

F-8-119
Henry Baker Farmstead

Ca. 1825-1940

F-8-119

Unionville, Maryland vicinity

Frederick County, Maryland

The Henry Baker Farmstead is a complex of domestic and agricultural buildings dating from the early 19th century through the mid-20th century which illustrates a working farm's transition from a self-sufficient unit to the integrated dairy operation of a modern farm. The log and brick dwelling house and a log smokehouse exemplify the construction techniques of the second quarter of the 19th century. The complex also includes several chicken houses, a summer kitchen, corn cribs, a hog barn and a hay barn. The bank barn's alteration to include a milking parlor and a milk house are evidence of health regulation of the dairy industry in the mid-20th century.

Survey No. F-8-119
Henry Baker Farmstead
Unionville, Maryland vicinity
Frederick County, Maryland

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

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

Chronological/Development Period:
Rural Agrarian Intensification 1680-1815 A.D.
Agricultural-Industrial Transition 1815-1870 A.D.
Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930 A.D.
Modern Period 1930-Present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes:
Agriculture
Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Community Planning

Resource Type:
Category: Buildings

Environment: Rural

Function & Use:
Domestic/Single dwelling/residence
Domestic/Secondary structure/smokehouse
Domestic/Secondary structure/kitchen
Agriculture/Subsistence/animal facility/barn
Agriculture/Subsistence/storage/granary
Agriculture/Subsistence/animal facility/chicken coop

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 Henry Baker Farmstead

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 14817 Barnes Road

not for publication

city, town Unionville

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 checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	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 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 Chester & Beulah Black

street & number 14817 Barnes Road

telephone no.:

city, town New Windsor

state and zip code MD 21776

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse

liber 481

street & number 100 W. Patrick St.

folio 479

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-8-119

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date of move _____

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

Contributing Resource Count: 21

(Typed on separate sheet)

8. Significance

Survey No. F-8-119

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates Ca. 1825–1940 **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.

(Typed on separate sheet)

7.1 Description

The Henry Baker Farmstead is an agricultural complex centered around a log, frame and brick dwelling built in the first quarter of the 19th century with a log smokehouse of approximately the same period and 13 domestic outbuildings including a circa 1890 frame springhouse, a frame summer kitchen of the same period, a log smokehouse of about the second quarter of the 19th century, and several chicken houses dating from the first quarter of the 20th century; the agricultural outbuildings include a frame bank barn of the last quarter of the 19th century, a pull-through corn crib/wagon shed, a single corn crib, and a hay barn of the same period, and several non-contributing tractor and equipment sheds and animal shelters of the period from 1945 through the 1970's. The farmstead is located on the southwest side of Barnes Road at the end of a driveway about 1500 ft. off the road. The overall condition of the farmstead is good and it is a working farm at the present time.

The dwelling house has two sections, one a two-story log building with four bays facing east and a two-story brick ell extending west from the northwest corner of the log section. The log section is covered with clapboard siding and has a one-story porch extending across the width of the elevation. The topography on the east side of the house slopes away, exposing the stone foundation of the house and the porch and leaving storage niches under the porch. The access door to the cellar is under the porch in the southernmost niche. The porch has square columns and a balustrade with paneled bases. The log section has exterior end chimneys with a partially exposed stone base on the south chimney. The facade has two doorways in the center bays, one with a bullnose surround and the other with plain architraves. The windows are 6/6 and have louvered shutters. Square attic windows with 2/2 sash flank the chimneys. An extra bay appears to have been added on the south end, with a corresponding relocation of the chimney. The date of this addition has not been determined, but probably took place in the second quarter of the 19th century. The standing seam metal roof has a box cornice in the log section.

The brick ell is laid in 6-course American bond and contains two rooms on both levels. The window and door openings have plain wood lintels and corner blocks. The sash is 6/6. The cornice is corbelled and the roof is an extension of the standing seam metal roof of the log section. A one-story open porch is located on the south side of the ell.

The interior plan of the house is basically two rooms in the log section on both floors. The south parlor has a stair case in the southwest corner. It was probably enclosed originally and opened when the extension of the south end was erected, possibly in the second quarter of the 19th century. The chimney was probably relocated to the exterior of the south end at the same time. The additional small room is now used as a shop; its original function is unknown. The north parlor has plaster walls under late 19th century wallpaper and a mid-20th century hardwood floor. A chair rail extends around the room at the sill level of the windows. A simple mantel with fluted panels defines the chimney opening. The south parlor has a linoleum floor over the original wide flooring and plaster walls under wallpaper. There is no chair rail in this room. The addition room on the south has wide board floors and grained wood trim. The walls here are painted plaster under early 20th century wallpaper. The mantel is similar to that in the north parlor. In the brick ell, the dining room space is also plaster with wallpaper. The kitchen is an early 20th century remodeling, with papered walls and wood cupboards of the period. An enclosed stair to the second floor is located in the northwest corner.

