FHR-8-300 (11-78)

BA-135

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only
received
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic: Jericho Mill Manager's House

and/or common: Jericho Farm (preferred)

2. Location

street & number: 12230 Jericho Road — n/a not for publication

city, town: Kingsville — X vicinity of — congressional district: Second

state: Maryland — code: 024 — county: Baltimore — code: 005

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	X occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	X private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	X private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	X yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	X not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name: Mrs. Marie E. McBride

street & number: 12300 Jericho Road

city, town: Kingsville — X vicinity of — state: Maryland 21087

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: County Courts Building

street & number: 401 Bosley Avenue

city, town: Towson — state: Maryland 21204

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title: Maryland Historical Trust Historic Sites Inventory — has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes X no

date: 1984 — ___ federal X state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records: Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town: Annapolis — state: Maryland 21401

7. Description

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Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
X good	___ ruins	X altered	___ moved date n/a
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
3	0	Total

Number of previously listed National Register properties included in this nomination: 0

Original and historic functions and uses: residential

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

Jericho Farm is a large 2½ story gable-roofed stone dwelling overlooking the Little Gunpowder Falls near the village of Kingsville in Baltimore County, Maryland. The house was constructed in two periods: the original dwelling, built c. 1780, was a 2½ story, side passage, double pile house; about 1820, a five bay, 2½ story, center passage single pile house was constructed against the south gable of the earlier building, resulting in the present T-shaped plan. Abutting the north gable, a 1½ story frame kitchen wing extends to a stone springhouse. A 2-story out building of stone construction on the first story and frame above, lies to the west of the springhouse. The house retains a high level of integrity, retaining the vast majority of its original architectural fabric and interior detailing intact. Decorative detailing throughout the house reflects the period of the c. 1820 expansion, and includes six-panel doors (most with original box locks and keys), mantels (six of wood and two of gray marble), chair rail, baseboard, architrave trim, and stair and balustrade.

For General Description, see Continuation Sheet No. 1

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Jericho Farm is a large, 2½ story, gable-roofed stone dwelling which faces south located on a rise overlooking the Little Gunpowder Falls near Kingsville in Baltimore County, Maryland. The T-shaped plan of the house reflects two separate building campaigns: the present rear wing was constructed circa 1780 as a side-passage, double-pile house; about the second quarter of the 19th century a 5-bay, center passage, single-pile house was constructed against the south gable of the earlier building, resulting in the present T-shape plan. Abutting the north gable, a 1½ story frame kitchen wing extends to a stone springhouse. A 2-story building, of stone construction on the first story and frame above, lies to the west of the springhouse. A modern herringbone brick patio along the west side of the house and wing ties the various elements together.

The main section of the house was constructed circa 1820. The principal facade faces south and is 5 bays wide. The entrance, consisting of double leaf doors of four panels each surmounted by a transom and framed by a paneled reveal with louvered shutters, is located in the central bay, flanked on either side by 6/6 sash windows topped by stone jack arches. A Victorian porch, with jigsawn balustrade and brackets and chamfered posts, spans the facade, raised on brick piers with latticework infill. The central bay of the second story holds a tripartite window consisting of a 6/6 sash flanked by narrow sidelights; the remaining bays have 6/6 sash. Two pedimented dormers with 9/6 sash light the attic. Brick interior chimneys rise from the peaks of the east and west gables.

The west gable has a basement entrance offset to the north, and two 6-pane casements lighting the attic. The east gable has similar attic windows. The gable ends are otherwise unfenestrated. A simple molded cornice has short returns.

The rear wing - incorporating the original c. 1780 dwelling - is also of stone, two bays wide and 2½ stories high. The original primary entrance was in the south bay of the east facade; this bay holds a six-panel door surmounted by a transom. The remaining openings hold 6/6 sash. The west elevation of the wing has an entrance in the south bay and a 6/6 sash above it, between stories, to light the stair landing. The north bay has a 6/6 window on each story. Two pedimented dormers with 6/9 sash pierce the west slope of the gable roof. An interior chimney rises from the east slope of the roof, alighed with the junction of the two sections of the house; another interior chimney rises from the north gable.

