

F-4-69

Benjamin Shuff Farmstead  
Wolfsville vicinity  
Private

Ca. 1865-1900

The Benjamin Shuff Farmstead is centered on a circa 1875-1900 frame dwelling with two stories and three bays with post-1950 additions on the rear and east elevations and an enlarged one-story porch replacing an earlier entry porch. Accompanying the house are a mix of contributing and non-contributing outbuildings, principally the frame bank barn of about 1865 and a log blacksmith shop, now a tool shed, of about the same date. A frame privy, a wagon shed, and one of two chicken houses are the only other contributing outbuildings, several of the original structures having been demolished after 1950 in deteriorated states. The farmstead is a fair representative of the small mid to late 19th century farm with the major structures present in the dwelling, although altered, the bank barn, and at least one contributing domestic outbuilding, the privy. The spatial relationships have been maintained by the replacement buildings and its overall appearance still suggests its 19th century origin.

F-4-69  
Benjamin Shuff Farmstead  
Wolfsville  
Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont  
(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery  
Counties, and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Period:  
Agricultural-Industrial Transition, A.D. 1815-1870  
Industrial/Urban Dominance, A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes  
Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning

Resource Types:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use:  
Domestic/single dwelling/residence  
Domestic/secondary structure/other dependencies  
Agriculture/subsistence/animal facility/barn  
Agriculture/subsistence/agricultural outbuilding/tool shed  
Agriculture/subsistence/agricultural wagon shed

Known Design Source: None

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Benjamin Shuff Farmstead

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 4349 Middlepoint Road  not for publicationcity, town Wolfsville  vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Frederick

## 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Basil L. &amp; Gladys Johnson

street &amp; number 4349 Middlepoint Road telephone no.:

city, town Myersville state and zip code Md. 21773

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber 484

street &amp; number 100 W. Patrick Street folio 26

city, town Frederick state Md. 21701

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. F-4-69

<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 of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 6

The Benjamin Shuff Farmstead is an originally agricultural complex now used as a private residence, centered on a frame, two-story dwelling built during the period 1875-1900 to replace an earlier residence which burned, and a group of eight domestic and agricultural outbuildings, of which five are contributing resources, including a frame bank barn of about 1865, a wagon shed, a blacksmith shop now used as a tool shed, a chicken house, and a privy, all dating from about 1865-1900. The farmstead is located on the south side of Middlepoint Road about 1/4 mile east of Wolfsville Road, near Wolfsville, Frederick County, Maryland. The wagon shed and barn are nearest the road on the bank of a small stream which parallels and separates the farmstead from Middlepoint Road. The dwelling is set back about 50 yards and the outbuildings are arranged east and northeast of the house.

The principal elevation of the house faces north and has three bays. The house has asbestos shingle siding on the second story and pressboard siding on the first story under a one-story porch across the north side. The original principal entrance was in the center bay with a small entry porch sheltering the doorway. During the 1950's, the entrance was relocated to a small shed addition on the east side of the house. The original siding was german and remains exposed on the east and south elevations above one-story additions made after 1950. The gable roof is covered with corrugated metal and an exterior brick chimney is located on the west gable end. The sash is 6/6 replacement on the second story and 8/8 replacement on the first story. Both the shed addition on the east and the one-story rear wing were built after 1950. The interior was not accessible for this survey; however, Mr. Shuff, the present owner, said the interior plan and finishes have been considerably altered and the stairway relocated.

Outbuildings:

Privy: The frame privy is the only domestic outbuilding which contributes, as the other structures have been demolished or replaced with a new building, such as the concrete block smokehouse erected in the 1950's. The privy is located just east of the smokehouse and has weatherboard siding and a composition shed roof. A vertical board door is located in the south elevation. The privy appears to date from about 1900.

Blacksmith shop: The log blacksmith shop is a one-story structure located east of the house. It has vertical exterior siding and a corrugated metal roof. Currently used as a tool shop, it has a wide doorway in the south elevation. This building may date from about 1865.

Barn: The frame bank barn was probably also built about 1865, having up-and-down saw marks on the main structural beams of the interior. The exterior vertical siding also has some early boards among some replaced in the early 20th century. The stall level on the south elevation is enclosed with horizontal flush boards. The roof is standing seam metal.

(Continued on separate sheet)

# 8. 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 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** C. 1865-1900 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
 and/or  
 Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  
 Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Benjamin Shuff Farmstead is a fair example of a late 19th century farmstead, with a circa 1875-1900 frame house replacing an earlier dwelling, and a frame bank barn and log blacksmith shop dating from about 1865. Although much altered in the mid-20th century, and missing several earlier outbuildings, the grouping retains some of the spatial relationships and elements which characterize Frederick County farms from the early 19th century to the mid-20th century. These are the dwelling, the bank barn, the wagon shed, the chicken house, and the privy, among which are scattered non-contributing replacement buildings filling in the domestic and agricultural needs of the farm, such as the 1950's smokehouse.

