

G-III-B-106

Harry O'Brien Farm  
Accident  
Private

ca. 1860

The Harry O'Brien Farmhouse is a two-story, gable-roofed log dwelling with an asymmetrical three-bay facade. It is also significant architecturally for its log barn.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**  
HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON  
Harry O'Brien Farm

**2 LOCATION**  
STREET & NUMBER  
Accident-Bittinger Rd. , E. Side, Approx. 1.5 miles SE of Accident  
CITY, TOWN  
Accident VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
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	<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 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 Harry W. O'Brien Telephone #:  
STREET & NUMBER  
CITY, TOWN VICINITY OF STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**  
COURTHOUSE, LIBER #: 117  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Folio #: 264  
STREET & NUMBER Garrett County Courthouse  
CITY, TOWN Third and Alder Streets STATE  
Oakland Maryland 21550

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**  
TITLE  
DATE None  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS  
CITY, TOWN STATE  
\_FEDERAL \_STATE \_COUNTY \_LOCAL

**7 DESCRIPTION**

G-III-B-106

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Harry O'Brien Farm is located off Accident - Bittinger Road, in a valley that runs down to Bear Creek on the W side of Negro Mountain. The site consists of a house, barn, and several outbuildings.

The house is a two-story, gable-roofed log dwelling with an asymmetrical three-bay facade. The facade points SE, and its first story is covered with a shed-roofed porch. Attached to the NW elevation is a one-story, shed-roofed addition. A shed-roofed porch is attached to the SE elevation of the addition.

The house rests on a cut coursed stone foundation and the walls are built of logs, chinked with straw and lime. Over the logs is placed plain weather boarding attached with cut nails and over this is brown brick-patterned asphalt siding. The windows are two over two sash and have plain board surrounds. The facade door has four panels and is pegged together. The door originally had a four-paned transom which has been removed. The door has a box lock.

The roof is covered with corrugated metal and has a box cornice which returns on the gable ends. The main block was one exterior brick stove chimney on the NE gable end. The facade porch roof is supported by wooden posts.

The addition on the NW elevation of the main block rests on a concrete block foundation; the walls appear to be frame and are covered with brown brick-patterned asphalt siding. The roof is covered with corrugated metal. The addition has one brick interior stove chimney at its NW gable end. The shed roof of the porch on the SW elevation is supported by wrought iron posts.

The first floor of the log portion has two rooms and a central staircase. The walls have been covered with modern paneling but the original pegged four-paneled doors, with box locks, are in place. The plan of the second floor is unknown. The addition is divided into two rooms. A second staircase runs up the original outside NW wall of the main block. The original weatherboarding is revealed at one side of this staircase. To the S of the house is a wooden frame garage and to the N are two small outbuildings.

Northeast of the house is a large double-pen log bank barn, with a forebay. The bank entrance faces SW. The barn rests on a rough stone foundation and the walls, which expand the size of the barn beyond its original saddle-notched log walls, are covered with vertical boards. Under the forebay on the NE elevation the log walls are still visible. Stall doors on this wall retain their original wrought iron hinges. The fore bay is supported by a single modern cinderblock post at its N corner. Inside the barn the log walls rise two levels from the level under the forebay. Partitions are also log. The barn's gable roof is covered with corrugated metal. The barn houses cattle and stores hay.

To the S and E of the barn are several frame outbuildings, including a chicken house and several storage sheds.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

G-III-B-106

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 checked="" 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 ca. 1860

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

? Fratz

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Harry O'Brien farm is significant architecturally for its log dwelling and log barn. The farm makes up a small district of log structures (See G-III-B-105, 107, and 112) in this area, all perhaps built around the same time. The log barn on this property is reputed to be the oldest log barn still in use in Garrett County. It is certainly true that log barns are no longer common in this area, and that this barn is probably representative of a disappearing type.

Much of the land which makes up this farm was sold into the Fratz family during the 19th century, leading one to suppose that Fratzen constructed the house and barn probably in the mid-19th century. The current owner purchased the property in 1937.

