INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: Roscoe H. and Barbara E. Swiger Farm Survey Number: G-IV-A-269

Project: US 219/Oakland Vicinity Improvement Project Agency: MSHA

Site visit by MHT Staff: ___ No ___ Yes Name _____ Date _____

Eligibility recommended ___ Eligibility **not** recommended X

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G ___ None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessdary and attach map)

The Roscoe H. And Barbara E. Swiger Farm, with its main dwelling built around 1913 and its large, frame bank barn erected in 1903, documents the agricultural landscape surrounding the county seat of Oakland in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Agriculture composed the preeminent economic activity outside of Oakland during this period. Farmland comprised roughly 50 percent of the county's land mass in 1880, and more than 60 percent in 1910. Farms of this period typically raised potatoes, orchard products, oats, corn, buckwheat, rye and barley as well as cattle, sheep, swine and horses. As mechanization began to alter farming practices in subsequent years of the twentieth century, most of area's residents remained employed in agriculture. During this period dairying became as significant regional agricultural pursuit and precipitated the establishment of several milk processing and ice cream manufacturers in Oakland. Area farms also produced potatoes, hay, corn, small grains, buckwheat, oats, garden vegetables and maple sugar.

The agricultural use of the Swiger Farm during the twentieth century mirrors these trends in the Oakland area's agricultural history. The owners of the property prior to the Swigers practiced mixed, general farming during the early twentieth century. The Swigers acquired the farm in the 1940s and began dairying activities. The Swigers eventually ran 28 milk cows and 18 heifers on their farm in addition to raising sizable crops of hay, corn, wheat, rye, oats, potatoes and buckwheat. Mr. Swiger also drove a milk truck for a number of years but retired from all agricultural activities roughly 15 years ago.

The Swiger Farm once possessed 17 buildings but many have been dismantled or fallen in disrepair, while others sill standing are in ruinous condition. A chicken house, an ice house, a wood shed, a springhouse, and a hog house were among the earlier, demolished

DO NOT CONCUR. PROPERTY IS ELIGIBLE FOR INCLUSION IN THE NRHP UNDER CRITERION C.

Document on the property/district is presented in: Historic Structures Inventory and Determination of Eligibility Report (KCI/MSHA 1997)

Prepared by: Stuart Dixon/Gabrielle M. Lanier/KCI Technologies, Inc.

_____ 7/20/98
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: ✓ yes ___ no ___ not applicable

_____ "
Reviewer, NR program Date

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

buildings. The property's driveway has been realigned and a row of trees surrounding the house has been removed. The complex does not possess sufficient integrity of design, setting and feeling for recommending National Register eligibility under Criterion A, association with broad patterns of history.

The Swiger Farm house and related outbuildings do not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction, and are therefore recommended not eligible under Criterion C. Research has not identified any associations with the lives of persons significant in our past (Criterion B). The farm buildings have not yielded, and are not likely to yield, information important to the study of history (Criterion D).

Roscoe H. and Barbara E. Swiger Farm
G-IV-A-269
404 White Plains Lane
Oakland Vicinity
Circa 1913
Private

This farm complex includes a *circa* 1913 house, outbuildings, and several agricultural buildings. The house is a two-story, three-by-three-bay, hip-roofed yellow brick foursquare with a one-story wraparound front porch, four gabled dormers, and a fully-enclosed one-story frame side porch. Outbuildings on the property include a small concrete block shed, a two-story gable-roofed frame dwelling, a ruinous concrete block equipment shed, a large frame gable-roofed bank barn which appears to incorporate an earlier stone foundation, a small concrete block dairy, two metal silos, two cylindrical metal granaries, a ruinous one-story frame equipment shed, and a small frame shed built amidst earlier, larger foundation ruins.