See Continuation Sheet No. 2

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

A one-story frame kitchen wing extends from the north gable for a distance of four bays. The kitchen is currently under renovation. It retains its original cooking fireplace with iron crane and hardware, as well as the remains of a Rumford Dutch oven.

North of the kitchen wing, and connected to it by a breezeway, is a one-story stone springhouse. East of the springhouse is a two-story building, constructed of stone on the first story and frame above which tradition holds to be a slave quarter; the first story has two doors, each serving a narrow, unlighted, unheated cell.

The main block is organized in a center-hall plan, one room deep. The north end of the hall is defined by a semicircular arch (which supports the hearth in the center room above it) and gives onto the stair hall of the original side-hall, double pile house. The stair has scroll step ends, turned newels, square balusters and a molded handrail, and rises in four flights to the attic. North of the hall lie two rooms of unequal size; the west room is currently used as a family room, and the smaller east room is a pantry. A door at the north end of the pantry opens into the kitchen wing, which is currently undergoing renovation.

The second story plan includes three bedrooms in the main section and two in the rear wing; each of these rooms is heated by a fireplace. The hearth in the center room of the main section is unusual in that it is located against the north wall and supported by an arch in the hall below. The other fireplaces in this section are located against the gable wall. The two fireplaces in the rear ell have diagonal hearths and share a common chimney centered in the north galbe; the west room has a simple ovolo-edged surround with cavetto-and-astragal backband; the east room has a more elaborate mantel, with paneled fiieze and molded shelf. The center and east bedrooms of the main block have relatively simple molded fireplace surround; the center bedroom mantel is flanked by a narrow built-in cupboard to its left. The mantel in the west bedroom is more elaborate, with a complex molded shelf above a paneled frieze.

The attic space is finished, and partitioned into several rooms.

Decorative detailing throughout the house reflects the period of the c. 1820 expansion. Architraves consist of beaded surrounds with Grecian ovolo-and-astragal backbands; some second-floor doors have only the backband molding. The two parlors in the main block have elaborate gray marble mantels featuring Ionic pilasters. Doors throughout the house have six panels and most retain their original box locks and keys. Two board doors in the attic have keyhole-shaped spring latches. Most of the original chair rail and baseboard, as well as window sash and glass, also survives intact.

See Continuation Sheet No. 3

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The building retains a high degree of integrity. Alterations are minor and readily reversible. A 19th-century stucco coat was recently removed; the masonry of the main stone sections was repointed and left exposed, and the frame summer kitchen was re-stuccoed. Interior alterations are few, and included the installation of a wood stove in the north fireplace on the first floor of the rear section; the early 19th century mantel removed in this installation is stored in the attic. Modern bathrooms have been installed at the east end of the hall on both the first and second floors, and closets have been created on either side of the fireplace in the west bedroom. The kitchen wing is currently undergoing interior renovation, including the furring out and refinishing of the walls; the kitchen fireplace, which retains an iron crane and hardware and the remains of a Dutch oven will be preserved.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
X 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
X 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
___ 1900–	___ communications	X industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates c.1780; c.1822 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: A, C
Applicable Exceptions: none
Level of Significance for Evaluation: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

