

1. Name: Ruble House

2. Planning Area/Site Number:

3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 6  
G-16

Address: White Grounds Road, Boyds

5. Classification Summary

Category building  
Ownership private  
Public Acquisition NA  
Status unoccupied  
Accessible yes: unrestricted  
Present use other: none

Previous Survey Recording M-NCPPC  
Title and Date: Inventory of Historical Sites - 1976

Federal      State X County X Local     

6. Date:

7. Original Owner: Jacob Ruble

8. Apparent Condition

a. deteriorated b. altered c. original site

9. Description: This three bay by one bay, 1½ story, L-shaped house faces south-east. The house is log and has patterned asphalt siding. The southeast (front) porch has a half-hipped roof supported by three square wooden posts. The southeast door is missing. The house has one-over-one double hung windows. The gable roof has raised seam metal covering. There is a north-east exterior end chimney. The southeast front door opens into the northeast room. Northwest of this room is the kitchen and to the southwest is another room, probably used as a bedroom. A closed string winder stairway ascends along the northwest interior wall of the northeast room. The floors are random width. The walls and ceilings reveal a variety of coverings: wooden paneling, plaster over lath, and plasterboard. There are wooden paneled doors with simple door frames. Hand-hewn logs form the roof, but the logs are gradually disintegrating. Black tar paper has been nailed to the logs, and siding added. The outhouse is north of the house. It has a shed roof and faces west. The house is in poor condition and is set on an overgrown lot.

10. Significance: The house is typical of 19th century, rural architecture, built by people of moderate means. Although the owners were white, the house is located within a black neighborhood in Boyds.

Jacob Ruble, a German immigrant, bought 3.9 acres of land in 1851 from James Emory Williams, who subdivided his plot, "Gum Spring". Ruble's wife, Anna, was a practitioner of holistic medicine, using various herbs and roots to prepare medicines and salves. Anna Ruble was called to visit both the black and white communities, healing the sick.

In 1958, Ruble descendants deeded the property to Benjamin Franklin Ruble who sold it to Clarence M. Atwood in 1974. Atwood died intestate, and his heirs sold the property to the present owners in 1974.

Candy Reed - Arch. Description

11. Researcher and date researched: Christine R. Jaycox - 4/79

12. Compiler: Peg Coleman

13. Date Compiled: 6/79

14. Designation  
Approval     

15. Acreage: 3.87 acres

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 18-8/8

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Ruble Log House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

White Grounds Road

CITY, TOWN

Boys

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

11

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE          | <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE                   | <b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>                            | <b>ACCESSIBLE</b>                                     | <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL    | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION         |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> NO                           | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: none |

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Rockville Crushed Stone, Inc.

Telephone #: 762-9307

STREET & NUMBER

13900 Piney Meetinghouse Road

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20854

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 4583

Folio #: 149

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

MNCPPC Inventory of Historic Sites

DATE

1976

—FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland 20855

**7 DESCRIPTION**

M:18-8-8

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

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This three bay by one bay, one and a half story, L-shaped house faces southeast.

The house is log and has patterned asphalt siding. The southeast (front) porch has a half-hipped roof supported by three square wooden posts. The southeast door is missing. The house has one-over-one double-hung windows. The gable roof has raised seam metal covering. There is a northeast exterior end chimney.

The southeast front door opens into the northeast room. Northwest of this room is the kitchen and to the southwest is another room, probably used as a bedroom. A closed string winder stairway ascends along the northwest interior wall of the northeast room. The floors are random width. The walls and ceilings reveal a variety of coverings: wooden paneling, plaster over lath, and plasterboard. There are wooden paneled doors with simple door frames.

Hand-hewn logs form the roof, but the logs are gradually disintegrating. Black tar paper has been nailed to the logs, and siding added.

