

PARISH HOUSE  
Kennedyville, Maryland  
(ca 1870-75)

The Parish House is the best preserved building constructed by or for John Kennedy in the 1870's. A double house, it is perfectly symmetrical with each unit two bays wide, two rooms deep, and a true two-and-one-half stories tall. At the rear is a one-story kitchen wing. Three architectural features set these houses apart from other Kent buildings of the same period. These are the curtained pair of gable chimneys, the three over three sash windows in the upper story, and the enclosed stair located directly beneath the roof ridge.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC PARISH HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER East side Rt. 213 (Main Street), second lot from railroad tracks

CITY, TOWN Kennedyville VICINITY OF 1st CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Kent COUNTY Maryland

3 CLASSIFICATION

Table with 4 columns: CATEGORY, OWNERSHIP, STATUS, PRESENT USE. Includes options like DISTRICT, BUILDING(S), PUBLIC, PRIVATE, OCCUPIED, UNOCCUPIED, etc.

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Jeannette B. Parish Telephone #: 301-348-5344

STREET & NUMBER CITY, TOWN Galena VICINITY OF STATE, zip code Maryland 21635

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Kent County Court House Liber #: EHP 73 Folio #: 546

STREET & NUMBER CITY, TOWN Chestertown, Maryland STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE DATE DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL CITY, TOWN STATE

K-390

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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 Parish House is a brick double house that is identical in plan to the Groves House (K-389,) also on Main Street in Kennedyville. The structures have similiar histories and were constructed by the same person. Before the Groves House was altered, it probably had detailing similiar to this structure.

The building is four bays wide, two rooms deep, and a true two-and-one-half stories tall. Behind the main house is a two-room wide, one-story, shed-roofed wing, which contains the two kitchens for the two "mirror-image" dwelling units.

The shallow gable roof of the main house has a ridge set paralalled to the street; its box cornices have 4½" cyma recta crownmold and simple composit bed moldings. The roof gables have tapered verge boards. On either side of the ridge pale in both gables are tall, broad chimneys, flush with the walls; each pair is connected by brick curtains.

There are windows in the front and rear walls of the main house, none in the gables. These have six over six sash on the first two floors and three over three sash on the third. All sash are set in unbeaded wooden frames with flattened quarterround backbands and wooden sills. Original shutters on the first floor windows each have two shallow, raised, unbeveled panels and Grecian ovolo and bevel panel moldings. Shutters on the upper floors are louvered. All shutters have their original hardware which includes shell pattern shutterdogs. Doorways have transom lights and doors with an upper glass light and two lower panels with the same detailing as the shutters.

The present roofs are metal over older wooden shingle roofs. The wide front porch replaces an earlier porch; it has square columns, a shallow hipped roof and a simple railing.

Unlike the Groves house, the brick of this building is unstuccoed on the south and front facades. On the front facade very regular, medium orange units laid in common !

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

K-390

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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES ca 1870-75

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

John Kennedy

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Parish House is one of the earliest Kennedyville houses. It was constructed by John Kennedy, the founder of the town, as a speculative building in about 1870-75. In form, plan, and fenestration, it more nearly resembles the vernacular buildings of southeastern Pennsylvania than those of the Upper Shore and probably was constructed by workers from Mr. Kennedy's home in Port Kennedy in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Kennedy began actively buying land in the Kennedyville area in 1853. By the late 1860's when the Kent County Railroad was acquiring rights-of-way in the area, Mr. Kennedy had already laid out his town. Sales of the lots began in about 1868. In addition to selling lots, Mr. Kennedy erected several buildings for sale. This house and the Groves House (K-390,) are both double houses and were both constructed before 1877. The building was sold from the Kennedy estate in 1878.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

K-390

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Kent County Land Records, Kent County Court House, Chestertown, Maryland

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE  
Marsha L. Fritz, Survey Consultant

ORGANIZATION  
Kent County Planning Commission

DATE  
778-4600, ext.67

STREET & NUMBER  
Court House

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN  
Chestertown, Maryland

STATE

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

are used. They measure  $8\frac{1}{2}$ " X  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " X 4" and three courses equal  $8\frac{1}{8}$ ". The mortar is hard and includes river sand; the joints are tooled convex with the vertical joints narrower than the horizontal. On the side of the structure, the brick is less regular, lighter in color and laid with wider mortar joints.