Jericho Farm is significant for it s architecture, and for its association with the early development of industry in eastern Baltimore County. As a result of two building campaigns, the house reflects a combination of two traditional floor plans: the original c. 1780 side hall, double pile dwelling was expanded c. 1820 by the erection of a center hall, single pile house against its stair-hall gable. While this changed the orientation of the house from east to south the new circulation pattern cleverly retained the existing stair, as the end of the new entrance hall was made to open into the existing passage at the foot of the stair. The opening at the north end of the center hall is emphasized by a semicircular arch, which functions to support the hearth of the room above; this is an unusual solution to the problem of providing heat for a center room of a dwelling with gable-end chimneys. The house retains nearly all its late 18th-early 19th century fabric and decorative detail intact, including mantels (six of wood and two of gray marble), chair rail, baseboard, architrave stair and balustrade, and six-panel doors, most of which retain their original hardware, including box locks and keys). The house derives additional significance from its historic associations with the village of Jericho, an industrial community established around a water-powered mill in the 1770s. The house's present form reflects the expansion of operations from grist milling to cotton textile production in the 1820s, when it was the residence of the factory manager.

For History and Supporting Documentation, see Continuation Sheet No. 4

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Jericho had its beginnings as a grist mill village when Elisha Tyson, a Quaker from Germantown, Pennsylvania located here about 1773 on 280 acres of land and built up the community.[1] Tyson used the energy of the Little Gunpowder Falls to run the Jericho Mill. He built the mill, the millrace, the family house and the community, using stones taken from the river bed and quarries nearby.[2]

Not long after starting the Jericho homestead, Elisha Tyson moved to the rapidly gorwing Baltimore Town, but retained ownership of the rural property, leasing it to others.[3]

Early and valuable proof of the development of the Jericho complex appears in an advertisement that Tyson placed in a Baltimore paper on February 12, 1782, wherein the original section of the present house is clearly described:

> All that property of the subscriber, situated on Little Falls of Gunpowder, within 4 or 5 miles of Joppa, and 18 miles of Baltimore-Town, contained in the following particulars:
>
> Part of a valuable tract of land called Bond's Water Mills, containing about 125 acres, more or less, on which is erected an exceedingly valuable merchant and country mill, of stone, two stories high, 30 feet by 36, and overshot with plenty of water in the driest season and calculated to do abundance of business, also, a saw-mill that is capable of doing as much work, perhaps as any in the state; a dwelling house built of stone, two stories high, 25 feet by 30, completely finished with a commodious stone kitchen adjoining; piazza, pump, garden, and yard, new and in good order, besides barn, stables, meathouse, and springhouse....[4]

Elisha Tyson, on Marhc 23, 1782, by deed of bargain and sale, transferred Jericho to Isaac Tyson. Isaac Tyson willed the property to his son, Jesse, by May 21, 1784.[5] The 1798 tax list shows Jacob Tyson as owner and Jesse Tyson as occupant of the property in Gunpowder Upper Hundred; the chief structures were:

> 1 Dwelling House of Stone, 2 Stories High, 35 by 35 feet, in middling repair
>
> 1 Kitchen of Stone, 18 feet square, 1 story.[6]

The Tyson family continued at Jericho while Elisha entered into real estate in Baltimore City and milling operations on the Jones Falls in Woodberry. He ventured in Atlantic Coast shipping and was involved in the establishment of banks such as the Savings Bank of Baltimore, Union Bank, Mechanics Bank, and

See Continuation Sheet No. 5

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

the Equitable Fire Insurance Company. He undertook road construction; present day Tyson Street in downtown Baltiimore was once a lane through his property. Tyson retired from the milling business and became very important in community-wide projects of a philanthropic nature. He initiated the Baltimore General Dispensary to provide medical care for the poor and helped purchase a cemetery for the poor. Relief committees to handle emergency situations of the poor thrown out of work because of inclement weather or some disaster were organized by Tyson.

Elisha Tyson dedicated himself to the abolition of slavery; tradition credits him with the operation of an underground railroad line and with daring deeds in protecting the free blacks in their rights against kidnapping and slave smuggling.

In 1822, early in the age of American manufacturing, the Baltimore Manufacturing Company was organized and first utilized the Jericho grist mill and later built a cotton factory.[7] The Company acquired some of the valley bottom and built housing for its working people. The factory manager in 1828 and for years thereafter was Michael McBlair, who lived in the Jericho house. A newspaper advertisement he placed in the Baltimore American (October 24,1826) carried this blind advertisement:

> WANTED A WIDOW, who is qualified to conduct a Boarding House at a Factory near the city; one who has furniture, bedding, etc., will be preferred. Satisfactory recommendations will be required. Apply at this office.[8]

The large main block of the mansion was probably built in this period of industrial expansion, and the name "Augustus McBlair" is scratched into a window pane in the east parlor. The factory building was charged to the personal account of Nathan Tyson in the 1833 tax list of Old District Number Four:

part of Bonds Water Mills imp.	$400
Jericho Cotton Factory Mill	$3200 [9]

In 1853, Nathan Tyson sold the house to Hugh Simms, who also bought the cotton factory.[10] Simms was also owner and manager of the Franklinville Cotton Factory downstream on the Little Gunpowder Falls and was appointed citizen supervisor for the construction of the Jericho Covered Bridge (listed in the National Register) in 1865. The bridge stood on the upper part of the Jericho Farm tract. The Jericho Cotton Factory burned in 1859.[11] The 1863 Military Map shows it as "Sims & Co."[12] The 1876 Tax Ledger of Election District No. 11 shows on Folio 154:

> Jericho Factory and Mill Seat - $4050.[13]

See Continuation Sheet No. 6

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

The Eleventh District map of 1877 entered into the Library of Congress in Washington, D. C. shows the Jericho Cotton Mill, the Hugh Simms property and several other buildings.[14]

When Simms was in financial difficulty in 1877, the property was ordered sold by the county court. The trustee's advertisement is a rather late proof of the existence of the main block of the house:

> ...farm...on Little Falls...204 acres...and adjoins the lands of Hon. J. Carroll Walsh, on the east and southwest and is improved by a large stone dwelling fifty feet front containing 13 rooms together with all necessary outbuildings....[15]

The Grist Mill was last used for social functions and was washed out in a flood of 1892.[16] According to family members some social functions continued as late as 1907, but neither mill appears in the 1898 Bromley Atlas.

The house property passed to William Unkart in 1905 and has remained in family hands until the present (1984)[17]

Footnotes

[1]Baltimore County Deeds, Liber AL No. M, Folio 478, 481.

[2]Leroy Graham, Baltimore: The Nineteenth Century Black Capital.

[3]Sandra Adams, "The Legacy of Elisha Tyson, Venerable Citizen"

[4]Maryland Journal and Baltimore Advertiser, February 12, 1782, p. 3.

[5]Baltimore County Deeds, Liber WG #pp 1794, Folio 20-22, Hall of Records, Annapolis

[6]Federal Direct Assessment, 1798, Gunpowder Upper Hundred. Maryland Historical Society Microfilm No. 606.

[7]Baltimore City Deeds, WG 162:329 and WB 167:395.

[8]Baltimore American (October 24, 1826).

[9]Assessment List, 1833, Election District No. 4, Folio 14, Hall of Records, Annapolis.

[10]Baltimore County Deeds, Towson, HMF 4:429.

[11]Baltimore County Advocate, December 31, 1859.

See Continuation Sheet No. 7

Footnotes (continued)

[12]Military Map of Baltimore County, 1863, "Sims & Co."

[13]Assessment List, 1976, Election District No. 11, Folio 154, Hall of Records, Annapolis.

[14]Tax map, 1877, Election District No. 11, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

[15]Baltimore County Judicial Records, Towson, Liber JB 52:148.

[16]W.B. Marye, Maryland Historical Magazine, 53:50.

[17]Baltimore County Deeds, WPC 385:392.

10. VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Boundaries are depicted on the attached map, drawn to a scale of 1" = 200'.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The nominated property, approximately 1.16 acre, encompasses the resource within its immediate setting and excludes a complex of mid-20-century buildings located to the north and west.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Graham, Leroy. Baltimore: The Nineteenth Century Black Capital.

Adams, Sandra. "The Legacy of Elisha Tyson, Venerable Citizen," Maryland Magazine, Autumn, 1981.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Approximately 1.16 acres

Quadrangle name White Marsh, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	18	380580	4368120
B			
C			
D			
E			
F			
G			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 7

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	n/a	code	county		code
state		code	county		code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Mrs. Marie E. McBride/Peter Kurtze, with additions by John McGrain		
organization	owner	date	1/27/84
street & number	12300 Jericho Road	telephone	592-2311
city or town	Kingsville	state	Maryland 21087

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state X local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 7-26-84

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

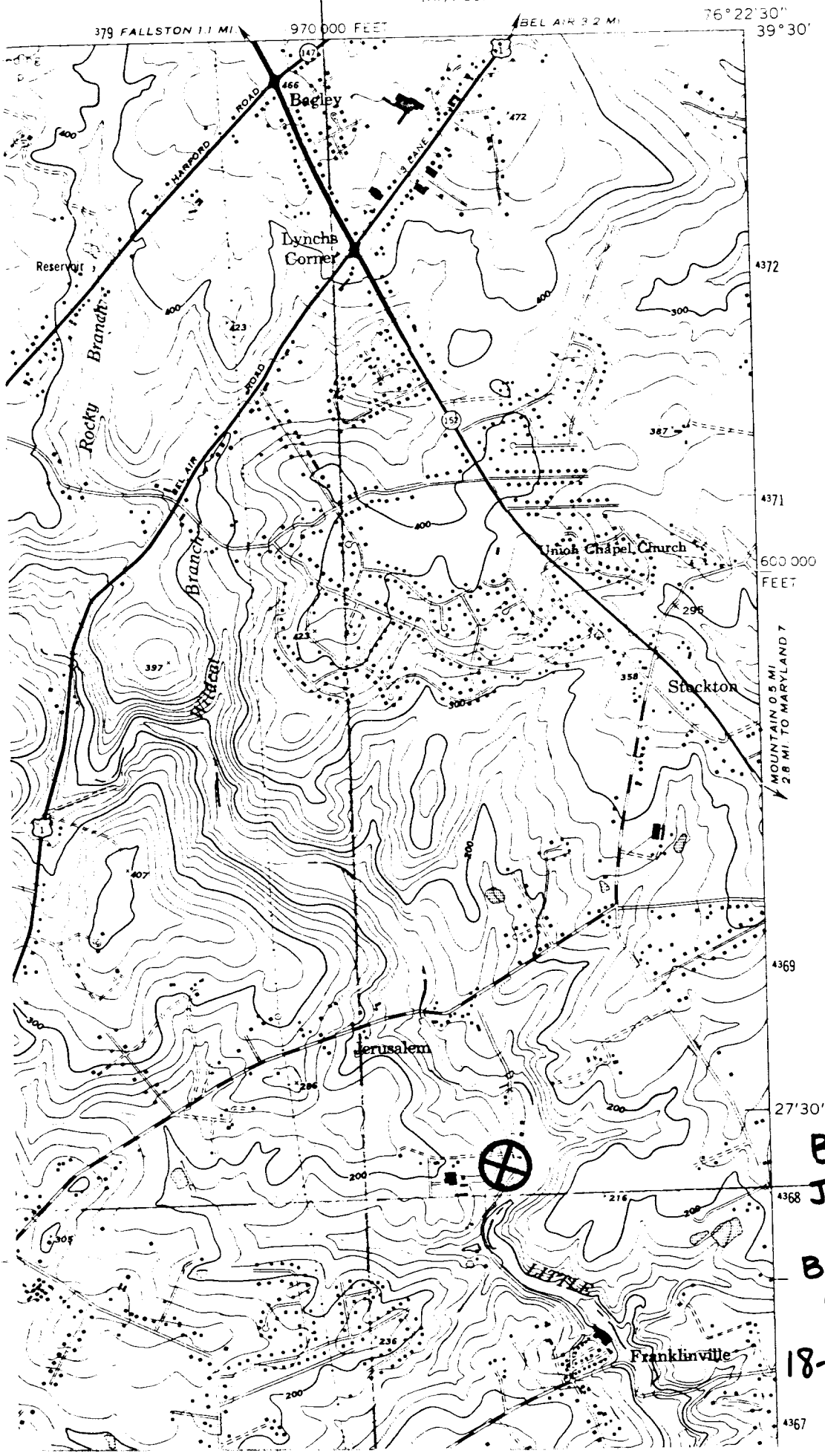
date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

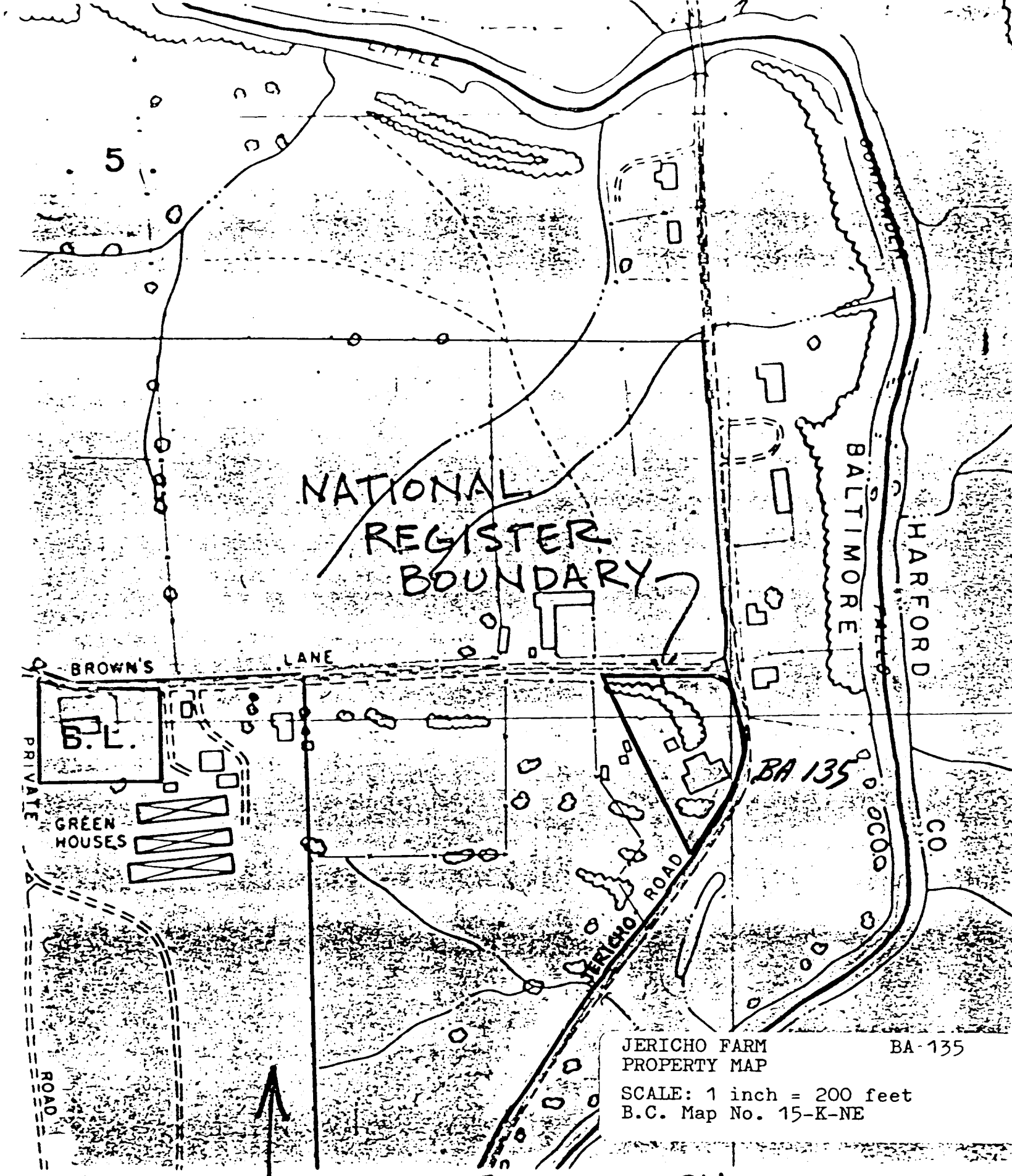
Chief of Registration

WHITE MARSH QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NW/4 GUNPOWDER 15' QUADRANGLE



BA-135
JERICHO
FARM
BALTIMORE
COUNTY, MD

18-380580-
4368120

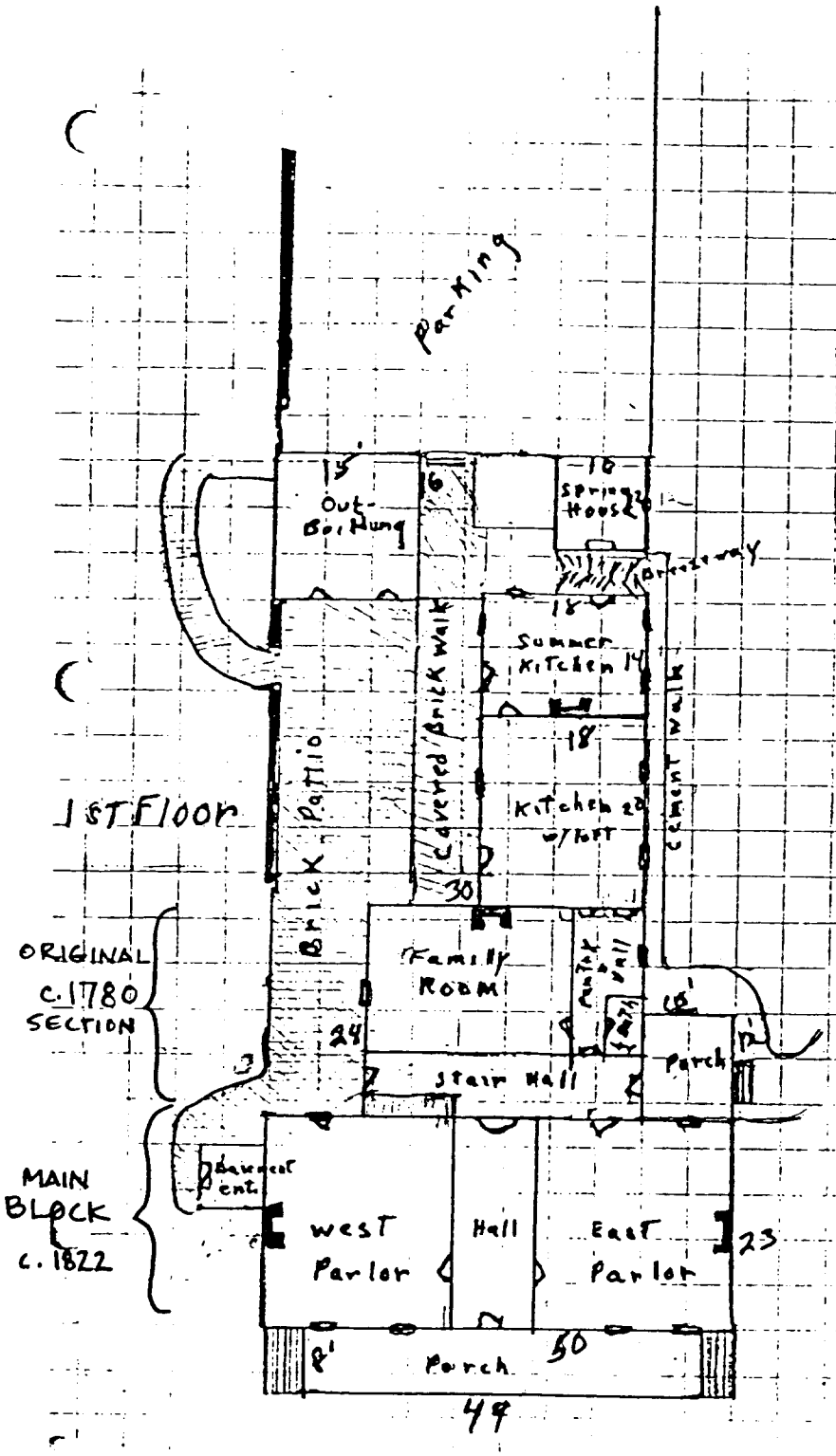


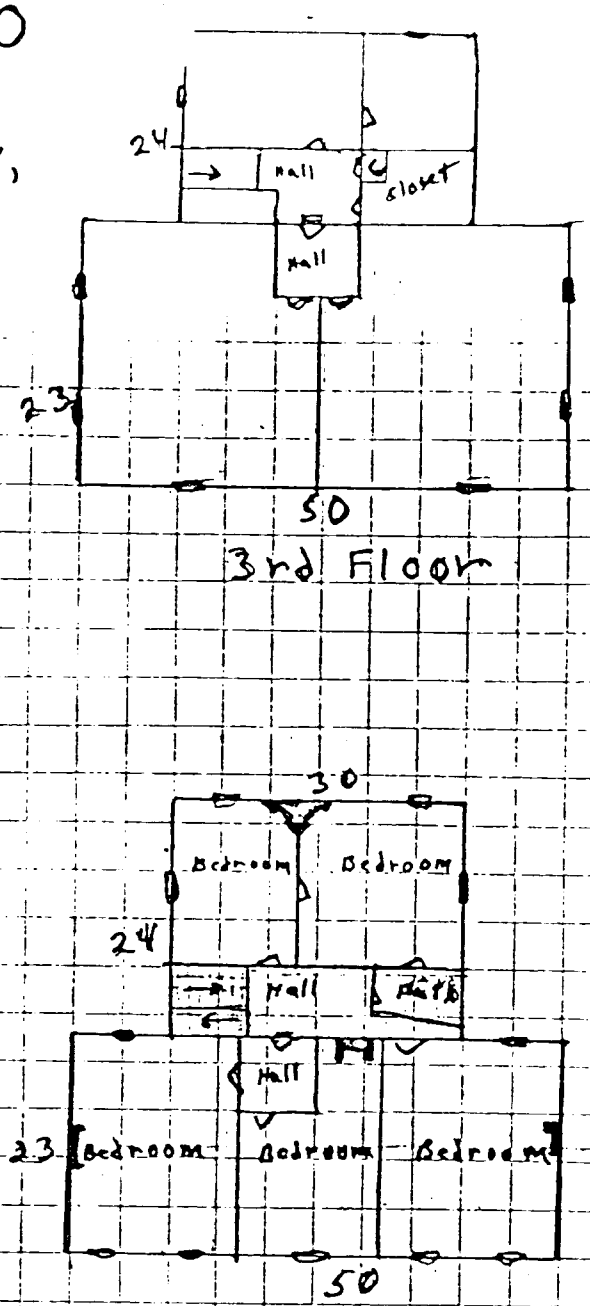
JERICHO FARM
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
MAY 1984

JERICHO FARM

BT-135

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND





N

SKETCH PLAN

1/4" = 5' (approximately)

MAY, 1984

Maryland
Baltimore County
District XI
Kingsville

BA-135
Jericho Farm

About 1770

Built by the Tysons, who were early industrialists in Baltimore County, mining iron ore, chrome, etc.

(First HABS Report)
E. Frances Offutt
HABS COMMITTEE OF BALTIMORE
COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

July 29, 1965