

Ho- 438

"Brother's Partnership"/ The Peter Harmon House

Ellicott City

Private

19th Century

Located on a tract of land originally patented as "Brother's Partnership" by John and Joshua Dorsey in 1734, the Peter Harmon House faces north on the west side of the Old Annapolis and Elkridge Road.

It is a three bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running east-west) frame structure with one and a half story frame kitchen addition on its south wall and a sun porch addition on its east wall, creating an "L" plan. These additions in no way impair this lovely old farm house whose central rectangular entrance door is covered by a gable roof portico.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY MAGI # 1404385304

**1 NAME**  
HISTORIC "Brother's Partnership"  
AND/OR COMMON

Peter Harmon House

**2 LOCATION**  
STREET & NUMBER  
5740 Waterloo Rd. (MD 108)  
CITY, TOWN Ellicott City VICINITY OF 6th  
STATE Maryland COUNTY Howard

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**  
NAME John R. Curtis, Trustee Telephone #: 465-3586  
STREET & NUMBER 165 Broadview Rd.  
CITY, TOWN Springfield, Pa. VICINITY OF STATE, zip code 19064

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**  
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC Tax Map 37 p. 225 Hall of Records  
Liber #: 496  
Folio #: 796  
STREET & NUMBER Howard County Court House  
CITY, TOWN Ellicott City STATE Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**  
TITLE Howard County Historic Sites Inventory  
DATE 1977  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Maryland Historical Trust  
CITY, TOWN 21 State Circle, Annapolis STATE Maryland

**7 DESCRIPTION**

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

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The Old Peter Harman House is located on the west side of Old Route 175, now called Route 108. It was originally a three bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running east-west ) frame structure resting on a stone foundation. Brick chimneys were inset into its east and west walls. Central north and south rectangular entrances led into the central hall and staircase. That on the north was covered by a simple pent. (Today the west wall holds a single horizontal rectangular first floor window in its south bay, covered by an aluminum hood). Fenestration was and is rectangular, double-hung, proportionally scaled and vertically aligned, holding six-over-six lights. A single second floor window was located in the south bay of the east and west walls. Two additional similar first floor windows rest in the west wall.

**1890's KITCHEN ADDITION**

Sometime in the 1890's the kitchen wing was added to the south wall of the house. It is a one and a half story, three bay wide, one room deep, gabled roof (running north-south) frame structure with central first floor rectangular entrances and central gabled roof dormer set into its east and west walls. A square brick central exterior chimney rests on the south wall. A one story high, shed roofed addition, probably an early open porch, runs along its entire east elevation. It holds a central rectangular entrance with six lights, flanked by tripartite windows, each component separated by flat pilasters and holding three vertical lights, side by side. A similar double window is located on the south wall of this shed roofed addition. The remainder of the south wall holds a square window on each side of the brick chimney and a double first floor window.

**SUN PORCH ADDITION**

Mr. and Mrs. J. Raymond Curtis added an additional room on the east wall of the original house. It is a one story high, one room deep, one bay wide, flat roofed frame addition constructed on a brick (laid in running bond) and cement base foundation. A large tripartite window with three large vertical lights separated by flat pilasters and surmounted by a flat wooden lintel rests in the center of the east wall. The north and south walls hold double, double-hung windows, each component holding six-over-six lights, surmounted by flat wooden lintels and separated and flanked by flat pilasters. A single projecting wooden sill outlines each of the double windows.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Mid 19th Century

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Brother's Partnership or the Old Peter Harmon House is significant historically and architecturally. Historically the land was originally part of a 600 acre land grant called "Brother's Partnership", patented by John and Joshua Dorsey in 1734. This section of the tract of land comprising 66 acres on October 18, 1870 was owned by Harriet and James Shipley who on March 12, 1874 conveyed the property "together with the buildings" to Peter Harmon for \$3,500 (LJW 36-571). Residents of the area refer to it as the old Peter Harmon House. It could, however, have been used by the Shipleys prior to 1874.

