

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Belle Farm
 AND/OR COMMON Todd Farmhouse

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Northeast corner of the intersection of St. Mary's and Graceton Rds.
 CITY, TOWN Pylesville CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT First
 STATE Maryland VICINITY OF COUNTY Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" 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 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 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 Eugene Todd Telephone #: 838-2222
 STREET & NUMBER 1701 Wheel Road
 CITY, TOWN Bel Air VICINITY OF Maryland STATE, zip code 21014

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, LIBER #: GRG 427
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Harford County Courthouse FOLIO #: 572
 STREET & NUMBER 40 South Main Street
 CITY, TOWN Bel Air STATE Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
 DATE
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
 CITY, TOWN STATE

HA-477

7 DESCRIPTION

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 type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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

This southern-facing stone dwelling is L-shaped and two-story, with walls of rubble stone that have since been repointed with beaded mortar joints. Flat stone lintels and sills appear over doorways and windows. The main portion of this two-story house is five bays by two, while the shorter leg of the "L", facing west, measures three bays by two. The windows are 6 X 6 in recently replaced frames, but there are also pairs of 2 X 2 attic panes on the eastern and western gable-ends of the major part of the house. The same arrangement is found on the northern gable end of the kitchen wing. There were originally a pair of opposite doors, centered along the northern and southern embrasures of the main section, but the northern one has since been sealed off. The southern entryway is quite wide and is crowned with a four-light transom. Inset portals are positioned both on the eastern and the western sides of the rear kitchen wing. The roof is gable-flank on both parts and is made of slate, trimmed underneath with a box cornice and eaves. Resting on a stone base, a four-bay shed-roof porch encompasses the entire southern side of the main house, featuring bracketed columns. There are two brick, stucco-covered chimneys on the eastern and western inside-ends. The cellar opening is along the northern facade of the main section, while a datestone, inscribed "1820", is inserted just below the ridgeline on the western gable. A frame kitchen addition, since removed, once extended across the northern wall of the main section.

The Interior

The interior of the main house is a straightforward arrangement, with a large room on either side of a thru-hall. The main parlor still retains chair rails, shoe molding and very unusual windows, they being panelled and inset with architrave trim. The staircase is U-shaped, leading to the upstairs. The doors have block and beaded board trim, and a few have retained their box locks. Both rooms on each floor have fireplaces, and the parlor one is flanked by twin sets of double cupboards. The kitchen has been totally altered inside, but there was once an immense hearth and Dutch oven on the northern wall. A circular stairway connects the upper level of this unit with the kitchen, and old plaster can still be found here. The attic has hand-cut, dovetailed joints, while the cellar is divided and contains the log and stone fireplace arches.

The Outbuildings

The outbuildings are opposite the house on the other side of Graceton Road. There is a substantial, reconstructed barn and two very old stock and hay barns of vertical siding with slate gable-front roofs. The older one features pegged joists and a remnant of a cupola on the top and is said to date from the time of the house. Between these structures and the newer barn is a rubble-stone, igloo-type structure that has a square base and a quonset-shaped upper work. A single entryway faces northward. This unique building was used as a reservoir, pumping water to gravity tanks in the attic of the house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

HA-477

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A portion of this building predates the 1798 Tax List, most likely the kitchen wing. The main body of the house contains a datestone reading "1820". One of the original owners and the builder was Ignatius Wheeler, son of Abraham Rutledge, who had extensive land holdings in the area. The Maryland 1783 Tax List lists his holdings in the immediate area:

Mardin's Neighbour	200 acres	The Enlargement	90 acres
Center	190	Giles and Webster's Discovery	200
Johnson's Neighbour	32	Spittle Craft	250
Webster's Inspection	265	Father's Request	350
Webster's Intention	50		

Wheeler served in the Revolution as a First Lieutenant in Cpt. Webb's 16th Company, and also was a member of the Maryland Legislature from 1786 until 1789. He was also responsible for the founding of St. Ignatius Church and is buried there. This property remained in the Wheeler family and then their direct descendants, the Macatees, until 1871. The house also served as a meeting place for parishoners of nearby St. Mary's Church.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

HA-477

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Federal Tax List of 1798
Harford County Land Records
Martenet's Map of 1878
Maryland Tax List 1783 Harford County, 1970, Rhistoric Pub., Philadelphia
Preston, W. W.; History of Harford County, 1901, Sun Press, Baltimore.
Wright, C. Milton; Our Harford Heritage, 1967, French Bray, Baltimore.
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 147

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property is located on the northeast corner of the intersection of St. Mary's and Graceton Roads.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Paul L. Penrod / site surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

August 11, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

267-1212

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

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.

