

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

Property/District Name: Vic's Country Store Survey Number: WO-472

Project: US 113 from MD 394 to Delaware State Line Agency: SHA

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)

Vic's Country Store is located at the northeast corner of US 113 and Friendship Road in Jones, approximately two miles north of Berlin in Worcester County, MD. The parcel includes the one-story store building, a frame barn/garage, and a frame shed/chicken house. Vic's Country Store is eligible for individual listing under Criterion C; the associated buildings are non-contributing resources on the property.

Located at an historic crossroads community currently known as Jones, Vic's Country Store is a one-story, gable-fronted store and gas station constructed of rusticated concrete block and featuring its original canted storefront entrance and show windows. A porte cochere is all that remains of the building's gas station facility. Despite the loss of the gas pumps, the vernacular commercial building embodies the distinctive characteristics of its type, most notably the store front show windows, rusticated concrete block construction and exposed rafter ends. The building survives as a good example of early 20th-century roadside architecture and retains its integrity of association, design, location, materials, setting and workmanship and is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Review and Compliance Files

Prepared by: Margaret A. Bishop/Architectural Historian KCI Technologies, Inc. for SHA

Kimberly Prothro Williams March 13, 1996
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: yes no not applicable
Delando Padgett March 15, 1996.
Reviewer, NR program Date

Handwritten initials

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: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Commerce/Trade/store and gas station

Known Design Source: _____

WO-472
Vic's Country Store
Worcester County

Historic Context

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Eastern Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period:

Modern Period (A.D. 1930 - Present)

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture

Resource Type:

Category:	Building
Historic Environment:	Village
Historic Functions:	Commerce/Store
Known Design Source:	None

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WO-472

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Vic's Country Store

2. Location

street & number 10602 Frienship Road not for publication

city, town Berlin vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Worcester

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 Berlin Union Station, Inc.

street & number 10544 Egret Court telephone no.:

city, town Bishopville state and zip code MD 21813

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Courthouse liber

street & number West Market Street folio

city, town Snow Hill state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. W0-472

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input 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 <u>1958</u>
<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.

See Continuation Sheet

8. Significance

Survey No. WO-472

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1920-1930 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

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.

See Continuation Sheet

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Vic's Country Store

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Page 7.1 - Description

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 1

Vic's Country Store stands at the northeast corner of US 113 and Friendship Road approximately two miles north of Berlin.

The one-story building, covered with pressed tin resembling rusticated concrete block, has a tin gable roof embossed with a scalloped shingle pattern. A brick chimney rises through the eastern end of the ridge. A shed-roof addition wraps around the south and east elevations of the building. A shallow-gable roof portico supported by metal poles extends from the west, or main, elevation. Windows consist primarily of two-over-two double-hung wood sash.

The west, or main, elevation contains a symmetrical three-bay store front. The central double doors, with double screen doors, are flanked by canted one-light windows connecting to large, three-light windows on either side. Multi-light transoms top the doors and windows of the store front. The deep portico covers a concrete slab and islands that contained gas pumps at the southwest and northwest ends. A two-over-two window lights the west gable end of the building. A wood door leads into the shed-roof addition.

The south elevation contains a centered six-over-six window and two doors at the east end. The east elevation includes two doors and a window; the central door is protected with a shed-roof supported by simple triangle brackets. A two-over-two window lights the east gable end. The north elevation contains a two-over-two window in the shed-roof addition and a similar window centered in the main block.

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Vic's Country Store

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Page 8.1 - Significance

Vic's Country Store stands as a representative example of early roadside commercial architecture with good integrity of association, design, location, materials, setting, and workmanship. A once common but now dying building form, Vic's Country Store survives as a good, intact example of early twentieth-century roadside architecture, and more specifically as a store and gas station located in a small crossroads community. Although most of Worcester County's roadside architecture, such as diners, restaurants, and motels, can be found in Ocean City, some of the small twentieth-century villages along US 113 still contain examples of these commercial buildings which catered principally to automobile traffic (Touart 1994:204). Vic's Country Store, located in what remains of the early-twentieth-century community of Jones, features a well-preserved store front and the remnants of a service station island.

