

100-1540

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

HA-1540

Form NPS 100-100 only

received

date entered

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

## 1. Name

historic Hills Camp; Joshua Green Farm

and/or common Hidden Valley Farm (preferred)

## 2. Location

street & number 2916 Green Road N/A not for publication

city, town Baldwin  vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland code 24 county Harford code 025

## 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name George L. Herman

street & number 2916 Green Road

city, town Baldwin \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state Maryland 21013

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse

street & number 40 South Main Street

city, town Bel Air \_\_\_\_\_ state Maryland 21013

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust  
Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date April 1980 \_\_\_\_\_ federal  state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis \_\_\_\_\_ state Maryland 21401

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Hidden Valley Farm consists of a mid-nineteenth century vernacular Greek Revival brick farm house with several auxiliary structures. The house is rectangular in shape; three stories high with a gable roof; with a five bay symmetrical facade; a gable-roofed two story wing extending from the rear elevation; square columned one-story porches across the facade and both sides of the wing; and elements of Gothic, Italianate, and Chinese designs found in the decorative detailing. Italianate brackets with pendants decorate the cornice on the house and porches, Gothic lancet windows pierce the gable ends of the main block, and Chinese trellis-work is found in the arrangement of the glazing bars in the third floor windows and the transom over a sidelighted main entranceway. The principal windows have double-hung sashes with six-over-six lights, narrow frames, and plain corner blocks terminating plain heavy lintels. On the interior the principal rooms are arranged one on each side of a central hall in the main block with a kitchen in the wing. The interior decorative detailing consists primarily of wide architrave molding, a turned balustrade with a polygonal newell, and marble and wooden mantels. The house has a high degree of integrity. The property is enhanced historically with a mid-nineteenth century barn, summer kitchen and smokehouse, and later wood shed and garage. The auxiliary buildings are of varying degrees of integrity.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The farm buildings stand on a low rise on the west side of Green Road at the western edge of Harford County, approximately one-tenth of a mile from the Little Gunpowder Falls, which divides Harford and Baltimore Counties. The complex consists of a dwelling house, garage, barn, springhouse, woodshed, summer kitchen, and the ruins of an icehouse. A new public road has been installed running roughly northeast through the property from Green Road to serve the proposed subdivision of the land north of the buildings.

The dwelling house, a three-story ell-shaped structure on a stone foundation, faces south. The main block is five bays wide and two deep. A kitchen wing one bay wide and three deep extends north behind the west end of the main block. Both sections have slated gable roofs; that of the back wing is slightly lower than the main one. The brick of the south front is laid in common bond; in the other walls every sixth or seventh course is a header course.

One-story shed-roofed porches extend across the south front and along the east and west sides of the rear wing. The front porch has a jig-sawn balustrade; the others have been enclosed with modern screening. The northern bay of the western porch is enclosed with horizontal wood siding as a pantry, an early addition if not an original feature.

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National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

Hidden Valley Farm, Baldwin vicinity

Continuation sheet Harford County, Maryland

Item number

7

Page

1

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

The first and second story windows are six-over-six sashes with wooden lintels with raised plain end blocks. All these windows originally had louvered shutters, now missing. The third story windows, except in the gables, are small casements with muntins in a Chinese trellis pattern. The third story of the west end contains two small pointed-arched windows, and the east end a single pointed-arched Palladian window, the only window in the wall.

The principal entrance, in the center of the south facade, is a six-panel door with narrow sidelights and a transom with muntins in a Chinese trellis pattern similar to that of the third-story windows. Other entrances are in the middle bay of the north facade of the main block, opposite the main entrance; and in the southern and middle bays of the west side of the rear wing. The southern door, though fastened shut and no longer used as an entrance, retains a Chinese trellis transom.

The three chimneys, one at each gable, are flush with the walls, and the pedestals which rise through the roof have broad bases and corbeled caps.

All the roofs have wide eave and rake cornices with jig-sawn brackets having turned drop finials. The soffits of the eave cornices follow the rake of the roof. The porch columns are square tapered shafts with capitals based on the Tuscan order.

The main section has a central hall, containing the principal staircase, and a single room on each side of the first floor. The rear wing contains a kitchen entered from the west parlor through a narrow hall which also contains, on its east side, the secondary and cellar stairs.

The second floor plan has been altered by the addition of a bathroom in the south end of the central hall, where the west bedroom was originally entered. A new bedroom entrance was created at its north end, reached by a short flight of steps from the intermediate landing. This doorway also provided access to the second floor and staircase of the kitchen wing, which had previously been completely separate. The second floor also contains two bedrooms over the east parlor. Since the doorway of the southeast room was made slightly narrower in adding the bathroom, a modern door has been installed and the original one used for the bathroom door. The third-floor plan is similar to that of the first.

