FHR-8-300 (11-78)

WO-8

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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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: Henry's Grove (preferred), Julia Henry Farm

and/or common: Bayside Farm, Pony Farm

2. Location

street & number: Steven Decatur Road (MD Route 611) — n/a not for publication

city, town: Berlin — X vicinity of — congressional district: First

state: Maryland — code: 24 — county: Worcester — code: 047

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	___ occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	X private	X unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	X yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	X not applicable	___ no	___ military	X other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name: Mrs. Jeannette Laws McCabe, c/o James L. McCabe

street & number: 215 North Presidential Boulevard

city, town: Bala Cynwyd — n/a vicinity of — state: Pennsylvania 19004

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: Worcester County Courthouse

street & number: Washington Street

city, town: Snow Hill — state: Maryland 21863

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title: Maryland Historical Trust Historic Sites Inventory — has this property been determined elegible? ___ yes X no

date: 1973 — ___ federal X state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records: Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town: Annapolis — state: Maryland 21401

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
___ good	___ ruins	X altered	___ moved date n/a
X fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	5	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	5	Total

Number of previously listed National Register properties included in this nomination: 0

Original and historic functions and uses: residential

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION:

Built in 1792, "Henry's Grove" is a two and one-half story brick house with all walls laid in Flemish bond. Three bays in length and two rooms in depth, it has a gable roof with a chimney flush at each end. Within are four principal spaces in each story, one being the entrance and stairhall. "Henry's Grove" retains virtually all its original interior detailing. The staircase and first story mantelpiece are outstanding examples of late eighteenth century woodwork, including paneling and a lavish use of gauge carving. Original paint finishes remain exposed on most interior surfaces. The second story appears not to have been completed. Also standing on the property are a twentieth century frame tenant house and four frame outbuildings which do not contribute to the significance.

For General Description, see Continuation Sheet No. 1

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Henry's Grove stands on the axis of a straight lane leading from Maryland route 611, approximately 3,400 feet east of that road. Sinepuxent Bay is approximately 400 feet east of the house. The land is virtually flat, open farmland. A twentieth century tenant house and farm building complex which do not contribute to the significance stand north of the lane, approximately 900 feet from the house. The house has been unoccupied for several decades, it is much decayed internally and the former lawns are filled with numerous volunteer trees, shrubs, vines and thickets. Overgrown fencerows and hedges mark the north and south limits of the former lawn and house-setting, extending from Sinepuxent Bay on the east to a north-south farm lane approximately 200 feet west of the house.

Built in 1792, Henry's Grove is a two and one-half story house of brick, three bays across its principal west and east facades, two rooms in depth. Single chimney stacks of brick rise flush with the gables at each end of the steep roof which has no dormers. The bricks are of a moderately rugged texture and in a full range of deep colors, earlier in character than the late eighteenth century construction date. All facades are laid in Flemish bond with queen closers at all corners and at some jambs of some masonry openings; the joints were struck with a grapevine profile. The high foundation, also laid in Flemish bond with queen closers at the corners, is expressed by a two-step, unmoulded water-table and a three-course belt marks the second floor.

Principal doors are approximately centered in the west and east facades and 12/12 windows are in flanking bays; second story windows are 12/8. The north and south ends are expressed as three structural bays, each with similar windows except for the westerly bay of the north facade which has a doorway formerly leading to a kitchen which disappeared long ago.[2] A cellar entrance in the north wall, just east of the door, is the only access to the cellar; the water table steps up over its segmental arch. The center windows in both stories are slightly west of center because the easterly rooms are deeper than the westerly and windows flank the fireplaces of both easterly rooms. Two smaller windows in the attic story, now missing their sashes, flank each end chimney. The masonry above all first story openings is supported by a rubbed and gauged brick jack arch. Second story windows in the west and east facades have similar jack arches but the second and attic story windows of the north and south ends have segmental arches. A basement window is in each bay and no arch nor lintel is expressed above.

See Continuation Sheet No. 2

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

In the south gable, between the attic windows, is a brick plaque having a moulded brick border in an ovolo profile. It is inscribed[3]

N
J F
1 7 9 2

This feature is of great significance for it provides a positive date of construction, very rare for domestic structures, and thus established it offers a reliable guide in the dating of other historic structures in its region.

