

T- 133  
A. B. Highley House  
Oxford  
Private

c. 1800

Historically known as the A. B. Highley house, this story-and-a-half dwelling was built originally in the vicinity of Trappe, a small crossroads village in southern Talbot County. Dismantled and rebuilt on this town lot off North Morris Street, the re-erected dwelling was conventionally framed with modern materials and the historic interiors features were refitted to the new framework. The original story-and-a-half dwelling was erected in two distinct stages dating from the late years of the eighteenth century or the first decade of the nineteenth century. In order to make the house livable by late twentieth century standards, a gambrel-roofed addition was attached to the east side of the rebuilt house.



# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. T-133

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic A. B. Highley House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 310 North Morris Street  not for publication

city, town Oxford  vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Talbot

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<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 type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Mr. and Mrs. McCarthy

street & number 310 North Morris Street telephone no.:

city, town Oxford state and zip code MD 21654

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court liber

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio

city, town Easton state MD 21601

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

date 1977  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state MD 21032

# 7. Description

Survey No. T-133

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			1975

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

The A. B. Highley house, located at 310 North Morris Street, is situated at the end of a short lane that intersects North Morris Street south of The Strand in Oxford, Talbot County, Maryland. Moved to this site in 1975, the story-and-a-half frame dwelling faces west with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis. Attached to the back of the old house is a story-and-a-half gambrel-roofed addition erected after the old house was reassembled on the lot. The house formerly stood in the vicinity of Trappe.

Estimated to date late 18th century or early 19th century, the story-and-a-half house was built in two stages according to the owner, Rusty Donahue, who dismantled the building and relocated it to Oxford. The removal of plaster indicated the story-and-a-half house was initially twenty-foot square with a side passage/parlor plan that was enlarged shortly thereafter with a one-room plan addition. The relocation of the structure involved the complete disassembly of the building. While the old materials were reused in its reconstruction, the relocated house was conventionally framed. Old brick was used in the new foundation and 18th-century style chimneys were erected on each gable end. The house is sheathed with beaded weatherboards, and the steeply pitched gable roof is covered with wood shingles.

The west (main) elevation is an asymmetrical four-bay facade with the entrance located in the second bay from the south corner. A six-panel front door is topped by a four-light transom. Unevenly spaced six-over-six sash windows fill the other bays. The base of the steeply pitched wood shingle roof is finished with a boxed cornice. The roof is marked by a pair of unevenly placed gable roof dormers filled with six-over-six sash windows. The brick foundation wall is pierced by rectangular cellar vents with horizontal bars.

The north and south gable ends feature exterior brick chimneys with double shouldered weatherings and single flue stacks. Narrow sash windows light the second floor rooms. The edge of the roof is finished with a beaded bargeboard.

The interior features a mixture of original and restoration woodwork. The center passage contains an enclosed staircase in the northeast corner. Beaded board paneling encloses the stair. A raised four-panel door opens into the small area below the staircase. Raised six-panel doors open into the adjacent rooms, which are trimmed with restoration moldings. Ovolo molded backband surrounds frame the windows and doors. Trimming the perimeter of the walls is a beaded edge baseboard and beaded edge chair rail. Fixed to each fireplace is a Federal style mantel.

The second floor is divided in the same fashion with a center passage and a bedroom to each side. Raised six-panel doors hung on long strap hinges remain on each door opening.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. T-133

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/ humanitarian
<input 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 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

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or

Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Historically known as the A. B. Highley house, this story-and-a-half dwelling was built originally in the vicinity of Trappe, a small crossroads village in southern Talbot County. Dismantled and rebuilt on this town lot off North Morris Street, the re-erected dwelling was conventionally framed with modern materials and the historic interiors features were refitted to the new framework. The original story-and-a-half dwelling was erected in two distinct stages dating from the late years of the eighteenth century or the first decade of the nineteenth century. In order to make the house livable by late twentieth century standards, a gambrel-roofed addition was attached to the east side of the rebuilt house.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. T-133

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

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

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A            
 Zone Easting Northing

B            
 Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

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 Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant date 4/23/98

