

Mont. 17-51-6

c. 1884

William H. Morsey House (Site)

Poolesville Vicinity, Jerusalem Community

Private

This one and a half story frame house was once the home of a Black landowning family, among the founders of the Jerusalem community. Containing two rooms down and two up and heated by wood stoves, it stood in strong contrast to the small log houses that had been commonplace in the antebellum era for slaves and free Blacks.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Magi #
M-17-51-6

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME
 HISTORIC William H. Dorsey House (*SITE*)
 AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION
 STREET & NUMBER North side of (new) Jerusalem Church Rd.
 CITY, TOWN Poolesville VICINITY OF Jerusalem 3 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
 STATE 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<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
	No	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY
 NAME Truman and Gladys Thomas Telephone #: 301-972-8019
 STREET & NUMBER 18834 JERUSALEM CHURCH RD.
 CITY, TOWN POOLESVILLE VICINITY OF STATE, zip code MD.

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
 COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Registry of Deeds Liber #: 1946 Property Map: CU 31, P. 880
 STREET & NUMBER County Courthouse Folio #: 368 P. 882
 CITY, TOWN Rockville STATE Md.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
 TITLE None
 DATE
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
 CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

M.17-51-6

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This frame house stood on the west side of the old Jerusalem Church Rd., which is now an abandoned lane. The new road circle curves to the south of this property. The house faced the old road. (east)

The house was a small, simply designed, one and a half story frame dwelling. Its facade contained a front door centrally located, and a window with two over two lights in a double hung sash to the south. The interior consisted of two rooms down and two up. The south room was the kitchen, dining room, and family room, while the north room was the sitting room and bedroom for the parents. There was a door in the south gable end. A stove pipe ascended through the center of the house, and served a wood cook stove in the kitchen, and a smaller heat stove in the room opposite. The rear length of the downstairs had two windows. There were two rooms upstairs, each having a window in the gable end.

The frame of the house was sheathed with board and batten, unlike most of the frame houses in the vicinity, on which weatherboards were used.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

M:17-51-6

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)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

Black History

SPECIFIC DATES *c. 1884* BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Deeds show that William H. Dorsey purchased this tract (2 acres) from Leonidas Jones in 1884 (EBP 34/2). Jones himself had purchased the land from John A. Chiswell, and George and Leah Chiswell in 1873. At this time in research, the identity of Leonidas Jones is not known. In the deed 1416/131, the heirs of William H. Dorsey conveyed the land to Rosa Dorsey, one of the daughters of William H. Dorsey.

This house was probably built by William H. Dorsey at the time of purchase of the property in 1884. Since the house no longer stands, no investigation is possible and it is possible that the house was built earlier.

According to all Jerusalem informants, the house was considered to be an old dwelling so it is not of 20th century construction. Its one and a half story height and its two room plan are similar to those of the traditional log houses in this region. Since it was not as large and stylish in design as the Moore house on the adjacent tract, it is a half way point between the traditional log houses and the more progressive, two story frame dwellings.

As part of this survey, the photograph of Annie V. Hamilton Dorsey, the wife of William H. Dorsey was copied. It is in the possession of Charles Moore, her grandson. Annie Dorsey was born in 1829, according to the 1900 U.S. census for Montgomery County (see attached copy). This is therefore a photograph of one of the oldest of the founders of the Jerusalem community, and a rare and valuable picture for the history of the community and of Montgomery County.

According to Charles Moore, his grandmother was a Hamilton, but he did not know if his mother was kin to Wallace and Dennis Hamilton, who were also founders of the Jerusalem community. They were born in 1843 and 1842 respectively, and were first cousins, so it is well possible that Annie Hamilton Dorsey was a sister of one of them. In all likelihood, they were related in some way, and this kinship strengthened the bonds of the Jerusalem community.

William A. Dorsey was born in 1826, according to the U.S. census of 1900, therefore he was among the oldest of the Jerusalem founders.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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- 1) Oral interviews with Cora and William Moore, and Joe Harper, Jerusalem community, October 1978, by George McDaniel

