



**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

Inventory No. WO-505

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination (continued):

The dwelling is abandoned and shows evidence on the interior of water damage, as many of the plaster walls and ceilings have failed. All window sash are missing, but the wooden window frames remain. The window openings range in size, with smaller, square openings at the second story beneath the cornice and larger, rectangular openings at the first story. The building contains two wooden doors, one each at the south and north sides. The south door features three horizontal lights over three horizontal panels, while the north door exhibits four lights over two horizontal panels. There is evidence of weatherboard siding beneath the asbestos shingles on the building's east side, and the north side displays an area that has been patched with plywood and rolled asphalt. A concrete block chimney protrudes from the east roof slope near the ridge.

The interior of the building shows a variety of finishes and trim, with modern paneling and an acoustic tile ceiling in one of the first-floor rooms, and a plaster ceiling and plaster walls, heavy board window surrounds, and a Victorian-era newel post and stair railing in the other downstairs room. The second floor spaces also evidence plaster ceilings and walls.

The dwelling has no associated outbuildings, although two modern trailers with modern outbuildings are located on the property. There is no landscaping with the house, other than a small yard and several vines growing up the west end of the wing.

Alterations to the dwelling include the later asbestos shingle siding over weatherboard, the later concrete block foundation, the loss of all window sash, the plywood/rolled asphalt patch at the north side, the interior damage to plaster ceilings and walls, the interior use of modern paneling and acoustic ceiling tiles, and the likely loss of historic outbuildings.

The Henry Hastings House survives as a late-nineteenth-century vernacular form with some intact interior detailing. Its presence coincides with the development of Worcester County and the immediate locale in the middle to late nineteenth century, when the economy of the region was expanding due to demand for produce and products from the large cities of the Northeast and because of advances in agriculture and other sectors brought on by the coming of the railroads (Touart 1994:118). Although currently abandoned, the dwelling historically sat on property encompassing some 50 acres that was likely used for agriculture (WCCC Deed Book JEB 21:195).

The dwelling was constructed in ca. 1870, based on its appearance and the evidence supplied by historic maps and deed records. The 1877 atlas of Worcester County identifies Mrs. J. Hasty at the location of the current dwelling (Lake, Griffing & Stevenson 1877). Deed records state that the property containing the dwelling was owned by Henry Hastings between 1857 and 1898, when a relative purchased his holdings at public sale (WCCC Deed Book WEJ 1:37, FHP 18:204). The implication is that Henry Hastings was deceased by 1898. Census records from 1870 reference a Julia Hastings, who is listed as 40 years old with five children at home. Her occupation is described as "keeps house" (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1870). The implication from the census records is that her husband is deceased. Bringing these various pieces of information together, it would appear that the Mrs. J. Hasty depicted on the atlas could in fact be Julia Hastings, wife of Henry Hastings. Should this assumption be incorrect, however, it is still true that Henry Hastings owned the property containing the dwelling during the period that it appears to have been built, based on observation of its form and detailing.

It should be noted that because the house sits on a later concrete block foundation, it may have been moved from another location at some point in its past and placed on its existing foundation at that time. However, the location of the dwelling matches that depicted on the 1877 atlas and coincides well with the background information noted above. It is assumed, then, that the dwelling was placed on a new foundation for maintenance reasons or that it was moved only a short distance within its property.

The fact that the Henry Hastings House and the nearby Shirley T. Bowen House (WO-504) were historically on the same property (see discussion under Bowen House/WO-504) might be a cause for concern. However, the Hastings House does appear to predate the Bowen House based on physical appearance, and the Hastings House matches the location of the dwelling depicted on the 1877 atlas better than the Bowen House does. See Continuation Sheet #2.

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CONTINUATION SHEET #2

Inventory No. WO-505

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination (continued):

Using the periods from the Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data, this would place the resource at the transition between the Agricultural/Industrial Transition (A.D. 1815–1870) and the Industrial/Urban Dominance (A.D. 1870–1930). The current legal tax parcel containing the house and the modern trailers and outbuildings encompasses 21.07 acres.

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Major Bibliographical References:

Lake, Griffing & Stevenson

1877 *Atlas of Wicomico, Somerset and Worcester Counties, Maryland.* Lake, Griffing & Stevenson, Philadelphia.

Touart, Paul Baker

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

United States Bureau of the Census

1870 Manuscript Returns of the Ninth Census of the United States, Population Schedule. Microfilm on file, Snow Hill Public Library, Snow Hill, Maryland.