street & number P. O. Box 5 telephone 410-651-1094

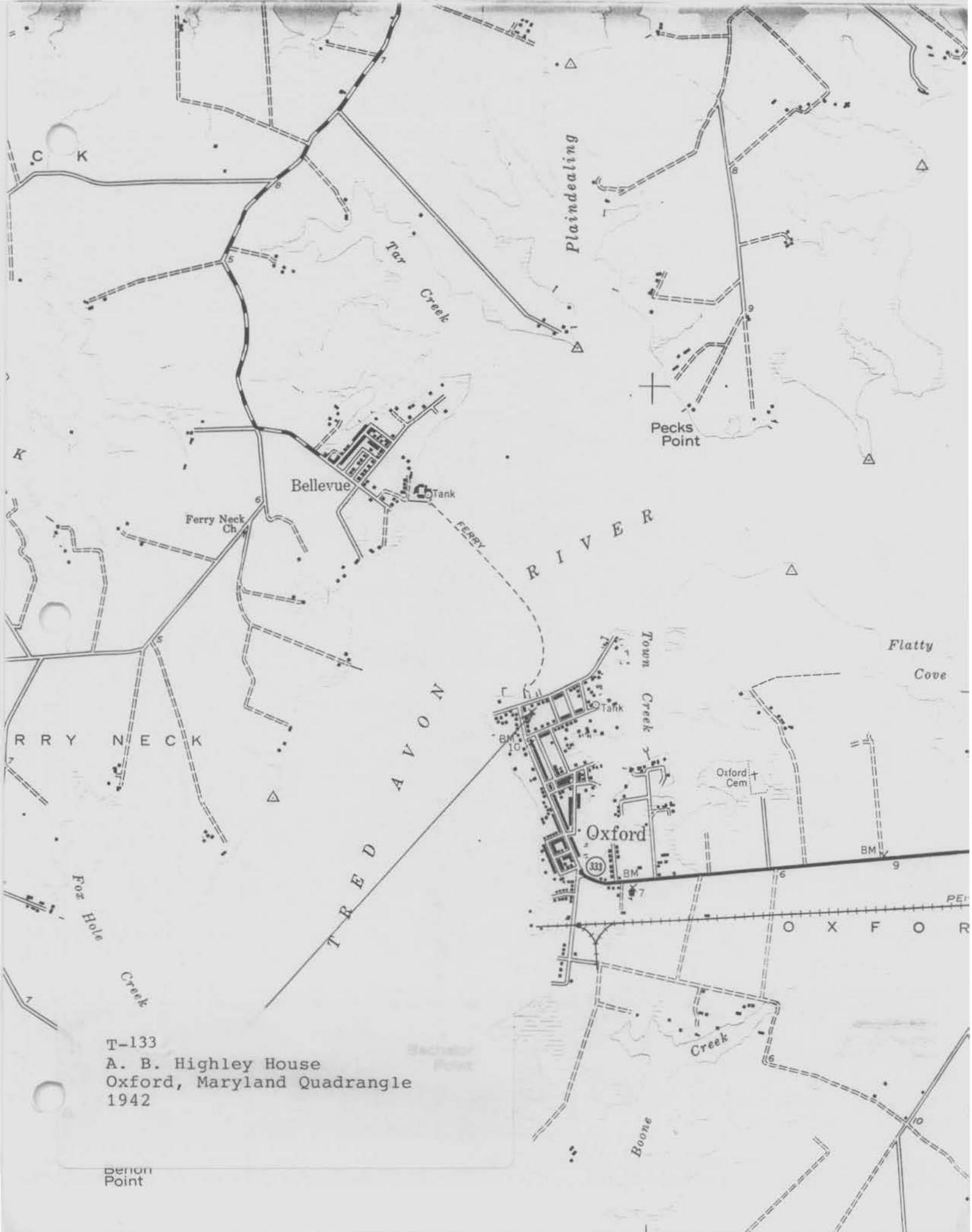
city or town Westover state Maryland 21871

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory 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  
 Shaw House  
 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
 Dir./DHCD  
 100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
 CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
 514-7600



T-133  
A. B. Highley House  
Oxford, Maryland Quadrangle  
1942

Benon  
Point



T-133

A. B. Hagley House

OXFORD, TALBOT COUNTY, MD.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

4/90, Paul Towse, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEC. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

1 of 2



T- 133

A B. HARVEY HOUSE  
OXBOW, TARRANT COUNTY, MD.  
SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

4/98, PAUL TARRANT, PHOTOGRAPHER

MEL/MD HISTORICAL TRUST

2 of 2

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

A.B. Highley House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Beaver Dam Rd., .5 mile S.E. of Rt. 50 (north)

CITY, TOWN

Trappe

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Talbot

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Highley, A. Bowdle, Trust

Telephone #: (301) 822-3494

STREET & NUMBER

c/o Douglas Hanks Sr., Harrison St.

CITY, TOWN

Easton

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21601

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Courthouse

Liber #: 175

Folio #: 118

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

**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
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Nothing exists at the present site of the A.B. Highley House since it was moved to Oxford since 1969.

The building which formerly stood on the property was a small one and one-half story frame structure, four bays long and one deep. There was an external chimney on each end. On its east end was another room which was removed when the house was moved to Oxford.

Its interior consisted of a central corridor with enclosed stair at the back of the corridor, with a room on each side. When the plaster was removed, it was found that the building had two building periods, the first was 20 feet square and contained a heated room with a small room west thereof and access to the present stair from the heated room. It seemed to be early 19th century. Shortly thereafter a 14 foot addition was built on the west side and the small west room of the original was converted into a corridor.

