

G-IV-B-114

Altamont Survey District  
Altamont  
Private

ca.1875

The Altamont Survey District is a group of four buildings located on a road which leads W from MD Rt. 38. The district stands on and around an embankment which overlooks the Altamont Interlocking Tower (G-IV-B-118) and marks the western end of the Altamont 17-Mile Railroad Grade (G-IV-B-175). Altamont is a small village associated with the B & O Railroad from its establishment around the mid-nineteenth century. Its residents were primarily railroad workers.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

G-IV-B-114  
MAGI #1208915628  
ML

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  
Altamont Survey District  
AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
Altamont Rd., W side, approx. .1 mile W of MD Rt. 38  
CITY, TOWN Altamont CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6th  
VICINITY OF  
STATE Maryland COUNTY Garrett County

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Multiple Ownership Telephone #:  
STREET & NUMBER  
CITY, TOWN VICINITY OF STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, LIBER #: Registry of Deeds, etc. Folio #:  
Garrett County Courthouse  
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**

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

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

The Altamont Survey District is a group of four buildings located on a road which leads W from MD Rt. 38, just S of the Rt. 38 bridge over the B & O Railroad line. The district stands on and around an embankment which overlooks the Altamont Interlocking Tower (G-IV-B-118) and marks the western end of the Altamont 17-Mile Railroad Grade (G-IV-B-175). Three of the buildings stand near the top of the embankment; the fourth, the B & O foreman's house, stands to the NW of the others in a hollow.

The district includes three small frame dwellings and a larger foreman's dwelling. The three smaller dwellings are best exemplified by the Shanks House, which has retained more of its original configuration.

The Shanks House is a two-story, gable-roofed dwelling with a three-bay center-door facade which points NE. Its first floor is covered with a hipped-roofed, enclosed sunporch. The house rests on a coursed stone foundation and is covered with asbestos shingles and aluminum siding. The windows are two over two and one over one sash. Some have been altered. The roof is covered with tar paper and the main block has a single interior brick stove chimney. A one-story, gable-roofed addition abuts the SW elevation.

The Jesse Woods House, to the SE, closely resembles the Shanks House, but has had different siding and modern windows installed, and the configuration of the additions is not the same. The King-Davis House is a one-story dwelling on its facade and reveals a full basement story on its SW (rear) elevation.

The B & O House is a large, two-story, gable-roofed dwelling, with a three-bay, center-door facade, and a one-story, shed-roofed facade porch. The facade faces NE. The house's cinderblock foundation is modern as is its asbestos shingle siding. The windows are one over one sash and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The house has two brick stove chimneys, one on the SE gable end and one at the SE end of the SW elevation. A one story, hipped-roof addition abuts the SW elevation.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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		

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SPECIFIC DATES	ca.1875	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	unknown
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Altamont is a small village associated with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad from its establishment around the mid-nineteenth century. Its residents were primarily railroad workers, either those who travelled with the trains or those who worked at the Altamont Station or the interlocking tower. In addition to the station, there were at one time several more houses; two stores and a saloon stood across the tracks from the present district (Shanks interview). All of these buildings have been demolished. The remaining dwellings are all privately owned.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Interview with Mr. Robert Shanks, 10 September 1981.

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

September 1981

STREET &amp; 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



Altamont; Deer Park: MD  
USGS 7.5 Minute Series  
Scale 1:24,000  
1948; photorevised 1974

G-IV-B-114  
Altamont Survey District  
Altamont Rd., W side, approx. .1  
mile W of MD Rt. 38



G-IV-B-114

Altamont Survey District

Garrett Co., MD      A. Burns

Facade: NE Elev      9-10-81

B & O RR House



G-IV-B-114

Altamont Survey District

Garrett Co., MD A. Burns

SE Elev; Fac-NE Elev.

Shanks House, 9-9-81