

**INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Property/District Name: Oakland Mills Cooper's House Survey Number: HO-155

Tax Parcel#: 197

Project: Maryland 216/29 Project Planning Study Agency: MDOT-SHA

Site visit by MHT Staff:  no  yes Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility recommended  Eligibility **not** recommended \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria:  A  B  C  D Considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

The Oakland Mills Cooper's House at 5505 Old Columbia Road was one of approximately ten resources historically associated with the early 19th century mill community of Oakland Mills. Many of the resources were originally erected in the 1820s to provide housing and shops for the craftsmen and merchants associated with the grist mill, which was located west of Old Columbia Road in the path of Route 29. The town of Oakland Mills developed into a substantial settlement by the third quarter of the 19th century, continuing to flourish until the early part of the 20th century. Despite additions, the Oakland Mills Cooper's House maintains its Federal style detailing and vernacular form.

The Oakland Mills Cooper's House is eligible due to the fact that it does meet National Register Criteria A and C. A mill-associated property, the Oakland Mills Store and Dwelling reflects the development of an early 19th century crossroads industrial community, Oakland Mills. Reflecting the transition to an economy supported by commerce and industry, the property reveals an association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history (Criterion A). Despite additions, the building represents a good example of the Federal style (Criterion C). Preliminary research has not revealed any association between the dwelling and the lives of persons significant in our past (Criterion B), nor is there evidence that the property is likely to yield information important in history or prehistory (Criterion D). Thus, based on Criteria A and C, the property is National Register-eligible.

*MHT DOES NOT CONCUR - NOT ELIGIBLE*

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form and Maryland 29/216 Project Planning Report

Prepared by: Traceries, 5420 Western Ave., Chevy Chase, MD 20815 November 1997

*[Signature]* Date 2/10/98  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

NR program concurrence:  yes  no  not applicable

*[Signature]* Date 3/31/99  
Reviewer, NR Program

**CAPSULE SUMMARY**  
Oakland Mills Cooper's House  
5505 Old Columbia Road  
(HO-155)

The Oakland Mills Cooper's House was one of approximately ten resources historically associated with the early 19th century crossroads industrial community of Oakland Mills. Many of the resources were originally erected in the 1820s to provide housing and shops for the craftsmen and merchants associated with the grist mill, which was located west of Old Columbia Road in the path of Route 29. Located approximately five miles south of Ellicott City, the town of Oakland Mills developed into a substantial settlement by the third quarter of the nineteenth century, continuing to flourish until the early part of the 20th century. Based on historic documentation, it has been determined that only two of the resources are extant: 5505 Old Columbia Road and 5509 Old Columbia Road (HO-154). The property at 5505 Old Columbia Road is believed to have been originally served as the Cooper's dwelling. By 1838, as described in an advertisement, the building was the home of the Miller.

The masonry building is 2-1/2-stories with a side gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. Drawing from the Federal style, the masonry walls are laid in uncoursed stone with splayed jack-arched lintels and quoins rendered in rough-cut stone. The house is three bays wide and one room deep with a central-passage entry marked by a Colonial Revival style surround. A single interior end chimney protrudes from the ridgeline at the northeast elevation.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. HO-155

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name Oakland Mills Cooper's House; Miller's House  
Common/other name Gales-Gaither House

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number 5505 Old Columbia Road not for publication \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Columbia vicinity \_\_\_\_\_ state Maryland code MD  
county Howard code 027 zip code 21045

=====

3. State/Federal Agency Certification N/A

=====

4. National Park Service Certification N/A

=====

5. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing		Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>		buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>		sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>		structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>		objects
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>		Total

Is this property listed in the National Register?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Listing \_\_\_\_\_  
No X

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties  
Oakland Mills Cooper's House  
5505 Old Columbia Road  
Howard County, Maryland

Inventory No. HO-155  
Page 2

=====  
6. Function or Use  
=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling  
INDUSTRY Manufacturing Site

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling

=====  
7. Description  
=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Federal (vernacular)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Solid: Uncoursed Stone  
roof Side Gable: Asphalt Shingle  
walls Masonry: Uncoursed Stone  
other \_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

=====  
8. Statement of Significance  
=====

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties  
Oakland Mills Cooper's House  
5505 Old Columbia Road  
Howard County, Maryland

Inventory No. HO-155  
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=====  
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Industry

Period of Significance ca. 1820-1947

Significant Dates ca. 1820

1838

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation Undefined

Architect/Builder Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties  
Oakland Mills Cooper's House  
5505 Old Columbia Road  
Howard County, Maryland

Inventory No. HO-155  
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=====  
9. Major Bibliographical References  
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(Cite the books, articles, legal records, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

*1798 Federal Direct Tax for Anne Arundel County, Maryland.* Located on microfilm at Maryland Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

Howard County Land Records, Recorder of Deeds, Howard County, Ellicott City, Maryland

Maryland Historical Trust Worksheet, "HO-154: Kelly's Stone House." Prepared by Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist, Comprehensive Planning Section, Ellicott City, Maryland.

Maryland Historical Trust Worksheet, "HO-155: Gales-Gaither House." Prepared by Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist, Comprehensive Planning Section, Ellicott City, Maryland.

Maryland Historical Trust Worksheet, "HO-430: Felicity." Prepared by Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist, Comprehensive Planning Section, Ellicott City, Maryland.

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10. Geographical Data  
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Acreege of Property 1.04 acres

**Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)**

The property at 5505 Old Columbia Road is designated as Parcel 197, and indicated on Map 30, Grid 21.

**Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)**

The property at 5505 Old Columbia Road has historically been associated with Parcel 197 since the building's construction.

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11. Form Prepared By  
=====

name/title Kristyna G. Olsen, Architectural Historian  
organization Traceries date November 5, 1997  
street & number 5420 Western Avenue telephone 301/656-5283  
city or town Chevy Chase state MD zip code 20815

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12. Property Owner  
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name Robert W. and Marilyn E. Dorfman  
street & number 5505 Old Columbia Road telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Columbia state MD zip code 21045  
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MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. HO-155

Section 7 Page 1

Oakland Mills Cooper's House  
name of property  
Howard, Maryland  
county and state

=====  
Originally one of several buildings associated with Oakland Mills in the 1820s, the masonry building is 2-1/2-stories with a side gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. Drawing from the Federal style, the masonry walls are laid in uncoursed stone with splayed jack-arched lintels and quoins rendered in rough-cut stone. The house is three bays wide and one room deep with a central-passage entry marked by a Colonial Revival surround. A single interior end chimney protrudes from the ridgeline at the northeast elevation.

The house has been expanded through the addition of a 2-story, 3-bay stone and frame wing on the southwest elevation. Additionally, two gable front dormers, proportionally out-of-scale, extend from the front roof plane. Another large addition completely obscures the rear of the original dwelling. This 1-story addition extends across the full-width of the dwelling at the rear, encompassing the original stone house as well as the 2-story southwest wing addition.

The stone dwelling referred to in the 1838 advertisement as the "Cooper's House" stands on a narrow one-acre lot on the southeast side of Old Columbia Road. The property rises towards the rear and the house is set into the slope of the hill. Mature trees dot the yard and a heavily wooded area borders the property at the rear.

**EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION:**

The northwest elevation, reading as the primary facade, is divided into three bays with a central-passage entry. Encased by a replacement Colonial Revival style surround, the entry has a single-leaf wood door. The surround has an open pediment, supported by fluted pilasters with base and corner blocks. Flanking the opening are two windows with 6/6 windows. The second story is symmetrically marked by three single 6/6 sash window. All of the window openings of this elevation are crowned by splayed stone lintels with ovolo surrounds. The stonework surrounding the second story windows reveals evidence of repairs, and the lintels above have been partially obscured by the reconstructed roof. The imposing roof, with its overhanging eaves, is pierced by two massive front gable dormers. The dormers have 6/6 metal sash windows and are clad with aluminum siding.

Due to the imposing wing on the southwest of the building, the northwest elevation now extends to include the facade of the stone and wood frame addition. The first story, clad in random rubble stone facing to match the original main block, is four bays wide.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. HO-155

Section 7 Page 2

Oakland Mills Cooper's House  
name of property  
Howard, Maryland  
county and state

=====  
The side-passage entry has a contemporary panelled wood door with wide surrounds. To the southwest is a single recessed window opening with a 6/6 metal sash and two pairs of elongated casement windows. At the intersection of the original building and this addition is a shallow stone niche. The second story, constructed of wood frame with weatherboard, is marked by a pent roof. The roof serves as a continuous sill for the four equally spaced window opening of the second story. Each opening has a 6/6 metal sash window.

The southwest elevation of the original stone building is completely obscured because of the addition. The side elevation of the addition, which is stuccoed on the first story, extends beyond the original plane of the building because of the contemporary rear addition. At the first story, both additions are marked by four ten-light metal elongated casement windows and two 6-light metal casements. The second story contains one 6/6 metal sash windows, one 1-light wood awning window, and one 1/1 wood sash window. A small louvered opening pierces the gable end.

The southeast or rear elevation of the original house has been completely covered by a large one-story wood frame addition clad in wood weatherboard. The foundation of this addition has a two 6-light metal casement windows and one fixed 2-light metal window. On the first story, four 10-light metal casement windows pierce the wall. Two screened frame porches with shed roofs extend from this elevation, obscuring the two sliding glass metal doors into the house.

