

THE CASTLE

AL-V-A-035
Castle Hill, Mt. Savage
1869 & 1909

The main block of the Castle was constructed for Dr. Alexander Thompson in approximately 1869. In 1909, Thompson's widow sold the property to Andrew Ramsey, a Scotsman. Ramsey operated Eilerslie Potteries which produced white enameled bricks as well as sinks and bath tubs. Ramsey enlarged the building in an effort to make it similar to a castle in his native Scotland. Although it is presently used as an apartment building, the Castle originally contained a sunken library, a ballroom lighted only by skylights, a gatehouse, a carriage house and a preservation cave in the rear of the building.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

0102305504
AL-V-A-035

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

The Castle

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Castle Hill, Route 1

CITY, TOWN

Mt. Savage VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Leslie Files

Telephone #: 264-3428

STREET & NUMBER

Castle Hill, Route 1

CITY, TOWN

Mt. Savage VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 477

Folio #: 514

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland,

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

ALV-A-035

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Castle is located on Route 36 on the west side of the road at the junction of Castle Hill Road in Mt. Savage, Allegany County.

The Castle is an irregular rectangular shaped structure that is two stories high, three bays wide and six bays long. A rear wing abuts the main block on the western side and a second "L" shaped addition has been added to the rear wing. The building is of random ashlar stone construction and includes plain sandstone quoins at the corners of the principle facade. The entire structure is supported by an ashlar bond stone foundation with no visible water table. The roof of the main block is gabled with a wide soffit while that on the rear wing is mansard. Both are covered with replaced asphalt shingles. The roof is interrupted by eleven gabled dormers. Windows themselves are double hung wooden sashes set in lancet frames with a combination of two over two lights and four over four lights. The windows are topped by pointed arches with keystones. The main entrance is located on the east facade and consists of an arched opening with a fanlight. The main entrance is covered by a three bay end porch with a flat roof and tudor arches. Five original corbeled brick chimneys are located in the interior of the structure.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
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 checked="" 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 *CA 1870*

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The main block of "The Castle" was constructed for Dr. Alexander Thompson, a doctor for the Iron Works in Mt. Savage in approximately 1870. In the early part of this century, it was purchased by Andrew Ramsey, a Scotsman, whose trade was that of a brick maker. Ramsey added a wing to the house, ornamented it with his own white enamel bricks and renamed it "The Castle". These same white bricks were also used in the construction of the Mt. Savage jail and the Workman House in Frostburg. In addition to his refractories, Ramsey operated a ceramics laboratory in Corrigansville where he experimented with the king of white enamel used in making sinks and bath tubs. The formula which Ramsey used in his brick factories was his own and unfortunately, it was lost. This is the reason why the brick has never been duplicated.¹

Architecturally, the house was originally built in the style of the Gothic Revival. Ramsey elaborated on this style when he enlarged the building in an effort to produce a structure that would look similar to a castle from his native Scotland. Originally, "The Castle" included a sunken library, a ballroom lighted only with skylights, a gatehouse, a carriage house and a preservation cave in the rear of the building.

During the second World War, (1943 - 1945) the building was used as a supper club. This venture proved unprofitable and the structure was sold again as a private residence.² At the present time, the building has been divided into apartments.

1 Interview with Mrs. Charles Carney, local historian, Mt. Savage, October 26, 1976
 2 Interview with Mrs. Harris, former owner, 1943-1945, November 5, 1976

ALV-A035

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allegany County Land Records, Cumberland, Maryland

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.56 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John Nelson, Joan Baldwin & Steve Beale

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Sites Survey

DATE

10/20/76

STREET & NUMBER

507 National Highway

TELEPHONE

777-8991

CITY OR TOWN

LaVale,

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

STATE REVIEW SHEET
Historic Preservation Certification Application – Part 1

NPS Project Number

Name of Property: THE CASTLE

Address of Property: RT. 1 BOX 29A-1 CASTLE HILL, MT. SAVAGE, MD. 21545

Name of Registered Historic District: MT. SAVAGE HISTORICAL DISTRICT

_____ date initial application received by State _____ date additional information requested by State

_____ date complete information received by State _____ date of this transmittal to NPS

Inspection of property by State staff? _____ no _____ yes date: _____

1

The following information is enclosed:

- photos of facades and streetscapes
- signed, completed application
- photos of interiors
- map locating structure within historic district
- _____ additional State comments on attached sheet

2

For Evaluating Significance within Registered Historic Districts: Complete section (1), (2), or (3) according to which of the Secretary's "Standards for Evaluating Significance within Registered Historic Districts" applies.