Window sills are moulded and possibly original. Window frames and sashes appear to date from a partial restoration in 1969[4], generally accurate in spirit but not in exacting detail. Frames are wide with an applied modern ogee backband. The doors, likewise, date from the same restoration effort, being casual copies of original interior doors having eight panels arranged as three vertical ones below and three vertical ones above the lock rail, and two small horizontal panels at the top. Portions of paneled door jambs remain within, each with three equally tall fully-raised panels, probably reflections of the original exterior doors.

Cellar windows have frames appearing to date from the same period, with a vertical mullion dividing them into two casements each with one large light.

Cornice work dates from the partial restoration of 1969 and it may be an accurate replica of the original cornice. A bed moulding springs from a beaded fascia against the brickwork and soffit is several inches above the bed as though intended for modillions.[5] The flush beaded barge boards do not reproduce the original raking cornice, fragments of which remain in the cellar.[6] Rising from a beaded fascia or barge board against the brick gable wall was a 3½" crown moulding planed in the lower edge of an 8" board set diagonally. At the chimney the extended crown was self-returned. An 11" wide board in the plane of the roof sheathing projected beyond the extended crown moulding with an ovolo planed in its lower exposed corner. Shingles remain attached to this fragment. The scrolled cornice stops are not accurate replicas of the originals which are well documented by photographs and fragments stored within the house.[7]

See Continuation Sheet No. 3

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The roof is covered with round-butted concrete asbestos shingles installed in that partial restoration of 1969. The original roof was covered with wood shingles.

The south chimney is unaltered with a corbeled cap and belt course; the north chimney was struck by lightning this year and its reconstruction above the roof is in progress.

The first story is divided into four spaces by interior walls of brick 12 inches thick (the wall between the two easterly spaces was removed and replaced by a double wall of wood studs). A north-south wall slightly west of center the full length of the house divides the westerly spaces from the easterly, the former being narrower than the latter. An east-west wall immediately south of the west entrance divides the westerly portion of the house into two rooms and another immediately north of the east entrance divides the easterly portion likewise. The northwesterly room is the entrance and stair hall.

The second story plan is similar except that all interior partitions are of stud construction, a central passage extends west-to-east and a small room is partitioned from the stair hall in the northwest corner of the house.

Interior detailing has received no change other than the wear and decay of time. While portions are missing through neglect, substantial portions of virtually all details remain unaltered, perfect precedents for an accurate restoration. Moreover all painted surfaces - walls and woodwork (all plaster ceilings have been removed) - appear to retain their original paint, most of which is exposed without later coats.

Detailing in the first story is original in two senses of the word - unaltered and an individualistic interpretation of eighteenth century practice. Basic house location, size, construction and detailing define the house of a very prosperous man. By contrast the second story seems never to have been completed.

See Continuation Sheet No. 4

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

First Story Interior Details and Finishes

Wooden trim was installed prior to plaster, a typical eighteenth century practice. Each space has baseboard, chair rail, cornice, door and window trim. The original random-width floor boards remain throughout, some in extremely worn and decayed condition. Fireplace hearths are of brick, flush with the floor. Walls are plastered directly on the brick except for the east wall which is furred out and plastered on handsplit wood lath fastened with cut nails, an original condition. Ceilings were plastered also but all ceiling finishes have been removed. Windows have paneled splayed jambs and soffits; window seats are at each with small panels immediately above. The chair rail drops down under each window seat and the window architrave is received by the chair rail at its normal elevation.

Door frames are set within the masonry opening provided for them, centered in the wall thickness, and a series of mouldings extends from the frame out to an architrave attached to the surface of the wall surrounding the opening. Doors have three vertical panels below and above the lock rails with two small horizontal panels at the top. They are hung on cast-iron rising-butt hinges; no original latch or lock sets remain.

Paneling of doors and windows is fully-raised with an ovolo integral to stiles and rails. Mouldings are composite, that is built up of several pieces, generally three or more. The repetitous use of the cavetto-with-astrigal-and-fillet is noteworthy.

