAMES HOUCK HOUSE

8032 LIBERTY RD

FREDERICK CO, MD

RIM WILLIAMS

MAY 1998

MD SHPO

2ND FLOOR STAIR

10/10