

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

File # 833

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Brown House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Just north of Pilettown crossroads 2<sup>nd</sup> house on the left

CITY, TOWN

Pilettown

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

 VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Cecil

**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                   | <b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>                   | <b>ACCESSIBLE</b>                            | <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 type="checkbox"/> NO                  | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER                           |

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

John Walter Brown

Telephone #: 378-3623

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Pilettown Pilettown

 VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21918

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Liber #: WAS 366

Folio #: 457

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Brown House c. 1858-1877 is located on Bell Manor Road just north of the Pilot Town Crossroads. The house is the second structure on the left. It has a north/south axis and faces east.

The 2 1/2 story frame house is 2 bays across by 1 deep with a 2 story rear addition that is oriented perpendicularly to the main gable. The rear section is one bay across by one deep. A single story shed roof extends off the south side of the back section. A single story shed porch extends across the main facade.

This house rests on a partial fieldstone basement. The entire structure is covered with imitation brick composition tile. The roof has a medium to low pitch and also covered with composition asphalt shingle.

The east facade is two bays across with the main entrance in the northern opening. The window sash is 2/2 and the trim is slightly beaded. The boxed cornice has a sloped soffit as does the shed porch, which has been closed in during the 20th century. The south facade of the front section has a projecting 2 story bay with square corners. There is a heavy extended cornice. A two sided triangular extension is found on the first floor opening. The window sash is again 2/2 with beaded trim. A small attic window is located in the peak of the gable end. The eaves are extended along the main roof line. The south side to the rear section has similar detailing and a shed roof addition of probable 20th century date.

The north side of the main block hasn't any openings other than a small 4 pane attic window. The rear addition has a 2/2 sash on each floor. A small stretcher bond brick stack is located at the eastern end of the rear addition.

Although entrance was not allowed it may be assumed if anything remains of the early interior, it would be very plain and not too unusual.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

CE-851

| 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 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899   | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE                | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |
| <input 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The fact that the house stands with all the others in Pilot Town gives it some importance as a late 19th Century house. This is a repeated form ~~with many of the houses in the area,~~ and again serves to add to the town of Pilot.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**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

Paul B. Touart Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Cecil County Courthouse Committee

DATE

7/25/78

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

TELEPHONE

398-7568

CITY OR TOWN

Elkton

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

## Pilot Town

CE- 840, 842, 843, 844, 845 (log house), 846, 847(school no. 3), 848, 849(store), 850, 851, 852, 853(Johnson Victorian), 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863.

Pilot Town owes its existence to two primary reasons. The first is the 19th Century mining activity in the area and the second is the shift of the Susquehanna crossing from the Bald Friar ferry to the town of Conowingo. The road from Pennsylvania to the Bald Friar ferry passed west of the present Pilot Town crossroads. It is obvious that this route predated any other southerly route in the vicinity especially since the earlier farms and houses are oriented to it. St. Patrick's Church (CE-834), Pembroke Farm (CE-836), Moore-Love log house (CE-845), and the Fulton-Alexander House(CE-841) all date from before the mid 19th Century and stand near or next to the earlier route. Due to the treacherous descent to the ferry and easier access at Conowingo a covered bridge was built across the Susquehanna at Conowingo, which eclipsed activity at Bald Friar. With the construction of a bridge at Conowingo a more direct southerly route from Pennsylvania was needed, which necessitated an easterly shift in travel. It amounted to a difference of a few hundred yards but was enough to form an intersection with the east/west Mount Pleasant road. Continued interest in the mining of feldspar, soapstone, and gravel in the mid 19th Century brought more development and change. Pilot Town was a definite result of these two factors and the mid to late 19th Century housing that exists today is ample evidence for this occurrence. Pilot Town supported a local market till the early 20th Century (CE-849) and its own school (CE-847) till about the same time.

The houses that make up Pilot Town are traditional two<sup>story</sup> frame structures that one sees throughout Cecil County. (see CE-840, CE-842, CE-844, CE-846,