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

George W. McDaniel, Surveyor

Wesley Stubbs, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

Sept. 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

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

MAP 4

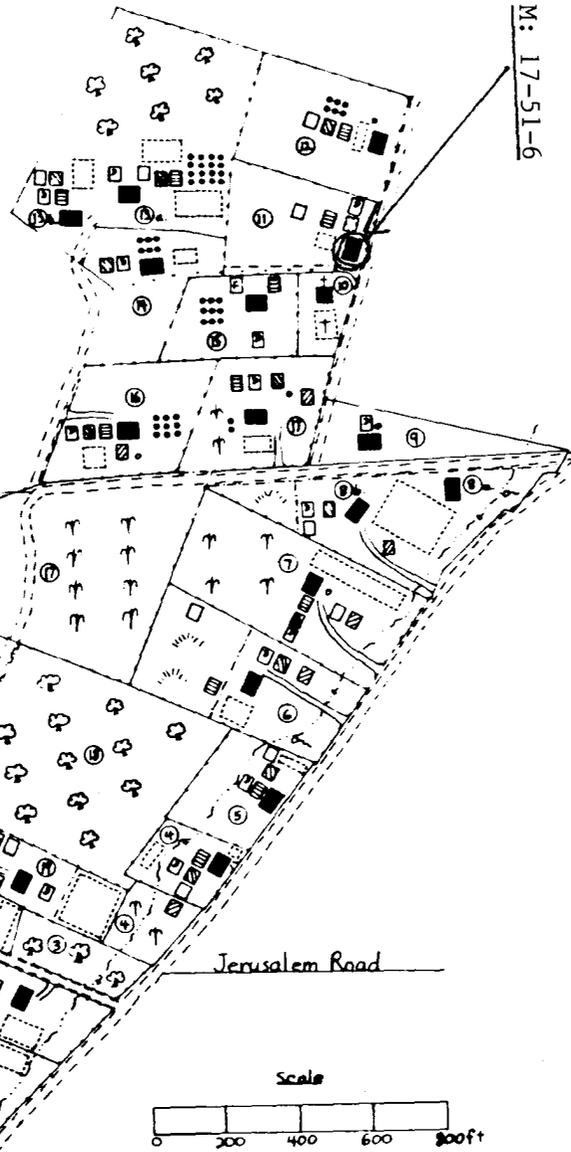
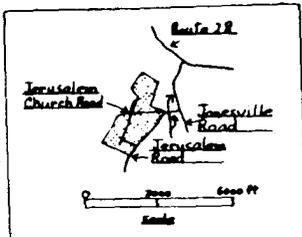
JERUSALEM COMMUNITY,
c. 1900-1925

SOURCE
Steven Doolittle
Sugarloaf Regional Trails

Oral Informants
Joshua Hamilton
Evelyn Harper
Joseph Harper
Howard Lyles
Ora Lyles
Charles Moore
Margaret Moore
William Moore
Isabel Owens
George Robinson
Francis Thompson

Jerusalem Church Road

Jerusalem Road



M: 17-51-6

Key

CHURCH	
CEMETERY	
LODGE	
COMMUNITY CENTER	
STORE	
POST OFFICE	
SCHOOL	
DWELLING	
PRIVY	
STABLE	
MEAT HOUSE	
HEN HOUSE	
MILK HOUSE	
CORN/FEED HOUSE	
PIG PEN	
GARDEN	
PASTURE	
CORNFIELD	
HAY FIELD	
ORCHARD	
FOREST	
THICKET	
WELL	
SPRING	
STREAM	
POND	
PARCEL BOUNDARY	
FENCED PARCEL BDY.	
FENCE	
DIRT ROAD	
LANE	
PATH	
STREAM FLOW	

1. WILLIAM ROBINSON ESTD.	3.22 AC.
2. SARAH JOHNSON ESTD.	2.00 AC.
3. MILTON HARPER ESTD.	1.00 AC.
4. WILLIAM LYLES ESTD.	2.00 AC.
5. SUSAN PROCTOR ESTD.	1.00 AC.
6. FRANK DORSEY ESTD.	2.90 AC.
7. GEORGE DORSEY ESTD.	4.75 AC.
8a. 1st CLARKE HOME (log)	4.40 AC.
b. 2nd CLARKE HOME (frame)	
9. JERUSALEM PARSONAGE	1.50 AC.
10. JERUSALEM CHURCH	0.50 AC.
11. WILLIAM DORSEY ESTD.	2.00 AC.
12. JAMES DORSEY ESTD.	3.00 AC.
13a. WILLIAM MOORE ESTD.	7.00 AC.
b. HARTLEY MOORE ESTD.	
14. DAVID COPELAND ESTD.	2.00 AC.
15. ROBERT WILLIAMS ESTD.	3.75 AC.
16. WALLACE HAMILTON ESTD.	2.50 AC.
17. DENNIS HAMILTON ESTD.	9.66 AC.
18. CHARLES McPHERSON ESTD.	11.00 AC.
19. LIZZIE GRIMES ESTD.	4.00 AC.
20. GEORGE LYLES ESTD.	3.00 AC.
21. JOHN HARPER ESTD.	1.00 AC.
22. JOHN HALLMAN ESTD.	10.00 AC.