The Roscoe H. and Barbara E. Swiger Farm, with its main dwelling built *circa* 1913 and its large frame bank barn constructed in 1903, documents the agricultural landscape surrounding the county seat of Oakland in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Although the resent owner has retired from the dairy business, the Swiger Farm complex still occupies an agricultural setting. The house, remains largely unaltered.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. G-IV-A-269

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic	
other	Roscoe and Barbara E. Swiger Farm

2. Location

street & number	404 White Plains Lane	____ not for publication	
city, town	Oakland	X vicinity	
county	Garrett		

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

name	Roscoe and Barbara E. Swiger Farm		
street & number	404 White Plains Lane	telephone	301-334-2489
city, town	Oakland	state and zip code	MD 21550

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Garrett County Courthouse	tax map and parcel	85-1-64
city, town	Oakland	liber and folio	221/582

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

____ Contributing Resource in National Register District
____ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
____ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
____ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
____ Recorded by HABS/HAER
____ Historic Structure Report or Research report at MHT
____ Other:

6. Classification

Category
____ district
X building(s)
____ structure
____ site
____ object

Ownership
____ public
X private
____ both

Current Function
X agriculture
____ commerce/trade
____ defense
X domestic
____ education
____ funerary
____ government
____ health care
____ industry
____ landscape
____ recreation/ culture
____ religion
____ social
____ transportation
____ work in progress
____ unknown
____ vacant/not in use
____ other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
4	3	buildings
0	0	sites
0	4	structures
0	0	objects
4	7	Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

0

7. Description

Inventory No. G-IV-A-269

Condition

___ excellent X deteriorated
___ good ___ ruins
X fair ___ altered

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

This farm complex consists of a house, a large bank barn with an attached dairy, two silos, a second dwelling, four sheds, and two metal granaries. The house is a two-story, three-by-three-bay, hip-roofed yellow brick foursquare with a one-story wraparound front porch, four gabled dormers, and a fully-enclosed one-story frame side porch. Although the current orientation of the house was shifted somewhat when the driveway was rerouted, the original front of the building faces northeast. The house is located on a prominent, open and sloping site on White Plains Lane about two miles southwest of Oakland.

The yellow brick walls of the house rest on a poured concrete foundation that encloses a full cellar. The walls are laid in a simple stretcher bond. The building is now topped with an asphalt-shingled hipped roof finished with an aluminum eave and frieze board, but according to the owner, the house originally had a slate roof. Two interior brick chimneys finished with cement drip caps exit from the roof near the center of the building.

Fishscale shingles sheath the sides and the pedimented gables of the dormers. Each dormer is topped with an asphalt-shingled roof finished with a wooden cornice, and each dormer except the one over the original front dormer is wider than the other three and features a Palladian window topped by a wooden fanlight; this dormer is finished with partial cornice returns.

Windows are primarily one-over-one, double hung wooden sash of varying sizes finished with inset wooden surrounds and gray concrete lintels and sills. Several two-light fixed sash windows finished with brick jack arches light the cellar level. The three-sided frame bay that projects from the front elevation is finished with narrow beaded boards below a bank of five one-over-one, double-hung sash windows.

The original front entrance is centrally located on the northeastern elevation. This opening is fitted with a wood paneled half-glass door. The opening is finished with a three-light glass transom, flanking glass sidelights, inset wooden surrounds, and a concrete lintel. The side entrance, located on the southeast elevation, contains a similar door lit by an overhead transom. Another side entrance which leads into the enclosed frame porch on the southwest elevation contains a similar door. A cellar entrance near the southern corner of the southwestern elevation contains a paneled wooden door, the door opening is embellished with brick jack arches.

The wraparound front porch spans the full width of the northeast and southeast elevations. Its wooden deck rests on square yellow brick piers infilled with a wooden lattice skirt. Several voluted Tuscan columns support the wooden ceiling and the asphalt-shingled hipped roof. Open concrete steps lead from the yard up to the porch deck. A hip-roofed side porch, which is now fully enclosed, projects from the southwest elevation. This porch also rests on square yellow brick piers infilled with a wooden lattice skirt. It is sheathed in wooden weatherboards with flat wooden corner boards and topped with an asphalt-shingled roof. Single one-over-one and paired and tripled three-over-one double-hung sash windows light this enclosed porch. A set of open concrete steps flanked by a metal railing leads from the side yard to the door.

Several outbuildings stand on the property. The outbuilding nearest to the house is a one-story, gable-roofed, gable-fronted concrete block shed. This building is topped with an asphalt-shingled roof finished with a boxed wooden eave, verge, and frieze board. The interior is accessed by a paneled wooden door in the northeast gable and lit by a fixed two-light sash window placed above the door. A matching window pierces the opposite gable.