The outhouse is north of the house. It has a shed roof and faces west. The house is in poor condition and is set on an overgrown lot. A hand dug stone-faced well is behind the house. Stone steps to a cellar lead beneath the house from outside.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

| PERIOD  |  | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW       |   |   |  |                           |
|---|--|--|---|---|--|---------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC          | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  | <input checked="" 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                     |   |   |  | local history<br>folklore |

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| SPECIFIC DATES | BUILDER/ARCHITECT |
|----------------|-------------------|

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The house is typical of 19th century, rural architecture, built by people of moderate means. Although the owners were white, the house is located within a black neighborhood in the Boyds Historic District.

Jacob Ruble, a German immigrant, bought 3.9 acres of land in 1851 from James Emory Williams, who subdivided his plot, Gum Spring.<sup>1</sup> Ruble's wife, Anna, was a practitioner of holistic medicine, using various herbs and roots to prepare medicines and salves. Anna Ruble was called to visit both the black and white communities, healing the sick.<sup>2</sup> For example, the grand-nephew of James A. Boyd, James Boyd Maughlin, was treated by her for a severe facial burn, and recovered with no scar.<sup>3</sup> Another account concerns the son of the minister of St. Mark's Methodist Church who was seriously ill. Ruble treated the child daily, using her preparations, and the child recovered.<sup>4</sup>

In 1958, Ruble descendants deeded the property to Benjamin Franklin Ruble<sup>5</sup> who sold it to Clarence M. Atwood in 1974.<sup>6</sup> Atwood died intestate, and his heirs sold the property to the present owners in 1974.

FOOTNOTES:

- 1 EBP 14/239(1851).
- 2 Mrs. Edna Duffin Johnson, Boyds; Mrs. Eleanor Maughlin Young, Kensington; interviews, 1978.
- 3 Mrs. Young
- 4 Mrs. Johnson
- 5 1478/600(1958).
- 6 2519/179(1974).

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Land Records of Montgomery County, Rockville, Maryland.

Interview: Mrs. Edna Duffin Johnson, Boyds, Maryland.

Interview: Mrs. Eleanor Maughlin Young, Kensington, Maryland.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3.87 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