Determining a date of construction for Vic's Country Store has proven problematic. Deed transactions describe a store at or near this location during the late nineteenth century. A store appears at this intersection on both the East Berlin and West Berlin district maps of an 1877 atlas of Worcester County. As the current structure's form indicates an early-twentieth-century date of construction, the building of Vic's Country Store most likely relates to the late 1920s. In 1926 and 1927 Hettie M. and Sylvester T. Pruitt, then the owners of the property that now includes Vic's Country Store, received two mortgages from the Berlin Building & Loan Association for a total of \$1100 (ODC 36-499; BB 3-9). The Pruitt's probably used the mortgage proceeds to finance the updating of the store property, including the construction of the present store building.

Plans for widening US 113 in 1954 indicate that the portion of the tax parcel on which the store sat was required for additional right-of-way. According to the son of the last store operator, the building was moved approximately 15 or 20 feet north to its present spot in 1958.

The Maryland Historical Trust and the Maryland State Highway Administration have determined Vic's Country Store eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, representative example of an architectural style or method of construction. Recommended boundaries for the National Register-eligible property include those portions of the current tax parcel described as Parcel 1 & Parcel 2 in the deed conveying the property to the current owners in 1993. This boundary encompasses the historic property associated with the store as described in the mortgage deeds from the 1920s. The National Register boundary for Vic's Country Store is illustrated on the attached site map.

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Vic's Country Store

Worcester County

Page 9.1; Bibliography

Graham, John L., ed.

1976 *The 1877 Atlases and other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland.*
Peninsula Press, Salisbury, MD.

Touart, Paul Baker

1994 *Along the Seaboard Side, The Architectural History of Worcester County, Maryland.* Worcester County Commissioners, Snow Hill, MD.

United States Geological Survey

1943 *7.5' Series Quadrangle for Berlin, MD.* On file at Maryland Historical Trust,
Crownsville, MD.

