

**Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church Manse**  
**HA 1925**

This circa 1902 two-story frame house is located on the uphill, east side of Chestnut Street overlooking the village of Cardiff, Maryland. Built as the manse for Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church (1893), this house is an impressive structure with moderate decoration, representing the waning Victorian era and the return to simpler, neocolonial lines of the early 20th century. As with the majority of houses in Cardiff, slate has a prominent place among the building materials of this structure in its use on this structure's roof.

With Chestnut Street having been built in 1890 as a result of development pressures of the late nineteenth century "boom era", the nearby Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church was one of the first structures to be built in the developing north end of Cardiff. Of interest is the mention of the lot sale to the church as the first transaction in March 1893; four lots were sold to the Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church for \$150.00 because it was believed "that the erection of a church thereon would greatly enhance the value of the remaining lots".

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. HA 1925

Magi No.

DOE yes no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church Manse

## 2. Location

street & number 1621 Chestnut Street

~~N/A~~not for publication

city, town Cardiff

\_\_\_ vicinity of

congressional district 5th

state Maryland

county Harford

## 3. Classification

### Category

district  
 building(s)  
 structure  
 site  
 object

### Ownership

public  
 private  
 both  
**Public Acquisition**  
 in process  
 being considered  
 not applicable

### Status

occupied  
 unoccupied  
 work in progress  
**Accessible**  
 yes: restricted  
 yes: unrestricted  
 no

### Present Use

agriculture  
 commercial  
 educational  
 entertainment  
 government  
 industrial  
 military  
 museum  
 park  
 private residence  
 religious  
 scientific  
 transportation  
 other:

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

name Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church

street & number 4544 Church Street

telephone no.:(410)452-5177

city, town Cardiff

state and zip code MD, 21024

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse

liber WSF 104

street & number 20 W. Courtland Pl.

folio 10

city, 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

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" 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 of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	(siding)		

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

This two-story frame house is located on the uphill, east side of Chestnut Street overlooking the village of Cardiff, Maryland. The building is three bays at the first-story and four bays at the second by a deep two bays, creating an irregular fenestration arrangement. The large main house has a shallow service ell projecting from the north end of the rear wall. The continuous porch running the length of the main facade and north side provides the only decoration to an otherwise austere house in the form of turned posts, cut-out brackets, and spindle balustrade. The angle is occupied by an open first-story porch and a second-story enclosure. The slate-shingle gable roof has north-south ridge with a projecting cross gable centered on the west, main facade. A internal flue is centered at the north endwall and a furnace flue runs externally on the southern side of the building, slightly offset to the east from center. Unlike many of the houses in town, this house has a raised foundation constructed of stone as opposed to the region's renowned slate. The house has been re-sided in cream-colored vinyl.

The main entrance is located at the south first-story bay and has a single-paned transom and full-length multi-light sidelights. The remaining north and middle bay on the first-story main facade and the four second-story bays are delineated by 1/1 sash windows. A single, smaller 1/1 sash is centered at the projecting gable. Two courses of cement steps with cast iron hand rails provide access to the hillside house.

The southern endwall has a two-story three-sided bay window in the eastern bays, with single sash window at the upper and lower west bays. A high, small square window with square stained glass indicates the interior stairwell. Two sash windows flank the external chimney at the south endwall gable. The north endwall of the main house has a slightly irregular pattern of windows. A second entrance and window share the eastern, first-story bay. The remaining lower west bay and upper bays contain a regular pattern of 1/1 windows. Two small windows again flank the chimney. Upper and lower windows are in the eastern end of the north side ell.

# 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/
<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 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**

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check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or  
Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

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

Built in 1902 as the manse for Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church (1893), this house is an impressive structure with moderate decoration, representing the waning Victorian era and the return to simpler, neocolonial lines of the early 20th century. With a concern for light and ventilation, the many windows and porches were typical of the era. As with the majority of houses in Cardiff, slate has a prominent place among the building materials of this structure in its use on this structure's roof. Many of the buildings in town also have coursed slate foundations and slate detailing.

The towns of Cardiff, Whiteford, and Delta (PA) developed primarily from the area's tremendous slate quarrying industry. The manse is located on Chestnut Street, a street which was built in 1890 as a result of development pressures of the late nineteenth century "boom era". The subdivided lots on the eastern, high side of Chestnut Street appear to have been the prime real estate of the times as evidenced by the quality and stature of the houses along here.

As the first structure to be built in the developing north end of Cardiff, the second Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church is located at the corner of Chestnut and Church Streets, three houses down from the manse on the opposite side of the road. The land on which the church is located was platted for subdivision after the Equity Case of William Harlan v. Annie McConkey et al. January 1889, WSF 60/475. Of interest is the mention of the lot sale to the church as the first transaction in March 1893; four lots were sold to the Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church for \$150.00 because it was believed "that the erection of a church thereon would greatly enhance the value of the remaining lots".

