

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes _____
no _____

Property Name: Gilbert Crowe House Inventory Number: G-I-C-064
 Address: 3170 Avilton Lonaconing Road Historic district: yes no
 City: Lonaconing Zip Code: 21539 County: Garrett
 USGS Quadrangle(s): Barton
 Property Owner: Edna M. McKenzie, Et al. Tax Account ID Number: 002913
 Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 0022 Tax Map Number: 0038
 Project: Fourmile Ridge Wind Energy Project Agency: USACE
 Agency Prepared By: GAI Consultants, Inc.
 Preparer's Name: Michael Kenneally Date Prepared: 12/3/2013
 Documentation is presented in: MIHP form
 Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended
 Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
 Name of the District/Property: _____
 Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: yes Listed: yes
 Site visit by MHT Staff yes no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Physical Description

The Gilbert Crowe House is located on the east side of Avilton-Lonaconing Road about one quarter mile south of the intersection of Ida Lane in Garrett County, Maryland. Little Savage Creek is located to the southeast. The house sits back a short distance from Avilton-Lonaconing Road, and is surrounded by trees. The property consists of a two-story dwelling and a small ancillary shed.

Main Dwelling, c. 1925

The Gilbert Crowe House is a two-story three-bay wood-frame dwelling constructed circa 1920 upon a stone foundation and clad with a combination of vertical wood boards on the façade and southwest elevation and faux brick asphalt siding on the northwest (rear) and northeast elevations. The house was originally capped with a side gable roof, but when the gable-roofed ell addition was constructed, the roof was altered to add a front gable to the façade. The ell addition is constructed upon a concrete block foundation. The roof is covered with corrugated metal and pierced at the ridgeline by a central interior brick chimney. The façade features a one-story full-width porch covered with a shed roof supported by heavy square posts. The porch wraps around to a second partial-width shed roof porch on the southeast elevation. A one-story shed roof addition has also been appended to the rear of the dwelling. Fenestration includes replacement one-over-one and two-over-two double-hung windows, as well as square fixed

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

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MHT Comments:

Jonathan Sage
 Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

1/6/14
 Date

NA
 Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

and/or casement windows.

The Gilbert Crowe House has been heavily altered, as several additions have been appended to the structure, the original windows have been replaced, and the exterior cladding has been covered or replaced with modern material. In addition, the dwelling currently stands in poor condition.

Shed, c. 1980

This ancillary structure is located in a tree-line to the northeast of the Gilbert Crowe House. The shed is a small wood-frame building sitting on a stone pier foundation, clad with plywood siding, and capped with a front gable roof covered with standing-seam metal. The façade features a vertical plank door.

History and Significance

The first Europeans began to arrive in the area around Avilton, Maryland in the mid-eighteenth century. There is little record of those who settled in the area first, as they did not file patents or commission surveys, but built cabins and cleared small portions of land. However, after the Revolutionary War development in the area greatly expanded. The forests that covered the mountains were slowly but surely cleared. Pine forests largely made up the land between Savage and Negro Mountains, with a few other varieties like spruce and hemlock intermixed (Brown 1896:54). These large wood-covered miles attracted many hunters to the area, including Meshach Browning, who wrote a book about the many years he spent living as a pioneer in the area around Avilton and directly west. Hunters like Browning who populated the area used the National Road, which was constructed through the area in the early nineteenth century, to get their hides and meats back to eastern markets (Browning 1942:195). While the hunters settled early, it was not long before additional lots were readied for settlement. Many of the earliest lots in the area were surveyed for veterans of the Revolutionary War. Some of these lots went to men like Thomas Johnson, who eventually became Governor of Maryland. There were also land speculators who made their mark on the area, including men like Brooke Beall and William Deakins (Rowland 2009:39).

The earliest land records of the area typically consist of people with large tracts of land selling those tracts to other speculators. But, starting in the mid-1800s that began to change, as smaller portions of land were sold off, and more and more farms were raised in the valleys between the mountains. As land was freshly cleared, many farmers from east of the Appalachians began to plant tobacco. However, they learned quickly that the soil was made too poor by tobacco farming in this area (Brown 1896:300). The settlement that would later become Avilton was originally known as "The McKenzie Settlement" for the many numbers of Scottish immigrants, particularly McKenzies, who settled there. The early farmers of this area grew primarily wheat, rye, oats and potatoes. A partial listing of the founding families of this area was included in Garrett County: A History of Maryland's Tableland and includes: Garlitz, Blocher, Wilhelm, Broadwater, Miller, Crowe and Merrill among others. By 1885, the area was known as Avilton, and a post office was opened under that name (Schlosnagle 1978:65).