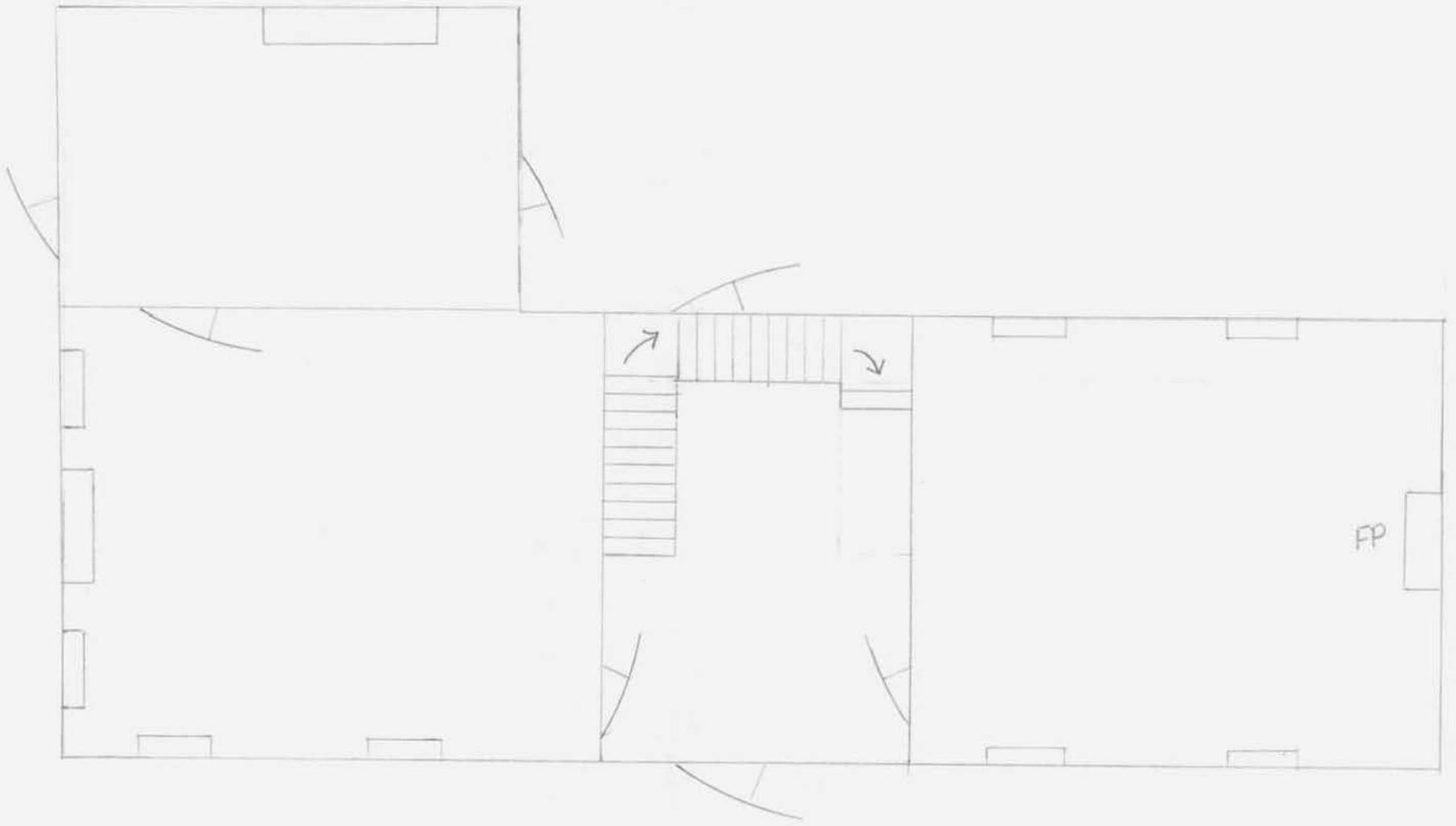
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

HA-477

TITLE SEARCH

<u>Libre</u>		<u>Folio</u>	
GRG	427	572	In 1954, Gwynne L. Holden sold Bell Farm, of 147 acres, to Eugene Todd.
GRG	344	320	In 1950, Gwynne L. Holden purchased the property from Carl Todd.
DGW	191	427	In 1925, James W. Neikirk conveyed the property to Carl Todd.
JAR	158	380	In 1918, Joseph A. Myer, trustee, transferred the tract to James W. Neikirk. Myers was named as a trustee after a 1909 court case involving Joseph N. Myer v.s. Mary Myer.
ALJ	26	50	In 1871, Sylvester MacAtee sold 147½ acres to Charles M. Myer.
HDG	32	20	In 1846, Ignatius MacAtee conveyed the property to Sylvester MacAtee.
HD	5	158	In 1805, Teresa MacAtee obtained 135½ acres and 4 perches from John L. Gilman and Joseph Wheeler.
Will AJ	R	217	The 1793 will of Ignatius Wheeler- left property to John L. Gilman and Joseph Wheeler (366 acres).
JLG	G	138	1. In 1785, Ignatius Wheeler received 113 acres from Luke Peacock, called James Inheritance. It had originally been granted to James Andrew by Benjamin Tasker in 1752.
AL	1	249	2. In 1774, Benedict Wheeler sold 100 acres of Rachel's Delight to Ignatius Wheeler.