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 the manse lot was sold to the South Delta Land Company in 1896 through an Equity Case on behalf of Parry's great niece. Like the manse, most of the structures at the north end of Cardiff were built around the turn of the century.



SLATE RIDGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MANSE  
Title Search

WSF 104/10	January 8, 1902	Grantor: South Delta Land Company Grantee: Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church Granted: two contiguous lots of April 1, 1891 survey by John F. Hays
WSF 88/282	May 26, 1896	Grantor: Stevenson A. Williams (trustee, as appointed in Equity Case WSF 41/351 Elizabeth J. Parry, daughter of Richard 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 36/212	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.

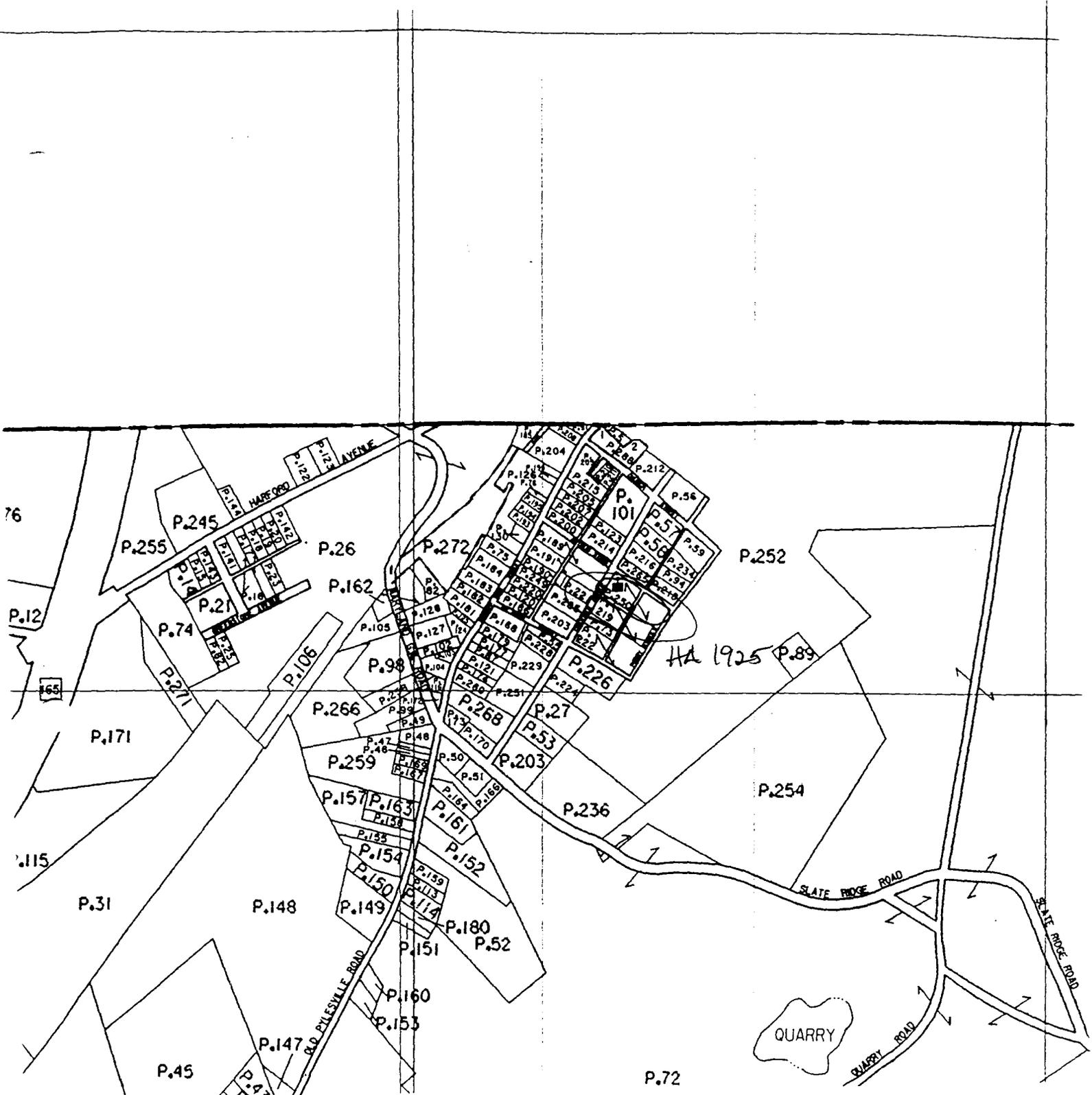
Delta Centennial, A souvenir book from the 1953 centennial celebration which was organized by the  
Delta-Cardiff Fire Company.

