

HO-1094

Rezin Worthington Tenant House Ruins

Patapsco Valley State Park, McKeldin Area, east of Marriottsville Road

Public

Description:

The Rezin Worthington Tenant House Ruins face east and are banked into the hill on the west. The house was 30 feet, 1 inch long and 20 feet, 3 ½ inches wide. Only the gable ends survive of what was a two-story, three-bay by one-bay rubble stone structure of local granite with quoins and some roughly squared stones in the walling. Some of the stones have drill holes. The east wall has window jambs about 5 feet south of the north corner on both the first and second stories. The north wall, on the interior, has a large stone lintel in the basement for a cooking fireplace, with a small fireplace on the first story that projects into the room to the west of the flue. The firebox appears to have straight jambs and has a large stone lintel. There is no fireplace on the second story. There are traces of plaster on the stone wall. The west wall has pockets for joists that ran east-west. The first story pockets could have been for log joists, but the second story joists were definitely cut. This wall also appears to have window jambs about 5 feet from the south corner at both the first and second stories. The first story window jambs on the east and west appear to be splayed, while the second story jambs on both walls appear to be straight. About 75 feet east of the house and downhill from it is a deep depression, with brick scattered about it, which could be the remains of a well. There are no clear remains of other outbuildings, but there is a good potential for archaeology around this site.

Significance:

The Rezin Worthington Tenant House Ruins are part of a tract of 113 acres that covered parts of Baltimore, Carroll, and Howard counties. The only deed in Anne Arundel County records to Rezin H. Worthington is for 4 ¾ acres of the tract "Woodford", which Rezin purchased from William H. Marriott in 1831. The tract Rezin Worthington acquired was located between the Patapsco River and the B. & O. Railroad tracks and has the general outlines of the tract on which the ruins are located, though it cannot be certain that the two are one and the same. Since Worthington lived on the other side of the river, this must have been a tenant house, like so many of the other properties Worthington owned. The house was probably a hall-parlor plan, with a kitchen located in the cellar under the north end, and the basement exposed on the east side, giving access to a work yard there. The possible location of a well downhill to the east would make sense with this arrangement of work space. Only the north room of the first story was heated, so this was probably the parlor, and none of the sleeping chambers were heated. It seems most likely that Worthington built the house, probably shortly after purchasing the land, though it is possible that Marriott did shortly before selling the property to him.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-1094

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Rezin Worthington Tenant House Ruins

other \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street and number Patapsco Valley State Park, McKeldin Area, east of Marriottsville Road  not for publication

city, town Marriottsville  vicinity

county Howard

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

name State of Maryland Dept. of Forests and Parks

street and number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city, town Annapolis state MD zip code 21201

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse liber 292 folio 539

city, town Ellicott City tax map 5 tax parcel 15 tax ID number \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District  
 Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
 Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
 Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
 Recorded by HABS/HAER  
 Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<u>0</u> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<u>0</u> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<u>1</u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b>
			<u>0</u>

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## 7. Description

Inventory No. HO-1094

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### Condition

excellent       deteriorated  
 good             ruins  
 fair               altered

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

The Rezin Worthington Tenant House Ruins are located in the McKeldin Area of the Patapsco Valley State Park, east of Marriottsville Road and just north of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad tracks where the Patapsco River winds around the west, north, and east sides of the site, in north-central Howard County, Maryland. The ruins sit on a hill that slopes down sharply to the tracks on the south and slopes down to the east and west. They face east and are banked into the hill on the west. The house was 30 feet, 1 inch long and 20 feet, 3 ½ inches wide.

Only the gable ends survive of what was a two-story, three-bay by one-bay rubble stone structure of local granite with quoins and some roughly squared stones in the walling. Some of the stones have drill holes. The east wall has window jambs about 5 feet south of the north corner on both the first and second stories, and the first story appears to have had a center doorway flanked by a window on each side. There is also a stone wall at the north end, running east from the building, either to hold back the hill or to support a porch at the first story level.

The north wall, on the interior, has a large stone lintel in the basement for a cooking fireplace that is now all filled in and hidden by debris in the basement. The flue for this fireplace runs up to the east, with a small fireplace on the first story that projects into the room to the west of the flue. The firebox appears to have straight jambs and has a large stone lintel that is cracked in the center. There is no fireplace on the second story. The space to the west of the fireplace is wider than that to the east, and there could have been a winder stair in the northwest corner. The attic had a window opening to the east of the chimney. There are traces of plaster on the stone wall. The exterior of the north wall has several holes that could be put-log holes.