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

Ann Burns, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines

DATE

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

Chain of Title

G-III-B-106  
Harry O'Brien Farm

117/264            From: John L. Fratz & Anna C. Fratz  
                  To: Harry W. O'Brien & Gladys E. O'Brien  
Deed                Consideration: \$1800.00

3 parcels -

1. part of tract called "Chalos" or "Chalons", 122½ acres, conveyed to John L. Fratz from Conrad Fratz and wife L/F: 52/18, dated 2-5-06 excepting what was previously conveyed to other parties.
2. 80 acres, possibly part of "the 2nd Part of the Rights of Man", conveyed to John L. Fratz from Elizabeth Fratz et al L/F: 79/576, dated 3-1-21
3. 4 5/8 acres, conveyed to John L. Fratz from John Edward Georg and Anna E. Georg L/F: 107/402, dated 5-15-34

Parcel #1 -

52/18             From: Conrad Fratz and Elizabeth Fratz  
2-5-06            To: John L. Fratz  
Deed               Consideration: \$1500.00

part of a tract called "Chalos" or "Chalons", 122½ acres

13/610            From: Leonard Fratz & Mary Fratz  
4-23-1888        To: Conrad Fratz  
Deed               Consideration: \$1200.00

part of a tract "Chalons" 122½ acres

A1 Co  
6/199             From: George Stark and wife  
6-14-1848        To: Leonard Fratz and Mary Fratz  
Deed

Parcel #2 -

79/576            From: Elizabeth Fratz et al (widow of the late Conrad Fratz)  
3-1-21            To: John L. Fratz  
Deed               Consideration: \$300.00

80 acres, part of "Rights of Man 2nd Part" Lot No. 4 of a survey made by James Chisholm Jr. for Dosia Pennington

Parcel #3 -

107/402           From: John Edward Georg and Anna E. Georg  
5-15-34           To: John L. Fratz  
Deed               Consideration: \$75.00

4 5/8 acres, part of land previously conveyed

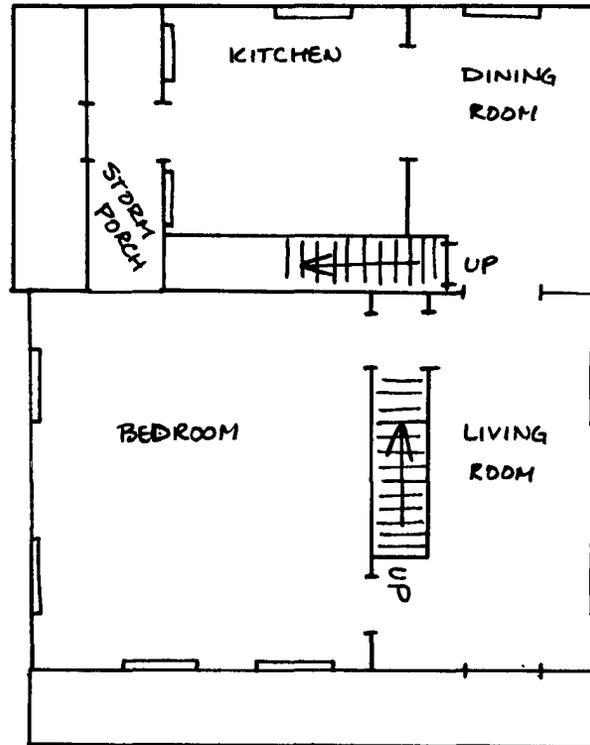
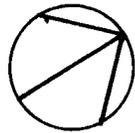
Chain of Title  
G-III-B-106  
Harry O'Brien Farm  
(Page 2 Of 2)

24/86  
10-15-1890  
Deed

From: John Georg and Mary Catherine Georg  
To: John E. Georg  
Consideration: \$3000.00

1. Military Lots #S: 3225, 3245, 3250 which were conveyed to John Georg from Thomas Devecmon, trustee in The Cause of John Simons et al vs. Elizabeth Simons et al Allegany County L/F: 14/364, dated 2-16-1856
2. 20 acres of ML #3224 and all of 3225, conveyed to John Georg from Henry Gross and wife Allegany County L/F: 30/333, dated 10-19-1869
3. 12½ acres of ML #3224, conveyed to John Georg from Henry Georg and Christina Georg L/F: 8/513, dated 1-26-1884