Behind the house and to the west stands a two-story gable-roofed frame dwelling. This building features a full-length shed-roofed enclosed frame porch, a one-story shed-roofed rear addition, and a hip-roofed enclosed one-story gable addition. The house is built on a concrete block foundation, sheathed in aluminum siding, and topped with an asphalt-shingled roof finished with a wooden eave and verge. Windows are a mixture of single and paired three-over-one and six-over-one, double-hung wooden sash finished with wooden surrounds. The porches rest on concrete block piers that have been partially concealed beneath wooden lattice skirts. The entrances are fitted with wood and glass doors. An open concrete stoop extends from the northeast gable.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. G-IV-A-269

Roscoe H. And Barbara E. Swiger Farm
Continuation Sheet
Number 7 Page 2

A partially ruinous rectangular one-story concrete block equipment shed stands to the northeast. This building was originally three-sided, with its gable and back walls and an interior bearing wall all built of concrete block. The back wall is partially open now, as most of the concrete blocks have fallen into the building. A partially ruinous interior concrete block chimney with a projecting clay flue tile can be seen extending up the inside back wall of the building. Horizontal wooden boards sheath the upper gables. An asphalt-shingled gable roof with exposed rafter feet tops the building. A sixteen-light fixed sash window pierces the northeast gable. Access to the interior is provided by a six-light half-glass paneled wooden door.

A large frame gable-roofed bank barn with roof extensions on both long elevations stands to the east. The barn is now partially ruinous. Its foundation consists primarily of concrete block, but portions of an uncoursed, roughly dressed fieldstone foundation are visible on the southwest elevation, suggesting that part of an earlier foundation may have been incorporated into the existing barn. The walls are clad in vertical boards, and the roof is covered with corrugated metal and finished with exposed rafter feet. An earthen ramp on the northwest side leads to the main entrance. Several four-light wooden sash windows light the lower level. The building is constructed of mill-sawn lumber throughout, and the principal load-bearing members are mortised and pegged. A one-story gable-roofed concrete block dairy or milkhouse extends from the southwest corner of the barn. This building is built with concrete block walls capped with yellow brick in the exposed upper gable; it is topped with an asphalt-shingled roof finished with a wooden eave. A paneled wooden three-light half-glass door pierces the southwest gable. Several wooden louvers ventilate the interior. A set of concrete steps leads up to a concrete block stoop by the entrance. A metal dome-roofed silo on a concrete foundation stands adjacent to the northeast corner of the barn. The word "MARTIN" is painted on its northeast side. A second metal silo, also built on a concrete foundation, stands next to the southeast elevation. Two large one-story cylindrical granaries built on concrete pads stand on the north side of the barn. Each granary or feed bin is walled in corrugated metal and topped with a conical corrugated metal roof. One of the granaries has collapsed.

A ruinous one-story frame equipment shed stands southeast of the house and barn. This building is clad in a mixture of vertical boards and wooden weatherboards and was once covered with a corrugated metal roof with exposed rafter feet. Little of the roof covering remains.

Southwest of the house stands a one-story shed-roofed frame shed. This building has been erected in the middle of the ruins of two earlier stone and cement foundation walls, and adjacent to a third embanked foundation built of concrete. The small shed rests on a concrete pad which sits in the middle of this earlier foundation; the sills of the shed are raised on concrete blocks. The building is sheathed in vertical boards and topped with a rolled asphalt roof. The interior is lit with several six-over-six, double-hung wooden sash windows.

A long dirt and gravel driveway extends from the main road past the ruinous shed and the southwestern side of the house; it continues uphill and turns in a more northerly direction toward the bank barn. The existing driveway represents a rerouting of an earlier drive, which is still visible as a depression running between the northeastern side of the house and the bank barn. Several large deciduous and coniferous trees shade the house, but the rest of the property is mostly treeless and affords several beautiful views of the surrounding countryside. The entire complex is ranged across an open, southwest-facing hillside. The house is presently occupied and retains very good integrity

According to the owners, an earlier log house once stood on this site but was dismantled. The present house was built around 1913 with lumber that was sawn and processed on this farm. There were once at least 17 buildings on the farm, including a chicken house, an ice house, a wood shed, a springhouse, and a hog house; all of these earlier buildings have been demolished.

