

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Elmwood
other names Elmwood Farm; Kendle Farm; MIHP #WA-I-018

2. Location

street & number 16311 Kendle Road (formerly 9911 Hippy Hop Lane) not for publication
city or town Williamsport vicinity
state Maryland code MD county Washington code 043 zip code 21795

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments).

[Signature] 11-5-12
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby, certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
 Determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register.
 other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper _____
Date of Action _____

Elmwood (WA-I-018)
Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
8		buildings
		sites
2		structures
		objects
10		Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
DOMESTIC/secondary structure
AGRICULTURE/animal facility
AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding
AGRICULTURE/storage

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Vacant/not in use
Vacant/not in use
AGRICULTURE/animal facility
Vacant/not in use
AGRICULTURE/storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

MID-19TH CENTURY/Greek Revival
OTHER: Standard Pennsylvania Bank Barn

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Limestone
walls Brick
Wood
roof Metal
other Concrete

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- B** Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Area of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1855-1961

Significant Dates

1855; ca. 1885

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

John Corby, carpenter

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

Previous documentation on files (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Property owner

Elmwood (WA-1-018)
Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 6.2 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	1	8	2	5	9	3	9	1	4	3	8	5	3	3	7
	Zone		Easting			Northing									
2															

3															
	Zone		Easting			Northing									
4															

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paula S. Reed, Ph.D., Architectural Historian; Edie Wallace, M.A., Historian

Organization Paula S. Reed & Associates, Inc.

date October 19, 2011

street & number 1 W. Franklin St., Suite 300

telephone 301-739-2070

city or town Hagerstown

state Maryland

zip code 21740

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name Andrew and Selena Tory

street & number 16311 Kendle Road

telephone _____

city or town Williamsport

state Maryland

zip code 21795

Paperwork Reduction Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et. seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 7 Page 1

Description Summary:

Elmwood farmstead stands on a six-acre tract, a remnant of the larger Elmwood Farm situated on the south side of Kendle Road, northeast of Williamsport in Washington County, Maryland. The nominated area comprises an 1855 two-story, four-bay, gable-roofed, T-shaped brick house, plus a grouping of buildings dating from the mid-nineteenth through the mid-twentieth century, typical of Washington County farming operations. The farmstead includes ten contributing buildings and structures, dominated by the house, a third quarter of the nineteenth century frame barn which replaced the original building, a frame milking barn, a hog barn, a ca. 1960 milking parlor, a silo, and a concrete block garage. A smokehouse and milk house, along with stone and wood fences, complete the scene. An access lane leading southward from Kendle Road passes by the west side of the house and continues to the barn and support buildings. The landscape immediately surrounding the building complex includes remaining pasture and cropland; it remains intact, extending beyond the six-acre property being nominated. Cattle currently reside in the barn and roam the adjoining pasture. Much of the larger farm is no longer in agricultural use, as it now supports a housing development, concentrated to the south of the farmstead. The entire complex retains its architectural and agricultural character and survives in good condition.

General Description:

Kendle Road, part of an early route leading from Boonsboro to Williamsport, today is bypassed by a relocated Maryland State Route 68. Consequently Kendle Road retains its rural character, passing through actively farmed agricultural land, pastures and woodlots, with only a few late twentieth-century houses scattered along its path. Looming to the south is a large housing development, situated on part of the land which once was Elmwood farm. However, vistas to the north, east and west take in large areas of active agricultural landscape. The land undulates, with frequent limestone outcrops, consistent with the geography of the Cumberland/Hagerstown/Great Valley, which makes up a good-sized portion of Washington County.

Approaching from the east on Kendle Road, cresting a hillock, one sees Elmwood arrayed on the south side of the road. A gravel lane leaves Kendall Road heading south to the building complex. The house, facing north toward Kendle Road, forms the front of the complex with the support and agricultural buildings arranged behind.

The vernacular Greek Revival style-influenced *Main House*, according to written documentation in the form of a recorded mechanic's lien, dates from 1855. Italianate style modifications came a generation later, ca. 1885. The house with grassy lawn to the north and east and the farm entrance lane to the west, is a two story T-shaped brick building with four bays

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 7 Page 2

across its front elevation and three bays in the wide east and west gable ends. A service wing, or "back building" extends to the rear. The land drops away from the front of the house on the east side, leaving the cellar level exposed above grade with windows and walk-out entrances. The east side of the rear wing has framed porches at each level. Square posts support the east side porch system at each level with the two upper levels enclosed with fancy cutwork balustrades. The west side of the rear wing has a main story shed roofed porch over a poured concrete deck with encapsulated cistern. This porch is supported by square posts with a solid tongue and groove balustrade.

The house rests on a limestone foundation with brick walls laid in common bond at all elevations. Brick jack arches top the openings. The roofing material is channel drain sheet metal. Brick chimneys are located inside each gable end. The front elevation spans four bays with the main entrance located off-center in the second bay from the east end. A wide transom and sidelights surround the six-panel door. The current one-bay entrance porch is the third one for the house. It replaced an Italianate hip-roofed porch that extended across the length of the front elevation. This porch had carved brackets, square collared posts with decorative brackets and turned dropped pendants. Turned balusters and railing formed the enclosure. The Italianate porch replaced an original entrance porch of unknown size and appearance. The larger Italianate porch terminated at the east end with a retaining wall.

Windows have narrow mitered frames with beaded edges. All windows except for the first story front openings and the east and west gable attic windows have six-over-six-light sash. The second story front windows retain pairs of fixed-louvered wooden shutters. All windows retain shutter hardware. The first story front windows were modified in the late nineteenth century. They were lengthened and the sash replaced with longer two-over-two-light sash with a radial arch over the upper two panes.

At the interior, the house is divided by an entrance and stair passage. To the west is a large double parlor (northwest parlor and southwest parlor), and to the east are two smaller rooms made from one, with an added twentieth-century partition to create a bathroom. At the south end of the passageway is a large room, originally a dining room, which opens into the two west parlors, the rear kitchen and east rear porch, and into the first story bath. The southernmost room at the first story level is the kitchen with entrances onto the east and west porches and a back stairway leading to the room above, which presumably housed farm workers or servants. The kitchen also has a built in pantry in the southeast corner.

The second floor plan is similar, with two bedrooms over the first story double parlor. The cellar has several rooms with windows and entrances on the east side. A large kitchen with service fireplace is located beneath the main level kitchen. To the north of it is a large room which serves currently as the furnace room. Originally it was likely a dining area for farm workers. Both of these rooms retain areas of original plaster and woodwork with original painted surfaces. Rooms in the cellar to the west and north were for food storage and also a coal

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 7 Page 3

bin for the furnace. There are no fireplaces in the house except for the service fireplace in the cellar.

Throughout, the house retains original woodwork and hardware, expert original grain painting and some other original paint schemes. In the entrance and stair passage, the staircase terminates with an elaborately turned walnut newel post supporting a broad handrail and turned balusters. The surfaces of doors facing into the passageway are grain painted to resemble burl mahogany. Door surrounds consist of flat trim with plain corner blocks. Doors facing into the northwest and southwest parlors are grain painted to resemble maple. A set of wide double doors between the two parlors also display maple grain painting. Original door hardware consists of carpenter-type locks with ceramic knobs. The brass circular plate identifies Russell Erwin & Company Manufacturers. This company was established in New Britain, Connecticut in 1846. Other hardware is cast iron, dating from the later nineteenth century.

Just behind and to the southeast of the farmhouse is a concrete block *milk house* which appears to date from the 1930s or '40s. It rests on a poured concrete foundation and has a shed roof. The entrance is in the west wall and it is lit by a six-light barn sash window.

Also to the southeast of the house, and east of the milk house is a *smokehouse*. It appears to be contemporary with the main house and is of brick construction with a high limestone foundation. The door is in the west wall, convenient to the main kitchen and the cellar work kitchen. The smokehouse is distinctive for its very tall hipped roof covered with standing seam metal with a round finial at the peak.

South of the house across a gravel driveway and parking area is a two-bay, gable front concrete block *garage* dating from ca. 1950. The garage has framed gables with German siding, and a gable door for hoisting material into the attic for storage.

East of the garage, and attached to the main barn by a covered concrete block walkway for cattle stands a concrete block *milking parlor*, a state of the art facility at the time it was constructed in 1960. The building has a metal gambrel roof. Within the gambrel on the end walls is frame construction covered with German siding. Six bays long, the milking parlor has steel six-light windows, and two entrances on the west side. Attaching it to the barn yard is a ramped concrete walkway with a concrete block west wall and sheet metal roof. The east side is open with a metal pipe railing which allowed milk cows ingress and egress from the barn to the milking area.

East of the main barn and facing west into the barnyard is a frame *hog barn* with vertical siding. It has a gabled roof covered with channel drain sheet metal. It has high window openings along its north wall and doors along the south wall opening under an overhang, into the barnyard. This building appears to date from the late nineteenth century.

The *main barn* is a frame Pennsylvania type (even gabled) bank barn resting on stone foundations. It has an overhanging cantilevered forebay on its east side, opening into the barnyard. On the west side is the barn ramp or bank with stone retaining walls leading to the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 7 Page 4

upper level threshing floor. Equipment sheds are attached to the south gable end. The barn is sheathed with vertical boards, and has ventilator openings on all walls with fixed louvers. These are typical of late nineteenth-century barns of west-central Maryland and south-central Pennsylvania, often as updates to earlier barns. The roof is covered with corrugated sheet metal.

On the south side of the barnyard is a frame *milking barn*, predecessor to the 1960 milking parlor. It has a metal gable roof and is sheathed with vertical board siding. This barn likely dates from the early twentieth century. Together with the main barn and the hog barn, these buildings enclose three sides of the concrete-paved barnyard. A limestone wall, likely an original feature of the barnyard, borders the fourth side (east). A concrete feed trough stands in the barnyard, sheltered by a flat metal roof.

Adjacent to the milking barn, to its southwest is a large *concrete stave silo*, which likely dates from ca. 1960. Southwest of the main barn are flat round concrete pads, which were the bases for metal wire corn bins, now gone.

The nominated area includes eight contributing buildings and two contributing structures, listed below. There are no non-contributing buildings or structures.