7.2 Description (continued)

Following are brief descriptions of the outbuildings:

Domestic Outbuildings:

Summer kitchen: A frame, two-story rectangular building of about 1875, the summer kitchen has German siding and an interior end brick chimney on the south end gable. A single door opens in the north gable end. The east and west elevations have two window bays each with 6/6 sash. The foundation is stone and the roof is standing seam metal. The door is vertical flush boards with a 2/2 glazed upper panel. A shed canopy extends over the door. A bell is attached to the north gable peak.

Smokehouse: The log smokehouse may have been built in the second quarter of the 19th century based on the condition of the logs. It has a rectangular form with a gable roof covered with standing seam metal and frame gables with clapboard siding. The door is on the north gable end and is made with vertical flush boards.

Privy: The privy is located south of the smokehouse and is basically square in plan. It has vertical board siding and a shed standing seam metal roof. The single door is on the north elevation.

Brooder House #1: This is a circular structure with vertical tongue-and-groove type siding and a conical sheet metal roof. It was probably a prefabricated structure, erected about 1910 west of the dwelling house.

Cistern: The cistern is located south of the Brooder House #1. It is a low brick-based, circular structure capped with concrete. A grape arbor stands above the cistern. The windmill described later pumped water from the spring east of the house to the cistern.

Wood shed: A frame building with a concrete block base and tongue-and-groove siding, the wood shed was probably built in the last quarter of the 19th century or first quarter of the 20th century. It has a corrugated metal shed roof and doors on the east and north elevations. An open shed is attached to the west side. A non-contributing concrete block garage built in the 1950's adjoins the wood shed on the south.

Brooder House #2: This building has the same description as Brooder House #1 except it has a composition roof. It also appears to date from about 1910. It was moved to the farm from another property in the 1950's.

Chicken house #1: A small, wood "dog house" size structure located east of Brooder #2. The structure was acquired from another property but has never been used in the Baker Farmstead. Its date is unknown.

Chicken house #2: A shed-roofed frame structure with vertical tongue-and-groove siding, the structure has several windows on the east elevation, including 6/6 and 4/1. The foundation is concrete block. The structure may date from about 1910.

7.3 Description (continued)

Chicken house #3: A shed-roofed structure facing south, the structure has a corrugated metal roof and siding, and two 6/6 windows on the south elevation. It was built in the mid-1940's. A non-contributing frame shed for pheasants built in the 1950's is located west of chicken house #3.

Chicken/duck house: Originally a chicken house, this wood frame structure dates from the last quarter of the 19th century. It has a gable roof and vertical siding. The front wall of the east elevation is recessed with the gable forming an overhang. The single doorway is in the center of the recessed wall. The roof was originally shingled and is now covered with corrugated metal, as are the north, south and west elevations.

Carriage house: The rectangular building is frame with board and batten siding and a standing seam metal roof with vertical board sliding doors on the south elevation. It may have been built in the last quarter of the 19th century.

Hog barn: A rectangular frame building with a stone foundation and vertical board siding. It has a gable roof covered with standing seam metal. A concrete step to the door in the north gable end has the initials "HW" and the date 1911. A concrete block wallow with a shed canopy is located on the east elevation. The west elevation has three window openings placed high on the wall. A corn storage bin is located in the south end of the building and the siding is open spaced in this section.

Windmill base: Located at the corner of the pasture east of the house and the fence line surrounding the domestic group, the windmill top is missing and only the metal framework of the base is still standing. It is deteriorated and no longer functional. The windmill probably dates from the first quarter of the 20th century.

Springhouse: A low, frame structure with a shed roof and horizontal siding, the springhouse is located at the base of the slope on which the house is located in the middle of a pasture. It has 2/2 windows in each elevation and a corrugated metal roof. A vertical board door is located in the south elevation.

Cemetery: A Baker family cemetery is located in a grove of trees on a hill west of the house. It has an iron fence and is overgrown.

