

CAPSULE SUMMARY
FOR
FRANK WILSON HOUSE/LINK FARM
2535 LINK ROAD, EDNOR

Montgomery County Survey Prefix & Site Number: M-15/46

Approximate Building Date: circa 1865 & 1894

Town or Vicinity in which Resource is Located: Ednor

Access: Private

The Frank Wilson/Link Farm property is a remarkably intact late 19th century farmstead located on a rolling hillside overlooking the Patuxent River. The farmstead is accessed by a winding one-lane rural road and comprises a ca. 1894 gable front and wing Queen Anne style main house and 8 period outbuildings. The resource is one of Eastern Montgomery County's most significant late 19th century farmsteads. It includes both the buildings designed for living and those that made up the architecture of agriculture for a general farm in the period 1894-1944. The farmhouse, barn, and outbuildings with the adjoining yards, garden and roadway, are intact and reflect the county's rural lifestyle in the late 19th century and the functional importance of outbuildings needed for self-supporting domestic and farm-related chores in this period. Although the Wilson House/Link Farm has had minor alterations and additions, it retains a high degree of integrity and represents a distinctive example of a once common farmhouse complex.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Frank Wilson Houseand/or common Clifton Link, Sr. House

2. Location

street & number 2535 Link Road not for publicationcity, town Silver Spring vicinity of congressional district 8state MD county Montgomery

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Ruth Linkstreet & number 2535 Link Road telephone no.:city, town Silver Spring state and zip code MD 20904

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse liber 548street & number 51 Monroe Street folio 338city, town Rockville state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Montgomery County Locational Atlas of Historic Sitesdate 1976 federal state county localpository for survey records M-NCPPCcity, town Silver Spring state MD

7. Description

Survey No. M-15-46

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 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 Frank Wilson property is a remarkably intact late nineteenth century farmstead located on a rolling hillside overlooking the Patuxent River (Rocky Gorge Reservoir). The farmstead is accessed by a winding one-lane rural road (Link Road) and comprises a ca. 1894 gable front and wing Queen Anne style main house and eight period outbuildings.

Main House

The Wilson House is a two-story frame gable front and wing building with clapboard walls and a moderate pitched roof covered by metal shingles. The two-story building has a general overall L-plan with a gable and wing core built ca. 1894 with a rear ell that was originally a double-pen log house constructed ca. 1865. The principle elevation of the house faces southwest overlooking a gentle sloping yard and the curvilinear drive that becomes Link Road.

The front of the building has a three-bay facade with a symmetrical rank of two-over-two windows on the second story. The first level has a simple side entry with spindlework screen door and two-over-two window. A one story hipped roofed, L-shaped porch, supported by simple posts ornamented with scrollwork brackets, wraps around the building's south and west elevations. A projecting oriel window with three fixed six pane windows has been added to a porch infill on the main facade's first level, which also has a simple entry off the porch.

The remaining facades of the house also have two-over-two sash windows placed in largely symmetrical ranks throughout the building with a few one-over-one and six-over-six windows added to the one story shed addition to the rear and the irregularly shaped aluminum sided one and two story extensions on the east facade. Smaller square windows light the attic level at each gable end.

[See site map for location and layout of the farmhouse and outbuildings].

Chicken Coop

South of the main house is a one story, rectangular board and batten chicken house with a shed roof (ca. 1894).

(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 ca. 1894 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

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.

Summary: The Frank Wilson property is one of Eastern Montgomery County's most significant late nineteenth century farmsteads. It comprises both the buildings designed for living and those that made up the architecture of agriculture for a general farm in the period 1894-1944. The farmhouse, barn, and outbuildings with the adjoining yards, garden and roadway, the center of farm life, are intact at the Wilson property and reflect the county's rural lifeways in the late nineteenth century and the functional importance of outbuildings and appendages needed for self-supporting domestic and farm-related chores in this period. Although the Wilson House has had minor alterations and additions, it retains a high degree of integrity of location, setting, form, plan, and materials and represents a distinctive example of a once common farmhouse complex in eastern Montgomery County.