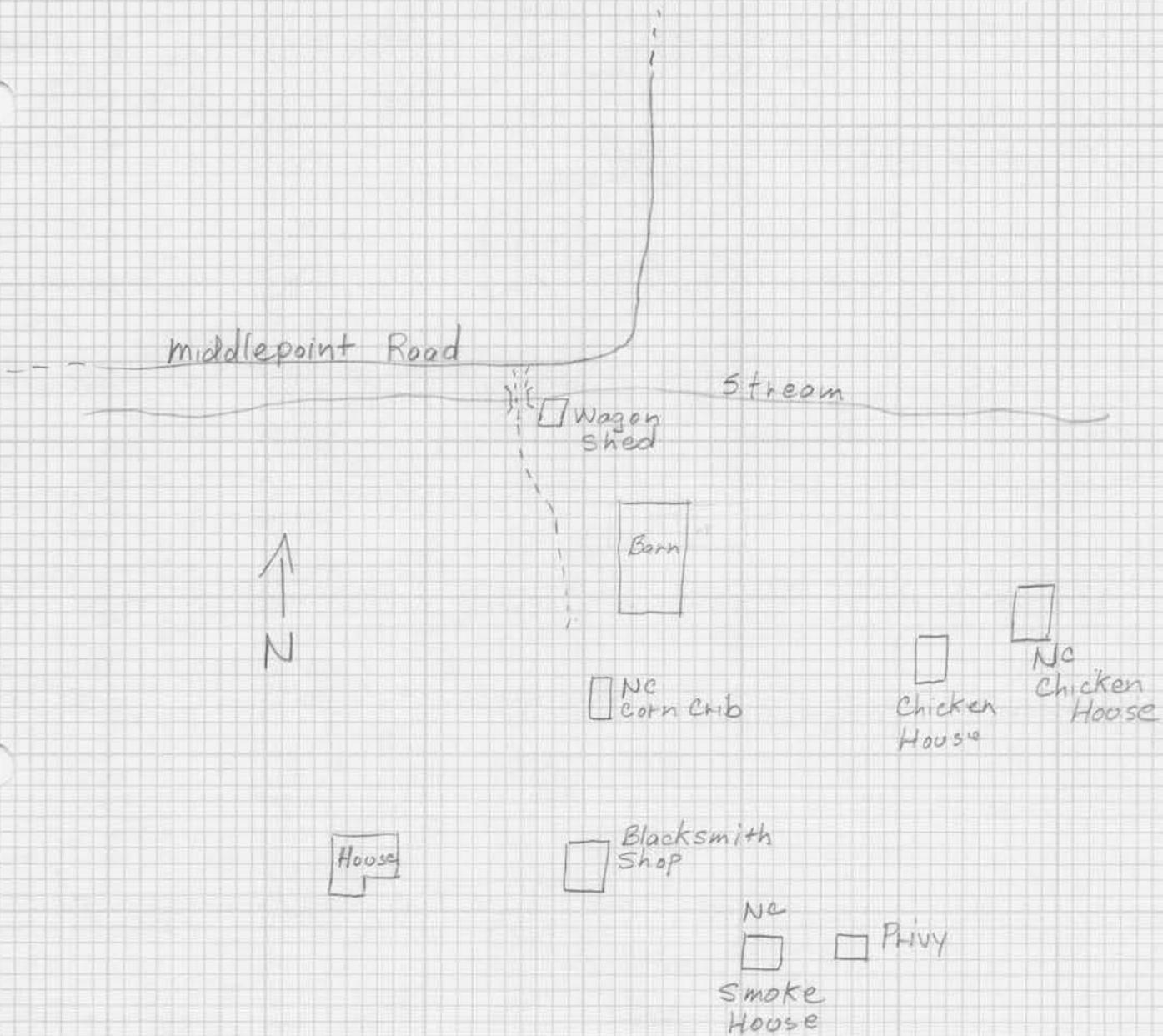
The date of the farmstead's earliest buildings is based on title research which indicates that Benjamin Shuff began purchasing land in the vicinity in late 1864. The 1873 Titus Atlas map shows B. Shuff, Jr. as the owner of the farm. The title chain continues the Shuff family ownership to 1915. Most of the alterations to the buildings and the demolition of several deteriorated outbuildings occurred in the 1950's after Mr. and Mrs. Johnson acquired the property, there having been two interim owners since 1915.