There is a shelf about 4 inches deep at the first floor level on the north and south walls, and the small surviving piece of the west wall. This west wall at the south corner has 1-inch thick boards at the first and second stories for joists to rest on, with pockets in the west wall for joists that ran east-west. The first story pockets could have been for log joists, but the second story joists were definitely cut. This wall also appears to have window jambs about 5 feet from the south corner at both the first and second stories. The first story window jambs on the east and west appear to be splayed, while the second story jambs on both walls appear to be straight.

About 75 feet east of the house and downhill from it is a deep depression, with brick scattered about it, which could be the remains of a well. There are no clear remains of other outbuildings, but there is a good potential for archaeology around this site.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. HO-1094

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

<b>Specific dates</b>	N/A	<b>Architect/Builder</b>	N/A
<b>Construction dates</b>	c. 1820-1840		

Evaluation for:

National Register       Maryland Register       not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

### Summary:

The Rezin Worthington Tenant House Ruins are part of a tract of 113 acres that covered parts of Baltimore, Carroll, and Howard counties. The only deed in Anne Arundel County records to Rezin H. Worthington is for 4 ¼ acres of the tract “Woodford”, which Rezin purchased from William H. Marriott in 1831. The tract Rezin Worthington acquired was located between the Patapsco River and the B. & O. Railroad tracks and has the general outlines of the tract on which the ruins are located, though it cannot be certain that the two are one and the same. Since Worthington lived on the other side of the river, this must have been a tenant house, like so many of the other properties Worthington owned. The house was probably a hall-parlor plan, with a kitchen located in the cellar under the north end, and the basement exposed on the east side, giving access to a work yard there. The possible location of a well downhill to the east would make sense with this arrangement of work space. Only the north room of the first story was heated, so this was probably the parlor, and none of the sleeping chambers were heated. It seems most likely that Worthington built the house, probably shortly after purchasing the land, though it is possible that Marriott did shortly before selling the property to him.

### Significance:

The Rezin Worthington Tenant House Ruins are part of a tract of 113 acres that covered parts of Baltimore, Carroll, and Howard counties. The history of this property is somewhat problematic because the chain of title is not clear. Rezin H. Worthington (1794-1884) sold the land to his daughter, Marcella Zemansky, in 1882, and that deed refers only to a deed from 1834 located in Baltimore County Land Records. This earlier deed is not for the purchase of the land, but for the right of Worthington to flood his neighbors land as the result of a dam that Worthington had built to create a waterpower along the Patapsco River. The 1882 deed refers to two tracts of land by name, “New Milford” and “Turkey Range”. “New Milford was located both in Baltimore County and Anne Arundel County, and Rezin acquired 89 ½ acres in 1825 as part of a subdivision between his brothers and sister of the land of their late brother, Thomas Deye Worthington. Two years later Rezin purchased 28 acres of “Turkey Range”

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-1094

Name  
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

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for only \$100. This land had been owned by Alexander Wells of Virginia and had been bequeathed to Nathaniel Wells of Ohio, and almost certainly did not have any buildings on it. The only deed in Anne Arundel County records to Rezin H. Worthington is for 4  $\frac{3}{4}$  acres of the tract "Woodford", which Rezin purchased from William H. Marriott in 1831. Both Worthington and Marriott had the middle name Hammond and may have been related through that family. Worthington was a resident in Baltimore County and Marriott had his summer house near the town that bears his name. The tract Rezin Worthington acquired was located between the Patapsco River and the B. & O. Railroad tracks and has the general outlines of the tract on which the ruins are located, though it cannot be certain that the two are one and the same.<sup>1</sup>

The 1850 J. C. Sidney *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland* lists numerous properties located throughout the second district of Baltimore County, from Randallstown to Marriottsville, that were owned by Rezin H. Worthington. His residence was probably between Old Court Road, Dogwood Road, Windsor Mill Road, and Bens Branch, where present-day Ridge Road cuts through the middle of this area. Worthington was responsible for the creation of Marcella Chapel (probably named for his mother), a Methodist church that formerly stood on Old Court Road in Baltimore County (BA-2476). The 1860 Martenet *Map of Howard County, Maryland*, shows a building located between the B. & O. Railroad tracks and the Main Falls of the Patapsco River, near where the North Branch empties into the Main Falls. No owner is listed for this property, but it has to have been the present ruins. Since Worthington lived on the other side of the river, this must have been a tenant house, like so many of the other properties Worthington owned.<sup>2</sup>

The location for the house, close to the railroad but not at the railroad level where it might have had some connection to the railroad, and isolated by the river on the three other sides, is an odd one, and suggests that the house predated the construction of the railroad. Plenty of tenant houses in this area were built in the first half of the nineteenth century using the local stone, including "Ivy Hill" (HO-410) built in 1841 for William H. Marriott, so the building material tells us little about the property other than that the builder was building for the future. On the other hand, given that there is a railroad cut adjacent to the house, if the railroad was built first there would have been an abundance of stone available after c. 1830, and it probably would have been cheap for anyone wishing to build with it. The stone used in the walls was clearly quarried, having drill marks visible on some of them. Since Worthington bought the property in 1831, he could have contracted for the sale as much as two years earlier, intending to

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<sup>1</sup> Baltimore County Land Records, WG 174-417; WG 189-319. Harry Wright Newman, *Anne Arundel Gentry*, (Baltimore: Lord Baltimore Press, 1933), pp. 328-29. J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Baltimore City and County* (Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1881), p. 832.

<sup>2</sup> J. C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland* (Baltimore, 1850). Simon J. Martenet, *Martenet's Map of Howard County, Maryland* (Baltimore, 1860).

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-1094

Name

**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 2

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capitalize on the situation, and could have started construction prior to receiving title to the property. With most of the house now lost, it is difficult to date it closely. The house was probably a hall-parlor plan, with a kitchen located in the cellar under the north end, and the basement exposed on the east side, giving access to a work yard there. The possible location of a well downhill to the east would make sense with this arrangement of work space. Only the north room of the first story was heated, so this was probably the parlor, and none of the sleeping chambers were heated. The mortar is not made with a hot mix, so probably dates after c. 1815-20. The size of the house, 20 by 30 feet, is standard for a tenant farm house. The use of thin 1-inch boards under the joists is typical of nineteenth-century construction, especially after c. 1820. Earlier construction used thicker, 2-inch boards. Marriott placed a date stone in the gable end of his tenant house in 1841, and there is no such feature on either gable end of the ruins, though Marriott may not have started this practice until later. It seems most likely that Worthington built the house, probably shortly after purchasing the land, though it is possible that Marriott did shortly before selling the property to him.

Marcella Zemansky was in her forties and on her third husband when her father sold her the 113-acre parcel in 1882. It almost certainly remained a tenant farm at this time. The house was cut off on 25 acres and paired with 20 acres in Carroll County, and sold to Charles Pope of Pittsburg in 1906. Pope owned it until 1952, but it is not known whether he ever lived here. The State of Maryland acquired the property in 1956, and it was almost certainly abandoned by this time, leading to its ruin.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. HO-1094

See footnotes

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 4 ¾ A  
Acreage of historical setting 4 ¾ A  
Quadrangle name Sykesville Quadrangle scale: 1:24000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries consist of the railroad tracks long the south side of the property, tax map 5, parcel 15, and the river along the east, north, and west sides, which encompasses all of the historic buildings and features on the site.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

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name/title	Ken Short		
organization	Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	July 2012
street & number	3430 Courthouse Drive	telephone	410-313-4335
city or town	Ellicott City	state	MD

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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.