The typical baseboard of this house consists of a wide board having a small ovolo planed into its exposed corner just beneath the plaster. The typical chair rail has a narrower but similar ground element, with the ovolo on its lower exposed edge, to which is applied a cavetto-with-astrigal-and-fillet, supporting a horizontal cap having a broad astrigal on its exposed edge. The typical cornice is a crown moulding with grounds at the ceilings and/or walls, also having the small ovolo planed into their exposed edges.

The composite window architraves have the house-typical cavetto at their inner edges, much like the chair rail cap. Door architraves consist of a series of house-typical cavetto profiles alternating with flat plains.

See Continuation Sheet No. 5

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

Entrance and Stair Hall

The staircase is the principal feature of this space. It rises along the north wall, barely clearing the north exterior door leading to the former kitchen, six risers to a square landing, thence along the east wall twelve risers to the second floor. The stairwell is overly large allowing a full view of the staircase as it passes above the ceiling. The square newel posts support a moulded hand rail and extend above it terminating in scrolled finials. Three square balusters rise from each tred. Applied jig-sawn scrolls ornament each step end above a raking architrave, drilled for ornamental effect. The closet beneath the stair is enclosed with paneling having a small applied half-round astrigal within each flat panel. A four-panel door beneath the stair soffit gives access to the closet and the sloping soffit above the door is paneled like the walls below.

The entire balustrade below the landing and all woodwork associated with the north door are missing.[8]

All woodwork of the hall is painted a dark red.

Southeast Room

The southeast room is the largest room in the house. Its principal feature is its fireplace.

At the broad and deep segmentally-arched fireplace fluted engaged columns (not of a classical order) support an entablature with cornice-shelf. A backband with crossettes surrounds the opening. In the frieze end blocks have intricate goung-carving consisting of multiple, very small swags or horizontal crescents. A carved fluted console is centered in the frieze and the cornice-shelf breaks out over all three frieze elements with a doubled composition of mouldings and miniature fascias, all with drilled and gouged carving.

In the overmantel fluted pilasters flank one large plastered panel. Above the panel, spanning between the pilasters, is a jig-sawn guilloche band. A frieze above the pilasters is implied and a series of small cavetto brackets, implying modillions of an original design, supports the room cornice as it passes over the chimney

See Continuation Sheet No. 6

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

breast. A jig-sawn, gouge-carved and drilled heart ornament is applied, centered above the guilloche. The corners of the chimney breast are finished with a turned quarter-round inset band.

All woodwork is painted a dark red.

Northeast Room

The northeast room is the second-largest room in the house and its embellishments may be said to surpass those of the larger southeast room. Its principal feature is its fireplace but this room alone has a paneled wainscot and a cornice with dentils.

The large fireplace has a flat head supported by an iron lintel. It is surrounded by a backband having crossettes and supporting fluted end blocks (only the easterly one remains) which formerly supported a cornice shelf, now missing. The overmantel and sides of the chimney breast are paneled with fully-raised panels having an ovolo profile integral to rails and stiles. Fluted pilasters of no classical order flank the fireplace and overmantel with wainscot cap creating an implied pedistal beneath the pilasters. Pilaster capitals are implied by a cavetto-with-astrigal-and-fillet applied moulding supporting the room cornice.

The wainscot is paneled with horizontal, fully-raised panels having an ovolo integral to stiles and rails. The wainscot cap consists of the house-typical cavetto supporting a band of tall, narrow and shallow dentiles immediately beneath the cap with its broad astrigal edge.

The room cornice consists of a crown moulding with a band of small dentils immediately beneath it.

The east window is typical of those elsewhere in the house except that its backband breaks out in crossettes. The north windows, flanking the chimney breast, are not typical in detail. The northwest window has plain, splayed casings with a plain architrave and a small chamfered moulding between the two surfaces. The northeast window has paneled jambs with a plain soffit, plain architrave with an ogee backband.

All woodwork is painted a brownish-gold, possibly its second color for an off-white appears to be beneath it. Beneath whitewash on the plastered walls is a brilliant, deep blue.

See Continuation Sheet No. 7

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

Southwest Room

The southwest room is the smallest room in the first story, well-finished but asymmetrical in composition.

A cupboard fills the niche east of the chimney. The cupboard doors and chimney breast are fully-paneled and a backband with crossettes surrounds the segmentally arched fireplace.

