

F-7-42

Jeremiah T. Browning House  
Kemptown vicinity  
Private

Ca. 1850; ca. 1908

The Jeremiah T. Browning House was probably built about 1850 by Browning, the first teacher at the Kemptown School (demolished) which was located near the driveway entrance to the property. It was a simple vernacular version of the Italianate style, with a three-bay elevation featuring a side hall and high, narrow windows with 4/4 sash and a low, hipped metal roof. In about 1908, the original small rear wing was enlarged and a one-story porch was added to the main elevation and the north side of the house and the wing. The surviving frame wash house was also built about this date. Two frame garages on the north side of the house were built about 1934. Although its original german siding is now covered with vinyl, the house still has the appearance of an Italianate structure on the main elevation.

F-7-42

Jeremiah T. Browning House  
Kemptown  
Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont  
(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Crederick, 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/kitchen  
Domestic/secondary structure/garage

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 Jeremiah T. Browning House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 12345 Fingerboard Road  not for publication

city, town Kemptown  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 Maxine F. Browning

street & number 12345 Fingerboard Road telephone no.:

city, town Monrovia state and zip code MD 21770

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber 520

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street folio 165

city, town Frederick state MD 21701

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

repository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. F-7-42

<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: 4

The Jeremiah T. Browning House is a two-story frame dwelling in a vernacular version of the Italianate style erected about 1850 with an enlarged wing and one-story porch added about 1908. The house has three contributing outbuildings, a frame wash house built about 1908, two deteriorated frame garages built in the early 1930's, and a non-contributing 1950's privy. The grouping is located on the south side of Fingerboard Road opposite the intersection of Bartholows Road near Kemptown, Frederick County, Maryland. The buildings are sited about 100 yards off the road overlooking an agricultural field. Dates for the buildings were estimated by architectural details and information from Miss Maxine F. Browning, the current owner.

The earliest section of the house is a three-bay, side-hall plan house with a low-pitched standing seam hipped roof. The exterior is currently covered with vinyl siding, but has german siding under the artificial material. The foundation is stone and is partially exposed on the southeast elevation. The principal elevation on the northeast side has a one-story porch with turned columns added in about 1908 which extends to the north elevation and along the north side of the two-story frame wing which replaced or greatly enlarged a smaller original rear wing, also in 1908. On the south side of the wing is an integral two-story porch. In about 1920, the wood deck of the north and south porches was replaced with poured concrete, leaving the northeast main elevation with a wood deck. The windows are tall and narrow, with 4/4 sash. The main door is a four-panel type. Windows in the enlarged rear wing are 2/2. The interior of the house is a simple one-room plan with a side hall in the 1850's section and the wing has two rooms. The parlor has a vernacular style mantelpiece with roughly carved decoration of no clearly identifiable design, but suggesting the work of rural craftsmen of the mid-19th century influenced by both German and English sources. In the early 20th century rear wing is a mantelpiece with the incised floral and geometric motifs of the Arts and Crafts Movement.

## Outbuildings:

Wash house: The circa 1908 frame wash house is located south of the rear wing. It has german siding and a corrugated metal roof. Six over six windows are located on the northeast and west elevations and a vertical board door opens on the northwest gable end. The interior is unfinished and Miss Browning says a stove was located in the rear of the single room and was used for heating wash water and during hog butchering.

Garages: The two frame garages were built in about 1934, according to Miss Browning, at the time that two of her sisters acquired automobiles to travel to teaching jobs in the New Market vicinity. Each is in deteriorated condition and has weatherboard siding and a shed corrugated metal roof. Double swing doors open on the northeast elevations. The garages are located northwest of the house.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. \_\_\_\_\_

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 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 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
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input type="checkbox"/> local	

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

The Jeremiah T. Browning House is minimally significant for the Italianate architecture of the main section. This part has the hipped roof and square plan with tall, narrow window openings which characterize the style, but the scale of the Browning House and its extremely simple plan reveal the vernacular origin of the house. According to family genealogical sources, the most likely builder of the house was Jeremiah T. Browning, who was the first teacher at the Kemptown School which stood near Fingerboard Road just west of the driveway entrance to the Browning House. It was demolished after it closed in the early 1930's. Remembrances by Kemptown residents in Memories of Kemptown (1989) state that the spring at the Browning House was used to supply drinking water for the school. In 1908, Ferdinand . Browning, the father of the current owner, Miss Maxine F. Browning, enlarged the rear wing and built the wash house. Other outbuildings included a meat house which has been demolished.

In the architectural context of Frederick County, the Browning House is a marginal example of the Italianate style, the more true examples of the style having a larger scale and elaborate decorations at the windows, doors, and cornice line. The intent of the builder was clearly to suggest the sophistication of the style through the use of the most visible elements, the roofline and the windows.



