

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: Jacob Rohrer House property Survey Number: WA-I-70

Project: demolition of garage Richard Weber owner Agency: S/MDE

Site visit by MHT Staff:  no  yes Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility not recommended

Criteria:  A  B  C  D Considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

Located at 20307 Trovinger Mill Rd., the Jacob Rohrer is the historic name of the property owned by Richard Weber. The domestic and agricultural building complex dates from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The main dwelling was originally constructed in 1752 with major alterations occurring in 1802 and 1922. The stone dwelling rises two stories and exhibits an early 20th century appearance. The agricultural buildings have all been stripped of their historic stone/wood materials and replaced with synthetic siding. The best example of this is the bank barn. The submitted photographs depict the original stone foundation with modern superstructure. Additional farm buildings consist mostly of insensitively treated historic buildings or modern inclusions. The integrity of the complex has been greatly compromised due to these alterations. The Jacob Rohrer property no longer conveys its historical appearance. I believe it does not meet the NR criteria.

N.B. The proposed undertaking will demolish the c.1818 "garage" to its first floor and replace the existing stone with metal siding, as has been done many of the agricultural buildings previously.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MD Inventory, compliance file

"Richard Weber Garage"

Prepared by: Paula Stoner Dickey/Richard Weber

Lauren Bowlin 10/07/97  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence:  yes  no  not applicable  
Lauren Bowlin 10/8/97  
Reviewer, NR program Date

*Spring*

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

- Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
- Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
- Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
- Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
- Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
- Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
- Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
- Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
- Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
- Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
- Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
- Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
- Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
- Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
- Unknown Period (  prehistoric  historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

- Subsistence
- Settlement
- Political
- Demographic
- Religion
- Technology
- Environmental Adaptation

IV. Historic Period Themes:

- Agriculture
- Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
- Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
- Government/Law
- Military
- Religion
- Social/Educational/Cultural
- Transportation

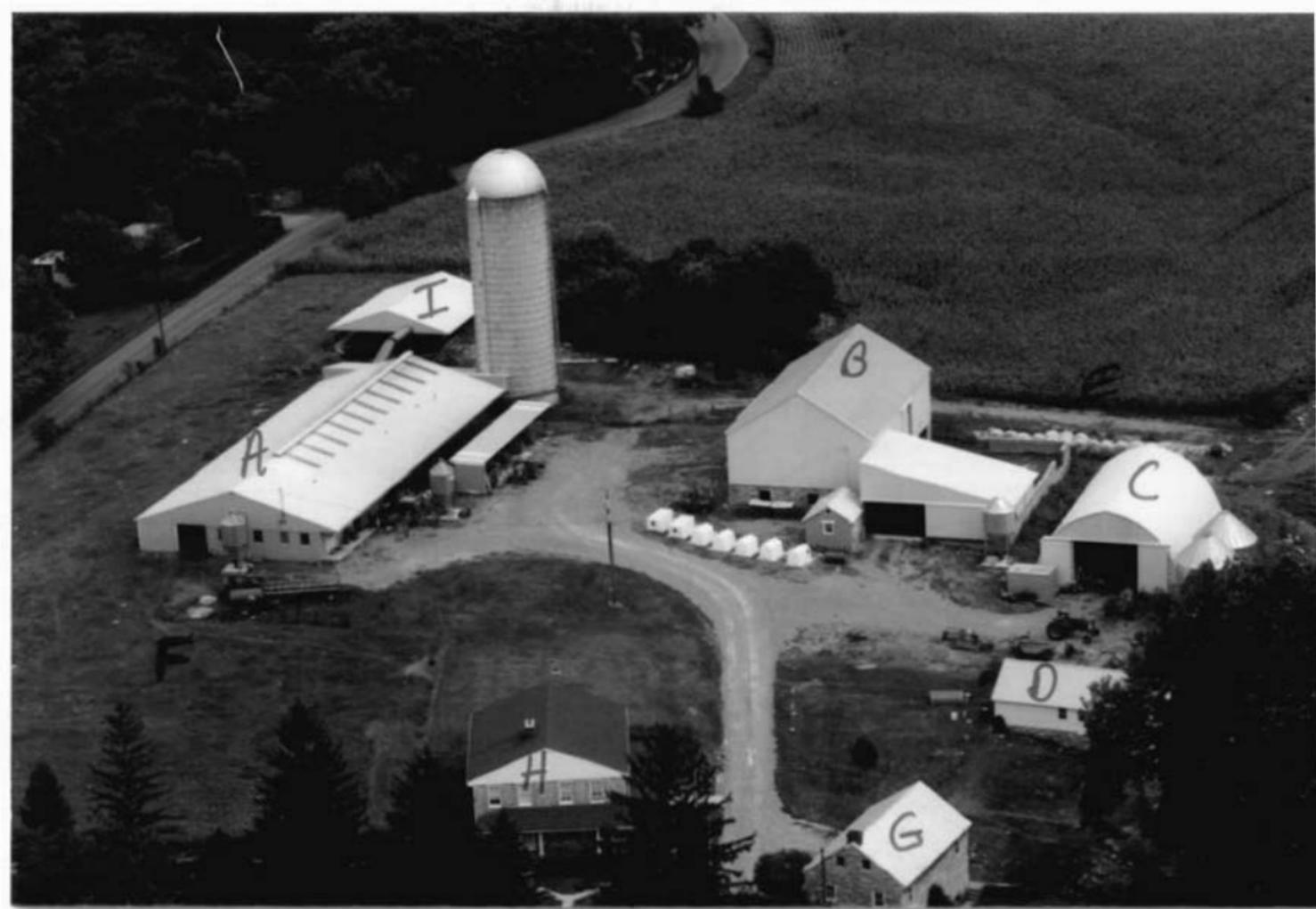
V. Resource Type:

Category: buildings

Historic Environment: rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): domestic and agricultural

Known Design Source: \_\_\_\_\_

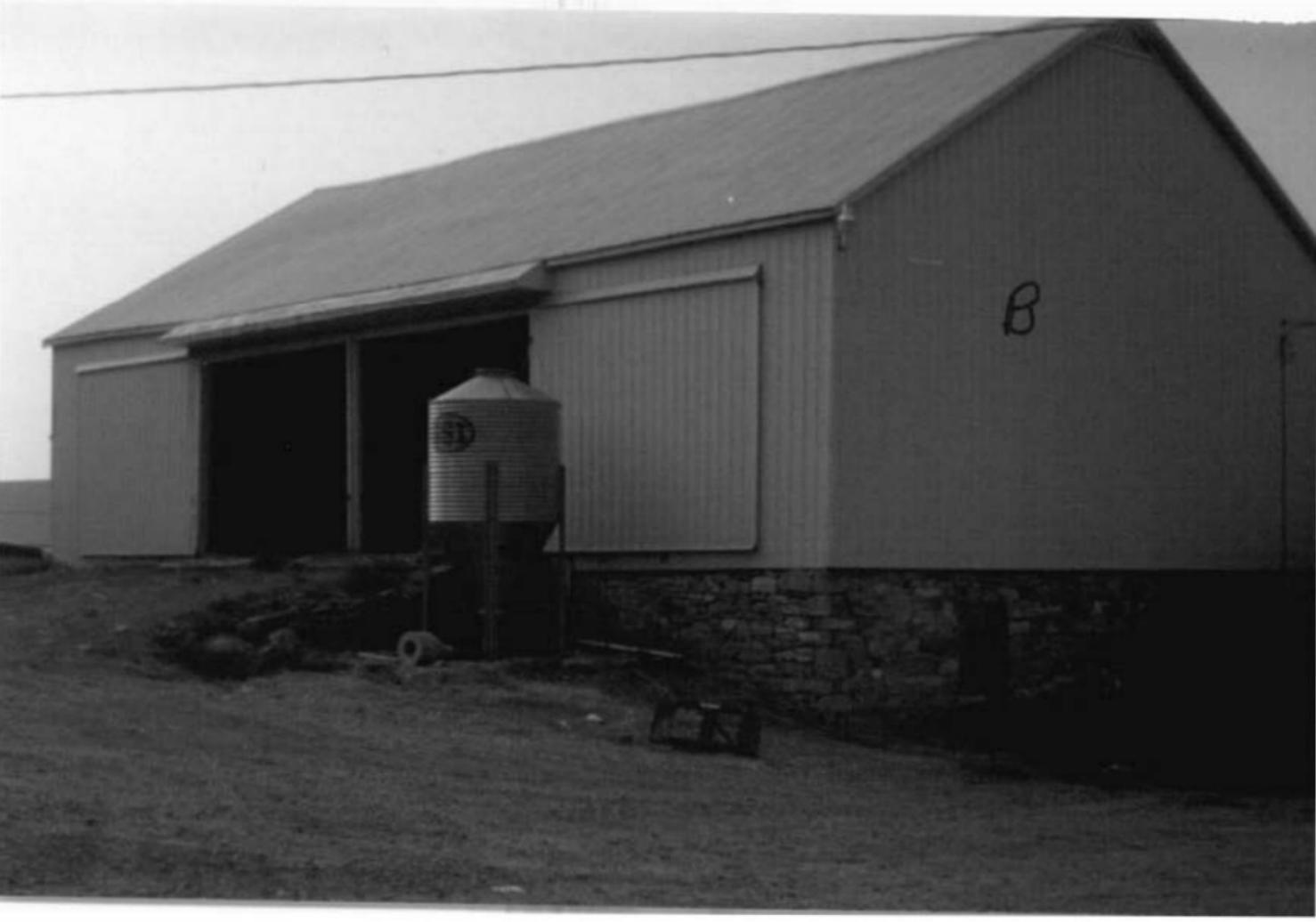


JACOB ROHNER PROPERTY

IWA-I-70

C. 1997

SITE PLAN



JACOB ROHIZER PROP.

