

**CAPSULE SUMMARY**  
**BA-0481**  
**Richard C. Tracey House**  
**4101 Black Rock Road**  
**Upperco, Baltimore County**  
**1875 ca.**  
**Private**

The modest Gothic Revival style Richard C. Tracey House was constructed circa 1875 in the vicinity of Trenton at the height of that community's mid- to late 19th century development as a milling town in the Fifth District of Baltimore County. As late as 1850, the village of Zoucksville included only a gristmill, sawmill, and store, all of which were operated by John C. and George Zouck. Between 1850 and 1877, the name of the village had changed from Zoucksville to Trenton and Trenton Road, the main route through the community, had been extensively developed with residences, barns, and other buildings needed for the survival of a small milling town. Nearby the property occupied by Richard C. Tracey remained rural and the surrounding landscape only sparsely developed. By 1881, Trenton's population had reached 75. The village continued to maintain only a few buildings and did not grow significantly through the early 20th century. The 1915 county atlas indicates confirms this lack of growth. While Trenton has retained its late 19th century character into the 21st century, the dwelling at 4017 Black Rock Road has remained a single-family residence.

Fronting east, this Gothic-Revival-style dwelling sits back from the road. The random rubble stone foundation supports a wood frame structure clad in board-and-batten siding. Standing two-and-a-half stories high, this four-bay-wide house has a metal standing seam side gable roof with a projecting center. In this center gable peak is a pointed-arch 6/6 window. Four 6/9 windows pierce the second-story of the façade. Two 6/9 windows pierce the first-story flanking two single-leaf entries. Each entry has a wood door that is paneled with lights and a two-light transom. All of the windows have square-edged wood sills and surrounds. A half-hipped porch with square posts protects the first-story. The boxed cornice with returns in the gable ends frame two four-light casement windows. Symmetrically piercing the roof crest are two interior-end brick chimneys with corbeled caps. On the west elevation is a shed roof addition that spans across the first story. Projecting from the north elevation is a one-and-a-half story addition built circa 1990 with a shed roof. In this addition is an interior-end concrete block chimney.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-0481

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Richard C. Tracey House (preferred)

other William Voss Elder III House

### 2. Location

street and number 4101 Black Rock Road \_\_ not for publication

city, town Upperco \_\_ vicinity

county Baltimore County

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

name William V. Elder III

street and number 4101 Black Rock Road telephone Not Available

city, town Upperco state MD zip code 21155-9588

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 4794 folio 716

city, town Towson tax map 20 tax parcel 88 tax ID number 0505043070

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	3
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	3
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Total
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			1

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## 7. Description

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Inventory No. BA-0481

### Condition

excellent       deteriorated  
 good             ruins  
 fair               altered

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Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Fronting east, this Gothic-Revival-style dwelling was constructed circa 1875 and set back from the road. The random rubble stone foundation supports a wood frame structure clad in board-and-batten siding. Standing two-and-a-half stories high, this four-bay-wide house has a metal standing seam side gable roof with a projecting center. In this center gable peak is a pointed-arch 6/6 window. Four 6/9 windows pierce the second-story of the façade. Two 6/9 windows pierce the first-story flanking two single-leaf entries. Each entry has a wood door that is paneled with lights and a two-light transom. All of the windows have square-edged wood sills and surrounds. A half-hipped porch with square posts protects the first-story. The boxed cornice with returns in the gable ends frame two four-light casement windows. Symmetrically piercing the roof crest are two interior-end brick chimneys with corbeled caps. On the west elevation is a shed roof addition that spans across the first story. Projecting from the north elevation is a one-and-a-half story addition built circa 1990 with a shed roof. In this addition is an interior-end concrete block chimney.

Located to the east of the house are two historic outbuildings.

The circa 1880 smokehouse stands one-story high on a random rubble stone foundation. Clad in board-and-batten siding, the structure features a front gable corrugated metal roof and a single-leaf door that is paneled with lights.