The interior plan, stair, and window trim duplicate those of the Groves house. Mantles in both first floor rooms are wooden with plain shelves, frieze, and pilasters, a rectangular opening. Their only ornament is a well-proportioned cyma recta and cavetto molding under the shelves.

PARISH HOUSE  
Chain of Title

Land Records  
of Kent County

Transaction

EHP 73  
546

TO: Jeannette B. Parish  
FROM: Harvey Clinton Leonard  
DATE: April 18, 1977

EHP 57  
401

TO: Harvey Clinton Leonard  
FROM: Mary L. & William E. Lipscomb  
DATE: April 8, 1974

RAS 15  
101

TO: Mary L. & William E. Lipscomb  
FROM: S. Scott Beck, Assignee  
DATE: December 24, 1935

The Nickersons (Thomas E. & Mary) defaulted on a loan from The Chestertown Bank & their property was sold.

APR 2  
579

TO: Thomas Earl Nickerson  
FROM: Joseph B. Hossinger  
DATE: September 4, 1917

DCB 5  
524

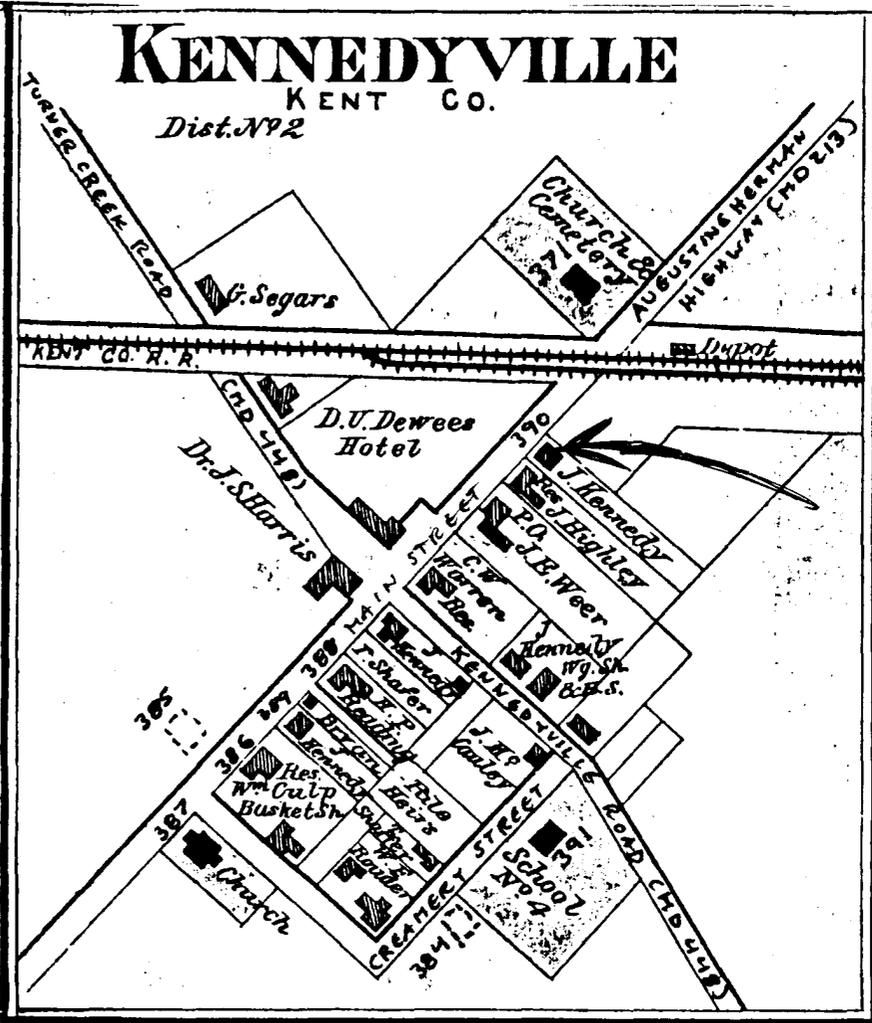
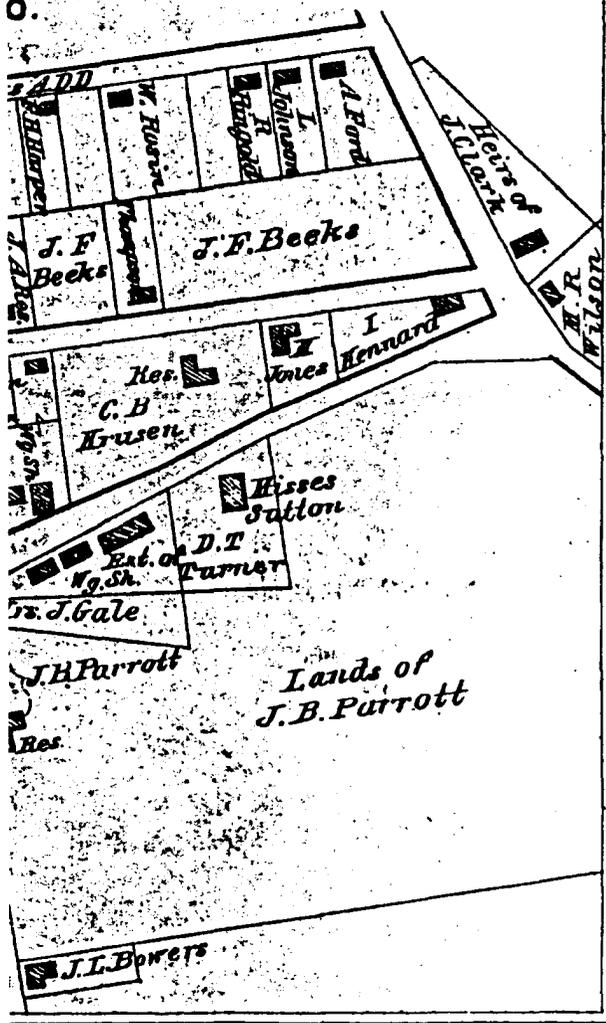
TO: Joseph B. Hossinger  
FROM: Jacob Highley, etal  
DATE: February 13, 1880

