CARR-1385

John W. Few Farm
Clearview Road

The John W. Few Farm was originally part of the Foutz Mill Farm (CARR-1384). When the heirs of Samuel Bare sold the latter in 1868, they divided it into two parcels. This parcel of 66 acres contained the mill buildings. It was sold to John W. Nissley for $7,184.37½. The 1876 tax assessment notes that Nissley had a stone house, frame mill, saw mill, frame stable, and other buildings. The 1877 Atlas shows the mill on the west side of the road, and Nissley's house further west of that. In that same year, Nissley was forced to sell the property because of mortgage problems. At the time, it was described as being ". . . improved by a good Log Dwelling House, good Stabling and all necessary outhouses, also by a No. 1 Grist Mill, a splendid Saw Mill and Bone Mill. It was purchased by Joseph Hoover. The 1880 Census of Manufacturers lists five mills on Meadow Branch in Uniontown District, none of them owned by Hoover. After Hoover died, his heirs sold the property in 1893 for only $,1700. It was purchased by John W. Few. Few sold it, after ten years of ownership, for $3,000. The rise in price is probably the result of building the house and barn on the property. The construction details of both buildings would typically date them from this period in Carroll County.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. CARR-1385

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic John W. Few Farm

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 1525 Clearview Road ___ not for publication

city, town Taneytown -X- vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Carroll

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	X occupied	X 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 (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Jayson & Patricia Bowen

street & number 1525 Clearview Road telephone no.: 751-0085

city, town Union Bridge state and zip code Maryland 21791

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Courthouse Annex liber LWS 1191

street & number 55 North Court Street folio 388

city, town Westminster state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. CARR-1385

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	_X_ original site
_X_ good	___ ruins	_X_ altered	___ moved date of move _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

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

Summary:

The John W. Few Farm is located on the east side of Clearview Road (at 1525) and on the north side of Meadow Branch, about four miles southeast of Taneytown and two miles north of Uniontown in northwestern Carroll County, Maryland. The farm consists of a frame house and frame bank barn. The house faces northwest toward the road and is banked on the northeast. It is a three-bay by two-bay, two-story structure with a rubble stone foundation, German siding with corner boards, and a gable roof with standing-seam metal and a northeast-southwest ridge. The first story has a center entrance with a four-panel door that has sunk, fielded panels with wide bolection mouldings. The top two panels have semi-circular arched tops. There is a one-light transom and a plain surround with a cornice with a cavetto. On each side is a 4/4 sash with the same surround and cornice as on the door. The first story has a center foyer with a straight run of enclosed stairs to the southeast. There is one room to the southwest and two to the northeast. The second story was originally a center passage plan with two chambers on each side. About 100 feet south of the house is a frame bank barn with a forebay facing southwest. The lower story is rubble stone on three sides, with horizontal board siding on the southwest. The upper story has vertical-board siding. There is corrugated metal on the gable roof, which has a southeast-northwest ridge. The upper story has a center threshing floor with one hay mow on each side and no granary. There are four bents, with the vertical members sawn and the horizontal ones hewn. The bents are simply framed, with four posts and corner braces on the end posts only. There is one girt. The roof has a purlin post truss set on this girt. The beginning boundary stone of "Resurvey on Meadow and Something is about 1000 feet north of the house, on the northwest side of Clearview Road. The top is carved with: 1789, B. of Ro MS M. PF.

Contributing Resources: 3

The John W. Few Farm is located on the east side of Clearview Road (at 1525) and on the north side of Meadow Branch, about four miles southeast of Taneytown and two miles north of Uniontown in northwestern Carroll County, Maryland. The farm is located on a sloping site that drops off to the south, toward Meadow Branch. It consists of a frame house and frame bank barn.

The house faces northwest toward the road and is banked on the northeast. It is a three-bay by two-bay, two-story structure with a rubble stone foundation, German siding with corner boards, and a gable roof with standing-seam metal and a northeast-southwest ridge. The northwest elevation has a boarded-up opening in the north bay

and a new two-light sash in the west bay. The first story has a center entrance with a four-panel door that has sunk, fielded panels with wide bolection mouldings. The top two panels have semi-circular arched tops. There is a one-light transom and a plain surround with a cornice with a cavetto. On each side is a 4/4 sash with the same surround and cornice as on the door. The vertical muntins are wider than the horizontal ones. The windows have blinds. There is a centered, one-story, one-bay porch with a concrete block foundation and a gable roof of standing-seam metal with a northwest-southeast ridge. The porch has four square posts with caps that have a cavetto moulding. The vertical balusters are rectangular in plan. The second story has three 4/4 sash identical to the first story. There is a wood box cornice with returns. The soffit appears to be covered with German siding. There is an interior brick chimney on the southwest and a new, exterior brick chimney on the northeast.

The northeast elevation has two 4/4 sash on both the first and second stories that match those on the northwest. The gable end has two four-light sash with the same surrounds. On the southeast elevation there is a later one-story addition. The second story of the original house has three typical 4/4 sash, and the same cornice with returns. The southwest elevation has a new door in an old mitered frame, with a beaded-interior edge, in the west bay of the foundation. The first and second stories each have two 4/4 sash, and the gable end has two four-light sash like those on the northeast.

