

HO-531
The Kraft Farmhouse
Elkridge
Private

circa 1840

The Kraft Farmhouse faces north some two hundred feet west of the west side of Route 103, just north of its intersection with Ilchester Road. It is a five bay wide, one room deep, gabled roof (running east-west), two story high, frame ship-lap (covered with asbestos shingles) house, resting on a stone foundation (covered with cement), with wide brick chimneys inset into its east and west walls.

Central, open wood steps lead to the landing of a one story high, hipped roof, open porch, which runs along the entire north elevation, supported by four square posts and two pilasters, which are held and decorated with scrolled brackets. A central, nine light, rectangular entrance door is flanked by three vertical side lights and surmounted by a four light transom.

The building features a twin romanesque second floor, double-hung window, each component holding one-over-one lights.

Fenestration for the house is vertically aligned and proportionally scaled. Windows are rectangular, double-hung, holding two-over-two lights.

Two south wings extend from the south wall of the house. The gabled roof (running east-west) kitchen wing off the two west bays features a tall square brick chimney in its south wall. The four bay wide, one room deep, two story high, intersecting, gabled roof (running north-south) frame shiplap, (covered with asbestos shingles) addition holds a wide central brick chimney and a central intersecting, gable, holding a trefoil inset into a central circular attic window.

An old, one story high, stone smoke house and storage room lies south of the house, one section larger in scale than the other and connected to one another. They feature stone quoining, rectangular west entrances, surmounted by flat stone lintels and gabled roofs (running north-south).

7 DESCRIPTION

HO-531
Dist. 1

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Kraft Farm faces north some two hundred feet west of the west side of route 103, just north of its intersection with Ilchester Road. It is a five bay wide, one room deep, two story high, frame (covered with asbestos shingles) house, resting on a stone foundation (covered with cement), with wide brick chimneys inset into its east and west walls. Central, open wooden steps lead to the wooden landing of a one story high, hipped roof, open porch, which runs along the entire north elevation, supported by four square posts and two pilasters, which are held and decorated with scrolled brackets. A central, nine light rectangular entrance is flanked by three vertical side lights and surmounted by a four light transom. Above, in the central bay of the second floor on this north elevation rests a double window, each section a romanesque, double-hung window with one-over-one lights, which is united by a flat plaster.

Fenestration for the house is otherwise rectangular, double-hung, proportionally scaled and vertically aligned, holding two-over-two lights.

The east and west elevations hold a first and second floor window, similar to those described, in its south bay and two rectangular attic windows, a two bay wide one room deep, two story high intersecting gable roof (running north-south) frame kitchen wing, resting on a stone foundation with tall, square brick chimney inset into its southwall extends south from the west side of the buildings south wall. Extending from the east side of the building's south wall is a four bay wide, one room deep, two story high, intersecting gable roof (Running north-south) frame (covered with asbestos) south wing, resting on a stone (covered with cement) foundation and holding a wide central brick chimney between the first and second north bays. Originally this section was a two room addition with central dividing fire place and a south porch upon which was later placed a second floor room. The porch has been enclosed with windows by Mr. Roy Collins. It's believed that when this additional bay was added the central intersecting gable on the east elevation was constructed with trefoil inset into a central circular attic window, Fenestratium for this section of the house is also vertically aligned, proportionally scaled, rectangular, and double-hung, holding two-over-two lights. The west elevation of the kitchen south wing and the four room south wing addition also hold double-hung windows with six-over-six lights, which were originally featured. The north bay of the east elevation also featured a double-first and second floor window, each section a rectangular, double-hung window with one-over-one lights. Beneath them is a covered entrance to the basement. A small batten wood cellar door also lies south on this wall.

Basement windows of the main section of the house are all vertically aligned to the four first floor windows on the north elevation.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

An intersecting one story high, one room, gabled roof (running north-south) stone smokehouse lies south of the house, with a smaller in scale, one story high, one room, gabled roof (running north-south) stone storage room on its south wall. Both sections feature rectangular west entrances, surmounted by flat stone lintels. Two large horse barns lie south of the house and another north of the house, used by the 125 horses which graze on the surrounding 400 acres of the Rising Sun Riding Stables. Horse rings also lie north of the house.