Agricultural Outbuildings:

Bank barn: The barn appears to date from the third or fourth quarter of the 19th century. It has a stone foundation and hand-hewn frame upper structure. The vertical siding is machine-milled and probably dates from nearer 1900. The roof is both corrugated metal and standing seam metal. The standing seam portion on the west slope of the gable roof covers wood shingles. The plan is a typical single drive floor upper level with flanking hay mows over a two-aisle feeding level. A concrete block milking parlor built about 1945 encloses the south end of the forebay. Adjacent to the milking parlor is a separate concrete block milk house of about the same date. The forebay remains mostly intact. Two metal and concrete block loafing sheds and a heifer shed of the 1950's are located adjoining and east of the barn; these do not contribute to the complex. A concrete silo located at the southwest corner of the barn is also non-contributing due to recent construction.

7.4 Description (continued)

Pull-through corncrib/wagon shed: The double-sided granary is located northwest of the barn and has a stone foundation, vertical and horizontal siding and a corrugated metal roof. An attached shed on the west side houses equipment. Metal siding covers the north and south gable ends of the corncrib. It probably dates from the last quarter of the 19th century.

Corn crib: Dating from about the 1880's, this is a rectangular single bay corn crib located east of the barn. It has horizontal siding and a corrugated metal gable roof. It is set on concrete blocks at the corners and center line. Immediately north is a non-contributing 1950's corncrib with german siding on a concrete foundation.

Hay barn: The hay barn or barrack is a rectangular frame building located about 40 yards west of the bank barn. It has corrugated metal siding and a gable roof of the same material. A frame vertical-sided shed addition on the north probably shelters equipment. Vertical board double doors are located on the east elevation of the barn. It probably dates from the last quarter of the 19th century.

Non-contributing agricultural outbuildings: The complex includes a combine shed, a tractor shed, and a wire mesh corn crib erected in the 1950's and 1960's which do not contribute to the significance of the farmstead.

8.1 Significance

The Henry Baker Farmstead is an excellent example of the early 19th century farm with structures dating from all periods of its existence to the present. The complex illustrates the changes in agricultural use and domestic life in the many outbuildings and structures. The dwelling house and the log smokehouse exemplify the construction techniques of the early to mid-19th century when log structures were most common, and the later addition of a brick wing to the house suggests the expanding self-sufficiency of the complex as well as the increasing wealth of the owners. Henry Baker had the tract "Baker's Conclusion" resurveyed in 1800 and by 1813 was able to specify in his will that his wife was to inherit a 205-acre farm, followed after her death by his son William. William Baker also received three negroes by his father's will, indicating that slaves were owned on the farm. The bricks for the ell may possibly have been made on the farm by slave labor, although this is unconfirmed at present.

The conversion of the bank barn to dairy use, the proliferation of chicken houses, and the hog barn illustrate the influence of government health regulations on the structures in the farmstead.

Compared to other farm groupings of the same time period, the Baker Farmstead contains a good variety of buildings from its period of significance. The preponderance of late 19th century and early 20th century structures testifies to its continuing use as a working farm. The lack of artificial siding on most of the major structures is unusual, as most active farms have some replacement siding as well as replaced window sash, factors which set the Baker Farmstead apart from many other farms.

Henry Baker Farmstead
Unionville, Maryland vicinity
Frederick County, Maryland

Survey No. F-8-119

9.1 Major Bibliographical References

Scharf, J.T., History of Western Maryland, Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1882, p. 374.

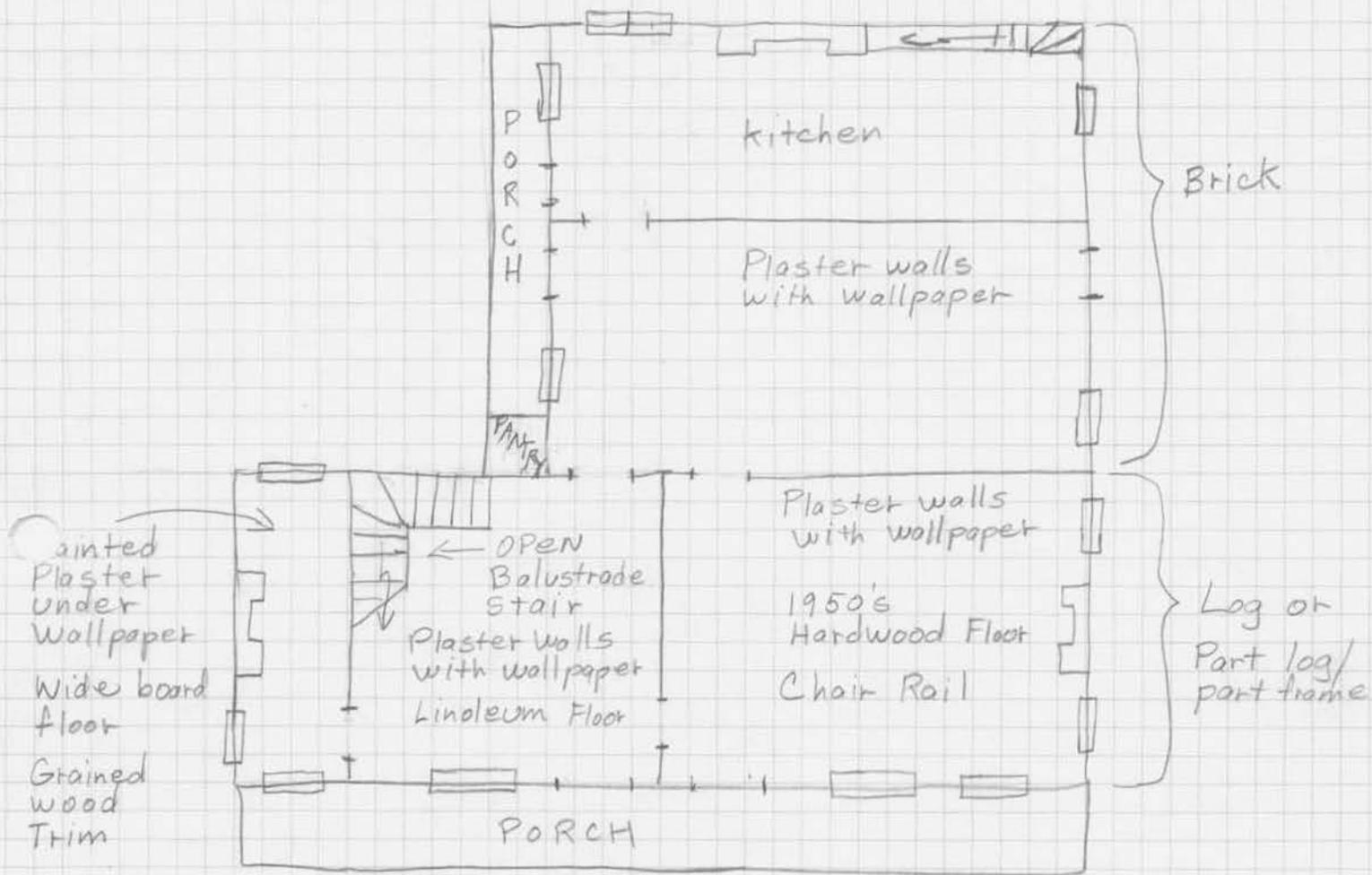
Titus, C.O., Atlas of Frederick County, Maryland, 1873

Baker

M 52 P. 63

LIBER/FOL.	GRANTEE	GRANTOR	ORIGINAL TRACTS	COST	DATE
481/479 29 Oct 49	Chester J. Black & Beulah E. Black wife	Lillian J. Wm. Long & Joseph R. & Mary E. Baker	196.79A. new 205A. orig. reserving right of ingress & egress to cemetery on prop.		
436/524 9 Jan 43	Lillian Long & Joseph R. Baker	Mary Adams, single			
JK T/154 399/498 28 Oct. 35	John W. Baker John W. Baker et al	John Wood & wife			
399/497 28 Oct 35	John Wood	John W. Baker son of Joseph B.			
Will Read TS 1/371 21 Nov 1854	Joseph H. Baker son of Wm.	William Baker			
Will Read HS 1/172 12 Feb 1816	William Baker son of Henry	Henry Baker			F-8-119
JK No. T/154 19 Aug 1809	Henry Baker	Patent of State of Md. upon resurvey	277A.		

