

WI-407  
Elihu J. Pusey Homeplace  
Hebron vicinity  
Private

c. 1860

Corner pilasters, gable end pediments, and corniced window moldings clearly places construction of this two-story, five-bay frame dwellings during the mid nineteenth century. The interior is finished with corner block moldings around the doors and windows, and tiger maple balusters figure in the stair railing. The face of the stringer is embellished with a scroll decoration reminiscent of Federal design. Attached to the back of the center hall/single pile main block is a dining room and kitchen wing. Surviving in the kitchen is a large cooking fireplace featuring a segmental arched firebox opening and corbelled shoulders.

Construction of this sizable Greek Revival inspired house occurred during the middle years of the nineteenth century, probably when Elihu J. Pusey (1817-1878) occupied this farm north of the Rockawalkin Methodist church. Native to Sussex County, Delaware, Elihu Pusey moved to Somerset County in 1855 according to the personal history listed in the patron list of the Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas. In 1877, when the atlas was published, Pusey held over 1200 acres. Seventeen years earlier, Elihu Pusey was listed in the Eighth Census of the United States as a 42-year old farmer with his wife Margaret and four children, Sarah, Benjamin, Lida, and Elihu.

Although Elihu J. Pusey died intestate, the property passed to his wife Margaret J. Pusey (1827-1897) and then to his children. The farm, reduced to 197 ½ acres by the mid twentieth century, was not sold out of the family until 1948. The farmland around the house site was developed as "Rockawalkin Village" during the mid 1970s.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Elihu J. Pusey Homeplace

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-407

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
  
2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
  
3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Agricultural-Industrial Transition  
1815-1870
  
4. Resource Type(s): Dwelling

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Elihu J. Pusey Homeplace

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 7180 Rockawalkin Road \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Hebron  vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

## 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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name James S. and Mary Elinor Cabbage

street & number 7180 Rockawalkin Road telephone no.:

city, town Hebron state and zip code MD 21830

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court Map 28, P. 209  
liber 947

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 808

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date \_\_\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

The Elihu J. Pusey homeplace is located at 7180 Rockawalkin Road in the vicinity of Hebron, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-story, five-bay frame house is located along Rockawalkin Road within a mid 1970s development called Rockawalkin Village. The house, formerly associated with a large farm, stands on 1.12 acres with a southeastern exposure. The ridge of the main block is oriented on a northeast/southwest axis.

Built around 1850-60, the two-story, five-bay, center hall/single pile frame house is supported on a new foundation, and the exterior is clad with plain weatherboard siding. The medium pitched gable roof is covered with slate shingles. Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story, one-room plan wing that extends further with a single-story, one-room plan kitchen. Attached to the back of the nineteenth century house is a single-story addition. A former boundary marker inscribed "B. Fooks Corner" has been relocated to the front yard.

The southeast (main) elevation is a symmetrical facade with a center entrance and flanking six-over-six sash windows. The front door has been reworked with a new molding and door, but cornice window surrounds frame the windows. The second floor is lighted by five evenly spaced six-over-six sash windows, and the corners of the wall are trimmed with paneled pilasters that rise to a boxed cornice.

The northeast and southwest gable ends are essentially alike with pairs of six-over-six sash windows on each floor to each side of interior end brick chimney stacks. The gable ends are finished like a pediment, and quarter round windows light the attic. The wall surface within each pediment is covered with flush siding, and the cornice is trimmed with bed and crown moldings.

Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story, one-room plan wing that joins a single-story, one-room plan kitchen to the main house. The kitchen may date to the second quarter of the nineteenth century, although much of its original fabric has been lost in an extensive remodeling during the 1970s.