In the second half of the nineteenth century, railroads made their way through Garrett County, connecting the area like never before. As the railroads arrived, the many pine forests that surrounded area farms were looked at with a new sense of their value. While they had been used as a source of building materials for years, the forests were now logged and the timber was shipped to larger markets on the railroad. On Savage Mountain, it was the Juniata Lumber Company that took advantage of the fine timber of the area (Brown 1896:264,275). Increasingly, the agricultural area was dotted throughout by people who worked in the industry. As Jacob Brown described the area "she grew from a county of crude backwoods settlements and small self-sufficient farms to a county of coal towns, timber towns, resort towns, trade towns, and increasingly fertile fields and meadows (Brown 1896:304)." While the area was still largely rural, times were slowly changing.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW													
Eligibility recommended				Eligibility not recommended									
Criteria:	<u> </u> A	<u> </u> B	<u> </u> C	<u> </u> D	Considerations:	<u> </u> A	<u> </u> B	<u> </u> C	<u> </u> D	<u> </u> E	<u> </u> F	<u> </u> G	
MHT Comments:													
_____							_____						
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services							Date						
_____							_____						
Reviewer, National Register Program							Date						

By the first half of the twentieth century, more and more people were working both on their farms and in various industries. By the 1940 Census, many household heads were listed as working in mining or timbering, while it is also indicated that many continued to pursue agriculture (Ancestry.com). While they produced goods for local markets, the demands of an increasingly connected society drew more and more residents off their farms. The effects of the great depression were also seen in the 1940 Census of the area, with many people listed as road builders or general laborers who were employed in emergency government work (Ancestry.com). After World War II, some farms began to not be used for agriculture. This has led to the decline of some of the properties, and the destruction of others. Many families, descendants of the original settlers at McKenzie Settlement, continue to use the fields around Avilton to raise cows and some grains, continuing some of the traditions that were started so many years ago.

The Gilbert Crowe House is located directly between the towns of Avilton and Lonaconing in eastern Garrett County. The area around the property is largely woodland and agricultural fields, and has been for many years. The property is made up of one frame house and one non-historic ancillary building.

The earliest recovered deed transfer of the property is from May 8, 1858, when William Price and Thomas Petty, trustees, sold the land that was at that time called "Savage Ridge" to August Reichelt, Jacob Frisch and John Helber (Allegany County Deed Book 17:58). The number of acres transferred is not recorded, but the three men added to their acreage ten days later when they purchased an unknown number of acres from George A. Thruston on May 18, 1858 (Allegany County Deed Book 17:58). Reichelt, Frisch and Helber were likely working as land speculators. On May 21, 1858 John Helber bought out his partners and became the sole owner of the property (Allegany County Deed Book 17:58). At this time the acreage of the property likely totaled about 300 acres.

Mr. Helber owned the property for a number of years, though he did not work the land himself. John Helber was born in Wurttemberg in southern Germany in about 1833 (United States Census Bureau 1870) . It is unknown when he moved to the United States, or when he settled in western Maryland. In tax records from 1866 Helber was listed as a retail land dealer (Ancestry.com 2008). This is likely his involvement with Reichelt and Frisch. By the 1870 census, John Helber was settled in Lonaconing (United States Census Bureau 1870). While he owned land further west, he kept a hotel in Lonaconing and listed the value of his real estate at \$6,100 and his personal estate at \$1,500 (US Census Bureau 1870). John Helber died in 1879, but his property was not disposed of immediately upon his death (Find A Grave 2012). It is likely that a house on the property was built sometime during John Helber's ownership, but was rented out. The approximate date of construction is based on the overall design of the house, and its similarity to other houses in the area with better established dates. The house is not depicted on any historic USGS topographic maps.