The cupboard beneath the chair rail is unfinished internally while the upper cupboard is sheathed with planed boards, considerably smaller in horizontal dimensions than its counterpart below. Each door has two fully-raised panels and the doors are hung on small cast-iron butt hinges.

The baseboard of this room has an additional element consisting of an applied board, not quite so tall as the typical baseboard to which it is applied, with torus-and-scotia profile on top.

The woodwork is painted dark green.

Second story Interior Details and Finishes

Construction techniques were intended to be like those below in the first story but the second story seems never to have been completed. Baseboard and chair rail appear in some rooms but not in others; some windows received wood trim, others did not. While second story details in most historic structures are simpler than those of the first story the contrast here is better explained as the result of incompletion.

All partitions are of stud construction and all plaster and lathing is removed from them and from the ceiling. Some plaster remains on the exterior walls, the many wooden nailing blocks in the exterior walls suggest the original intention to furr out the walls as was accomplished on the east exterior wall below.

All doors are missing, probably stored elsewhere on the property. Door jambs have the house-typical cavetto profile, repeated in an immediate backband and the door trim is completed with an astrigal border.

See Continuation Sheet No. 8

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

Central Hall

A small room is partitioned from the stair hall in the second story, an original condition. A small stair at the east end of the central hall provides access to the attic, enclosed with fully-raised paneling. The stair balustrade, newel posts with scrolled finials, baseboard and chair railing, similar to those elements below, complete the hall detailing.

A brick pilaster projecting from the north wall at the partition shared by the northeast room provides support for the north chimney as it corbels to the west to emerge centered on the gable.

Northwest Room

The northwest room was never plastered; the exterior brick walls are whitewashed and the windows are not finished with wooden casings nor trim. The door was hung on wrought-iron H or HL hinges.

Southwest Room

The southwest room was the best chamber of the second story, having baseboard, chair rail and wooden cornice, all similar to those elements below. The fireplace had a mantel, now missing. The door was hung on cast-iron butt hinges. The west window has paneled jambs and soffit, all projecting boldly beyond the plaster with an astrigal profile on the exposed edge but without an architrave. The south window has plain jambs and head with a similar projection beyond the plaster but without a shaped profile. The contrast in these two windows suggests a premature termination of original construction.

The woodwork was painted a dark red and subsequently covered with whitewash.

Southeast Room

The southeast room had a chair rail all around but long ago it was removed from the exterior walls, its void filled with plaster. Most plaster is removed from the chimney breast and there was never a fireplace in this large chamber. The door was hung on cast-iron butt hinges. The south window has paneled jambs and soffit with an applied astrigal on the exposed edge but the south-east and east windows are void of wooden trim. Such contrasts indicate premature termination of original construction.

The woodwork appears never to have been painted.

See Continuation Sheet No. 9

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

Attic

The Entire roof structure, including the joists of the second story ceiling or attic floor, was replaced in the partial restoration effort of 1969. The structure is a prefabricated truss with 2x chords and web members joined with stamped steel plates. Second story partitions have not been attached to this new framing.

The attic story appears to have been unfinished originally for there is no plaster on the brick gable walls. The south chimneys corbel together to emerge as a single stack centered on the south gable and the northeast chimney corbels likewise, a brick pilaster described with the central hall providing the necessary westerly support.

Cellar

The only access to the cellar is by an exterior doorway in the north wall. There was never an interior stairway. Possibly the exterior door opened to the outside originally, or into a hyphen between the dwelling and the kitchen house or directly into the kitchen wing, depending on now-unknown kitchen conditions. The cellar is shallow with an earthen floor. Brick walls laid in English bond create four spaces, like those of the first story above. Wide doorways open each space to the next and they never had wooden jambs nor doors. Queen closers appear at all jambs. The mortar joints are flush without grapevine profile. An arch in each chimney supports the hearth above. The hewn first floor joists are notched for batten strips laid in beneath each joint in the first story floorboards.

Continuous wooden sills are in each wall to receive the floor joists; decay in these, cracks and misalignments in the walls themselves and decay in the exterior ends of floor joists, particularly over cellar windows, explain many of the structural problems seen in the first story.