DWELLINGS AND OUTBUILDINGS NOT DRAWN TO SCALE
HSTD. = HOMESTEAD PROP. = PROPERTY



M: 17-51-6
William H. Dorsey House, site
Seneca 15' Quad, 1908, Reprinted
1925

BALTIMORE

Barnesville

Slidell

Spinks Ferry
Monocacy

Barnesville Sta
Selman

Beallsville

Martinsburg

Poolesville

Dawsonville

Sugarland

EDWARDS FERRY

POTOMAC RIVER
MARTINAND RIVER
LOUDOUN CO
VIRGINIA

FREDERICK CO
MONTGOMERY CO

MONOCACY RIVER

BUILDERS
METHODIST

HILLSBELL BR

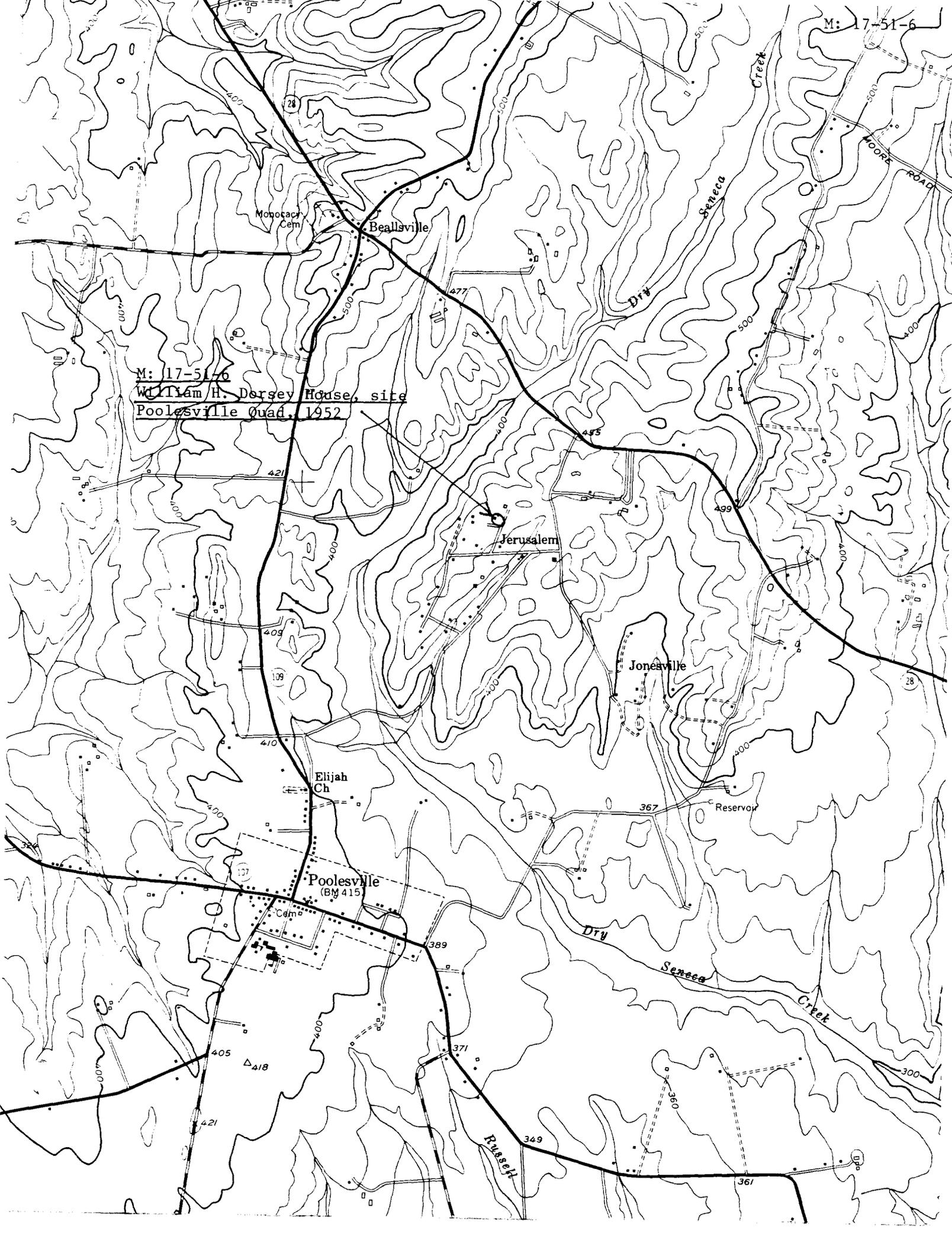
COCKIN BR
THANKS BR

THANKS BR

WILSONS BR

THANKS BR

M: 17-51-6
William H. Dorsey House, site
Poolesville Quad, 1952



Monocacy Cem

Beallsville

Jerusalem

Jonesville

Elijah Ch

Poolesville
(BM 415)