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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Local History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Circa 1885

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Kraft Farmhouse is significant to Howard County and the State of Maryland as an example of the Romanesque Revival style as exemplified in American domestic architecture of the mid to late nineteenth century and on into the early twentieth, and historically as the farm of the Kraft and Pierson families of Howard County.

Architecturally, the front facade of the building features extremely fine stylistic detail in its proportionally scaled and vertically aligned fenestration, with the second floor of the central bay holding a double Romanesque window, each component a Roman arched, double-hung window with one-over-one lights, connected by a flat pilaster.

Other than this central window and the tall first floor windows, which rise into ceiling wells to allow an additional height for easy entry to the first floor open porch, the building is basically simple in design, with a kitchen wing, creating an "L" plan, changed by the addition of another wing, which, on its east elevation, features a central intersecting gable, holding a central circular window, inset by a trefoil, usually associated with the Gothic revival.

Thus, not only its use as an example of the Romanesque and Gothic Revival Style in Howard County, but its example as a house which was added upon, as the needs and circumstances of its owners increased, also gives the building importance.

The Kraft Farmhouse is a building, begun in an "L" plan, to which was later added a two story high, four-room, intersecting, gabled roof addition, with central square brick chimney. This, in turn was also added upon. Its first floor porch became the base for an additional second floor bedroom and an extension of this wing's gabled roof. The Kraft Farmhouse is an excellent example of what frequently occurred in American building. A one story high porch was added. Later, a second floor was added and often the porch itself became another room. In this case, the porch has remained an entry but has been enclosed with glass windows.

Historically, the House is located in the general area of a house noted on the 1860 Martennet Map and the 1878 Hopkins Atlas as belonging to B. Sunderland, who owned extensive acreage, including a large area of the Kraft Farm.

In a cursory title search of the property, several tracts of land in this area were deeded to Benjamin Sunderland from McLane Brown in 1849. One tract of land was mentioned (8-534), comprising 91 acres "on and in the first line of "Vines Fancy"

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

and bounding on the third line of "Chews Resolution Manor", land once a part of Avoca, HO 422. Another boundary mentioned is that of "Adam the First," on which the Curtis-Shipley House, HO-439 is located. Since the house located in this general area in 1860 is located a bit north of where the present house is located, it would appear that this house was constructed later or was constructed as a dower house for the Sunderlands.

On September 25, 1920 a major part of the existing farm was acquired by Clara C. Kraft, Andrew H. Kraft, Martin Kraft and John Kraft. (111-101). The Kraft Brothers raised grain, hay, sheep, cattle, and hogs. They also owned property on Old Columbia Pike, where they slaughtered the hogs, operating a butcher shop in Ellicott City on the southwest corner of Main Street and Tiber Alley.

The Kraft Farm was operated from 1920 until about 1943 and was managed by Walter Gordon, who lived in the house with his large family. How old the house is remains a bit of a mystery but it probably was constructed circa 1885 or earlier.

Notable both architecturally as an example of the Romanesque and Gothic Revival Style and historically as a part of The Benjamin Sunderland farm (he was Commissioner for Howard County in 1885, 1887 and 1889 and Master of the Hunt at that time). The Kraft Farm should be placed on the National Register of Historical Places, should its owners so desire, as well as the State Critical Areas Program and any local landmark ordinance the Citizens at Howard County may initiate.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land Records of Howard County
Tax Assessor's Office, Howard County
Interview with Mr. John Nicolai, April 28, 1979
Interview with Mr. Ray Collins at the Kraft Farm, April 17, 1979
Interview with Ernest Wessell, 747-5374, April 28, 1979

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 248.8053 acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 31

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber 726 Folio 481

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

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

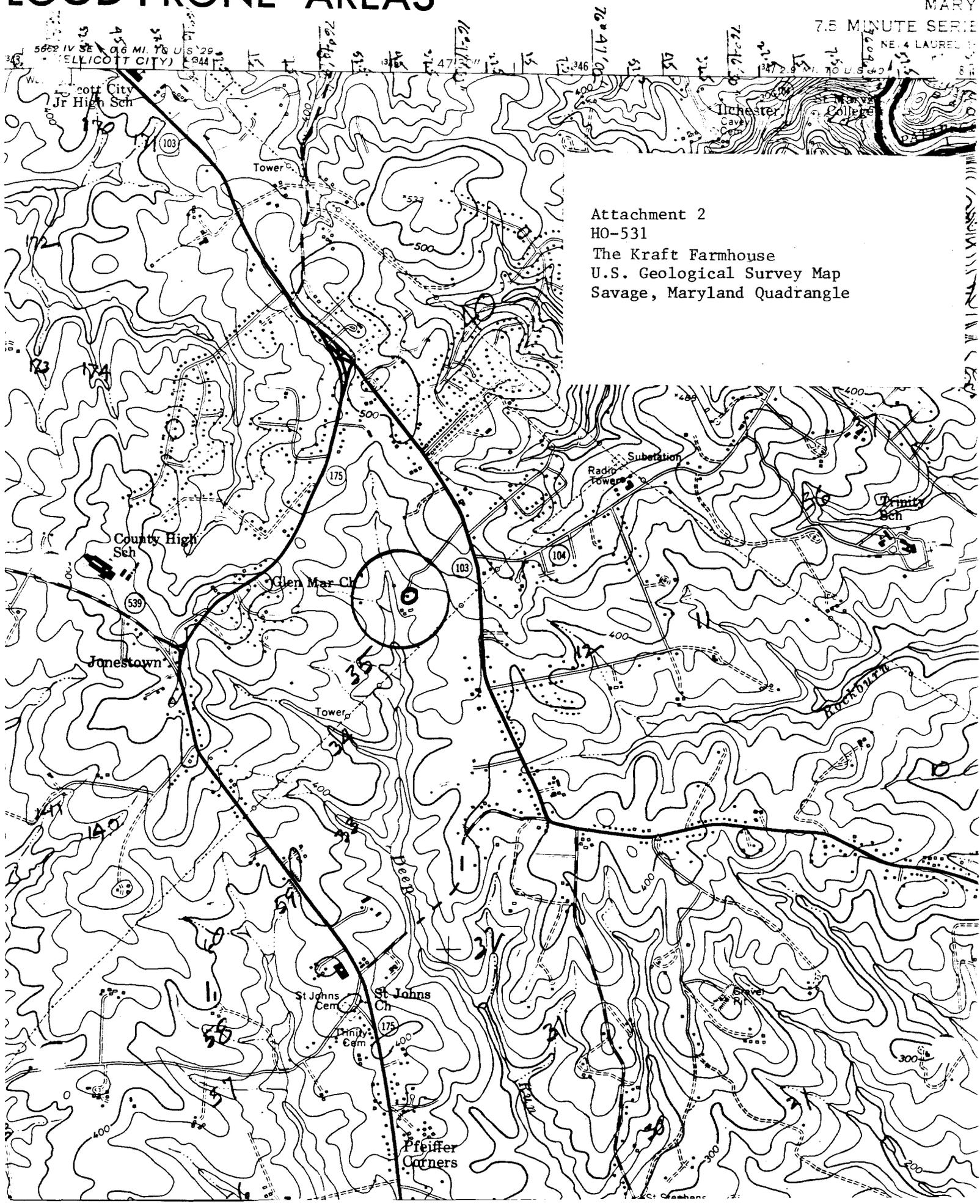
LOOD-PRONE AREAS

SAVAGE QU

MARY

7.5 MINUTE SERIE

NE. 4 LAUREL



Attachment 2
HO-531
The Kraft Farmhouse
U.S. Geological Survey Map
Savage, Maryland Quadrangle



Hb-531
The Kraft Farm
Northwest

CB Thompson, AICP
APRIL, 1979