7.1 Description (Continued)

Wagon shed: The frame wagon shed is located on the edge of the stream near Middlepoint Road. It has an open south elevation and vertical board siding on the other elevations. The gable roof is standing seam metal. This building was probably erected in the 1890's.

Chicken house: The c. 1900 frame chicken house is one of two in the farmstead, the second, noncontributing coop having been built after 1950. The contributing structure has vertical siding and a corrugated metal shed roof. Its principal elevation faces south and the building is located east of the barn.



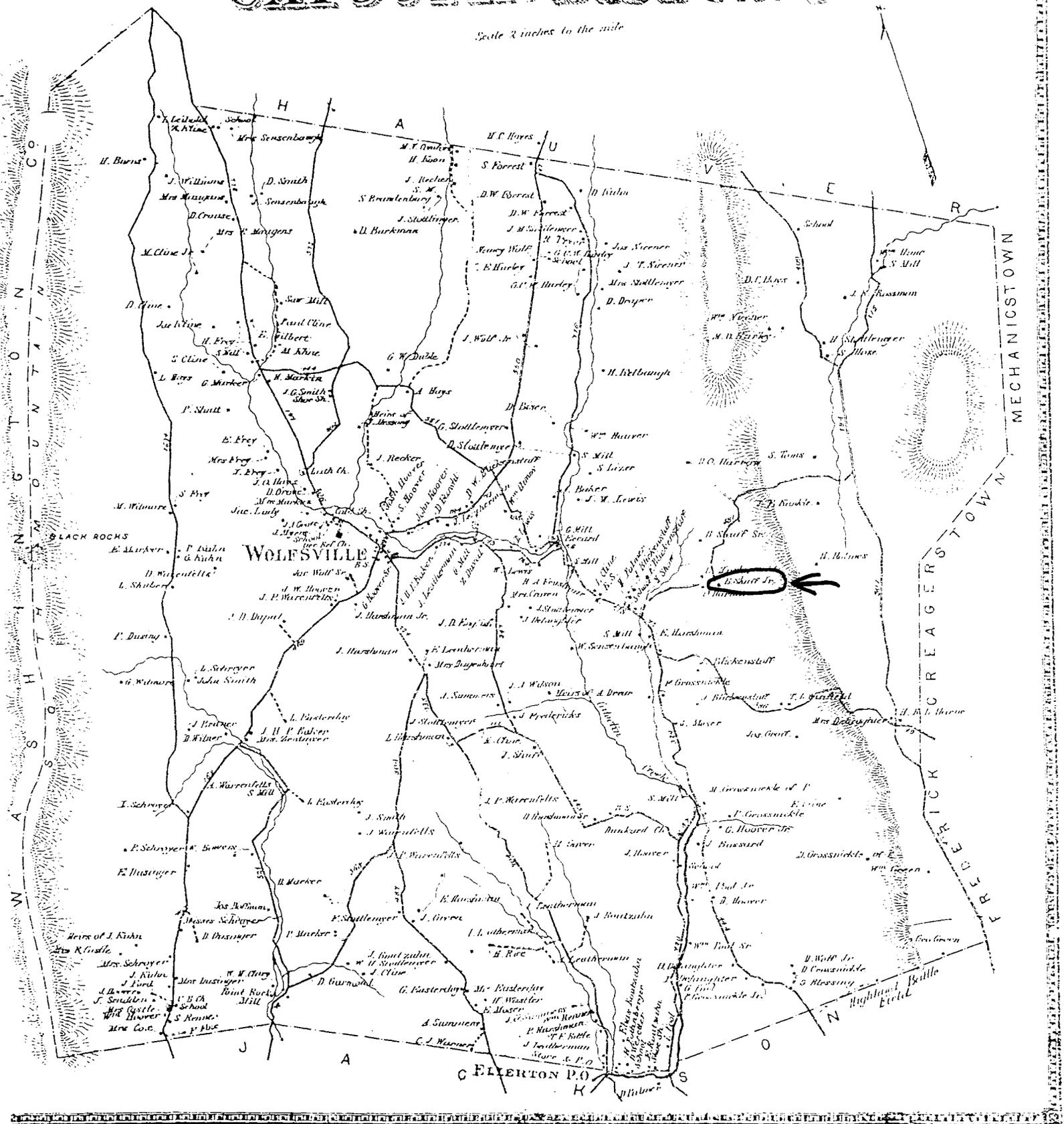
F-4-69  
 Benjamin Shuff Farmstead  
 Frederick County