Also, there is a circa 1940 garage with a poured concrete foundation and vertical board siding. The garage features a double-leaf, sliding vertical board door, a 6/6 window, and a front gable roof clad with corrugated metal. A one-story shed roof addition with a wood post foundation projects to the north.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-0481

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**Specific dates** 1875 ca. **Architect/Builder** Unknown

**Construction dates** 1875 ca., 1990 ca.

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The modest Gothic Revival style Richard C. Tracey House was constructed circa 1875 in the vicinity of Trenton at the height of that community's mid- to late 19<sup>th</sup> century development as a milling town in the Fifth District of Baltimore County. As late as 1850, the village of Zoucksville included only a gristmill, sawmill, and store, all of which were operated by John C. and George Zouck.<sup>1</sup> Between 1850 and 1877, the name of the village had changed from Zoucksville to Trenton and Trenton Road, the main route through the community, had been extensively developed with residences, barns, and other buildings needed for the survival of a small milling town. Nearby the property occupied by Richard C. Tracey remained rural and the surrounding landscape only sparsely developed.<sup>2</sup> By 1881, Trenton's population had reached 75.<sup>3</sup> The village continued to maintain only a few buildings and did not grow significantly through the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The 1915 county atlas indicates confirms this lack of growth.<sup>4</sup> While Trenton has retained its late 19<sup>th</sup> century character into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the dwelling at 4017 Black Rock Road has remained a single-family residence.

The wood-frame dwelling was constructed in the Gothic Revival style, which was introduced to the United States in the 1830s by architect Alexander Jackson Davis and popularized in the mid- to late 19<sup>th</sup> century through the pattern books of landscape architect Andrew Jackson Downing as a reaction against Classicism. Downing favored the style as a picturesque alternative to the Greek Revival style that reached its height of popularity in the 1830s and 1840s. Reflective of the Gothic Revival style is the steeply pitched central gable.

<sup>1</sup> Neal A. Brooks and Eric G. Rockel, *A History of Baltimore County* (Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979), p. 187.

<sup>2</sup> *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).

<sup>3</sup> J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men* (Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA), p. 869.

<sup>4</sup> *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-0481

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- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.* Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.  
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.  
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.  
*Map of Baltimore County.* Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.  
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.  
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.
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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 3.05 Acres  
Acreage of historical setting Unknown  
Quadrangle name Hampstead Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction circa 1875, the Richard C. Tracey House has been associated with the 3.05 acres of land known as tax parcel 88 of map 20 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