Contributing buildings:

- Main house
- Milk house
- Smokehouse
- Garage
- Milking parlor
- Bank barn
- Hog barn
- Milking barn

Contributing structures:

- Concrete stave silo
- Stone barnyard wall

Concrete feed trough and silage pit not counted

Evaluation of Integrity:

Elmwood Farmstead retains a high level of integrity of location, setting, materials, design, workmanship, feeling and association. The collection of buildings remains intact,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 7 Page 5

representing a period of continuous use in a farming operation from the initial construction of the house in 1855 through the next hundred years as buildings and structures were added to keep up with evolving farming practices. The setting, containing crop and pasture lands in the immediate vicinity, preserve the historical associations of this farmstead collection with its past. Although there have been alterations to the house and support buildings over time, these are either historic, as in the case of the Italianate front windows in the house and possible update of the barn in the late nineteenth century, or minor in scale and impact. Most historic materials remain intact, including interior woodwork, trim, hardware, and paint finishes in the main house.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 8 Page 1

Summary Statement of Significance:

The Elmwood building complex is locally significant under National Register Criterion C as an intact collection of domestic and agricultural buildings in Washington County, Maryland. The Elmwood building complex includes a fine example of a mid nineteenth-century gentleman's farm house. Built in 1855 by James M. Downey, a rising canal merchant and money-lender, the large Elmwood mansion house is an elegant representation of the still-popular Greek Revival architectural style. Later changes, particularly the elongated arched windows across the first floor front elevation, represent an attempt to update the house during the later Victorian period. The "Mechanics Lien" recorded by carpenter John Corby against James M. Downey, dated 1855, provides a detailed record of the character defining features of the house from the date of its construction, most of which remain intact at this writing. The brick smokehouse located near the mansion house is equally intact and representative of the mid nineteenth-century period, while the garage is a typical twentieth-century addition to the domestic complex. Agricultural buildings within the Elmwood complex include the ca. 1935 concrete block milk house near the house, third quarter of the nineteenth-century bank barn, 1960 milking parlor, frame hog barn, early twentieth-century frame milking barn, and concrete stave silo. This grouping is representative of the agricultural developments through the first half of the twentieth century in Washington County. The bank barn was constructed while the traditional grain-dominated farm economy was still active in Maryland, when a large barn with spaces dedicated to threshing and grain storage was a requirement. Farms still maintained small milking herds of eight to ten animals, easily accommodated in the lower stalls of the barn. The additional animal barns and silo signal the change in feed storage and increasing livestock as dairy production became the focus on the farm. The 1960 milking parlor documents the strict federal sanitation rules that required a building dedicated to milking and milk storage separated from the living areas for the livestock. The period of significance for the Elmwood building complex extends from 1855, when the house and smokehouse were constructed, through 1961, to include the twentieth-century additions to the farmstead complex and by which date the house and outbuildings had substantially achieved their present form and appearance.

Resource History and Historic Context:

Historic Context

The lands comprising Washington County were in that part of mid-Maryland which was often in colonial period records referred to as "the Barrens." The early landscape was not fully forested and contained areas of relatively open meadow and occasional rock outcrops. These rocky, open areas were perceived as infertile and described as barrens. As a result of the concept that the backcountry was not fertile, settlement was not encouraged at first. Initial contact

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 8 Page 2

occurred when land grants were made to leading tidewater area citizens, and when Germans and Dutch from Pennsylvania and places further north passed through Maryland's Piedmont and Great Valley sections enroute to settle lands in Virginia. In 1732, Lord Baltimore opened his western lands to settlement.

Initial interests of fur trading and subsistence farming soon developed into more substantial farms. Grain farming was prominent and as a result many gristmills were established. The mills took advantage of the ample waterpower in mid-Maryland to convert grain into more easily transportable and marketable flour or meal. The prominence of milling was a significant feature of the local economy. It reflects the influence of Pennsylvania in that Washington County developed a general agricultural economy with emphasis on small grains, rather than the staple economy focusing on tobacco that developed in eastern Maryland.

Eventually the region became known for grain production. Grain was sold in bulk, or processed into flour and meal, or distilled into whiskey. These commodities were shipped to markets in Baltimore or Philadelphia. Shipping from central and western Maryland and the grain growing regions of Pennsylvania and the Shenandoah Valley was a problem, and hindered the growth and prosperity associated with grain production. There was no inland water route to the farming areas, although navigation of the Potomac and Susquehanna were promoted or opposed by various factions. Rail service did not develop until the 1830s, so highway transportation had to serve the freight hauling needs of the region. Maryland, therefore promoted turnpike development, although most of these toll routes were privately funded. The output and growth in population in the western areas of Maryland encouraged construction and improvement of roads which were generally described as "miserable and worst in the union" in the late eighteenth century.¹ Baltimore officials in 1787 laid out 20-foot wide roads to Frederick, Reisterstown and York, Pennsylvania. However, it was private turnpike companies and in some cases mill owners who actually constructed the roads.²

In 1806 the Federal government began the construction of a highway that would lead to the newly acquired Louisiana Purchase lands comprising much of the central portion of the United States. The "National Road" began in Cumberland, Maryland following a rough wagon track established by explorers and traders, and led to Wheeling in Virginia (West Virginia) and later on to Terre Haute, Indiana. The main wagon road from Baltimore to Cumberland, a collection of privately owned and operated turnpike segments, was eventually upgraded and consolidated to become part of the National Road system, called the National Pike. The National Road and Pike system became one of the most heavily traveled east-west routes in America with traffic passing all hours of the day and night. The presence of the National Pike through Washington County encouraged the improvement of other turnpike roads, many of which were initially improved in the 1790s. Access to the National Pike meant better access to the Baltimore wheat market, fast becoming the center for trade in the region.

¹ Robert J. Brugger, *Maryland a Middle Temperament*, (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins, 1985), p. 153.

² *Ibid.*

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 8 Page 3

The C&O Canal and B&O Railroad arrived in the region in 1830s as alternate forms of transportation. Despite this, the National Pike continued to be a major thoroughfare between Baltimore, Frederick, Hagerstown and points west. The road also served as a primary route during the Civil War, for the invading Confederate army of General Robert E. Lee in 1862 and 1863, as well as the Union defenders throughout the war.

As the urbanization and industrialization process of the late nineteenth century gradually transformed the economy of Maryland, the west-central counties responded by shifting to dairy products, fruit, and vegetable production. Technological advances that promoted the dairy industry began with the silo; the first American silo was constructed in 1873, facilitating year-round feeding of dairy livestock. Later, the centrifugal separator, which parted cream from milk, was first used in the United States in 1882.³

The turn of the twentieth century was punctuated in Frederick and Washington Counties with the development of the Hagerstown and Frederick interurban electric railway. It was a boon not only to the farmers transporting produce and milk products to the Frederick and Hagerstown markets. Creameries and vegetable canning factories dominated rural town industry along the electric railway routes. The railway served also for passenger travel and summer resort businesses.

Throughout Maryland, the trend toward urbanization and the shift of population to Baltimore continued into the twentieth century. By 1910, Frederick was the fourth largest city in Maryland with 10,411 people, behind Baltimore City, Cumberland, and Hagerstown.⁴ The rapid growth of Baltimore, Hagerstown and Cumberland had to do with the multiple mainline railroads serving these cities in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Hagerstown became a hub for four intersecting railroads. The good transportation opportunity led to growth of heavy industries there and consequently population growth. While agricultural pursuits continued in other parts of the state, their relative importance as the driving force of the economy declined.⁵ In 1920, Maryland had become 60% urban with slightly over half the state's population in Baltimore.⁶ By the end of the 1920s, the number of farms in Maryland had decreased by 4,704.⁷

³ Wayne D. Rasmussen, ed., *Readings In The History of American Agriculture*, (Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, 1960), p. 152.

⁴ William Lloyd Fox, "Social-Cultural Developments from the Civil War to 1920," in Richard Walsh and William Lloyd Fox, eds. *Maryland, A History*, (Baltimore, MD: Maryland Historical Society, 1974), p. 503.

⁵ Eleanor Bruchey, "The Industrialization of Maryland, 1860-1914," in Walsh and Fox, p. 483,484. Leading industries in Maryland, determined by value of product in 1860 included 1) Flour and Meal; 2) Men's Clothing; 3) Cotton Goods; 4) Sugar, Refined; and 5) Leather. By 1870, the list had changed: 1) Sugar, Refined; 2) Flouring and Grist Mill Products; 3) Men's Clothing; 4) Cotton Goods; and 5) Iron, Forged and Rolled. The leading industries had shifted again by 1880: 1) Men's Clothing; 2) Flouring and Grist Mill Products; 3) Fruits and Vegetables, Canned; 4) Fertilizers; and 5) Cotton Goods. Ten years later in 1890, flour milling products had dropped to fourth place in value of product, behind men's clothing, brick and stone masonry, and canning and preserving fruits and vegetables. In 1900, flour and grist mill products had dropped again to the number five position behind men's clothing, fruit and vegetable canning, iron and steel, and foundry and machine shop products. Thereafter, flour and grist mill products don't appear among Maryland's major products at all.

⁶ James B. Crooks, "Maryland Progressivism," Walsh and Fox, p. 590

⁷ Dorothy M. Brown, "Maryland Between the Wars," Walsh and Fox, p. 704.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 8 Page 4

Meanwhile suburban residential districts and recreational areas spread outward from Washington D.C. and Baltimore into Montgomery and Baltimore Counties, a trend that has continued to the present. The conversion of farmland use to dairy and orchards led to the decrease of traditional agricultural industries particularly milling and attendant businesses and industries.

In 1929, on the eve of the Great Depression, wheat was still a large income producer in Maryland, with an estimated gross income in the state of \$9,053,000. Most of the state's wheat was still being grown in Washington, Frederick, and Carroll Counties in the old wheat belt. The wheat production in gross income, however, fell far below the \$25,156,000 produced from sales of milk in the same year. Due to the Depression and also to a bad drought year in 1930, the gross income from sales of wheat by 1932 had fallen to \$1,715,000 and dairy to \$16,875,000.⁸ Even with the drop in income, the figures show that dairy farming had far outdistanced wheat production in the twentieth century.

The Hagerstown and Frederick electric railway struggled through the Depression of the 1930s and, after a brief resurgence during WWII, most of the line was discontinued. The demise of the interurban railway followed the popularization of the automobile and road surface improvements in the 1920s. Faster speeds and increased traffic led to alternate highway construction beginning in the 1930s. After World War II with the advent of the post war booming manufacturing economy and the emerging Cold War, population began to shift once again. This time with the encouragement of the government's new interstate highway system, the defense highways developed in the Eisenhower administration, upwardly mobile and automobile owning city dwellers left the urban environments of Washington DC and Baltimore to create suburban neighborhoods on the edges of the cities. With the suburbs came stores, restaurants and other services to support the growing residential communities where workers commuted to jobs in the cities. Since the late 1940s, suburban development has sprawled outward into and throughout mid-Maryland substantially reducing agriculture and profoundly altering the rural scene.⁹

Mid-Maryland Architecture

During the century from 1763 to 1860, the relatively primitive, typically log buildings of the settlement period were gradually replaced or enlarged into more substantial and permanent form. The large "Swisser" barns with cantilevered forebays and a ramp or bank at the back, hallmarks of west-central Maryland and south central Pennsylvania, replaced small log-crib

⁸ Ibid. p. 704, citing W.S. Hamill, *The Agricultural Industry of Maryland*, Baltimore: Maryland Development Bureau of the Baltimore Association of Commerce, 1934, pp. 37, 51-52, 81, 107, 110-116, 310.