The northeast elevation is one of only two walls still visible on the original stone dwelling. This elevation contains a single 4-light metal hopper window set to the north of the interior chimney stack. The northeast side of the rear addition, partially visible from this elevation, contains a single window with four single-light metal casements set in a projecting bay.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. HO-155

Section 7 Page 3

Oakland Mills Cooper's House  
name of property  
Howard, Maryland  
county and state

=====  
**OUTBUILDINGS:**

Two non-historic frame outbuildings are associated with the dwelling at 5505 Old Columbia Road. A 1990s wood frame gazebo standing directly southeast of the house. Connected to the main dwelling by an elaborate frame deck, the gazebo has a polygonal-shape capped by a asphalt shingled roof with a monitor. The second outbuilding is a wood frame shed set on a parged concrete foundation and covered by a side gable roof. It is clad in wood weatherboard and pierced by two 1/1 metal sash windows and a set of double-leaf wood paneled doors.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. HO-155

Section 8 Page 1

Oakland Mills Cooper's House  
name of property  
Howard, Maryland  
county and state

=====  
The Oakland Mills Cooper's House was one of approximately ten resources historically associated with the early 19th century crossroads industrial community of Oakland Mills. Many of the resources were originally erected in the 1820s to provide housing and shops for the craftsmen and merchants associated with the grist mill, which was located west of Old Columbia Road in the path of Route 29. Located approximately five miles south of Ellicott City, the town of Oakland Mills developed into a substantial settlement by the third quarter of the nineteenth century, continuing to flourish until the early part of the 20th century. Based on historic documentation, it has been determined that only two of the resources are extant: 5505 Old Columbia Road and 5509 Old Columbia Road (HO-154). The property at 5505 Old Columbia Road is believed to have been originally served as the Cooper's dwelling. By 1838, as described in an advertisement, the building was the home of the Miller. Despite additions, the building maintains its Federal style detailing and vernacular form.

The property on which Oakland Mills was founded can be traced back to the original 702-acre land grant known as "Steven's Forest" patented by Charles Stevens in 1709. Based on the Federal Direct Tax of 1798, the property at 5505 Old Columbia Road comprised only a very small portion of the 1,500 acres that historically was known as Felicity Farm. The tax assessment show the division of the farm between Deborah Sterett (1109 acres) and William P. Matthews (400 acres), both of which reside in log dwellings.

At the turn of the 19th century, Charles Sterett Ridgely had gained possession of the 1109 acres from his mother Deborah Sterett. Ridgely had conveyed a portion of the property sometime prior to May 28, 1819 to his brother James Sterett. According to a 1821 deed reference, Sterett never received the conveyance from Ridgely, described as "a moiety of the lands or grounds...which were improved by the erection of certain mills called and known by the name of the Oakland Mills and other valuable buildings upon the same lands or grounds." Clarification of the ownership was made in September 1821.

Requiring funding to establish the mill, Sterett mortgaged all of his property in Baltimore and Anne Arundel counties in 1819. Sterett conveyed all of his lands, consisting of 414 acres, to the bank, which agreed to return just a third of the property known as "Elkridge Farm" in exchange. Sterett evidently did not make the

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

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Section 8 Page 2

Oakland Mills Cooper's House  
name of property  
Howard, Maryland  
county and state

=====  
agreed payments for the land, and therefore in 1823, the bank repossessed all of Sterett's property, including his rights to the five-story stone mill along a branch of the Little Patuxent River.

One of the mortgages for the Oakland Mills property, held by the City Bank of Baltimore, describes those resources that had been erected by 1821. It included four lots part of "Felicity":

1. Mill Seat, 5.5 acres
2. Lot on east side of Columbia Turnpike "whereon a stone dwelling house intended for the accommodation of a cooper is erected," 20 square perches
3. Lot on east side of Columbia Turnpike "where is erected a cooper's shop...", 9 square perches
4. Lot on east side of Columbia Turnpike "on which are erected a smith's shop and a dwelling house for the accommodation of a blacksmith...", .25 acres

By July 1825, Charles Sterett Ridgely had obtained full right to the property from the other heirs of Deborah Sterett, thus allowing him to convey it to Robert Oliver. The sale included two parts of a tract called "Felicity...comprehending the lands improved and at present occupied by Charles Sterett Ridgely...", consisting of 568 acres. In December of that same year, the City Bank of Baltimore also conveyed their interest in the mill property to Robert Oliver for \$9,278.

The operating mill and its associated resources remained in the Oliver family until 1838, when portions of the property were subdivided and sold independently. The small industrial community of Oakland Mills was predominate established by this time as the first shops and dwellings had been collectively erected and maintained under the sole ownership of the Steretts and then the Olivers for almost twenty years. A September 21, 1838

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

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Section 8 Page 3

Oakland Mills Cooper's House  
name of property  
Howard, Maryland  
county and state

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advertisement for sale of "Oaklands" appeared in *The American* (p. 3, col. 7):

Estate of Thomas Oliver, Esq.

Describes mansion on west side of Columbia Turnpike plus the Mill (recently burnt) and a Miller's House, a large store and dwelling, an ice house, a Cooper's dwelling house and shop, a Blacksmith's dwelling house and shop, and a Wheelwright's shop.

The property was divided into lots:

- Lot 3:** Mill Seat on 18 acres, 1 rood, 9 square perches
- Lot 4:** 2-story, stone Miller's House (dimensions 26 X 18 feet) on 2 roods, 21 square perches
- Lot 5:** Part stone, part wood Store & Dwelling, Ice house, on 1 rood 13 square perches fronting the turnpike.
- Lot 6:** Frame Cooper's dwelling and frame cooper's shop (38 X 18 feet) on 4 acres, 1 rood, 7 square perches fronting on turnpike.
- Lot 7:** 2-story frame Blacksmith's dwelling (32 X 15.5 feet) and frame shop (24 X 20 feet) on 10.25 acres fronting the turnpike
- Lot 8:** Wheelwright's shop on 15 acres, 11 perches "attached thereto adjoining the home place on the East side, and fronting the turnpike."<sup>1</sup>

Based on this advertisement, it has been determined that the building at 5505 Old Columbia Road was located on Lot 4. The building displays physical features that would corroborate its association with industrial activities. Although it appears today as a formally arranged dilution of the Federal-style of architecture, the buildings location set into a hillside and rough stone detailing suggest it was not originally intended to be formal manor house, but instead as an accommodation and shop for the workers associated with an industrial enterprise.

The property at 5505 Old Columbia Road, containing an imposing stone dwelling, was sold to William Whipps on April 17, 1844 for \$1,840. The majority of the improved tracts of Oakland and the mill itself were purchased by George R. Gaither in November 1838. Gaither was listed in an 1850 manufacturers' directory as "a

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<sup>1</sup> *The American*, September 21, 1838, p. 3, col. 7.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

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Section 8 Page 4

Oakland Mills Cooper's House  
name of property  
Howard, Maryland  
county and state

=====  
merchant and gristmill operator with \$500 capital investment and two employees."

Now functioning as a single-family dwelling for the Whipps family, 5505 Old Columbia Road remained in the family until just after the Civil War. In 1867, after a chancery court case, two lots were purchased by Martin and Sarah Fisher. The sale included 96 square perches, known as the "Stone House Lot" and 75 square perches, known as the "Frame House Lot." Retaining the stone house lot, the Fishers divided the frame house lot, selling each half lot separately in 1867.

The stone house lot was retained by Sarah Fisher until 1880, when it was conveyed to John Smallwood. By the turn of the 20th century, however, Smallwood had lost ownership of the property because of tax problems. Title was transferred to the Treasurer of Howard County, C. Dorsey Hobbs. It was purchased in 1928 by Desiree Branch Clark and Louis T. Clark. By 1943, the frame house lot property was recombined and also under the ownership of the county because of tax problems. It was purchased as the Clarks in May 1946, thereby reuniting the two lots.

Sold by the Clarks to Clifford Shaw in 1961, the property was conveyed six years later to Timothy and Alyce Gales. It was purchased from heirs of the Gales in 1990 by present owners Robert W. and Marilyn Dorfman.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. HO-155

Oakland Mills Cooper's House  
name of property  
Howard, Maryland  
county and state

=====

**HISTORIC CONTEXT:**

**Geographic Organization:** Piedmont

**Chronological/Development Period (s):**

Agricultural-Industrial Transition (1815-1870)  
Industrial/ Urban Dominance (1870-1930)  
Modern Period (1930-present)

**Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme (s):**

Architecture, Landscape, and Community  
Planning  
Economic

**RESOURCE TYPE(S)**

**Category:** Building

**Historic Environment:** Rural

**Historic Function (s):** DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

**Known Design Source:** Unknown

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. HO-155

Oakland Mills Cooper's House  
name of property  
Howard, Maryland  
county and state

=====  
**Chain of Title:**

1798: Federal Direct Tax  
Owners of portions of "Felicity" listed as:  
1. Deborah Sterett: Part of "Felicity Farm"  
adjoining William P. Matthews, 1107 acres  
With 1-story log dwelling house, 18 by 24 feet  
2. Deborah Sterett: Part of "Felicity Farm," 2  
acres  
With 1-story, 1/3 brick, 1/3 log, 1/3 stone  
dwelling, 18 by 66 feet  
3. William P. Matthews: Part of "Felicity  
Farm" adjoining Deborah Sterett, 400 acres  
With 1 log dwelling house

Prior to  
May 28, 1819: Charles Sterett Ridgely (son and heir of  
Deborah Sterett) to James Sterett (Charles'  
brother)  
"a moiety of the lands or grounds ... which  
were improved by the erection of certain mills  
called and known by the name of the Oakland  
Mills and other valuable buildings upon the  
same lands or grounds at the joint and equal  
expense of the said Charles Sterett Ridgely  
and James Sterett, but for which said moiety  
of land...the said James Sterett never  
received a conveyance from the said Charles  
Sterett Ridgely...."