N →

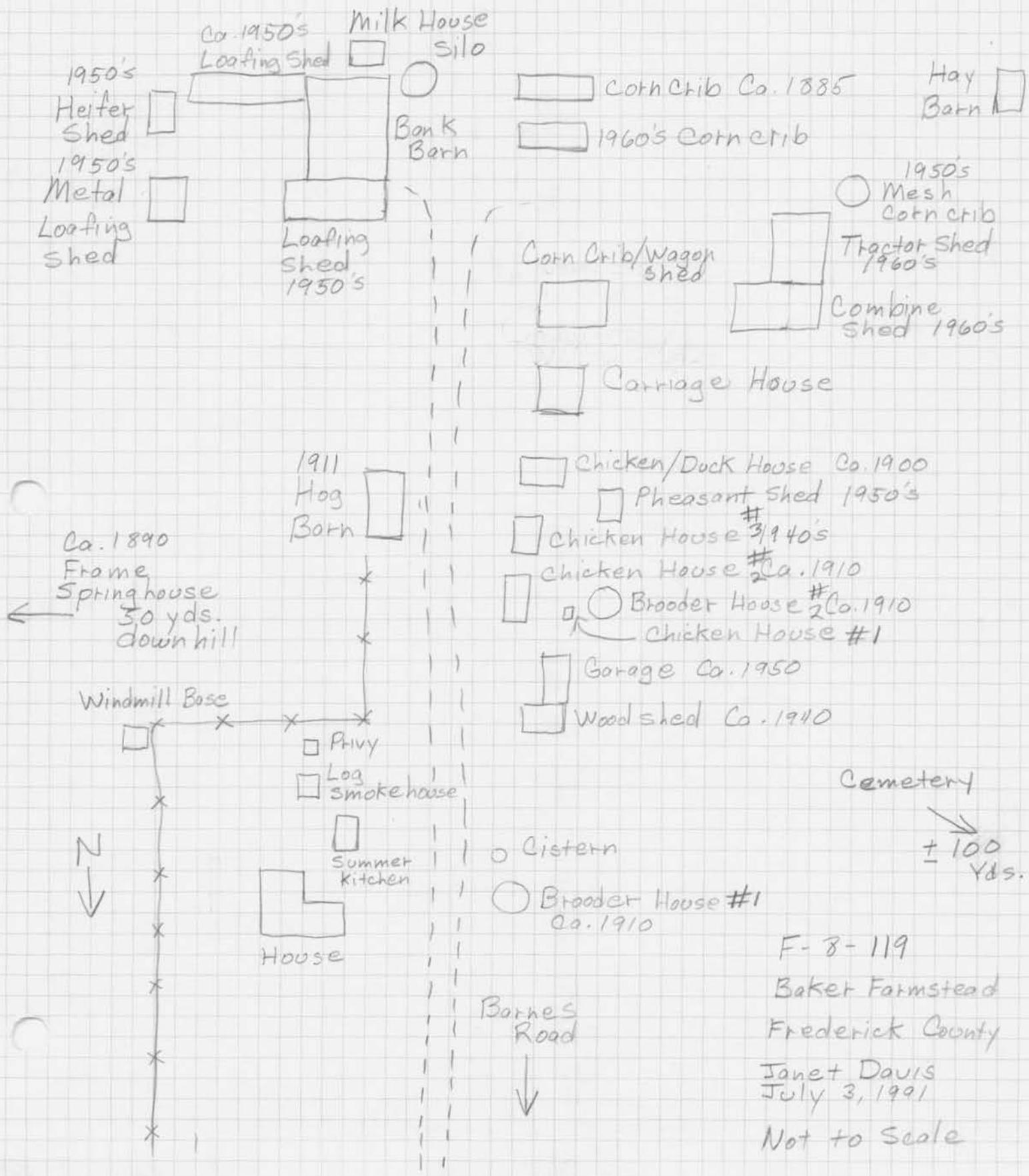


F-8-119

Baker Farmstead
Frederick County

Janet Davis
July 3, 1991

Not to Scale



1950's
Heifer
Shed

1950's
Metal
Loading
shed

Ca. 1950's
Loading Shed

Milk House
Silo

Bonk
Barn

Loading
Shed
1950's

Corn Crib Ca. 1885

1960's Corn Crib

Hay
Barn

1950's
Mesh
Corn Crib

Corn Crib/Wagon
shed

Tractor Shed
1960's

Combine
Shed 1960's

Carriage House

1911
Hog
Barn

Chicken/Duck House Ca. 1900

Pheasant Shed 1950's

Chicken House #3 1940's

Chicken House #2 Ca. 1910

Brooder House #2 Ca. 1910

Chicken House #1

Garage Ca. 1950

Woodshed Ca. 1910

Ca. 1890
Frame
Springhouse
30 yds.
down hill

Windmill Base

Privy
Log
Smokehouse

Summer
Kitchen

House

Cistern

Brooder House #1
Ca. 1910

Cemetery

± 100
Yds.

