

HA-976

John S. Smith Barn
1331 Deer Creek Church Road
Chestnut Hill vicinity
Private

ca. 1870

The John S. Smith Barn is significant for its Gothic Revival details. Agricultural buildings in the late 19th century were often decorated with scroll-sawn bargeboards, brackets, and cupolas, but the Smith Barn is the only such outbuilding in Harford County yet surveyed that retains Gothic style ornamentation.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

John S. Smith Barn

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1331 Deer Creek Church Road

CITY, TOWN

Chestnut Hill

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" 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

NAME

Wanda L. Esler et al.

Telephone #: 879-0695

STREET & NUMBER

1331 Deer Creek Church Road

CITY, TOWN

Forest Hill

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

MD 21050

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: 1073

Folio #: 587

STREET & NUMBER

20 West Courtland Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

MD

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

HA-976

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The John S. Smith Barn is a frame bank barn built about 1870 with a Gothic-arched cupola and vents which is located on the south side of Deer Creek Church Road about 200 yards southwest of Walter's Mill (HA-16) near Chestnut Hill, Harford County, Maryland. The upper level doors face northeast.

The ridge of the main section runs northwest-southeast. In the center of the slate roof is the cupola, each face of which has a small gable and three Gothic-arched, louvred vents. In the northwest gable end is a vent with paired Gothic-arched louvres. An early 20th century silo with a domed cap stands near the northwest corner. The vertical exterior siding was once whitewashed, but is now weathered. The foundation of the main section is stone. The main interior posts and beams are hand-hewn and joined by mortise and tenon and the minor framing members are machine-sawn. On the south and east sides of the barn are some shed additions on both stone and concrete block foundations.

The original farmhouse associated with the barn is about 50 yards to the west. It is now on a separate parcel and has been extensively altered. The exterior is covered in brick veneer. Compared to the barn, the house retains little historical integrity.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
X 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1870

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John S. Smith Barn is significant for its Gothic Revival details. Agricultural buildings in the late 19th century were often decorated with scroll-sawn bargeboards, brackets, and cupolas, but the Smith Barn is the only such outbuilding in Harford County yet surveyed that retains Gothic style ornamentation.

NOTE: HA-976 was originally assigned to the Quinn House. This form was later duplicated by HA-1239, Castle Blaney.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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

Janet Davis, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Department of Planning & Zoning

DATE

May 1984

STREET & NUMBER

45 So. Main St.

TELEPHONE

(301) 838-6000, ext. 207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

MD 21014

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

JOHN S. SMITH BARN

HA-976

CHAIN OF TITLE (PARTIAL)

1073/587
10 August 1978

Grantor: Charles J. Esler, Wanda L. Esler, and Frances
J. Leitkowski
Grantee: Wanda L. Esler, Frances J. Leitkowski, and
Alison Bridget Esler
Acreage: 10.08