Conversation with Mrs. Darcy Lloyd, April 11, 1995.

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

Harford County Historical Society Archives.

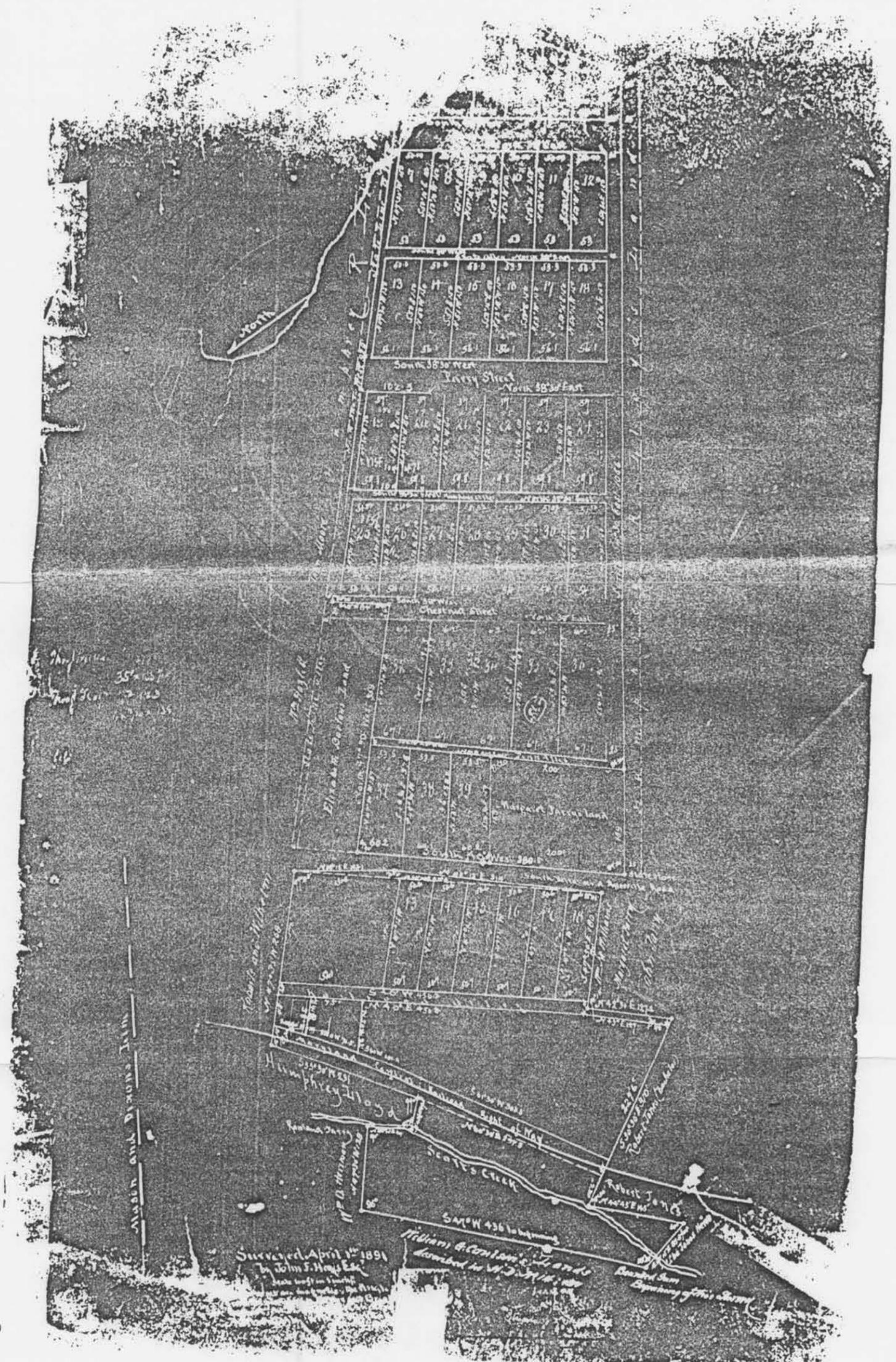
Various conversations with area residents for a contextual history of the inventory structures.



HA-1925

Slate Ridge Presbyterian  
Church Manse  
Parcel 250, Tax Map 5

PLAT of SOUTH DELTA LAND COMPANY?  
1891



HA-1925

150 000 FEET  
(PA.)