| STATE | COUNTY |
|-------|--------|
|       |        |
|       |        |

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Christine R. Jaycox

Candy Reed - Arch. Description

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

April 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

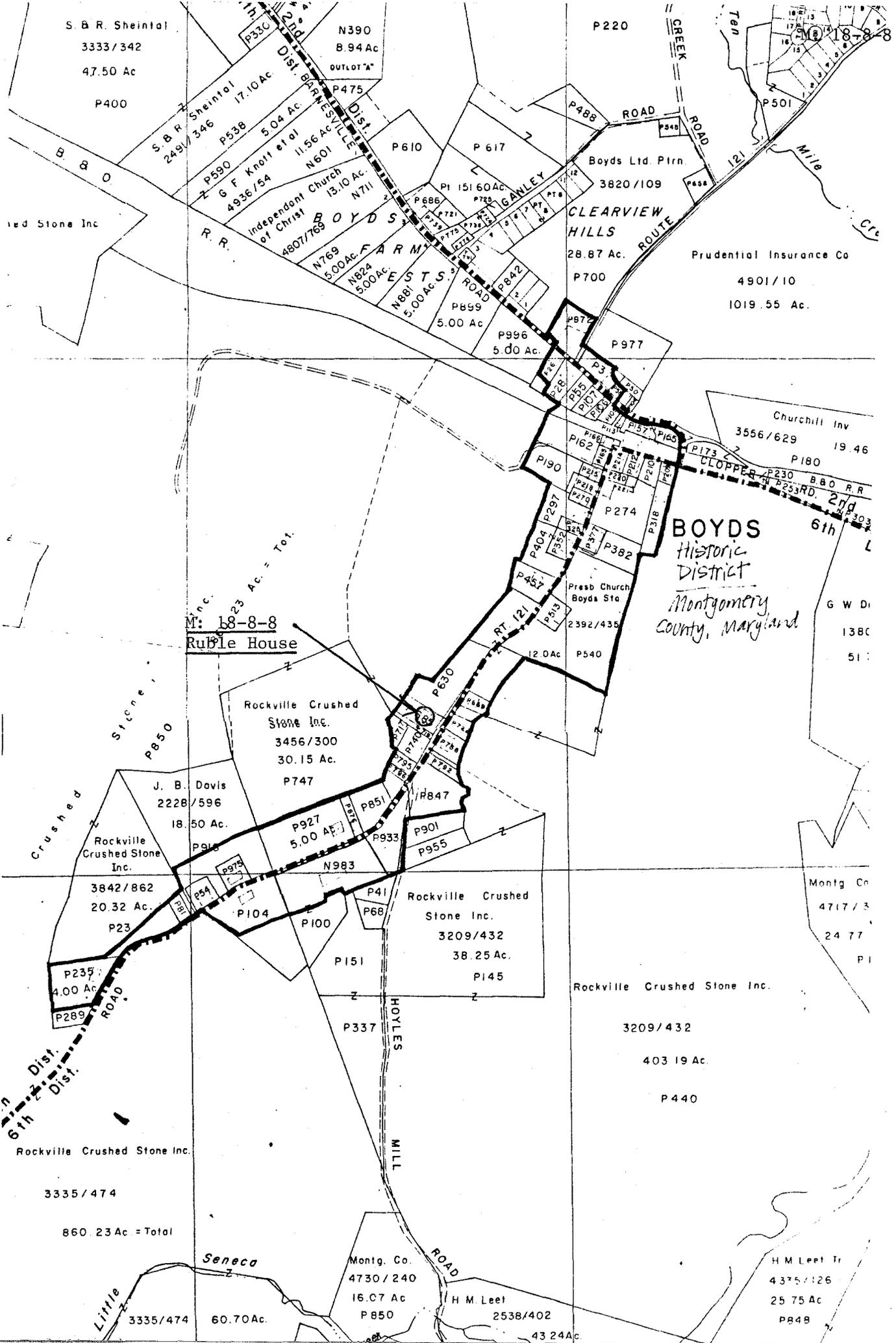
Maryland 20753

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, State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438~~

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS  
Box 87, Stronghold  
Dickerson, Md. 20753  
(301) 926-4510



S & R Sheintal  
3333/342  
47.50 Ac  
P400

N390  
B 94 Ac  
OUTLOT "A"

P220

18-8-8  
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ied Stone Inc

S. B. R. Sheintal  
2491/346  
P538  
5.04 Ac  
P590  
G F Knoff et al  
4936/54  
11.56 Ac  
N601  
Independent Church  
of Christ  
13.10 Ac  
N711  
4807/763

BOYD'S FARM  
N769  
5.00 Ac  
N824  
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Boys Ltd. Plrn  
3820/109  
CLEARVIEW HILLS  
28.87 Ac.  
P700

Prudential Insurance Co  
4901/10  
1019.55 Ac.

