

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CHAS-56

MAGI # 0900565504

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC MARKET OVERTON; Mulberry Grove

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

On Marion Drive,

STREET & NUMBER South side of Maryland Route 210, approximately 8/10 mile east of intersection of Maryland Routes 210 and 227

CITY, TOWN Bryan's Road CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT First

STATE Maryland COUNTY Charles

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	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> 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"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Evangelical Lutheran Church

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Bryan's Road STATE Maryland zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Charles County Courthouse

Liber #: 173

Folio #: 32

STREET & NUMBER Charles Street

CITY, TOWN La Plata STATE Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE



DESCRIPTION

CN-56

CONDITION

EXCELLENT

DETERIORATED

GOOD

RUINS

FAIR

UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED

ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED

DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

SEE ATTACHED

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

#7: Description:

Market Overton is located about 125 feet from the south side of Maryland Route 210, approximately eight-tenths of a mile east of the intersection of Routes 210 and 227 at Bryan's Road and about one-half mile west of the Prince Georges county line. Although the overall plan and interior trim of the house is characteristic of the mid and late-nineteenth century, the house, or at least a part of it, is believed to have been built before 1820, possibly as early as circa 1800.

The existing house is a two-story frame structure with a single exterior chimney at each end. Facing north, the principal facade is three bays in width. At the first floor level is a centered door flanked by two windows of six-over-six sash. Directly above and aligned with the openings below are three second floor windows, also of six-over-six sash. The same fenestration and door location is repeated on the opposite side of the house, which also has a one story, shed-roofed porch extending the full width of this elevation. At the west end of the house stands a centered brick chimney that was built within the last decade and replaced an earlier chimney with stepped shoulders and free-standing stack. At the east end of the house, positioned to the right of center, is a second, smaller chimney also with stepped shoulders and free-standing stack. To the left of this chimney is a one story, one bay frame addition built in this century. Although the entire exterior of the house has been covered by aluminum siding, the north, front door retains a simple but attractive, mid-nineteenth century, Greek Revival-style entablature with pilasters. A wide fascia board below the projecting eaves on both sides and the ends of the building is another basically mid-nineteenth century feature.

The first floor room configuration consists of a centered stair hall with two rooms on the east side and a single large parlor on the west. The second floor has a three-quarter hall with a small room at the north end, one bedroom and a small storage room to the east of the hall and two bedrooms on the west side. Much of the first and second floor trim framing the doors and windows, generally of one-piece molded boards with roundels in the upper corners, is typical of the circa 1840-1870 period; however, there are a few features of earlier date, the most notable being a simple but attractive Federal-style mantle in the northeast first floor room, the trim framing a batten door opening into the west parlor from the north end of the hall, two large case ("carpenter") locks, and the random width, yellow pine flooring in the second floor rooms. Another early feature is the mantle of the west parlor; however, since it employs a combination of late-Georgian and early-Federal motifs and has no relationship to any of the other early woodwork in the house, it is conceivable that it is not an original feature. The stair, which rises in a single flight to the second floor along the west wall of the hall, is of a type typical of the very late nineteenth century. The balustrade, and seams in the flooring at the south end of the stairwell at the second floor level, suggest that the stair might have been altered from its original appearance.

Since there is no part of the framing sufficiently exposed to accurately trace the evolution of the house, any opinions regarding the changes that have occurred since its original construction date would be largely based on conjecture. Nevertheless, interior and exterior features suggest that the house was initially a one story, side hall - double parlor structure with two exterior chimneys at the east end. Traces of plaster on the south side of the existing east chimney, and the presence of a narrow window to the right of the fireplace in the northeast room, indicate that the two chimneys were probably once joined by one story pent closet. It would appear that in the mid-nineteenth century, probably between 1840 and 1860, the house was enlarged by adding the existing west parlor and raising the entire house to two stories. It would have been at this time that most of the existing interior woodwork was installed.

