

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON: Bowman's Mill and House				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road, about one mile south of Leitersburg				
CITY OR TOWN: Leitersburg Vicinity				
STATE Maryland			COUNTY: Washington	
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: Mr. & Mrs. William V. Niemyer				
STREET AND NUMBER: Route # 5				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown			STATE: Maryland	21740
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Washington County Court House				
STREET AND NUMBER: West Washington Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown			STATE: Maryland	21740
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 244/599				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY: Maryland Historical Trust Inventory #3086				
DATE OF SURVEY: Summer 1967 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historical Trust				
STREET AND NUMBER: 21 State Circle				
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis			STATE: Maryland	21401

**7. DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION	house mill <span style="float: right;">(Check One)</span>					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered < 50% <input type="checkbox"/> Uncited			<input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bowman's Mill and adjacent stone house are located on the west side of Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road about one mile south of Leitersburg in Washington County, Maryland. The structures are situated on gently sloping ground between the road and Little Antietam Creek. The Mill building faces northeast while the house faces southeast, toward the Mill.

The Mill building is a three and one half story stone and frame structure, three bays in width. The lower two stories are of stone construction, displaying roughly coursed masonry. Openings with elliptically arched heads appear just above ground level at the front elevation. No decorative stonework appears at the other doors and windows. Alterations in the masonry at the rear elevation suggest additions and changes to the early Mill structure. An elliptically arched door head marks the location of an original entrance which has since been closed. Above the stone portion of the Mill is a one and a half story frame structure, four bays in length, and extending beyond the stone section, forming a deep overhang. A modern one story addition is attached to the southeast elevation.

Windows and doors appear to be spaced evenly in the walls. Many of the windows in the stone section have been boarded shut. Those that remain functional have six over six pane double hung sashes. Several windows in the rear elevation have early wide frames joined with wooden pegs. Windows in the frame section have six over six pane sashes trimmed with plain architraves. Doors in the front elevation have plain trim similar to that employed by the windows in the frame section.

The roof is covered with corrugated sheet metal and terminates with a plain barge board set directly against the end walls. The eaves are finished with plain boxing.

A short distance northwest of the Mill is a four bay, one and a half story stone dwelling with a three bay, one and a half story el addition extending to the rear. Its walls are constructed of roughly coursed local limestone. Finer masonry work is displayed in the main structure than that employed in the addition. There is no decorative masonry associated with the window or door openings. Set in the northeast gable is a tablet which at one time may have carried a date inscription. The front elevation shows evidence of having been coated with whitewash or paint at one time.

Openings show irregular placement in the front elevation. Several windows in the main section retain their early wide frames joined with wooden pins and trimmed with quarter round. All sashes have been replaced. Windows at the front elevation are flanked with pairs of shutters with raised panels.

The main entrance is located in the second bay from the east corner of the house. The door employs narrow framing and is topped with a small transom.

(Continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1837 (Portion of Mill)**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry	osophy	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	itarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Bowman's Mill and the Mill house are significant for their architecture and for their contribution to Washington County's early commerce and industry.

Portions of both buildings would appear to be examples of Washington County's late 18th century architecture in stone. Herbert C. Bell, in his History of Leitersburg District, states that the Mill is believed to have been established by Abraham Stouffer some time before 1789. It was mentioned in a newspaper advertisement in 1793, as Jacob's Gilbert's Mill. Bell further states that the Mill was purchased by Frederick Bell in 1825, who erected the present structure in 1837-38. (1) It would appear, however, that the present Mill contains much of the original structure as evidenced by the seams in the masonry and the arched heads over various openings which have since been enclosed, as well as the early framing of some windows.

The house, too, would appear to date from the late 18th century. Constructed over the four bay off-center door plan it is representative of a segment of the vernacular architecture found in southern Pennsylvania, Western Maryland, and the Shenandoah Valley. The house appears to retain a significant portion of its original woodwork and trim.

The Bowman Mill complex has contributed to the commercial and industrial growth of Washington County from the late 18th through the early 19th century. For grain was a major industry in early Washington County. For grain and wood processing they were erected from the earliest days of settlement and thrived into the 20th century. The Bowman family purchased the business in 1886. (2) The property has remained in the Bowman family to the present.

(1) Herbert C. Bell, History of Leitersburg District, Leitersburg, Md: The Author (1908) P.94.

(2) Ibid.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Bell, Herbert C. History Of Leitersburg District, Leitersburg, Md:  
The Author, 1908

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: 75.5 acres.