P E A C H B O

4399  
4398

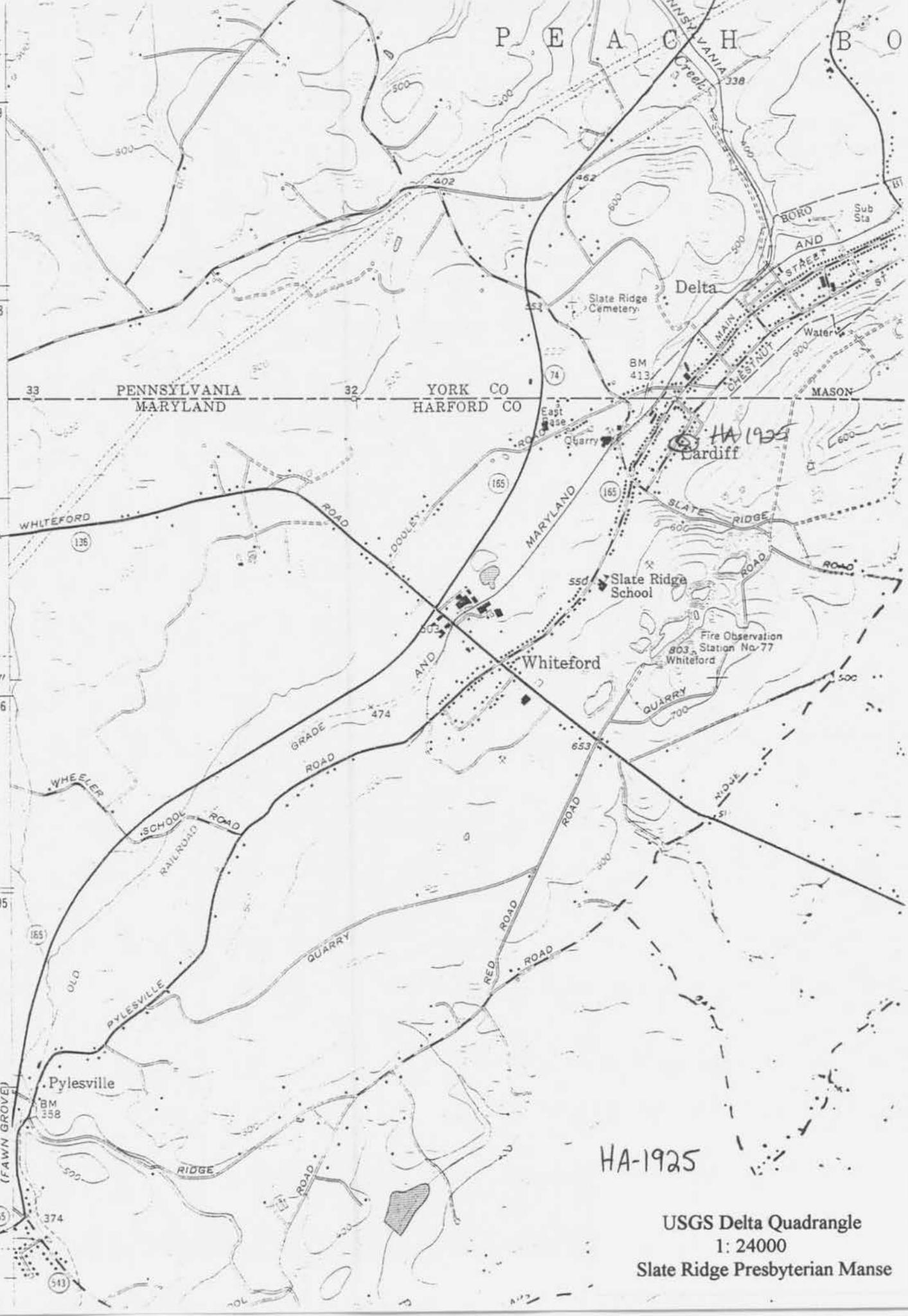
33 PENNSYLVANIA YORK CO  
MARYLAND HARFORD CO 32

FIVE FORKS 3 MI.  
UNRAIL 10W 0.6 MI.

42'30"  
4396

4395

5763 III NW  
(FAWN GROVE)  
511 0.4 MI  
OVER 2.1 MI



HA-1925

USGS Delta Quadrangle  
1: 24000  
Slate Ridge Presbyterian Manse



HA 1925

State Ridge Presbyterian Church Manse  
Stafford County, Maryland

Dianne Klear

3/95

Maryland SHPE

~~Chris Weeks, Stafford County, Planning & Zoning Dept~~

View northeast from Chestnut Street

1/2



HA 1925

State Ridge Presbyterian Church Manse  
Harford County, Maryland  
Dianne Klein

3/95

Maryland SHHP

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

View east from Chestnut Street

JK