

CE-865 - Harris Frame House

c. 1865

This mid 19th Century 2 story 3 bay frame house faces the McVey Hotel (CE-35) and is the only other 19th century structure aside from the hotel at the Oakwood crossroads.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

File #847

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Harris House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Just north of the Oakwood Crossroads left side of the road

CITY, TOWN

Oakwood

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

Maryland

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 checked="" 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

Daniel B. Harris

Telephone #: 378-3726

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Old Oakwood Road

CITY, TOWN

Oakwood

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21918

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

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Liber #: WAS 305

Folio #: 169

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

| CONDITION                                |                                       | CHECK ONE                                   | CHECK ONE   |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT       | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS        | <input checked="" 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 Harris House c. 1877-1900 is a 2½ story frame I-House located on the road from Oakwood Crossroads to Old Conowingo. The house is just north of the main Oakwood intersection. The house has a north/south axis with the main facade having a western exposure.

The main block is 3 bays across by 2 deep. A single story shed roof addition extends off the eastern (back) side of the main block. A single story shed roof front porch is attached to the main facade.

The entire structure rests on an uncoursed stone foundation. The structure is sheathed with weatherboard siding and is capped with a steeply sloped tin roof.

The fenestration is symmetrical. 2/2 sash are found throughout with plain surrounds. The central bay is an entrance with a late 19th century paneled door with arched moldings on the top panels. The Victorian porch has turned supports and cut-out brackets.

The north gable end is 2 bays deep with two 2/2 attic windows that flank the gable end stretcher bond chimney stack. Between the first floor windows is a small gabled entrance to the cellar. It rests on fieldstone and is sheathed with weatherboards and covered with tin. The eaves were left open.

The south gable end is very similar in detail although without the basement entrance.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

| 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/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 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 Harris House is another example of the ubiquitous late 19th century I-House found in this area and throughout the country. The house does have a gable exterior <sup>BASEMENT</sup> entry which is found on a number of houses of similar and earlier date. The house is one of 4 structures left at the Oakwood Crossroads. In the early 20th century the area was known as "Mexico" and largely temporary workers' shacks for employees at the Conowingo Dam. Located on the southeast corner <sup>at THE CROSSROADS</sup> is a brick and <sup>CONCRETE</sup> block theater that was undoubtedly built in the early 20th century and the main attraction for this rural and fairly isolated area.

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

DATE

9/6/78

ORGANIZATION

Cecil County Committee

TELEPHONE

398-7568

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

STATE

Maryland

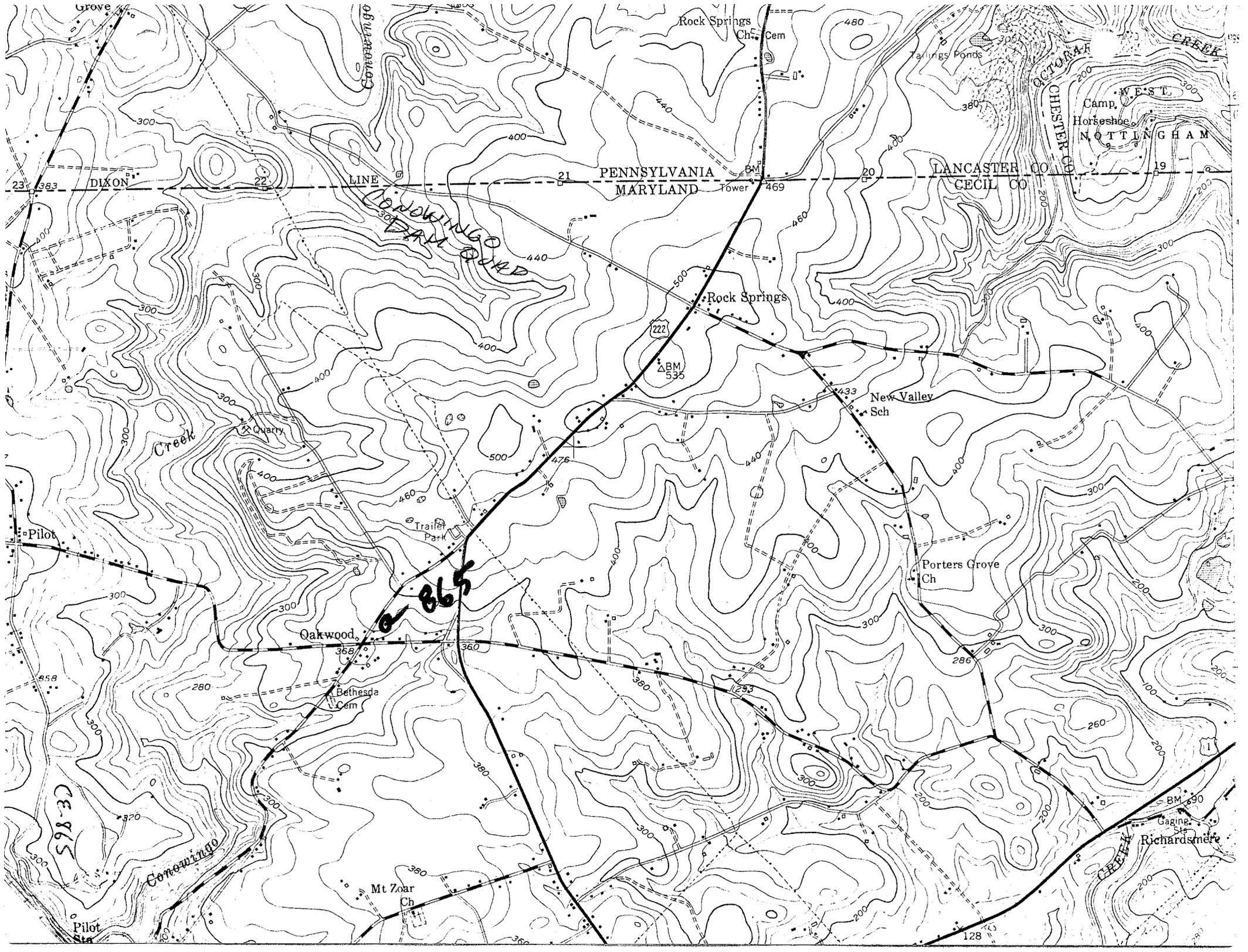
CITY OR TOWN

Elkton

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



Rock Springs Ch. Cem

480

Tailings Ponds

CHESTER CO

W.E.S.L.  
Camp Horseshoe  
NOTTINGHAM

19

LANCASTER CO  
CECIL CO

PENNSYLVANIA  
MARYLAND

BM

Tower 469

CONOWINGO  
CREEK

Rock Springs

222

BM  
535

New Valley  
Sch

Creek

Quarry

Trailers  
Park

Porters Grove  
Ch

Oakwood

Bethesda  
Cem

Mt Zoar  
Ch

Richardsmire

BM 590

Gaging

128

DIXON

LINE

21

20

23

363

22

598-30

865

Pilot

Conowingo

CREEK



CE-865

HARRIS HOUSE

~~NO~~

OAKWOOD MD.

WEST ELEVATION

PBT 6/78

NEG./MD. 1757. TRUST