Acreege Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: <b>Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant</b>	
ORGANIZATION <b>Washington County Historical Sites Survey</b>	DATE <b>September 1975</b>
STREET AND NUMBER: <b>Court House Annex</b>	
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Hagerstown</b>	STATE <b>Maryland</b>

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

Significance of this property is:

National  State  Local

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

#7 (Continued)

WA-I-147

The roof extends beyond the end walls, displaying modern asphalt shingles at its southeast slope while slate is retained for the remainder. Plain boxing finishes the eaves. Small brick chimneys with corbels at their tops are located inside each gable end and at the interior of the addition.

The interior of the house is divided by board partitions. Doors have six raised panels.

A small bank barn is located northwest of the house.

The Mill is in deteriorated to fair condition while the house appears in good to excellent condition. The property contains 75.5 acres.

*Bowman*

Liber Folio  
259/239

October 12, 1950

Grantors: Amos E. Bowman & Nora B. Bowman

Grantees: William V. Niemyer & Rachel E. Niemyer

Parcel # 1: "Resurvey on Burkitt's Lot," "Resurvey on Deceit,"  
"Burkett's Establishment." 75 3/8 acres.

Parcel # 2: 12 7/10 square perches, a portion of an old farm road.

\*Parcel # 3: "Resurvey on part of Burkheart's Lot," conveyed  
to Christian Hycle, February 8, 1790. 24 acres and  
12 perches.

Liber Folio  
244/599

December 8, 1947

Grantors: The Merchant's Milling Co.

Grantee: Amos E. Bowman

About 2 acres improved with a grist mill and equipment.

Liber Folio  
186/518

September 1, 1930

Grantors: The Merchant's Milling Co.

Grantees: Amos E. Bowman & Nora B. Bowman

About 2 acres.

Liber Folio  
183/673

August 31, 1929

Grantors: George H. Bowman & Ida V. Bowman

Grantees: Amos E. Bowman & Nora B. Bowman

res: Burkheart's Lot conveyed to Christian Hycle  
24 acres, 12 perches.

Liber Folio  
89/134

March 25, 1886

Grantors: John D. Wisherd & Elias R. Stotlemeyer and Anne E. Stotlemeyer

Grantee: George H. Bowman

\$1300. 24 acres, 12 perches.

Liber Folio  
80/451

March 29, 1880

Grantor: Jeremiah Fahrney

Grantee: John D. Wisherd

\$3000. 24 acres, 12 perches, improved by a "Mill Site" and  
Mill buildings.

Liber Folio  
79/136

March 30, 1880

Grantors: David M. Detrick & Catherine B. Detrick

Grantee: Jeremiah Fahrney

\$3,000. 24 acres, 12 perches

Liber Folio  
IN16/213

March 31, 1862

Grantor: Isaac H. Durborow, Trustee

Grantee: David M. Detrick

Durborow acting as trustee for the sale of the property of  
Joseph Elden, insolvent debtor.  
28 acres, 3 roods, 5 perches.

Liber Folio  
IN13/564

November 5, 1858

A mortgage by Joseph Elden and Mary Ann Elden and by Issac Durburow and Frederick Bell, made for the sale of the real estate of Samuel Etnyer deceased, for \$3,000. The property is described as improved with a three story mill house, a stone dwelling and other improvements, and consisting of about 30 acres.

Liber Folio  
HH/693

November 8, 1825

Grantor: John V. Swearingen, Sheriff.  
Grantee: Frederick Bell

A portion of Burkhart's Lot was sold as a result of a judgement against Abraham Moyer.  
80 15/16 acres.

Liber Folio  
M/234

November 23, 1799

Grantor: Jacob Gilbert  
Grantee: Abraham Moyer  
200 1/4 acres.

Liber Folio  
L/691

November 8, 1798

Grantor: Abraham Stouffer  
Grantee: Jacob Gilbert  
"Resurvey on Burkhart's Lot" 200 1/4 acres.