⁹ Paula S. Reed & Assoc., "Mid Maryland: An Agricultural History and Historic Context." (Frederick, MD: The Catocin Center for Regional Studies, 2003), p. 110.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 8 Page 5

stables and shelters for livestock and crops. Small log houses were improved with siding and additions, or replaced with stone, brick or larger log or timber frame dwellings.¹⁰

The people of mid-Maryland built according to the materials that were available to them, sometimes drawing upon long-established traditions based upon European and British patterns and upon their own interpretations of current styles and construction techniques, adapted to local conditions. Elements of fashionable styles were incorporated into the region's buildings along with traditional features. With the exception of exterior applications of stylistic door treatments and symmetrical fenestration, typically, the more fashionable architectural elements were found on the interior in the form of moldings, mantels, and stairs. Although there are pure stylistic examples, particularly dating from the later nineteenth century, the vast majority of the region's buildings are vernacular structures.

Farmhouses: Farmhouses from the eighteenth through the mid twentieth century exhibit great variety in mid-Maryland, yet all are readily identifiable to the region. Little housing remains from the settlement period. In mid-Maryland, brick farmhouses are most commonly from the 1820-1900 period. Those constructed before approximately 1850 display Flemish bond facades and thereafter, common bond or all-stretcher facades.¹¹

Farmhouse form followed several traditional paths. Among the earliest buildings were Germanic central chimney dwellings with one or two stories and three or four rooms clustered around a massive group of fireplaces. British settlers more frequently constructed one or one and a half story buildings with a hall and parlor plan, one-room deep with inside or exterior end fireplaces. Generally farmhouses spanned three to five bays, sat on cellars and had side gables. By the second quarter of the nineteenth century, porches begin to appear with frequency, either across the entire front or recessed in an inset containing two or three bays along the front elevation at the kitchen wall. Another variation is an L or T-extension to the rear of the main part of the house, almost always with a recessed double porch along one side. This configuration accommodates a kitchen wing, and these rear wings were consistently referenced in eighteenth and nineteenth century records as "back buildings," even though they were attached to the main part of the dwelling.¹²

Typical floor plans consisted of center passages with one or two rooms on either side, or a two or four room plan where the main entrance opened directly into a room. A common arrangement attributed to Germanic traditions exhibits two central front doors, side by side, which open directly into two front rooms. Houses were almost universally roofed with wooden shingles, often long and double-lapped, top to bottom and side to side. This shingle type seems to be associated with German traditions. Otherwise, top-lapped thin wooden shingles prevailed with staggered joints and there is evidence that thatch was used, along with "cabbin" or

¹⁰ Reed & Assoc., p. 26.

¹¹ Reed & Assoc., p. 113.

¹² Reed & Assoc., p. 113.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 8 Page 6

clapboard roofs. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries roofs of slate or standing seam metal appear.¹³

Smokehouses: Associated with domestic groupings, smokehouses, essential components of the domestic assemblage, stand small and windowless behind the farmhouse. The predominant type in mid-Maryland have hipped roofs over square buildings made of log, stone, brick or framed construction. Even twentieth century examples exist made of concrete block. Less frequently these important support buildings are rectangular with gabled roofs. The smoke house door opens into a small room, usually with a large post extending from the ground to the peak of the roof. The post had "arms" extending outward from it upon which hams and sides of bacon hung on hooks. The post pivoted so that smoked meats swung into the hands of someone standing just inside the entrance. Some smokehouses, particularly those with gable roofs, did not have the pivoting post. Rather, meats were hung from the bottom cord of the roof truss or from rafters. Smokehouses did not have chimneys. Their function was to provide an enclosed spaced where a small fire would provide smoke to permeate meats hung within. The smoke both flavored and preserved the meat previously cured with salt, sugar and saltpeter.

Barns: Mid-Maryland's barns originated in Pennsylvania, springing from German and English precedents. The region's first barns were the small log structures, described in the 1767 inventory of Conococheague Manor and other eighteenth-century documents.¹⁴ By the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, the barns familiar to us as hallmarks of the region appeared. These bank barns, built of log, stone, brick, or frame covered with vertical siding typically have a ramp at the back providing access to the upper threshing floor and an overhanging forebay at the front. Animals stayed in the lower level in stalls arranged in rows perpendicular to the front and rear walls. Designed for grain farming, bank barns accommodated threshing and grain processing as their primary function. In a large area of the central upper floor, farmers threshed grain with flails or later with horse or steam powered threshing machines. "Flailing walls" or boards nailed about four feet high, to interior bents bordering the threshing floor kept loose grain and chaff from drifting uncontrolled across the barn floor. Heavy tongue and groove or splined planks floored the threshing area, to prevent grain and dust from sifting through the floor during threshing as well as to support the vibration and weight of the threshing activity.¹⁵

The gable-end profile of barns varies among subtypes. Symmetrical gables that include the forebay recess often with closed-ends, commonly called the Standard Pennsylvania Barn, tend to be a bit later than extended forebays associated with the earlier, asymmetrical "Switzer" barns. Log barns and stone barns tend to be earlier than brick barns. Bents linked by double top plates tend to date from the eighteenth century. Stone barns fall into a particular date range, principally 1790-1850. Brick barns, always embellished with geometric patterned open-work

¹³ Reed & Assoc., p. 113.

¹⁴ Original located in Canadian Archives.

¹⁵ Reed & Assoc., p. 117-118.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 8 Page 7

ventilation holes generally date from 1830-1870s. Frame barns abounded throughout the era of bank barn construction, ending in the first half of the twentieth century.

Robert F. Ensminger identified a subtype of the common nineteenth – twentieth century Standard Pennsylvania Barn, the “Basement Drive-through Standard Barn,” with a date-range of 1850-1890. This subtype was most commonly found in south-central Pennsylvania, Maryland (Washington County), and the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia:

In addition to the normal function of the lower level of Pennsylvania barns as stables for livestock, some are used for the storage of large machinery. The use of horse-drawn machinery dates from the middle of the nineteenth century. Many older barns were necessarily modified to accommodate its storage. The stable could be remodeled to house machinery or storage sheds could be added to the gable ends of the barn. Eventually, a new basement plan that included a machinery stage bay was adopted. Thus, a wagon entrance in the basement can be found as part of the original design in many barns of the middle and later nineteenth century...

...The precedent for a basement drive-through had been established before 1850, as exemplified by a large transition Sweitzer barn in southern Lebanon County [PA]. To the west of the Susquehanna River, particularly in Franklin and Fulton counties, the drive-through became stylized in later standard barns. In these structures, the floor of the forebay, which extends across the entire front of the barn, is raised several feet above the machinery entrance. This extra elevation permits the entrance of larger pieces of machinery than could be accommodated by a normal stable height. The outside gable wall of the drive-through consists of a wooden corn crib, the front end of which is normally flush with the front of the forebay. The barn's versatility is enhanced by having an increased mow volume with the additional upper barn length, increased machinery storage space in the basement, and more feed grain storage in the corn crib just described.¹⁶

Few frame barns retain their original exterior siding. Many are found with elaborate decorative additions from updates done in the late nineteenth century, particularly louvered vents with arched architraves, or the stylized painted windows and doors done in the early twentieth century. Most historic barns that were still in use through much of the twentieth century were altered to accommodate a hay track, used to transport hay bales through the barn.

Dairy barns: As dairy began to replace grain farming as the mainstay of mid-Maryland's farms, farmers adapted Pennsylvania style barns to other uses, principally as dairy barns. The modification included increasing the number of cattle stalls to accommodate more animals and to provide space for hand milking and later electric milking machines for each cow. Sometimes forebays were enclosed or new barn space was constructed to accommodate the milking

¹⁶ Robert F. Ensminger, *The Pennsylvania Barn*, (Baltimore, MD: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1992) pp. 79-81.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 8 Page 8

activities, and in the early twentieth-century concrete flooring and manure troughs added. In the 1930s and 1940s when government regulations dictated minimum sanitary conditions, barns were regularly whitewashed, lighted and ventilated. Also during this mid twentieth-century period, serious dairymen constructed separate dairy barns with modern equipment and sanitation. These new barns were built of concrete block, glazed tile or frame with steel windows. They often had gambrel roofs, popular for barns in the early and mid twentieth century, and "milking parlors" where cattle would enter in small groups for milking then leave the barn for a "loafing area."

Milk houses: Associated with the barn, either the main barn or a separate dairy barn is the milk house. These are usually twentieth-century buildings, coming into use after the region converted to dairy farming. Often built of concrete block, or glazed tile these small buildings usually had gabled roofs and easy access to the lower levels of the barn where the cows were milked. The function of the milk house was to store milk, placed in steel cans and chilled until picked up by the "milk truck." A refrigerated tank held the cans and kept the milk cold. In the mid and late twentieth century, bulk milk systems replaced the older can storage tank. Bulk tank storage takes milk directly from the cows to a large holding tank the contents of which are transferred into a tanker truck once or twice a week depending on the size of the dairy operation.

Silos: First manufactured in the 1870s, silos are now important visual markers on the rural landscape. Older silos are wooden staved structures, although brick, tile, concrete, and metal also were used, particularly in more recent structures. Silos are part of the conversion to dairy farming, providing a system for storage of feed, mostly fermented corn silage for the increased herds of cattle necessary for dairy farming.

Resource History

The land on which the Elmwood building complex stands has a long association with Washington County settlement and agricultural history. Located near an early crossing of the upper Potomac River (near today's Williamsport) along a branch of the Philadelphia wagon road, the land was part of Lord Baltimore's more than 10,000-acre Conococheague Manor, his western-most tract reserved for rental income rather than sale. Records of the Manor dated 1767 show that much of the Manor acreage was leased in 80 parcels ranging from 10 to 500 acres, most improved with a log dwelling and some with small log barns. Many had orchards and meadow along with some "cleared land" indicating the land was under cultivation.¹⁷ Conococheague Manor was sold as one tract in 1768 and soon came under the ownership of Thomas Ringgold. Samuel Ringgold inherited the Ringgold Manor lands in 1776, by then totaling over 18,000 acres.¹⁸

¹⁷ "A List of Tenements on His Lordship's Manor of Conococheague --- 1767," photocopy transcribed by Paula S. Reed & Assoc., 2002.

