

K-633

Circa 1880-1885

Piposzar House

Millington

Private

The frame Piposzar House was built after 1877 as one of the infill houses on the deep lots between Cypress Street and the Chester River in Millington. It is not shown on the 1877 Lake, Griffing and Stevenson atlas map of Millington. It reportedly was built by a doctor between about 1880 and 1885. He evidently made good use of the main-section room on the side of the central hall away from the rear wing. In this type of house this room generally was intended to be a "company parlor," but in practice it was often unused. He seems to have used it for an office, a good use for a room quite isolated from the rest of the house. Evidences were found of old shelving for storage of medicines and books. This was a house that a prominent and presumably prosperous citizen of the community might build. It is representative of the largest and best appointed of the vernacular Victorian Gothic Revival frame houses constructed in Kent County during the last quarter of the nineteenth century that are 2-1/2 storeys tall, five bays wide with central gable, and have a perpendicular rear wing. Despite the horizontal, lapped weatherboard on their main walls, these were very vertical, pointed houses, by virtue of their steep, overhanging gable roofs, triangular upper window sash, and sometimes roof spire finials. The plan was virtually standard by the 1880s, really the peak of building of this plan, with a secondary hall at the wing's main entry, with access to pantry, secondary stair, the main section, and the wing rooms. These houses had three-part bay-windows (on one storey or two), very large main-entry architraves, almost floor-to-ceiling first-storey facade windows that opened onto the front porch, and often a secondary facade, also with central gable. Other examples are Swan Meadow (K-587), Ivingo (K-565), Boxwood Place (K-615), Hickory Ridge (K-639), and the Georgetown River House (K-580). To the west on Cypress Street there are two more very similar houses.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Bottomley Smith House

and/or common Puposzar House (preferred)

2. Location

street & number 383 W. Cypress Street (M.D. 111) not for publication

city, town Millington vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Kent

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Mr. John Puposzar

street & number 383 W. Cypress Street telephone no.: 928-5371

city, town Millington state and zip code Maryland

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Court House liber EHP 193

street & number Cross Street folio 23

city, town Chestertown state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys NONE

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. K-633

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 of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

The frame, gable-roofed Puposzar House, on the south side of Cypress Street in Millington, is among a row of the town's houses set quite close to the street on narrow, deep lots. It was built in a vernacular Victorian Gothic Revival Style, between about 1880 and 1885. It has been little altered, though there has been a sympathetic recent remodeling and refurbishing. It has a 2-1/2 story tall main section that is five bays wide, with central gable and large, elaborate main-entry architrave. The side bays of the first-story main facade have almost floor-to-ceiling double-hung windows that open to the five-bay front porch. On the east end is a centered two-story three-part bay-window with single window above in the gable. There are no west-end windows except in the gable. There is a rear perpendicular wing that is five bays deep on the east and four on the west; it was built at the same time as the main section. There is a porch on the wing's east side and a porch to the rear of the main section, with access also from the wing. The plan of the main section is central hall, with one room on each side. A bold catalogue-parts stair rises from the first story to the third. On the rear of the lot there is a shed-roofed carriage house-stable.

(Continued)

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1880-1885 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or
Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Puposzar House was built after 1877 as one of the infill houses on the deep lots between Cypress street and the Chester River in Millington. It is not shown on the 1877 Lake, Griffing and Stevenson atlas map of Millington. It reportedly was built by a doctor between about 1880 and 1885. He evidently made good use of the main-section room on the side of the central hall away from the rear wing. In this type of house this room generally was intended to be a "company parlor," but in practice they were often unused. He seems to have used it for an office, a good use for a room quite isolated from the rest of the house. There were evidences of old shelving for storage of medicines and books. This was a house that a prominent and presumably prosperous citizen of the community might build. This house is representative of the largest and best appointed of the vernacular Victorian Gothic Revival farm houses constructed in Kent County during the last quarter of the nineteenth century that are 2-1/2 stories tall, five bays wide with centural gable, and have a perpendicular rear wing. The plan was virtually standard by the 1880s, really the peak of building of this plan, with a secondary hall at the wing's main entry, with access to pantry, secondary stair, one room of the main section, and one wing room. These houses had three-part bay-windows (on one story or two), very large main-entry architraves, almost floor-to-ceiling first-story facade windows that opened onto the front porch with walk-through access possible, and often a secondary facade, also with central gable. Other examples are Swan Meadow (K-587), Ivingo (K-565), Boxwood Place (K-615), Hickory Ridge (K-639), and the Georgetown River House (K-580). To the west on Cypress Street there are two more very similar houses.