A house was probably constructed on the farm around 1837 by Frank Wilson who settled along the Patuxent River at this time. Family tradition holds that this building was erected on what is now the adjacent Bonifant farm and was demolished at sometime in the mid-nineteenth century. The rear ell of the existing house is a double pen log structure erected by Wilson at sometime prior to 1865. This structure was incorporated into an ca. 1894 remodeling and addition of a gable front and wing frame house.¹

As a measure of their ambition and growing prosperity by the late nineteenth century, the Wilsons erected a Queen Anne gable front and wing house that subsumed the old log farmhouse. Machine-worked

(Continued)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. M.15-46

See Attached Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 2

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title William Bushong

organization M-NCPPC date June 1994

street & number 8787 Georgia Avenue telephone (301) 495-4570

city or town Silver Spring state MD

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

Smokehouse

Just to the northwest of the main house is a one-story gable end rectangular board and batten smokehouse (ca. 1894).

Garage/Shed

A gable end rectangular garage/shed with a shed roof addition was erected in the 1920s. It is located just to the northwest of the smokehouse.

Corncrib

This corncrib (ca. 1894) is a gable end rectangular structure covered by a metal roof and sided with slats spaced for ventilation. A hinged gable end door allowed entrance to the crib.

Wagon Shed

A wide one story frame wagon shed (ca. 1894) with three bays and a side wheat bin is located to the southwest of the house. The board and batten structure has a raised tin shed roof with a pent roof built over the wagon bays to create loft space to store implements and tack.

Barn

A gable end single crib barn (ca. 1894) with one side bay used as wagon or harness shed is located to south of main house. The structure has a hand hewn log frame, board and batten siding and a raised tin roof.

Cow Shed

A deteriorated cowshed (ca. 1894) is located just south of the barn. The structure is crude lumber nailed to a framework of sapling poles covered with a raised tin shed roof.

Pigpen

A deteriorated pigpen (ca. 1894) is located just to the west of the barn. The structure is crude lumber nailed to a framework of sapling poles covered with a raised tin shed roof.

Continuation Sheet
M: 15-46 - Frank Wilson House/Clifton Link, Sr. House
Section 8: SIGNIFICANCE
Page 8.1

balloon framing, window sash, flooring and joinery are evident reflecting the increasing abundance and widespread distribution of building materials and mechanization of the building process in the county by this time.²

The Wilson family owned large farms in both Montgomery and Howard counties and were prominent in the county's social and economic affairs. During the twentieth century the ca. 1894 Frank Wilson house became a "starter" home for the family's young couples or was leased to tenants. Ruth and Clifton Link, the current owners of the farmhouse and immediate surrounding acreage, are the descendants of the Frank Wilson. They recalled that the property during the first half of the twentieth century was a general farming operation that produced crops of corn, potatoes, hay, wheat and had a few dairy cows. When the Washington Sanitary Suburban Commission began to acquire land for the preservation of the watershed for its Patuxent River Filtration Plant in the 1940s, the agency acquired over one hundred and forty acres of the farm that fronted the river. After this reduction in acreage Clifton Link, Sr. converted the property into a truck farm and raised turkeys, chickens, and guinea hens.³

Continuation Sheet
M: 15-46 - Frank Wilson House/Clifton Link, Sr. House

Preservation Planning Data:

- a) Geographic Organization: Piedmont
- b) Chronological/Development Periods:
Agricultural-Industrial
Transition - A. D. 1815-1870, Industrial/Urban
Dominance, 1870-1930
- c) Historic Period Themes: Architecture
- d) Resource Type: Farmhouse

Endnotes

- 1 Field interview by William Bushong with Ruth Link, May 1994.
- 2 For a general discussion of the impact of industrial expansion and technology on rural life and agricultural practices in the county at this time, see Ray Eldon Hiebert and Richard K. MacMaster. **A Grateful Remembrance: the Story of Montgomery County, Maryland.** (Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Government and the Montgomery County Historical Society, 1976), 200-201 and 243-244.
- 3 Interview of Mike Dwyer and Nancy Brown with Ruth and Clifton Link, October 5, 1988. Typescript on File at M-NCPPC.