See Continuation Sheet No. 10

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

Footnotes

1. Architectural investigation conducted by the author 10 and 11 December 1983.

2. The kitchen does not appear in the photograph published in Henry Chandlee Forman, Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland, 1934. In his plan published in the same work, Dr. Forman indicates a kitchen wing of 12 by 30 feet, attached to the north end, just recessed from the west facade.

3. Several other characters or ornaments appear in this plaque, omitted in this interpretation for clarity.

4. Documented by photographs taken by Orlando V. Wootten.

5. No modillions appear in the photograph published in 1934 (see footnote 2) and the cornice then appears to be like its present design. See also photographs 5, 6, and 7 in this nomination.

6. The raking cornice appears in the photograph published in 1934 (see footnote 2). See also photographs 5, 6, and 7 in this nomination.

7. As indicated in photographs 6 and 7 in this nomination.

8. For a photograph of the staircase when intact see Forman, op. cit.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1792 **Builder/Architect** John Fassitt, builder

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Applicable Criteria: C
Applicable Exceptions: none
Level of Significance for Evaluation: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

Henry's Grove is important as a substantially intact example of late eighteenth century domestic architecture of the lower Eastern Shore. Built for a planter, John Fassitt, whose initials and the date 1792 are inscribed on a plaque in the south gable, Henry's Grove has Georgian influenced interior woodwork with drilled and gouged carving and an unusually tall ogee finial on a square newel on the second floor. The house was tenanted through much of the nineteenth century and well into the present century. In spite of neglect and a missing roof for some years the interior wood, which shows signs of only two layers of paint, remains intact and as such is a valuable tool for studying the area's architecture.

For History, see attached "Henry's Grove: A History" by Anne Kennerly Morris Clay, 1984.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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See Continuation Sheet No. 11

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approximately 76.1 acres

Quadrangle name Berlin, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	18	486260	4235920
B	18	487460	4235440
C	18	487430	4235140
D	18	486270	4235570
E			
F			
G			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 12

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
n/a			

11. Form Prepared By

name/title 1. Anne Kennerly Morris Clay
2. James Thomas Wollon

organization Wicomico Co. Committee of MHT date 20 January 1984

street & number 1. P. O. Box 31
2. 600 Craig's Corner Road

telephone 1. 301-742-2820
2. 301-734-7980

city or town 1. Quantico
2. Havre de Grace

state 1. Maryland 21856
2. Maryland 21078

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state X 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 8-8-84

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The 1877 Atlasses and Other Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Salisbury: Wicomico Bicentennial Commission 1976 Bicentennial Edition, 1976.

Family papers in possession of Elizabeth Carey Shockley, Snow Hill, Maryland; Ellen Whaley Patton and Margaret Rogers Carey, Berlin, Maryland.

Hall of Records: index cards, early records, miscellaneous materials. St. John's College, Annapolis, Maryland.

Historic Sites Inventory Volume Two Lower Eastern Shore. Annapolis: Maryland Historical Trust, no date.

Land, Marriage and Probate Records of Worcester County, Maryland. Worcester County Courthouse, Snow Hill, Maryland.

Land Records of Somerset County, Maryland. Somerset County Courthouse, Princess Anne, Maryland.

Papenfuse, Edward C. & Joseph M. Coale, III. Atlas of Historical Maps of Maryland, 1608-1908. Baltimore & London: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1982.

Wicomico County Free Library, Inc." reference materials in the Maryland Room. Salisbury, Maryland.