Worcester County Clerk of Court (WCCC)

1887–1996 Property records on file at the Worcester County Courthouse, Snow Hill, Maryland.

**PRESERVATION VISION 2000; THE MARYLAND PLAN  
STATEWIDE HISTORIC CONTEXTS**

**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:**

- 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. Historic Period Themes:**

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

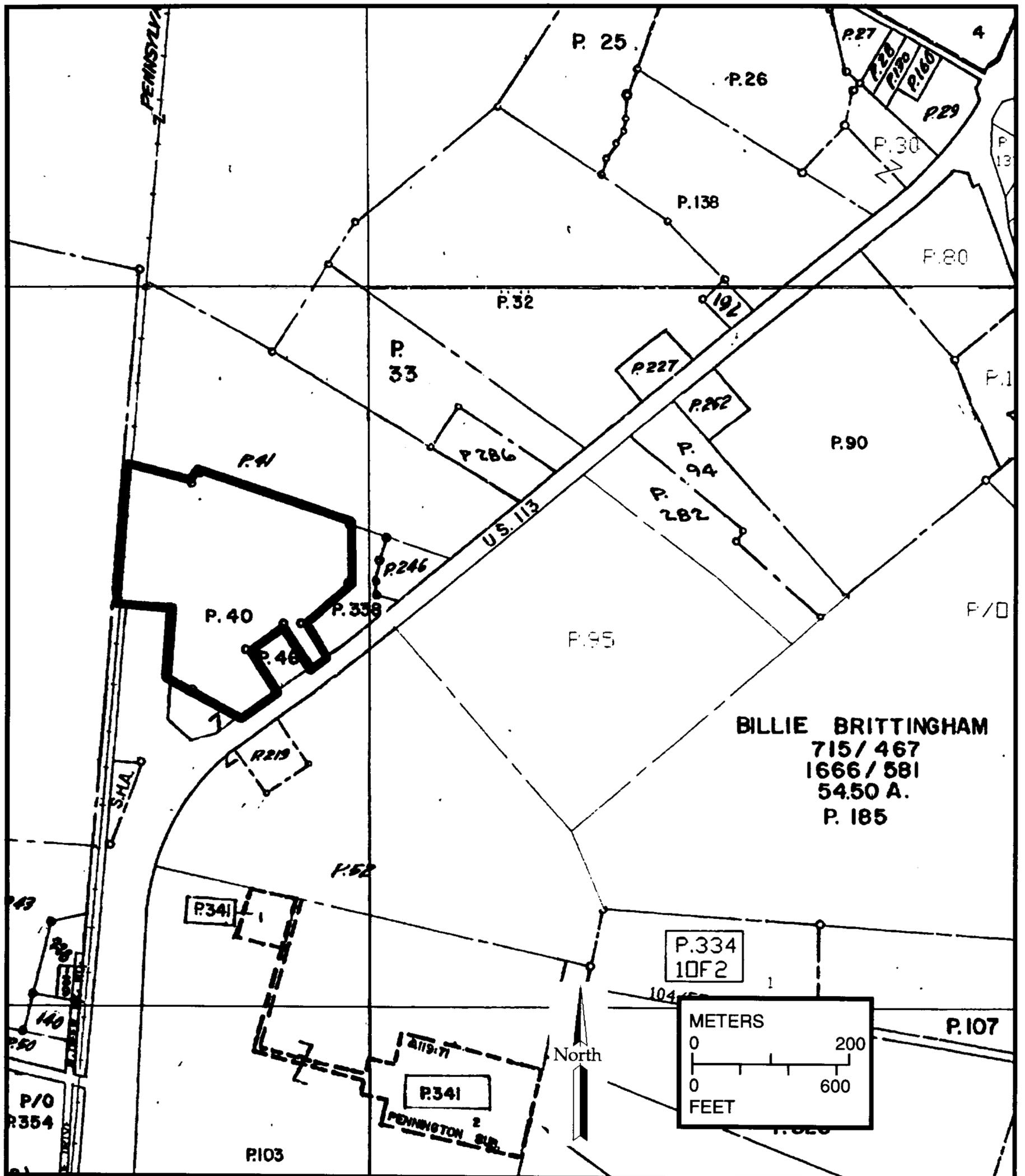
**IV. Resource Type:**

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic/Single Dwelling; Agriculture