Confirmed  
September 15, 1821 Charles Sterett Ridgely to James Sterett  
Land Records of Anne Arundel County  
Liber WSG 8 Folio 398

February 29, 1820: James Sterett to Directors and Company of City  
Bank of Baltimore  
Land Records of Anne Arundel County  
Liber WSG 7 Folio 193

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. HO-155

Oakland Mills Cooper's House  
name of property  
Howard, Maryland  
county and state

- =====
- September 15, 1821: Charles Sterett Ridgely to President,  
Directors and Company of City Bank of  
Baltimore  
Includes four lots part of "Felicity":  
1. Mill Seat, 5.5 acres  
2. Lot on east side of Columbia Turnpike  
"whereon a stone dwelling house intended for  
the accommodation of a cooper is erected," 20  
square perches  
3. Lot on east side of Columbia Turnpike  
"where is erected a cooper's shop...", 9  
square perches  
4. Lot on east side of Columbia Turnpike "on  
which are erected a smith's shop and a  
dwelling house for the accommodation of a  
blacksmith...", .25 acres  
Land Records of Anne Arundel County  
Liber WSG 8 Folio 398
- February 27, 1822: Charles Sterett Ridgely to President, Director  
and Company of City Bank of Baltimore  
Land Records of Anne Arundel County  
Liber WSG 8 Folio 404
- September 23, 1823: Chancery Record  
Records dispute between City Bank of Baltimore  
and James Sterett  
Records of the Maryland Chancery Court  
Chancery Record  
Liber 122 Folio 511
- July 5, 1825: Charles Sterett Ridgely to Robert Oliver  
(All of Deborah Sterett's heirs released their  
interest in this property so that Charles  
could sell it to Robert Oliver)  
Two parts of a tract called "Felicity"  
"comprehending the lands improved and at  
present occupied by Charles Sterett  
Ridgely..."  
1. 567 acres  
2. 1 acres  
Land Records of Anne Arundel County  
Liber WSG 11 Folio 295

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. HO-155

Oakland Mills Cooper's House

name of property

Howard, Maryland

county and state

=====  
December 21, 1825: President, Directors, and Company of the City  
Bank of Baltimore to Robert Oliver

\$9,278

Four lots part of "Felicity":

1. Lot where Oakland Mills stands, 2.5 acres
2. Lot on the east side of Columbia Turnpike  
"whereon a stone dwelling house intended for  
the accommodation of a cooper is erected...,"  
20 square perches
3. Lot with a cooper's shop
4. Lot with a smith's shop (same as that  
deeded from James Sterett Feb. 29, 1820, Liber  
WSG 7, Folio 193)

Land Records of Anne Arundel County

Liber WSG 11 Folio 483

September 21, 1838: Advertisement for sale of "Oaklands" appeared  
in *The American* (p. 3, col. 7): Estate of  
Thomas Oliver, Esq.

Describes mansion on west side of Columbia  
Turnpike plus the Mill (recently burnt) and a  
Miller's House, a large store and dwelling, an  
ice house, a Cooper's dwelling house and shop,  
a Blacksmith's dwelling house and shop, and a  
Wheelwright's shop.

The property was divided into lots:

**Lot 3:** Mill Seat on 18 acres, 1 rood, 9 square  
perches

**Lot 4:** 2-story, stone Miller's House  
(dimensions 26 X 18 feet) on 2 roods, 21  
square perches

**Lot 5:** Part stone, part wood Store & Dwelling,  
Ice house, on 1 rood 13 square perches  
fronting the turnpike.

**Lot 6:** Frame Cooper's dwelling and shop (38 X  
18 feet) on 4 acres, 1 rood, 7 square perches  
fronting on turnpike.

**Lot 7:** 2-story frame Blacksmith's dwelling (32  
X 15.5 feet) and frame shop (24 X 20 feet) on  
10.25 acres fronting the turnpike

**Lot 8:** Wheelwright's shop on 15 acres, 11  
perches "attached thereto adjoining the home  
place on the East side, and fronting the  
turnpike."

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. HO-155

Oakland Mills Cooper's House  
name of property  
Howard, Maryland  
county and state

=====  
April 17, 1844: Thomas and Mary C. Oliver to William Whipps  
\$1860  
East side of Columbia Road, part of "Felicity"  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber 5 Folio 100

December 9, 1867: Michael Bannon, Trustee to Sarah E. Fisher  
(wife of Martin Fisher)  
Transfer the result of court case, Samuel F.  
Whipps versus Martin Fisher, Bannon appointed  
trustee to sell property September 4, 1866  
2 parcels part of property known as  
"Felicity":  
Parcel 1: 96 square perches, known as the  
"Stone House Lot"  
Parcel 2: 75 square perches, known as the  
"Frame House Lot"  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber WWW 28 Folio 319

Deed A1: 37 square perches

December 11, 1867: Martin and Sarah E. Fisher to George W. Hopper  
\$325  
37 square perches (half of "Frame House Lot")  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber WWW 29 Folio 108

August 29, 1896: Ephraim Brown to Henry Ireland  
\$150  
37 square perches (portion of "Frame House  
Lot")  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber JHO 66 Folio 110

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. HO-155

Oakland Mills Cooper's House  
name of property  
Howard, Maryland  
county and state

=====  
June 1, 1943: Frank E. Shipley, Treasurer of Howard County  
to Board of County Commissioners of Howard  
County  
Result of court case: "Ex parte: In the matter  
of the tax sale of property assessed to John  
Ireland (son of Henry Ireland?)..." (Case  
No.3867)  
Public sale held July 19, 1937, ratified  
January 14, 1943  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber BM Jr. 178 Folio 165

Deed A2: 37 square perches (reduced to 34 square perches in 1871)

December 11, 1867: Martin and Sarah E. Fisher to Richard H. Brown  
\$325  
37 square perches (half of "Frame House Lot")  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber WWW 29 Folio 196

December 29, 1871: Richard H. and Mary E. Brown and John A.  
Whipps to William F. Brown  
\$560  
34 square perches (south portion of "Frame  
House Lot")  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber WWW 31 Folio 416

February 22, 1873: William F. Brown to Ephraim Brown  
34 square perches (south portion of "Frame  
House Lot")  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber WWW 32 Folio 270

May 16, 1874: Ephraim Brown to William F. Brown  
\$530  
34 square perches (south portion of "Frame  
House Lot")

February 6, 1877: William F. and Sarah A. Brown to Martin Fisher  
\$800  
34 square perches (south portion of "Frame  
House Lot")  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber LJW 38 Folio 233

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. HO-155

Oakland Mills Cooper's House  
name of property  
Howard, Maryland  
county and state

=====  
May 24, 1894: Sarah E. Dixon (formerly Sarah E. Fisher, wife of Martin Fisher) and Bradley S. Dixon (her husband) and Catherine L. and John W. Rhine, Charles W. and Pearl A. Fisher, Francis A. and Mary M. Fisher, Sarah E. and William T. Espey, Dalton H. Fisher, and the Land and Loan Association of Ellicott City to John Henry Smith  
Grantors are heirs of Martin Fisher (deceased), and Land and Loan Association is releasing land from mortgage dated June 10, 1881 (see Land Records of Howard County, Liber 43, Folio 394)  
\$175  
34 square perches (south portion of land described as "Frame House Lot")  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber JHO 61 Folio 554

March 27, 1920: Clara and John Henry Smith to John Jones  
34 square perches  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber HBN 109 Folio 397

May 14, 1943: Frank E. Shipley, Treasurer of Howard County to Board of County Commissioners of Howard County  
Result of court case "Ex parte: In the matter of the tax sale of property assessed to John Jones..." (Case No.3957)  
Public sale of property held September 19, 1938, sale confirmed December 7, 1942  
Property on Columbia Road near Oakland  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber BM Jr. 178 Folio 46

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. HO-155

Oakland Mills Cooper's House

name of property

Howard, Maryland

county and state

=====  
Deed A1 & A2: Recombined Frame House lot

May 21, 1946: Board of County Commissioners of Howard  
County, Maryland to Louis T. Clark  
2 lots at Oakland Mills  
Sold as result of two court cases: "Ex parte:  
In the matter of the tax sale of property  
assessed to John Ireland..." (Case No.3867)  
and "Ex parte: In the matter of the tax sale  
of property assessed to John Jones..." (Case  
No.3957)  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber BM Jr. 189 Folio 591

Deed B: 96 perches

March 2, 1880: Sarah E. Fisher to John Smallwood  
Stone House Lot  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber LJW 49 Folio 145

April 2, 1928: C. Dorsey Hobbs, Treasurer of Howard County,  
to Desiree B. Clark  
Land Records of Howard County

February 1, 1933: James T. Clark substituted as purchaser

Deed A1 & A2 and B: Frame House and Stone House lots

April 5, 1961: Desiree Branch Clark (widow of Louis T. Clark,  
deceased December 3, 1957), James T. and Mary  
P. Clark to Clifford and Alice B. Shaw  
3 contiguous lots on east side of Columbia  
Road  
1 acre, 7 square perches  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber WHH 366 Folio 500

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. HO-155

Oakland Mills Cooper's House  
name of property  
Howard, Maryland  
county and state

=====  
September 14, 1967: Clifford F. and Alice B. Shaw to Timothy W.  
and Alyce C. Gales  
3 contiguous parcels near Oakland Mills on the  
east side of Columbia Road  
1 acre, 7 square perches  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber 475 Folio 258