8. Significance

Inventory No. G-IV-A-269

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
__ 1600-1699	_X_ agriculture	__ economics	__ health/medicine	__ performing arts
__ 1700-1799	__ archeology	__ education	__ industry	__ philosophy
__ 1800-1899	__ architecture	__ engineering	__ invention	__ politics/government
_X_ 1900-1999	__ art	__ entertainment/ recreation	__ landscape architecture	__ religion
__ 2000-	__ commerce	__ ethnic heritage	__ law	__ science
	__ communications	__ exploration/ settlement	__ literature	__ social history
	__ community planning		__ maritime history	__ transportation
	__ conservation		__ military	__ other:

Specific dates Circa 1913 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Evaluation for:

_X_ National Register ____ Maryland Register ____ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the hi of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual).

The Roscoe H. and Barbara E. Swiger Farm, with its main dwelling built *circa* 1913 and its large frame bank barn constructed in 1903, documents the agricultural landscape surrounding the county seat of Oakland in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Agriculture was the predominant economic activity outside of Oakland in the late nineteenth century, as farmland comprised about 50 percent of the county's land mass in 1880, and more than 60 percent by 1910. Farms of this period typically raised potatoes, orchard products, oats, corn, buckwheat, wheat, rye, and barley as well as cattle, sheep, swine, and horses. Even in the subsequent decades of the twentieth century, as mechanization began to alter many farming practices, most of the area's residents were still employed in agriculture. Mid-twentieth-century farms in the area focused on producing potatoes, hay, corn, small grains, buckwheat, oats, garden vegetables, and maple sugar, and dairying became a significant regional agricultural pursuit.

According to the current property owner, the present farmhouse was built on the site of an earlier log house, which had been dismantled and moved to another part of the property. The present house was constructed with lumber from the farm and was originally topped with a slate roof. At one time there were approximately seventeen additional outbuildings and agricultural buildings on the property, including a chicken house, an ice house, a woodshed, a springhouse, and a hoghouse, all of which are now gone. The buildings that remain, including a large frame bank barn that appears to incorporate the stone foundation of an earlier barn, were part of a significant twentieth-century agricultural and dairying operation that supported at least 28 milk cows, 18 heifers, and sizable crops of hay, corn, wheat, rye, oats, potatoes, and buckwheat. Although the present owner has retired from the dairy business, the Swiger Farm complex still occupies an agricultural setting that looks much as it did in the early years of the twentieth century, and the house, which is a fine example of an early twentieth-century foursquare, remains largely unaltered.

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:	Western Maryland
Chronological/Developmental Period(s):	Industrial / Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
Historic Period Theme(s):	Agriculture
Resource Type:	
Category:	Buildings
Historic Environment:	Rural
Historic Function(s) and Use(s):	Dwelling and agricultural buildings
Known Design Source:	None

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. G-IV-A-269

(See Continuation Sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 162 acres
Acreage surveyed 162 acres
Quadrangle name Oakland, MD-WVA
Quadrangle scale 1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Parcel 64, Map 85, Grid 1