Most of the original interior detailing is intact, except in the kitchen. The principal staircase, which rises open to the third floor, has a large turned walnut newel with an octagonal shaft, turned balusters, a walnut railing with easements, and scrolled step ends. Most doors have six partially-raised panels with ogee mouldings. Most of the door jambs, as well as the first-floor window jambs, are paneled. In the east parlor the windows are set in shallow alcoves and paneling extends below them to the floor. All panels and casing have ogee mouldings. The detailing on the second floor is similar but simpler; the third floor and kitchen wing have plain detailing.

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Hidden Valley Farm, Baldwin vicinity  
Harford County, Maryland Item number 7 Page 2

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

The four fireplaces, three on the third floor and one on the second, formerly contained Latrobe stoves. The parlor fireplaces both have white marble mantels, the eastern one with a semi-elliptical firebox and the western with a rectangular firebox and scalloped frieze. The large segmentally arched brick fireplace in the kitchen has a crane for open-fire cooking. The west bedroom of the second floor has a modern wooden colonial-revival mantel.

All floors are of random-width pine, on the first floor now covered with carpet or vinyl tiling.

Beneath the whole house is an unfinished cellar of rubble stone. The first-floor joists, some hewn and some straight-sawn, are visible.

Most of the original outbuildings remain. Immediately north of the dwelling is a small square two-story brick building containing a summer kitchen and smokehouse. The door is centered in the south end with a six-over-six window in the gable above it, and each side wall contains a six-over-six window in the first story and a diamond-shaped brick grille in the second. Extending from the north wall are the ruins of a stone and brick oven with a flue which corbels into the wall at the second story so that the chimney rises flush with the gable. The interior of the building is finished in plain plaster. The first floor room contains a large fireplace at the north end and an enclosed winder staircase in the southeast corner. The second floor has an inlet for smoke in the northwest corner and the ceiling still has its rows of iron meat hooks.

At the northeast corner of the summer kitchen is a modern two-car garage of concrete block with brick veneer and a low gable roof, built around 1979-1980.

In a steep bluff immediately northeast of the house are the ruins of an ice-house now roofless and filled with debris except for a shallow depression at the top.

West of the summer kitchen is a large woodshed built of hewn timbers joined with pegged mortise-and-tenon. Originally a three-sided structure open at the south end, it has been enclosed, divided into two floors, and extended northward by the addition of a one-story shed-roofed leanto. The south wall now contains a modern overhead garage door in the first story and a six-over-six window in the second; there is also a six-over-six window in the second story on the west side. Its original board-and-batten siding has been covered with asphalt shingles.

Southwest of this, west of the house, and just east of the new sub-development road, is a springhouse built across the small stream which runs parallel to the road. The stone lower story, built for storing milk, had an entrance, now sealed, at the south end. The upper story, entered at ground

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**National Register of Historic Places  
 Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Continuation sheet Hidden Valley Farm, Baldwin vicinity Item number 7 Page 3  
Harford County, Maryland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

level on the north end, is a one-story frame shop whose original board-and-batten siding has been covered with asphalt shingles.

Directly west of the springhouse across the subdevelopment road is a large bank barn of braced-frame construction on a stone foundation. The forebay is on the south; the tall upper story is entered through sliding doors in the northwall. The timbers are circular-sawn and joined with mortise-and-tenon; the siding is board-and-batten. A silo of terra-cotta hollow tile, added in the mid-1940s, is attached to the northeast corner by a short corridor of concrete block.

The driveway entrance at Green Road is in line with the house and flanked by hewn granite gateposts. The drive originally made a teardrop loop in front of the south porch; the eastern portion has fallen into disuse. Another drive extends north from the western edge of the loop to serve the kitchen entrance, then forks, running northeast to the garage and west to join the subdivision road south of the woodshed.