HA. 477

BELL FARM

HA 477



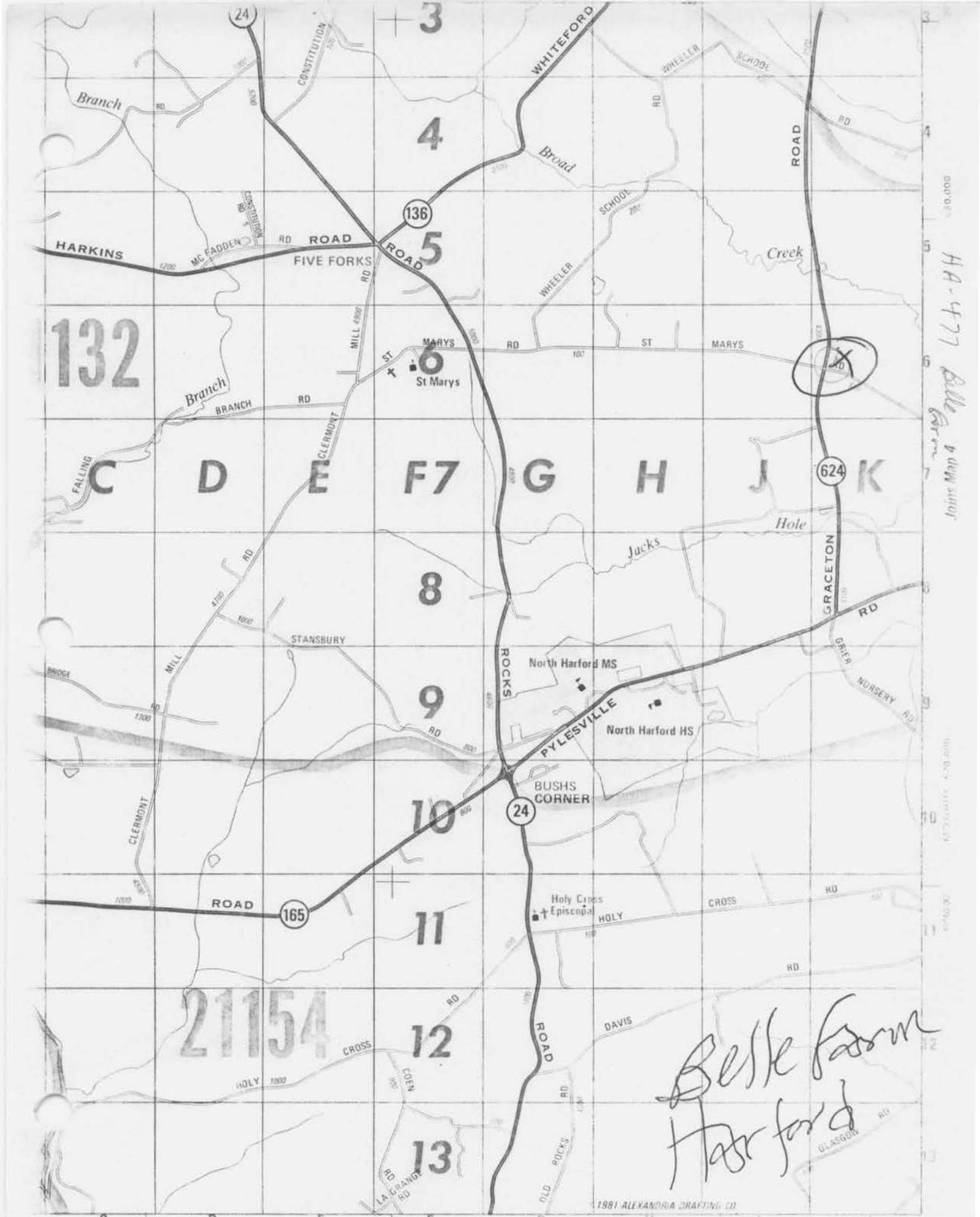
RESEVOIR



CORN CRIB



HAYBARN

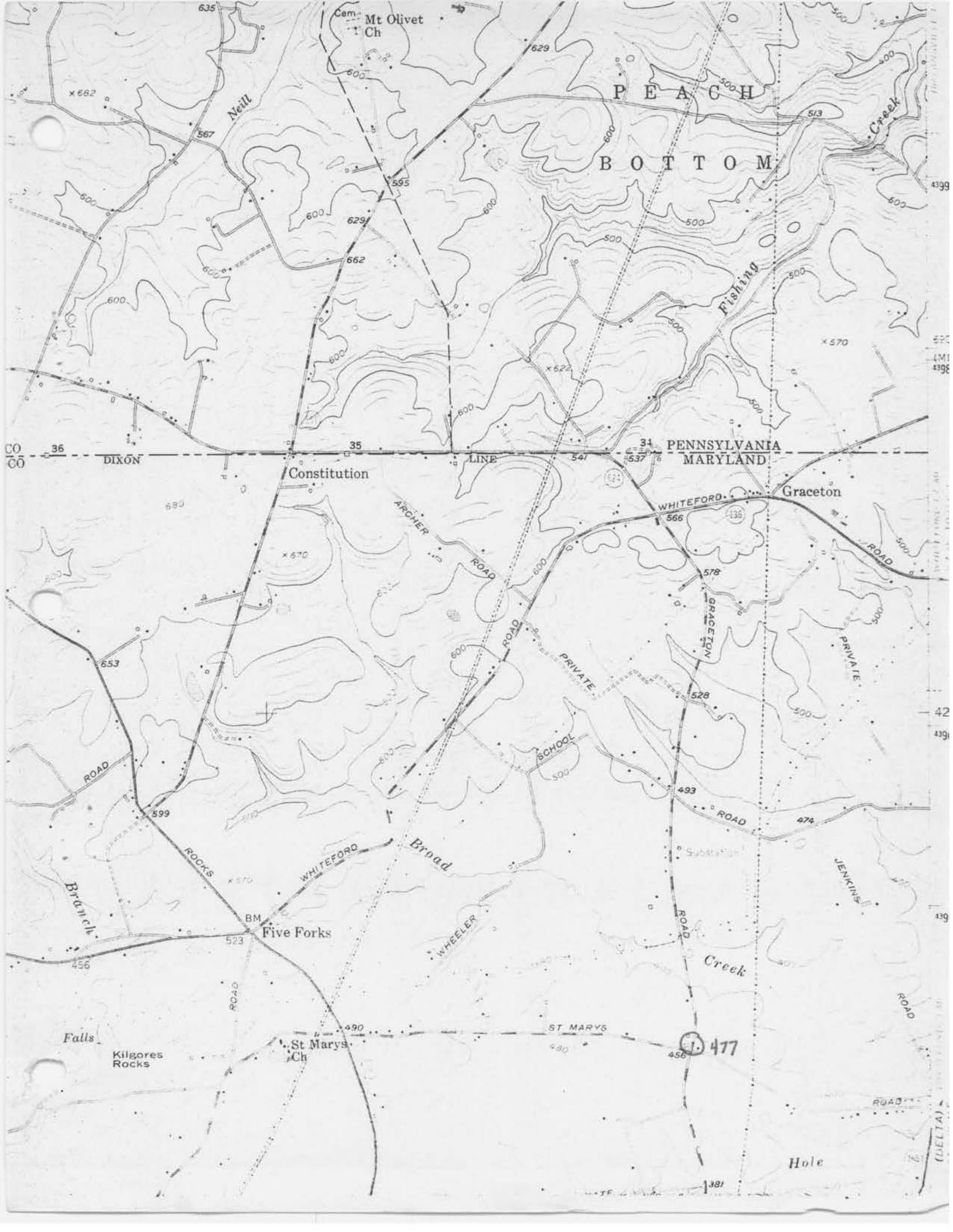


132

21154

*Beste farm
Harford*

HA-477 Belle Green 4 Map 9



PEACH
BOTTOM

PENNSYLVANIA
MARYLAND

Constitution

Graceton

Five Forks

St Marys
Ch

477

Hole

CO
CO 36
DIXON

LINE

WHITEFORD

ARCHER ROAD

ROAD

ROAD

PRIVATE

SCHOOL

ROAD

ROAD

PRIVATE

ROAD

ROCKS

WHITEFORD

Broad

WHEELER

ST MARYS

SUBSTATION

Creek

JENKINS

ROAD

Falls

Kilgores
Rocks

(DELTA)



Belle Farm HA-477
St. Marys and Graceton Rd.
Pylesville, MD
Paul Penrod 9/76
South side



Belle Farm HA-477
St. Marys and Graceton Rd.
Pylesville, MD
Paul Penrod 9/76
South side



Belle Farm Datestone HA-477
St. Marys and Graceton Rd.
Pylesville, MD
Paul Penrod 9/76
West side



Belle Farm Reservoir HA-477
St. Marys and Graceton Rd.
Pylesville, MD
Paul Penrod 9/76
West side