23-5 Fingeleard

Lot Size, Description,  
Other Information,  
Original Tracts

F-7-42

Liber/Folio

Grantee

Grantor

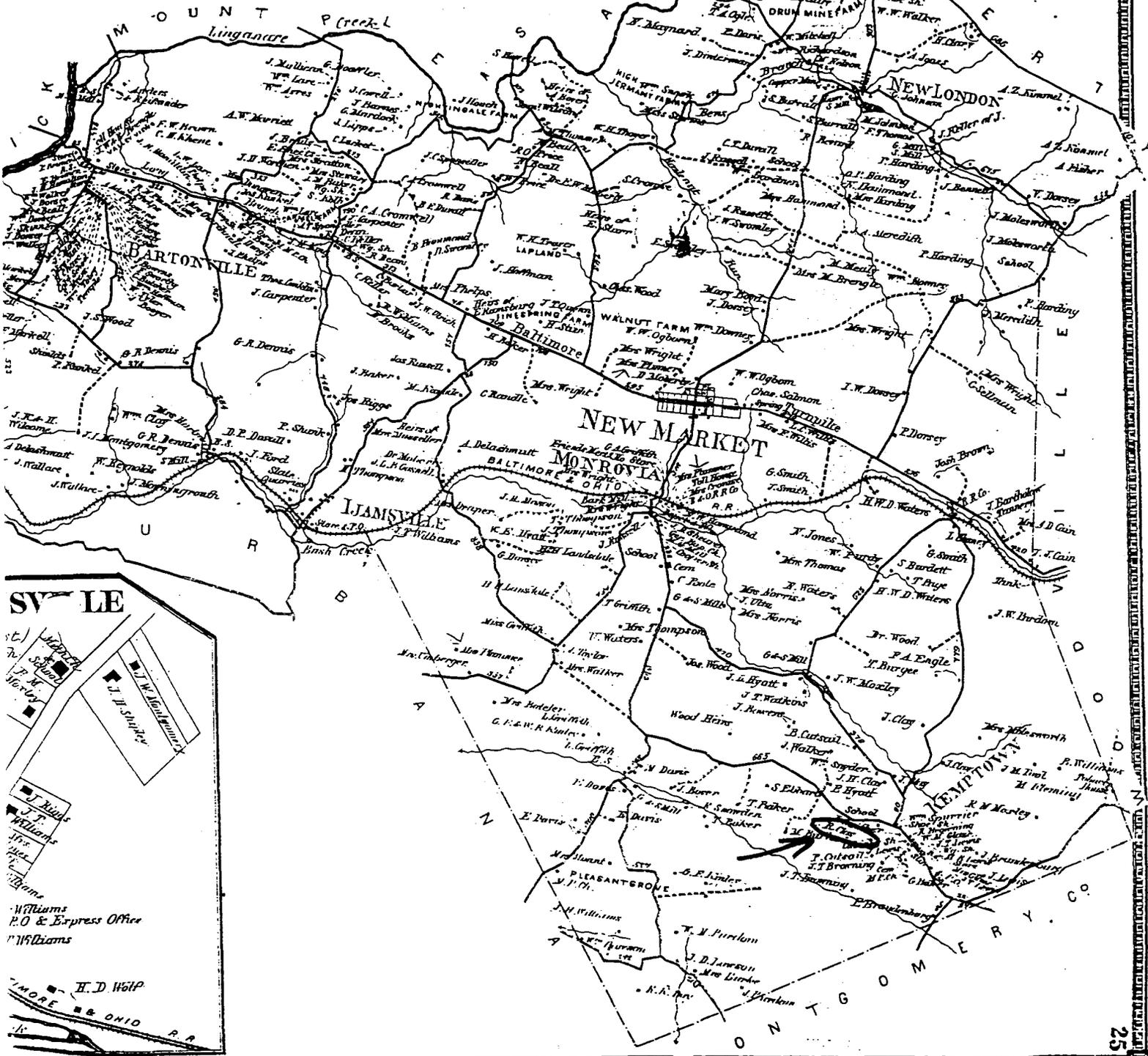
Cost

Miscellaneous

520/165 11 Aug 53	Maurie F. Browning	Mary E. + Wm. F. Brown Glenn S. + Edith	"part of 'Halden Spring'" "part of 'Snake Post Thicket'" Browning + 2 other parcels	29 a.	335/553 12a. 395/523
4UB 308/47 14 Jan 14	Ferdinand D. Browning et ux	Jeremiah Browning et ux	29 a.		
AF 7/133 10 Apr 1883	Jeremiah Browning	John W. Shaw	24 a.		\$1500
		(no further refs)			
335/553 24 May 21	Ferdinand D. Browning et ux	Mary E. + Lynn Browning	12 a.		
326/331 2 Jan 19	Lynn Browning + Nora E. Davis	Sarah E. Browning widow of Reverdy Browning, et ux, heirs of Reverdy Browning	"part of 'Henry + Elizabeth'" 146 a.	# 833-33	
JLJ 5/151 31 Dec 1892	Amanda M. Browning	J. Thomas Browning	146 a.	"Henry + Elizabeth"	\$1500 CM 4/420
	Jeremiah S. Browning	Lucilla Browning			
CM 4/420 7 Aug 1869	Benjamin Cutsail	J. Thos. Browning + Amanda Browning	"Tuneis' Chance"		\$25
	J. Thos. Browning	Wm. J. Glaze			