Twelve years later Peter and Eleanor Harmon sold 20 3/4 acres of the land "together with the buildings" to Henry and Caroline Lotz for \$2,500. (LJW 50-403)

On March 29, 1893 John Curtis acquired the property from Henry and Caroline Lotz (JHO 59-525). On October 17, 1927 Louisa E. Curtis, his wife conveyed the property and premises to J. Raymond and Edith Curtis. (HBN132-14).

The house was used by John Curtis as a tenant farm house and he enlarged it during his tenure, constructing a two story kitchen wing off the south wall at the house, in order to house two families. Later he conveyed the house to his son, J. Raymond Curtis and Edith Christian Curtis, his wife, who began in 1927 a major restoration work. Mr. Curtis painstakingly cleaned, painted, scrubbed and repaired the interior and exterior of the building, creating a tight ship. A teacher in Baltimore in woodwork and cabinet making, he applied these arts to this old house, constructing corner cubboards in the dining room and a lovely gabled roof open portico over the central north entrance.

Architecturally, the building is representative of the fine old central hall, two story high, three bay wide, one room deep gabled roof frame structures which dot the Howard County landscape. A fine central hall staircase as well as wide, random width floors are interior features. The kitchen addition on the south and sun porch on the east creates an L plan, which in no way impairs the integrity of the original structure.

For these reasons the old Peter Harmon House should be placed on the National Register and any future local landmark legislation.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

Significance (cont.)

Note: Peter Harmon had a blacksmith shop, apple orchards and made cider.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Interview with Mrs. Edith Ciutis at her home, October 5, 1977.  
Howard County Land Records.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 9.06 Acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 37, p. 225

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see liber 496, folio 796,  
Howard County Land Records.