Continuation Sheet

M: 15-46 - Frank Wilson House/Clifton Link, Sr. House

Section 9: MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Page 9.1

Unpublished Sources

Interview with Ruth and Clifton Link, October 5, 1988. Typescript on File. M-NCPPC, Silver Spring, MD.

Owens, Christopher. Frank Wilson House Survey Form, MHT, 1973.

Published Sources

Hiebert, Ray Eldon and Richard K. MacMaster. **A Grateful Remembrance: the Story of Montgomery County, Maryland.** Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Government and the Montgomery County Historical Society, 1976.

Hopkins, G.M. **Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington Including the County of Montgomery Maryland.** Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, 1879. (Library of Congress; Rockville Public Library)

Martenet, Simon J. **Martenet and Bond's Map of Montgomery County.** Baltimore: Simon J. Martenet, 1865. (Library of Congress)

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

160272.5604

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

1. NAME				
COMMON:				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Frank Wilson House				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: 2535 Link Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Ednor				
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Montgomery	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
				ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input checked="" 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 _____ _____
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: C.C. and L.B. Link				
STREET AND NUMBER: 2535 Link Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Ednor			STATE: Maryland	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Montgomery County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: None				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" 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 house is a 2-1/2 story L-shaped farm house with a porch running between the legs of the "L" and along the west facade. The porch posts are chamfered and are joined to the boxed cornice with ornamented brackets. The screen doors are in the stick style..

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

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/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On Martinet and Bond's map of Montgomery County (1865),
house is shown as Frank Wilson House.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Blank area for Major Bibliographical References.

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:

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

STATE:	COUNTY:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: M-NCPPC DATE: 1/23/73

STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring STATE: Maryland

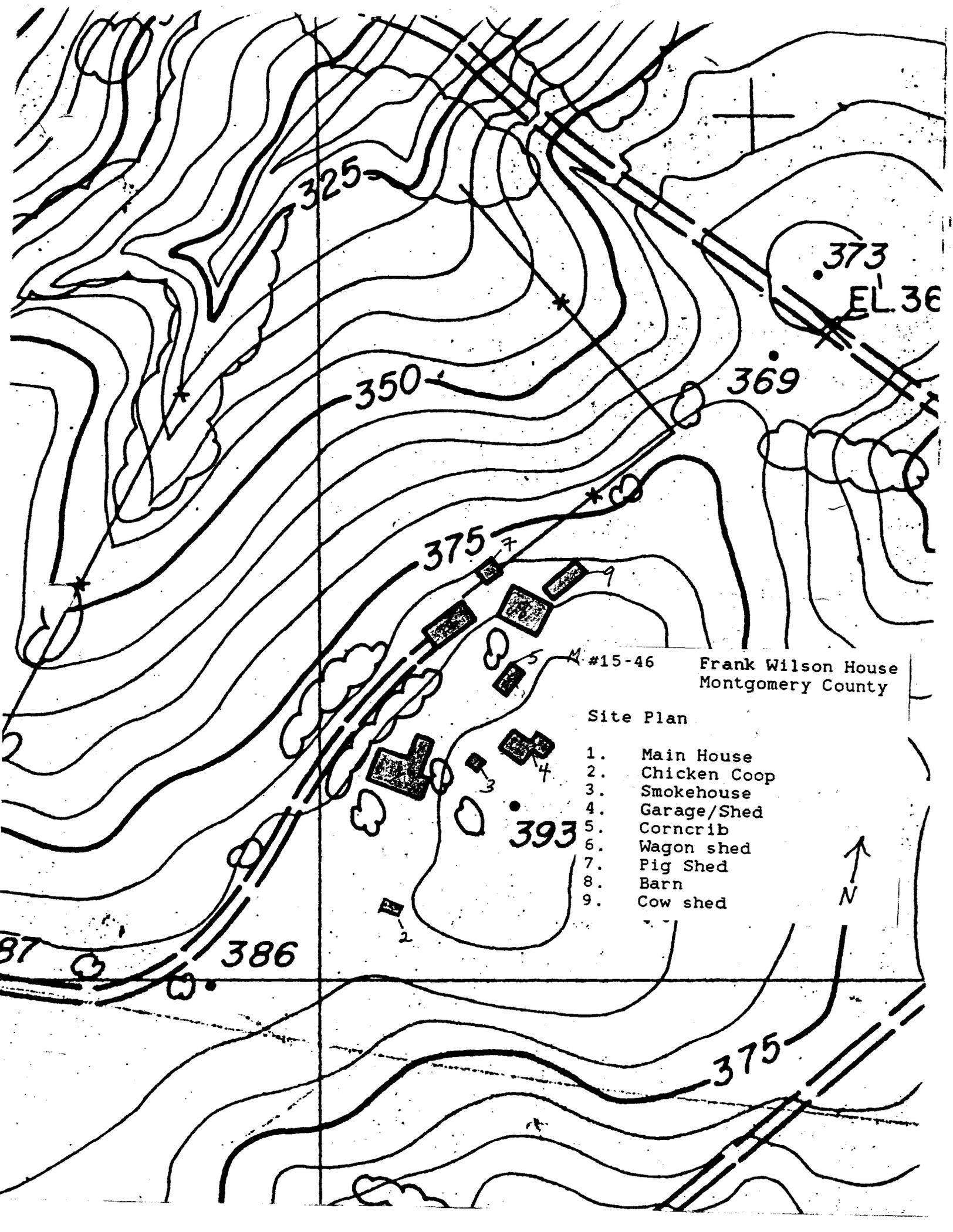
12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National State Local