# MARKET DIST No. 9

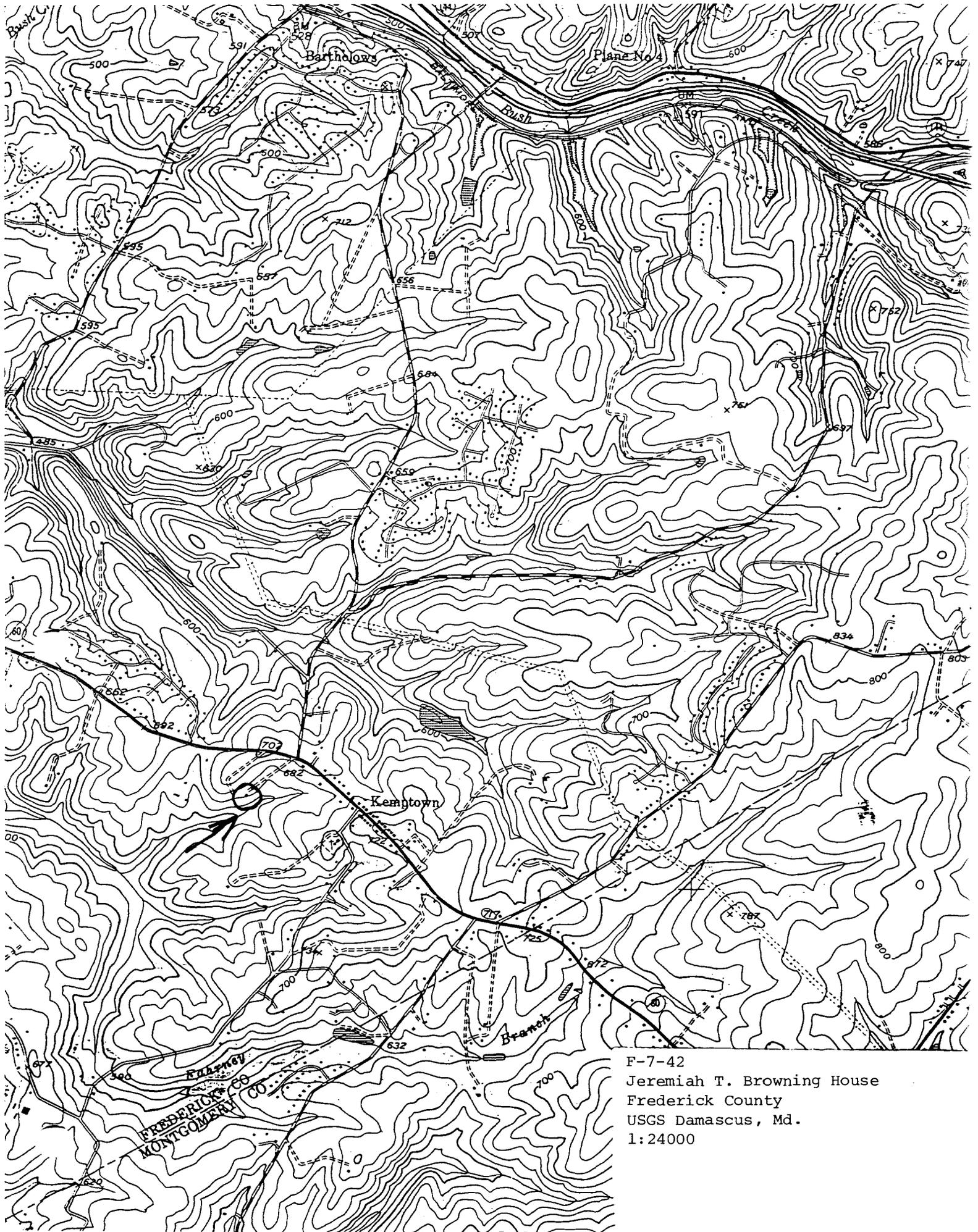
Scale 7 1/2 inches to the mile



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Jeremiah T. Browning House  
Frederick County  
C.O. Titus, Atlas of Frederick  
County, 1873



F-7-42  
 Jeremiah T. Browning House  
 Frederick County  
 Isaac Bond, Map of Frederick County,  
 1858



F-7-42  
Jeremiah T. Browning House  
Frederick County  
USGS Damascus, Md.  
1:24000