(1) The structure contributes to the historic significance of this district in:
 location design setting materials workmanship feeling and association

Briefly explain how this structure relates to the significant qualities and characteristics of the district as described in the National Register nomination form or district documentation on file.

This structure is significant through its design, setting, use of materials, workmanship, feeling and association with the industrial development of the Western Maryland region, and with the localized industry of Mt. Savage.

(2) _____ The structure does not contribute to the historic significance of this district because:
 _____ it does not add to the district's sense of time and place and historical development;
 _____ the location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association have been so altered or have so deteriorated that the overall integrity of the property has been irretrievably lost.

Briefly explain this recommendation:

(3) _____ For structures less than 50 years old:
 _____ the historical merits of the district are documented in the National Register form or district documentation on file as less than 50 years old, justifying the certification of this structure's contribution.
 _____ the strong historical or architectural merit of this structure as described in the National Register nomination form or district documentation on file justifies its certification as contributing.
 _____ there is insufficient justification to consider this structure contributing on the basis of its individual architectural or historical merits or the significance of the district

Briefly explain how Standard (3) applies to this structure's individual merits or its significance in relationship to the significant qualities and characteristics of the district:

AL-V-ARC 35

3

For preliminary determination that building is a potential certified historic structure:

A. Nomination status of property:

- Nomination has already been submitted to State review board and, if reviewed by the board, property will be nominated within a reasonable period of time. (Draft nomination attached).
- Nomination was submitted to the National Register on _____.
- Nomination will be submitted to the State review board within the next twelve months.
- Nomination process is expected to be completed within thirty months.
- Other; explain:

B. Evaluation of property. (Complete 1, 2, 3, or 4, as appropriate.)

- 1. Property is a building which is *individually eligible*; it meets National Register Criteria for Evaluation: A B C D; Exceptions:
- 2. Property is located within a district which is a potential registered historic district; the district meets National Register Criteria for Evaluation: A B C D; Exceptions:
- 3. Building is located in a registered historic district, is outside the period or area of significance as documented in the National Register nomination, and;
 - Appears to contribute to the significance of the district. The State expects to submit revised nomination documentation to NPS on _____
 - Does not appear to contribute to the significance of the district.
- 4. Building should be denied a preliminary determination that it could qualify as a certified historic structure for the following reason or reasons:

C. Statement of significance of the building and the district or expanded district, if applicable. Include a description of how the building contributes to the significance of the district or expanded district, if applicable.

4

State Official Recommendation:

This application for the above-named property has been reviewed by Michael K. Day 269-2850 a professionally qualified architect, architectural historian, or historian on my staff.

- The structure is included within the boundaries of a Registered Historic District, contributes to the significance of the district, and is a "certified historic structure" for the purpose of rehabilitation.
 - The structure is included within the boundaries of a Registered Historic District, contributes to the significance of the district, and is a "certified historic structure" for a charitable contribution for conservation purposes in accordance with the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980.
 - The structure does not contribute to the significance of the above-named district.
 - The structure appears to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely be nominated.
 - The structure does not appear to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will not be nominated.
 - The structure appears to contribute to the significance of a:
 - Potential historic district which appears to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely be nominated.
 - Registered historic district but is outside the period or area of significance as documented in the National Register nomination or district documentation on file with the NPS. Nomination or district documentation will likely be revised.
 - The structure should be denied a preliminary determination that it could qualify as a certified historic structure.
 - Insufficient documentation to evaluate structure. State's written request for documentation is attached.
- Detailed NPS review recommended Precedent-setting case Forwarded without recommendation

3-4-86
Date

[Signature]
State Official Signature

HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION APPLICATION
PART 1 - EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

NPS Office Use Only

Project Number: _____

Instructions: Read the instructions carefully before completing application. No certification will be made unless a completed application form has been received. Use typewriter or print clearly in black ink. If additional space is needed, use continuation sheets or attach blank sheets.

1. Name of property: The Castle
Address of property: Rt 1 Box 29A-1 Castle Hill
City Mt Savage County Allegany State MD Zip Code 21545
Name of historic district: Mt. Savage Historical District
 National Register district certified state or local district potential historic district

2. Check nature of request:
 certification that the building contributes to the significance of the above-named historic district for the purpose of rehabilitation.
 certification that the structure or building and, where appropriate, the land area on which such a structure or building is located contributes to the significance of the above-named historic district for a charitable contribution for conservation purposes.
 certification that the building does not contribute to the significance of the above-named district.
 preliminary determination for individual listing in the National Register.
 preliminary determination that a building located within a potential historic district contributes to the significance of the district.
 preliminary determination that a building outside the period or area of significance contributes to the significance of the district.