Liber Folio  
G/102

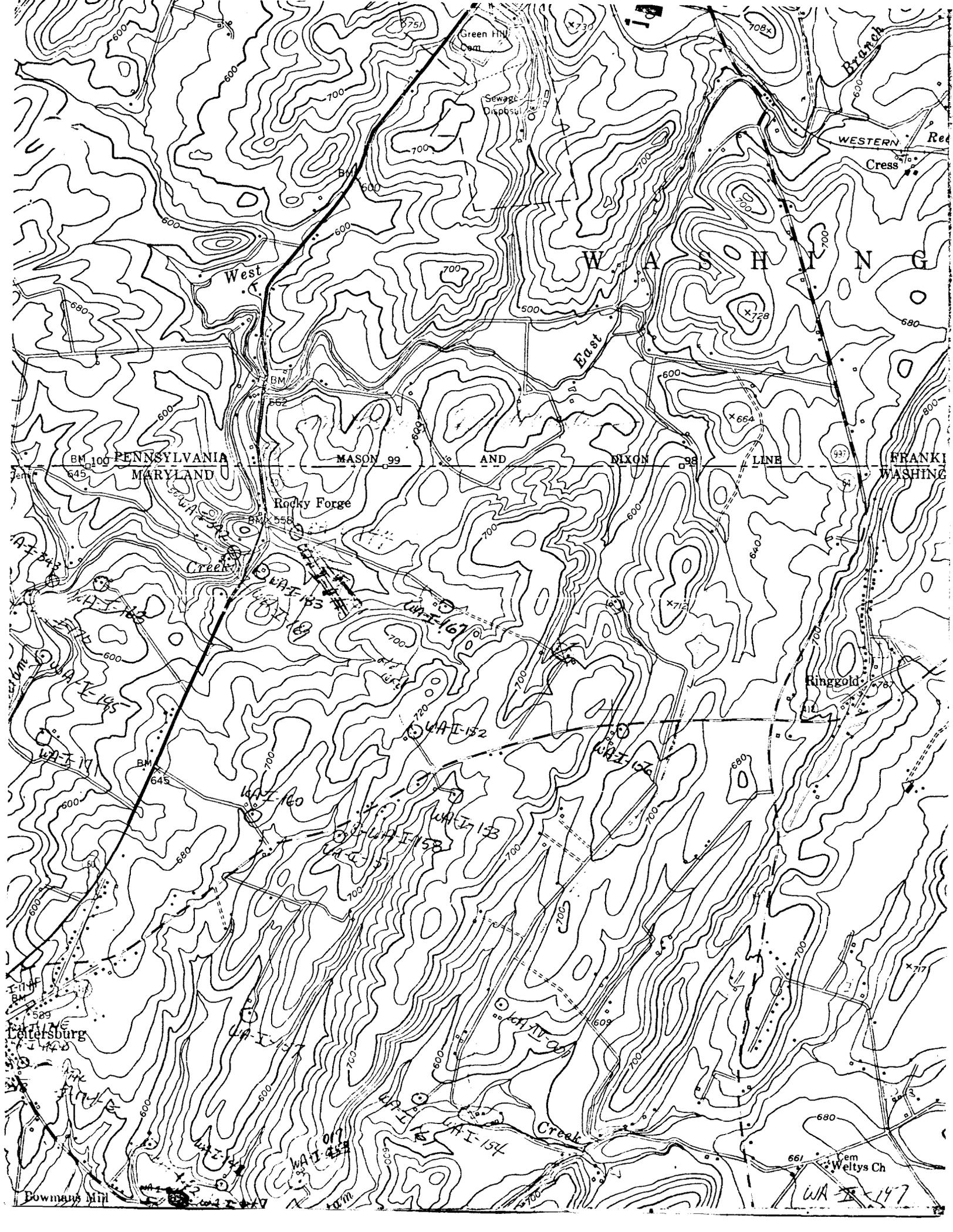
May 26, 1790

Grantor: Christian Hyle  
Grantee: Jacob Gilbert  
The purpose of this deed was to correct an earlier erroneous deed executed May 7, 1787 when Hyle conveyed to Abraham Stouffer 200 1/4 acres. Apparently the land in question was already owned by Stouffer who had already conveyed it to Jacob Gilbert.

Liber Folio  
E/409

May 14, 1787

Grantor: Christopher Hyle  
Grantee: Abraham Stouffer  
Parcel # 1. E 1300. 200 1/4 acres, "Resurvey on Burkett's Lot"  
Parcel # 2. "Garden's Chance" 25 acres  
Parcel # 3. "Lambert's Strife" 25 acres









PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



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WA-1-147

Bowman's Mill & House

Poumonville (Barn)

