

Mont. 17-51-9

Dennis Hamilton House (Log)

Foolesville vicinity, Jerusalem community

Private

c. 1879

This one and a half story log house was the home of a Black landowning family. Its two room up and two down floor plan and log construction reflected the marginal position of this small landowning family between the tenant families and larger landowning families, who tended to live in frame houses. Three ongoing generations of Hamilton families have lived in this house until it was abandoned in the late 1960's. This is one of the few log houses of Black families that has survived in upper western Montgomery County.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME
 HISTORIC Dennis Hamilton House
 AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION
 STREET & NUMBER North side of Jerusalem Church Rd.
 CITY, TOWN Poolesville CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 3
 STATE Md. COUNTY Montgomery
 VICINITY OF (Jerusalem community)

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input 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 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
	<u>No</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY Abandoned
 NAME Haydee England and Charles Zamora Telephone #: Not Listed
 STREET & NUMBER 9501 Singleton Dr.
 CITY, TOWN Behhesda STATE, zip code Md., 20034
 VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION Liber #: 4511 Property Map:
Folio #: 409 CT 33 P. 16
 COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Registry of Deeds
 STREET & NUMBER Coun Courthouse
 CITY, TOWN Rockville STATE Md.

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

7 DESCRIPTION

M.17-51-9

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"/> MOVED	DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED			
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This log house is now abandoned and in ruinous condition. Though its four walls still stand, its roof has collapsed completely, and the floor given way above the cellar. Nonetheless, the house is important since it is one of only two log houses that remain in the Jerusalem community.

The house was built on the north side of the Jerusalem Church Road. The area in front of the house down to the road was cleared land, but now grown up in underbrush and trees. The front of the house is completely overgrown with vines, making photography of that side impossible.

Only the rear length was sufficiently visible to be photographed. The following description of the site as it ~~was~~ appeared during occupancy, was provided by the oral informant, William Moore, who was raised in the Jerusalem community and whose grandparents, William and Maria Moore, were among the founders.

The facade of this one and a half story log house was the southern length. It contained three bays, a door centrally located, flanked by two windows with 6 over 6 lights in a double hung sash. The front entrance was sheltered by a shed porch, about 10' long and 8' wide. The rear length contained a door opposite the front one, and a window in the east room. The west room had only the front window. Neither gable end had windows. The pine logs were exposed, not covered with siding, and were solidly chinked with a miscellancy of materials, including red sandstone chips, probably from the Seneca quarry. The logs were V-notched at the corners. There was no use of pegging or posts to reinforce the walls, as was common in southern Maryland.

The interior contained two rooms down and two up. The front door opened directly into the east room, which was the kitchen. Along the east gable end ascended a straight flight of stairs, which were enclosed with a panel of tongue and groove siding. Underneath the back of the stairs was a closet, as was common in houses of this type. A brick stove flue ascended through the middle of the house with openings into all four rooms for stove pipes, indicating that all the rooms were heated by stoves. According to William Moore, the west room downstairs was the living room, more formal dining room, and bedroom for the parents, a not unusual use of rooms. The two rooms upstairs were the bedrooms for the children. The partitions were narrow tongue and groove siding throughout the house.

In terms of construction, the walls of the house were hewn logs (hewn on the two lateral sides, only debarked on top and bottom). The joists and rafters were milled boards, 2" x 6"s and 2" x 4"s. Thus important parts of the structure were made of purchased materials, in addition to that hand-made by local builders. Inside, the walls were either exposed or covered with tongue and groove siding like the stairway,--William Moore does not remember for certain. Today the interior is sheathed with beaver board panels. The frames of the back door and window were attached

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY with machine cut nails, with machine cut heads (post 1830 type).