Churchill Inv  
3556/629  
19.46  
P180

BOYD'S  
Historic  
District  
Montgomery  
County, Maryland

M: 68-8-8  
Ruble House

Rockville Crushed  
Stone Inc.  
3456/300  
30.15 Ac.  
P747

J. B. Davis  
2228/596  
18.50 Ac.  
P916

Rockville  
Crushed Stone  
Inc.  
3842/862  
20.32 Ac.  
P23

Rockville Crushed  
Stone Inc.  
3209/432  
38.25 Ac.  
P145

Rockville Crushed Stone Inc.  
3209/432  
403.19 Ac.  
P440

Rockville Crushed Stone Inc.  
3335/474  
860.23 Ac = Total

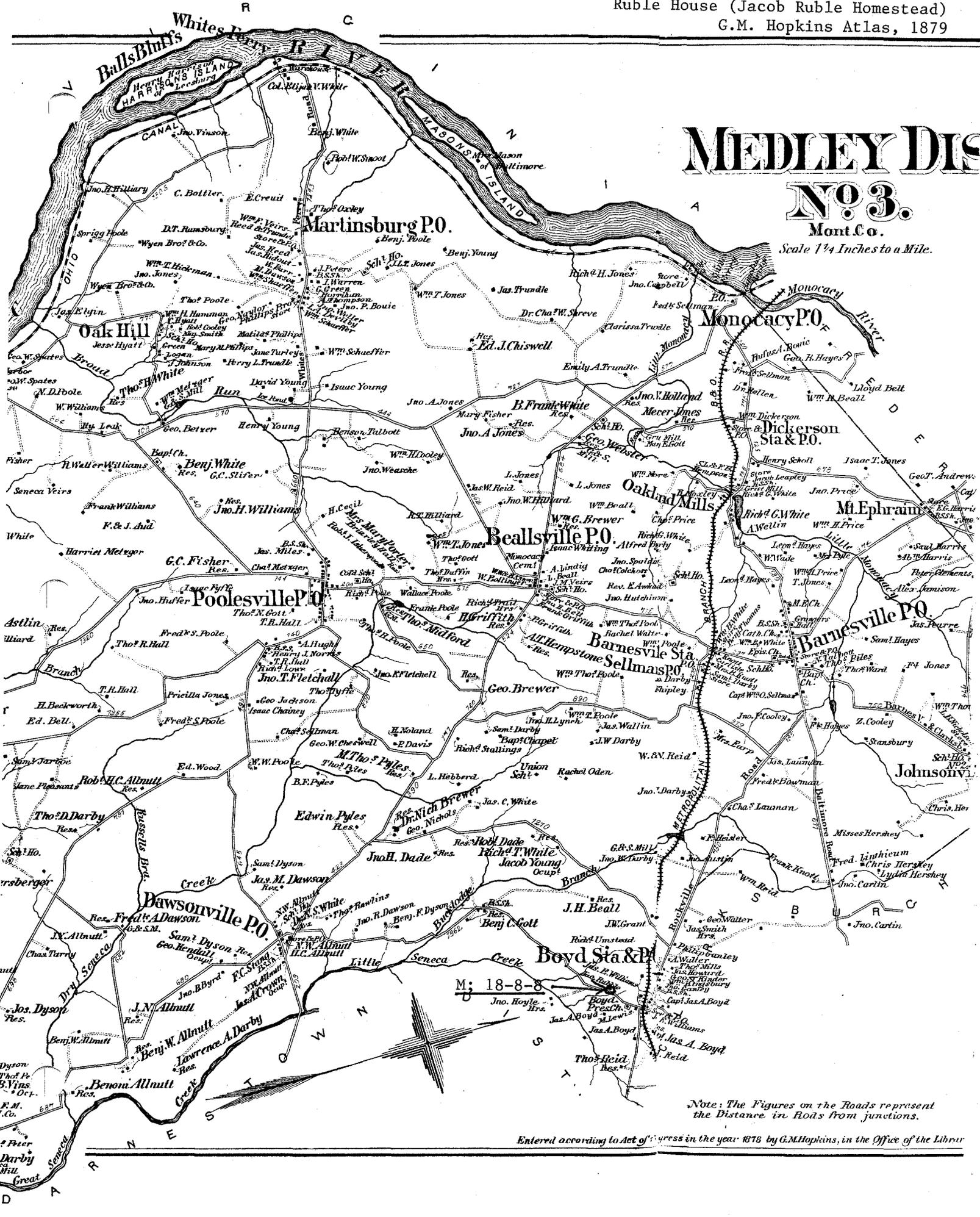
Montg. Co.  
4730/240  
16.07 Ac  
P 850