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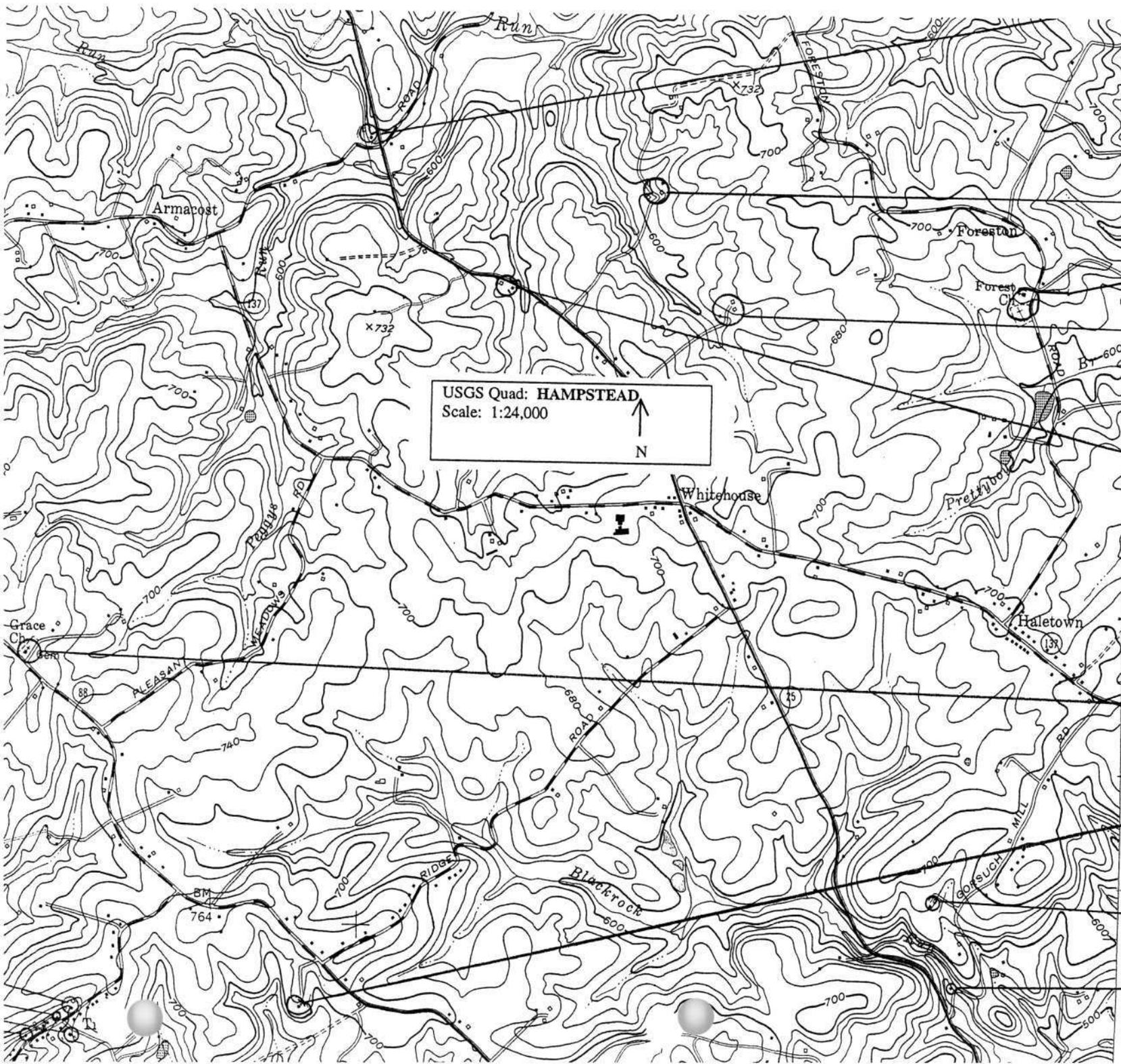
name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Incorporated	date	May 29, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

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The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600



USGS Quad: HAMPSTEAD  
 Scale: 1:24,000  
 N

- HAMPSTEAD,  
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- 4387  
650 000  
FEET
- BA-0578  
17625 FALLS ROAD  
UPPERCO, BALTIMORE COUNTY
- BA-2285  
17700 FORESTAN ROAD  
UPPERCO  
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- 4386
- BA-0560  
DAVID WILHELM HOUSE  
17517 FALLS ROAD  
UPPERCO  
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- BA-0559  
17700 FALLS ROAD  
UPPERCO  
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- 4385
- BA-2287  
4625 BLACK ROCK ROAD  
HAMPSTEAD  
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- BA-0421  
4101 BLACK ROCK ROAD  
UPPERCO  
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- 4383  
35'
- BA-0558  
16758 GORSUCH MILL RD,  
UPPERCO  
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- BA-0557  
16710 GORSUCH MILL ROAD  
UPPERCO  
BALTIMORE COUNTY
- HEREFORD 5 MI.