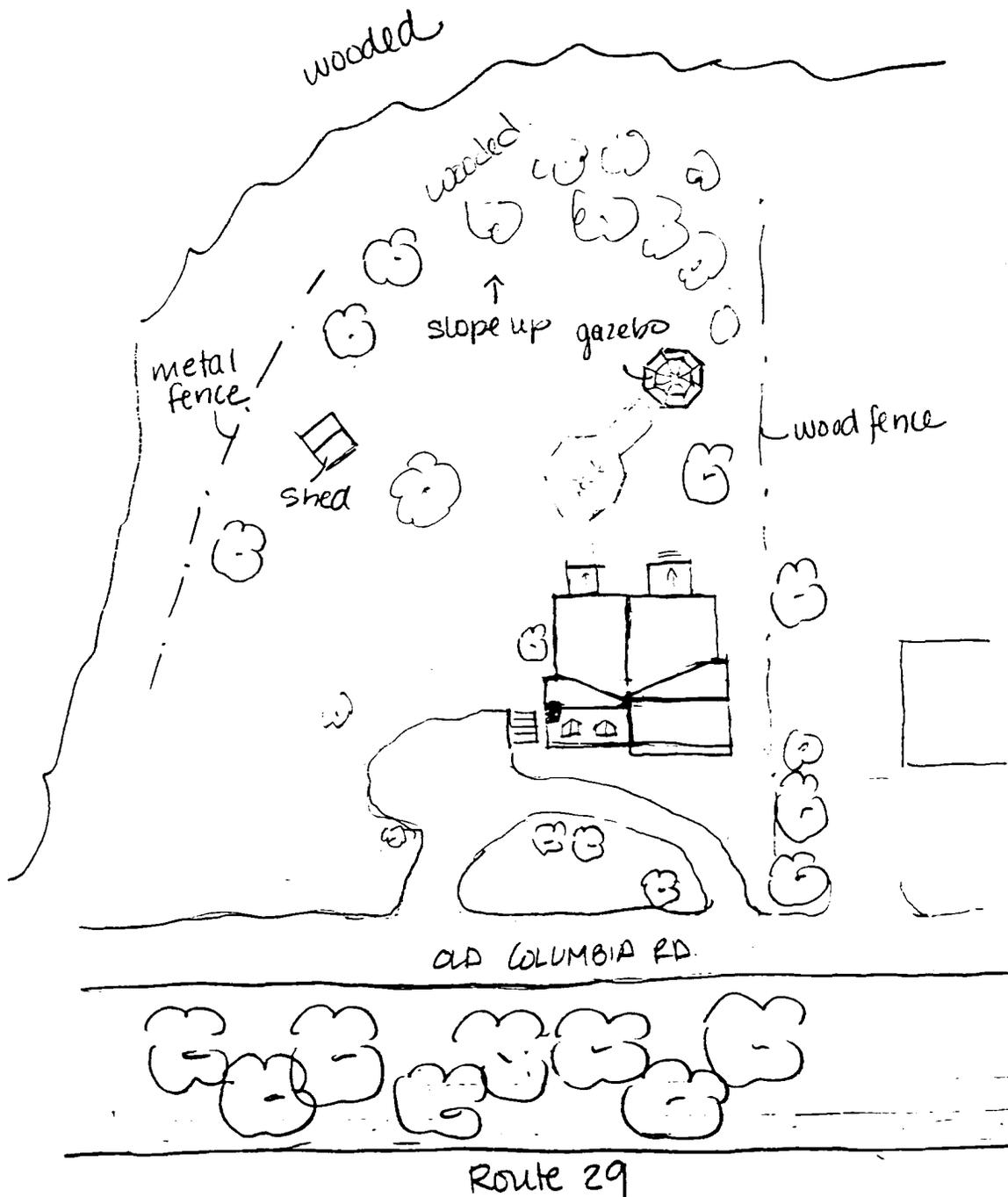
June 8, 1990: Jacquelyn Gales Ufkes and Carol Gales  
Jorgenson, personal representatives of Timothy  
W. Gales to Robert W. and Marilyn E. Dorfman  
\$175,000  
1 acre, 7 square perches  
Land Records of Howard County  
Liber 2183 Folio 176

RESOURCE SKETCH MAP

HO-155

Oakland Mills Cooper's House / Miller's House  
5505 Old Columbia Rd  
Columbia, Howard County, MD

N ↙



HO-155

Golf Course

Little

HO-430

HO-155

Oakland Mills  
HO-154

HO-724

HO-722

HO-722

HO-037

Water

Simpsonville

Paterson

Tower

Christ  
Ch

SAVAGE, MD.

NE/4 LAUREL 15' QUADRANGLE  
N3907.5-W7645/7.5

1957

REVISIONS IN 1956 AND 1974

AMS 5662 III NE-SERIES V833

12



HO-155

5505 Old Columbia Rd

Howard County, MD

Traceries

October 1997

Maryland SHPO

House, NW Elevation

1 of 8



H10-155

5505 Old Columbia Rd.

Howard County, MD

Traceries

October 1997

Maryland SHPO

House, partial NW Elevation

2 of 8



HO-155

5505 Old Columbia Rd.

Howard County, MD

Tracey's

October 1997

Maryland SHPO

House, NE Elevation

3 of 8



HO-155

5505 Old Columbia Rd

Howard County, MD

Tracenes

October 1997

Maryland SHPO

House, SE Elevation

428



HO-155

5505 Old Columbia Rd.

Howard County, MD

Traceries

October 1997

Maryland SHPO

House, E Corner

5d8



HO-155  
5505 Old Columbia Rd  
Howard County, MD  
Faceies <sup>1997</sup>  
October 1997  
Maryland SHPO  
House, SW Elevation  
6 of 8



H0-155

5505 Old Columbia Rd.

Howard County, MD

Traceries

October 1997

Maryland SHPO

Gazebo, Looking S

7 of 8



HO - 155  
5505 Old Columbia Rd.  
Howard County, MD  
Traceries  
October 1997  
Maryland SHPO  
Shed, Looking E  
8 of 8

HO - 155  
Gales-Gaither House  
Columbia  
Private

Eighteenth Century

The Gales-Gaither House is one of two stone dwellings used as homes for the workers of Oakland Mills which is now covered by Route 29. It is basically a three bay wide, one room deep (26'3" x 20") two story gabled roof (running north-south) field stone structure with central 1st floor west door and second floor east door with no interior staircase. A wide stone chimney is inset into its north wall. Stretcher stone flat arched lintels decorate the doorway and windows.

The additions made on the south and east walls of the house in no way destroy the integrity of the original structure.

1401555204

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON: Gales - Gaither House				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Felicity				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: Old Columbia Pike (5505 Rt 29) (Now on Old Columbia Road)				
CITY OR TOWN: Ellicott City				
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Howard	
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: Timothy Gales				
STREET AND NUMBER: Old Columbia Pike (5505 Rt 29)				
CITY OR TOWN: Ellicott City			STATE: Maryland	21043
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Hall of Records				
STREET AND NUMBER: Howard County Court House				
CITY OR TOWN: Ellicott City			STATE: Maryland	21043
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): Tax Map 30, p. 197				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY: Howard County Historic Sites Inventory				
DATE OF SURVEY: 1977 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historic Trust				
STREET AND NUMBER: 21 State Circle				
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis			STATE: Maryland	21401

Gales - Gaither House

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered *	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Gales - Gaither House is a three bay wide, one room deep gabled roof (running north-south) stone house (26'3" x 20') with central first floor west door and central second floor east door. A central stone chimney is inset into its north wall with a six lite casement window on the east side of the attic. This old stone house features interesting stone quoining and rectangular fenestration with double-hung windows holding six-over-six lites decorated with stretcher stone flat arched lintels. This interesting house holds no interior stairway and may at one time have been two residences, one on the ground floor facing west and another on the second floor facing east. When the present owners, Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Gales purchased the property, the ground floor was a dirt floor.

\*Additions have been made - a gabled roof 2 story high south wing four bays wide and one deep and a one story frame east wing with wide, low slung, gabled roof (running east-west), four bays wide and two deep from whose east elevation springs two one story flat roofed screened in porches.

A well at one time belonging to the stone house lies on the south side of the driveway and is located on the adjoining lot.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) C. 1798

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education           | <input type="checkbox"/> Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering         | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry | osophy                                  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention           | <input type="checkbox"/> Science        | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape           | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | Architecture                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature          | itarian                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military            | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Gales-Gaither House

This small stone house adjoining another small stone house (both of which have been enlarged) were used for workers working at Oakland Mills. According to Mr. John Clarke and Mr. Gales, the present owner, it was earlier used as the home of a meeting house man. The earliest reference to this mill was July 20, 1820, (B122-517) in the Chancery Records. This established the fact that these stone houses existed circa 1820. Oakland Mills was founded shortly after 1819, as the following deeds attest. The houses are referred to as "other valuable buildings":

Anne Arundel Deeds, WS 68, f. 398; 15, Sept. 1821, Charles Sterett Ridgely of Anne Arundel, Gentleman-- to -- City Bank of Baltimore-- whereas previously to the 28th day of May in the year of our Lord 1819, James Sterett, then of the City of Baltimore...had purchased from the said Charles Sterett Ridgely and paid him for a moiety of the lands .....improved by the erection of certain mills called and known by the names of Oakland Mills and "other valuable buildings" on the same Lands or grounds at the (joint and equal expense of the said Charles Sterett Ridgely.)

The following pages will offer references to both Oakland Manor and the mill and its houses. Oakland Mills is referred to as part of District 5. Actually Route 29 which runs over the site of the mill is the boundary line between Districts 5 and 6. The present stone houses are located in District 6.

Mrs. Barbara Kelly, owner of the neighboring stone house has testified that these stone houses appear on an Anne Arundel County, Md. Tax List of 1798 at the Maryland Historical Society. This would date these houses circa 1798.