11. Form Prepared By

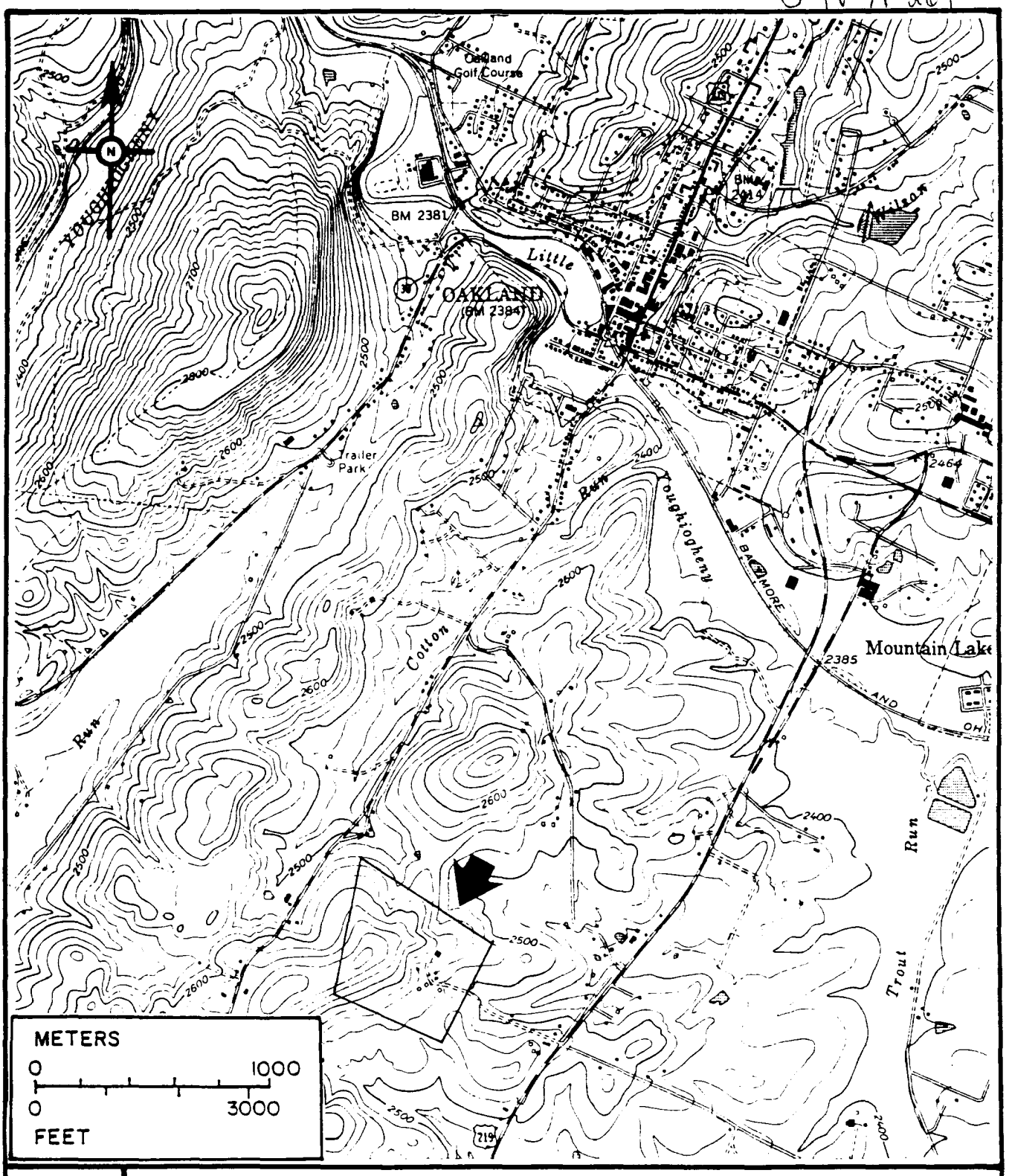
name/title	Stuart Dixon/Gabrielle M. Lanier, Architectural Historian		
organization	KCI Technologies, Inc.	date	10-15/97
street & number	10 North Park Drive	telephone	410-316-7857
city or town	Hunt Valley	state and zip code	MD 21030-1888

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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.