The main section of the Puposzar House is about 38 feet wide by 18 feet deep. The wing is about 16 feet wide by 34 feet deep. The rear wing is two storeys tall, with roof lower than that of the main section. The gable roofs of both sections are quite steep, in keeping with the Victorian Gothic Revival Style.

Both sections are covered with horizontal, lapped weatherboard, with c. 5" exposure. There are single cornerboards, applied to the long walls. In the gable ends (except the wing's rear gable) and the central gable are hexagonal-exposure wood shingles, simply lapped over the top course of weatherboard, without moldings at the change of materials.

Both sections are built over crawl spaces. The foundation is brick that has been parged.

The main-section chimneys are interior ones, a change from earlier houses built in this basic style and plan in which they were in the end walls, which would, of course, have made end bay-windows impossible. They rise through the roof ridge from the room on each side of the hall, adjacent to the hall walls. They are made of brick that has been completely parged. Decorative elements are not readily detectable. They appear to have a base, a one-course band, and a cap of one or two courses. There are two wing chimneys that rise from within the rear wall of each wing room, at the center. They too are of parged brick. Probably intended for stoves rather than open fires, they are shorted and less decorated, probably originally. They have a base and band or cap.

Asphalt shingles cover the roof of the main section. The wing is covered with corrugated metal sheets over wood shingles. The edges of main section roof and wing roof are finished in the same manner. The cornice is not boxed, but there is a soffit on the undersides of the overhanging rafter ends. The overhang on all sides is about 14-16". There is a crown molding of a large cyma recta with fillets. There is a small bed molding that may be an ogee-and-bevel set on a deep frieze that is on both the sides and ends of the building (c. 10-12" deep). The rafter ends are square-cut. Old gutters hang from roof surface straps.

The main entry is in the center of the north, main facade. The trim used on it is the same as used on the windows. The architrave is large: 5'-10" wide by 9'-1" tall. There are three-light sidelights with colored, etched glass that appears very dark from the exterior. Below the sidelights is a single, narrow, recessed panel with only a 7/8" wide vertical, slightly raised-panel strip in it. There is bold composite bolection panel molding that is about 2" to 2-1/4" wide. The transom has three lights, with colored etched glass. The composite transom bar is 4-1/2" deep overall and includes a large, modified string-of-beads molding as a bed. The door is unusually complex. It has 2-over-2 plain recessed panels, with the upper pair much the taller, with a different composite, bold bolection molding than used on the sidelight panels. The upper panels also have bold applied moldings above and below them, in the

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upper rail and in the deep lock rail. Plain, broad pilasters divide the door from the sidelights. The door hardware appears to be original, with a handsome cast brass knob and backplate. There is also a cast, double keyhole escutcheon below, with a pivoting cover over the lower lock; overall the measurement is 4-3/8" tall. A brown aluminum storm-screen door is in place.

Windows are double-hung. Those of the first-storey main facade, opening onto the front porch, have 2-over-4 lights, with broad vertical muntins. Elsewhere most windows have 2-over-2 sash. The upper sash of the central gable is triangularly pointed, and so is that of the gable window at each end. These gable windows are framed in such a way that the rectangular lower sash is allowed to be raised fully into the wall despite the pointed upper sash. The side windows in the two-storey bay window have 1-over-1 sash. The sills are bold (2-3/4"). The shutters on the second storey have fixed louvers above movable louvers. The first storey main-section shutters are like those of the wing--fixed louvers over a single panel.

The wing has no dormers. The main section has one in the north roof slope on each side of the central gable. There are two rear main-section dormers, a larger one in the center to light the stair to the third storey, and a regular-sized one in the west third of the roof. The dormers are gable-roofed with broadly overhanging sides and ends. The cornice is not boxed but closed on the undersides of the rafter tails. The roofs are covered with asphalt shingles. The crown molding is a large cyma with fillets. There is no bed molding on the gable end. Cheeks are of square-butt shingles. The tympanum over the 2-over-2 double-hung window is covered with hexagonal-exposure wood shingles. The sill is bold and plain, and there are plain, wide pilasters. There appears to be no window head trim. Brown aluminum storm windows-screens are in place. The rear stair dormer is the only dormer with shutters. They have fixed louvers over movable louvers. This dormer is taller, wider, and deeper and is set lower in the roof so that its face is almost flush with the main-section second-storey wall. It is almost a wall dormer. It has rectangular 2-over-2 sash, not pointed upper sash. It has head trim in the manner of the regular first and second storey windows. The pilasters are continuous with the gable's cornice frieze, with a small bed on it.