In conclusion the Gales-Gaither house is of significance industrially as part of the Oakland Mill complex as well as architecturally and should be noted for inclusion into the National Register along with Oakland Manor, its barns, Felicity and the Kelly House. Any local landmark legislation should also include this historic property as well as the Critical Area State Planning program.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview with Mr. Timothy Gales at his home March 7, 1976.  
 Interview with Mr. & Mrs. Harwood Owings, of Bite the Biter, 13005 Highland Road, Highland, Maryland.  
 Mimeographed papers collected by John McGrain on Oakland Mills and vicinity.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

Please see Tax Map 30, p. 197

1.04 Acres 475-258

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Clora Barnes Thompson, Archivist		
ORGANIZATION Howard County Office of Planning and Zoning	DATE	
STREET AND NUMBER: 3450 Court House Drive		
CITY OR TOWN: Ellicott City	STATE Maryland	21043

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National  State  Local

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

OAKLAND MILLS--HOWARD COUNTY, District 5

Oakland Mills was founded shortly after 1819 as recited in the following deed:

Anne Arundel Deeds, WSG 8, f. 398; 15 September 1821 ... Charles Sterett Ridgely of AA, Gentleman---to---President, Directors and Company of City Bank of Baltimore .... Whereas previously to the 28th day of May in the year of our Lord 1819 James Sterett, then of the city of Baltimore .... had purchased from the said Charles Sterett Ridgely and paid him for a moiety of the lands or grounds hereinafter described which were improved by the erection of certain mills called and known by the names of the Oakland Mills and other valuable buildings on the same Lands or grounds at the joint and equal expense of the said Charles Sterett Ridgely and James Sterett but for which said moiety of said premises the said James Sterett never received a conveyance from the said Charles Sterett Ridgely.

And whereas by Indenture bearing date on or about the aforesaid 28 May 1819 and made between the said James Sterett of the one part and Samuel Hollingsworth and Henry Thompson on the other part the said James Sterett did grant bargain and sell alein .... unto the said Samuel Hollingsworth and Henry Thompson .... all and singular .... for securing to the President, Directors and Company of the City Bank of Baltimore ... ref to Liber WG 147; f. 446 ... Anne Arundel Liber WSG 6:477 ....

.... Whereas Sterett ... did discharge .... 1820 .... unto President Directors etc. ...

f. 400 ... Hollingsworth and Thomas .... convey .... to Bank ....  
.... Ridgely conveys title of Oakland Mills to Bank (in trust for Sterett)

Beginning at stone marked "IS" ... etc ...

f. 401 ... conveys lot including "stone dwelling house intended for the accommodation of a cooper...." ... on eastern side of Columbia Turnpike

f. 402 ... cooper shop lot ..... smith's shop lot

Clues found in a lawsuit:

Chancery Records, Liber B122, f. 524: Sterett owned Smith's Rope Walk and leased it to Robert Walsh on Fells Point

f. 535: trustees advertised property in the Federal Gazette of Washington prior to public sale held on Nov. 10, 1823 .... Nicholas Worthington was highest bidder

f. 536: order of ratification was published in Baltimore American.

f. 511 At beginning of the case of Bank-vs-James Sterett is the bill of complaint: 1821 .... Whereas .... James Sterett ... under mortgage .... May 1819 .... desirous of making final settlement with bank .... proposal made to bank by Ridgely & Sterett ....

f. 515: Exhibit B ..... James Sterett conveys one third of the Elk Ridge Farm to bank

f. 514: Exhibit A .... proposal ... "to relieve me from my embarrassed situation" ... have authorized my uncle Mr. Samuel Sterett and my brother Charles Sterett Ridgely to confer with the bank ...

f. 517 Exhibit P ... (EARLIEST REFERENCE TO MILL): reference to race and the Oakland Mills .... 7th mo. 20th 1820 ....(i.e., July 20, 1820)

Anne Arundel Deeds, WSG 11, f. 483: Indenture .... 1 December 1825 ... President, Directors, and Company of the City Bank of Baltimore in the State of Maryland of one part and Robert Oliver of the city and county of Baltimore in the State of Maryland of the other part. .... Witnesseth .... \$9,228.75 .... have granted ... unto the said Robert Oliver .... parts ... of .... "Felicity" situate and lying in Anne Arundel County ....

Beginning for the Mill Seat, or Lot whereon the Oakland Mills are erected at a large stone marked with the letters IS standing at the end of a S55<sup>0</sup>W-235-perch division line running across the whole tract called Felicity, it being the end of the fourth line on that part of the said land which was conveyed to a certain Richard Gittings by Deborah Sterett and Archibald Campbell, Trustees, appointed by the chancellor to sell the estate of John Sterett deceased--by their deed bearing date on or about the thirty first day of March 1798 and running thence and bounding on the said fourth line of the land described in that deed reversely, N55E 81 perches unto a point or stake in the east side of Patuxent River, thence running up the east side of the said river N19<sup>0</sup>W 2.31 perches, thence up the north side of the tail race of the said mill, including the northern bank of the said tail race

N56E 40 perches

N42-3/4E 4 perches

N77E 8-8/10 perches

N3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>W 13-28/100 perches to a point in the western bank of

the canal or headrace by which the water is conveyed to the said Oakland Mills, otherwise to intersect a line running parallel with a line drawn along or over the centre of the said canal or head race at the horizontal distance of 2 perches westward of the said central line then running with and bounding on the said parallel line extended up the said canal or head race keeping uniformly at the horizontal distance of two perches at right angles from a line drawn along or over the centre of the said canal or head race to intersect the division line of Felicity between the lands late of Charles Sterett Ridgely and the lands lately owned by James Sterett and by him or by others conveyed to the President, Directors and Company of the City Bank of Baltimore afd;

then bounding on the said Division line Eastwardly to intersect a line drawn one perch eastward of and parallel to the aforesaid central line drawn along or over the centre of said head race of said Oakland Mills, then down the upper side or Eastern Bank of the head race or canal running and bounding on a line down the said Eastern Bank in such manner as to keep uniformly at the horizontal distance of 1 perch eastward from the afd line mentioned as being drawn along or over the centre of the said head race or canal measuring at right angles from the said central line until the said line one perch eastward therefrom shall intersect a line drawn N88<sup>0</sup>W from a corner stone of the mill lot of said property standing on the east side of the Columbia Turnpike road, then running with and bounding on the said line reversed S88E 16 perches to the stone last mentioned then S69-3/4E 9 perches until it intersects the afd S55<sup>0</sup>W-235-perches division line, then running and bounding on the said line S55<sup>0</sup>W to the place of beginning .... 2-<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> acres ...

Beginning ... lot (whereon a stone dwelling house intended for the accommodation of a cooper is erected) in the eastern side or limit of the Columbia Turnpike road at the point where the said limit is intersected by a straight line so-drawn

PLATEAU CALLED "MILLER'S HOUSE" now the

FOR 1100

(so-drawn) at right angles therewith as to coincide with the south end of the said house it being 102 feet distant from the cornerstone standing at the S88E-16-perches line of the Oakland Mill Lot and running thence bordering on the said East side of the said turnpike road N21E 21 feet to intersect another straight line so drawn at right angles as before as to coincide with the North End of the said stone dwelling house then bounding on the said line S69E 11¼ perches, to intersect the S55W-235-perches division line running across the whole tract called Felicity,

then running with and bounding on the said line S55W 2 perches to intersect the first mentioned straight line drawn at right angles as afd .... then bounding on the said line N69W 13½ perches to afd place of Beginning .... 20 square perches ....

Beginning ... Lot .... cooper shop (Description etc ....)

Beginning ... Lot .... smith's shop .... same as one deeded from James Sterett ... date ... 29 Feb. 1820 ... rec WSG 7, f. 193 ... other four from Charles Sterett Ridgely ... 15 September 1821 ... rec AA Deeds WSG 8, f. 398 .... Charles Sterett Ridgely and others ... 27 February 1822 ... recorded WSG 8, f. 404 ..... Charles Sterett Ridgely, Richard Gittings and Polly his wife ... and Sophia Sterett... 26 September 1825 ... to be recorded

... other refs ....

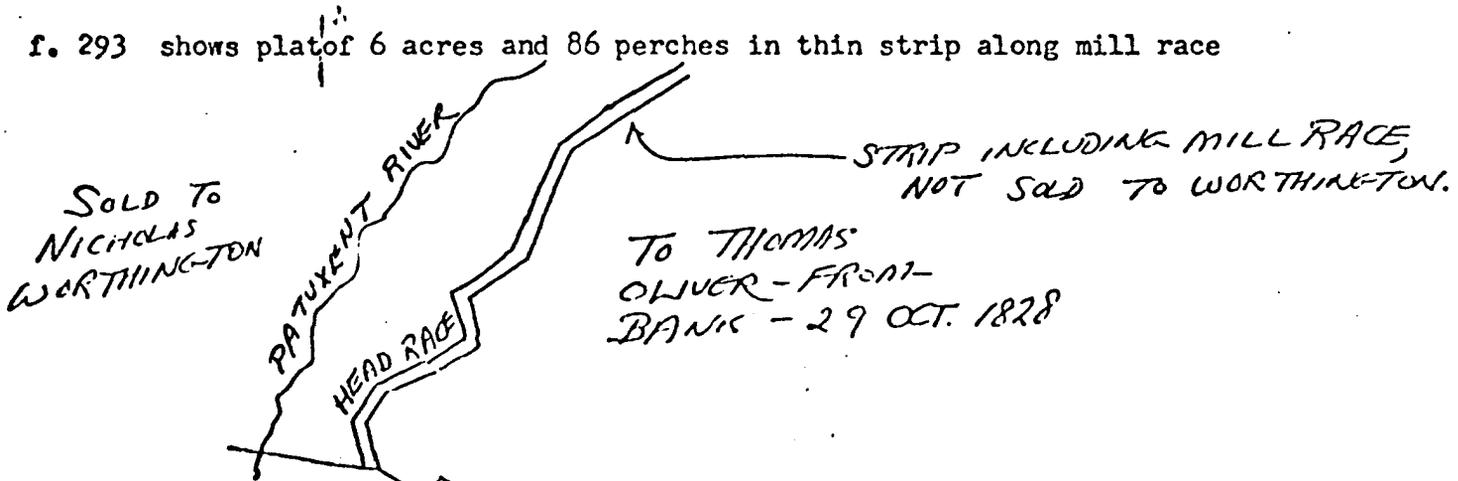
The City Bank sells the land east of Pike, exclusive of mill:

Anne Arundel Deeds, WGS 11, f. 295: deed to Robert Oliver ... excepting 1-¼ acre .... heretofore conveyed by the aforesaid Charles Sterett Ridgely and others to the President, Directors and Company of the City Bank of Baltimore comprehending the mill mill seat rights privileges appurtenances and advantages (In other words, this deed on f. 295 is the deed to what is called Lots 4, 6, and 7 in the newspaper ad some years later in 1838--McGrain's note)

A Confirmatory Deed Conveying the Mill Seat

Anne Arundel Deeds WSG 23, f. 287: President & Directors .... of City Bank of Baltimore--to--Thomas Oliver ... 17 November 1838 ... \$1.00 .... Oakland Mills Seat ... refs to Court of Chancery ... ref to case of Bank-vs-James Sterett in 1823 ... when John B. Morris was appointed trustee ... decree passed about 23 September 1823 .... Morris sold property to John B. Worthington (excluding the mill and race) by deed of 2 September 1823 ,... report of sale filed November 1823 .... prior deed to Oliver was lost ....

f. 293 shows plat of 6 acres and 86 perches in thin strip along mill race



Anne Arundel Deeds, WSG 23, f. 295: Nicholas Worthington—grants to—Thomas Oliver ... full water rights to Patuxent and right of ingress to race ....

Anne Arundel Deeds, WSG 23, f. 319: Thomas Oliver--deed to--George R. Gaither ... 26 November 1838 ...

f. 321: parcel ... a Mill Seat & Land whereon the Oakland Mills are or were erected with the race and the appurtenances ... Beginning at stone marked IS ... tail race ..... head race .... head gates ..... 12 acres ... to which parcel the said Thomas Oliver derived title by .... deeds .... one from Robert Oliver .... dated 3 March 1827 ... recorded WSG 12, f. 378 ... etc. ... third from President and Directors of City Bank .... dated 27 November 1838 ..... intended to be recorded

Another Deed to George R. Gaither but does not include mill conveyed above:

Anne Arundel Deeds, WSG 11, f. 312: Indenture ... 26 November 1838 .... Thomas Oliver & wife--to--George R. Gaither ... \$50,459.95 .... part of ... Felicity ... EXCEPT 5 acres 2 roods three perches of land comprehending the mill mill seat part of the race and appurtenances to said Mill .... which said parcel .... comprehends all that part of a tract of land called Felicity that was by deed dated on or about the fifth day of July 1825 and recorded in Liber WSG 11:295 ... was conveyed by Charles Sterett Ridgely et al to Robert Oliver the father of said Thomas .... on west side with exceptions of mill seat .....

## OAKLAND MILLS:

American, July 31, 1824, p. 1, col. 4: (short adv.)

Merchant and saw mill with the store and dwelling house, cooper's shop, and about 16 acres arable land.—The stand is reputed to be an excellent one for a country store .... well known by the name of the "Oakland Mills." For terms enquire of

JOHN B. MORRIS,  
President of the City Bank

American, Sept 21, 1838, p. 3, col. 7

## OAKLAND FOR SALE

... Estate ... of Thomas Oliver, Esq. .... The improvements are of the most costly, substantial and elegant kind. The main building or Mansion House, is of stone and rough cast,—48 feet by 41—with two wings attached on the East and West, built and finished in the same manner: each wing being 31 feet by 22, making the whole length of the building 110 feet; with a piazza to the main house of 46 feet by 7½ deep. The walls of the House are 26 inches thick. There is a large Hall—6 rooms and 2 pantries on the first floor—7 rooms and a large closet on the second floor, 3 bed rooms and wine closet in the garrett and 5 rooms or apartments besides a wine room in the cellar or basement—and also a hot air furnace for warming the whole house. Near the east wing is a wash house, and an ice house, both built of stone in the most convenient and suitable manner—the ice house is arched and capable of holding about 1200 bushels of ice. The carriage house and stabling (which are also of stone and built in the most faithful manner) is 91 feet by 36. All of these buildings were erected by General Ridgely, in the most strong and beautiful manner. ....

There is also of this estate, and immediately on the Turnpike Road, a fine Mill Seat, upon which lately stood a large Grist mill, 5 stories high, 51 feet by 40, and which ran 4 pair of stones, and supplied with water from the Patuxent river. The inside of this mill was recently burnt, leaving the greater portion of the walls standing, which are of stone;—to this mill was formerly attached a saw and Plaster Mill, which were burnt at the time the Grist mill was burnt. Near where the walls of the mill are, is the Miller's House, a large Store and dwelling

attached thereto, an Ice House, a Cooper's dwelling house and Cooper's shop, District 6  
a Blacksmith's dwelling house and shop, and wheelwright's shop. The mill seat  
and the houses adjacent on the Turnpike Road, are capable of being converted &  
into a large manufacturing establishment to great advantage .....

(divided into lots)

Lot No. 3 will be the Mill as it now stands and Mill Seat with about 18 acres  
1 R and 9 P. of Land attached thereto (including the mill race, head gates &c)  
adjoining the home place on the East side.

Lot No. 4 will be the miller's house with about 2 roods and 21 perches of land attached  
thereto fronting on the Turnpike Road. The house is of stone, 2 stories high, and  
is 26 feet by 18.

Lot No. 5 will be the Store and dwelling, and Ice House adjoining with about 1  
rood and 13 perches of Land attached thereto, fronting on the turnpike road. The  
store and dwelling is 83 feet on the Turnpike road, part stone and part wood.

Lot No. 6 will be the Cooper's dwelling house and cooper's shop, with about 4 Acres  
1 Rood and 7 Perches of land attached thereto, fronting on the Turnpike road: those  
houses are frame, 38 feet by 18.

Lot No. 7 will be the Blacksmith's dwelling house and Blacksmith's shop with about  
 $10\frac{1}{4}$  acres of Land attached thereto, fronting on the Turnpike Road. The dwelling  
is a two story frame about 32 feet by  $15\frac{1}{2}$ , and the shop is about 24 feet by 20.

Lot No. 8 will be the wheelwright shop, with about 15 Acres and 11 Perches of land  
attached thereto adjoining the home place on the East side; and fronting on the  
Turnpike Road.

OAKLAND MILLS -- early deed to Gales House and other properties:

Howard District Land Records, Liber JLM 5:100 .... Deed .... Thomas Oliver and wife--to--William Whipps .... Indenture ... 17 April 1844 ... Of Howard District, Anne Arundel County ... \$11,860 ... All ... on east side of Columbia Turnpike Road in Howard District aforesaid ... part of "Felicity" ... conveyed by Charles Sterrett Ridgely and others to Robert Oliver, the father of the grantor in this deed by indenture bearing date 5 July 1825 .... and recorded AA Liber WSG 11:295 ... comprehends Lots ... on plat of Oakland Farm .... Nos. 4, 6, 7, Beginning on the east side of the Columbia Turnpike distant 2.2 perches-S23<sup>0</sup>W from a two story stone house on the east side of the said road and situated on Lot No. 4, a part of the land now being described, and 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ -N23<sup>0</sup>E from the NW corner of the house now occupied as a parsonage and running thence binding on Lot No. 5 S67 $\frac{1}{2}$ E 11 $\frac{1}{4}$  perches more or less to the S55W-235-perches-divisional line of Felicity then binding on said line reversely N55E 71 pcs to a stone heretofore planted and marked WPM standing at the end of the SE 136 perches outline of that part of Felicity containing 567 acres of land more or less that was conveyed as aforesaid by Charles Sterrett Ridgely et al to Robert Oliver said stone being also in the SE line of Talbotts Resolution Manor, then running reverse of the aforesaid SE-136-perch line, and binding on Talbotts Resolution Manor, NW 55 $\frac{1}{4}$  perches to the east side of the Columbia Turnpike road afd and then binding on the sd road, S23W to the place of beginning laid out for and said to contain 14 acres 3 roods and 34 perches .... SAME AS .... lots 2, 3, 4 described in deed from the President Directors and Company of the City Bank of Baltimore to Robert Oliver above named dated 21st day of December 1825 ... recorded Anne Arundel Land Records Liber WSG 11, f. 483 .... and to which the grantor in this deed derived a title by a deed of conveyance to him from the said Robert Oliver .....