The building is presently undergoing restoration at its new site behind the Robert Morris Inn, Oxford.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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/HUMANITARIAN
<input 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 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		

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SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Highley House is interest to historians of vernacular architecture because of its unique development.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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

Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

April, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

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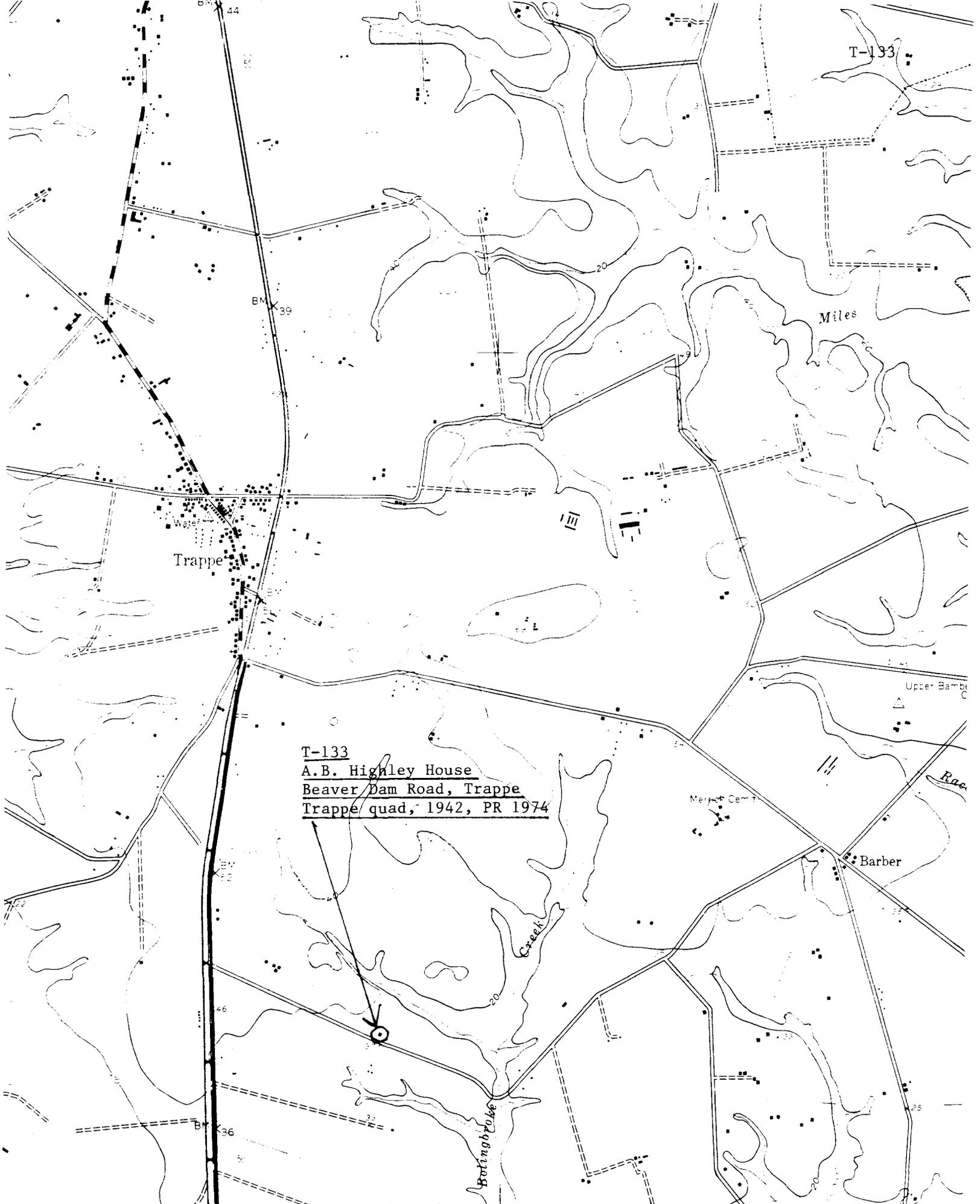
# TRAPPE

Dist. No. 3

TALBOT CO.

G. M. Hopkins  
1877 ATLAS  
Lake, Griffing & Stevenson  
T-133





T-133

Trappe

Miles

T-133  
A.B. Highley House  
Beaver Dam Road, Trappe  
Trappe quad, 1942, PR 1974

Barber

Market Cent

Upper Bambo

Creek

Rae

407

(CAMBRIDGE)  
5761 II SE  
SCALE 1"=24,000'

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

409

2'30"

410



13 x 1.32

50% 133

A.B. Hightley House, Oxford

T-133



M. Bourne June 1975