On a small knoll several hundred feet west-southwest of the house is a small, private family cemetery. Buried here are various members of the family that owned the property throughout the nineteenth century. There are presently eight headstones of varying designs, although several depressions in the ground suggest the possibility that there are other graves for which stones do not survive. Those buried in the cemetery include:

1. Rev. Simon Wilmer. Died 1840.
2. James Norris Tubman. Died 1843.
3. Magruder D. Tubman. Died 1859.
4. George Magruder Tubman. Died 1835.
5. Elizabeth Bryan Dement. Died 1826.
6. William Dement. Died 1820.
7. Richard Dement. Died 1843.
8. Mary Eleanor Wilmer. Died 1866.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

2-56

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 circa 1800

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William Dement

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE ATTACHED

#8: Statement of Significance:

Market Overton, a two-story, three-bay, frame farmhouse, probably began as a somewhat smaller structure built between 1794 and 1815 that was subsequently enlarged and completely remodeled in the mid-nineteenth century. While most of the existing interior and exterior detailing is of basic Greek Revival styling, some early features remain, including a simple but attractive Federal-style mantle, some early hardware, and wide, yellow pine flooring in the second floor bedrooms. There are presently two exterior chimneys, one at each end of the house. The centered west end chimney is a modern replacement of a former chimney of similar design. The off-centered east chimney is one of a pair that formerly stood at this end of the house and which were connected at the base by a one story pent. On a small knoll about 200 feet southwest of the house is a private cemetery containing an interesting collection of headstones of various designs. The members of the Dement and Tubman family buried here owned the property from 1794 until the end of the nineteenth century.

Market Overton derives its name from a 1663 proprietary grant to Zachary Wade for 1,200 acres which he named Market Overton.¹ Ownership of most of the land contained within the original survey continued in the Wade and related families throughout the late-seventeenth and the eighteenth centuries, usually passed between various members of the family through inheritance.

In 1794, William Dement, born in 1751 and the son of John Dement, bought 265 acres of Market Overton from John McConchie, Mary Stone Jones, Gerard Fowke and Margery Fowke, for 265 pounds sterling.² (Although the means by which the grantors came to own the 265 acres is not known, it was probably through an inheritance. Since one of the individuals named bore the name Stone, it is possible that the two women were sisters and members of the Stone family. John McConchie conceivably had an interest in the property in right of his wife, also named Stone and possibly a third sister since deceased. The theory is that the property descended to the three Stone sisters from their ancestress, Theodosa Wade Stone, a daughter of Zachary Wade who became the wife of William Stone (1666-1730).) In 1801 William Dement purchased an additional 100 acres of Market Overton from Samuel and Martha Tubman.³

Inasmuch as William Dement is buried in the family cemetery it is likely that he built at least the oldest part of the existing house, living there until his death in 1820. William Dement died intestate, leaving as heirs his widow, Elizabeth Bryan Dement, and a son, Richard. Elizabeth B. Dement died intestate in 1826 and it is reasonable to assume that ownership of the property then passed to William and Elizabeth's son, Richard Dement. Richard Dement died in 1843, in his will bequeathing one-half of Market Overton to his cousin, Richard T. Tubman.⁴

Despite the fact that a part of Market Overton remained in the ownership of Richard Dement at his death in 1843, another part of the property was also owned by the Reverend Simon Wilmer, Rector of Christ Church (Accokeek, Prince George's County) and St. John's Chapel (Bumpy Oak). Wilmer, who died in 1840 and is buried in the family cemetery, refers to Market Overton as his wife's property "before our marriage".⁵ Wilmer's widow, Mary Ellen, was the daughter of Magruder Tubman and, according to a family genealogy, the great-granddaughter of William and Elizabeth Dement. At her death in 1866, Mary E. Wilmer, who before her marriage to Reverend Wilmer was married to a Tubman, left the house and farm to George W. Tubman, her son by her first husband.⁶

In 1869 George Tubman sold the house and farm inherited from his mother, by then known as Mulberry Grove, to his sister, Sarah E. Tubman, wife of Benjamin Tubman, reserving, however, the family cemetery and a right-of-way for the use of his family.⁷ In 1893 Benjamin and Sarah Tubman sold the 253 acres of Mulberry Grove to Harriet (Hattie) R. Clagett, who with her husband, William T. Clagett, lived on the property until 1912 when the remaining 97 acres were sold to Thomas Downs.⁸ Downs died in 1941, leaving Mulberry Grove to his widow, Margaret, who in 1946 sold it to Carroll Brown.⁹ The house and 30 acres were acquired by the present owner, the Evangelical Lutheran Church, from the widow of Carroll Brown in 1964.¹⁰

Footnotes:

1. Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland. Patents: Liber H, folio 263.
2. Land Records, Charles County Courthouse, La Plata, Maryland. Deeds: Liber N#4, folio 197. 3. Ibid. Liber IB#5, folio 2.
4. Register of Wills Office, Charles County Courthouse, La Plata. Wills: Liber DJ#16, folio 304.
5. Ibid. Folio 208.
6. Ibid. Liber JS#17, folio 372.
7. Deeds: Liber GAH#2, folio 91.
8. Ibid. Liber JST#5, folio 609; Liber HCC#25, folio 124.
9. Ibid. Liber TBM#84, folio 143.
10. Ibid. Liber 173, folio 32.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CH-56

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

J. Richard Rivoire, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Charles County Planning Department

DATE

July, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

Charles County Courthouse

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

La Plata

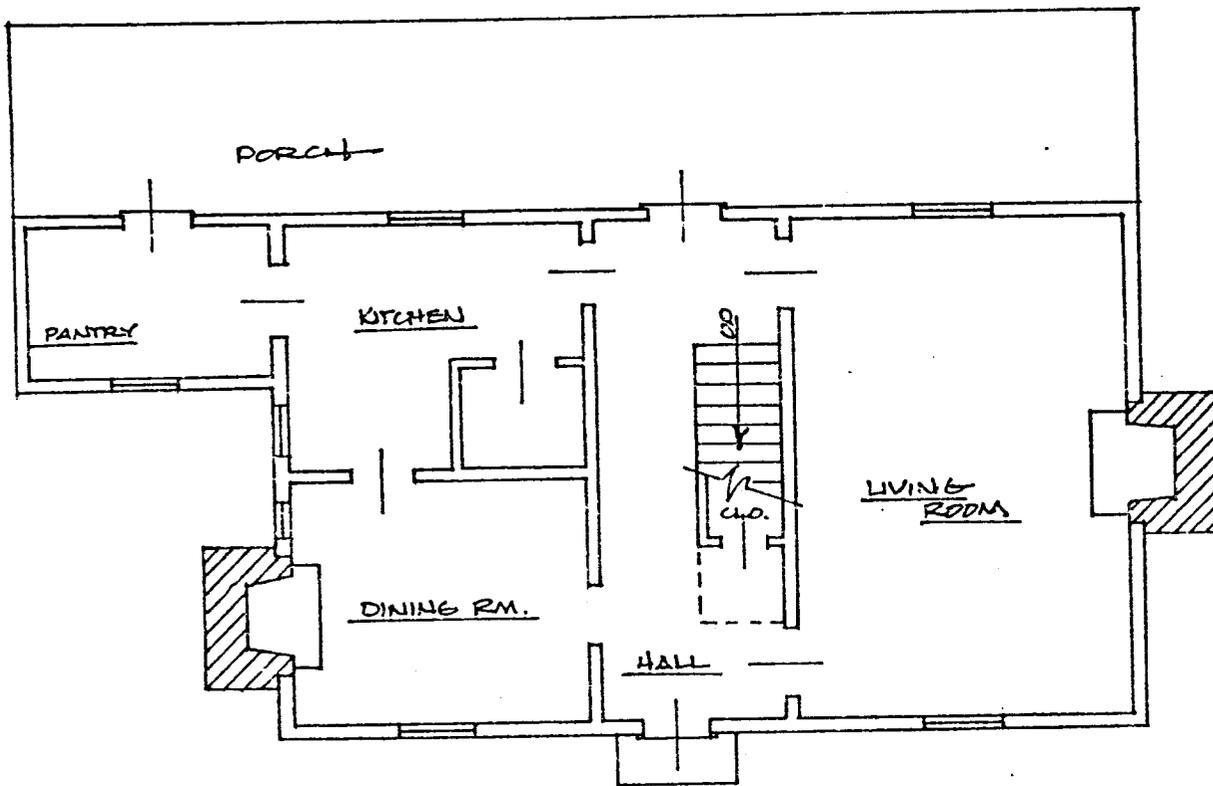
STATE

Maryland

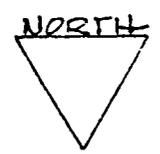
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