The property associated with this resource next changed hands on September 30, 1924, when John Helber's heirs sold 314 acres to Edward L. Crowe on September 30, 1924 (Garrett County Deed Book 89:459). Edward L. Crowe likely constructed the circa-1925 dwelling soon after purchasing the property. Edward Loar Crowe was born on October 3, 1882 in Maryland. The 1920 United States Federal Census indicates that Edward L Crowe was a 32-year-old engineer who lived with his wife, Emma Wilhelm Crowe, mother Mary Helen Crowe, and four children in a rented house on Barton Road (US Census Bureau 1920). Edward Crowe purchased the property at a difficult time for the national economy, as the Great Depression hit in 1929. By 1930, Edward Crowe worked as a farm hand supporting his wife, mother, and seven children (United States Census Bureau 1930). In 1935, Mr. Crowe was forced to sell the property in settlement of delinquent taxes (Garrett County Deed Book 110:315). The property was sold to Edward Crowe's mother-in-law, Ada E. Wilhelm on March 25, 1935. Edward's wife, Emma Wilhelm Crowe, died in 1937 (Find a Grave 2003). The 1940 United States Federal Census reveals that Edward Crowe and his family rented their home on Lonaconing Road, and it is likely that Ada E. Wilhelm purchased the property and rented it to her son-in-law so that he, her daughter, and her grandchildren could remain in their home (United States Census Bureau 1940). The census also reveals that despite the death of Emma Wilhelm Crowe, the household had grown since 1930, including Edward Crowe, who worked as a road builder, his mother

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MHT Comments:													
_____							_____						
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services							Date						
_____							_____						
Reviewer, National Register Program							Date						

Mary Helen Crowe, his nine children, and one daughter-in-law.

Ada E. Garlitz Wilhelm, born in about 1877, was the widow of John Olin Wilhelm, who died in 1932. While Ada E. Wilhelm owned the 314-acre property until her death in 1947, it is likely that she never resided on the property, and instead remained on the Wilhelm Farmstead (G-I-A-148) for the rest of her life. After Ada Wilhelm's death, the property passed to her heirs, including Media Seiforth, Minnie A. Russell, Mary Brode, Leonard Wilhelm, Julius O. Wilhelm, Mary Broadwater, Asa Wilhelm, Thomas Wilhelm, Floyd Wilhelm, Elizabeth Fleming, and Elizabeth Gross, and their respective spouses. On September 12, 1959, the heirs of Ada E. Wilhelm conveyed the 314-property Edward L. Crowe's children including Ida Crowe Bougosh, Gilbert Crowe, Edward L. Crowe, Jr., Mabel Crowe Horne, Ellis Crowe, Faye Garlitz, Glenn Crowe, Betty Garlitz, Ronald Crowe, Mary Engle, and Emma Mae Walker (Garrett County Deed Book 224:591). On February 6, 1975, the owners of the property sold a 28.7-acre parcel known as Tract 2 of the "Crowe Farm Subdivision," to Ellis and Nora Crowe, and a 28.7-acre parcel known as Tract 4 to Gilbert Crowe (Garrett County Deed Book 358:267; 360:452). A plat map for the "Crowe Farm Subdivision" could not be located, and it is unknown from the legal descriptions of the properties which tract contained the dwelling. However, the previous 1981 survey indicated that Gilbert Crowe owned the dwelling at the time, so the dwelling likely was located on Tract 4. On December 3, 1990, Gilbert Crowe sold approximately 1.2 acres of Tract 4, likely including the dwelling, to Ellis and Nora Crowe (Garrett County Deed Book 557:793). Ellis and Nora Crowe owned the property until October 30, 1991, when they sold it to their children Edna Mae McKenzie, Juanita C. Swauger, Donald O. Crowe, Nevin D. Crowe, and Kevin D. Crowe (Garrett County Deed Book 572:771).

NRHP Evaluation

No information could be located that connects the Gilbert Crowe House to significant events or themes in local, state, or national history. While the Gilbert Crowe House exists in a wider agricultural context, the property does not, nor has it ever operated as a cohesive farm. Large-scale gardens may have existed at one time on the property, but it is not recorded on the agricultural census in 1850, 1860, or 1870. As such, this resource is recommended not eligible for NRHP listing under Criterion A. The property and dwelling are associated with Edward L. Crowe, who constructed the residence circa 1925. Local historical and genealogical sources provide little information relating to Edward L. Crowe or any other individuals associated with the property, and there is no evidence that any individuals associated with the property were significant in local, state, or national history. Therefore, the resource is recommended not eligible for NRHP listing under Criterion B. The Gilbert Crowe House stands as a common and heavily altered example of early-twentieth-century vernacular architecture in rural Maryland. The application of asphalt siding, modern additions, and a modern porch especially diminish the dwelling's historical character and integrity. As such, the resource no longer maintains integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling, and is therefore recommended not eligible for NRHP listing under Criterion C. Eligibility under Criterion D cannot be determined as this resource has not undergone archaeological testing.