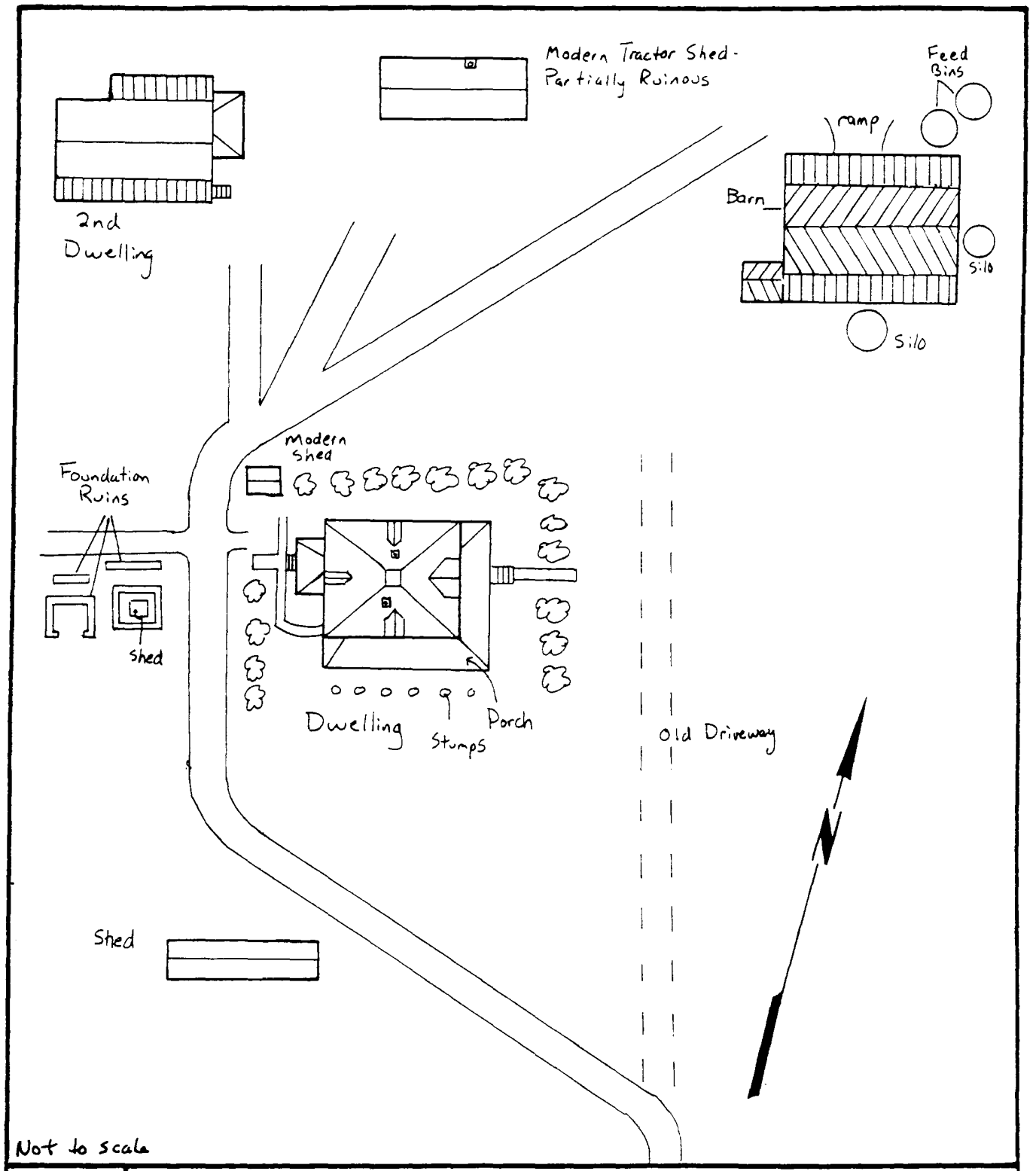
return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032
410-514-7600