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates    circa 1858                      Builder Architect    unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)                      Applicable criterion: C

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

Hidden Valley Farm is significant for its architecture. The house is highly unusual among 19th century vernacular dwellings in rural Maryland in the way elements derived from the picturesque fashion which was current at the time of its construction are incorporated into an otherwise conservative, traditional design. The house displays the symmetrical facade and center-hall, L-shaped plan which typify rural vernacular dwellings in Maryland in the 19th century. Its primary stylistic influence is the Greek Revival, evident in the entrance with transom and sidelights, lintels with plain corner blocks, attic story, and interior detailing. The essentially traditional and conservative composition is transformed by the addition of picturesque elements, including Gothic-arched gable windows, Chinese trellis tracery in the transom and attic windows, and a wide cornice with jigsaw brackets having turned drop finials. The house retains a high degree of integrity.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Joshua Green purchased 256 acres of the former "Hills Camp" grant as a young man in 1854 from his father-in-law, Moses Rankin.<sup>1</sup> The 1858 Jennings and Herrick map of Harford County shows no buildings on this land, but architectural evidence indicates that they were built soon after this.<sup>2</sup> It is shown on Martenet's map of 1878 and depicted, with all its details, in a primitive painting probably executed soon after it was built.<sup>3</sup> All the outbuildings, with the exception of the garage and silo, appear to be contemporary with the house. All of them were old in 1920, according to a number of longtime neighbors and former residents of the house.<sup>4</sup> A combination corncrib and wagon shed, torn down in 1981 to make way for the subdevelopment road, seems to have been the only significant loss to the complex. (The icehouse, though filled in, is essentially intact).

The house has several connections with other houses in the area. The Chinese trellis pattern of the windows and transoms is similar to detailing on several nearby National Register buildings, Pleasant Valley at the Ladew Topiary Gardens and the Bacon-Crosby House on My Lady's Manor. Another notable local house, "Greenlea" on Long Green Road in Long Green, was the home of Joshua's son Dr. John S. Green, Sr., a well known local physician whose brother, sons and grandson were also prominent in the local medical community.<sup>5</sup>

Joshua Green himself was one of the richest farmers in the district and a respected member of the community, an elder of the local Presbyterian church and something of a philanthropist.<sup>6</sup>

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**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory--Nomination Form**

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Continuation sheet Hidden Valley Farm, Baldwin vicinity  
Harford County, Maryland Item number 8 Page 4

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (Continued)

His house and farm buildings and the road that bears his name are lasting evidence of his contributions to the area.

Notes:

- <sup>1</sup>Land records of Harford County, ALJ 6/162
- <sup>2</sup>James Thomas Wollon, Jr., AIA, Architect, 600 Craig's Corner Road  
Havre de Grace, MD 21078, manuscript documentation on this property.
- <sup>3</sup>Painting in possession of Joshua Green's great-grandson Morris B. Green, Jr.,  
2607 Ebony Road, Parkville, MD 21234
- <sup>4</sup>Interviews with Ruby Duncan Burkett, a former resident of the house; her  
sister Maggie Duncan Lewis; Tom Lewis and Bryan Burkett, who have done  
much of the repair work on the house; and Paul C. Carlton, who has lived  
on the adjoining property since 1921.
- <sup>5</sup>Genealogy and Biography of Leading Families of the City of Baltimore and  
Baltimore County, Maryland, (New York: Chapman Publishing Co, 1897),  
p. 339; also, various items in Biography File, Maryland Room, Enoch Pratt  
Library, Baltimore.
- <sup>6</sup>Portrait and Biographical Record of Harford and Cecil Counties, Maryland.  
New York: Chapman Publishing Co., 1897), p. 202.

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Continuation sheet Hidden Valley Farm, Baldwin vicinity  
Harford County, Maryland Item number 9 and 10 Page 5

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Genealogy and Biography of Leading Families of the City of Baltimore and  
Baltimore County, Maryland.

New York: Chapman Publishing Co., 1897.

Biography file, Maryland Room, Enoch Pratt Library, Baltimore

Burkett, Bryan, Manor Rd., Baldwin, Maryland 21013  
Interview with Elizabeth E. Fuller, April 27, 1982.

Burkett, Ruby Duncan. 1467 Jarrettsville Rd.,  
Jarrettsville, Maryland 21111. Interview with  
Elizabeth E. Fuller, April 27, 1982.

Carlton, Paul C. 2901 Green Rd., Baldwin, Maryland 21013  
Interviews with Elizabeth E. Fuller, April 21 and 27, 1982.