References

Allegany County Land Records

Various years Recorder of Deeds. Retrieved from http://www.mdlandrec.net.

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended

Eligibility not recommended

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MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

Browning, Meshach

1942 44 Years of the Life of a Hunter. Winston Printing Company: Winston-Salem, NC.

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H., W. A.

1935 Map of Military Lots, Tracts, Escheats, &c. in Garrett County, MD and Allegany County, MD. West of Cumberland: Prepared Under Act of 1874 Chapter 322 &c.

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1978 Garrett County: A History of Maryland's Tableland. McClain Printing Company: Parsons, WV.

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1860 1860 United States Federal Census. Available at Ancestry.com.

1870 1870 United States Federal Census. Available at Ancestry.com.

1880 1880 United States Federal Census. Available at Ancestry.com.

1900 1900 United States Federal Census. Available at Ancestry.com.

1910 1910 United States Federal Census. Available at Ancestry.com.

1920 1920 United States Federal Census. Available at Ancestry.com.

1930 1930 United States Federal Census. Available at Ancestry.com.

1940 1940 United States Federal Census. Available at Ancestry.com.

World War II Army Enlistment Records.

1942. U.S. World War II Army Enlistment Records, 1938-1946 [database on-line]. Available at Ancestry.com.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

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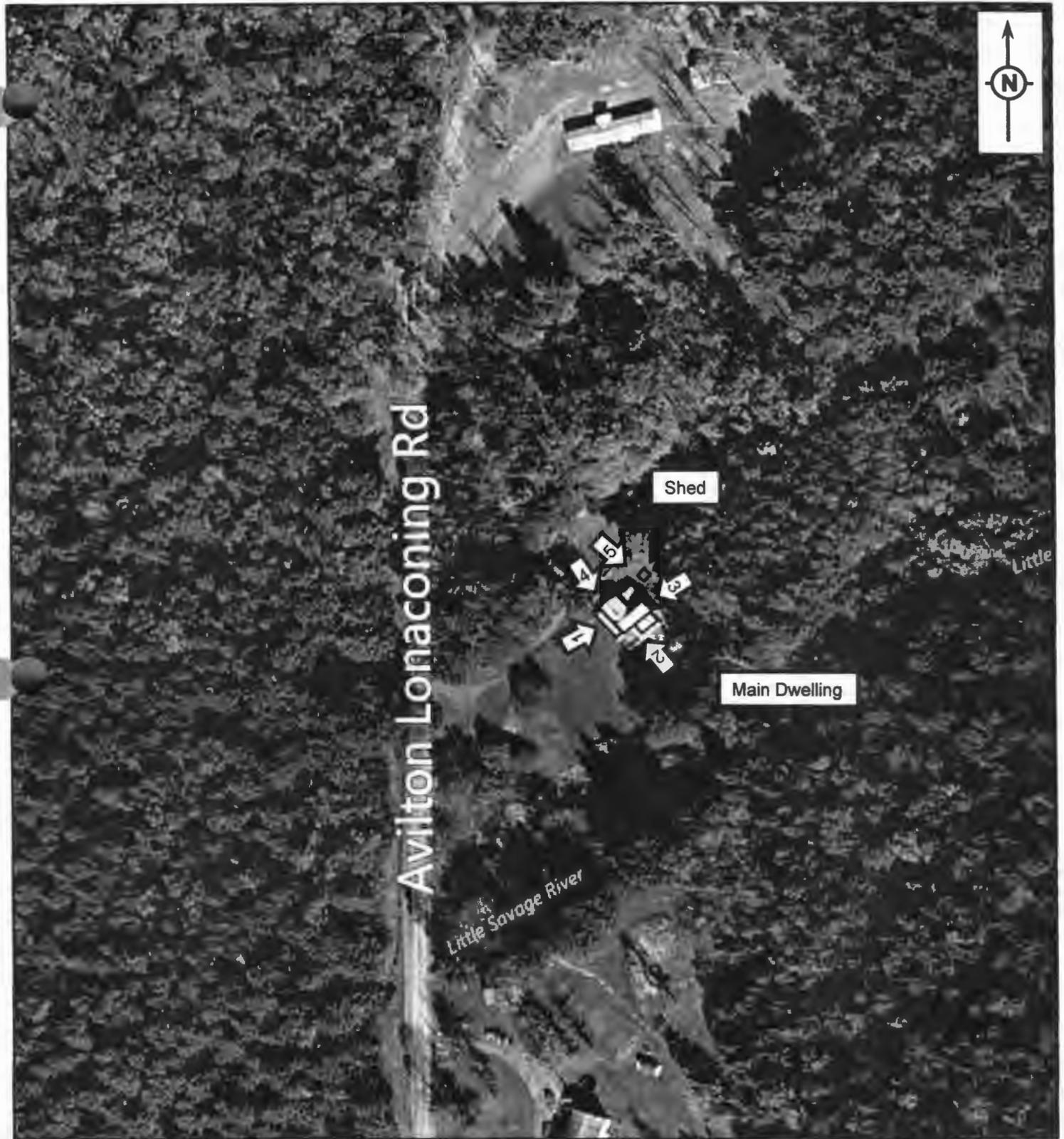
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Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