Barnes
Road

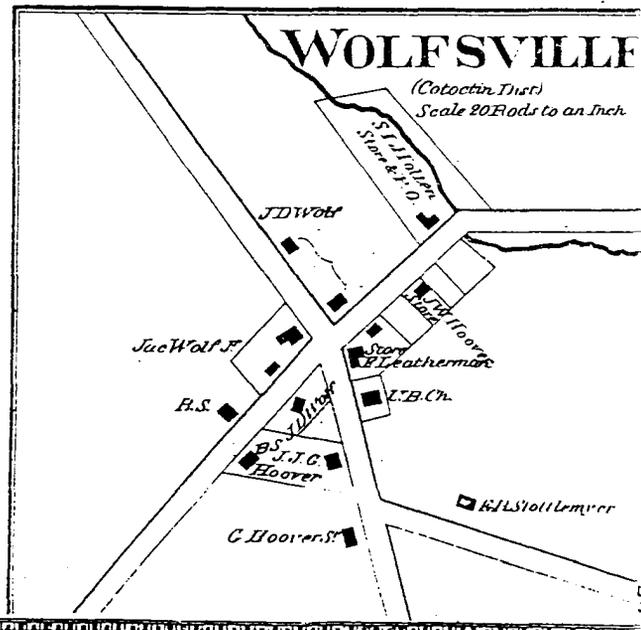
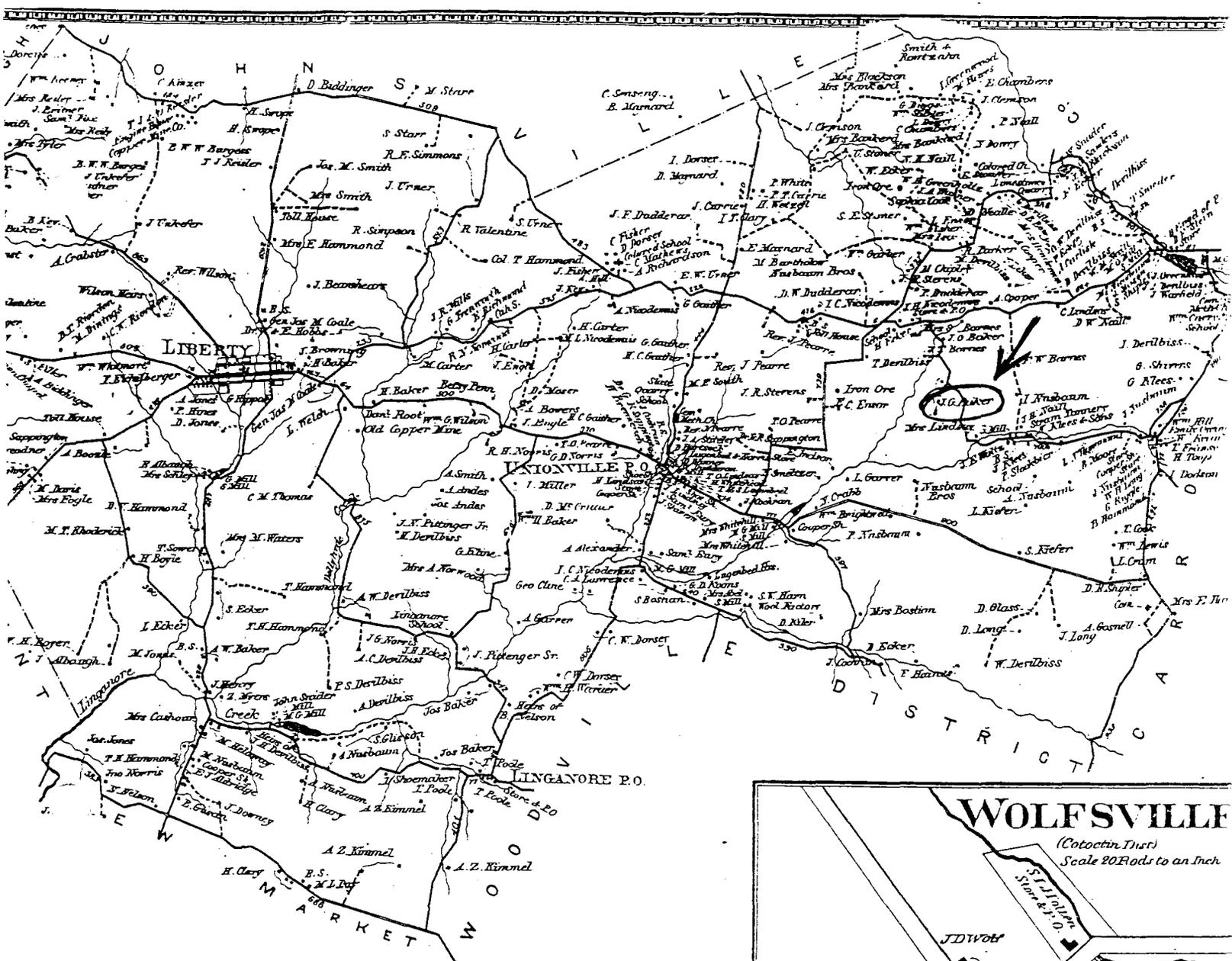
F-8-119