OAKLAND MILLS---Title ... continued

The 1850 manufacturers' census listed George R. Gaither merchant and gristmill with \$500 capital investment; water powered; 2 employees; 3 pair of burrs; output of 3500 bbl flour, 2000 bu meal, and 7500 bu feed (\$20,625). (Microfilm in State Library Annapolis)

Howard County Deeds, WWW 23:418: George R. Gaither and wife--to--Philip Tabb of How. Co. ... 27 October 1864 ... fee simple ... Firstly ... mill seat ... where on the Oakland Mills are or were erected with the race dam and other appurtenances .... part of Felicity ... 12 acres ... 2 roods and 6 square perches (ten other tracts ....)

f. 429 ... containing 281 acres (refs to Joseph's Gift .... refs to deeds JLM 4:35,34, 3 JLM 4:366)

Howard County Deeds, LJW 33:516: Philip Tabb & Wife--to--Francis Morris.... 29 April 1874 ... Philip Tabb of the city of New York, Francis Morris of Westchester, New York .... \$85,000 .... grant all ... parcels ... Firstly all that piece or parcel of land lying and being in Howard County aforesaid being a Mill Seat and land whereon the Oakland Mills are or were erected with the race dam and other appurtenances thereto and being part of several tracts of land called Felicity, Talbott's Resolution Manor, Dorsey's Search, Dorsey's Search Resurveyed .... Beginning at stone marked "I.S.". ... adjoining Howard Passage .... Josephs Gift ... .... canal or head race ... .... Patuxent River ... to secure all the water of the said river for the use of the said Mill .... road leading toward the Montgomery Court House ... head gates belonging to the Oakland Mills .... mill lot (as it was conveyed by the President, Directors and Company of the City Bank of Baltimore to Robert Oliver by indenture 21 December 1825 ) ... 12 acres 2 roods 6 square perches

f. 532 ... refs to Libers JLM 4:36, 34, 80

1878:

Mr. Francis Morris, of Ellicott City, Md., has been putting into his mill some improved machinery, among which is a Keystone Grain Descorticator, Ender, and Separator, made by I.S. Roland & Co., of Reading, Pa. ---American Miller, 6 (May 1878): 103.

Invention of Silage:

The first silage in America was made by Francis Morris of Ellicott City, Md., in 1876, by putting whole corn in a trench or pit dug in the ground and covered with earth ... first silo built by Dr. Bailey in Boston, Mass., 1879 ---Md. Agricultural Experiment Station Annual Report, 1908-1909, p. 2.

Howard County Deeds, ACR 65:451: Evelina M. & Frederick H. Balliere--to--Katherine V. Tabb .... May 22, 1896 ... whereas .... Katherine V. Tabb, late of county and state ... was in her lifetime owner of certain lands .... departed this life 30 May 1889 intestate .... children Eveline M. Balliere and Katherine V. Tabb .... subject to life interest of father Philip Tabb ... whereas ... 1889 ... Philip Tabb did release ... estate .... to Evelina M. Balliere and Katherine V. Tabb ... recorded JHO 55, f. 258 .... now desirous of making a partition ... part of Oakland Estate .... Thirdly ..., mill seat ... are or were erected .... Oakland Mills etc ....

OAKLAND MILLS:Millers found in various directories:

1871 Drysdale directory ---village not listed at all

1878 Maryland Directory, p. 359 millers: Geo. Harper, O.D. Thompson

1880 Maryland Directory, " "

1882 Maryland Directory, p. \_\_\_ miller: Geo. Harper

1894-95 Sheriff's Directory, p. \_\_\_ W.F. Bollier, flour & gristmill  
Geo. W. Hopper, miller  
Philip Tabb, miller

1896-97 Polk Directory, p. 603 W.F. Bollier, flour & Grist mill  
Geo. W. Hopper, miller  
Philip Tabb, miller

1902-03 Polk Directory, p. 609 No flour mill listed, but:  
Smallwood, Neal-Sawmill

1906-07 Polk Directory, p. 708 No. flour mill listed, but:  
W.O. Neal, sawmill  
John Smallwood, sawmill  
E. T. Brown, chairmaker

Listed as postmaster in 1878, 1882, Samuel F. Whipps

Also, 1882:

T. Barnes----wheelwright  
B.F. Baker --blacksmith  
W.F. Whipps, blacksmith

1880 Manufacturers Census, District 5, Howard County:

Francis Morris, custom mill, \$5000 capital investment, 1 employee, 3 run of stones 240 bu/diem maximum capacity. A 12-foot fall on Little Patuxent drove a 30 hp turbine 2.3 ft broad xx at 50 rpm. Output was 450 bbl flour, 162 tons meal, and 21,8 tons feed, with \$7,160 annually.

Howard County Deeds, JHO 55:258; Philip Tabb of Oakland, Howard County—deed to—  
Evelina M. Balliere and Catherine V. Tabb .... 29 November 1889 .... Philip  
Tabb of Oakland, Howard County .... 31 ... release, confirm .... All that land  
and buildings situate near Ellicott City in Howard County in the State of  
Maryland and known as Oaklands, being all the former estate and residence of  
Francis Morris formerly of said Oaklands and now deceased, and being the  
same premises devised in and by the last will and testament of said Francis  
Morris to Kate V. Tabb, now deceased lately the wife of said party of the  
first part ... all and singular ....

Howard County Deeds, WWLC 82:283: Katherine V. Lee & Husband—to—John V.L.  
Findlay ... 3 July 1906 ... part of Oakland Estate .... ref .... Rich Neck Branch  
... Thirdly Mill lot whereon Oakland Mills are or were erected ... SAME AS ... deed  
Tabb to Morris, 1874 .... recorded LJW 33:516 .... part of Oakland Estate which  
was devised to the same Katherine V. Tabb, deceased by last will and testament  
of her father Francis Morris, and ... SAME AS ... those lots by deed May 29,  
1896, recorded ... ACR 65:451 .... were conveyed by Evelina M. Balliere &  
Frederick H. Balliere husband ... to said Katherine V. Tabb, now Katherine V. Lee  
... in fee simple ...

Equity Case No. 2586 .... See 2642 ....

Equity Records, HBN 43:401 ... R. Bennett Darnall attorney-vs-John V.L. Findlay  
and Corine Hart Findlay .... 8 September 1922 ....

f. 402 Exhibit No. 1 .... Mortgage ... made 6 June 1921 .... by John V.L.  
Findlay, Jr. & wf—to—Sarah A. McDevitt ... et al ... Eugenia Brown ....  
Beginning ... at Ash Tree on Rich Neck Branch .... bank of an old race .... 350  
acres .... Secondly .... parcel being a mill seat .... and the land where on  
Oakland Mills are or were erected with the race, and all the appurtenances ....  
part of "Felicity" .... Same as Tabb-to-Morris ... 1874 ... recorded LJW No. 33,  
folio 516 .... buildings ....

f. 406 Report of Sale .... filed July 14, 1923 .... after default .... proceeded  
Tuesday, July 10, 1923 .... advertise in Ellicott City Times .... for more  
than 20 days prior to .... sold to John C. Stafford of Petersburg, State of  
Virginia ..... \$23,500

Checked Equity Papers #2642, and found that for-sale ad was not included.

Checked District 5 Assessment books---found in 1910, J.V.L. Findlay listed,  
but only charged with "improvements" ---no specifics

Tax books exist for 1876 1896 1910 1918-21 1922? 1928  
but are in Hall of Records

[They are not, per Susan  
Nettles of Hall of Records]

## OAKLAND MILLS PROPERTY--1923

Ellicott City Times, June 28, 1923, p. 4:

Karr, Hammond, & Darnall

Attorney's Sale .... Valuable Fee Simple Property, Known as Oakland Manor and located in the fifth election district of Howard County on the road leading from Ellicott City to Scaggsville.

By virtue of the power contained in a mortgage dated June 6, 1921 from John V. Findlay .....

FIRST: All that tract of land particularly described by metes and bounds in the mortgage aforesaid containing 350 acres, 2 roods, and 9 square perches of land, more or less.

SECOND. So much as is not included within the above described parcel of land, being a mill seat and the land whereon Oakland Mills formerly stood, together with what was formerly a millrace and all appurtenances thereto belonging. Among the improvements on said property are: the colonial manor house containing 15 rooms, three baths, 120 x 60 feet, built of stucco over stone, gardeners house containing 8 rooms, and a tenant house containing 8 rooms. The manor house and gardener's house being equipped throughout with electricity being supplied by a private line connected with the lines of Con. Elec. and P. Co. Water is furnished by a ram from a nearby stream rushing through the property. Also a stone stable 100 x 26 feet now used as a garage, cpw stable 60 x 20 feet, stalls for 20 cows, dairy, smoke house, and other necessary out-buildings, two beautiful meadows, containing about 100 acres with two streams of water running through them. The property adjoins the property owned by Dorsey M. Williams. It has a large frontage on the County road leading from Ellicott City to Scaggsville, known as the Old Columbia Road .....

