

AA-870

Circa 1905

Charles A. Brauer House

Harmans vicinity

Private

The Charles A. Brauer House is a stuccoed frame dwelling which was built circa 1905. It is located in northwest Anne Arundel County, just east of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and north of Dorsey Road (Rt. 176). It is a 2-story, 3 bay by 1 bay dwelling with an ell. According to the present owner, the house was stuccoed when built by the previous owner, Charles A. Brauer, a professional plasterer whose specialty was crafting interior plaster medallions. The house rests on a stone foundation, which has been parged on all elevations except the facade. The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. There are two interior brick chimneys, one located in the ell on the northwest elevation, and the other in the main block.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Charles A. Brauer House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Smith's Farm Road not for publication

city, town Harmans vicinity of congressional district 4th

state MD county Anne Arundel

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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Mrs. William A. Smith

street & number Smith's Farm Road telephone no.:

city, town Harmans state and zip code MD

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anne Arundel County Courthouse liber 571

street & number Church Circle folio 185

city, town Annapolis state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

~~date~~ federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. AA-870

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input 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 Charles A. Brauer House is a stuccoed frame dwelling which was built in c. 1905. It is located in northwest Anne Arundel County, just east of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and north of Dorsey Road (Rt. 176). It is situated in hilly terrain cut by Piny Run, which runs south to north through this area. The house is set into a hill slope and faces southwest. It is a 2-story, 3 bay by 1 bay frame dwelling with an ell. According to the present owner, the house was stuccoed when built by the previous owner, Charles A. Brauer.

The house rests on a stone foundation, which has been parged on all elevations except the facade. The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. There are two interior brick chimneys, one located in the ell on the northwest elevation, and the other in the main block.

The facade has a central entrance and is covered by a 1-story, hip roof porch. It is supported by wooden posts, trimmed with jig-sawn wooden brackets, and a plain balustrade. Due to the slope of the hill, the porch is set up on high, brick piers, creating a raised basement under the porch.

A 1-story shed roof porch fills the southeast corner of the house. It is enclosed at the southwest end. There is an entrance into the ell on the southeast elevation, under the porch.

The windows are 2/2 sash with plain board surrounds. A small diamond-shaped window is located at the attic level in each gable end of the main block and the ell.

The interior of the house has been modernized. All of the outbuildings were erected in the mid-20th century.

8. Significance

Survey No. AA-870

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 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. 1905 **Builder/Architect** Charles A. Brauer

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.

The Charles A. Brauer House was built in c. 1905 by Charles A. Brauer, a professional plasterer whose specialty was in crafting interior plaster medallions.

Historically, the area surrounding the house, on both sides of Piny Run, was known as Timber Neck. It was an important iron mining region in Maryland from the mid-19th century until the first quarter of the 20th century. The ore banks, located on both sides of Piny Run, were worked to a depth of over 50 feet. Joseph T. Singewald, Jr., in Iron Ores of Maryland, described this region in 1911:

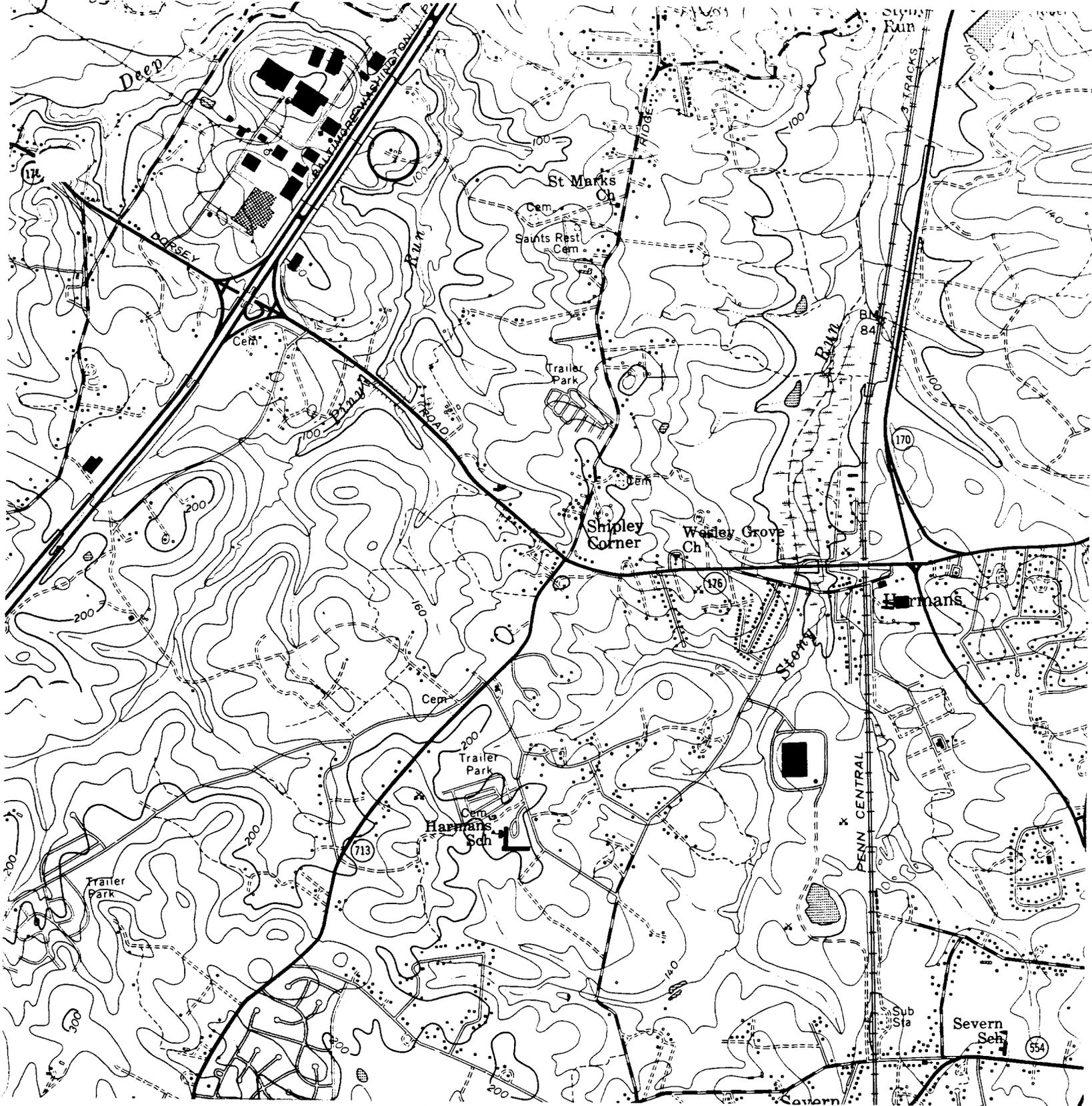
No other area in the State of equal size has been so extensively worked, the entire tract consisting of iron ore openings and the dumps from them, so that when viewed from the rim of the openings the effect is that of typical "bad lands."²

In the 1850's, the Timber Neck ore banks were owned by the Great Falls Iron Company, operators of the Elkrigde Furnace. During the early 20th century, iron ore extracted by black miners was shipped to the Muirkirk Furnace in nearby Prince George's County.

Today the area is mostly wooded, yet its topography reflects the past mining activity, creating a very irregular and picturesque landscape.

Footnotes

1. Interview with Mrs. William A. Smith, December 1983.
2. Joseph T. Singewald, Iron Ores of Maryland, (Baltimore: Maryland Geological Survey, 1911), p. 280.



Relay, MD
 USGS 7.5 minute series
 Scale 1:24,000
 1957; photo revised 1966 & 1974

Site: # AA-870
 Name: Charles A. Brauer House
 Location: Smith's Farm Road
 Harman's vicinity



AA-870

Charles A. Brauer House

Anne Arundel County, MD

Photo: D. Ware

12/83

S.E. elevation



AA-870

Charles A. Brauer House

Anne Arundel County, MD

Photo: D. Ware

N.W. elevation



AA-870

Charles A. Brauer House
Anne Arundel County, MD

Photo: D. Ware

12/83

Facade: S.W. elevation