Baker Farmstead

Frederick County

Janet Davis
July 3, 1991

Not to Scale

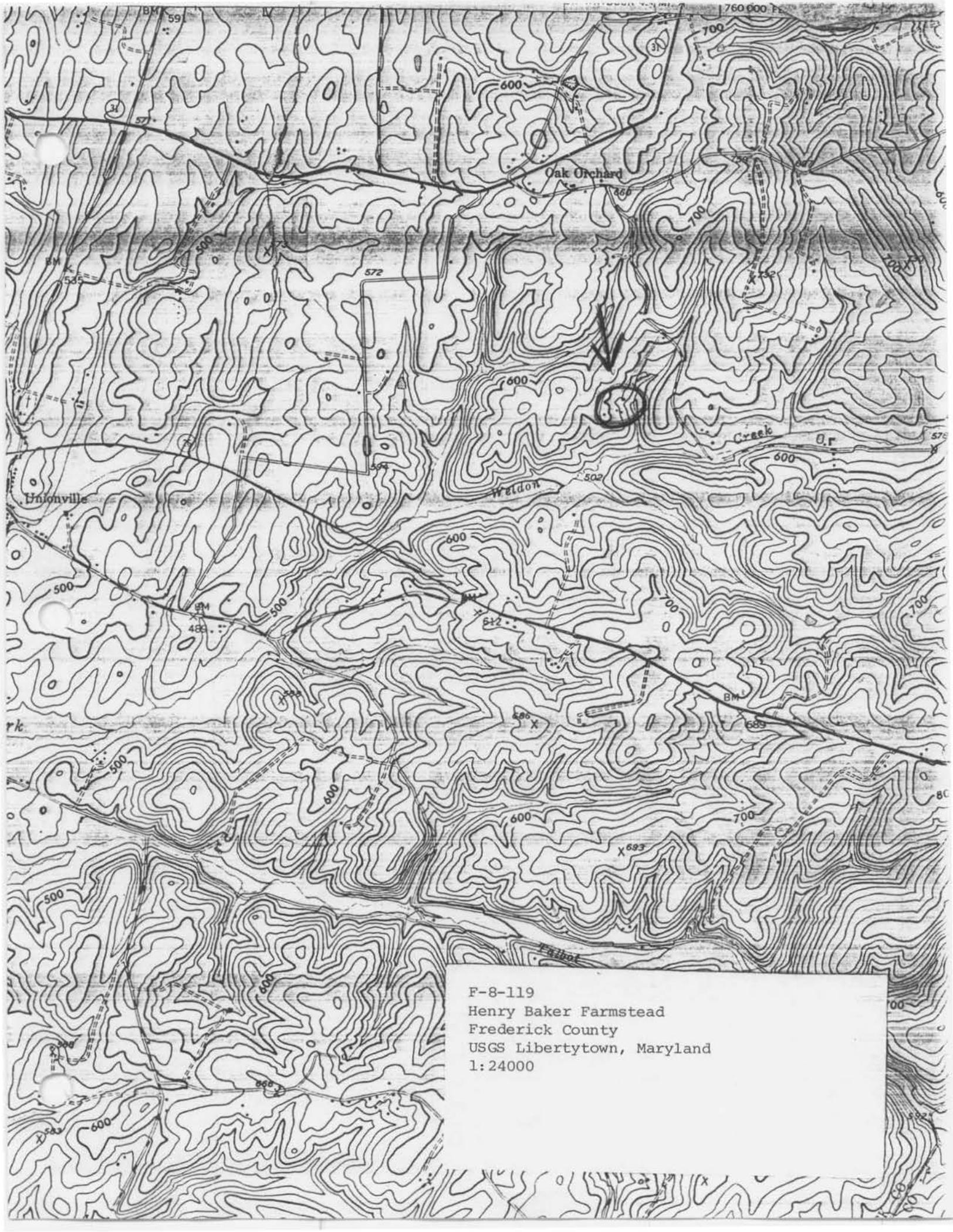


LIBERTY

DIST No. 8

Scale 1 1/2 inches to the mile

F-8-119
 Henry Baker Farmstead
 Frederick County
 C.O. Titus, Atlas of Frederick County, 1873



F-8-119
Henry Baker Farmstead
Frederick County
USGS Libertytown, Maryland
1:24000



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Henry Baker Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