BA 0481

4101 BLACK ROCK ROAD

UPPERLO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

4/2001

MD-SHPD

NE CORNER

1 of 3



BA-0481

4101 BLACK ROCK ROAD

UPPER LO

BALTIMORE COUNTY

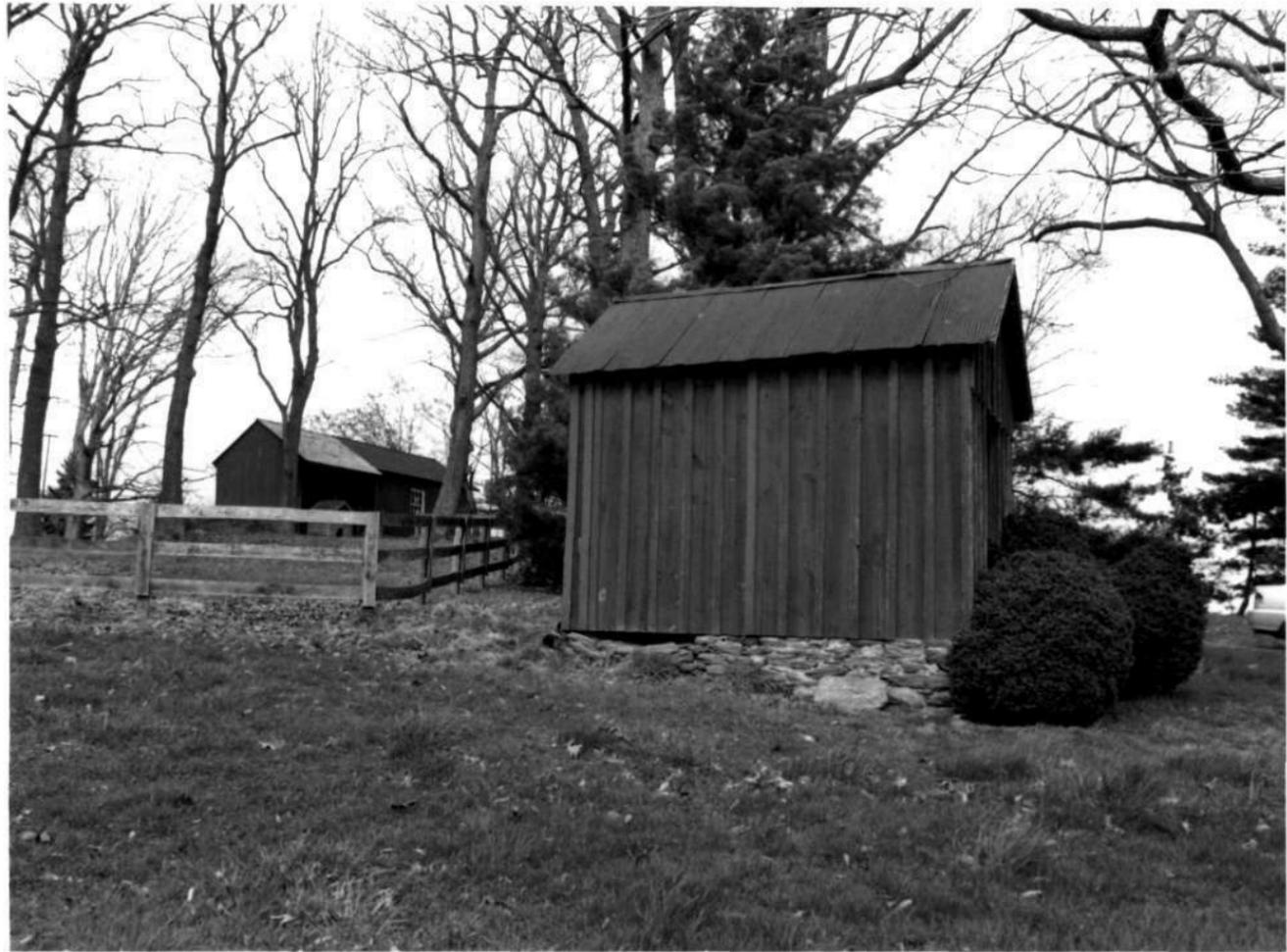
TRACERIES

11/2001

MD-STEP

SW CORNER

2 of 3



3A-0481

4101 BLACKROCK ROAD

UPPER LO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILER

4/2001

MO-5HPD

OUTBUILDINGS

3 of 3

73A- 481

**WILLIAM VOSS ELDER III HOUSE** - Before 1850 - West side of Black Rock Road, entrance opposite the terminus of Ridge Road. Apparently the home of Rich. C. Tracy in 1877 atlas. Victorian or Gothic Revival house, frame, in vertical board and batten; gold-yellow paint. Three bays wide; Gothic window in cross-gable. The land here was acquired by Richard C. Boring in 1858; part of the tract "Carthagenia". Owner: William Voss Elder, III, famous curator of Americana.