

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. QA-85

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Wright's Chance (site)

other \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street and number South Side of MD Rt. 305     not for publication

city, town Carville MD x vicinity

county Queen Anne's

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Trigo, Inc., c/o Pavia and Harcourt; Ralph J. Galasso

street and number 63 Wall Street telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city, town New York state NY zip code 10005

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Queen Anne's County Courthouse liber CWC102 folio 231

city, town Centreville MD tax map \_\_\_\_\_ tax parcel \_\_\_\_\_ tax ID number \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District  
 Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
 Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
 Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
 Recorded by HABS/HAER  
 Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	_____	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	_____	_____ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	_____	_____ objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	_____	_____ Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		

**Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory**  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

Inventory No.

QA-85

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### Condition

excellent       deteriorated  
 good             ruins  
 fair              altered       site; moved

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Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The early dwelling house known as Wright's Chance was located on the south side of Maryland Route 305 just east of Carville. It was moved in May 1964 to a new site in the town of Centreville. For a description of the house, see QA-140.

# 8. Significance

Inventory No. QA-85

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Construction dates \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluation for:  
 \_\_\_\_\_ National Register      \_\_\_\_\_ Maryland Register      \_\_\_\_\_ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

This site is significant as the location of an early frame dwelling house known as Wright's Chance. This house was moved in May 1964 to a new site on South Commerce Street in nearby Centreville. It was restored at that time and now serves as a house museum owned by the Queen Anne's County Historical Society. For a description of the house, see Wright's Chance, QA-140.

A relatively thorough title search of this property was conducted by Guy Weathersley in 1963. His original notes are now on deposit in the Weatherly Collection, Maryland Hall of Records, Annapolis. A summary of his conclusions may be found in an article prepared by Weathersley and published in the Centreville Record-Observer on March 24, 1966. (See bibliography, section 9)

Mr. Weathersley concluded that the tract in question was originally patented by Robert Smith in 1682 as Smith's Forrest. In 1744 it was resurveyed by Ambrose Wright and renamed Wright's Chance. In 1763 the property passed out of the Wright family and was acquired by Basil Warfield, who owned the adjoining tract known as "Upper Deale" (See Lansdowne, QA-87). Later owners included John Dardge, Dr. John D. Emory, P.B. Hopper, and members of the Carville family.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. QA-85

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Breen, Robert G. "18<sup>th</sup> Century House to be Restored". Baltimore Sun, June 29, 1964.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property \_\_\_\_\_  
Acreage of historical setting \_\_\_\_\_  
Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale: \_\_\_\_\_

**Verbal boundary description and justification**

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## 11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	Queen Anne's County Historical Society	date	February 10, 1981
street & number		telephone	
city or town	Centreville	state	Maryland 21617

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The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600

QA-85

Site of Wright's Chance

18th century

Hope vicinity

Private

This site is significant as the original location of a frame dwelling known as Wright's Chance. The tract was originally patented by Robert Smith in 1682 as Smith's Forrest, but was resurveyed for Ambrose Wright in 1744 as Wright's Chance. The house that stood here was moved in May, 1964 by the Queen Anne's County Historical Society to a new location on South Commerce Street in nearby Centreville. It serves today as a house museum (see QA-140).

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Wright's Chance (site)

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

South side Maryland Route 305

CITY, TOWN

Carville

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Trigo Inc., c/o Pavia and Harcourt

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Ralph J. Galasso  
63 Wall Street

CITY, TOWN

New York  VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

New York 10005

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #: CWC 102

Folio #: 231

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

QA-85

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>May 1964</u>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The early dwelling house known as Wright's Chance was located on the south side of Maryland Route 305 just east of Carville. It was moved in May, 1964 to a new site in the town of Centreville. For a description of the house, see QA-140.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This site is significant as the location of an early frame dwelling house known as Wright's Chance. This house was moved in May, 1964 to a new site on South Commerce Street in nearby Centreville. It was restored at that time and now serves as a house museum owned by the Queen Anne's County Historical Society. For a description of the house, see Wright's Chance, QA-140.

A relatively thorough title search of this property was conducted by Guy Weatherly in 1963. His original notes are now on deposit in the Weatherly Collection, Maryland Hall of Records, Annapolis. A summary of his conclusions may be found in an article prepared by Weatherly and published in the Centreville Record-Observer on March 24, 1966. (See Bibliography, section 9).

Mr. Weatherly concluded that the tract in question was originally patented by Robert

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

QA-85

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Breen, Robert G. "18th Century House to be Restored".

Baltimore Sun, June 29, 1964.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

2/10/81

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 8.1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Smith in 1682 as Smith's Forrest. In 1744 it was resurveyed by Ambrose Wright and renamed Wright's Chance. In 1763 the property passed out of the Wright family and was acquired by Basil Warfield, who owned the adjoining tract known as "Upper Deale" (See Lansdowne, QA-87). Later owners included John Davidge, Dr. John D. Emory, P. B. Hopper, and members of the Carville family.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 9.1 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Emory, Frederick. Queen Anne's County, Md. Baltimore: Maryland Historical Society, 1950.