Reservoir

Cem

Russell

361

28

28

421

409

410

137

405

421

Δ 418

389

371

349

477

Dry

500

445

499

400

367

300

Seneca

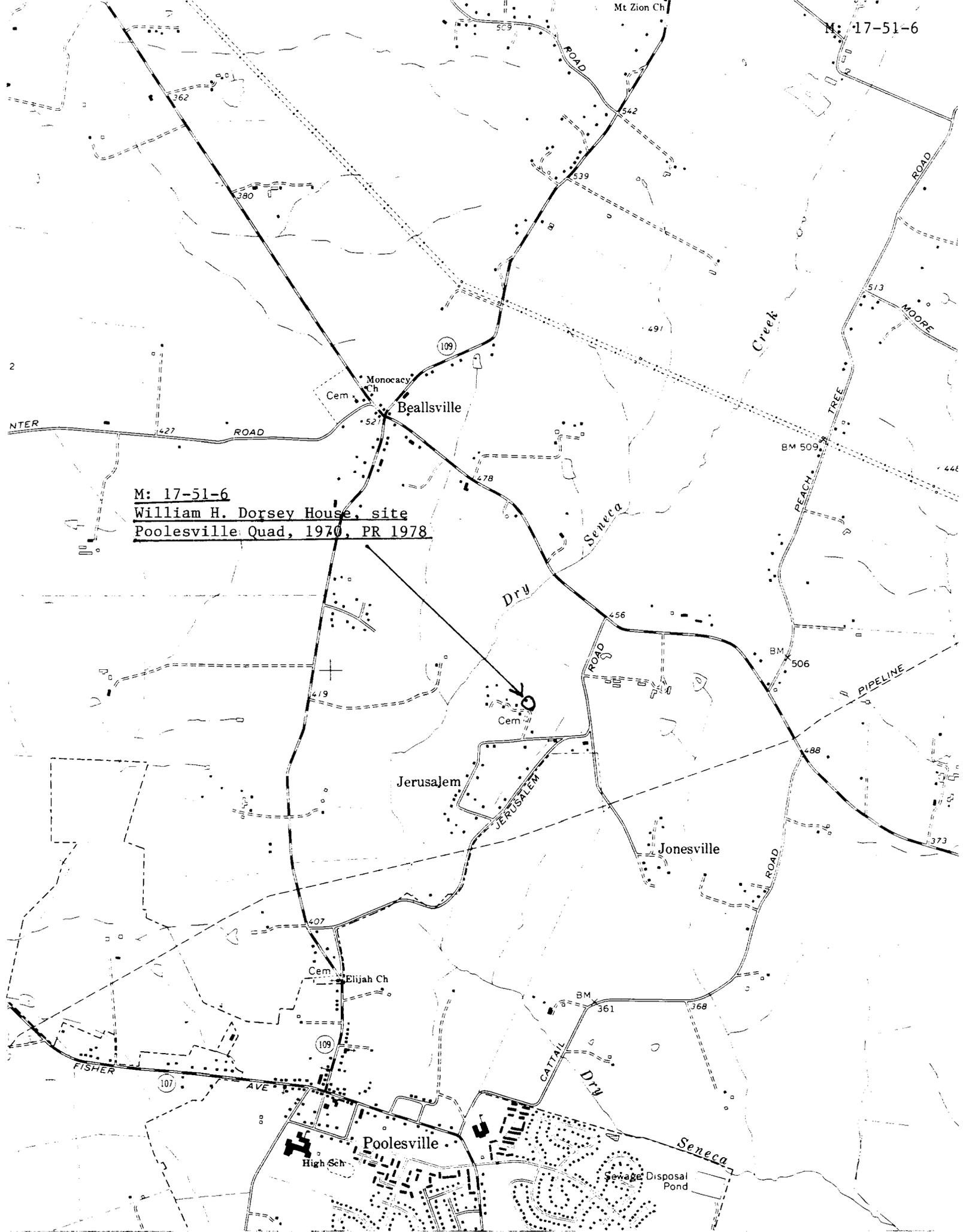
Creek

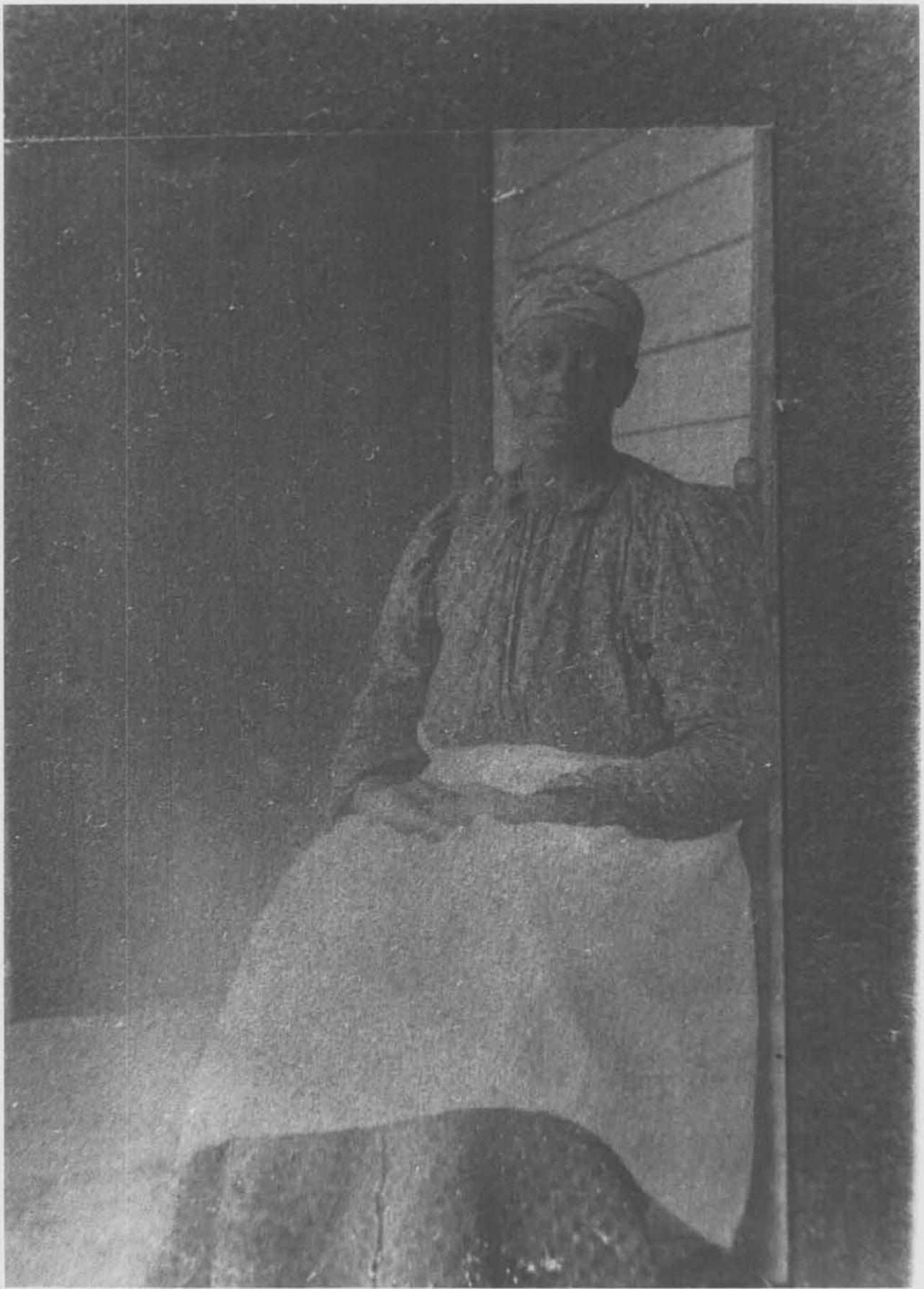
MOORE ROAD

Seneca

Creek

M: 17-51-6
William H. Dorsey House, site
Poolesville Quad, 1970, PR 1978





copy of photo of
Annie ^{Hamilton} Henrietta Darsey
m-17-51-6~~9~~

Jerusalem

10/78

Anne Lewis

In possession of Charles Moore,
Jerusalem, m-17-51-24.

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