The interior of the main block features some of its original Greek Revival woodwork. The original staircase survives with a heavy mid nineteenth-century newel post distinguished by an octagonal tapered center shaft. The heavily turned newel post and a series of slender tiger maple balusters support a molded handrail. The stringer is embellished with a scroll decoration. Opening into the space beneath the staircase is a mid nineteenth-century four-panel door. The door openings are trimmed with a Greek Revival corner block surround. One of the most significant interior features is a large cooking fireplace in the rear kitchen. Built of early to mid nineteenth century brick, the stack has a wide segmental arched opening and corbelled shoulders that rise to a single flue stack.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. WI-407

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: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

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

Corner pilasters, gable end pediments, and corniced window moldings clearly places construction of this two-story, five-bay frame dwellings during the mid nineteenth century. The interior is finished with corner block moldings around the doors and windows, and tiger maple balusters figure in the stair railing. The face of the stringer is embellished with a scroll decoration reminiscent of Federal design. Attached to the back of the center hall/single pile main block is a dining room and kitchen wing. Surviving in the kitchen is a large cooking fireplace featuring a segmental arched firebox opening and corbelled shoulders.

Construction of this sizable Greek Revival inspired house occurred during the middle years of the nineteenth century, probably when Elihu J. Pusey (1817-1878) occupied this farm north of the Rockawalkin Methodist church. Native to Sussex County, Delaware, Elihu Pusey moved to Somerset County in 1855 according to the personal history listed in the patron list of the Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas. In 1877, when the atlas was published, Pusey held over 1200 acres.<sup>1</sup> Seventeen years earlier, Elihu Pusey was listed in the Eighth Census of the United States as a 42-year old farmer with his wife Margaret and four children, Sarah, Benjamin, Lida, and Elihu.<sup>2</sup>

Although Elihu J. Pusey died intestate, the property passed to his wife Margaret J. Pusey (1827-1897) and then to his children. The farm, reduced to 197 1/2 acres by the mid twentieth century, was not sold out of the family until 1948.<sup>3</sup> The farmland around the house site was developed as "Rockawalkin Village" during the mid 1970s.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> John L. Graham, ed. *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*, Wicomico County Bicentennial Committee, 1976, p. 50.

<sup>2</sup> Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Population Schedule for Somerset County, transcribed by John C. Barnes and printed by Ruth T. Dryden, p. 224.

<sup>3</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, JWTS 308/588, 15 October 1948.

<sup>4</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, AJS 823/508, 3 June 1974.



WI-407  
Elihu J. Pusey Homeplace  
7180 Rockawalkin Road  
Hebron vicinity, Wicomico County, Maryland

Chain of title

Map 28, Parcel 209

947/808 Wayne R. Witzke, Mary H. Witzke

to

9/12/1980 James S. and Mary Elinor Cubbage

1.12 acres Lot No. 4 in Block B "Rockawalkin Village"

AJS 834/984 Rockawalkin Village Limited Partnership

to

2/10/1975 Wayne R. Witzke and Mary H. Witzke

AJS 823/508 C. A. Porter Hopkins  
Walter W. Brewster

to

6/3/1974 Rockawalkin Village Limited Partnership

JWTS 633/75 James W. Turner  
Hilda M. Turner

to

6/21/1966 C. A. Porter Hopkins  
Walter W. Brewster  
169 acres

Elihu J. Pusey Homeplace  
7180 Rockawalkin Road  
Hebron vicinity, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

JWTS 308/588           Margaret J. Pusey  
                                  Marion W. Pusey

to

10/15/1948           James W. Turner  
                          "Homeplace" of Elihu J. Pusey and more recently known as the  
                          homeplace of Benjamin S. Pusey, deceased  
                          197 ½ acres...being in all respects the land of which a certain  
                          Elihu J. Pusey died intestate about the year 1879, leaving  
                          surviving him Margaret J. Pusey, widow, (not same as grantor)  
                          Benjamin S. Pusey, Elihu J. Pusey, Lida H. Pusey, and Sarah  
                          E. Dennis

Will Book  
MNN 1/239

Last Will and Testament of Benjamin S. Pusey

to

5/12/1930           Margaret Jane Pusey  
                          Marion Virginia Pusey