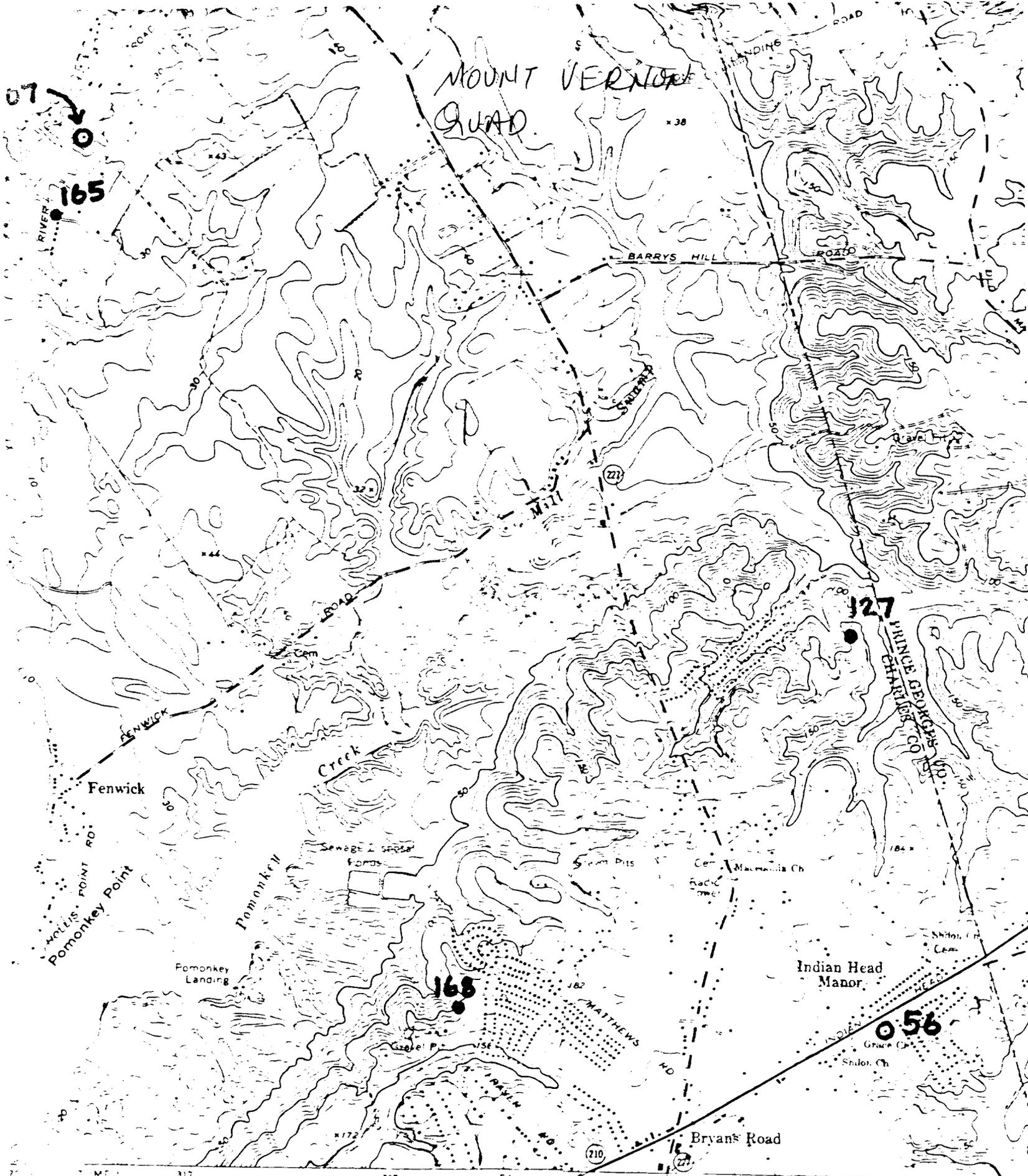
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



TO CEMETERY →



CHAS-56
MULBERRY GROVE
(Market Overton)
J. R. Rivoire, July, 1980
Approx. scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"



MOUNT VERNON
QUAD

07
165

127

168

056

Geological Survey

CH-56

Compiled from aerial photographs
 Revised by the Geological Survey
 1966 - Edition 1966

POMONKEY 12 M.
 9 M. TO U.S. 301
 (PORT TOBACCO)
 5561 11 SE
 SCALE 1:24,000

(210)

321