WA-I-70

C. 1997

BARN



JACOB ROHMER PROP.

WA-I-70

C. 1997

GARAGE



JACOB ROHRER PROP

WA-I-70

C. 1997

GARAGE

ABSTRACT  
WA-I-070  
Jacob Rohrer House  
Hagerstown vicinity  
private

1752

Although drastically altered, this stone house dated 1752 is one of the oldest known examples of 18th century architecture in Washington County. It was presumably built by Jacob Rohrer who owned the property in the vicinity of this house as early as 1739 and who operated a gristmill which still stands near the house on the banks of the Antietam Creek. (See WA-I-071). Also near the house is an 18th century cemetery where members of the Rohrer family are buried.

2200645204

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
 for the  
 NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON: <b>Jacob Rohrer House</b>				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: <b>Trovinger Mill Road, West of Chewsville</b>				
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Hagerstown Vicinity</b>				
STATE <b>Maryland</b>		COUNTY: <b>Washington</b>		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify) _____ _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____ _____
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: <b>Dante Avon</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: <b>3540 Woodbine Street</b>				
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Chevy Chase</b>		STATE: <b>Maryland</b>		<b>20015</b>
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: <b>Washington County Court House</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: <b>West Washington Street</b>				
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Hagerstown</b>		STATE: <b>Maryland</b>		<b>21740</b>
<b>Title Reference of Current Deed (Book &amp; Pg. #): 521/350</b>				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	<div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">(Check One)</div> <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">(Check One)</div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered &gt; 50%    <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered           </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">(Check One)</div> <input type="checkbox"/> Moved    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site           </div> </div>
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>The "Jacob Rohrer House" is located on the east side of Trovinger Mill Road about one mile north of Maryland Route 64 in Washington County. It is situated on a gentle rise of ground and faces west, toward the Antietam Creek and toward the Trovinger Mill (WA-I-071).</p> <p>The structure is a two story, four bay stone dwelling which shows extensive early twentieth century alterations. Three datestones presumably from this structure have been set in the south wall of the dwelling, near its east end. One stone is inscribed with the date 1752 and the initials F.R. Another bears the date 1802 and the initials J.B.R., while the third shows the date 1922.</p> <p>A photograph of this house taken before the major alterations early in the twentieth century shows a four bay, two story structure with its roof running on a north-south axis rather than the present east-west orientation. The entire front of the house was sheltered by a double porch included under the main roof span. A large interior chimney projected from the roof ridge near its center. The old photograph indicates that the main entrance was located in the second bay from the north end of the facade. The house appears to have an extended roof in the rear, taking on a "salt box" shape.</p> <p>Just south of the dwelling is a small stone building now used as a garage. Set in its east wall is a stone inscribed with the date 1818. It is situated directly over a spring and appears to have been a secondary dwelling. The remains of a stone wall, said by local historians to have been the foundation for a distillery, are located just south of the 1818 building.</p> <p>East of the complex of buildings is a large frame bank barn. Situated on a hill behind the barn and surrounded by a dry stone wall is a cemetery where members of the Rohrer family are buried. Most of the tomb stones which could be read record death dates from the late 18th century.</p> <p>The buildings on this property are in good condition. The cemetery is deteriorated. The property contains 120.63 acres.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**B SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century
- 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Dates, 1752, 1802, and 1922

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Historic</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Art</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Communications</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Conservation</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Education</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Engineering</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Invention</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Literature</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Military</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Music</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Political</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Science</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Theater</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Transportation</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)<br/><u>Cemetery Provides</u><br/><u>Information About</u><br/><u>Early County</u><br/><u>Residents.</u></li> </ul> |
|---|---|---|--|

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The "Jacob Rohrer House" is significant primarily for its historical connection with the Rohrer family, early millers in Washington County. It should be noted secondarily for its architecture. Although altered almost beyond recognition it remains as one of the County's dated 18th century structures, few of which are in existence today. If the 1752 date inscribed in the stone set in the structure's east wall is correct, this house is the oldest dated structure to have been found in the County during this survey. The cemetery on the property is particularly important for the record it provides of early residents of this area.