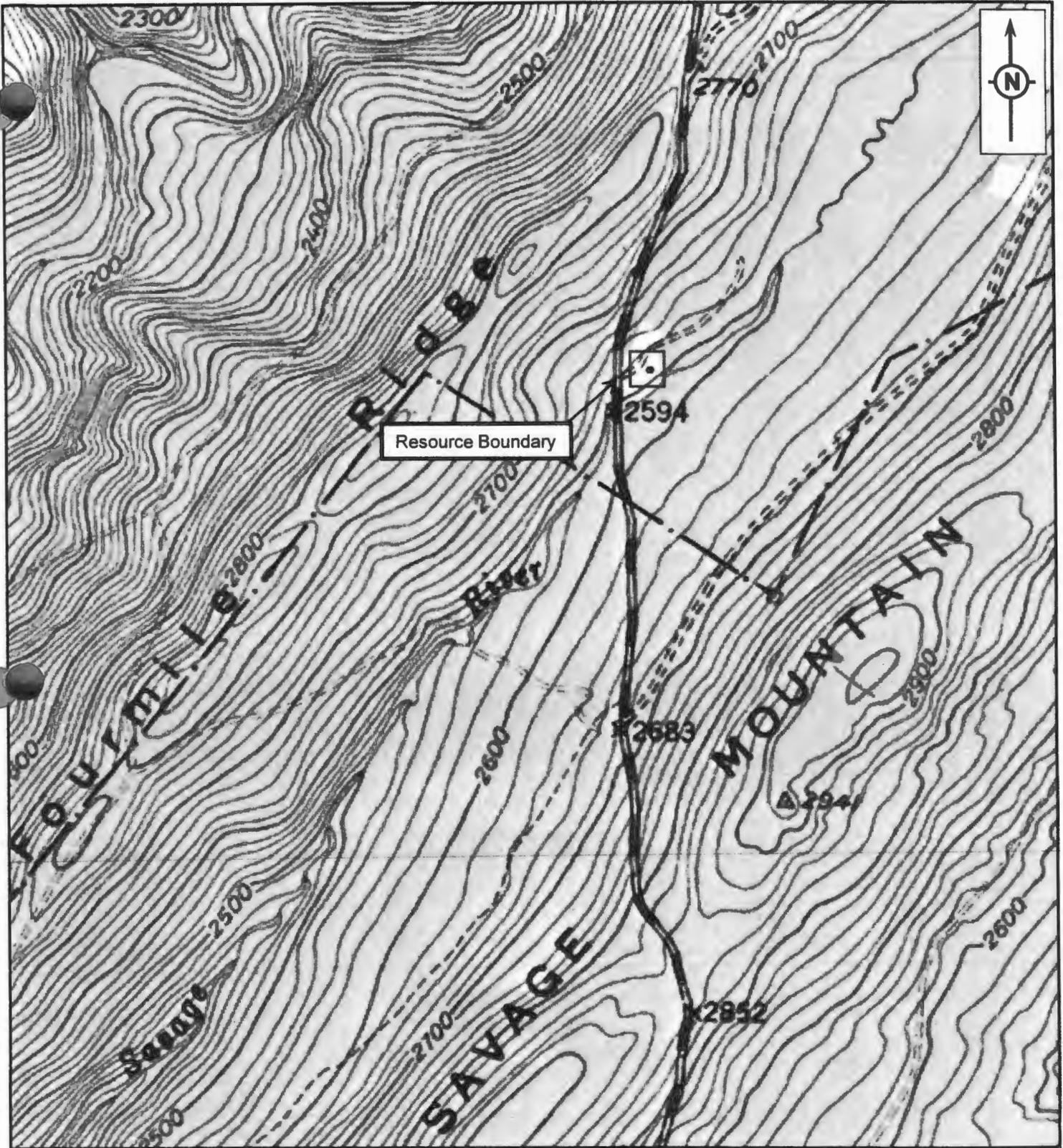


SOURCE: MICROSOFT CORPORATION, 2013.

gai consultants

G-I-C-064
Resource Sketch Map

Gilbert Crowe House
3170 Avilton-Lonaconing Road
Lonaconing, Garrett County



SOURCE: USGS 7.5 MINUTE BARTON
 QUADRANGLE MAP (1947, PHOTOREVISED
 1981).

G-I-C-064

Gilbert Crowe House
 3170 Avilton-Lonaconing Road
 Lonaconing, Garrett County



gai consultants

G-I-C-064

Gilbert Crowe House

GAI Consultants, Inc.

Previously Recorded Resources within Indirect APE – Fourmile Wind Energy Project

Garrett County, Maryland

Epson Premium Glossy Paper/Epson UltraChrome pigmented inks

G-I-C-0064_2013-08-20_01 – Main dwelling, southwest and northwest elevations, facing east

G-I-C-0064_2013-08-20_02 – Main dwelling, southeast elevation, facing northwest

G-I-C-0064_2013-08-20_03 – Main dwelling, northeast and southeast elevations, facing west

G-I-C-0064_2013-08-20_04 – Main dwelling, northwest elevation, facing southeast

G-I-C-0064_2013-08-20_05 – Shed, facing northeast



G-1-C- 064

Gilbert Crowe House
Garrett County, Maryland

Liz Williams

8-20-13

MD SHPO

Main dwelling, southwest and northwest elevations, facing east

1/5



G-1-C-064
Gilbert Crowe House
Garrett County, Maryland

Liz Williams

8-20-13

MD SHPO

Main dwelling, southeast elevation, facing northwest

2/5



Gr-I-C-064
Gilbert Crow House
Garrett County, Maryland
Liz Williams

8-20-13

MD SHPB

Main dwelling, northeast and southeast elevations, facing west

3/5



G-1-C-064
Gilbert Crowe House
Garrett County, Maryland
Liz Williams
8-20-13
MD SHPD

Main dwelling, northwest elevation, facing southeast

4/5



Welcome

Gr-I-C- 064
Gilbert Crowe House
Garraff County, Maryland
Liz Williams
8-20-13
MD SHPO
Shed, facing northeast
5/5

G-I-C-064
Gilbert Crowe House
Lonaconing
Private

Circa 1900

This $1\frac{1}{2}$ -story, 3 bay by 1 bay frame house was probably constructed circa 1900. It has been so altered that it lacks architectural significance.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

G-I-C-064

MAGI #1201925635

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

M
2019-25704

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Gilbert Crowe House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Avilton-Lonaconing Rd. - East side, 1.6 miles N of Swamp Rd.