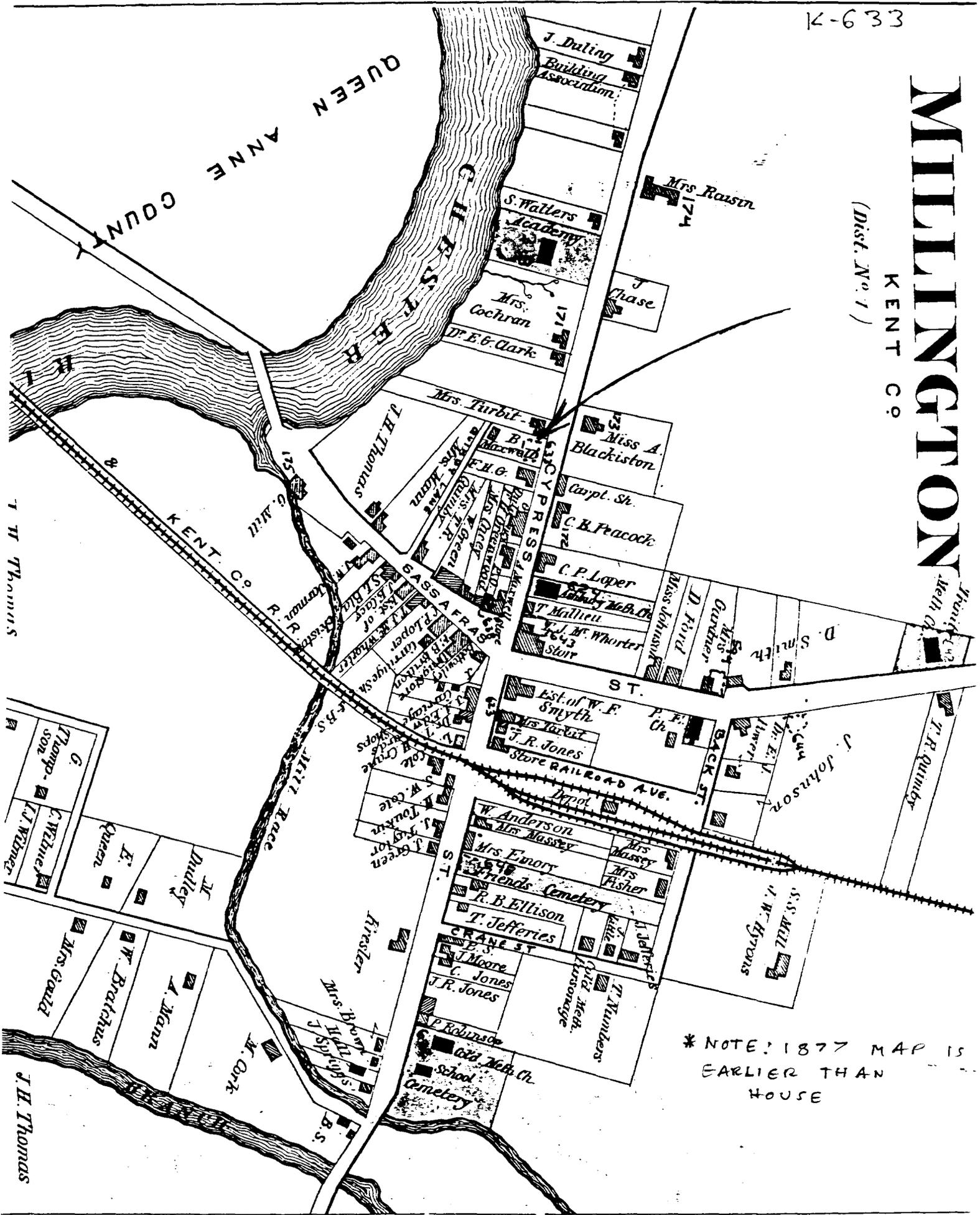
The two-storey bay windows at the east end are three-part. They have interior louvered shutters. The opening on the interior is shaped (plastered) and bracketed, similar to that at the Georgetown River House, K-580.

The stair is dog-leg and open string, with handsome oak balusters. There is a window at the landing between first and second storeys, as well as a step up to a door to the rear wing. The newel is large and has an octagonal main shaft. Mantels are catalogue mantels of marbled slate. In the kitchen there is a vertical-board-door cupboard, with upper and lower shelves and a counter work area inbetween that is located between the chimney and the west wall on the south gable end. Measurements are amazingly similar to those of modern kitchen cabinets.