790/180
11 September 1968

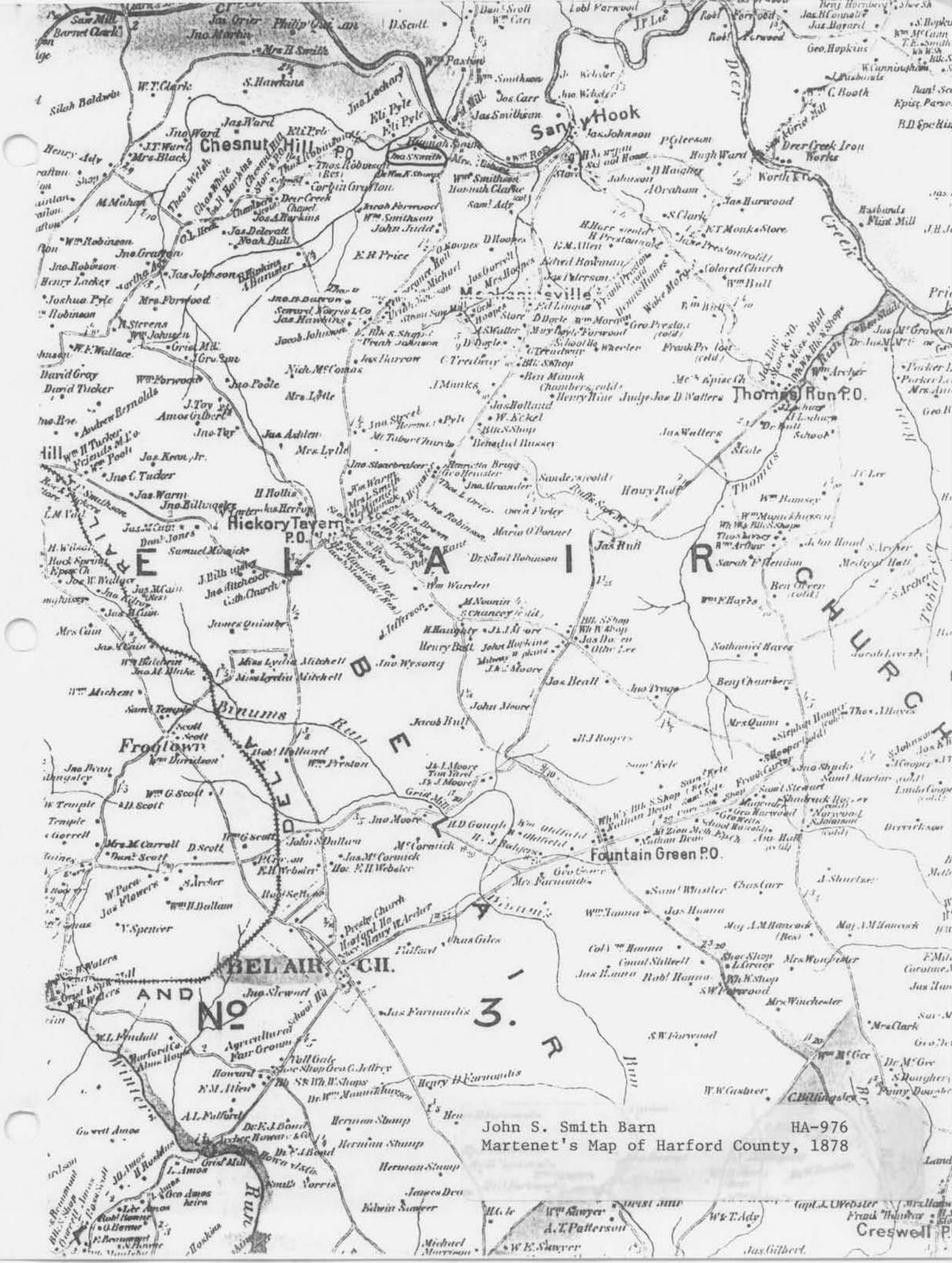
Grantor: Walter O. Simons and Dorothy H. Simons
Grantee: Charles J. Esler, Wanda I. Esler, and Frances
J. Leitkowski
Acreage: 10.08

286/250
25 November 1944

Grantor: Gretta H. Smith et al.
Grantee: Walter O. Simons and Dorothy H. Simons
(J. Hamilton Smith died June 20, 1927 intestate, leaving
all property to Gretta, his widow and children. J. Hamil-
ton Smith acquired two tracts as one of the devisees
of his father John Stone Smith, by his will dated May 24,
1886, probated November 17, 1911 (HTB 14/262) and two
tracts by will from his mother Christine Smith (139/151)
January 2, 1913.