232½ acres more or less

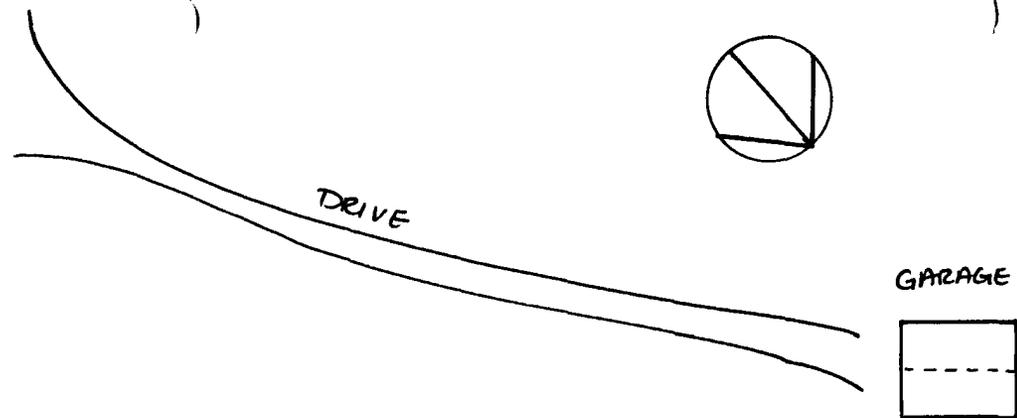


G-III-B-106  
SKETCH FIRST FLOOR PLAN- HOUSE  
NOT TO SCALE

HARRY O'BRIEN FARM  
ACCIDENT - BITTINGER RD  
GARRETT CO, MD

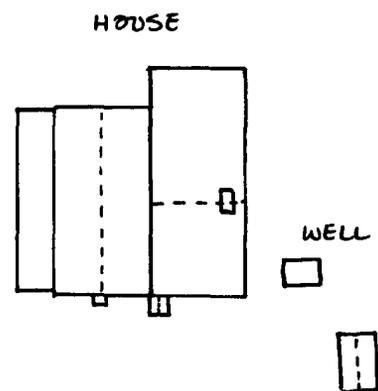
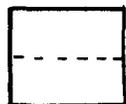
ANN R. F. BURNS  
SURVEY DATE 7-7-81  
PLAN DRAWN 1-17-82

G-III-B-106  
SKETCH SITE PLAN  
NOT TO SCALE

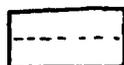


HARRY O'BRIEN FARM  
ACCIDENT - BITTINGER RD  
GARRETT CO, MD

FARM GARAGE



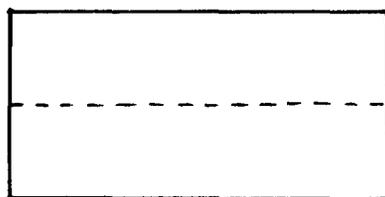
CORN CRIB



CHICKEN HOUSE



BARN



FORBBAY

ANN R. F. BURNS  
SURVEY DATE 7-7-81  
PLAN DRAWN 1-12-82

G-III-B

STATE OF MARYLAND  
MARYLAND GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

KEYSERS RIDGE (JUNC. U. S. 40) 7.3 MI.  
20' KAESE MILL 2.3 MI.

5163 III NE  
(ACCIDENT)

646

17'30"

647



McHenry, MD  
USGS 7.5 Minute Series  
Scale - 1:24,000  
1947; photorevised 1974

Site #: G-III-B-106  
Harry O'Brien Farm  
Accident-Bittinger Rd., E side, approx.  
1.5 miles SE of Accident



G-III-B-106

Harry O'Brien Farm

Garrett Co., MD

Ann Burns 7/7/81

SE & NE elevs.



G-III-B-106

Harry O'Brien Farm

Garrett Co., MD

Ann Burns 7/7/81

SW elev.



G-III-B-106  
Harry O'Brien Farm  
Garrett Co., MD  
Ann Burns 7/7/81  
Barn - NE elev.

FIGURE 93



G-III-106

**Kodak**

paper and equipment used  
to produce this picture.

March, 1982

**Kodak**

paper and equipment used  
to produce this picture.

March, 1982



G-14-106

**Kodak**

paper and equipment used  
to produce this picture

March, 1982

**Kodak**

paper and equipment used  
to produce this picture.

March, 1982



G-III-B-106

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paper and equipment used  
to produce this picture.

March, 1982

**Kodak**

paper and equipment used  
to produce this picture.

March, 1982



G-III-B-106



name and enrollment used  
to produce this picture.

March, 1982



name and enrollment used  
to produce this picture

March, 1982



G-III - B-106

SP - 3 - 4  
ANALOG

Printer and equipment used  
to produce this picture

March, 1982

Kodak

paper and equipment used  
to produce this picture.

March, 1982



G=III-B-106

**Wodak**

paper and equipment used  
to produce this picture.

March, 1982

**Wodak**

paper and equipment used  
to produce this picture.

March, 1982



G-III - 106

**Kodak**

paper and equipment used  
to produce this picture.

March, 1982

**Kodak**

paper and equipment used  
to produce this picture.

March, 1982