WA-1-147

21753 Lectoria Smithsonian Road

R Re-55

7-1-93

Northwest



WA-1-147

Bowman's Mill & House

Bowman's Mill and House

WA-1-147

21953 Le-ent-ig-Sm-ns-rnw Rd

R. Reuss

7-6-93

M. Robert



WA-1-147

Bowman's Mill & House  
Barn

Bowman's Mill & House

WA - I - 147

3753 Letourneau-Springwood Road

R. Reuss

T-0-93

South



WA-1-147

Bowman's Mill & House

Bowman's Mill & House

WA-I-147

21753 Letersburg-Smithsburg Rd

R. Reuss

7-6-93

South



WA-1-147

Bowman's Mill & House  
Mill

Bowman's Mill & House

WA-1-147

21753 Leetersburg - Smithsburg Road

R Reuss

7-6-93

Southwest



WA-1-147  
Bowman's Mill & House  
Mill

Bowmans Mill & House

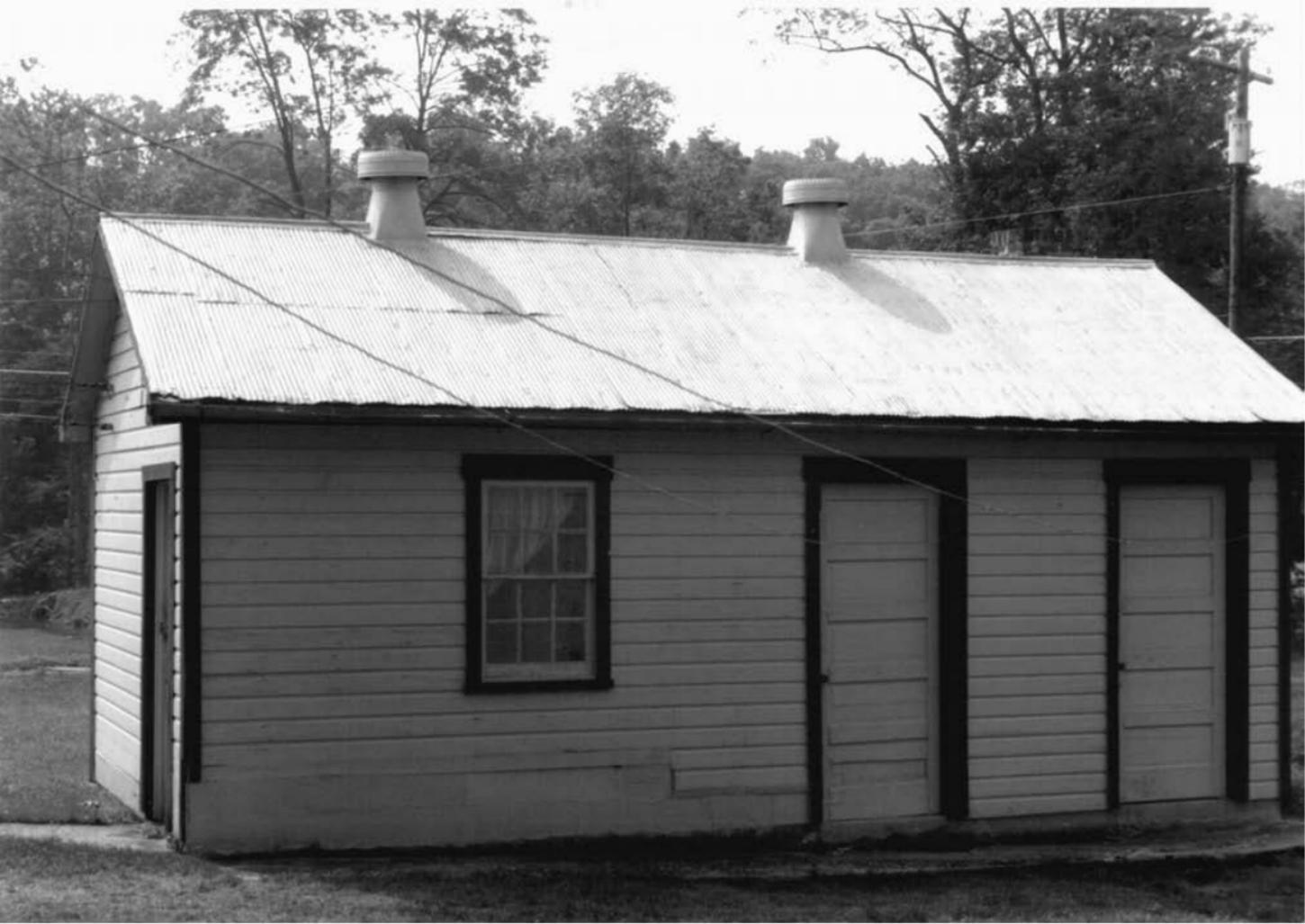
WA-I-147

21753 Leitersburg Smithsburg Road

R. Reuss

7-6-93

Northwest



WA-1-147

Bowman's Mill & House

Summer kitchen

Bowman's Mill & House

WA-1-147

21753 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Road

R. Reuss

7-6-93

South