139/151
2 January 1913

Grantor: Christine Smith
Grantee: J. Hamilton Smith



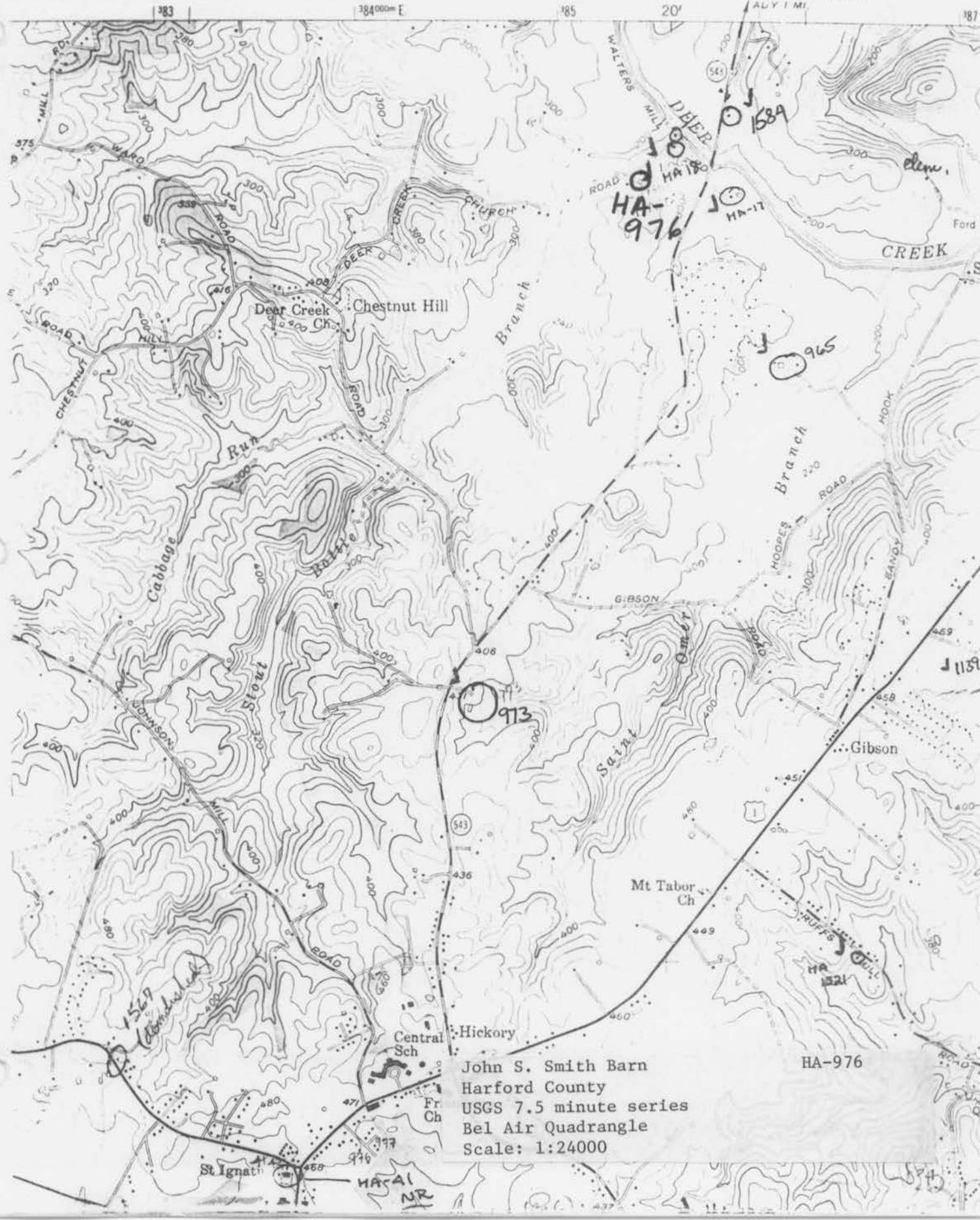
John S. Smith Barn
 Martenet's Map of Harford County, 1878

HA-976

Creswell P.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

WHITEFORD 7.4 MI
W. ALY 1 MI



John S. Smith Barn
Harford County
USGS 7.5 minute series
Bel Air Quadrangle
Scale: 1:24000

HA-976



John S. Smith Barn

HA-976

Harford County

Photographer: Janet Davis

April 1984

Neg. loc: Maryland Historical Trust

East elevation

1/2



John S. Smith Barn

HA-976

Harford County

Photographer: Janet Davis

April 1984

Neg. loc: Maryland Historical Trust

North elevation

2/2