

Marstellar House
HA 1897

This impressive circa 1901, two-story frame house is located on the west side of Main Street in the village of Cardiff, Maryland. It was built for John Marstellar, who bought four adjoining lots fronting Main Street on the west side from the South Delta Land Company. A large structure with a symmetrical facade oriented on a central projecting cross gable, the house is indicative of the transition from the irregular massing of the Victorian era to classical, neo-colonial lines of the early twentieth century. Beautiful patterning of the roof's slate shingles adds understated ornamentation to the entire structure.

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Marstellar House

2. Location

street & number 1624 Main Street N/A not for publicationcity, town Cardiff ___ vicinity of congressional district 5thstate Maryland county Harford

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 Andrew F., Jr. and Naomi M. Welch

street & number same telephone no.: (410)452-5097city, town Cardiff state and zip code MD, 21024

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse liber HDC 870street & number 20 Courtland Pl. folio 274city, town Bel Air state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title none

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. HA 1897

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.

This impressive, two-story frame house is located on the west side of Main Street in the village of Cardiff, Maryland. The rectangular structure of the main house is a wide three bays by two with a wide, modern brick chimney built into the northern bays of the east, main facade. An open shed-roofed porch with a brick floor runs the length of the main facade first story. A T appendage projects off the rear, west wall; first-story enclosures and second-story porches occupying the angles. Interrupting the north-south gable, slate-shingled roof is a large projecting cross gable centered on the main facade. Two original internal chimneys rise from the peak at the north and south endwalls. The house has been re-covered in cream vinyl siding.

The wide main facade is of a refined, symmetrical design. Creating the illusion of three-dimensions, the middle bay is distinctly defined by the expansive projecting gable and the alignment of outer bay windows with the end of the cross gable eaves. The main entrance, second-story double window, and small double gable window are all centered on the gable, sending the middle bay skyward. Long double 2/2 sash windows in the first-story bays and standard-sized double 1/1 windows in the upper bays flanked the midsection, the windows in the north bay having been replaced by the modern external chimney.

The north endwall consists of a two-story three-paneled bay window in the east bay with 1/1 sash windows in all panels but the upper middle, single windows in the west bays, and two small 2/2 windows on either side of the internal chimney. As seen from a 1931 photograph taken from the Maryland Green Marble Quarry, the T appendage is two bays wide with windows in both upper and lower bays and two evenly spaced at the gable of the perpendicular roof. The north angle first-story enclosure and second-story porch have been remodeled with a brick covering. The south endwall and angle could not be documented due to privacy and closely growing cedars at the building's south side.

The patterned slate-shingled roof and wide trim at the windows provide tasteful, understated ornamentation to this fine house. The slate is patterned with courses of fish-scale, diamond, and rectangular shingles. The trim at the projecting cross gable is pedimented. Turned porch posts with small, very simple brackets and modern brick decking lend slight embellishment to the length of open porch.

8. Significance

Survey No. HA 1897

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/
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This circa 1901 house was built for John Marstellar, who bought four adjoining lots fronting Main Street on the west side from the South Delta Land Company. A large structure with a symmetrical facade oriented on a central projecting cross gable, the house is indicative of the transition from the irregular massing of the Victorian era to classical, neo-colonial lines of the early twentieth century. As representative of the era's desire for light and ventilation, the house has numerous windows and porches. The elaborate decoration associated with Victorian era homes has been reduced to turned posts on the long open front porch. Beautiful patterning of the roof's slate shingles adds understated ornamentation to the entire structure.

Rapid development occurred in Cardiff and the adjacent towns of Whiteford and Delta (PA) as a result of the area's tremendous slate industry "boom era" of the late nineteenth century. Originally owned by Thomas Hawkins (farmer) in a patented land grant known as "Hawkins Chance", this land was part of the tract sold by the Hawkins family to Rowland Parry, a Welsh quarry owner who operated one of the first prominent commercial quarries in the area. It was Parry who exhibited Peach Bottom slate in the London Crystal Palace exposition in 1850, winning it international recognition as the world's finest slate. "Hawkins Chance" was divided and sold in pieces, passing mostly through the hands of Parry's relatives and countrymen in various forms. The parcel of 17 acres that created this lot was sold to the South Delta Land Company in 1896 through an Equity Case on behalf of Parry's great niece. As with this house, most of the structures at the north end of Cardiff were built around the turn of the century, after this subdivision took place.