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

East elevation

1/11



F-8-119

Henry Baker Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

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

East elevation detail

2/11



F-8-119

Henry Baker Farmstead
Frederick County

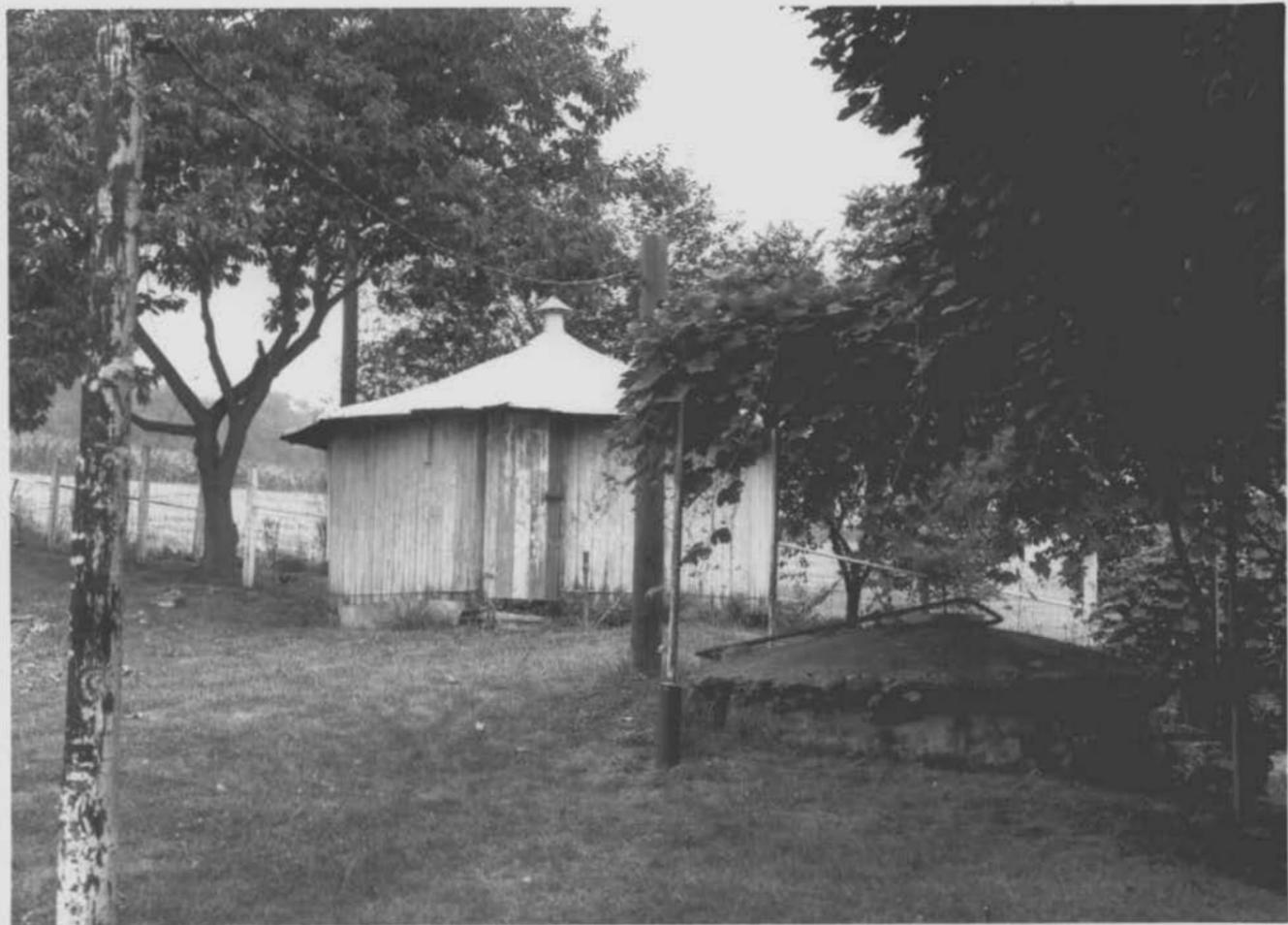
Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

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

West elevation

3/11



F-8-119

Henry Baker Farmstead
Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

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

Chicken House #1, view from east; Cistern
in right foreground

4/11



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Henry Baker Farmstead
Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

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

Summer kitchen, north elevation

5/11



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Henry Baker Farmstead
Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

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

Smokehouse and privy, west elevations

6/11



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Henry Baker Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

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

Garage and chicken houses, view from
north

7/11



F-8-119

Henry Baker Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

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

Goose/duck shed detail, east elevation

8/11



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Henry Baker Farmstead
Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.
Bank born, northwest corner view

9/11



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Henry Baker Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

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

Bank barn, fore bay detail, east elevation

10/11



F-8-119

Henry Baker Farmstead
Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1991

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

Corn crib/wagon shed, south elevation

11/11