3. Authorized project contact:
Name William & Andrea Myer Title Owners
Street 21830 Beallsville Road City Barnesville
State MD Zip 20830 Telephone Number (during day): _____

4. Owner:
Name William & Andrea Myer
Street 21830 Beallsville Road City Barnesville
State MD Zip 20830 Telephone Number (during day): _____

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is to the best of my knowledge, correct, and that I own the above-named property.

Owner's Signature *William E Myer* Date 8/25/85
Andrea L Myer
Social Security Number or Taxpayer Identification Number 235-50-8204

NPS Office Use Only

The National Park Service has reviewed the "Historic Preservation Certification Application - Part 1" for the above-named property and hereby determines that the property:

- contributes to the significance of the above-named district and is a "certified historic structure" for the purpose of rehabilitation.
- contributes to the significance of the above-named district and is a "certified historic structure" for a charitable contribution for conservation purposes in accordance with the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980.
- does not contribute to the significance of the above-named district.

Preliminary Determinations:

- appears to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer according to the procedures set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
- does not appear to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely not be listed in the National Register.
- appears to contribute to the significance of a potential historic district, which will likely be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer.
- appears to contribute to the significance of a registered historic district but is outside the period or area of significance as documented in the National Register nomination or district documentation on file with the NPS.
- does not appear to qualify as a certified historic structure.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION
CERTIFICATION APPLICATION—

NPS Office Use Only

RLVA-035

Property Name

Property Address

Owner Name/Social Security or Taxpayer ID Number

The Castle
Rt 1 Box 29A-1, Mt. Savage Md.
235-52-8204

PART 1
21545

Project Number:

5. Description of physical appearance:

At the intersection of Maryland Route 36 and Jealous Row at the western edge of the District stands a large stone Gothic-influenced dwelling known locally as "The Castle." Completed late in the 19th century by the owner of the enamel brick works, the house displays glazed brick trim in its chimneys and porches. The mansard roof is interrupted by tall domers which extend from the facade through the overhanging eaves. A one-story porch, of stone with wide Gothic arches, spans the principal facade; each side elevation has a projecting bay window. A stone wall surrounds the property, and a stone gatehouse/garage in the same style as the house marks the entrance to the grounds, which were originally extensively landscaped.

Date of Construction: 1870 Source of Date: deed

Date(s) of Alteration(s): 1896 - 1920 - 1940 - 1960

Has building been moved? yes no. If so, when? _____

6. Statement of significance:

See attachment



7. Photographs and maps.

Attach photographs and maps to application.