MARSTELLER HOUSE
Title Search

HDC 870/274	April 15, 1971	Grantor: Charles E. and Ole(i)ta W. Glackin Grantee: Andrew F. , Jr. and Naomi M. Welch Granted: town lot of .231 acres with improvements
GRG 314/96	March 31, 1948	Grantor: William G. and Virginia G. Davis Grantee: Charles E. and Oleita W. Glackin Granted: same, fronting Main St. 64 1/2 feet
GBC 289/393	July 17, 1945	Grantor: William H. and Zettie Greer Grantee: William G. and Virginia G. Davis Granted: same
SWC 227/368	November 28, 1933	Grantor: Straley Greer Grantee: William H. and Zettie Greer Granted: same
SWC 227/367	November 28, 1933	Grantor: William H. and Zettie Greer Grantee: Straley Greer Granted: same
SWC 223/45	February 24, 1932	Grantor: Grover C. Greer et al., Executors of Mary E. Greer Grantee: William H. Greer Granted: same
DGW 186/422	April 3, 1924	Grantor: Thomas A. P. and Mabel Carman Grantee: William C. and Mary E. Greer Granted: same
JAR 171/165	December 17, 1920	Grantor: J. Harry Macatee, Executor of Will of Henry Macatee Grantee: Thomas P. Carman Granted: town lot of 36 sq perches for \$3500.00 (implies the existence of the large house presently there)
JAR 137/407	August 12, 1912	Grantor: J. Martin McNabb and Charles H. McNabb, Trustees (as described in Equity Case on May 27, 1912 , The First National Bank of Delta v. William T. Marsteller et al.) Grantee: Henry Macatee Granted: same, for \$3000.00 at public auction
WSF 108/143 (plat)	December 10, 1902	Plat missing but lot marked as "John Marsteller's Residence", according to a prior reference.

WSF 99/378	March 9, 1900	Grantor: South Delta Land Company Grantee: John Marsteller Granted: parcel of land fronting Main St. 202 1/4' for \$800.00 (parcel is subdivided, lots are recorded in WSF 100/33, WSF 115/190, and WSF 100/233)
WSF 88/282	May 26, 1896	Grantor: Stevenson A. Williams (trustee, as appointed in Equity Case WSF 41/351 Elizabeth J. Parry v. Margaret Parry et al.) Grantee: South Delta Land Company (via James Poff, agent) Granted: a part of the lands described in equity case (less than 19 acres) to be subdivided into town building lots
Plat book DGW 2/64	1891	Survey plat of lots to be subdivided, South Delta Land Company
Will Records WS 10/440	September 12, 1888	John Parry, quarryman, bequeaths: To his daughter, Elizabeth, the house in which he resides and the 84' by 400' lot on which it stands. To his son, Richard Parry, all his remaining lands, approximately 17 acres To each of his children, Mary Williams, John, Richard, Jacob, and Elizabeth Parry 1/6 of his shares in the Welsh Slate Company of Harford County.
ALJ 28/407	May 14, 1873	Grantor: Hugh E. Hughes Grantee: John Parry Granted: 10 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$1050.00
ALJ 28/407	May 14, 1873	Grantor: Humphrey R. and Jane H. Lloyd Grantee: John Parry Granted: 2 acres of "Hawkins Chance" with improvements, on west side of Main St. (same as ALJ 25/346) for \$1200.00
ALJ 25/346	April 11, 1871	Grantor: Richard Hughes and wife Grantee: Jane H. Lloyd (daughter) Granted: 2 parcels of "Hawkins Chance", 1). 5 acres 105 perches and 2). 2 acres 1 perch (see ALJ 9/29)
ALJ 9/30	May 29, 1857	Grantor: Richard Hughes et al. Grantee: John and Ellin Parry Granted: 8 acres 35 perches of "Hawkins Chance" for \$500.00