R. BENNETT DARNALL

OAKLAND MILLS—Title of site of extinct mill:

Howard County Deeds, HBN 119:152: H. Bennett Darnell, Attorney named in Mortgage—to  
—John C. Stafford ... 26 September 1923 ... public sale ... 10 July 1923 ....  
mortgage from John V.L. Findlay & Corina Hart Findley to Sarah H. McDevitt-et-al  
... 1921 ... recorded HBN 112:547 .... default .... sold to Stafford ... Thirdly  
mill seat .... SAME AS described in deed from Katherine V. Lee and Frank M. Lee  
to John V.L. Findley, Jr., .... 1906 .... WWLC 82, f. 283

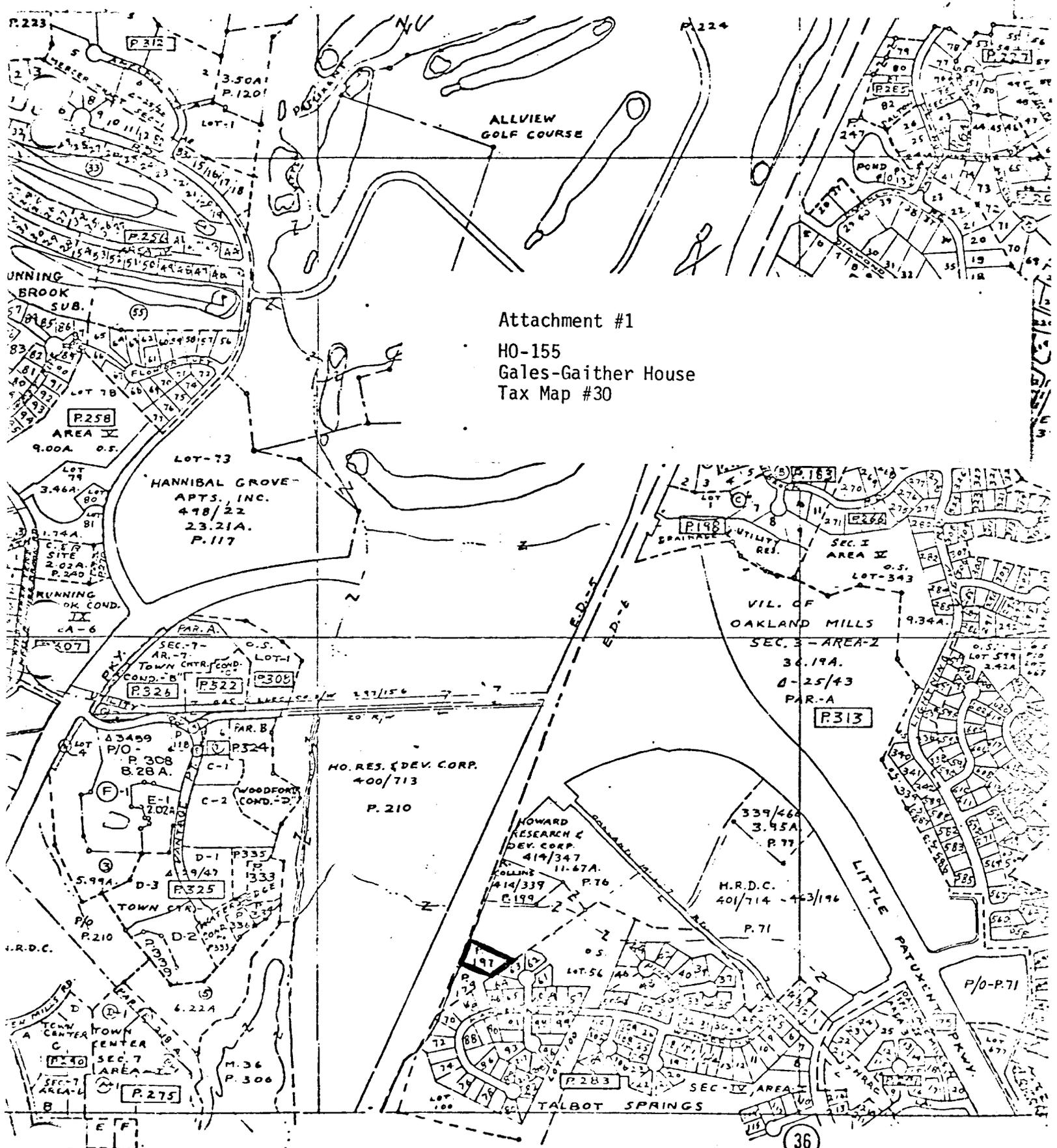
HOWARD COUNTY DEEDS, BM JR. 150:267: Bennett Darnell, attorney—confirmatory deed—to  
Alpheus Ryan ... 21 November 1934 .... Whereas Darnell, attorney .... conveyed or  
intended to convey property unto John C. Stafford by deed HBN 119:152 .... Whereas  
deed is deemed defective ... 1923 ... the property became subsequently invested  
in Robert Biggs, Trustee .... Secondly ... mill seat .... Same as ... Tabb-to-Morris ...  
part of Oakland Estate which was devised by the said Katherine V. Tabb deceased  
by last will and testament of her father Francis Morris ....

Howard County Deeds, MNB 206:363: Alpheus H. Ryan & Betty G. Ryan—to—James D. &  
Bertha Brown ... 15 October 1948 ... Second .... Mill Seat ... are or were erected  
Oakland Mills .... SAME AS ... deed from Richard D. Biggs, Trustee—to—Alpheus  
H. Ryan ... and confirmatory deed ... 1934 ... recorded Liber BM, JR. 150:267.

Howard County Deeds, MNB 206:366: James D. & Bertha Brown—to—Milton W. Bosley ....  
15 October 1948 .... Second parcel .... mill seat ... SAME AS ... Tabb-to-Morris ....  
same two parcels by deed of even date .... Ryan-to-Brown

Howard County Deeds, 212:161: Mercantile Trust Co<sup>h</sup>—to—Miriam J. Keller ... 1949 ...  
ref to will of Milton Bosley ... Second parcel Mill Seat ... whereon Oakland Mills  
were erected ... part of Felicity ... Talbott's Resolution .... etc. .... SAME AS  
LJW 33:516 .... Tabb-to-Morris ... same as by deed 1948 recorded in Liber  
MNB No. 206:366 ... conveyed by James D. Brown and Bertha Brown—to—Milton W. Bosley ...

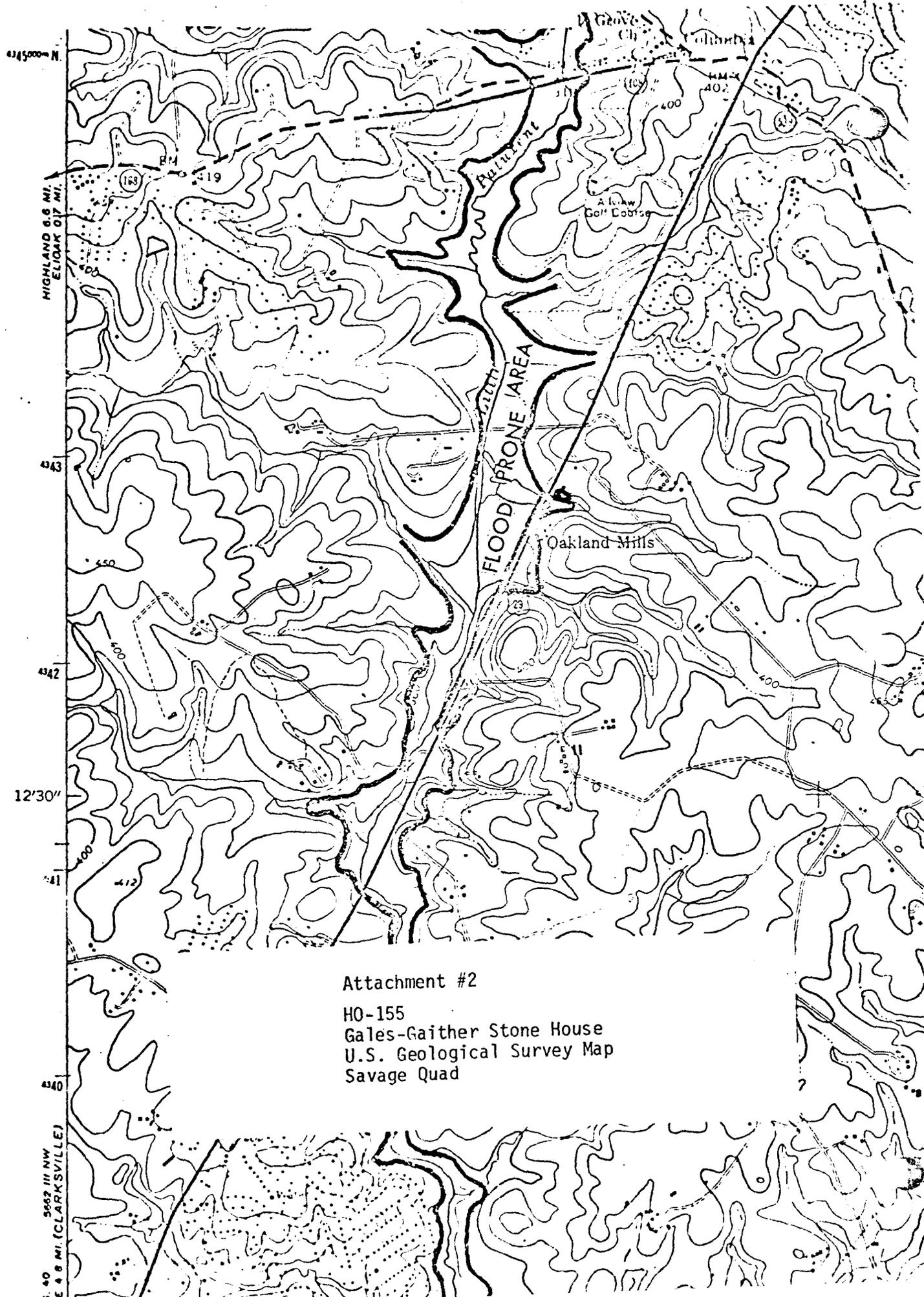
Shown on present tax map as property of Howard Research & Development, Deeds 400:713,  
acquired 1963 from Farmingdale, Inc.



Attachment #1  
 HO-155  
 Gales-Gaither House  
 Tax Map #30

SCALE  
 1" = 800'

COPYRIGHT-MAP DIVISION-1967  
 MD. DEPT. OF ACCESS & TRAN.



Attachment #2  
HO-155  
Gales-Gaither Stone House  
U.S. Geological Survey Map  
Savage Quad



CLEORA BARNES THOMPSON  
PLANNING CONSULTANT  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY

Ho-155 The Gales-Gaither Stone House  
Oakland Mills Village  
(WEST)

MAR. 77