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

STATE Maryland COUNTY Howard

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist

ORGANIZATION

Office of Planning & Zoning-Comprehensive Planning Section 465-5000 x257

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

3450 Court House Drive

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

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

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

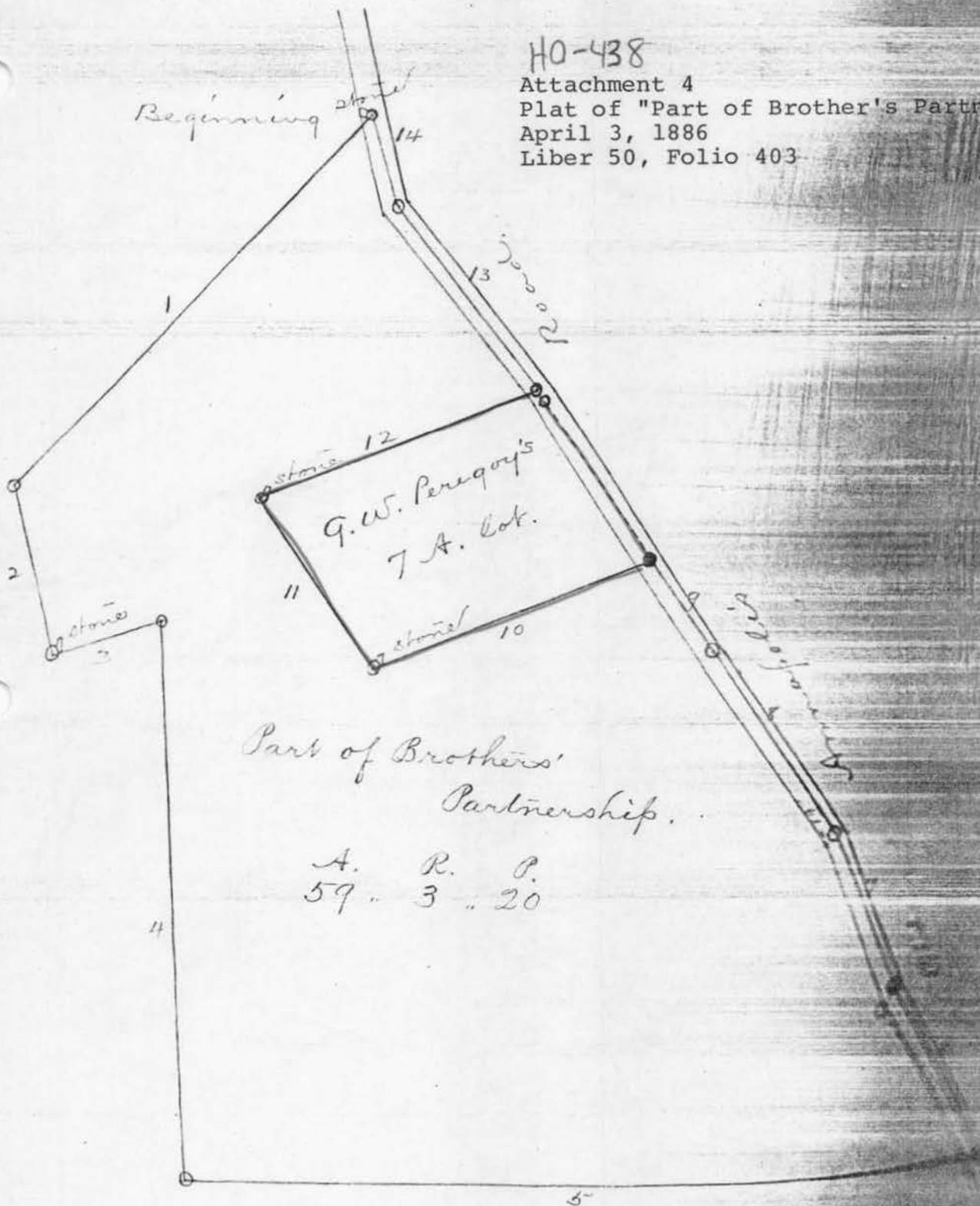
HO-438

Attachment 4

Plat of "Part of Brother's Partnership"

April 3, 1886

Liber 50, Folio 403



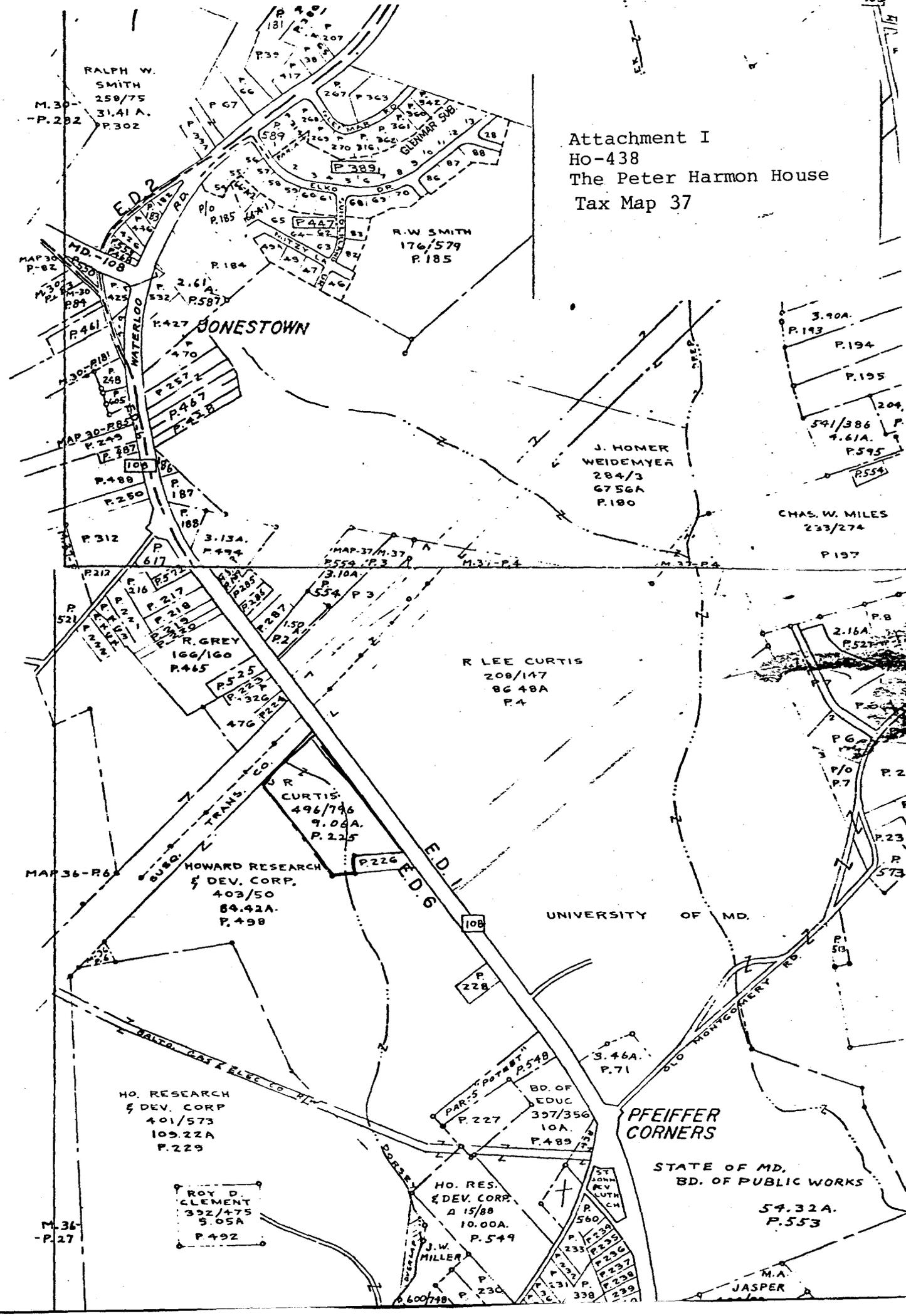
Part of Brothers'  
Partnership.

A.	R.	P.
59.	3.	20

Scale 20 perches to the inch

vid. for record 3rd. April 1886 at 2 1/2 o'clock  
day recorded & Examined per

Attachment I  
Ho-438  
The Peter Harmon House  
Tax Map 37



RALPH W. SMITH  
258/75  
31.41 A.  
-P.292 P.302

R.W. SMITH  
176/579  
P.185

JONESTOWN

J. HOMER WEIDEMYER  
284/3  
6756A  
P.180

CHAS. W. MILES  
233/274  
P.197

R. LEE CURTIS  
208/147  
8648A  
P.4

R. LEE CURTIS  
496/796  
9.06A  
P.225

HOWARD RESEARCH & DEV. CORP.  
403/50  
84.42A.  
P.498

HO. RESEARCH & DEV. CORP  
401/573  
109.22A  
P.229

ROY D. CLEMENT  
392/475  
5.05A  
P.492

HO. RES. & DEV. CORP.  
A 15/88  
10.00A.  
P.549

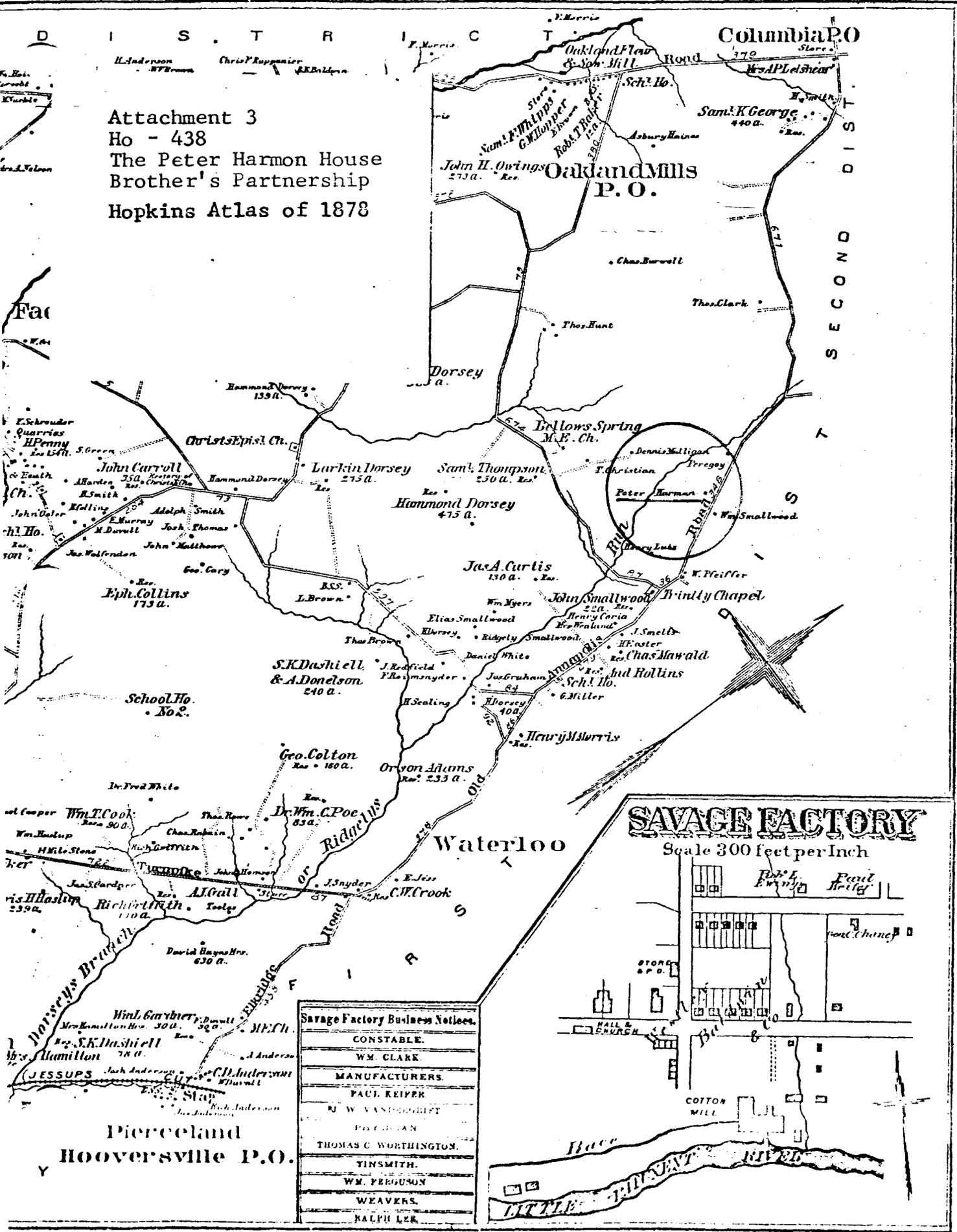
PFEIFFER CORNERS

STATE OF MD.  
BD. OF PUBLIC WORKS

54.32A.  
P.553

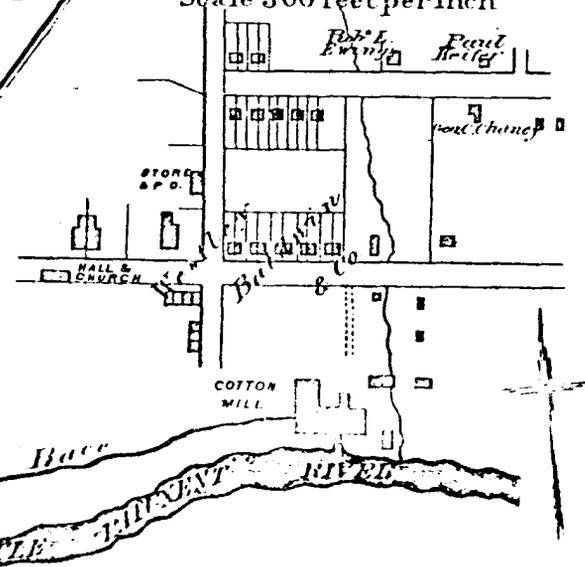
M.A. JASPER

Attachment 3  
 Ho - 438  
 The Peter Harmon House  
 Brother's Partnership  
 Hopkins Atlas of 1878



**SAVAGE FACTORY**

Scale 300 feet per Inch

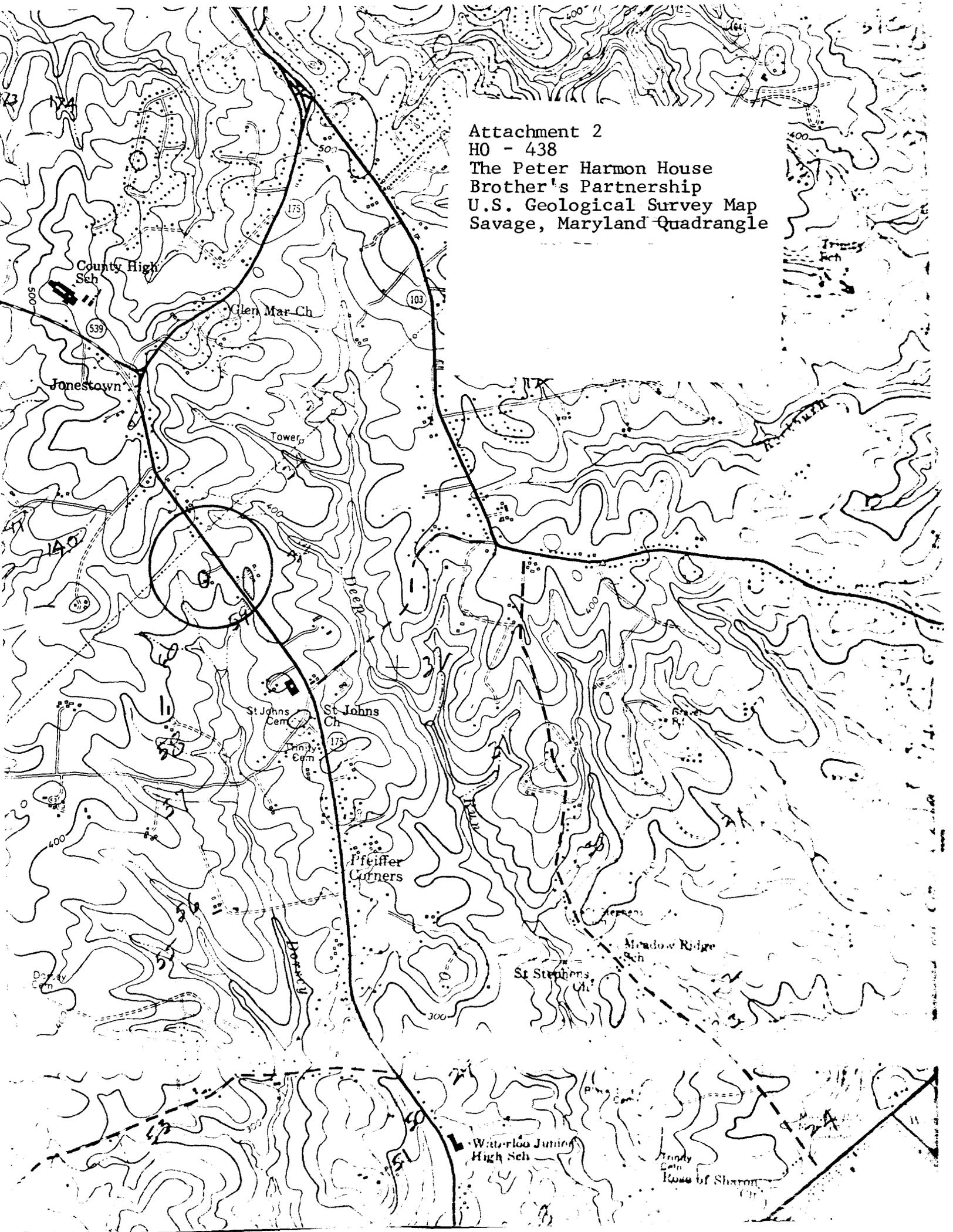


**Savage Factory Business Notices.**

- CONSTABLE.
- WM. CLARK
- MANUFACTURERS.
- PAUL KEYER
- N. W. VANDEGRIFT
- PAUL J. AN
- THOMAS C. WORTHINGTON.
- TINSMITH.
- WM. FERGUSON
- WEAVERS.
- RALPH LEE.

Pierceland  
 Hooversville P.O.

Attachment 2  
HO - 438  
The Peter Harmon House  
Brother's Partnership  
U.S. Geological Survey Map  
Savage, Maryland Quadrangle





Ho-438  
THE PETER HARMON HOUSE  
EAST 1977

CELEBA BARNES THOMPSON  
1000 15th Street, East  
New York, New York 10003