ALJ 9/29	May 29, 1857	Grantor: John Parry Grantee: Richard Hughes Granted: 2 parcels of "Hawkins Chance", 1). 5 acres 105 perches and 2). 2 acres 1 perch
HDG 36/424	July 27, 1850	Grantor: Ro(w)land and Anne Parry Grantee: John Parry and Richard Hughes Granted: 3 1/2 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$350.00
HDG 36/215	February 5, 1850	Grantor: Rowland Perry Grantee: John Perry and Richard Hughes Granted: 12 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$600.00
HDG 36/214 (indenture)	February 5, 1850	Grantor: Benjamin Williams Grantee: John Perry et al. Granted: 12 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$200.00
HDG 36/212	January 22, 1850	Grantor: Archibald A. and Nancy Hawkins Grantee: Rowland Perry (Parry) Granted: part of "Hawkins Chance" for \$850.00, acreage unknown
HDG 34/492	February 9, 1849	Grantor: Edward Proctor et al. Grantee: Archabald A. Hawkins Granted: "Hawkins Chance", being part of Thomas Hawkins landholdings; 74 acres 5 perches
HD 14/336	August 3, 1831	Grantor: Isaac Hawkins, heir to Thomas Hawkins Grantee: Thomas Proctor, heir to Edward Proctor Granted: The eighth part of land tracts "Hawkins Chance", "Williams Birthright", Mount Pleasant", and "Montgomerys Delight" . The four tracts contain 188 acres total. No mention of "eighth part" acreage.
Land Tract, Patented	After March 1774, when Harford est.	"Hawkins Chance", tract of 74 acres 5 perches granted to Thomas Hawkins. Located on the Maryland and Pennsylvania line at the north end of present day Cardiff. Divided, sold, and reworked often.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Common Houses in America's Small Towns: The Atlantic Seaboard to the Mississippi Valley.
John A. Jakle, Robert W. Bastian, and Douglas K. Meyer. 1989.

Land Records, Harford County Courthouse.

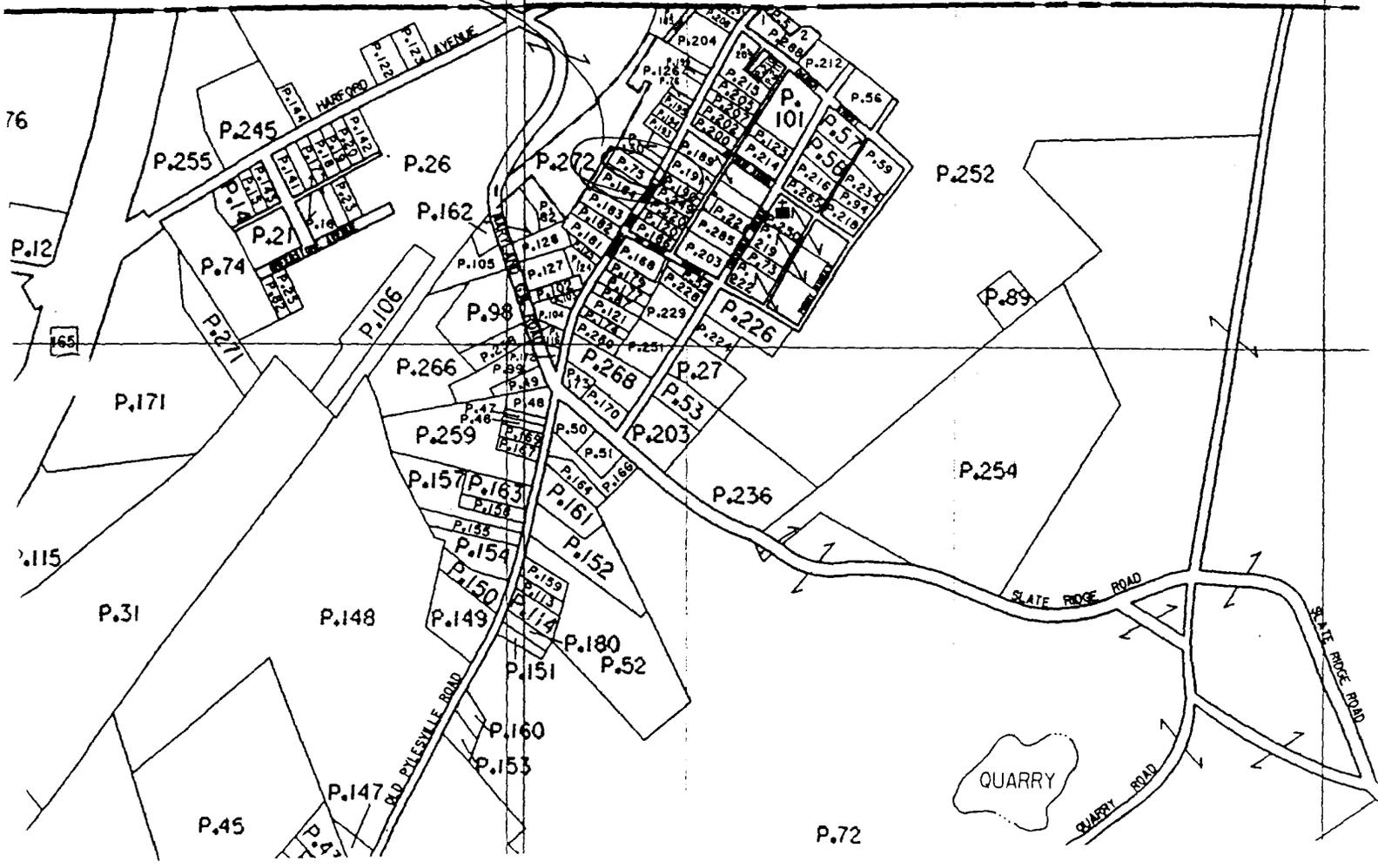
Delta Centennial, A souvenir book from the 1953 centennial celebration which was organized by the
Delta-Cardiff Fire Company.

Conversations with Mrs. Marion Scarborough, June 20, June 22, July 25, and August 1, 1995
regarding Parry family history.

Harford County Historical Society Archives.

Various conversations with area residents for a contextual history of the inventory structures.

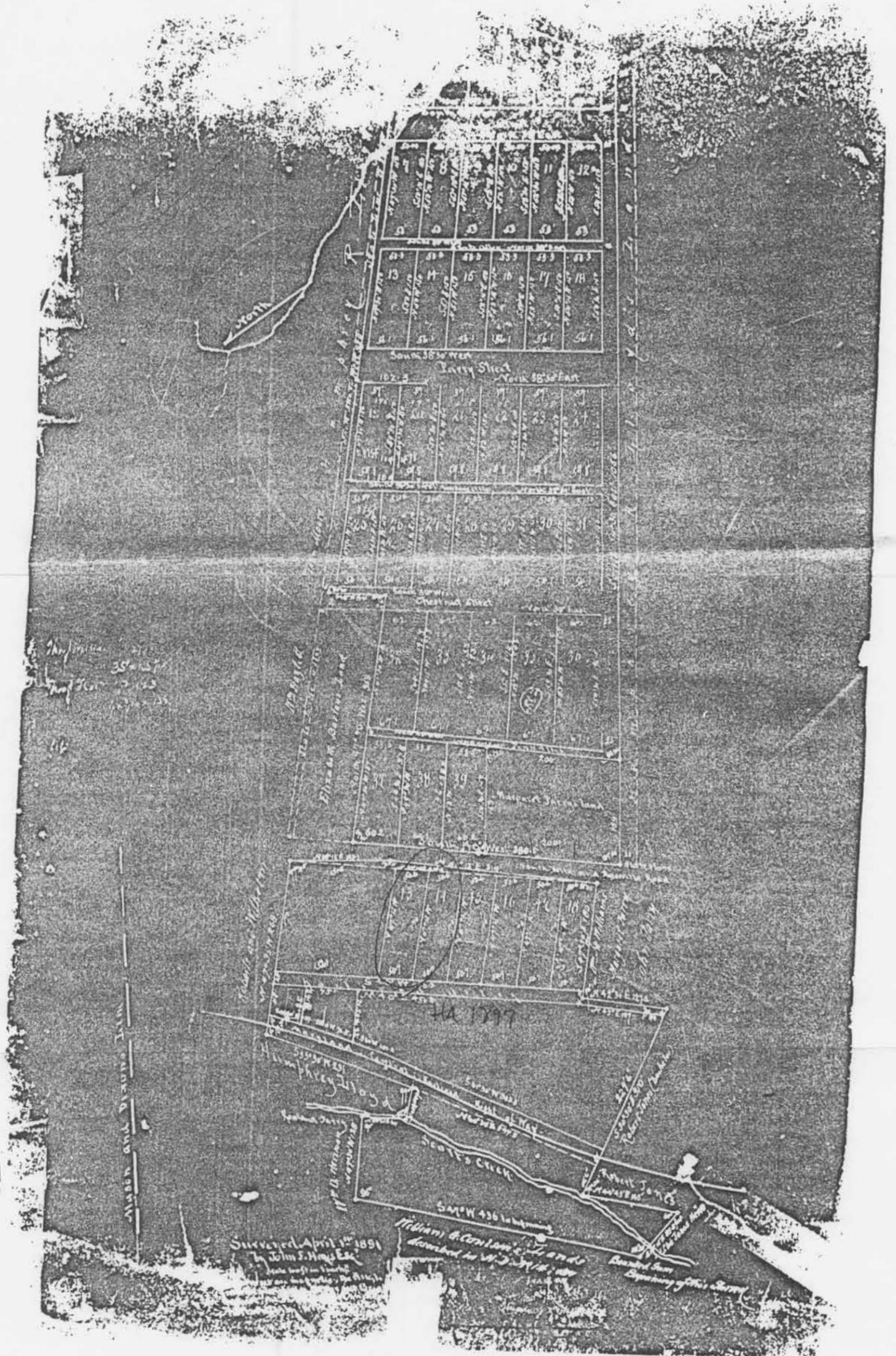
HA 1897



HA-1897

Marstellar House
Parcel 75, Tax Map 5

PLAT of SOUTH DELTA LAND COMPANY!
1891



150 000 FEET
(PA.)

4399

4398

FIVE FOLDS 3 MI.
SCALE 1 IN 0.6 MI.

33

PENNSYLVANIA
MARYLAND

32

YORK CO
HARFORD CO

42'30"