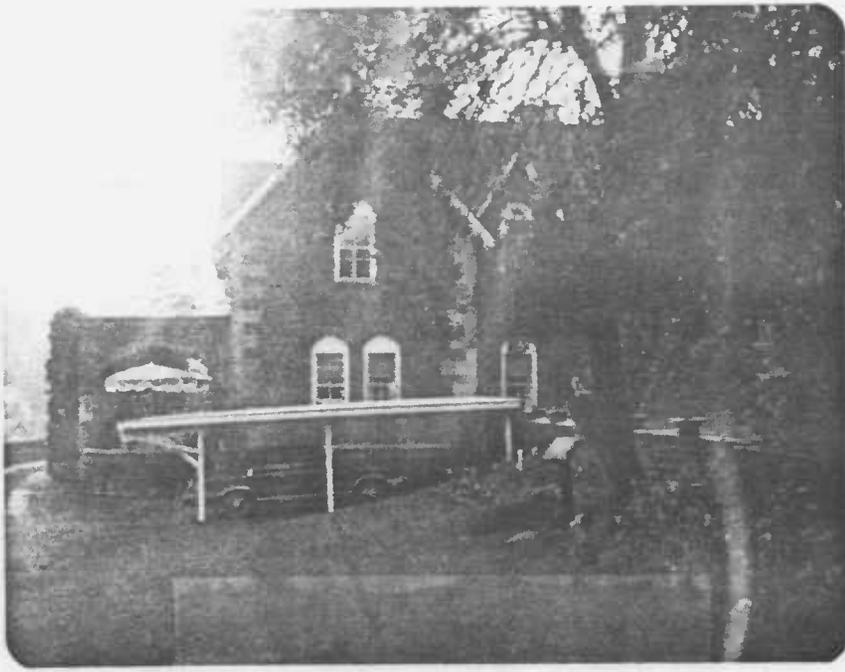
Continuation sheets attached: yes no

AL-V-A-035

PAGE 5



South



North

✓ INVENTORY NO. AL-II-A-035 477/514
 DATE: 9/20/76 1.56 Acres
 REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor
 NAME OF PROPERTY: THE CASTLE (SCOTTISH)
 LOCATION OF PROPERTY: CASTLE HILL, RT. 1, MT. SAUSAGE
 DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: EAST
 NAME OF OWNER: LESLIE FILES 4 ACRES 264-3428
 ADDRESS: CASTLE HILL, RT. 1, MT. SAUSAGE

STORIES: 1() 2(✓) 3() 4() 5() 6() BAYS: 1() 2() 3(✓) 4() 5() 6() 7() ()

WINGS, ADDITIONS: REAR "L" Shaped Gabled Addition

Dwelling Shape: (square, cross, rectangular) Irregular

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- () FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)
- () BRICK: Bond type- common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants. S.S.
- (✓) STONE: Bond type- rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
- () LOG
- () Other: Coverings

WALL FEATURES: BELT COURSE, PILASTERS, OTHERS PLAIN - Quoins

FOUNDATIONS: HIGH, LOW, BRICK, STONE

WATER TABLE: NONE PLAIN, BEVELED, MOULDED BRICK

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1() 2/2(✓) 6/6() 9/6() 9/9() other() Pointed
Lancet Frame French in front Wood
Hood Molds pediment () mitred () pediment (✓)

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: East

HARDWARE: original() replaced(✓)
Wood FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN Pointed
 Paneled, Vertical, Horizontal Boards

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: (crown, fascia, soffit, bed) Wide Overhang
 original(✓) replaced() Rafter Ends, Modillions, Dentils, Erietze,

ROOF: GABLE FRONT, GABLE FLANK, HIP, SHED, LANCARD GAMBREL, FLAT, FORMERS # 11 Architrave
Cross Gables MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt original() replaced(✓) Gable Roof

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed() hip() gable() FLAT 3 BAY FRONT END
TUDOR Arches

CHIMNEYS: NUMBER 5 BRICK(✓) STONE() CORBELLED(✓) original(✓) replaced()
 LOCATION: Flush end() Inside end() Outside end() Central() Interior(✓)

ARCHES: Door and window: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular Pointed

COMMENTS:
 Use - Residence
 Significance - Arch
 Date Constructed - CA 1870
 Condition - Good

TITLE SEARCH

The Castle
AL-V-A-035

Allegany County Deed, Liber 477, Folio 514
grantee: Olive A. Williams
grantor: Frank R. Williams (deceased)
February 26, 1975

Allegany County Deed, Liber 267, Folio 40
grantee: Frank R. Williams
grantor: Alice Lavmia Adams & Harry G. Adams
April 14, 1955
Consideration: \$7,000.00

Allegany County Deed, Liber 265, Folio 506
grantee: Donald M. Boggs, et. ux.
grantor: Alice Lavmia Adams & Harry G. Adams
February 15, 1955

Allegany County Deed, Liber 187, Folio 235
grantee: Gus Harris
grantor: John Sheridan Biays
June 26, 1940
Consideration: \$6,000.00

Allegany County Deed, Liber 182, Folio 353
grantee: John Sheridan Biays, Jr.
grantor: Mt. Savage Realty Corporation
December 27, 1938

Allegany County Deed, Liber 168, Folio 108
grantee: Mt. Savage Realty Corporation
grantor: Mollis D. Quarles
Consideration \$7,500.00
(four acres known as "Andrew Ramsey Home Place")

Allegany County Deed, Liber 167, Folio 42
grantee: Mollie D. Quarles
grantor: Ellerslie Potteries Company
January 4, 1932