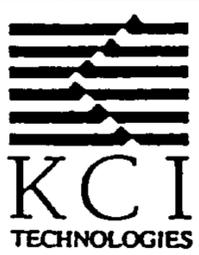
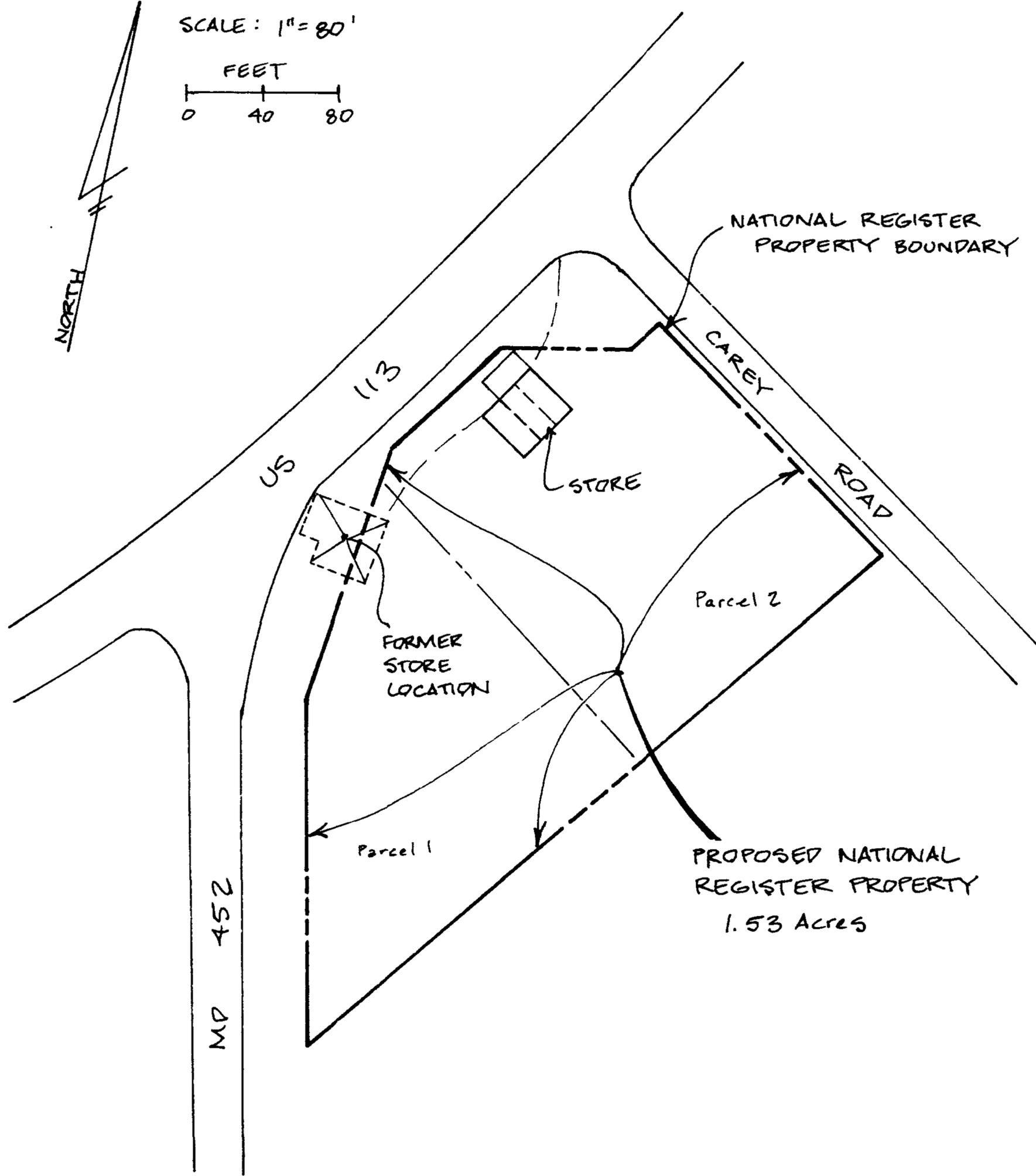
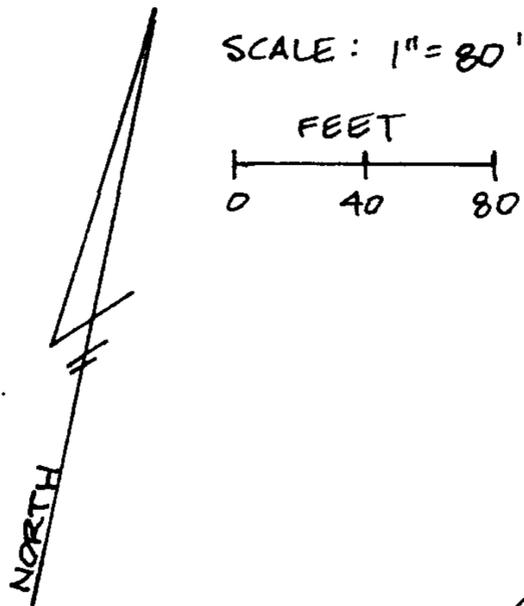
1967 *7.5' Series Quadrangle for Berlin, MD.* Photorevised 1981. Reston, VA.

Worcester County Clerk of Court

Deed transactions. Worcester County Courthouse, Snow Hill, MD.