Item 1   excepting so much thereof as was conveyed by the  
said Benjamin S. Pusey to trustees of Johnson's Chapel by  
deed dated, 4/17/1891, FMS 7/516

SPT 3/324           Heirs of Elihu J. Pusey (died intestate)

to

12/3/1879           Margaret J. Pusey

One half that tract of land known as the Bell land which was  
purchased by the said Elihu J. Pusey deceased from Josephus  
Humphreys and Elijah M. Gordy and wife and sold to said  
Humphreys by William Freeny, executor of Henry Dulany  
being the same land that was conveyed to Dulany by Noah  
Rider by two deeds, one recorded LH 143 and in WP 2/323

Elihu J. Pusey Homeplace  
7180 Rockawalkin Road  
Hebron vicinity, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

And also all that tract of land known as the Home Place of  
said deceased, 197 ½ acres

SPT 3/325 Benjamin S. Pusey  
Lida H. Pusey  
Sarah E. Dennis

to

12/3/1879 Elihu J. Pusey

All that land that Elihu J. Pusey deceased purchased of George  
W. Covington and wife lying and being in .....County  
called Hitch's Hard Luck which was allotted to the said Leah  
R. Covington by the Commissioners to divide the real estate  
of Levin Dorman and described as Lot No. 2 in their report  
in Judicial Record of Somerset County GH 7/475  
179 5/8 acres

Somerset County  
Land Record  
LW 10/371

Benjamin Sheppard

to

5/1/1867 Elihu J. Pusey  
Margaret J. Pusey  
\$4,000 ...about five miles west of Salisbury....197 ½ acres  
being a part of the land which was conveyed by  
Benjamin Fooks to Benjamin Sheppard and Elijah M.  
Gordy and which the said Benjamin Fooks purchased  
of John Byrd

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Elihu J. Pusey Homeplace  
7180 Rockawalkin Road  
Salisbury vicinity, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

Somerset County  
Land Record  
LW 6/634

George W. Covington  
Leah R. Covington

to

4/28/1860

Elihu J. Pusey  
\$3,100 "Hitch's Hard Luck...which was allotted to the said  
Leah R. Covington by the Commissioners to divide  
the real estate of Levin Dorman and described as  
Lot No. 2 in their report, Somerset County Judicial  
Record, GH 7/475 244 5/8 acres

1877 Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas Listing

Elihu J. Pusey, farmer, 1265 acres, Sussex County, Delaware nativity, settled 1855

1860 Eighth Census of the United States, Somerset County Population Schedule as  
transcribed by John C. Barnes and published by Ruth T. Dryden, 1988.

Household 1577 Elihu (transcribed as Elijah) Pusey, 42, farmer  
Value of Real Estate \$8,000  
Value of Per. Property \$3,000  
Place of Birth, Delaware

Wife, Margaret, 35  
Sarah, 14  
Benjamin, 5  
Lida, 5  
Elihu, 2

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Elihu J. Pusey Homeplace  
7180 Rockawalkin Road  
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

Somerset County  
Land Record  
LW 4/135

Benjamin Fooks  
Sally Fooks, Laurel, Sussex County, Delaware

to

2/12/1855

Benjamin Sheppard  
Elijah M. Gordy, Worcester County, Maryland  
\$15,000 775 5/8 acres Being composed of two  
tracts called "Rye Plains" and "Consolidation" and  
embraced in the survey and plat made by John N.  
Bowland, 17 October 1833

Somerset County  
Land Record  
GH 7/163

John Byrd and others (Maria Byrd and Elizabeth Byrd)