Signature _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



373
EL. 36

325

350

369

375

R. #15-46
Frank Wilson House
Montgomery County

Site Plan

- 1. Main House
- 2. Chicken Coop
- 3. Smokehouse
- 4. Garage/Shed
- 5. Corncrib
- 6. Wagon shed
- 7. Pig Shed
- 8. Barn
- 9. Cow shed

393



386

375



M-
15-46, FRANK WILSON HOUSE

MONT CO, MD

MAY 1994, WM. BUSHONG

VIEW NW

NEG. : MD SHPO

1 OF 8



M-
15-46, FRANK WILSON HOUSE

MONT CO, MD.

MAY 1994, W.M. RUSHONG

BARN

VIEW NORTH

NEG: MD SHPO

2 OF 8



M-
15-46, FRANK Wilson House
Mont Co, MD

MAY 1994, Wm. Bushing

CORN CRIS

VIEW SE

NEG. : MD SHPO

7 OF 8



^{Mr}
15-46, FRANK WILSON HOUSE
MONT CO, MD

MAY 1994, WM. BUSHONG

COW SHED

VIEW NORTHEAST

NEG. : MD SHPO

8 OF 8



15^{M-}-46, FRANK WILSON HOUSE

MONT CO, MD

MAY 1994, WM. BUSHONG

SMOKE HOUSE

VIEW SW

NEG.: MD SHPO

5 OF 8



M-
15-46 FRANK WILSON HOUSE
MONT CO, MD
MAY 1994, WM. BUSHONG

GARAGE / SHED

VIEW SW

NEG. : MD SHPO

6 OF 8



15^{M-}-46 FRANK WILSON HOUSE

MONT CO, MD

MAY 1994, Wm. BUSBY

WAGON SHED

VIEW NE

NEG. : MD SHPO

30F 8



M-
15-46 FRANK WILSON HOUSE

Mont Co, MD

MAY 1994, W.M. BUSHOW

VIEW SE

NEG. : MD SHPO

4 OF 8



#15-46

NAME LINK HOUSE

LOCATION 2535 LINK Rd EDNOR, Md.

FACADE S.E.

PHOTO TAKEN 1/17/73 M.DWYER