H M Leet  
2538/402  
43.24 Ac

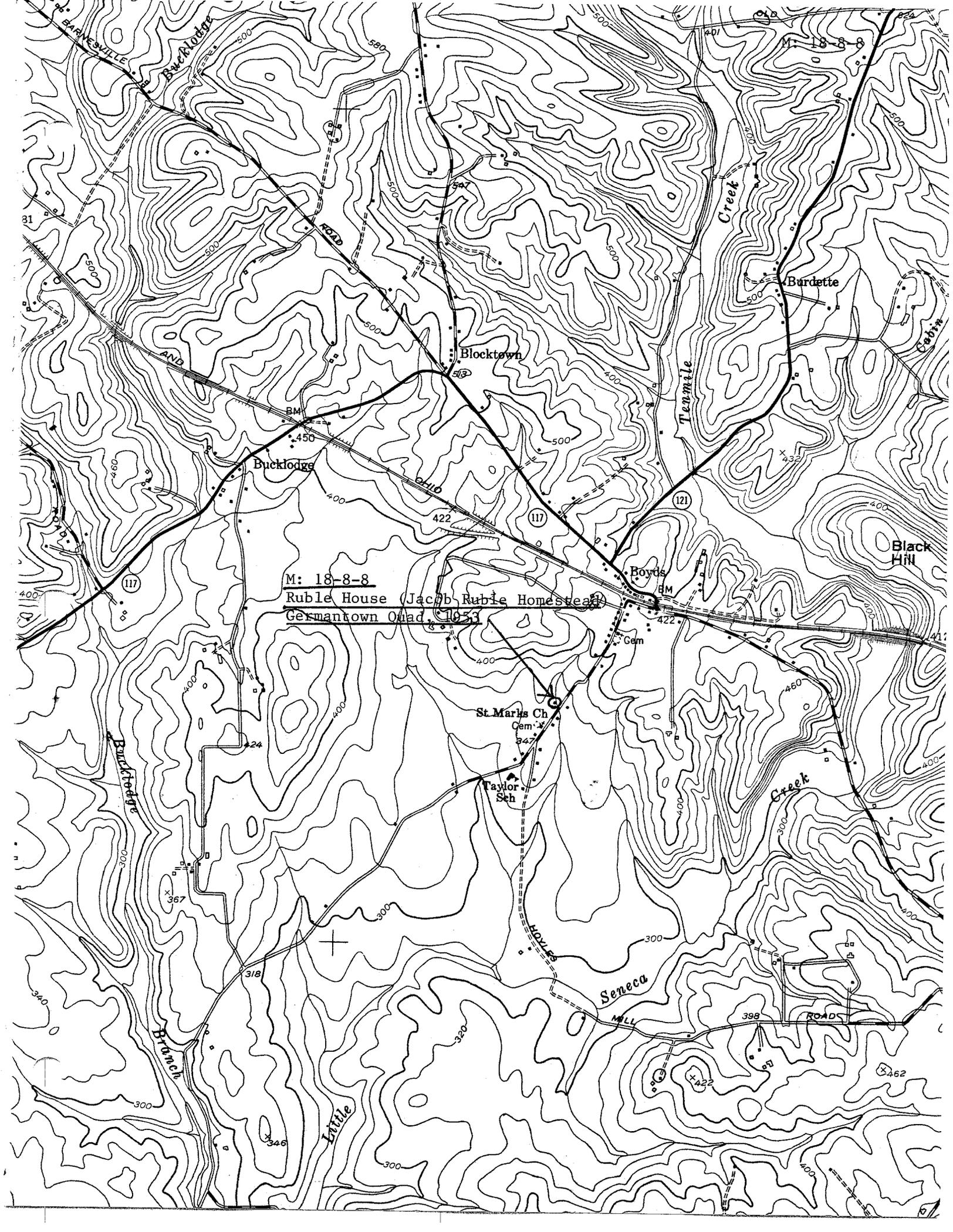
H M Leet Tr  
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25.75 Ac  
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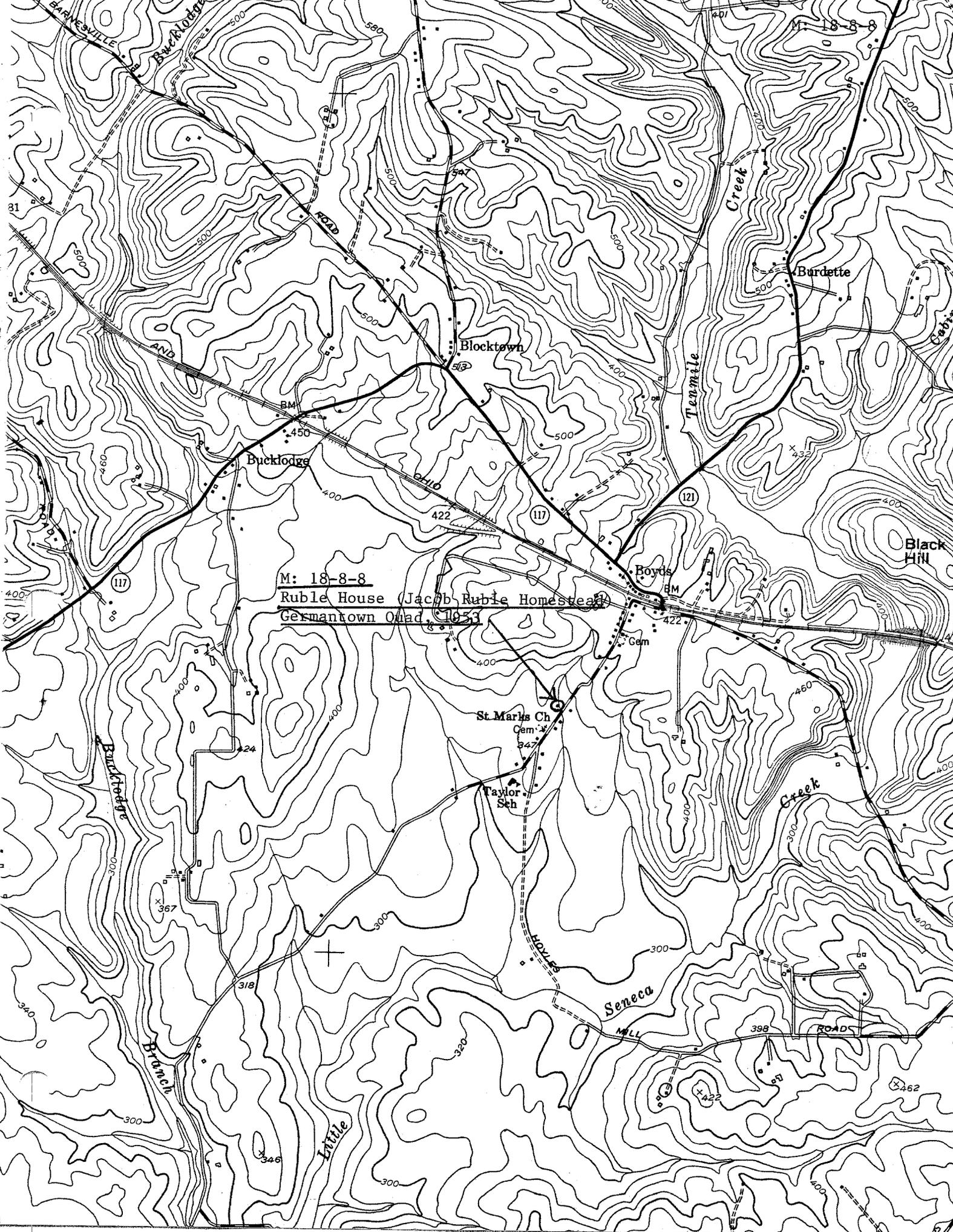
# MEDLEY DIS No. 3. Mont. Co. Scale 1/4 Inches to a Mile.



Note: The Figures on the Roads represent the Distance in Rods from junctions.



M: 18-8-8  
Ruble House (Jacob Ruble Homestead)  
Germantown Road, 1053





11-18-8-8

Giles [Kubler]

141-31