Pilot Town

2

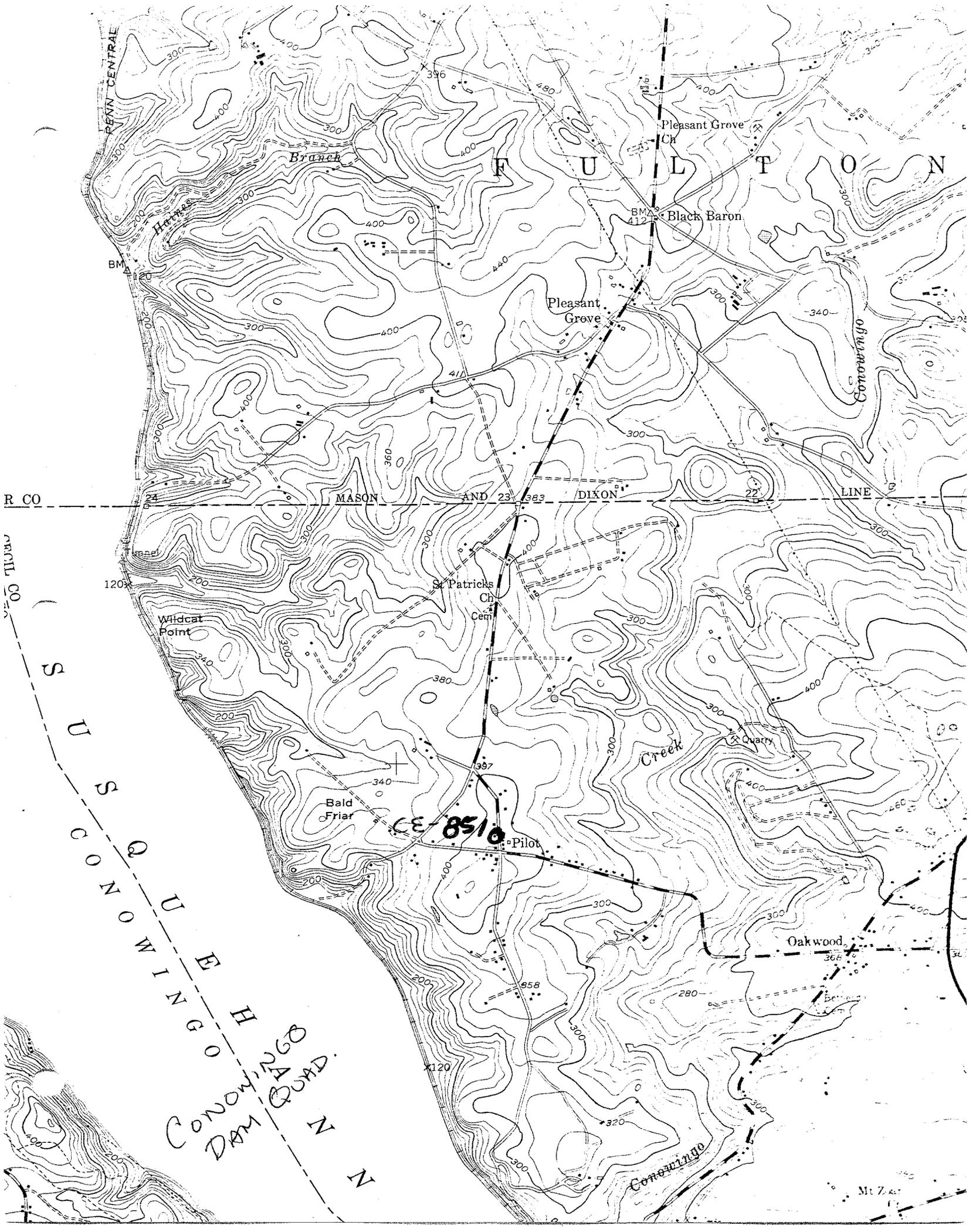
CE-848, CE-851, CE-852, CE-853, CE-854, CE-855, CE-856, CE-857, CE-858, CE-859, CE-860, CE-861, CE-862, CE-863) The structures are basically

plain straightforward buildings that are typical houses for workers in a mining area. This is not to say that the previous agricultural life of area was replaced by the mines. The farming community continued as it had since the late 18th Century but now alongside mining operations that brought Irish immigrants in the early 19th Century.

Brown House

CE-851

|                          |   |        |                    |
|--------------------------|---|--------|--------------------|
| WAS 366/457<br>9/16/1976 | Mary C. Brown (widow) & Virginia A. Brown Ritchie<br>to<br>John W. & Mary Brown |        |                    |
| HWL 10/451<br>10/5/1923  | Ellen M Riley<br>to<br>John S. Brown  | \$1200 |                    |
| MD 4/327<br>7/2/1901     | Priscilla S. Brown<br>to<br>Ellen M. Riley                                      | \$500  | $\frac{1}{2}$ acre |
| JGW 8/499<br>4/16/1901   | Merrit W. Richey & Alice Richey<br>to<br>Priscilla Brown                        |        |                    |
| JAD 23/77<br>5/12/1891   | Amanda & John Richey<br>to<br>Merritt W. Richey                                 | \$450  | $\frac{1}{2}$ acre |



RYAN CENTRAL

Branch

FULTON

Pleasant Grove Ch

BMA 412 Black Baron

Pleasant Grove

Conowingo

MASON AND DIXON LINE

Wildcat Point

St. Patrick's Ch Cem

Creek

Bald Friar

CE 8510 Pilot

Quarry

Oakwood

CONOWINGO DAM QUAD.

Mt Z...



CE-851

BROWN House

Southeast ELEVATION

PILOT TOWN, MD.

6/78

PBT

NEG. / MA HIST. TRUST