¹⁸ Sandra Izer, "Elmwood Farm," author's manuscript, n.d., p. 1.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 8 Page 9

In 1783, the Potomac River port town of Williamsport was laid out at the mouth of the Conococheague Creek. Taking advantage of the water power provided by the creek and the transportation opportunities presented by both the river and the old wagon road, Williamsport thrived as a center for local trade. By 1791, traffic along the road was such that Washington County ordered a new survey to straighten and improve the road from Turner's Gap on South Mountain, through Boonsborough (officially laid out in 1792) to Williamsport.¹⁹ The road ran directly through Ringgold's Manor as it passed easterly out from Williamsport toward Turner's Gap (Figure 1). Twenty-six years later, in 1817, the Maryland Legislature incorporated "a Company to make a Turnpike Road from Boonsborough through Williams-Port."²⁰ The turnpike, which followed the route already established by the 1791 road, provided a connection to the National Pike at Boonsborough. Direct access to good transportation routes and the nearby town of Williamsport, along with the fertile limestone soil, made Ringgold's manor lands prime agricultural property.

Despite these transportation improvements, Samuel Ringgold's fortunes appear to have waned through the first decades of the nineteenth century. Like many of the region's farmers, he was likely impacted by the economic woes associated with the War of 1812 and successive wheat crop failures from the Hessian fly infestation. Around 1812 Ringgold began selling tracts out of his manor lands, including a 772-acre tract sold to John R. Dall in June of 1820.²¹ Dall built his manor house called Dalton on the north side of the Williamsport to Boonsborough Turnpike. John R. Dall, son of prominent Baltimore merchant James Dall, Sr., was educated at Harvard and likely did not directly engage in the agricultural production on his large tract of land.²² Dall was known to engage in horse breeding and hosted races on his property, a practice that may have led to his financial troubles by the 1840s. In 1847, John R. Dall defaulted on a loan of over \$7,000, a loan secured by his 772-acre Dalton tract as well as several others. Washington County land merchant William B. McAtee purchased the farm at a Sheriff's sale in December 1847.²³

William McAtee was in the business of buying and selling land, but appears to have been open to lease-to-own arrangements. James M. Downey, who eventually purchased 401 acres of the Dalton tract in 1858, was living on the farm as early as 1855 and possibly earlier. Downey hailed from Franklin County, Pennsylvania. In 1840 he purchased a 250-acre farm on the Conococheague Creek just south of the National Pike crossing.²⁴ Moving his wife, Ann Eliza

¹⁹ WC Road Map, Liber G, p. 553, MSA C2195-10.

²⁰ Archives of Maryland, Vol. 636, p. 203; an 1821 act to extend by three years the time in which the turnpike construction should start and seven years to complete, indicates that turnpike construction did not begin until after 1821 (Vol. 625, p. 45).

²¹ WC DB EE, p. 672; see also "Dalton," Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) #WA-I-016.

²² Richard Henry Spencer, *The Thomas Family of Talbot County, Maryland and Allied Families*, (Baltimore, MD: Williams & Wilkins Co., 1914); "Dall Family Papers, 1810-1843," Biographical Note, Special Collection and University Archives, W.E.B. Du Bois Library, University of Massachusetts, www.library.umass.edu.

²³ Izer, n.d., p. 3; WC DB IN 3, p. 49.

²⁴ MIHP #WA-V-071.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 8 Page 10

(Funk), and six children there by 1847, he was listed on the 1850 census as a farmer, with two additional children and his 65-year old father. By 1855, Downey was active as a money-lender, many of his small loans secured by household items, livestock, and merchandize. In an 1855 loan of \$262 to Robert Kimble, Kimble's C&O Canal boat "Cumberland" and his two horses were listed as security.²⁵ Downey also purchased from Henry Wolf in 1855, \$1,000 worth of general merchandize and coal located in a Williamsport warehouse, indicating that Downey may also have been engaged in canal merchandizing.²⁶

James Downey's financial successes – and large family – by 1855 appear to have led him to the decision to build a "mansion house" on the southern half of the Dalton farm, then still owned by William McAtee. Whether he and McAtee had a previous agreement for the future sale of the farm to Downey is unrecorded. Downey, however, apparently confident in his future, contracted to build a large brick house on that farm. The elegant exterior employed the still-popular Greek Revival architectural style, including the large tripartite front doorway and perhaps a classical portico, while the expansive interior included high-quality woodwork on the stairs and molding and meticulous grain-painted doors. The carpentry work, at a total of nearly \$1,000, was completed by the Spring of 1855, but by then Downey was unable to pay the bill. The "mechanics lien" recorded by John Corby, carpenter, in June 1855, provided a detailed inventory of features, priced "according to the Carpenters Bill of sale of Washington County MD." (Figures 2 and 3) The document also described the house:

...a certain Brick dwelling house two stories high above ground fronting thirty eight feet (38 ft.) and thirty six feet (36 feet) deep and a two story back building attached thereto, said back building being twenty by twenty feet width, with two porches attached thereto...²⁷

The twelve-room house was large, a statement of wealth on the rural landscape. A fashionable smokehouse was constructed at about the same time, its steeply pitched hipped roof finished with a finial reminiscent of a Victorian-era tower. It is possible, though not documented, that Downey also constructed the large bank barn, with its drive-through machine storage area also popular in his home county of Franklin in Pennsylvania. Machines such as the McCormick Reaper and the hay mower were introduced in the 1850s.

Despite his own money troubles associated with the construction of his new house, James Downey continued his financial dealings, making large and small loans to neighbors and family. In 1857, Downey sold his enslaved man William Dorsey to Andrew Brumbaugh for \$400.²⁸ Then in 1858, Downey purchased from William McAtee for \$13,249 the 401-acre Dalton tract, which he called Elmwood and on which he had recently built his house. On the same day,

²⁵ WC DB IN 9, p. 454.

²⁶ WC DB IN 9, p. 384.

²⁷ WC DB IN 10, p. 398.

²⁸ WC DB IN 12, p. 537.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 8 Page 11

Downey sold Elmwood to Lewis Ripple and Benjamin F. Newcomer for \$20,000.²⁹ This apparent windfall of profit on the part of Downey likely helped him to pay his debts, perhaps covering the cost of the house construction, although a Release record indicates that Lewis Ripple paid the debt still owed to carpenter John Corby.³⁰ By 1859, James M. Downey and family had moved to Loudoun County, Virginia, entrusting Jacob Funk "of Jno" (probably his brother-in-law) and William McAtee to sell his remaining property to pay his debts.³¹

Lewis Ripple, who lived in Loudoun County, Virginia at the time of the Elmwood farm purchase, and Benjamin F. Newcomer, a wealthy Baltimore grain merchant, were related by marriage. Lewis Ripple married Elizabeth A. Newcomer, Benjamin's sister, in 1850. Elizabeth (Newcomer) Ripple died in 1856, just two years after the birth of their son John N. Ripple.³² It is not clear whether Ripple and Newcomer's purchase of Downey's Elmwood farm in 1858 was a business investment or a family arrangement for the recently widowed Ripple. By 1860, Lewis Ripple was living on the Elmwood farm though not with his son John, according to the census record. James Downey's financial problems returned in 1860, forcing Ripple and Newcomer to repurchase Elmwood at a "sheriff's sale" for \$168, described as "now in the possession and occupancy of said Lewis Ripple."³³

By 1864, Lewis Ripple was remarried and living with his wife Laura in Baltimore City while the Elmwood farm was rented to William Dougherty.³⁴ Dougherty owed Ripple and Newcomer \$1,300 by 1866, for which they accepted Dougherty's blacksmithing and farming equipment as payment.³⁵ Two years later, Dougherty was again in debt to Ripple and Newcomer, a debt which he secured with a mortgage on his "fifty five acres of wheat, about thirty or thirty five acres of corn, now growing on the farm belonging to the said Newcomer and Ripple," along with his livestock, including four young horses, "3 heifers, 2 Steers, 3 calves, 8 Sheep, 13 hogs, 2 spotted Sows and their pigs..."³⁶ Though the farm was rented, it appears that the Elmwood mansion house served as a country house for Ripple and Newcomer, while Dougherty or another renter probably lived in the frame house on the southern end of the farm (Figure 4: 1877 Atlas map and Figure 5: 1895 plat). John N. Ripple's signature, dated 1872 when he was 18 years old, is etched into the Elmwood garret stair wall indicating he was visiting the house at that time, while an 1875 land record indicates that Lewis and John Ripple were still living in Baltimore.³⁷

²⁹ WC DB IN 13, p. 73 and p. 212. See IN 16, p. 164 for reference to the farm being called "Elmwood."

³⁰ WC DB IN 13, p. 240.

³¹ WC DB IN 14, p. 18.

³² Izer, n.d., p. 5.

³³ WC DB IN 16, p. 164. Though the sale was dated 1860, the deed was dated 1862.

³⁴ WC DB IN 18, p. 646. The 1870 census listed Ripple, aged 50, as a "Commission Merchant." Also in the household, his wife Laura, son John N. (age 16), daughter Elizabeth N. (age 11 months), Julia R. [Ripple] Nevin (age 31, no occupation), and Kate Powers (age 14, house servant).

³⁵ WC DB IN 19, p. 349.

³⁶ WC DB WMcKK 1, p. 89.

³⁷ WC DB GBO 73, p. 350.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 8 Page 12

Benjamin "Frank" Newcomer was a Washington County native who moved to Baltimore City in the 1840s to oversee his father's flour and grain mercantile company Newcomer & Stonebraker. In 1862, B. F. Newcomer took sole ownership of the company and reincorporated as Newcomer & Company. Newcomer, in addition to his business acumen, was deeply involved in the development of banking and railroads in the region.³⁸ Though not directly involved in the Franklin Railroad Company (later Cumberland Valley Railroad), his influence may have brought that railroad line along the edge of the Elmwood farm. The route crossed the northwest corner of the farm with the conveyance of three acres by Newcomer and Ripple to the railroad company in 1871.³⁹ The Williamsport Station was located just off the southwest corner of the farm, from which the route continued across the Potomac River to access the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad (B&O) and the important Baltimore markets (see Figure 4).

In 1875, John N. Ripple "of the City of Baltimore" purchased his Uncle B. F. Newcomer's interest in Elmwood. Land records over the ensuing 20 years indicate that John Ripple continued to live in Baltimore while the farm was probably leased. A second tenant house was constructed on the farm ca. 1885 (located outside the current property boundary). Ripple probably also elongated the front parlor windows and added the elaborate Italianate porch across the front of the Elmwood mansion house.⁴⁰ After the death of Lewis Ripple in 1890, John Ripple and his younger sister Elizabeth inherited their father's share of Elmwood, giving "Lizzie" a one-quarter interest in the farm.⁴¹ In 1894, John Ripple mortgaged the farm for \$10,000 through his cousin William Newcomer, agent for the Safe Deposit and Trust Co. of Baltimore – a bank established by William's father B. F. Newcomer.⁴² When Ripple defaulted on the loan, Elmwood was sold to pay the bank and other creditors, and to provide a \$4,000 trust for Lizzie Newcomer's share.⁴³ The farm was divided and sold in two lots in 1895. Lot No. 1, the northern half totaling 200 acres, was described in the newspaper sale advertisement:

Large Brick Dwelling, smoke house, carriage house, ice house, blacksmith shop, a splendid bank barn 100 feet long by 54 feet wide, under the bridge wall of the barn is a large cistern with piping into the barn yard where the water can be drawn for the use of the stock, also a never failing well of water near house, there is also a large Brick Tenant House near the Mansion House, and a large barn and a splendid well of water with a wind pump, also a thrifty orchard.⁴⁴

³⁸ Bernard C. Steiner, PhD, *Men of Mark in Maryland*, "Benjamin Franklin Newcomer," 1907.

³⁹ WC DB WMcKK 3, p. 388.

⁴⁰ R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc., "Determination of Eligibility Report, Elmwood Farm, Washington County, Maryland NHP No. WA-I-018," 2005.

⁴¹ Izer, n.d., p. 7.

⁴² WC DB GBO 102, p. 166; Bernard C. Steiner, PhD, *Men of Mark in Maryland*, "Benjamin Franklin Newcomer," 1907.

⁴³ Izer, n.d., p. 7.

⁴⁴ As cited in Izer, n.d., p. 7.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 8 Page 13

The 198-acre Lot No. 2, the southern half of the farm, included the older tenant house described as a "Weatherboarded Dwelling," and a new barn. (see Figure 5). It was Jacob F. Lemen who purchased Lot No. 1 of Elmwood in 1895 for \$10,150.⁴⁵ Lemen appears to have lived on the farm until 1909 when he sold it to John M. Kendle for \$19,500.⁴⁶

John M. Kendle was still living on his nearby farm on the Downsville Pike in 1910. His 22-year old son, Elvin Roy Kendle, appears to have been working on the farm at that time. When John Kendle died in 1916, he devised to his wife Ida the Elmwood farm "known as the Lemen farm" for life, to be sold after her death.⁴⁷ When Ida Kendle wanted to sell Elmwood in 1919, she had to get permission from the Equity Court. Offered at public sale, the now 193-acre farm was again described in a newspaper advertisement:

This is one of the best farms in Washington County, the land is fine limestone land, in a high state of cultivation and under good fencing. It is improved by a two story brick dwelling house with basement, containing 12 rooms, a two story brick tenant house containing 8 rooms and kitchen. Bank barn with two wagon sheds and corn cribs, hog pen, buggy shed, blacksmith's shop and all necessary outbuildings. There are two wells of water on the place and two cisterns, one at the house and one at the barn. There is on the farm a young apple orchard in fine shape. There is on the place a large variety of small fruits. This farm is well located, near railroads, schools, churches, post office and market and is a most desirable and attractive property.⁴⁸

Elvin Roy Kendle was the highest bidder, paying \$29,878 for his father's farm. By 1920, Kendle was living at Elmwood, described on the census as a "general farm," with his wife and three children, Ida M. (age 8), John M. (age 5), and Leroy (5 months). (Figures 6 and 7)

The Kendle family remained on the Elmwood farm for nearly 90 years and still own the Elmwood building complex today (2011). It was E. Roy Kendle who began the conversion to dairy production on the Elmwood farm, building first the frame dairy barn with a concrete foundation and floor to improve sanitation. The concrete block milk house was constructed into the hill near the house, where milk cans were kept cool while awaiting pickup by the dairy truck. Two concrete stave silos (one no longer extant) were constructed to hold livestock feed. Kendle's son John M. Kendle took over the Elmwood farm in 1947.⁴⁹ After a snowstorm demolished the old carriage house and blacksmith shop, John Kendle constructed a new concrete block milking parlor and milk house in 1960, providing state-of-the-art sanitation for the mechanical milking process and refrigerated milk storage.

⁴⁵ WC DB 104, p. 215.

⁴⁶ WC DB 129, p. 307. Lemen actually sold the farm to Albert Eyerly in 1905 (WC DB 122, p. 636), then bought it back from Eyerly in 1908 before selling it to Kendle in 1909.

⁴⁷ As cited in Izer, n.d., 9.

⁴⁸ As cited in Izer, n.d., 10.

⁴⁹ WC DB 244, p. 697.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 8 Page 14

In 2000, the Kendle family subdivided the farm for development. The Elmwood mansion house and barn complex were retained on a 6.2-acre parcel, still surrounded by cultivated fields.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 9 Page 1

Major Bibliographical References:

- "A List of Tenements on His Lordship's Manor of Conococheague --- 1767." Original in the Canadian Archives. Photocopy transcribed by Paula S. Reed & Assoc., 2002.
- "Archives of Maryland" Online. aomol.net on www.msa.md.gov.
- Brugger, Robert J. *Maryland a Middle Temperament*. Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, MD, 1985.
- Ensminger, Robert F. *The Pennsylvania Barn*. The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, MD, 1992.
- Goodwin, R. Christopher, & Associates, Inc. "Determination of Eligibility Report, Elmwood Farm, Washington County, Maryland MIHP No. WA-I-018." Frederick, MD, 2005.
- Izer, Sandra. "Elmwood Farm." Author's manuscript, n.d.
- Reed, Paula S. & Assoc. "Mid Maryland: An Agricultural History and Historic Context." The Catocin Center for Regional Studies, Frederick, MD, 2003.
- Steiner, Bernard C., PhD, *Men of Mark in Maryland*, "Benjamin Franklin Newcomer," 1907.
- U.S. Population Census Records. HeritageQuest Online.
- Walsh, Richard and William Lloyd Fox, eds. *Maryland, A History*. Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, MD, 1974.
- Washington County Land Records. mdlandrec.net on www.msa.md.gov.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Elmwood (WA-I-018)

Name of Property

Washington County, Maryland

County and State

Section 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundary is defined by the boundaries of Washington County Tax Map 56, Parcel 157.

Boundary Justification:

The current boundary is defined by the Parcel 157 outlines, drawn in 2000 when the Elmwood farm was subdivided. The boundary includes 6.2 acres of the original Elmwood farm with the main (non-tenant) domestic and agricultural building complex.

James M. Corby

To John Corby

Ann. 24th 1855

561.65

For work and labor done and performed at the instance and request of the said James M. Corby, in, upon and about a certain Brick dwelling house two stories high above ground fronting thirty eight feet (38 ft) and thirty six feet (36 ft) deep and a two story back building attached thereto, said back building being twenty by twenty feet with two porches attached thereto, the said building being situated on the land formerly owned by John H. Call late of Washington County deceased, and now in the occupation and possession of the said James M. Corby, the said building being situated near the public road leading from Williamsport to Boonboro in Washington County about one mile and a quarter from Williamsport on the right hand side of said road going from Williamsport, and about one hundred yards more or less from said road, as per account hereunto annexed

27 square and 93 feet of put shingling in to the weather	52.78	20 feet of string board spant at 6 ct	1.20
27 do of bathing	11.27	20 feet of Naval plank for stairs at 5 ct	1.00
to 13 square and 95 feet of framing upper tier of post	7.77	39 round banisters at 10 ct	3.90
to cutting 12 square and 95 feet of plank for back corner	3.00	2 platform with the flooring	1.50
to framing 64 timbers	7.57	to Stairing under the stairs washboard	1.25
to 16 pair of rafters with collar beams	1.07	2 ^d flight of stairs leading to the land 15 steps, each	7.57
to 15 pair do without collar beams	3.00	12 feet of stringboard at 5 ct	.60
to 100 feet of joining plate at 5	5.00	to putting up partition to said do	.75
20 feet of gally formed	5	220 to 241 feet of butting joints at 2 ct	4.40
22 square and 53 feet of Gallying joints 35 ct	13.47	763 feet of square shingles at 5 ct	38.15
2470 feet of Carpet flooring 10 ct	16.75	763 feet of matching board do at 15 ct	11.44
3364 feet of quarter flooring heating joint 2.25	75.38	377 feet of splayt panes for window sashes	23.62
35 feet of hand and bottom rail for porch 20 ct	3.50	247 feet of wide sash bars spant at 9 ct	22.23
35 feet of fascia and moulding	.37	15 feet sashes of wrap moulding at 10 ct	1.50
80 Banisters at 4 ct	3.20	5 wrap panes worked with mouldings	5.00
20 feet of muel posts	50	20 Bar blocks 1 ct	20
to putting iron steps to muel posts	50	20 3/4 pl. th blocks	1.50
69 Shalting	6.90	113 feet 9 inches of 9 inch joints for doors at 6 ct	6.78
260 feet of planed partition on 3 sides 3.00	5.20	153 feet of 9 inch do sashes wide at 4 ct	6.12
to 1 cabinet with doors hung 80	5.00	157 feet of architrave spant at 8 ct	12.56
1 Stairs 9 step 4 window 22 feet	6.51	117 feet of moulding for do at 15 ct	17.55
22 feet 9 in of fascia	1.10	641 feet of spant washboard at 4 ct	25.64
60 feet of Naval post to start the stairs	40	157 feet of plane washboard at 3 ct	4.71
10 step and 4 window 3 ct	6.52	70 feet of che. board spant at 4 ct	2.80
93 feet of 24 hing washboard	7.44	221 feet of parting strip at 3 ct	6.63
3 flight garret 10 straight steps 4 window	6.32	34 carpet sills at 10 ct	3.40
1 flight of stairs in bed room 10 steps and 4 window	6.52	30 large window sills at 25 ct	7.50
10 feet 6 in of hand rail head of stairs 21 ct	1.15	10 door frames for walls from 10 to 15 in wide	15.00
16 Banisters 4 ct	6.40	24 springs for window sash at 5 ct	1.20
10 feet 6 inches Moulding	3.00	to putting iron post all in frame and attching do	.25
	527.19	228 light of sash 10 by 14 inches at 10 ct	22.80
	27.44	60 light of sash 8 by 10 inches at 7 ct	4.20
	50	20 feet of partition to stairs door	1.00
	3.50	17 steps at 15 ct	2.55
	2.56	4 1/2 ft. brass 24 inch with brass screws	5.10
	561.65		

Elmwood, WA-I-018
16311 Kendle Road, Washington Co., MD

Figure 3: John Corby lien, 1855
(WC DB IN 10, p. 399)

36 Mouth piece and shelf in kitchen	57	12 pair of large shutters heavy stuff at 5.00	36.00
to one side light front door complete	36.00	24 pair of hinges put on and fastenings	9.00
5 bellows frames with 3 cords	3.00	4 pair of shutters for 12 light windows 2.00	8.00
8 double worked doors thick with moultings	24.00	8 pair of hinges and fastenings	4.44
10 single worked doors with moultings	25.00	120 feet of plane architecture 4 ct 20 ind	5.00
2 large parlor doors with moulting	8.00	40 feet 8 in. br of panels for window 6 ct 25.00	2.40
1 glass door with shutter	2.50	40 feet sash strip and 10 feet of putty and touch slab	1.00
to putting on 33 pair of hinges for doors 50	5.50	120 feet of large boards 2 1/2 in	3.00
1056 feet of stud partition at 60 ct	6.50	to putting on in collar	.75
6 14 pair of venetian blinds at 5.00	70.00	57 bundles 15 1/2 in	7.00
24 large window frames for 10 by 14 glass at 2.00	52.00	100 feet of strip in wall to hang cloth	2.50
4-12 light window frames at 1.50	6.00	to building partition 7 by 11 feet 6 in with alum 50	50.00
to putting on 21 pair of hinges on blinds and fastenings	12.00	to deduct 25 percent each will be 25.00 2 ct	5.00
4 bellows window frames at 1.00 each 4.00 12 web locks put on at 25-50-75 window stuff at 3 ct. 12.00			16.00
			75.00
			222.22

May 20th 1855 I hereby certify that it having been agreed upon by James W. Conway and John Corby, that I should set the prices to the above Bill according to the Bill of rates of Washington County Md. I therefore set the above prices to the work as measured by the said Conway and Corby they being in accordance with said Bill of rates this therefore always is my award to the said John Corby workman who has done said work for said Conway.

Peter Stoffy

Received on the within Bill at different times in word money of \$230.00

State of Maryland, Washington County, to wit

On this 24th day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty five before me the subscriber, one of the Justices of the Peace in and for the said county, personally appeared John Corby and made with me the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, that the within account is just and true, and that he hath not, directly or indirectly (to his knowledge) received any part or parcel of the money bargained or due by such account, or any security, or satisfaction for the same, more than what is therein given for answer before.

James M. Bolgan & also the grant with the said corner shown, as in and to the effect of a
 said Commission and to the following described land as: situated in Frederick County, Maryland
 whole tract of land called "Conococheague Manor", and for a more
 the same, beginning at a stone standing near the South side
 from Williamsport to Bonobon, it being also the
 James Downey to Lewis Rapph, having
 and Records in Liber J. N. -



the same corner of the
 ring them out
 of said Deed, David
 Tucker to a stone pile
 corner of the land of
 conveyed to him by
 these bounding ones
 West 11 1/2 degrees to a
 76 1/2 Degree West 94 feet
 of the original Deed, then
 North 14 1/2 Degree East 12
 margin of the Cumberland
 the East margin being South
 perches into the public road
 part to Bonobon, then a
 Degree East 58 perches, South
 perches to the place of beginning
 dead end of land now or late
 some land that now comes
 to Lewis Rapph by the said
 same parcel of said land as
 said Tucker as parcel No 1,
 as, at the day of sale which plat
 with this Deed among the

County, the lands hereby granted
 Frederick A. Baker & the Chapin
 Miller and J. M. Bolgan,
 Mrs. F. Heaphy
 William and M. Anderson,
 John B. Bilton.

Elmwood, WA-I-018
 16311 Kendle Road, Washington Co.
 Figure 5: 1895 Plat of Elmwood
 (WC DB 104, p. 215)

Elmwood A-I-018

16311 Kendle Road, Washington Co., MD

Figure 6: E. Roy Kendle and family at Elmwood about 1915.
Note ca. 1880 porch. (courtesy Kendle family)

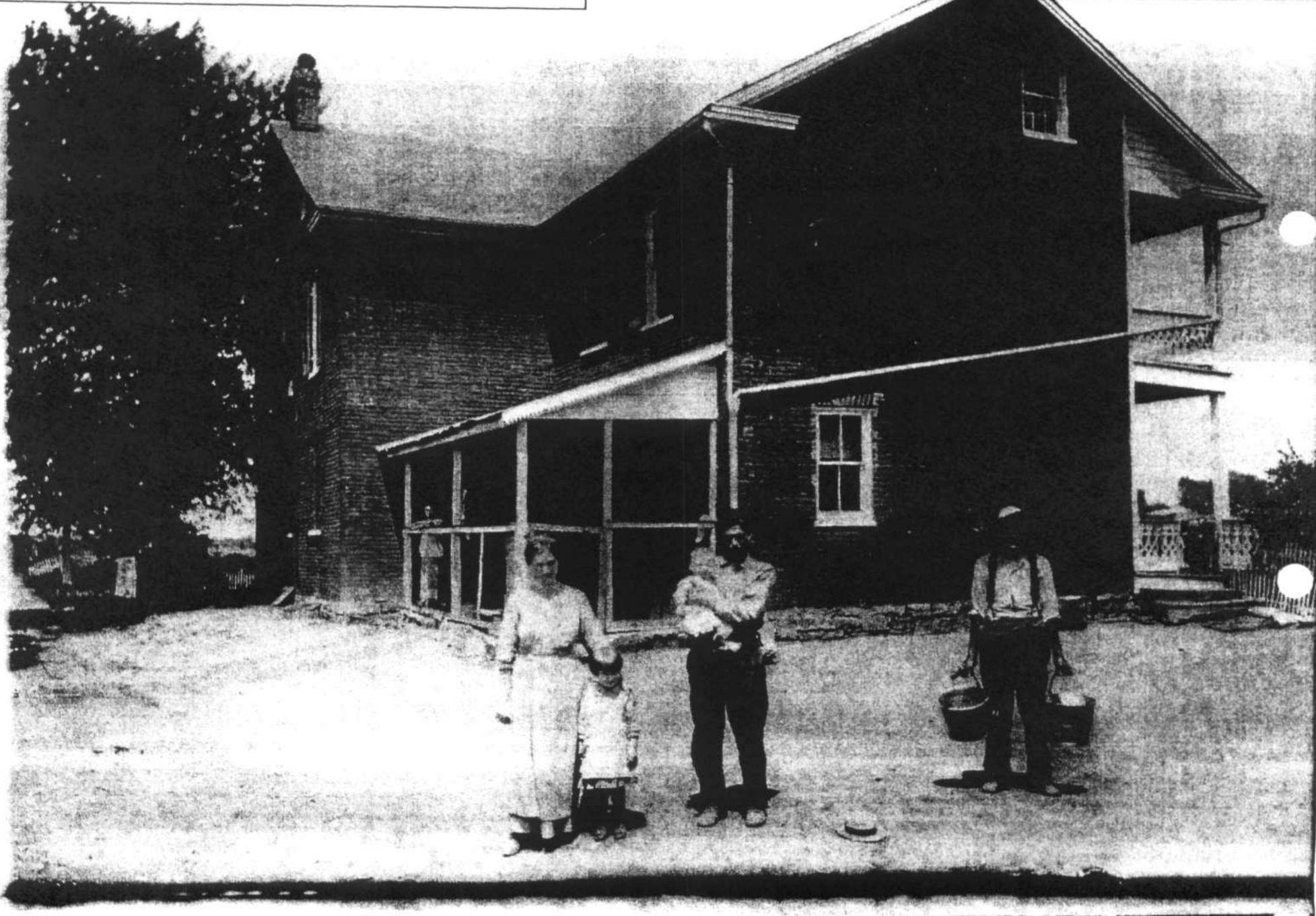


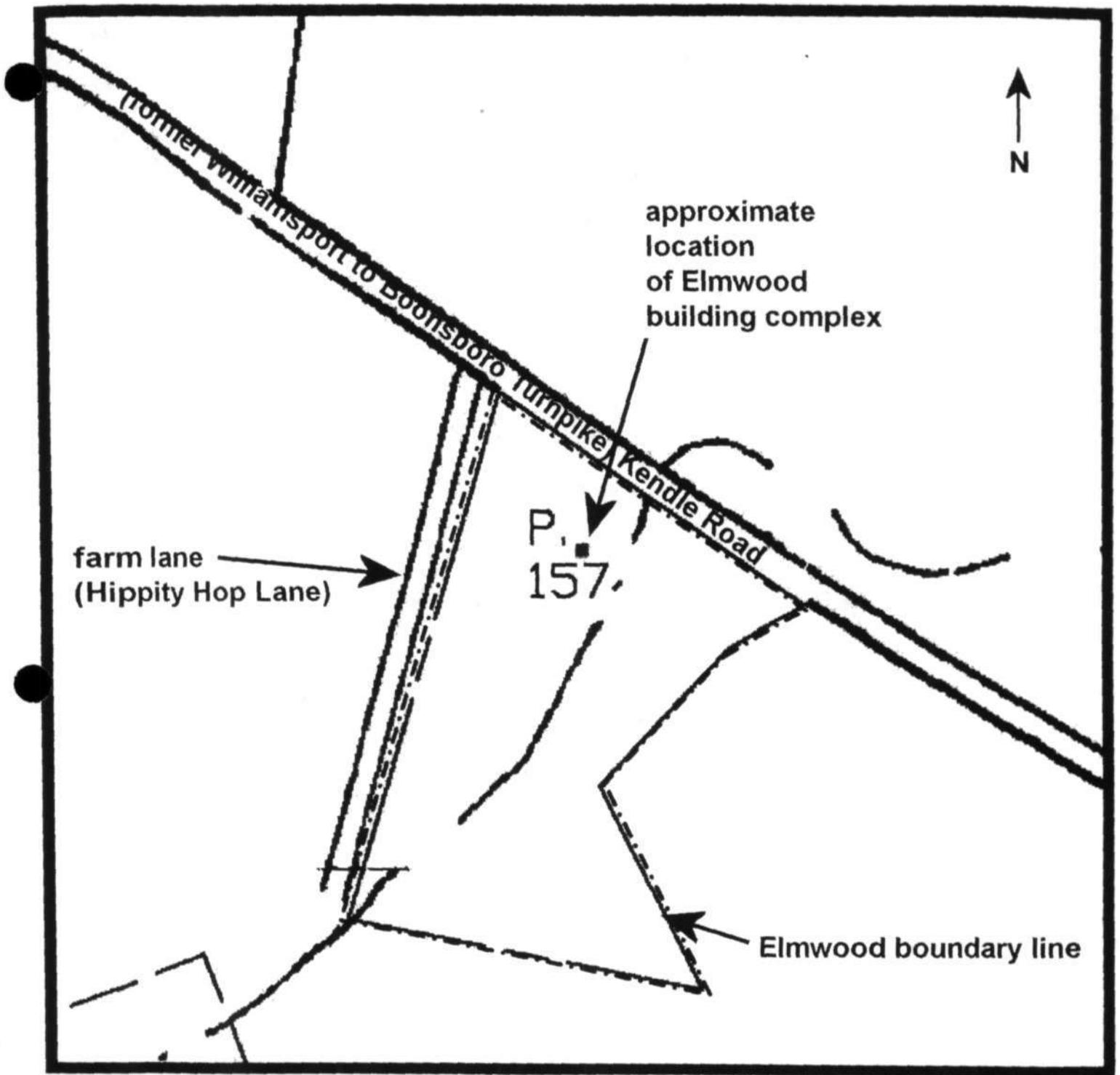
Elmwood, I-018

16311 Kendle Road, Washington Co., MD

Figure 7: E. Roy Kendle and family at Elmwood about 1915.

(courtesy Kendle family)





Elmwood, WA-I-018
16311 Kendle Road
Washington Co., MD
Boundary Map

Washington Co. Tax Map 56, Parcel 157
(SDAT: Real Property Search)

Elmwood, WA-I-018
16311 Kendle Road
Washington Co., MD
Site Map



Main House (c)

Boundary Line

Milk House (c)

Smokehouse (c)

Garage (c)

Milking Parlor (c)

Bank Barn (c)

Hog Barn (c)

Barnyard wall (c)

feed trough (not counted)

corn bins
(no longer
standing)

Milking Barn (c)

silage pit
(not counted)

Silo (c)

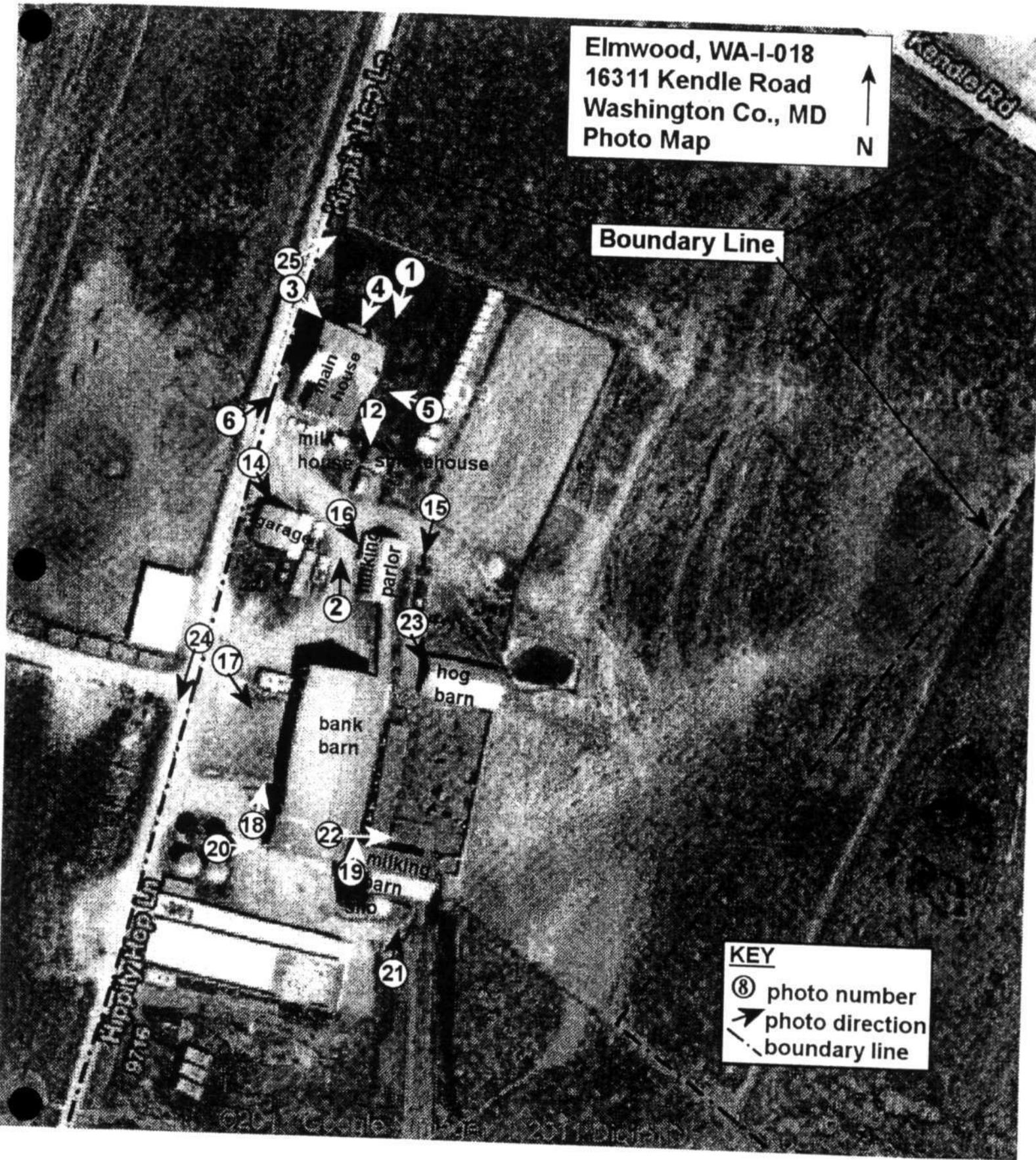
Hippy Hop Ln
9715

Kendle Rd

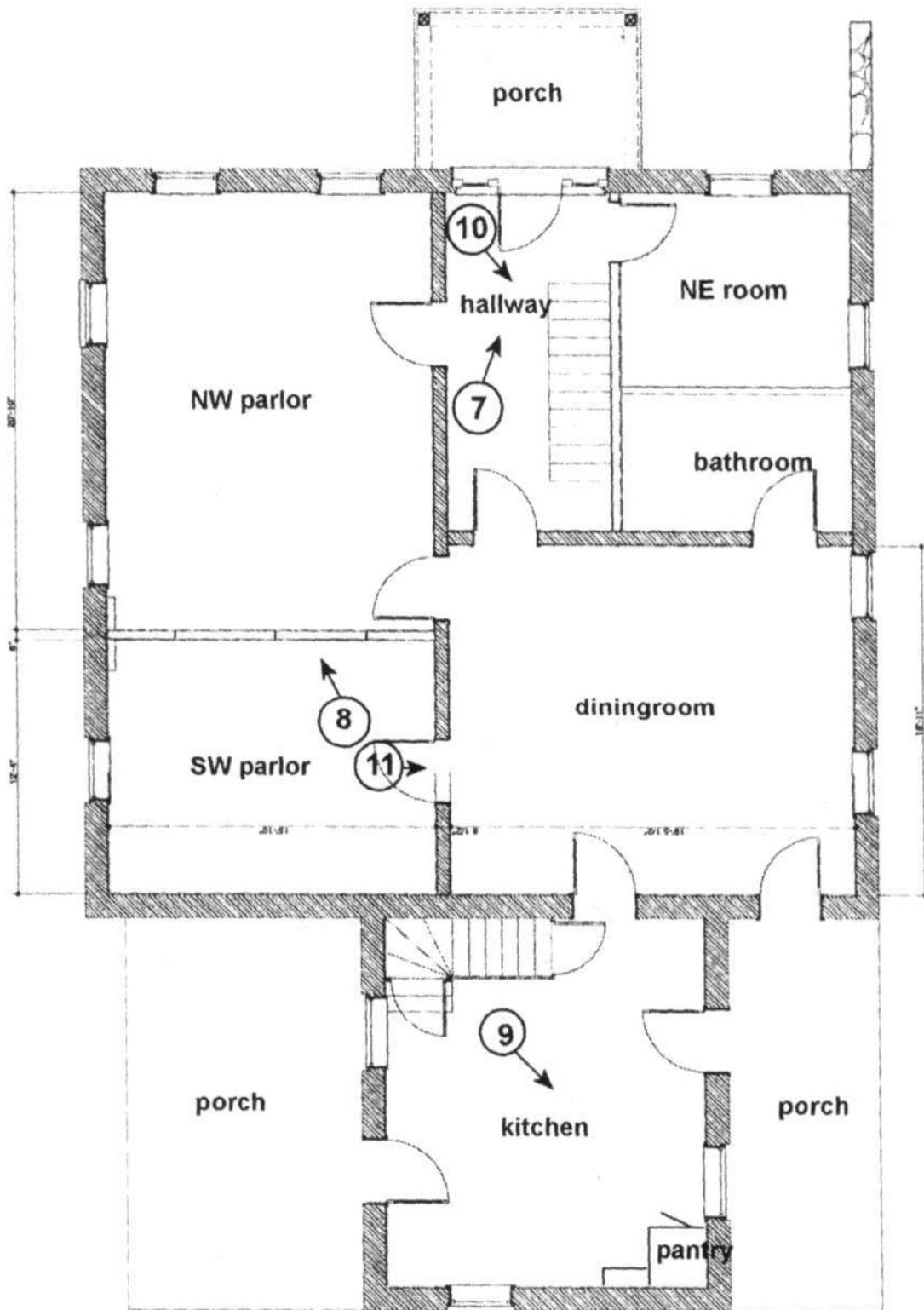
Elmwood, WA-I-018
16311 Kendle Road
Washington Co., MD
Photo Map



Boundary Line



KEY
⑧ photo number
➔ photo direction
- - - boundary line



Elmwood, WA-I-018
 16311 Kendle Road
 Washington Co., MD

Elmwood Main House
 First Floor Plan and Photo Views

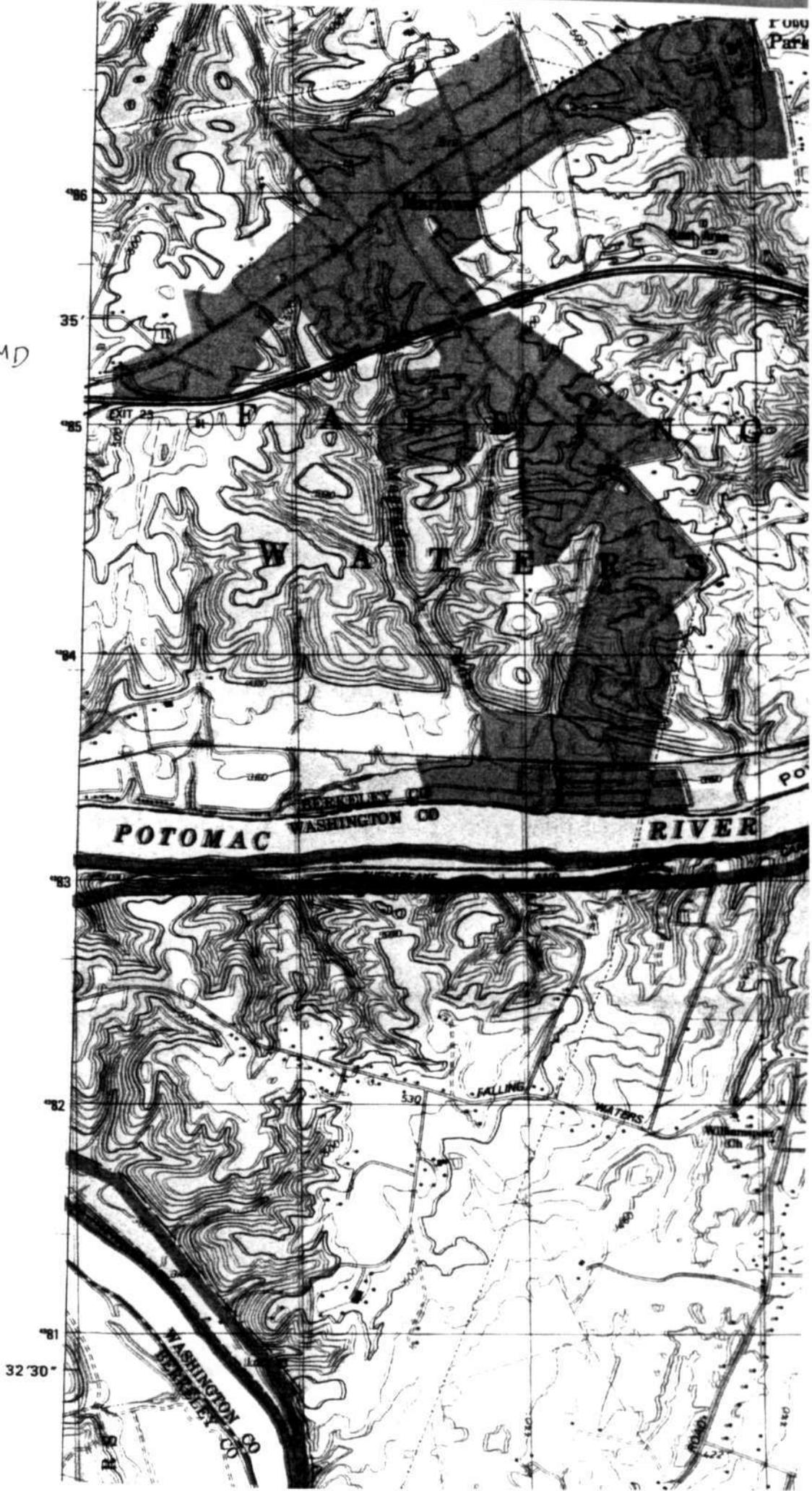
Key
 ⑧ photo number
 → photo direction

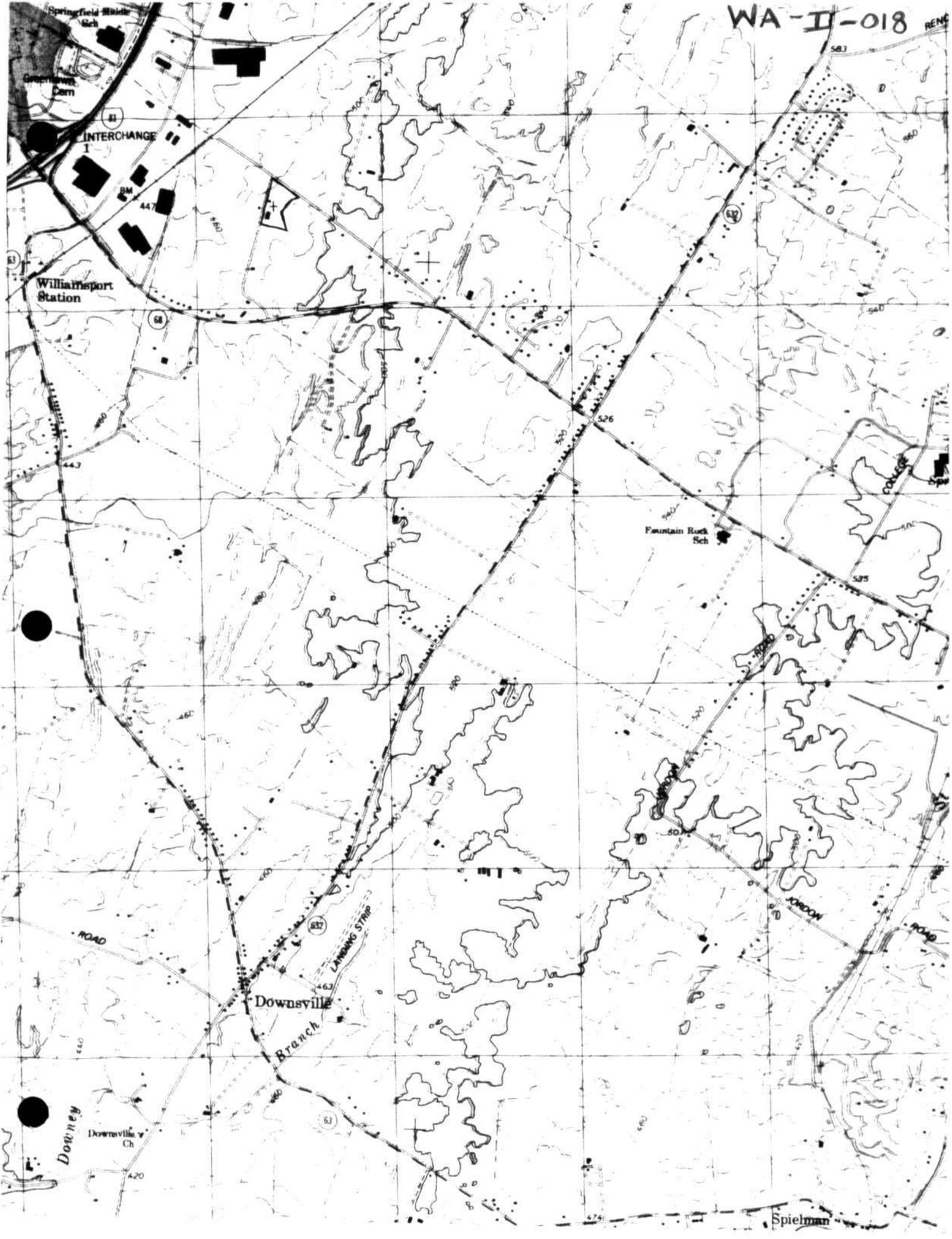


WA-I-018

Elmwood
16311 KENDLE ROAD
WILLIAMSPORT,
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MD

18 259391 4385337





Springfield State Sch
Greenwell Cem

INTERCHANGE 1

BM 447

Williamsport Station

Fountain Rock Sch

Downsville

Branch

Downey

Downsville Ch

Spielman

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

WA-1-018
Elmwood

Name of Property

Washington County, MD

County and State

Section PHOTO Page 1

Index to Photographs

The following information applies to all photographs which accompany this documentation:

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) Number: WA-1-018

Name of Property: Elmwood

Location: Washington County, Maryland

Photographer: Edie Wallace

Date taken: September 2011

Location of original digital files: MD SHPO

HP 100 Gray Photo Cartridge
HP Premium Plus Photo Paper

MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_001.tif

Elmwood main house, north elevation, view south showing smokehouse and bank barn.

MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_002.tif

Elmwood main house, south elevation, view north showing garage (on left), milk house (center), smokehouse (center right), and milking parlor (right).

MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_003.tif

Elmwood main house, north and west elevations, view southeast.

MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_004.tif

Elmwood main house, north elevation entrance detail, view south.

MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_005.tif

Elmwood main house, east elevation, view west.

MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_006.tif

Elmwood main house, south and west elevations, view northeast.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

WA-I-018
Elmwood

Name of Property

Washington County, MD

County and State

Section PHOTO Page 2

MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_007.tif	Elmwood main house, first floor interior, stair hall view northeast toward main entrance.
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_008.tif	Elmwood main house, first floor interior, view northwest from southwest parlor into northwest parlor.
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_009.tif	Elmwood main house, first floor interior, kitchen, view southeast.
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_010.tif	Elmwood main house, first floor interior, stair hall, view southeast showing stairway to second floor.
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_011.tif	Elmwood main house, interior, detail of grain-painted door and Carpenter lock.
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_012.tif	Smokehouse, view southeast from east side of main house.
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_013.tif	Smokehouse interior, view toward northwest corner from doorway.
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_014.tif	Garage, north and west elevations, view southeast.
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_015.tif	Elmwood barn complex, overall view facing southwest.
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_016.tif	Milking parlor, north and west elevations, view southeast.
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_017.tif	Bank barn, west elevation, view southeast.
MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_018.tif	Bank barn, west elevation, detail of bank

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

WA-I-018
Elmwood

Name of Property

Washington County, MD

County and State

Section PHOTO Page 3

MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_019.tif

bridge showing pipes from cistern, view north.

MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_010.tif

Bank barn, east elevation, view north.

Bank barn, west and south elevations, view west showing the basement drive-through wagonshed/corncrib, attached wagonshed/corncrib, silo, and frame milking barn.

MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_011.tif

Silo and frame milking barn, south elevation, view north.

MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_012.tif

Barnyard view east from northwest corner of frame milking barn showing stone barnyard wall and feed transport from silo to feed trough.

MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_013.tif

Hog barn, north and west elevations, view southeast.

MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_014.tif

Setting, view south along farm lane (Hippity Hop Lane) toward brick tenant house and housing development.

MD_WASHINGTONCOUNTY_ELMWOOD_015.tif

Setting, view northeast across front (north) house yard toward Dalton (WA-I-016).