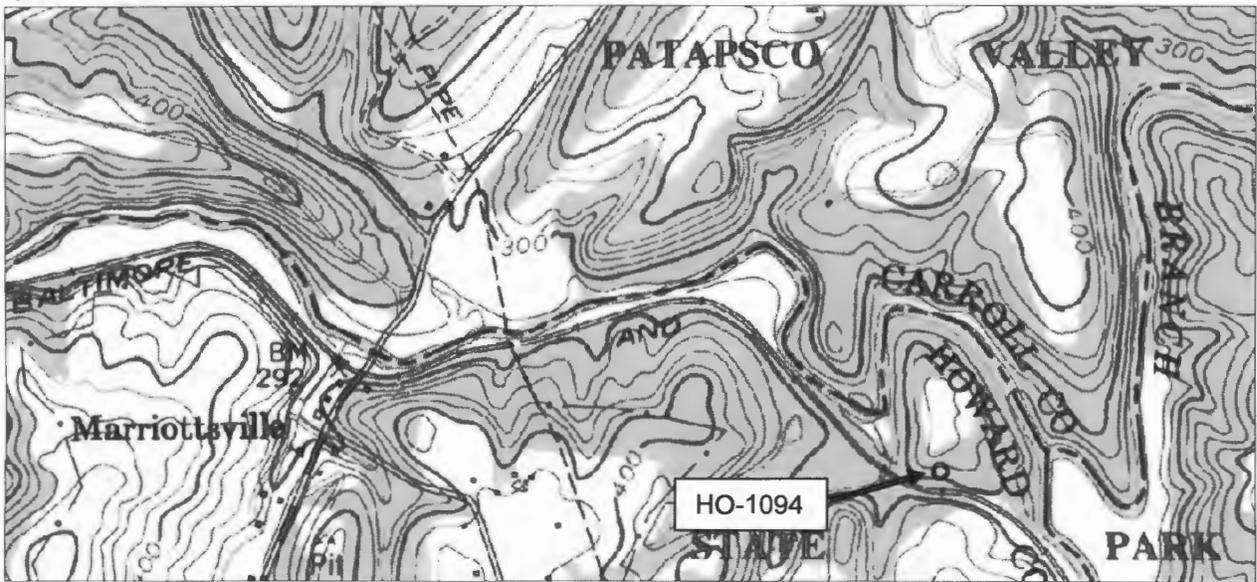
return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600

Rezin Worthington Tena House Ruins (HO-1094)