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

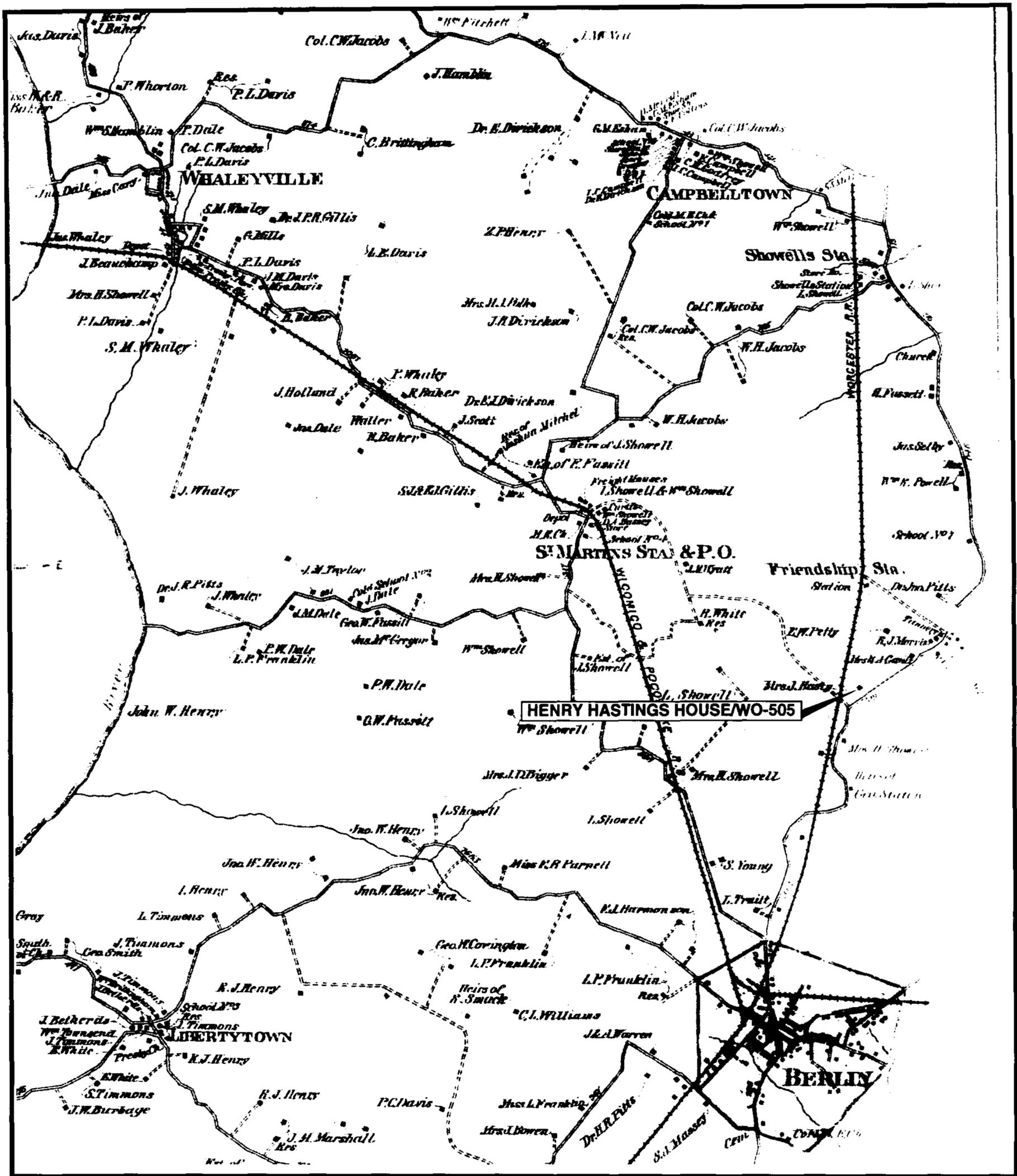


**TAX MAP**

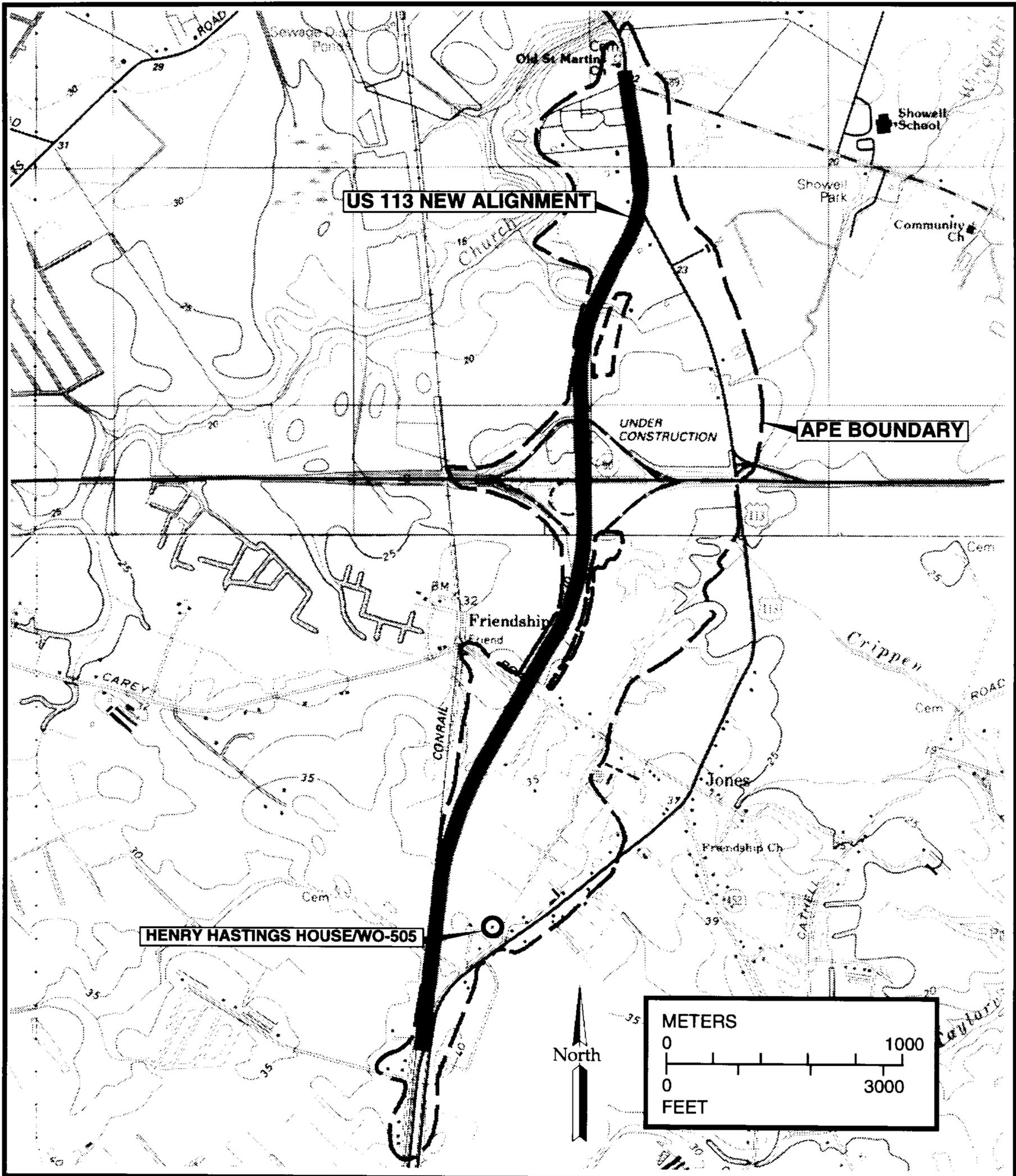
Section of Map No. 20, Parcel No. 40, Worcester County, Md.

Containing the Henry Hastings House/WO-505

Berlin (vic.), Worcester County, MD.



Section of a Map of West Berlin District, from the 1877 Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas,  
 Henry Hastings House/WO-505, Berlin Vicinity, Worcester County, MD



**LOCATIONAL MAP**

Section of the 7.5' Selbyville, Del.-MD/Berlin, MD Quad Map (USGS 1992/1967-1981)

Showing the Henry Hastings House/WO-505

Worcester County, MD.



WO-505

Henry Harlingi House (historic)  
Washington County, MD

000 1 - 5/5-71 / 1-N / 1201 08 < \*  
Mark Chancellor - photographer

Sept. 1978

Maryland SHPO - negative

South and East Elevations, Dwelling

1 of 3



W0-505

W. W. Patton's House (historic)  
St. Louis County, MD

000 91-2/2-1 / 1-11 / 1/82 AL < >

Mark Chavella - photographer

Sept 1993

Maryland SHPO - vegetation

Dumfries, West and South Clevatusi

2 of 3



WD-505

Herring Planting House (historic)  
in ... County, MD

> 79 2671/ N-1/ 1/-2/c-24 000

Mark Chavella - photographs -  
Sept 1973

Maryland 5400 - negative  
Snelling - North & West Elevations

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