8 SIGNIFICANCE

M: 17-51-9

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 checked="" 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. 1879

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This land was first acquired by a Black family in 1879 when Henrietta M. Hamilton purchased this 2.5 acre tract from Leonidas Jones, the white landowner from whom most Blacks purchased their property in Jerusalem. (Deed EBP 19/410) This house was probably built shortly thereafter since it is only a small portion of a much larger tract of 25 acres that Jones purchased from George Chiswell in 1865 (Deed, EBP 2/232). The use of purchased materials such as the milled rafters and joists, the presence of wood burning stoves for all four rooms, and the four room plan indicate that it was not built earlier as a slave house. It was therefore built most likely in 1879 or in the early 1880's near the time of purchase by the Hamiltons.

This one and a half story pine log house is an example of the houses built and occupied by small landowning Black families in the late 1800's. According to the 1900 census, Dennis Hamilton was employed as a farm laborer and this house reflects his marginal position between that of a landless tenant and that of a larger landowning farmer in that the house was not grand or stylish, but it had definite improvements above the houses of landless farmers.

According to Ora Lyles, three ongoing generations of the Hamilton family have lived in this house up until the 1960's. Dennis and Henrietta Hamilton raised their family of four children in this house, in the late 1880's. Their son Wilson and his wife Martha then raised their family here in the 20th century. In more recent decades, their son Joshua Hamilton raised a large family of 8 to 10 children here, according to Mrs. Lyles.

Wilson Hamilton's daughter, Henrietta, was raised in this house and married Charles Moore. They now live in Henry Wims' house at The Pines which has also been surveyed.

For further history of this house, Henrietta H. Moore and her brother Joshua Hamilton in Jerusalem should be interviewed.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1) Oral interviews with William Moore , Howard Lyles, and Oral Lyles, Jerusalem community, September and October, 1978, by George McDaniel.

2) U.S. Census, 1900, Montgomery County, Md., Enumeration District
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY 52, p. 11A

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

Dennis Hamilton House
Physical Description
(continued)

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The house did not stand alone. Behind the house were a hen house (east) and well (east), and to the west a meat house, which still remains. To the northeast of the house was a stable and lot for the work horse. In front of the house was a vegetable garden. The produce of the garden was stored in the cellar below the east room. Its entrance was from the outside, the east gable end.

To the east this property was bordered by the old Jerusalem Church Road, and to the west by the farm of Dennis Hamilton's cousin, Wallace Hamilton, and later of Wallace's son, Horace Hamilton, according to William Moore.

NOTE: Due to condition of ruinous house only the back length could be photographed. The rest was overgrown and the interior was too dangerous to enter.

MAP 4

JERUSALEM COMMUNITY, c. 1900-1925

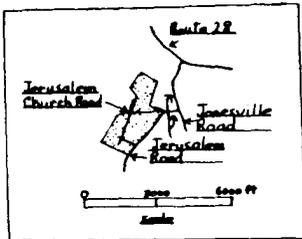
Source
Steven Doolittle
Sugarloaf Regional Trails