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Lonaconing

X VICINITY OF

6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Garrett County

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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input 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"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Gilbert Crowe

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Garrett County Courthouse

Liber #: 360

Folio #: 452

STREET & NUMBER

Third and Alder Streets

CITY, TOWN

Oakland

STATE

Maryland 21550

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

G-I-C-064

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This 1½-story, 3 bay by 1 bay frame house was probably constructed circa 1900. It has been so altered that it lacks architectural significance.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 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 Circa 1900 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This site meets MHT survey criteria regarding date of construction prior to 1931. Further research is needed to determine any historical significance.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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

Valerie Cesna, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines

DATE

May 1981

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

301-269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

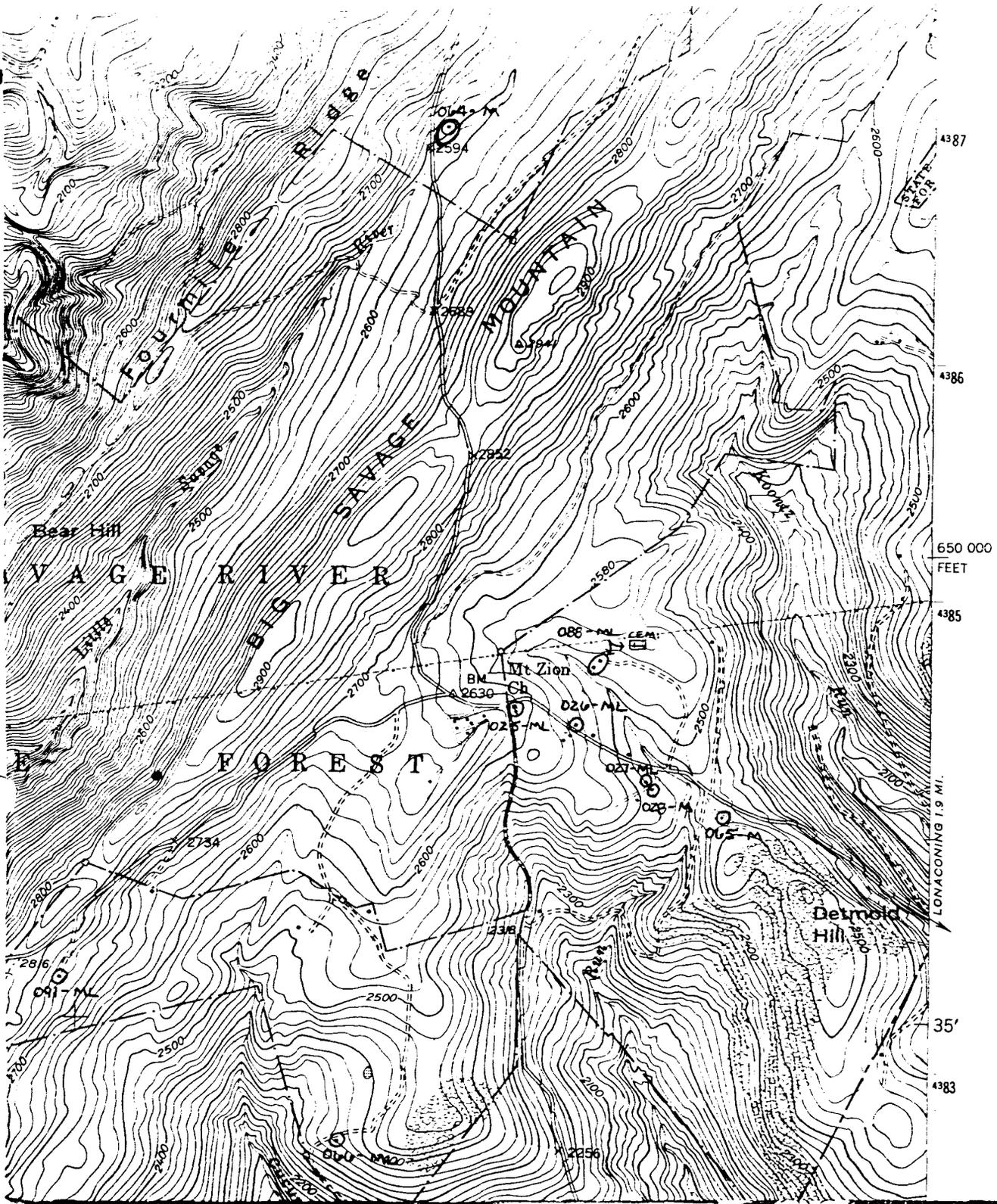
STATE

Maryland 21401

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



Barton, MD
 USGS 7.5 minute series
 Scale - 1:24,000
 1947; photorevised 1974

Site #: G-I-C- 064
 Gilbert Crowe House
 Avilton-Lonaconing Rd.
 East side, 1.6 miles N of
 Swamp Rd.