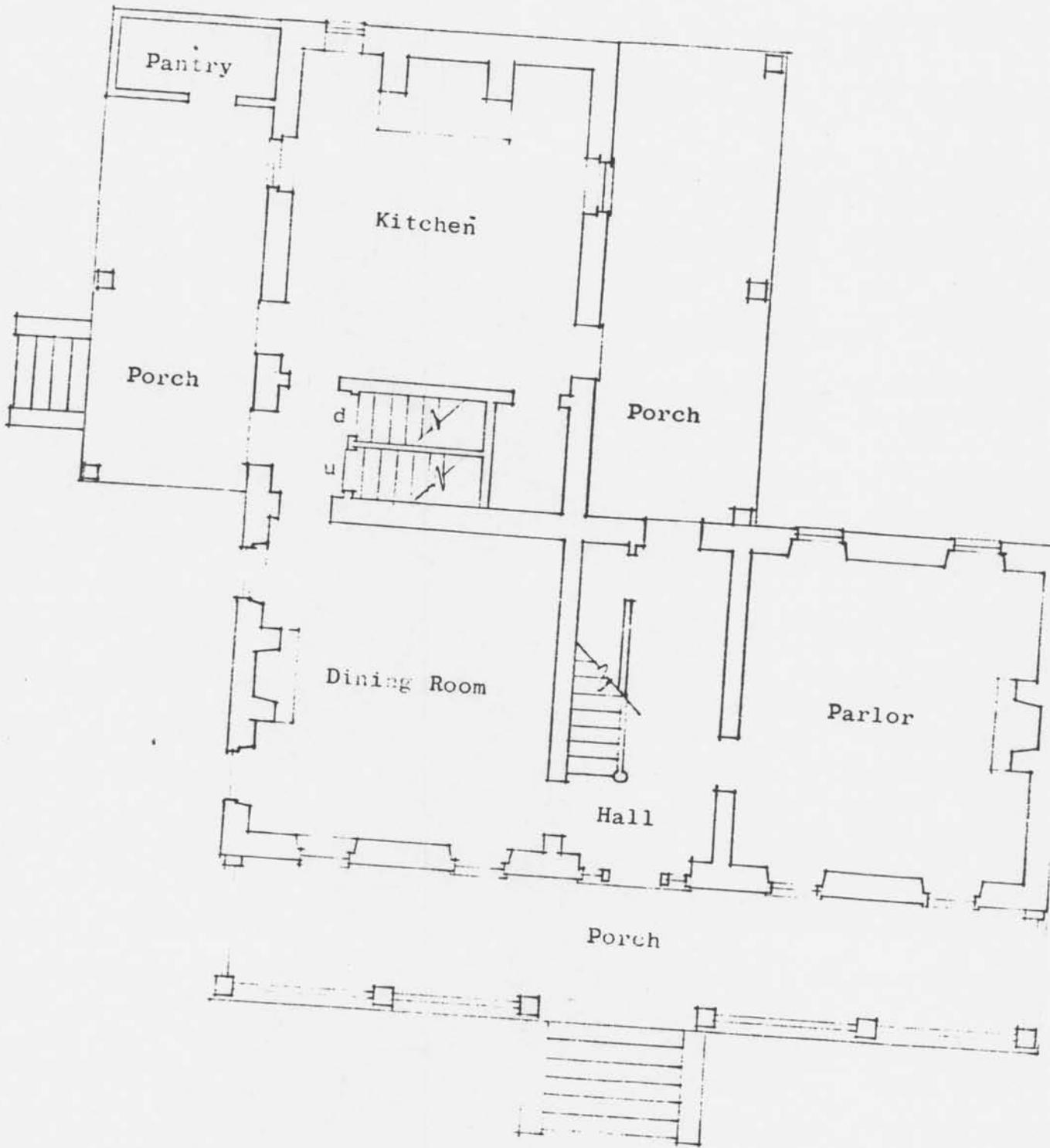
Lewis, Thomas H. and Maggie Duncan. Baldwin, Maryland 21013.  
Interview with Elizabeth E. Fuller, April 21, 1982.

Painting in possession of Morris B. Green, Jr. 2607 Ebony Rd.  
Parkville, Maryland 21234.

Wollon, James Thomas, Jr. A.I.A., Architect. 600 Craigs Corner Rd.,  
Havre de Grace, Maryland 21078, manuscript documentation on property,  
January 9, 1981.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property includes approximately six acres constituting the immediate surroundings of the house, barn, and outbuildings. A private road passes between the house and outbuildings and the barn; the road's 50-foot right-of-way is not included in the nominated property. The boundaries of this acreage are determined by plans for the subdivision of the surrounding property, as indicated on the attached map.



HIDDEN VALLEY FARM

First Floor Plan  
not to scale



Janettsville & Phoenix  
2 maps

HA-1540  
HIDDEN VALLEY FARM  
HARFORD CO., MD.

- A: 18-371220-4376060
- B: 18-371180-4375920
- C: 18-370960-4376060
- D: 18-371060-4376200

HA-1540  
HIDDEN VALLEY FARM  
HARFORD CO., MD.

- A: 18-371220-4376060
- B: 18-371180-4375920
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