Janet Davis  
 May 12, 1992  
 Not to Scale



# CATOCTIN DIST No. 6

Scale 2 inches to the mile

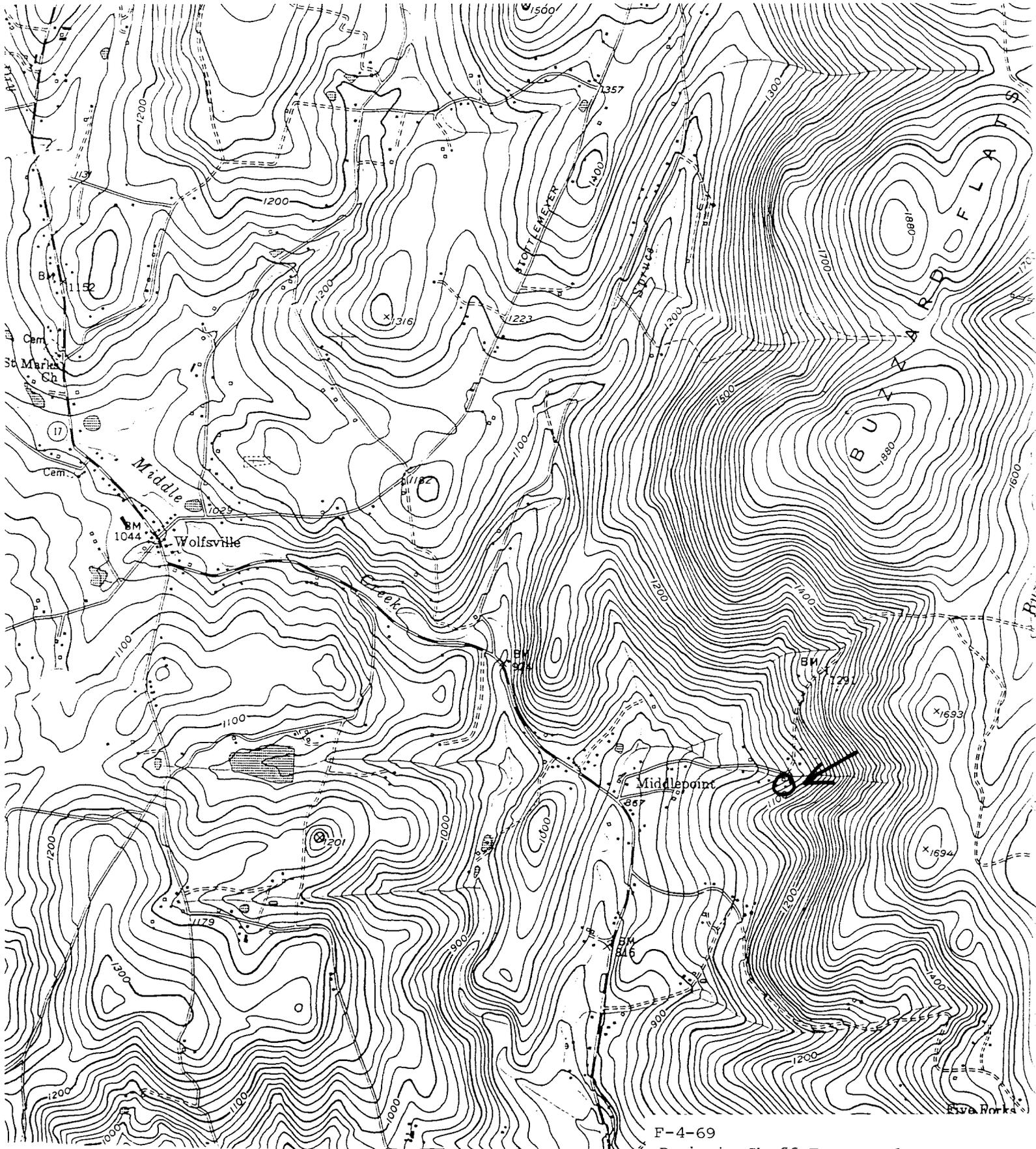


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Benjamin Shuff Farmstead

Frederick County

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



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Benjamin Shuff Farmstead  
Frederick County  
USGS Myersville, Md.  
1:24000



F-4-67

Benjamin Shuff Farmstead  
Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

May 1992

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.

North elevation

1/5



F. 4-69

Benjamin Siro's Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

Nov. 1972

Neg. loc. in Md. SHPO. Crownsville, Md

Southwest corner view

2/5



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Benjamin Shuff Farmstead  
Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

May 1992

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.

Blacksmith shop, south elevation

3/5



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Benjamin Shull Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

May 1992

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO. Stowrsville, Md

Barn, west elevation

5.5



F-4-69

Benjamin Shuff Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

May 1992

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.

Slod, south elevation

4/5