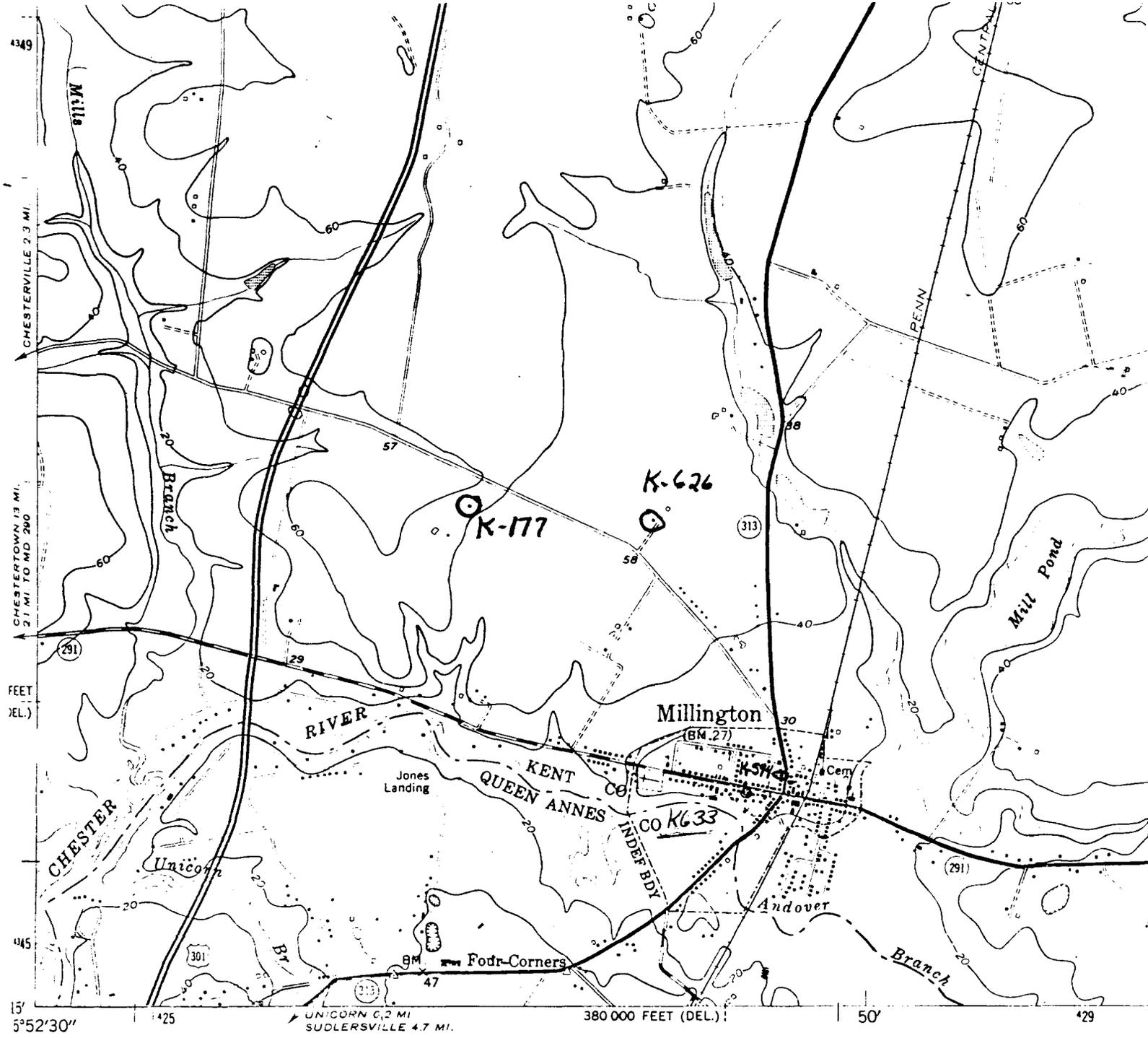
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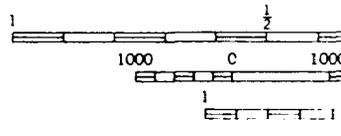
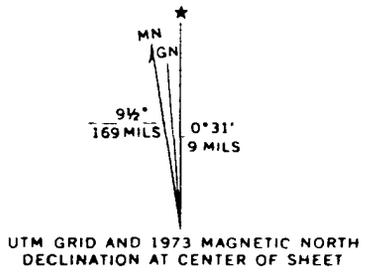
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* NOTE: 1877 MAP IS EARLIER THAN HOUSE



Mapped by the Army Map Service
 Edited and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS and USC&GS
 Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs taken 1942. Topography by plane-table surveys 1944
 Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1953
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grids based on Maryland and Delaware coordinate systems
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18, shown in blue
 Features shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey from aerial photographs taken 1973. This information not field checked



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MILLINGTON QUADRANGLE



K-633

Piposzar House

Cypress St., Millington

M. Q. Fallaw - 4/12/86

View to southwest

K-633 - 19A



K-633

Piposzar House

Cypress St., Millington

M. Q. Fallaw - 4/12/86

View to north

K-633-22A