For \$1,285.00 the lot with a double brick dwelling of three stories each has five rooms and a kitchen.

DCB 4  
115

This reference is the record of land settlement after death of J. Kennedy in 1878; when he bought the property it had no house on it.

# D.P.O.



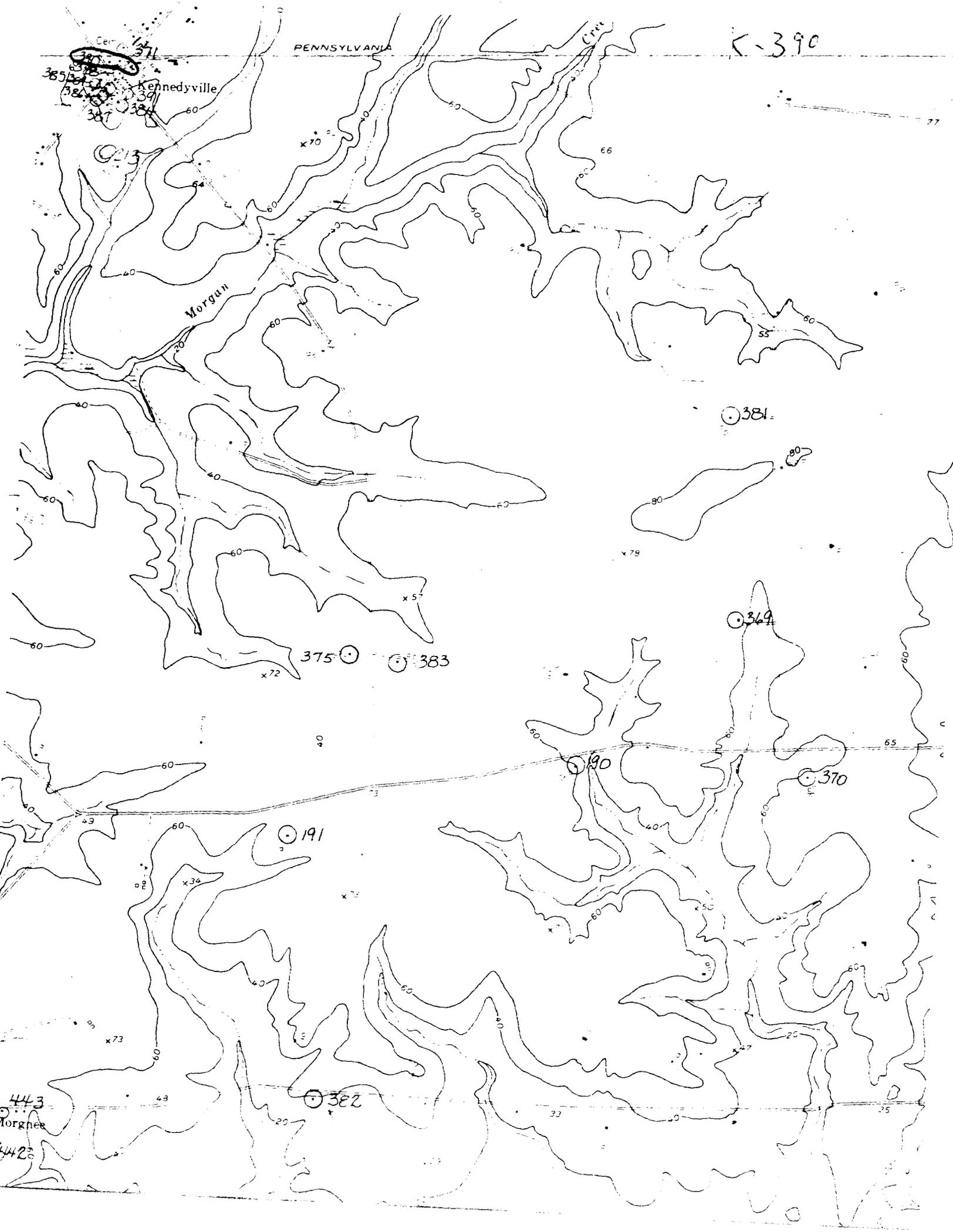
### KENNEDYVILLE BUSINESS REFERENCES.

**WILLIAM S. CULP**, Carpenter and Builder, and Manufacturer of Peach-baskets. Orders solicited.  
**C. H. J. SPARKS**, Proprietor of Cash Store. Is now offering to the public a full line of Dry Goods, Notions, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, and other Articles usually kept in a country store. Ready-made Clothing always on hand, or ordered at short notice. My Goods were bought for cash, and can offer bet-

**SAMUEL S. HOPKINS**, Proprietor of Urieville Flouring Mill. Best Grades of Family Flour manufactured and kept on hand for sale at all times, also Custom Work done at all times. All persons are solicited to give me a call. 2½ miles from Kennedyville.  
**J. F. POTE**, Blacksmith at Urieville. All kinds of Blacksmithing done with neatness and dispatch. All persons wanting anything in my line will please give me a call. 2½ miles from Kennedyville.  
**A. STRONG**, Wheelwright at Urieville. All kinds of Wheelwrighting done with neatness and dispatch. Persons wanting anything in my line will do well to give me a call. Shop 2½ miles from

K-390

**CHEST**  
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K-390

PENNSYLVANIA

Kennedyville

Morgan

Creek

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375 383

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K-390

Parish House

View to Northeast

Kennedyville

Kent county

M. L. Fritz

3/1980

*J. Tyler Campbell*  
FREE-LANCE PHOTOGRAPHY  
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND