Form No 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Harley's Post Office; Burkittsville

AND/OR COMMON
Town of Burkittsville (preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Intersection Md. Rt. 17 & Jefferson-Boonsboro County Road
__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Burkittsville
__ VICINITY OF
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Sixth

STATE
Maryland
CODE
24
COUNTY
Frederick
CODE
021

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
X DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
__BUILDING(S)	__PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	X COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	X BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	X RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Multiple Public and Private Owners

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Burkittsville
__ VICINITY OF
STATE
Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Frederick County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN
Frederick
STATE
Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE
__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN
STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
X EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Burkittsville, Maryland, is located in the southwest corner of Frederick County, at the intersection of Maryland Route 17 and the Jefferson-Boonsboro county road. Its buildings line both sides of the latter road, called Main Street through the town, for a distance of about one mile. At either end of the street, within the town limits, there is approximately three-tenths of a mile of open land. There are many trees and several open lots in the center of town, and the lots lining the main street all back onto open fields.

The townscape is quite consistent in scale, with the exception of the churches and the Seminary Building. The houses for the most part are two and one half stories, having the same roof ridge and cornice line. Slate, tin and asphalt shingles are the common roof covers. A few smaller, earlier houses have one and a half stories with exposed basements making usable quarters.

The facades present a slightly undulating line of varying window heights and porch levels along the straight, tree-lined street. Many original door and window openings have been enlarged over the years, reflecting new styles and the desire for more light and air.

The street is the visible and practical line of communication upon which the neighborly free standing buildings are placed. Each house has a set of outbuildings reflecting the owner's needs and occupation, e.g., summer kitchens and law offices.

Most of the approximately seventy buildings in Burkittsville are used as dwellings, but there are handsome Victorian commercial buildings and shops on the east side of town, most with their original fenestration and wood detailing.

Most of the structures in the town are in sound condition. There are virtually no intrusions in this townscape. The town has had only two or three new buildings constructed since 1900, and its gas station consists of two pumps in front of the small frame post office.

The most distinctive quality about Burkittsville is its setting among the fields with open vistas to the hills. This village is a wonderful survival of the small, self-sustaining, self-contained communities so common in the early nineteenth century. Here we still have the one long street and the long, narrow lots bordering that street, with back yards answerable only to the rolling fields and meadows. Time has stood still in this place, leaving a remarkable visual picture of a past way of life.

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 1)

DESCRIPTION CONTINUED #7

There are, in general, three architectural types in Burkittsville. About one-third of the buildings are of the Federal style, some of them sporting classical Greek Revival details. Competing on a friendly basis with the Federal shapes are those of the early Victorian era (1860's - 1870's). The Federal buildings are for the most part brick, and the Victorian ones are wooden. Percentagewise, approximately 54 percent of the structures in the town are of wood, 40 percent of brick, and 6 percent of stone. The stone buildings are largely farmhouses built before the town was established. There are still several farms within the town limits today.

The first part of the David Arnold House, built in 1790, is a rectangular, two and a half story, five bay farmhouse of stone laid in a random ashlar pattern with wide mortar joints. A wide stone center chimney on the west side of the gable roof is shingled in tin. The 1873 addition, rising three and a half stories from a lower ground level, has matching stonework. It is hip-roofed, with a brick end and a brick center chimney. This addition extends beyond the original building to the south and incorporates first and second story porches on the west.

The north facade has five 6 over 6 second floor windows and four first floor windows with a centered entrance. The longer elevation on the east has evenly spaced 6 over 6 windows on the third floor and five on the second floor with two doorways giving onto a porch. The first story has four small windows and two doors.

The mortar in the older part of the Arnold House is made with creek sand. The color of the mortar changes abruptly on the north facade where the 1873 addition is joined. There is an unusual 18th century cornice under the roof of the 1790 structure on the north side. Instead of a large crown molding, there is only a small molding above the Roman ovolo molding adjacent to the underside of the roofboards. The two 1790 windows on both the first and second floors have brick jambs, apparently added to bring these windows into conformity with the narrower 1873 windows. The windows throughout the house have stone lintels.

The centered entrance door on the north side is Classic Revival with side and over lights. The board lintel is trimmed with dentils. The wooden railed and columned porch is a Victorian addition, as is

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 2)

DESCRIPTION CONTINUED, ITEM NUMBER 7

the second story porch on the east.

Between the house and the main street, on the lowest level, is a stone springhouse with tin shingling. The spring still flows, as it did when President Abraham Lincoln drank from it in 1862. The spring-house stands between a pair of huge, 200 year old white oak trees.

A stone smokehouse (1790) stands to the south of the house. Two large barns of rough sawmill board and a board storage shed are to the west and southwest.

The many stone fencing walls on the property are fine examples of the post-Revolutionary and pre-Civil War period. They are of dry wall construction with no mortar used.

From September 14 to 16, 1862, the David Arnold House was the headquarters of Major General William B. Franklin and the center of his operations for taking Brownsville Pass and Pleasant Valley. The outbuildings and basement of the house were used to house the wounded from the Battle of Crampton's Gap as were most of the buildings in Burkittsville. Civil War artifacts are still found on the Arnold farm property, where many Confederate soldiers were buried.

The Burkitt House, located at 103 East Main Street, was built in 1807 (according to the date inscribed near the kitchen fireplace). It is a rectangular, two and a half story, six bay Federal style structure of brick coated with painted stucco, with a gable metal roof. The broad facade facing on Main Street has six asymmetrically placed second floor windows and five first floor windows with an entrance. The broad front porch on the first floor and the center gable on the third floor, with its German siding and sawn work, are later Victorian additions. The northwest elevation, which is extended by an ell covered with German siding, has three windows on the first and second floors and two small attic windows. There are broad chimneys at each end of the main house.

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 3)

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DESCRIPTION CONTINUED, ITEM NUMBER 7

The northeast side of the main part of the house has wooden porches on the first and second stories.

To the northwest of the main part of the house is a native stone, one and a half story milkhouse with a large fireplace at the north end, and a slate roof. This is a working farm with barns and other appropriate farm buildings. The old stone slave quarters lie to the east of the house.

This entire 163-acre farm lies within the boundaries of the town, partially encircling it on the northeast, north and northwest. It preserves a natural link between the townscape and its rural surroundings. The house was the home of Henry Burkitt, one of the founders of Burkittsville, for whom the town was later named.

The Emmanuel Slifer House at One East Main Street was built in the early 1820's (Church records give the date as 1821). It is a two and a half story, 3 bay, L-shaped brick structure, laid in Flemish bond on the south (front) facade and in common bond on the other three walls. There are brick chimneys at the ends of the gable roof. The back ell on the north has two stories, with porches on each level to the east. The roof is of molded metal.

Double entrance doors facing Main Street are Classic Revival with raised ovals within rectangular panels. The entrance is at the southeast corner. There are two 6 over 6 shuttered windows to the west of the entrance and three on the second story. There are five shuttered windows on the west elevation and two small attic windows.

The Emmanuel Slifer House stands at the junction of the old Conococheague and Seneca Indian trails, and a French and Indian trading post once stood on this site (circe 1740). Arrowheads and other artifacts have been found on the property. The Reverend Emmanuel Slifer, who moved with his bride into this house built by his father in 1821, was a descendant of both a pioneering and a religious family who came to the Middle Valley in 1771. The Reverend Slifer himself was pastor of the Pleasant View Church of the Brethren,

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 4)

DESCRIPTION CONTINUED, ITEM NUMBER 7

and a man of many facets. He was minister, music teacher, tailor and clockmaker. He was considered one of the finest tailors in Maryland, and reportedly made President Lincoln a suit, which he presented to him at the White House. He served on the Committee for Religious Objectors and Exemption during the Civil War, and visited the President several times while preparing Exemption Papers for Christian Objectors. Mr. Slifer used to play his beloved violin in secret in the attic of this house, as his Dunkard Church would not allow its ministers to play such worldly instruments.

Also located on the lot at One East Main Street is a Tailor Shop built about the same time as the Emmanuel Slifer House. It is a rectangular building built of red brick (fired at the onetime local brickworks) and laid in common bond. The center entrance facing on Main Street is flanked by two large 9 over 6 windows with paneled wood shutters. One 6 over 4 window is in each of the east and west elevations. The rear (north) elevation has an entrance and two 9 over 6 windows.

The foundation, rising above street level, is of native limestone. The roof is shingled and there is a vaulted brick chimney on the east.

On September 9, 1862, when CSA cavalry occupied Burkittsville, Col. Thomas Munford commandeered the Tailor Shop as his headquarters. On September 13, when he left it to establish headquarters at the Wiener Tannery, the shop became headquarters for Union forces.

The Tailor Shop was used as the medical supply building by the Christian Women's Association, a community women's nursing group organized in Antietam, Burkittsville, Frederick, and Middletown to nurse wounded soldiers following battles. Mrs. Emmanuel Slifer was the local president of this organization.

The Tailor Shop later became a clock shop (two of the clocks made here are extant), a barber shop, a store, and an attorney's office.

There is a large stone chimney just north of the Tailor Shop, the workmanship of which appears to be pre-Revolutionary.

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 5)

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DESCRIPTION CONTINUED, ITEM NUMBER 7

The Michael Wiener House and Tannery, 109 West Main Street, was built before 1830. It is a two and a half story, five bay, Federal style, L-shaped structure of painted brick laid in common bond, with a metal shingled pitched roof.

The main elevation, which faces on Main Street, has four 9 over 6 shuttered windows and an entrance on the first floor and five 6 over 6 shuttered windows on the second floor. The long northwest elevation has three shuttered windows on each story. Brick chimneys rise at the center of the southeast and northwest ends on the main part of the house; the ell has a center and a back chimney. Extending the ell is a one story brick summer kitchen and milk cooling room.

The northeast elevation has wide wooden porches on both floors of the ell.

On December 25, 1890, the house was gutted by fire. It was rebuilt in 1891; some renovation work was carried out in 1972.

The northwest windows face the remains of the Michael Wiener Tannery, which cover about 500 square feet of the original 1,250 square feet of the main building. Built between 1834 and 1840, the Tannery is a two and a half story rectangular structure, the first story of stone, the second of red brick with a slate roof. The southeast elevation has three windows one above the other, and the southwest elevation has two windows remaining on the second floor and an entrance and window on the first floor. The northwest part of the building has collapsed.

Michael Wiener, an immigrant German tanner, came to Burkittsville in 1834 and established a tannery where he made officers' saddles for the Austrian army. The Tannery, due to its location on the Boonsboro-Jefferson road, became a stopping place for turkey and cattle drovers traveling from the Shenandoah Valley to the Baltimore markets, and for oxcarts and wagons carrying charcoal from Pleasant Valley and Elk Ridge and iron ore from South Mountain to the Catoctin Iron Works.

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 6)

DESCRIPTION CONTINUED, ITEM NUMBER 7

A small industrial complex grew up about the Tannery. There was a pottery kiln; a shed and holding pens for butchering horses for their hides; wheelwright, carpenter and blacksmith shops; a large building where harnesses and finished leather goods were made; a loom-house; open air vats for processing leather; and a magistrate's office and courtroom. Of these buildings, only a part of the magistrate's office, where Magistrate Wiener once presided, remains standing.

The commander of the Confederate Cavalry was quartered in the Wiener House on September 9, 1862. The Wiener family remained; the ladies to cook and the men to run the Tannery, wheel shop, wagon shop, and smithy, and to patch up wagons and gear broken down after the long march into Maryland. In the late afternoon of September 12, General Robert E. Lee was brought here by ambulance to meet General J. E. B. Stuart, who took him on in a fresh ambulance.

The Tannery suffered extensively under Confederate occupation. When the forces departed, gone also were fifty-two finished Austrian army saddles ready for shipment to the port of Baltimore; wagons and spring wagons; heavy harness; wheels for the Home Guard in Frederick; sole leather for the Union Army; and hundreds of horseshoes. Also gone were a large forge, bellows, tools, lumber, nails, bolts, wheelbands, barrels, crockery, and fifty horses.

On October 4, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln, accompanied by Generals McClellan and Burnside, and McClellan's staff, stopped at the Wiener House where they were given a meal on the side porch.

The Daniel Zecher House located at 5 West Main Street, was built in about 1845. It is a two and a half story, four bay, L-shaped house of brick laid across the front (south) in Flemish bond and along the side walls in common bond. There are four shuttered windows on the second story, two on the first story and two side by side entrances in the two center bays on the front facade. A Victorian gable with fish scale siding and an elongated window was added to the center of the attic story. A two and a half story ell extends from the north side of the house, with railed wooden porches on both first and second levels on the east side. A one story summer kitchen continues the house on the north side.

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 7)

DESCRIPTION CONTINUED, ITEM NUMBER 7

The east wall of the house is pierced only by two small attic windows and by a door which was cut through in the 1860's for the use of students when the house was a girls' school. A part of the lower porch on the ell was bricked in for a laundry room.

A barn and a blacksmith shop are also located on this property.

The Daniel Zecher House is associated with both the economic and educational trends of the 19th century in Burkittsville. The Zecher family, and later the Hightman family, catered to the community as a "fixit shop" where residents brought machinery, household tools, pots and pans, etc., to be mended. Horses were shod at the blacksmith shop.

The Reverend William C. Wire, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church started a school for girls in this house while his Seminary was being built across the street. The Seminary was constructed in 1866.

Between September 9 and 14, 1862, the blacksmith shop shod horses of the Confederate Army until the iron supply was exhausted and more had to be brought from another blacksmith shop.

Pumps for the Civil War were manufactured here, using the "sand form" method. There are several of these pumps extant in the area.

The house was occupied by Confederate Army cavalrymen before the battle of Crampton's Gap and the barn was used by a temporary hospital following the battle.

The Female Seminary is located at 4 West Main Street on the southwest corner of the intersection of Main Street and Maryland Route 17, diagonally across from the Reformed Resurrection and St. Paul's Lutheran Churches. Built in 1866, the three and a half story, eight bay, L-shaped building is of brick laid in common bond. The front foundation stones are finished limestone cut by local masons. The brick gable ends rise about ten feet above the roof with a step at the eave. There are two very large brick center chimneys and two end chimneys and a gable roof of dark slate.

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 8)

DESCRIPTION CONTINUED, ITEM NUMBER 7

The long elevation facing Main Street has a row of eight windows on the third and second stories, and six windows and two entrances on the first story. The large wooden lintels over the four east windows on each floor have Classic Revival rosettes. The main entrance door is Classic Revival with overlights and sidelights.

The south elevation has a two and a half story gable-roofed brick ell on the west side. Wide wooden porches run the length of the main building on the first and second stories of the rear facade and partly across the third story. They are connected by wide wooden stairs without risers at the southeast corner.

The Seminary building is at present divided into several roomy apartments.

The Female Seminary was founded under the auspices of the Lutheran Church and conducted by a Lutheran pastor, as were many other such schools of the time. Although the formal opening of its large new building on October 15, 1866, reflected a contemporary concern with education for girls, Pastor Wire's school was still only a "finishing school for young ladies," featuring "classical instruction and social graces."

The Seminary, the largest structure in the town, was architecturally planned for its purpose. The basement was divided into kitchens with large fireplaces where kettles were set for meat, soup, etc. The entrance from Main Street on the first floor led to a center hallway off of which were the reception and music rooms and the stairway and landing leading to the girls' rooms on the second and third floors. The porches across the back of the building, with the fine view to the south and west of South Mountain and the rolling farmlands at its foot, were used as sun porches for the young ladies and huge canvas shields used to be put up on stretchers to hide them from the gaze of the village citizens.

The two center chimneys vented huge fireplaces on each floor for warmth. The two end chimneys vented smaller fireplaces on each floor which actually housed Franklin stoves.

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 9)

DESCRIPTION CONTINUED, ITEM NUMBER 7

The full attic was used for trunk storage, and it contained a laundry drying room and living quarters for maids.

The office and library were in the ell at the back. Many of the original outbuildings to the south and west have disappeared, but horse stables, carriage house, oven and drying house did exist. The original meat house is still standing, in good condition.

The Resurrection Reformed Church located at 3 East Main Street was built in 1829. It is a two and a half story, rectangular building of white painted brick, with a square wooden tower and four sided steeple which was added in 1896. Aged English boxwoods border the original brick sidewalk leading to the steep stone steps of the church porch.

The south facade, facing Main Street, has a Classic Revival portico in antis, distyle, with Ionic fluted columns, three Gothic pointed windows and an Italianate cornice with curved brackets with dropped pendants.

The long east and west elevations have four evenly spaced Gothic pointed windows divided by a vertical mullion branching at the top, and two horizontal mullions.

The Victorian tower and steeple have sawn-wood details and are shingled in wood.

A one and a half story brick church school building was added to the north in 1894.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is located next to the Reformed Church at 5 East Main Street and was built in 1859. It is a rectangular, three and a half story painted brick structure with a tower, belfry and steeple rising approximately 60 feet. A two and a half story brick church school has been added to the north of the main church building.

The four story square central tower on the south elevation has a Romanesque Revival front with rounded windows and trim. The corners of the tower protrude as pilasters, terminating in a crude capital of brick dentils and crown moldings. From the pilasters at the

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 10)

DESCRIPTION CONTINUED, ITEM NUMBER 7

corners of the tower spring semi-circular arches cut back to the depth of the pilaster in two levels, giving two shadow lines and making the arch appear more delicate.

The octagonal brick belfry has pilasters at each corner and alternating closed and open arches set in each face. The cardinal sides of the spire have gables over each of the closed arches. The tower and spire have bracketed cornices. The iron weathervane is an arrow on a slender rod between two spheres.

Flanking either side of the tower are wings enclosing stairways. These wings have the same pitch as the main roof but are only one and a half story. The arched windows of the south facade are decorated with protruding brick architraves at the spring of the arches.

The two leaf wood entrance door is set in a similar semi-circular arch.

There are three tall, narrow windows, divided symmetrically by horizontal and vertical wooden mullions, on the west and east elevations. The denticulated cornices are brick along the rake of the roof and horizontal eaves. The asbestos shingle roofing replaced original slates.

The Lutheran School (now the Parish Hall) stands to the east of the Church. Built in 1859, it is a one story, rectangular painted brick building with two story bell tower on the south elevation facing the main street. The bell tower is square, with a hip roof and two pointed arch windows with triangular architraves. There are four windows in the building on this elevation. Entrance to the school house is in the west gable end.

The cluster formed by the Resurrection Reformed Church and St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School is a typical geographical grouping of such structures at the heart of the town.

A number of Union and Confederate dead were buried in Union Cemetery when the churches were used as hospitals in 1862. The cemetery has a broad and peaceful location on the hill rising to the north of the two churches, with views over the Middle Valley and over

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 11)

DESCRIPTION CONTINUED, ITEM NUMBER 7

the gently curving main street of Burkittsville.

The street addresses of the buildings in the Burkittsville historic district are as follows:

1-7	West Main Street
2-8	West Main Street
101-111	West Main Street
102-110	West Main Street
1-4	North Potomac Street
1-7	East Main Street
2-16	East Main Street
101-103	East Main Street
102-120	East Main Street
201-207	East Main Street
202-212	East Main Street
301-309	East Main Street
302	East Main Street
401-403	East Main Street
501	East Main Street
2	Wiener Lane
1	Cemetery Lane

8 SIGNIFICANCE

F-2-10

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	X RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	X EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
X 1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
X 1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	X OTHER (SPECIFY) American town-scape-Civil War History
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Burkittsville is a well preserved, virtually unchanged example of the American townscape of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The churches, houses, and shops strung along Main Street are bordered at the rear by the fields surrounding the town. This open landscape at the corporate boundaries and the rural approaches to the town still demonstrate visually Burkittsville's historic position as a service center for the neighboring countryside. The town has never grown and thus retains its original visual integrity.

The village of Burkittsville began as a settlement of a few cabins before or about the time of the Revolutionary War. The land was a part of the original "Merryland Tract" granted to the family of Governor Thomas S. Lee. Henry Burkett (or Burkitt, as it was later spelled) bought a tract called "Friends Goodwill" in 1810. Joshua Harley, who served with the Continental Army, then settled on a tract of land adjoining Burkitt's farm.

Soon a village grew on parts of the Harley and Burkitt properties, located at the intersection of the Middletown-Brunswick and Jefferson-Boonsboro Roads, at that time the main routes of travel between these points. A store was opened by Joshua Harley (circa 1820) and was operated by him and his descendants for more than a half century. Harley became the first postmaster of the village in 1824, at which time it was called Harley's Post Office. In 1829 Henry Burkitt commanded a survey of his land and from this made a plat of what was to become the present village. Burkitt died in 1836, and the lots he had laid out were sold off.

Industry flourished in the village during its early years. Local merchants operated a tannery and a nearby distillery. Carpenter, harness, and blacksmith shops, as well as other trades of the time, were represented in the village.

The people of Burkittsville from its earliest days have been very devoted to their churches. Services were held in homes prior to the building of the German Reformed Church in 1829. The congregations of the Reformed and Lutheran Churches both met in the Reformed Church until the Lutherans built their own in 1859. Both of these buildings are still standing and are well preserved. In 1866, the Lutheran Church

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 12)

SIGNIFICANCE - ITEM NUMBER 8 CONTINUED

built the Burkittsville Female Seminary. Prior to this the school had been held in a local residence, now owned by Mayor and Mrs. Lawrence A. Way, (5 West Main Street).

On September 13 and 14, 1862, the forces of the Union and Confederate armies engaged in the Battle of Crampton's Gap, a bloody prelude to the battle of Antietam. More than fifty Confederate wounded were brought into Burkittsville following a preliminary skirmish to the north of the town. Colonel Munford (CSA) used the Reformed Church and parsonage as hospital and headquarters. All sheets, linens, and kitchen utensils were commandeered for use in the hospital. At the beginning of the fighting, the inhabitants of Burkittsville fled for safety to nearby villages, but most of them returned on September 15. Both churches and the schoolhouse had become large hospitals, and they remained so until long after Christmas 1862. The schoolhouse was the amputation room, and the CSA wounded lay on the ground floor, and Union on the second floor in the church classroom. The women organized the Christian Women's Relief Organization and took over the nursing of the wounded. Women and men of the village cooked meals, cared for the wounded, held religious services, wrote letters and helped bury the dead. The barns and sheds and shops of Burkittsville were also filled with the wounded and dying. Following the battle, the people of the village responded immediately to the desperate situation with compassion and hard work; work which went on for several months after the battle, and for which the two churches were the natural center.

In 1865, George Alfred Townsend, the noted Maryland author, came to the area. Eleven years later, in 1896, he had the War Correspondents' Arch built. This memorial to the newspapermen of the Civil War is a federally owned war memorial. It stands at Crampton's Gap and together with Townsend's complex of buildings constitutes Gathland State Park, approximately one mile north west of Burkittsville.

Burkittsville was first incorporated in 1896, and its streets were lit with kerosene lamps. The corporation failed after one year. Incorporation was tried again in 1917, but failed within a year. Finally, in 1939, through the efforts of J. Christian Skidmore, the village was reincorporated and remains so.

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 13)

ITEM NUMBER 8 CONTINUED - SIGNIFICANCE

This village is truly a step back into the past, as only two or three new buildings have been built in the last fifty years and it is still laid out as Henry Burkitt designed it in the nineteenth century.

In 1972 by an ordinance of the municipal government, under the direction of Lawrence A. Way, Mayor, and Paul M. Smith, Garland S. Guyton, and Hubert Gordon, Councilmen, the entire village was zoned as a historic district.

An attitude survey made in 1973 revealed that the residents of Burkittsville wish to preserve the town as it is, as they deeply cherish their town's heritage.

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Bready. History of the Reformed Church in Maryland Since 1820.

Church Records of the Pleasant View Church of the Brethren.

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Murfin. The Gleam of Bayonets.

North to Antietam, Battles and Leaders.

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Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Western Maryland. Philadelphia, 1882.

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 14)

[9] MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

F-2-10.

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 13 & 14)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 300

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	18	274200	438800	B	18	274240	436200
C	18	273200	438080	D	18	273060	436190

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point on the east adjacent to Maryland Route 17 on a line fence post; thence on a straight line to the midpoint of the intersection of Gapland Road and Mt. Church Road; thence on a straight line to the intersection of the Morris Grossnickle farm land and the Maryland Route 17 at the south; thence to a line fence corner post at the intersection of Mill Lane and Gapland Road at the east of the town square; thence on a straight line to the beginning.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Lawrence A. Way, Mayor; Rev. H. Austin Cooper; Walton D. Stowell, AIA NSID; Barbara Winslow; Mary K. Winslow (cas)

ORGANIZATION Town of Burkittsville

DATE May, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN Burkittsville

STATE Maryland

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL ___

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES - ITEM NUMBER 9

Stowell, Walton Danforth, AIA NSID, Consultant to the National Park Service, Harper's Ferry Interpretive Center. "A Justification for the Preservation of an Historic Landscape - The Uniquely Pristine Nineteenth Century Townscape of Burkittsville, Maryland."

Weigle, Graham. "1962 Centennial, Burkittsville, Maryland."

Williams, A. S. & Quaife. From the Cannon's Mouth. n.p.: Wayne State University Press, 1959.

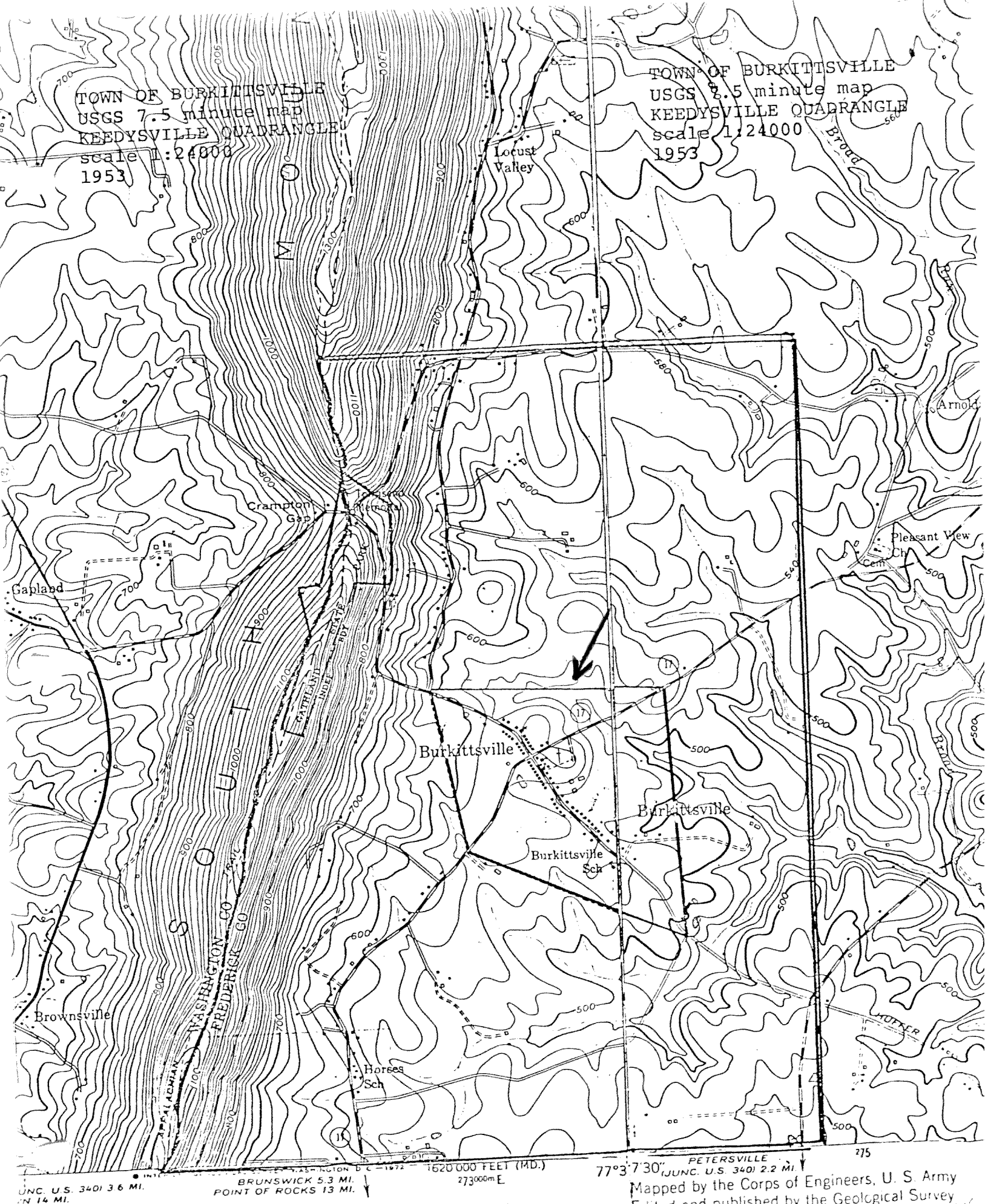
Williams, T. J. C. History of Frederick County, Maryland. Vols. 1 & II. N. P.: L. R. Titsworth & Company, 1910.

FORM PREPARED BY

Pamela James, Assistant Historian, Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland. (301) 267-1438

TOWN OF BURKITTSVILLE
USGS 7.5 minute map
KEEDYSVILLE QUADRANGLE
scale 1:24000
1953

TOWN OF BURKITTSVILLE
USGS 7.5 minute map
KEEDYSVILLE QUADRANGLE
scale 1:24000
1953



F-2-10

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
1963

Heavy-duty
Medium-duty
Light-duty
Unimproved dirt

Mapped by the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army
Edited and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USC&GS and USSCS
Topography from aerial photographs by stereophotogrammetric methods

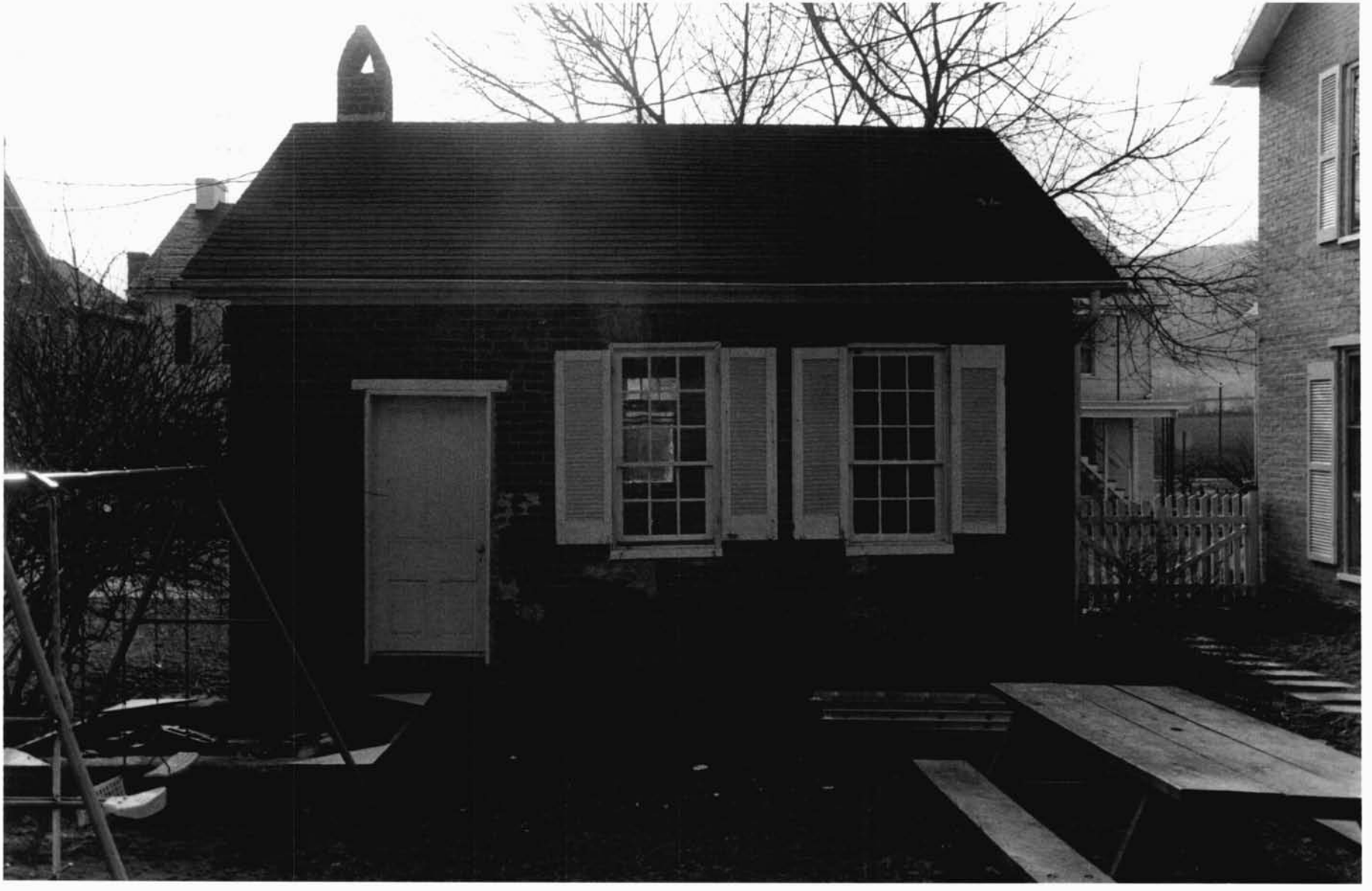
REV. H. AUSTIN COOPER
101 Main St. -834-8334
Burkittsville, Md. 21718

REV. H. AUSTIN COOPER
101 Main St. -834-8334
Burkittsville, Md. 21718

F- 2-10

Antiques

F-2-10



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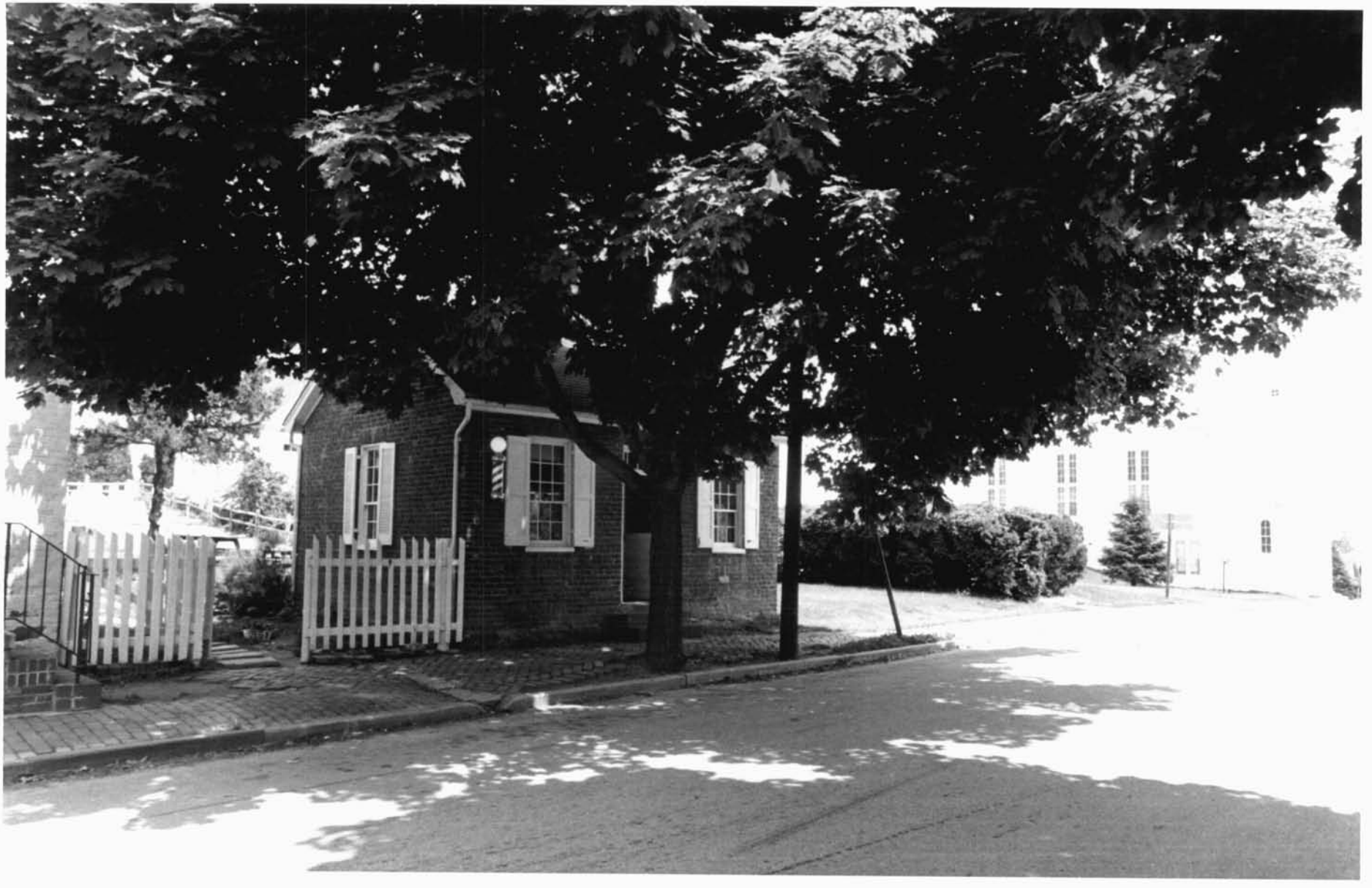
REV. H. AUSTIN COOPER
101 Main St.-834-8334
Burkittsville, Md. 21718



Headquarters Gen. Thomas T. Mumford

The Emmanuel Slifer House and a Mr Shop
(Clock Shop Civil War Headquarters)

1 East Main Street

F-2-10

AMERICAN

5 East Main Street

F-2-10

REV. H. AUSTIN COOPER
101 Main St.-834-8334
Burkittsville, Md. 21718

AMOCO
U.S. POST OFFICE
BURKITTSVILLE MD. 21718
AMERICAN
AMERICAN
CERTIFIED LEADFREE

Karn's General Store & U.S. Post office
S. East Main Street

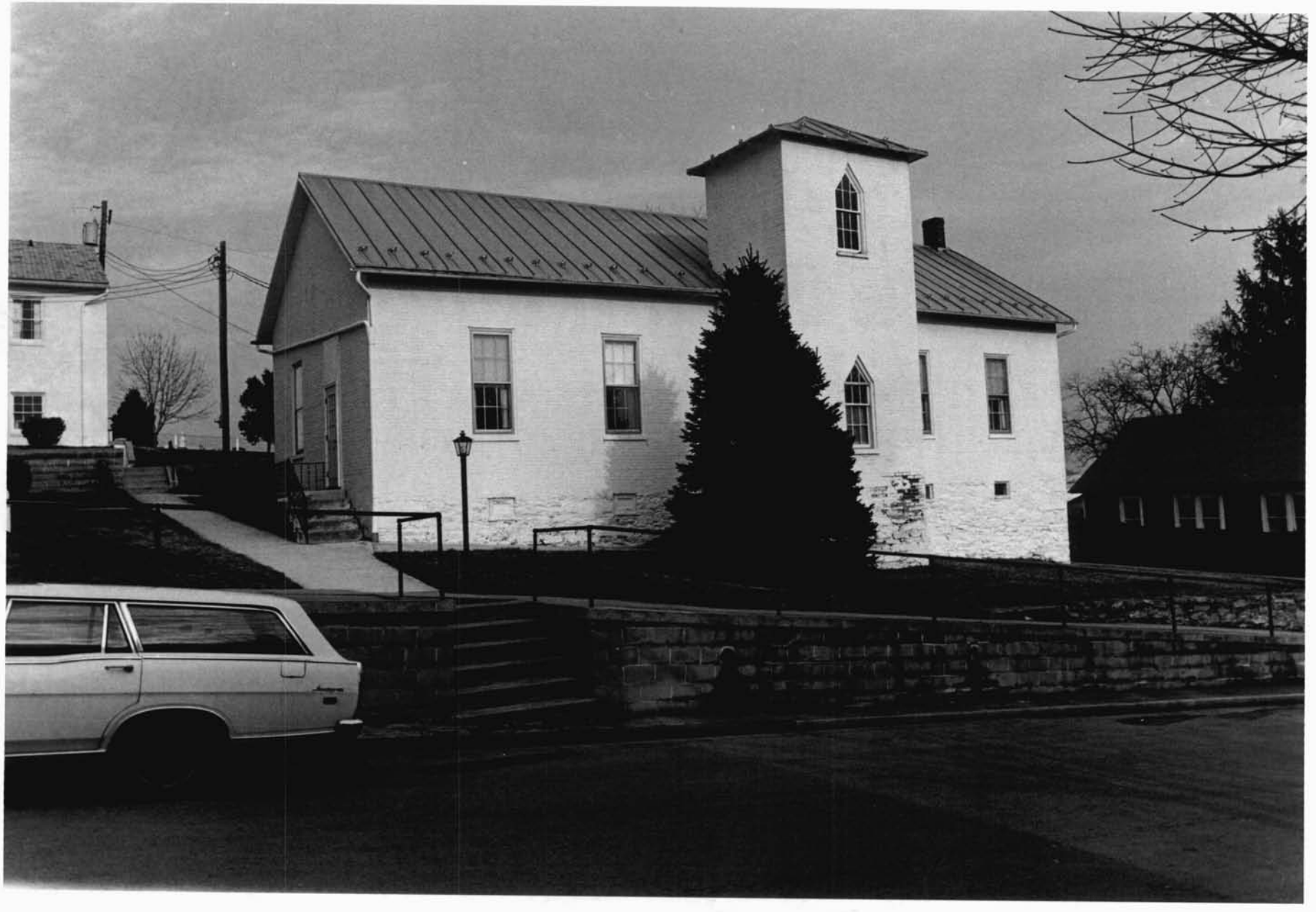
F-2-10

REV. H. AUSTIN COOPER
101 Main St. -834-8334
Burkittsville, Md. 21718

Southeast [illegible]
[illegible] Burkitt House Slave quarters

F-2-10

REV. H. AUSTIN COOPER
101 Main St. -834-8334
Burkittsville, Md. 21718



[illegible]

7 East Main Street

F-2-10

REV. H. AUSTIN COOPER
101 Main St. -834-8334
Burkittsville, Md. 21718

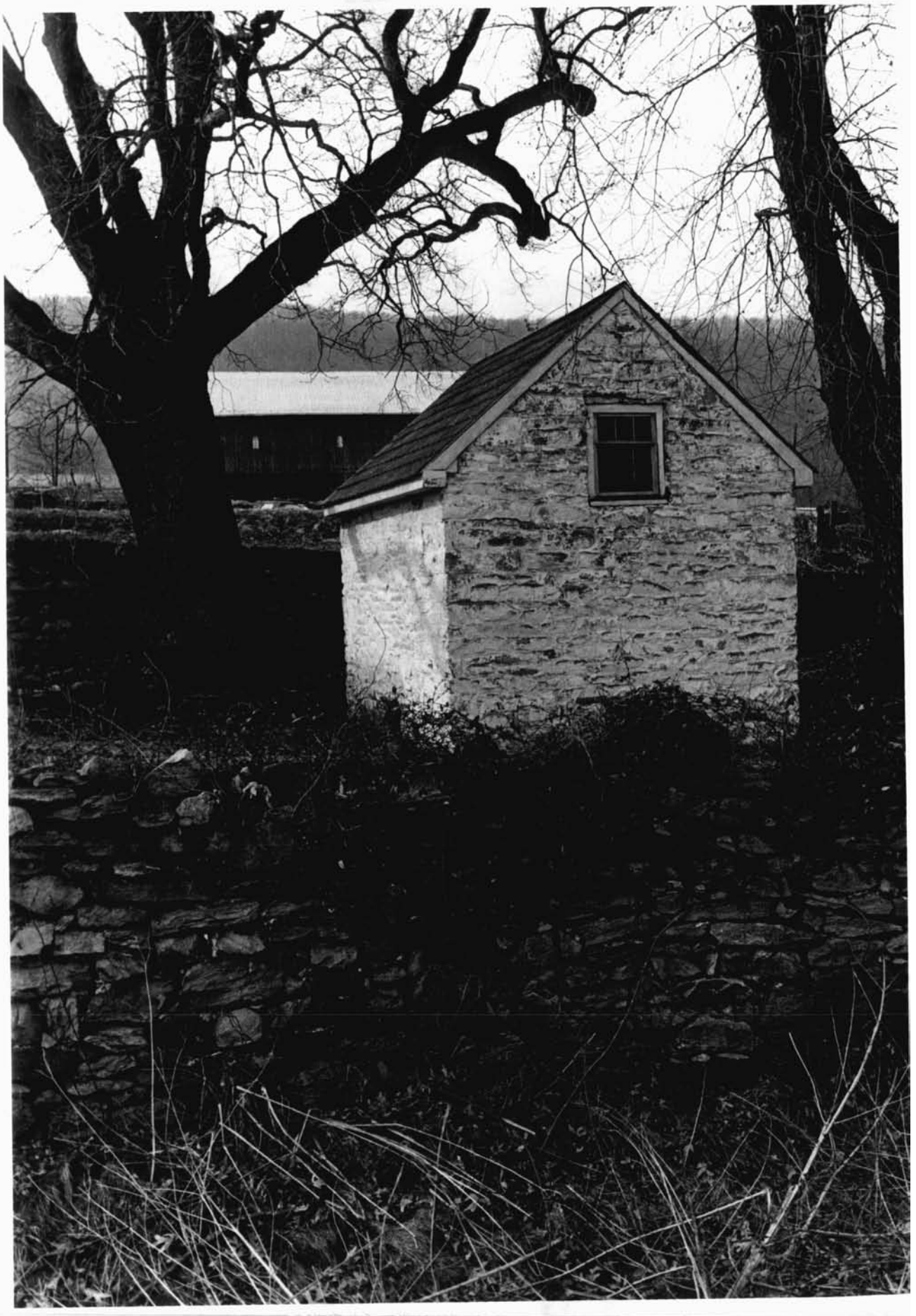
Henry Burkitt [illegible]

F-2-10

REV. H. AUSTIN COOPER
101 Main St. -834-83[illegible]
Burkittsville, Md. 21718

F-2-10

REV. H. AUSTIN COOPER
101 [illegible]
Burkittsville, Md. 21718



F - 2 - 10

REV. H. AUSTIN COOPER
101 Main St. -834-8334
Burkittsville, Md. 21718

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2978 DC

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REV. H. AUSTIN COOPER
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Burkittsville, Md. 21718

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REV. H. AUSTIN COOPER
101 Main St. -834-8334
Burkittsville, Md. 21718

Danielzecher [illegible]

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Burkittsville, Md. 21718

F-2-10

REV. H. AUSTIN COOPER
101 Main St. 834-8334
Burkittsville, Md. 21718

Michael Wiener Tannery
(Albert Waterston Home)

F-2-10

F-2-10