to

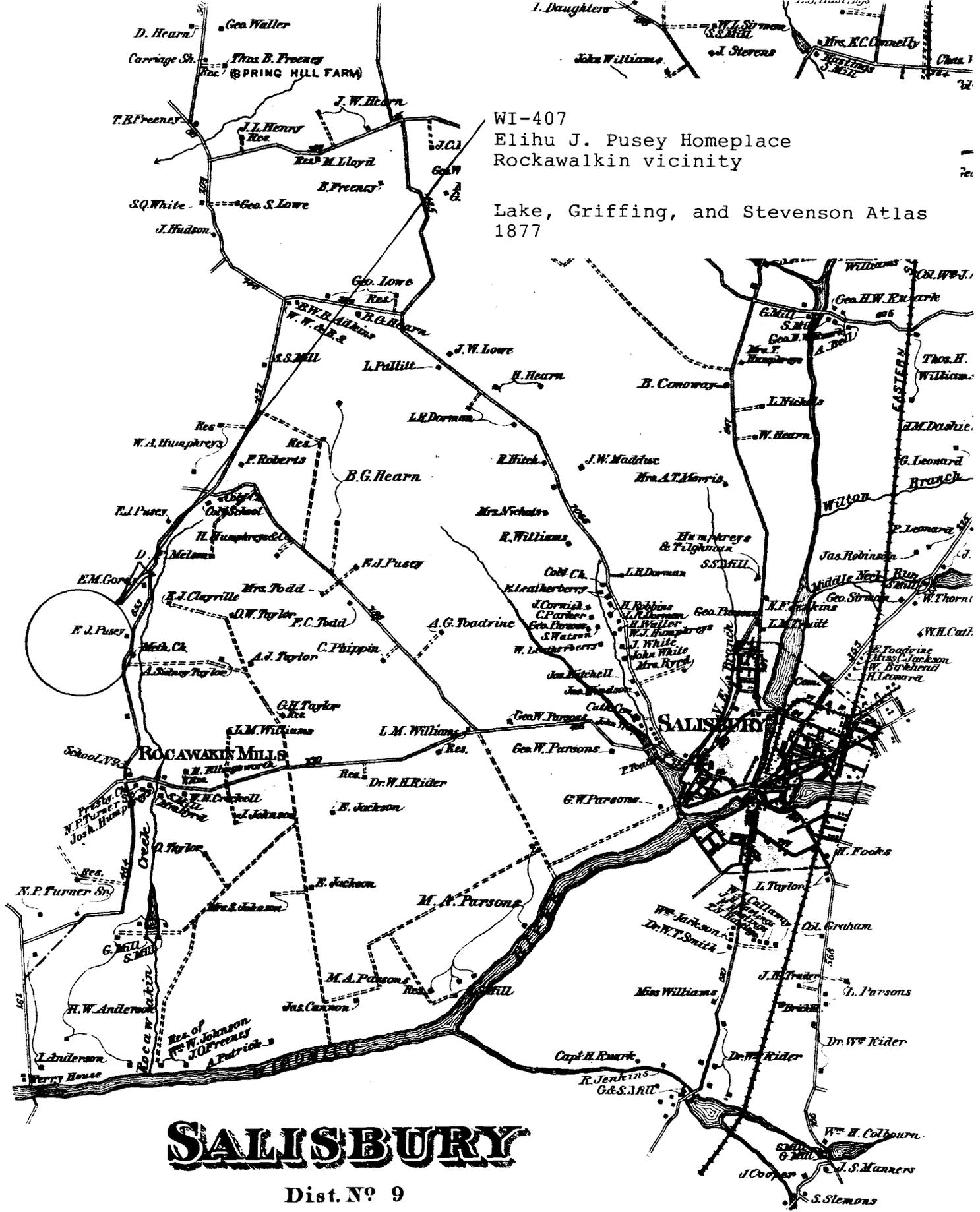
12/10/1833

Benjamin Fooks, Sussex County, Delaware

\$4,500 "Rye Plains" "Consolidation" 775 5/8 acres

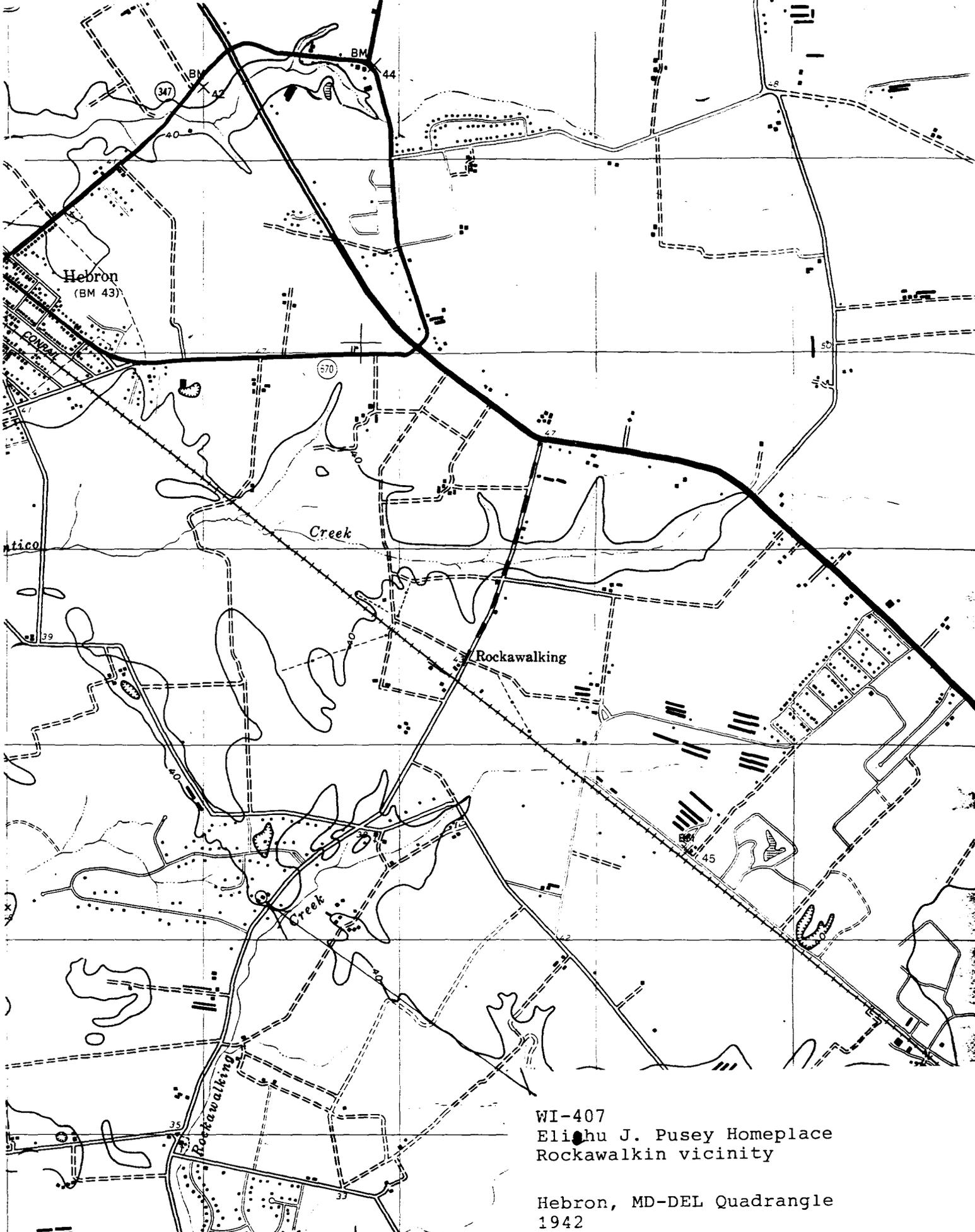
WI-407  
Elihu J. Pusey Homeplace  
Rockawalkin vicinity

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas  
1877



# SALISBURY

Dist. N<sup>o</sup> 9  
WICOMICO CO.



WI-407  
 Elishu J. Pusey Homeplace  
 Rockawalkin vicinity

Hebron, MD-DEL Quadrangle  
 1942

0.5 MI. TO MD. 349 40' 42' 430 000 FEET (DEL.) 43

VJ  
 iw  
 24 000