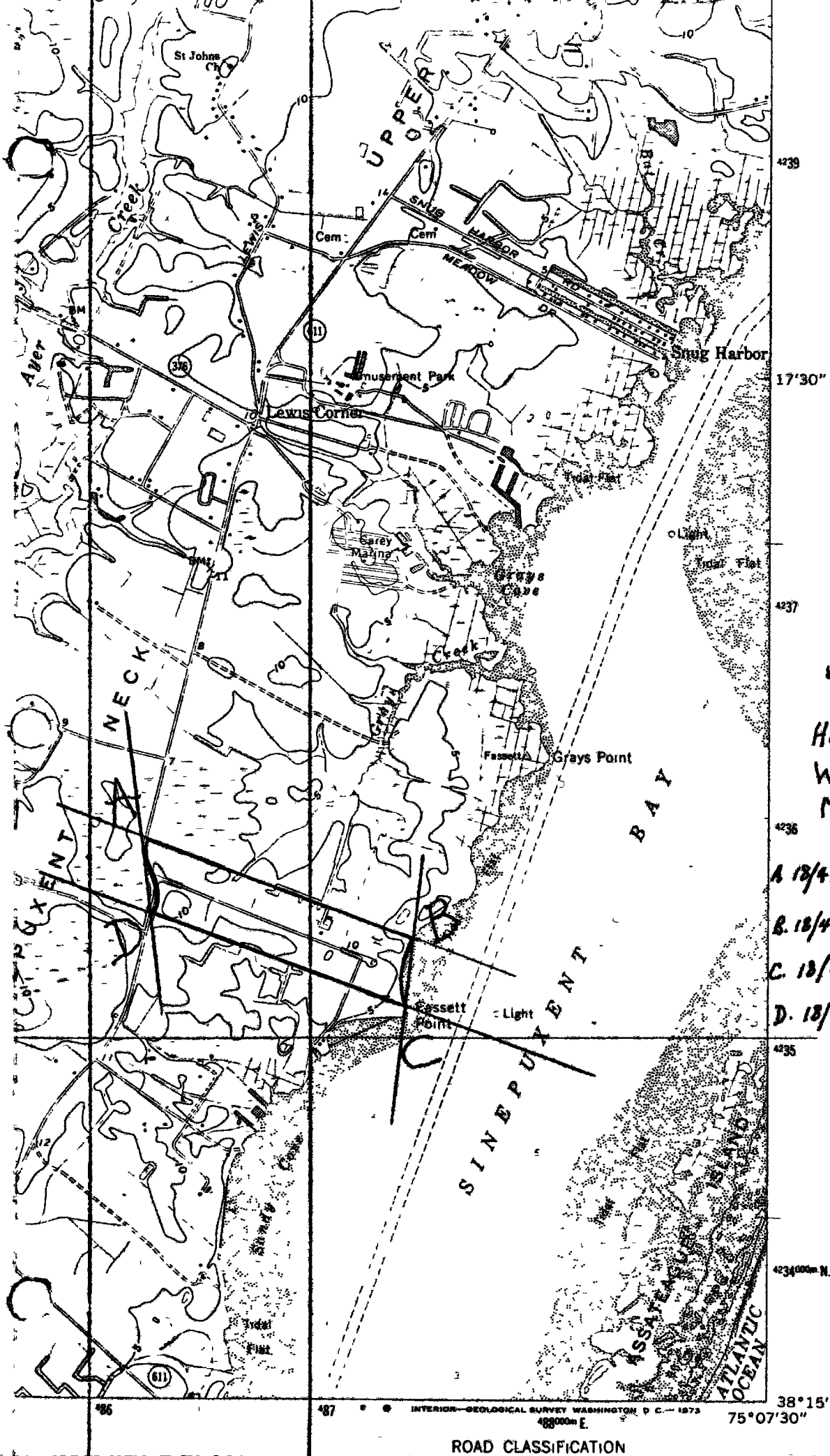
Worcester County Library: reference materials in the Worcester Room. Snow Hill, Maryland.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point on the east side of Maryland Route 611 425 feet ± north of the center of the entrance lane to "Henry's Grove," proceed east 3900 feet ± to the west bank of the Sinepuxent Bay, then proceed south along the bay bank 850 feet ±, then proceed west 3900 feet ± to a point on the east side of Maryland Route 611 425 feet ± south of the center of the entrance lane, then proceed north-northwest 850 feet ± to the point of origin. Containing 76.1 acres ± and delineated on the enclosed map.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries are drawn to provide an open, rural setting which historically is accurate for the house, to maintain the historic sight lines from both the bay and the roadway which dates from the eighteenth century, and to eliminate the vast open space that surrounds the house and historically is part of the property history but is not necessary to include to provide a setting for a building nominated for an architectural reason.



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Henry's Grove
Worcester Co.
Maryland

A 18/486260/4235920

B. 18/487460/4235440

C. 18/487430/4235140

D. 18/486270/4235570

Henry's Grove WO-8

WO-8, HENRY'S GROVE