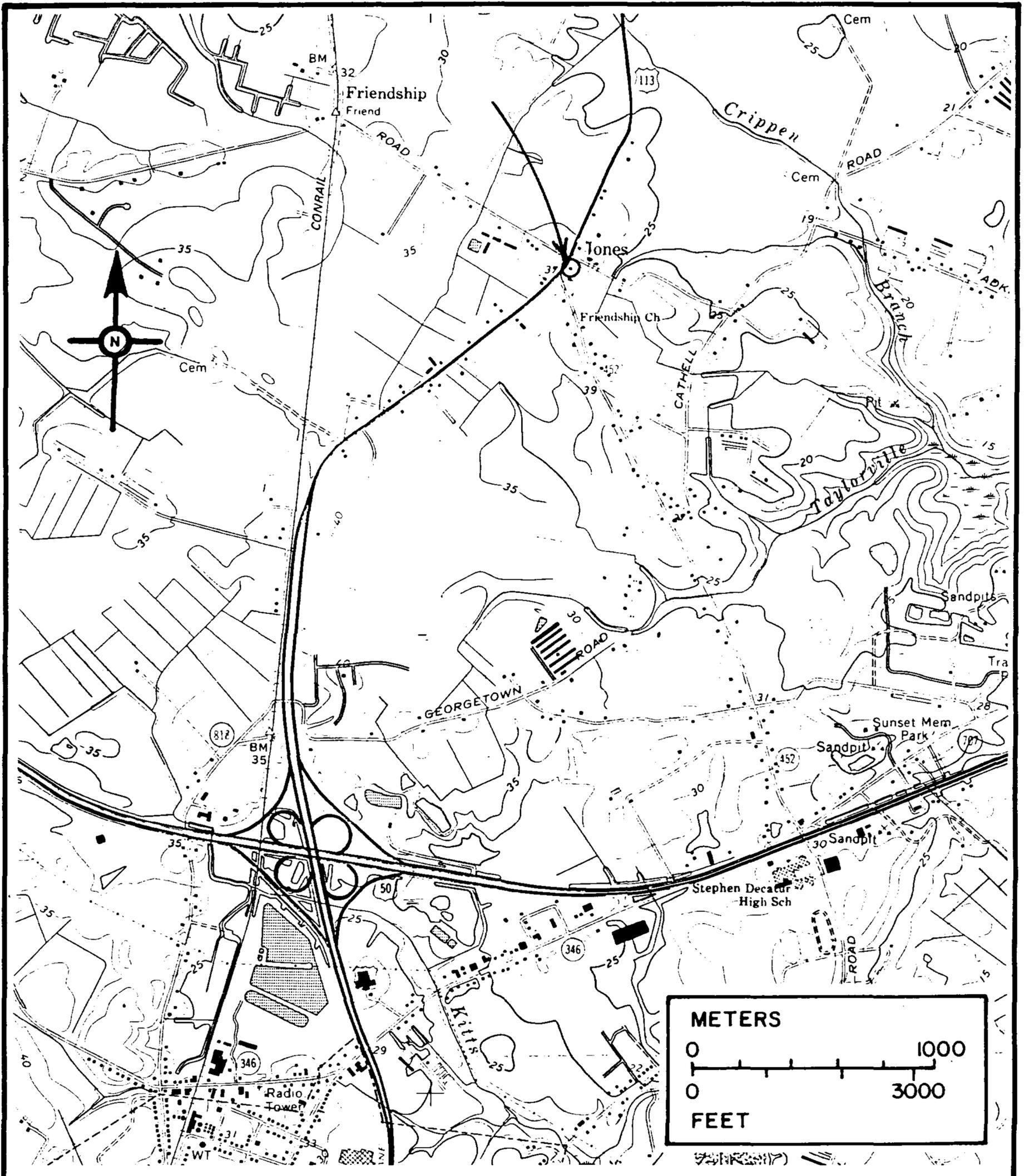
Worcester County 250th Anniversary Committee

1993 *Articles for Consideration: 250 Years of History, Worcester County, Maryland.*
Board of Commissioners of Worcester County.



RESOURCE SKETCH MAP
 Vic's Country Store (KCI-12)
 North of Berlin, Worcester County, MD
 Berlin, MD Quad Map

WO-478



LOCATIONAL MAP

Section of the 7.5' Berlin, MD Quad Map (USGS 1967)
 Showing the Vic's Country Store (KCI-12),
 North of Berlin, Worcester County, MD.



WO-472



Coca-Cola VIC'S COUNTRY STORE
GAS · GROCERIES *Coca-Cola*

Coca-Cola VIC'S Country Store
GAS · GROCERIES *Sandwich* *Coca-Cola*

0046-11

W0472 (KCI #12)

VIC'S COUNTRY STORE

WORCESTER CO, MD

STUART DIXON

7/95

STATE HIGHWAY ADMIN.

NORTH & WEST ELEVATIONS

1/1