Henry, Helen. "A Plantation House Over 200 Years Old Rescued, Restored". Sunday Sun Magazine, December 6, 1964. Photos by A. Aubrey Bodine.

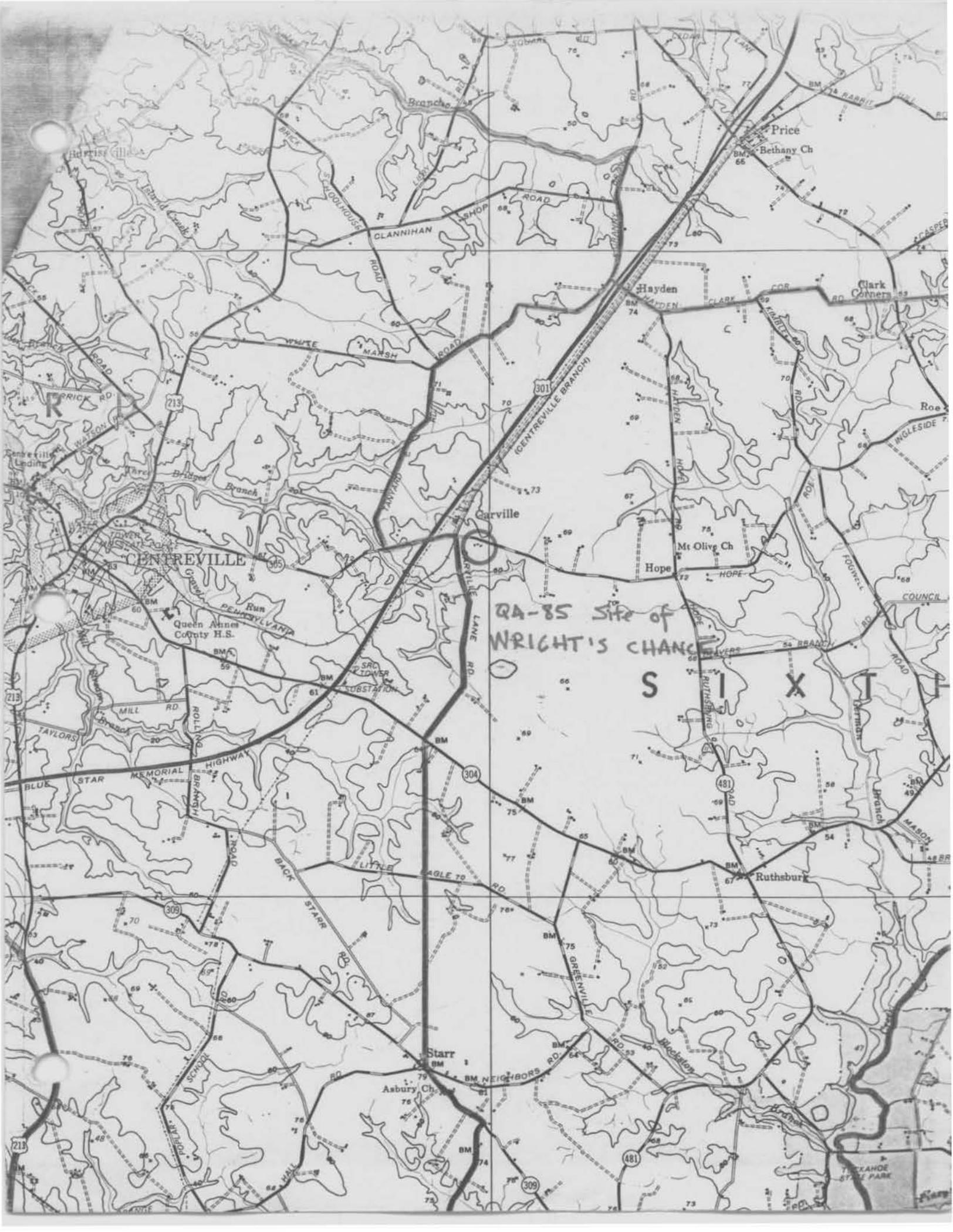
"Historical Society Home Being Moved". Queen Anne's Record Observer, May 14, 1964.

Hyde, Bryden B. "The Architecture of 'Wright's Chance'". Queen Anne's Record Observer, June 10, 1965.

Joynes, J. William. "He Took a Chance--And built a copy of a 1744 home". Maryland Living, March 17, 1968.

Weatherly, Guy. "Land Transactions Give History of Wright's Chance". Queen Anne's Record Observer, March 24, 1966.

"Wright's Chance: Old House Coming to Life". Queen Anne's Record Observer, November 12, 1964.



QA-85 site of  
WRIGHT'S CHANCE  
SIXTY