4396

4395

374

5763 III NW
(FAWN GROVE)

HILL 6.4 MI
E-WER 2.1 MI

P E A C H B O

PENNSYLVANIA
Creek

Sub Sta

Delta

Slate Ridge Cemetery

BM 413

HA-1897
Cardiff

WHITEFORD

ROAD

ROAD

ROAD

Whiteford

Slate Ridge School

Fire Observation Station No 77
Whitford

WHEELER

SCHOOL ROAD

RAILROAD

GRADE ROAD

OLD

PYLESVILLE

Pylesville

BM 358

RIDGE

ROAD

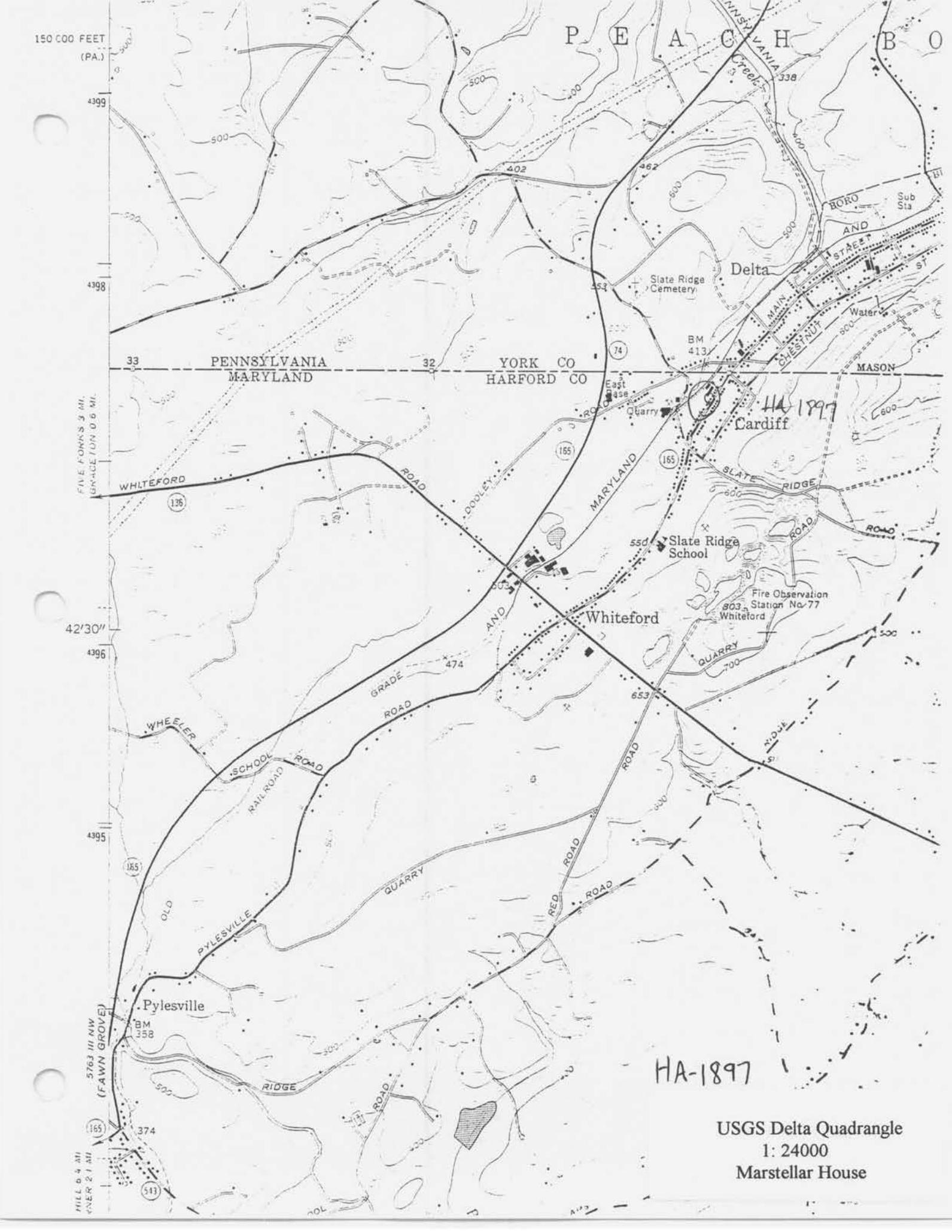
ROAD

ROAD

ROAD

HA-1897

USGS Delta Quadrangle
1: 24000
Marstellar House





HA 1797

Marsteller house

Harford County, Maryland

Dianne Hart

3/95

Maryland SHPE

~~Chris Weeks, Dept of Planning & Zoning, Harford County~~

View SW from Main Street

1/2



LA 1897

Marshall at house

Harford County, Maryland

Dianne Klatt

3/95

Maryland IHR

~~Dept. of Planning & Zoning~~

View west from Main Street

2/2