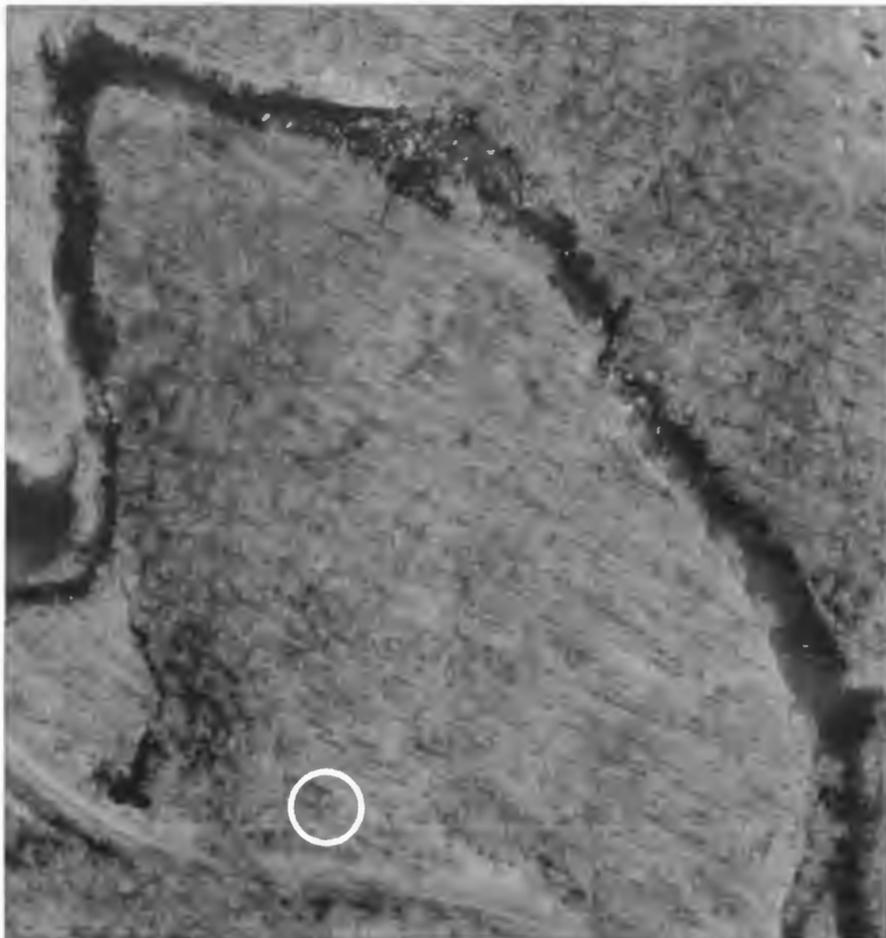
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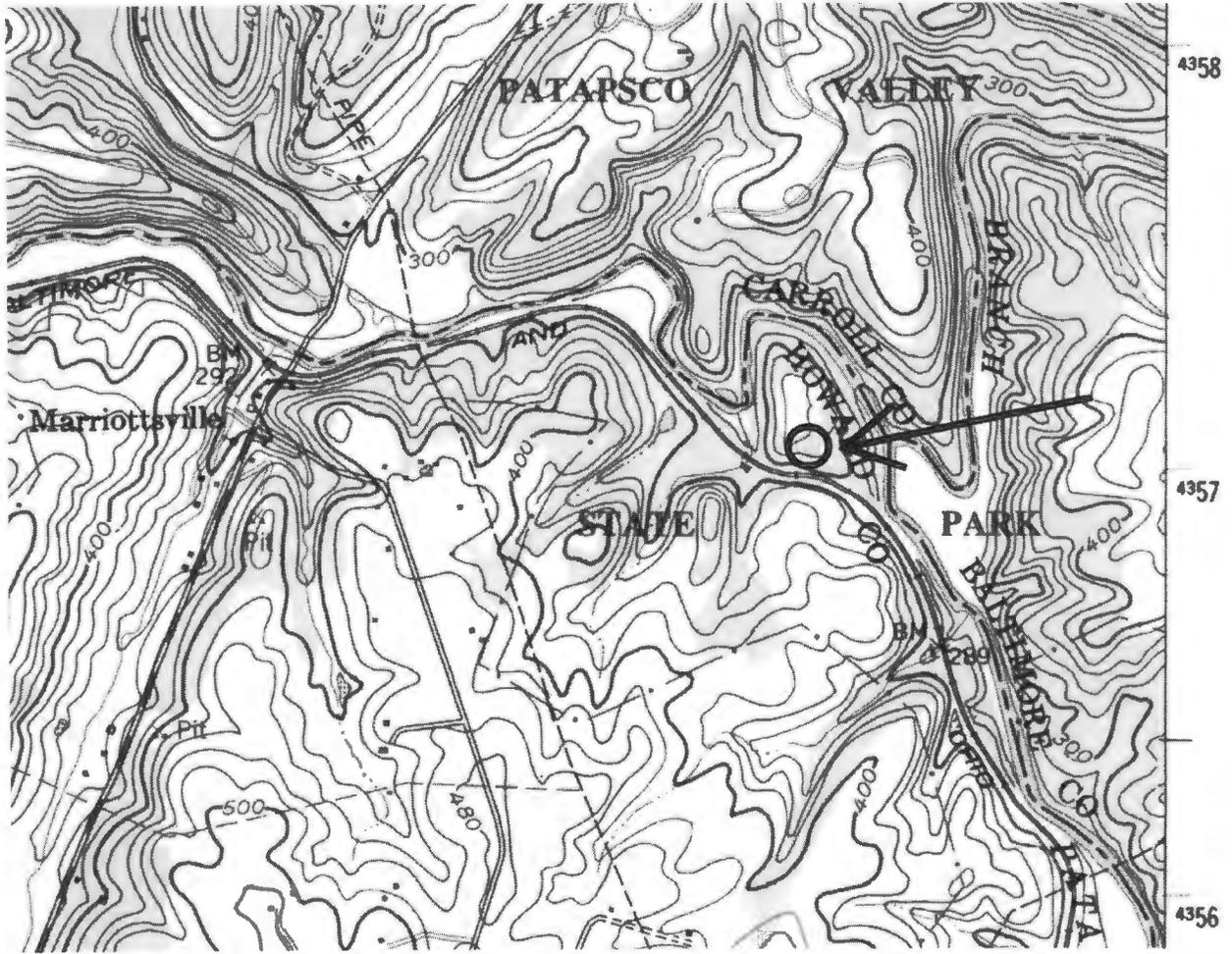
GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER -ATION	ACREAG E	NOTES
Louis & Jenevie Roth (H/W) / Nevada	State of MD	17 December 1956	RHM 292-539	Deed – fee simple	\$5.00	25-3-24 ARP	
Roland S. Maxwell, Treasurer of Howard Co.	Louis Roth / ?	16 October 1952	MWB 237-275	Deed – fee simple	\$62.00	25-3-24 ARP	Public sale 26 June 1950 unpaid taxes for 1949 Equity #4690, Louis Roth v. Charles E. Pope
George A. Howard, Sheriff	Charles E. Pope / ?	14 December 1909	WWLC 88-293	Deed – ?	?	24-3-24 ARP	Circuit Ct, 11 Sept. 1909, Charles E. Pope v. James E. Ingram, Jr. Adjoins lands of C.Lyon Rogers & Albert Franklin Arrington see #2 below
Dirk Lottman & wf Sarah / Balto. Co	Charles E. Pope / Pittsburg, PA	22 October 1906	WWLC 82-566	Deed – fee simple	\$1,500	1) 20.6 A 2) 25-3-24 ARP	1) in Carroll Co. 2) in Howard Co.
Marcelea Zemansky & husb. Samuel N.	Dirk Lottman & wf Sarah	16 September 1898	JHO 69-124	Deed – fee simple	\$4,000	a) 202 A b) 113-1-12 ARP	a) in Balto. Co. b) in Balto. Co., Carroll & Howard (2)
Rezin H. Worthington / Balto. Co.	Marcella Zemansky, daughter of RHW / ?	2 October 1882	LJW 45-289	Deed – fee	\$5.00	113-1-12 ARP	Resurvey from Western Shore Land Office, 16 Sept. 1828 in Balto., Carroll & Howard “New Milford” & “Turkey Range” (b)
Rezin H. Worthington / Balto. Co.	Marcella Zemansky / ?	20 October 1882	LJW 45-293	Deed – fee	\$5.00	x) 4¾ A y) 89½ A	x) Howard y) Howard & Balto. Co.
Thos. B. Dorsey & wf Milcah John W. Dorsey / AA	Rezin H. Worthington / Balto. Co.	10 September 1834	Balto. Co. TK 241-209	Deed – Indenture	\$200	NA	Right to repair dam & continue to flood land of grantors  [no previous reference]
William H. Marriott / Balto. City	Rezin H. Worthington / Balto. Co.	24 August 1831	WSG 16-306	Indenture	\$200 + .2 A in WSG 16-308	4¾ A	p/o “Woodford” on Patapsco & B&O RR