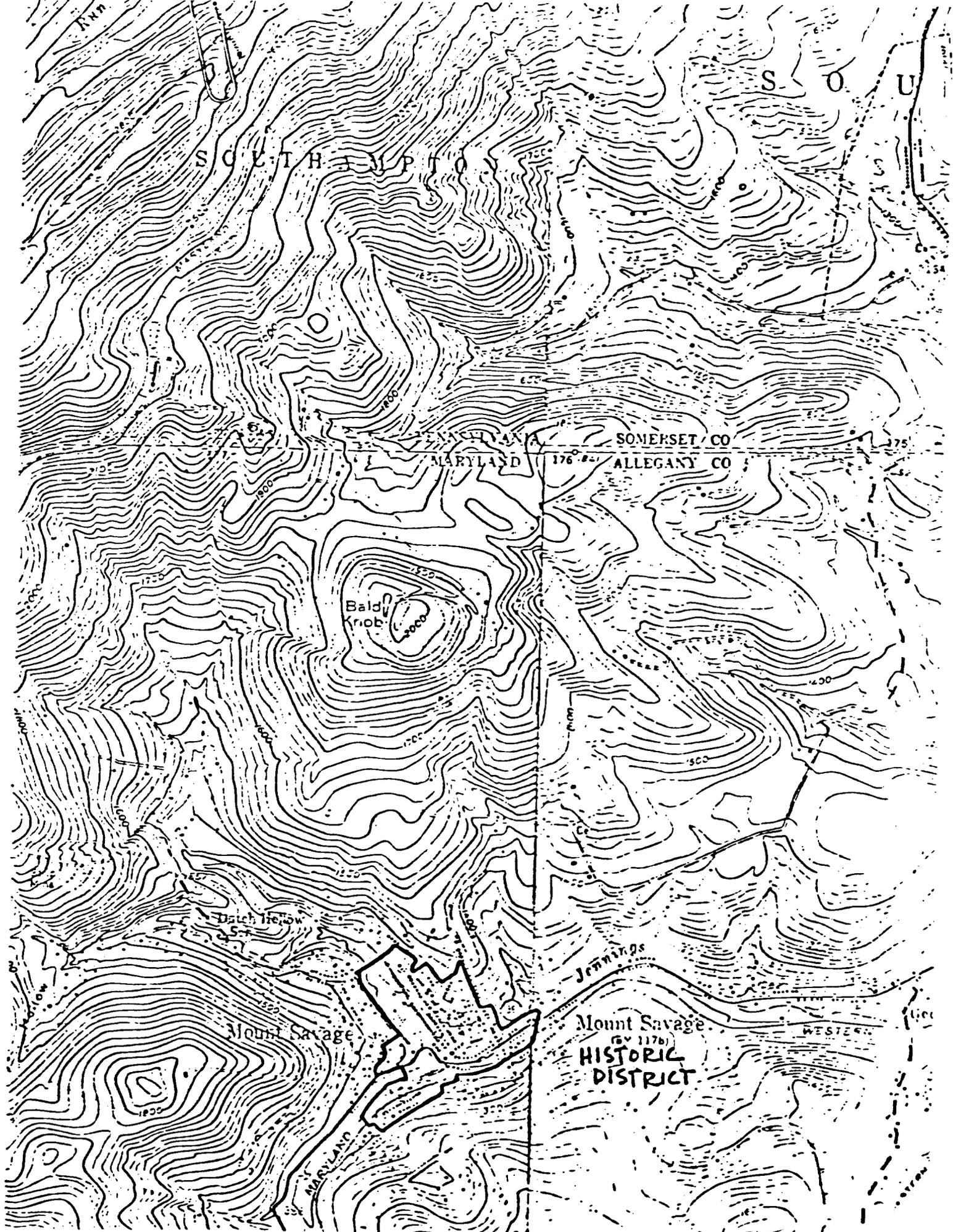
Allegany County Deed, Liber 160, Folio 330
grantee: Ellerslie Potteries Company
grantor: Frank A. LaPorte, Trustee
(Ellerslie Potteries was originally the Andrew Ramsey Company)

Allegany County Deed, Liber 85, Folio 504 (Mortgage Records)
grantee: Mercantile Trust & Depository Company of Baltimore, Trustee
grantor: Andrew Ramsey Company
February 15, 1923