This complex of buildings and the nearby mill (WA-I-071) stand on land which was part of a 817 acre tract called "Nancy's Contentment," patented to John Rohrer on May 10, 1768. Apparently, Nancy's Contentment included six smaller tracts which had been earlier grants to Jacob Rohrer. Among these six parcels were a ten acre tract, "Jacob's Welfare," granted in 1747; "Defiance," for 100 acres dated 1750 and "Addition to the Mill," a 30 acre tract patented in 1761. The name Addition to the Mill would suggest the presence of a milling operation at the time of that patent. Jacob Rohrer owned property on the banks of the Antietam as early as 1739. In a patent of 1747 reference is made to Jacob Rohrer's dwelling. The property was owned by Jacob Rohrer until 1817.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Spessard, Howard L., Notes compiled on Rohrer's Mill property.  
 Washington County Land Records.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE	
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **120.63 acres.**

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant**

ORGANIZATION: **Washington County Historical Sites Survey**      DATE: **July 1975**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Court House Annex**

CITY OR TOWN: **Hagerstown**      STATE: **Maryland**

**12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)**

Significance of this property is:

National       State       Local

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature

Liber Folio  
521/350

April 20, 1971

Grantors: Harry D. Needy & Helen J. Needy

Grantees: Dante Avon & Erma M. Avon

Parcel # 1. 100 acres, 2 rods and 20 perches. Liber 150 Folio 708, 1917.

Parcel # 2. 11 acres and 90 perches.

Parcel # 3. 12 acres, 1888.

Liber Folio  
150/708

March 27, 1917

Grantors: Albert T. Fiery & Mary E. Fiery

Grantee: Mary Catherine Needy

Parcel # 1. 100 acres, 2 rods and 20 perches

Parcel # 2. 12 acres.

\$5,500.

Liber Folio  
96/629

March 31, 1891

Grantors: Wm. F. Unger & Henry F. Unger, Attorney's in Fact of Catherine Unger and others.

Grantee: Albert T. Fiery

Heirs of Frederick Unger

\$5,500.

Liber Folio  
WmCkK6/406

April 4, 1874

Grantors: Wm. Hager & Wife

Grantee: Frederick Unger

... beginning at a stone standing on the south margin of the road leading from William Hager's Mill to the Hagerstown & Smithsburg turnpike,

Liber Folio  
LBN1/464

May 8, 1866

Grantors: J. F. Smith & R. M. Alvey, Trustees for Samuel Horine

Grantee: Wm. Hager

"Resurvey on Downy's Lot," "Nancy's Contentment," 224 3/4 acres.

Liber Folio  
IN9/472

December 26, 1853

Grantors: Joseph B. Loose & Martin Bachtell, Trustees.

Grantee: Samuel Horine

\$15,575.17 224 3/4 acres.

Liber Folio  
CC/719

May 2, 1818

Grantor: Joseph Graff, Trustee for real estate of Jacob Rohrer, Sr.

Grantee: John Wolfersberger

Liber Folio  
CC/402

November 12, 1817

Grantor: Jacob Rohrer Sr.

Grantee: Joseph Graff, Trustee

... Joseph will settle and adjust the various and complicated businesses of Jacob and in consideration of that the said Jacob will pay and satisfy the many debts due and owing by the said Jacob.

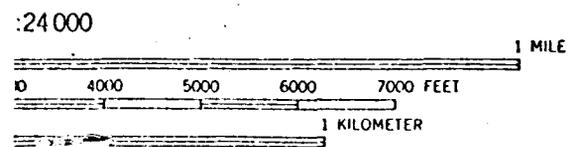
"Bear's Hole" 20 acres, "Darlin's Sale" 60 acres

"Nancy's Contentment" 817 acres, "Adln To Defiance" 113 acres,

"Clever" 23 1/2 acres, "Rorher Adln" 100 acres, "Rohrers Lot" 50 acres.



TOWN 270 271 40' 272 2 030 000 FEET (P.A.); INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 274000m E.



RVAL 20 FEET  
N SEA LEVEL

WA-I-070



- ROAD CLASSIFICATION
- Heavy-duty 4 LANE 6 LANE
  - Medium-duty 4 LANE 6 LANE
  - Light-duty
  - Unimproved dir
  - U. S. Route
  - State Route
  - Interstate Route

HAGERSTOWN, MD  
NW/4 HAGERSTOWN 15' QUAD:  
N3937.5—W7737.5/7.

NAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
URVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple compiled by Geological Survey from  
aerial photographs taken 1971. This information not field checked  
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas.

1953  
PHOTO REVISION 1971



















611-5-110

5.6

CHICKENMAN'S NIA

Nov 1973

Santa Elena Island

Esmeraldas, Esmeraldas Province

Herbario S. S. S. S.



Oct 1 - 1970

S. C.

1970-1971, 1819

West. Dist. 11/19/70

Nov. 1973

Paula Storer Dickey  
Parsippany, Washington County  
Historical Sites Society