HO-1094  
Rezin Worthington Tenant House Ruins  
Patapsco Valley State Park  
Sykesville quadrangle



National Web Map Service 6" Orthophoto Map, c. 2010





HO- 1094  
Rezin Worthington Tenant House Ruins  
Patapsco Valley State Park, McKeldin Area, east of Marriottsville Road  
Sykesville quad

HO-1094  
Rezin Worthington Tenant House Ruins  
Patapsco Valley State Park, McKeldin Area, east of Marriottsville Road  
Howard County, Maryland  
Ken Short, photographer

Photo Log

Nikon D-70 camera  
Epson Premium paper  
Epson Photo Black UltraChrome ink cartridge

HO-1092\_2012-04-24\_01  
View from east

HO-1092\_2012-04-24\_02  
North elevation

HO-1092\_2012-04-24\_03  
Southeast corner

HO-1092\_2012-04-24\_04  
North wall, interior, with fireplace



HO-1094

Rezin Worthington Tenant House Ruins

Patapsco Valley State Park, McKeldin Area,  
east of Marriottsville Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2012-04-24

MD SHPO

View from east

1 of 4



HO-1094

Rezin Worthington Tenant House Ruins  
Patapsco Valley State Park, McKeldin  
Area, east of Marriottsville Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2012-04-24

MD SHPO

North elevation

2 of 4



HO-1094

Rezin Worthington Tenant House Ruins

Patapsco Valley State Park, McKeldin Area,  
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Howard County, Maryland

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2012-04-24

MD SHPO

Southeast corner

3 of 4



HO-1094

Rezin Worthington Tenant House Ruins

Patapsco Valley State Park, McKeldin Area,  
east of Marriottsville Road

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2012-04-24

MD SHPO

North wall, interior, with fireplace

4 of 4