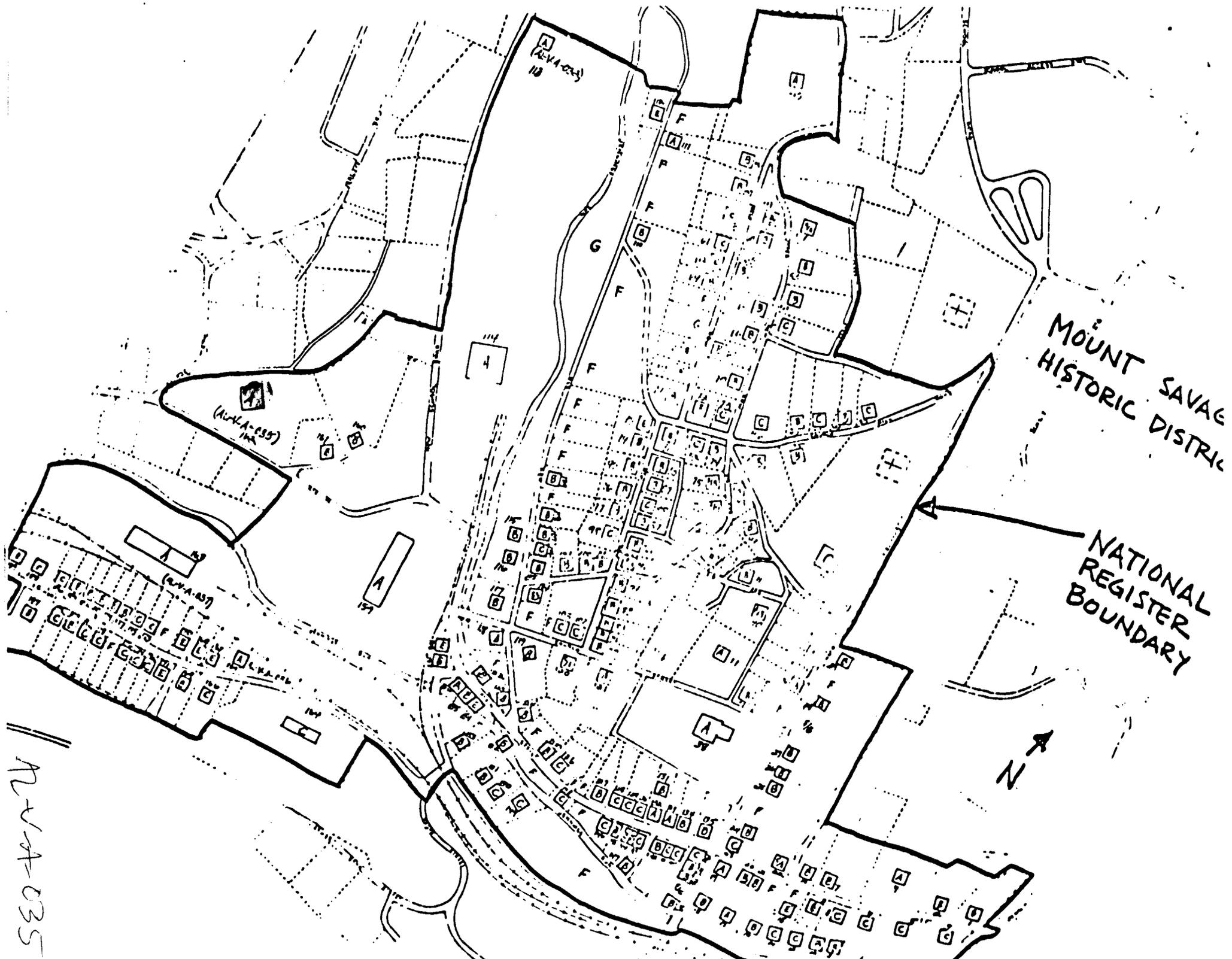
Allegany County Deed, Liber 105, Folio 138
grantee: Andrew Ramsey
grantor: Eliza Thompson
October 13, 1909

Allegany County Deed, Will D, Folio 511
grantee: Eliza Thompson
grantor: Alexander Thompson
December 15, 1881

Allegany County Deed, Liber 30, Folio 653
grantee: Alexander Thomson
grantor: Consolidation Coal Company
December 13, 1869
Consideration: \$500.00



AL-V-A-035



MOUNT SAVAGE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

NATIONAL
REGISTER
BOUNDARY

N ↑

MSA-035

22-VA-035

The "CASTLE" PROPERTY MT. SAVAGE, MD.

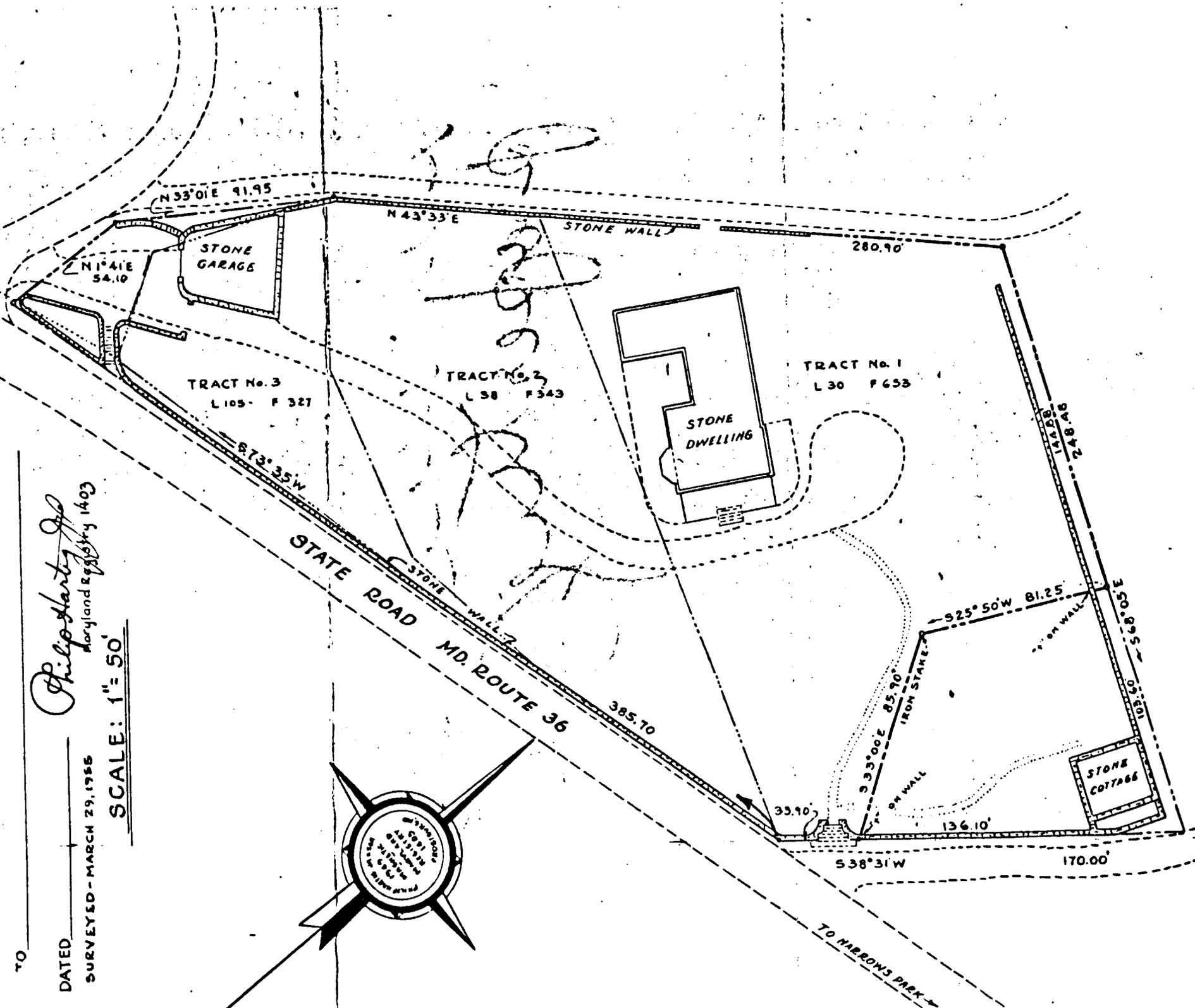
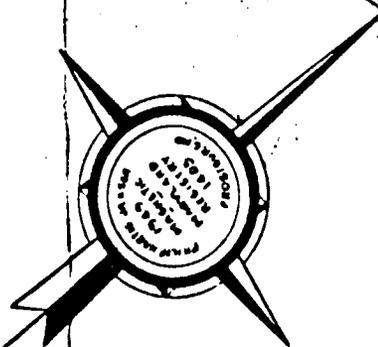
PLAT TO ACCOMPANY DEED

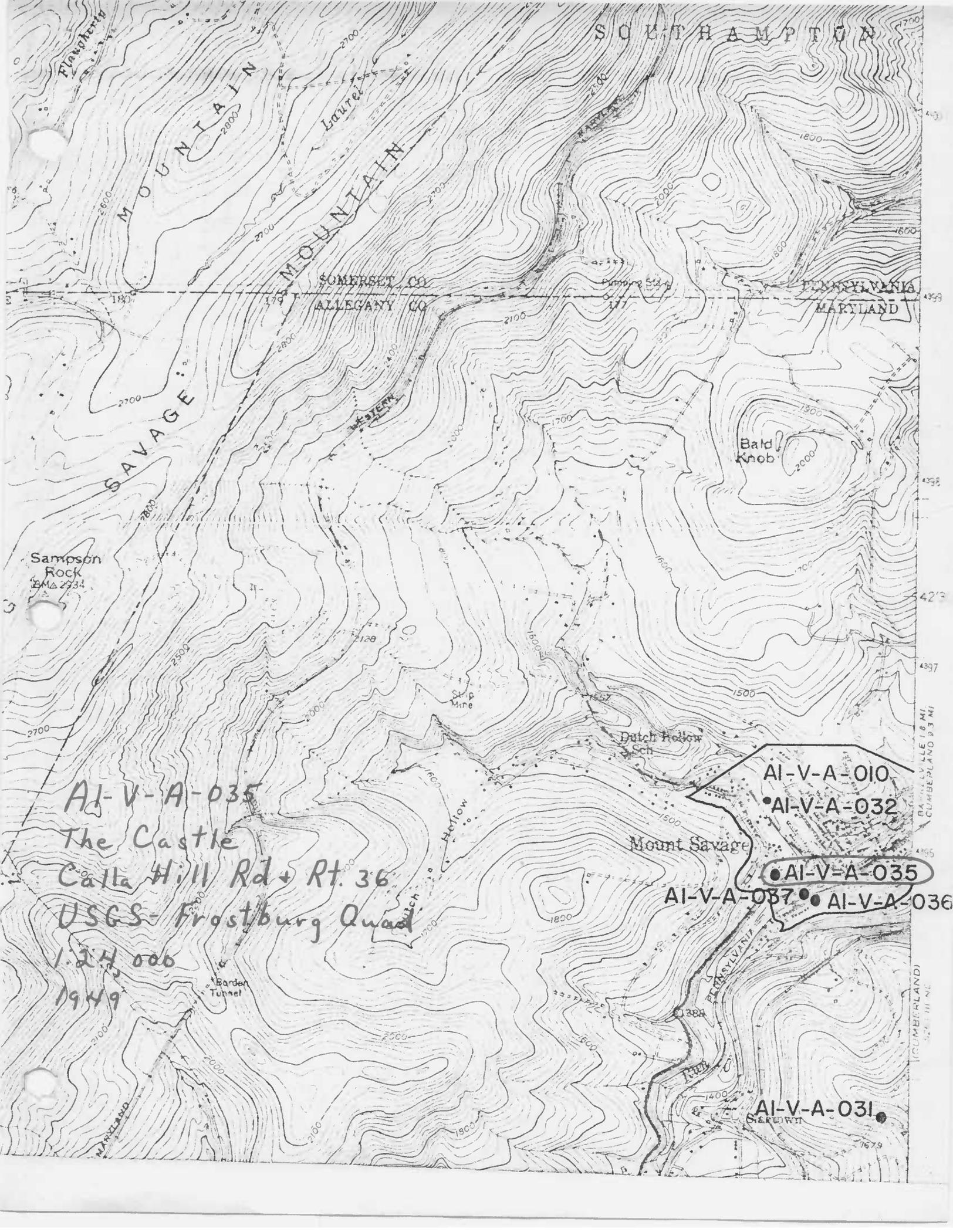
OF _____
TO _____

Philip Starkey, Jr.
Maryland Registry 1403

DATED _____
SURVEYED - MARCH 29, 1955

SCALE: 1" = 50'





SOUTHAMPTON

MOUNTAIN

MOUNTAIN

SOMERSET CO
ALLEGANY CO

PENNSYLVANIA
MARYLAND

SAVAGE

Bald Knob

Sampson Rock
BMA 2934

Dutch Hollow Sch

Mount Savage

AI-V-A-035

The Castle

Calla Hill Rd + Rt. 36

USGS - Frostburg Quad

1:24,000

1949

AI-V-A-010

AI-V-A-032

AI-V-A-035

AI-V-A-037

AI-V-A-036

AI-V-A-031

RAVENS LITTLE 1.6 MI
CUMBERLAND 9.3 MI

CUMBERLAND
5.2 MI NE



AL-V-A-035

"THE CASTLE"

Castle Hill, Mt. Savage

John Nelson

9/20/76

Southwest

FIGURE 42



AL-V-A-035

THE CASTLE

Castle Hill, Mt. Savage

9/20/76 - John Nelson

Southeast



A1-V-A-035

The Castle

Castle Hill, Rt. 1, Mt. Savage

John Nelson

9/20/76

north



A1-V-A-035

The Castle

Castle Hill, Rt. 1, Mt. Savage

John Nelson

9/20/76

Southwest



AI-V-A-035

Thz Castis,

Castis Hill, Rt. 1, Mt. Savage

John NELSON

9/20/76

northwest