G-IV-A-269



KCI TECHNOLOGIES

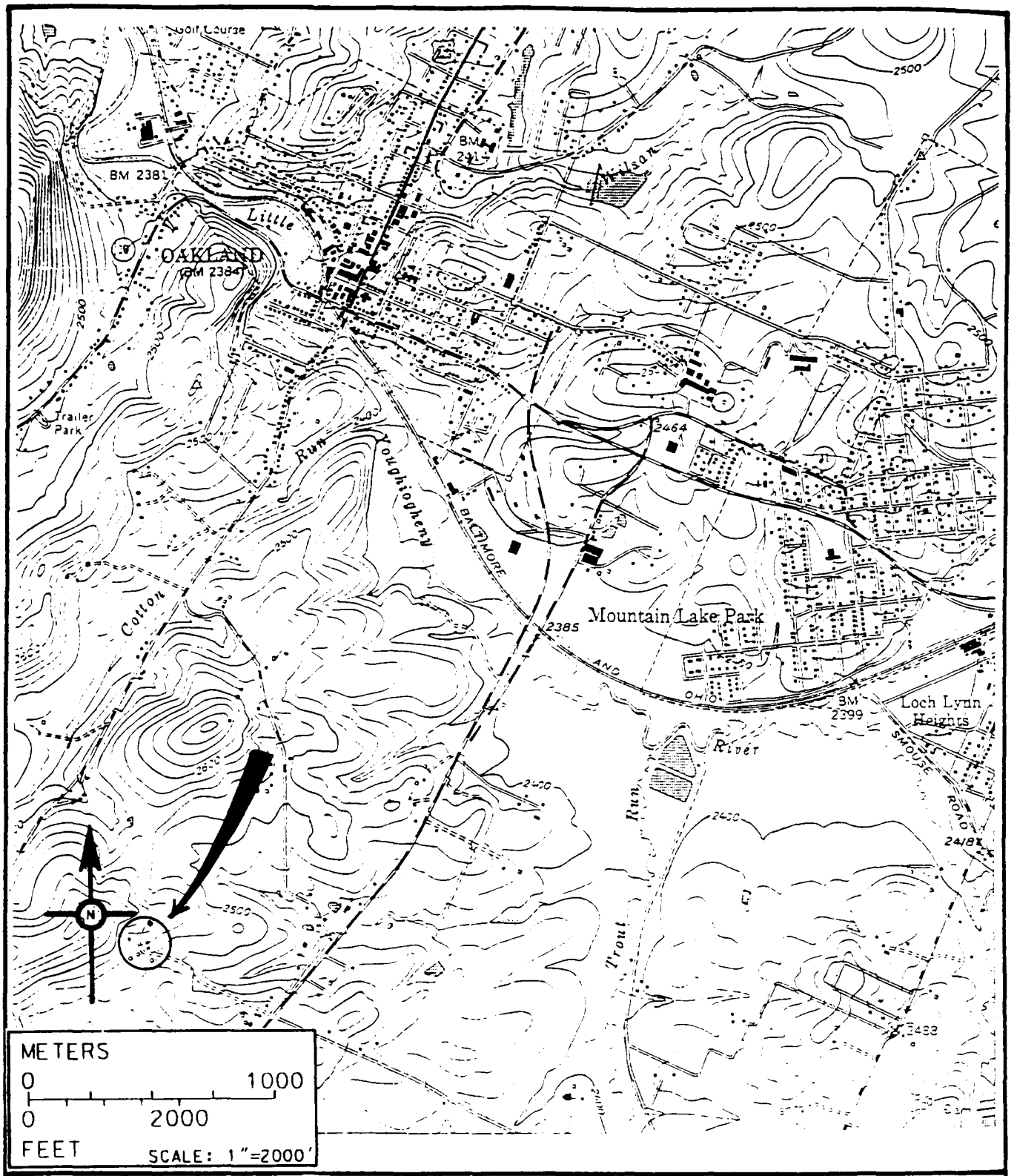
Section of Oakland, MD-WVA 7.5' Quadrangle Map (USGS 1974)
showing the National Register Boundaries for the Roscoe H. and Barbara E. Swiger Farm
Tax Parcel number 64, Map 85, Grid 1
162 acres



Resource Sketch Map

G-IV-A-269
Roscoe H. and Barbara E. Swiger Farm
Oakland Vicinity, Garrett County

KCI TECHNOLOGIES



KCI TECHNOLOGIES

Location Map

G-IV-A-269
Roscoe H. and Barbara E. Swiger Farm
Oakland Vicinity, Garrett County
Oakland, MD-WVA Quadrangle Map (USGS 1974)

G-IV-A-269

GARRETT COUNTY, MD
STUART DIXON
2/19/97
MD SHPO
S ELEVATION LOOKING N

400 5005 0-15 15 0
+0840 +0 -02 NN 0557

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G-IV-A-269

GARRETT COUNTY, MD
STUART DIXON
2/19/97
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GARRETT COUNTY, MD
STUART DIXON
2/20/97
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GARRETT COUNTY, MD
STUART DIXON
2/20/97
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G-IV-A-269

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G-IV-A-269

GARRETT COUNTY, MD
STUART DIXON
2/20/97
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G-IV-A-269

GARRETT COUNTY, MD
STUART DIXON
2/20/97
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G-IV-A-269

GARRETT COUNTY, MD
STUART DIXON
2/20/97
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G-IV-A-269

GARRETT COUNTY, MD
STUART DIXON
2/20/97
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G-IV-A-269

GARRETT COUNTY, MD
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