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

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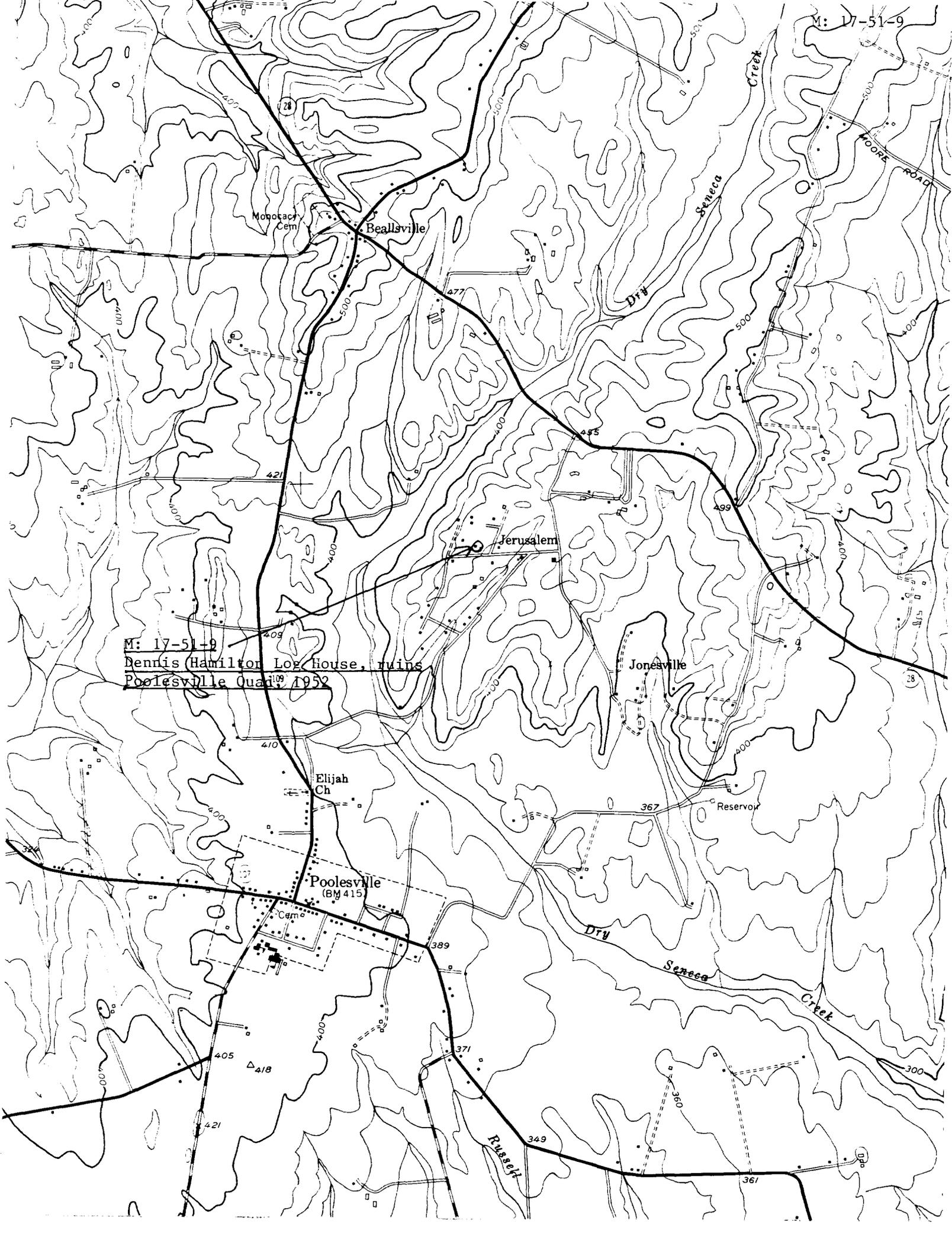
CHURCH	
CEMETERY	
LODGE	
COMMUNITY CENTER	
STORE	
POST OFFICE	
SCHOOL	
DWELLING	
PRIVY	
STABLE	
MEAT HOUSE	
HEN HOUSE	
MILK HOUSE	
CORN/FEED HOUSE	
PIG PEN	
GARDEN	
PASTURE	
CORNFIELD	
HAY FIELD	
ORCHARD	
FOREST	
THICKET	
WELL	
SPRING	
STREAM	
POND	
PARCEL BOUNDARY	
FENCED PARCEL BDY.	
FENCE	
DIRT ROAD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

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

Key

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 BALLMAN ESTD.	10.00 AC.

M: 17-51-9
Dennis Hamilton Log House, ruins
Poolesville Quad 1952



Monocacy Cem

Beallsville

Jerusalem

Jonesville

Elijah Ch

Poolesville
(BM 415)

Reservoir

Cem

Russell

Seneca Creek

Dry

Dry

Seneca

Creek

MOORE ROAD

M: 17-51-9
Dennis Hamilton log House, ruins
Ppolesville Quād, 1970, PR 1978





Dennis + Henrietta Hamilton House

M- 17-51-9

North length (rear)

Jerusalem community

Poolesville vicinity

Photograph © GWM

Roll - 1 # 28



Dennis & Annetta Hamilton House

M-17-51-9

View of East gable end ruins

Jerusalem community

Poolesville vicinity

Photograph: GWM

Roll-1 #27