The cellar is divided in half by the enclosed center stairway. The southwest half was formerly a kitchen, with a cookstove on the southwest wall. There is a circular-sawn summer beam running northwest-southeast on the southwest side of the stair, and it is supported by one circular-sawn post. There is also a circular-sawn summer beam running northeast-southwest in the center of the room. It has a center tenon into the center stair summer. The joists run northwest-southeast and have a center tenon into the southwest room summer. The summer beams are about 7 inches deep and are painted, as is the bottom of the floor above. This floor is circular-sawn, random-width, and runs northeast-southwest. The joists rest on a 1 inch board set in the stone walls throughout the cellar. In between the joists is brick nogging set in clay. The bricks apparently only extend to below the first story floor; according to the owner, insulation has been blown into the walls above. There is a ceiling in this half with beaded-edge-and-center boards.

The northeast cellar room has a circular-sawn summer beam that runs northeast-southwest. It is 3¾ by 6 inches, is whitewashed, and is supported by one sawn post. The joists run northwest-southeast and rest on top of the summer. They are circular-sawn and are 2¾ by 7 inches. The southeast addition has a CMU foundation and 2 by 6 joists.

The first story has a center foyer with a straight run of enclosed stairs to the southeast. The walls are plaster on circular-sawn lath with cut nails. They have been sheetrocked over, and new baseboards added. The front (northwest) entrance has sunk, fielded panels with moulds that have a bead on the outside and a small ogee on the inside. There is a cast-iron box lock. The broken field surround has a beaded-interior edge. There is one room to the southwest and two to the northeast. The oak floor runs northwest-southeast and the boards are each 3¼ inches wide. The floor is higher here and in the southwest room than in the northeast rooms.

The north room door has four panels with sunk fields and small ogee moulds. The edges of the fields also have ogee mouldings run on them. The cast-iron decorative butt hinges and box lock have no markings. The surrounds have a broken field with a beaded-interior edge and a cavetto on the outer edge. The oak flooring is 2¼ inches wide and runs northwest-southeast.

The east room has been subdivided with a bathroom. There is a four-panel door from the north room to this room. The surrounds here have a beaded-interior edge only, and the oak floor is identical to the north room.

The southwest room has a flue for a stove centered on the southwest wall. The southeast side of the flue has a built-in cupboard with a one-panel door at the top, a drawer below it, and a small one-panel door at the bottom. The doors have recently been turned around by the present owners. Originally, they had sunk, flat panels on the exterior with no panel moulds, and were bevelled on the interior. The surrounds throughout the room have a beaded-interior edge, and recent corner blocks have been added. The oak flooring is 2¼ inches wide and runs northeast-southwest. The room continues behind (southeast of) the center stairs.

The second story was originally a center passage plan with two chambers on each side. It has now been altered with one room on the southwest. The surrounds have a beaded-interior edge, with the exception of the north chamber, which was a broken field surround with a beaded-interior edge. There is a beaded-edge, vertical-board door with a cast-iron box lock that leads to the attic.

The attic has circular-sawn rafters that are 2 by 5¾ inches and are mitered at the ridge. The feet have a bird's mouth cut that laps over a narrow board false plate that is nailed to the floor boards. The rafters are spaced 24 inches on center and support lath and circular-sawn wood shingles. The wide attic floor boards run northeast-southwest. The joists run northwest-southeast. Most of them are two 1½-inch wide joists ganged together. Their depth was not determinable. There are cut nails in the floor.

About 100 feet south of the house is a frame bank barn with a forebay facing southwest. The lower story is rubble stone on three sides, with horizontal board siding on the southwest. There is a very low stone wall below the siding and wood sill on the southwest. The upper story has vertical-board siding. There is corrugated metal on the gable roof, which has a southeast-northwest ridge. The southwest elevation, lower story, has vertical-board dutch doors on strap hinges with a vent above three horizontal slats. There are three doors, and between each pair is a vent with diamond-in-section wood louvers. The upper story has center double doors over double doors. These are flanked by one tripartite wood louvered vent on each side.

The northwest elevation has a diamond-section vent in the north bay of the lower story and a typical dutch door in the west bay. This door has carved on it "C. W. 1917; CARRO; C. W. 191[1?]." The upper story has two tripartite vents. In the gable peak is a narrow window opening with a later sash behind it, and one vent on each side. It has a pedimented surround. The northeast elevation has a ramp that has been built up, with stone cheek walls. The barn rests on only slightly sloping ground. There are no openings in the lower story. The upper story has center double wagon doors on rollers, with one tripartite vent on each side. The southeast elevation has a diamond-section vent in the east bay of the lower story. The upper story has two tripartite vents. The peak has the same detail as on the west, but appears to have an original six-light sash.

The lower story has one summer beam that is mill sawn on all four sides and runs northwest-southeast. It is supported by two mill-sawn posts that have a tenon on top into a mortise in the summer. The summer has one scarf, an angled half lap with two pegs driven down from the top. The joists are mill sawn on the top and bottom. The summer is notched on both sides to hold the whole end of the joist. The southwest (forebay) wall is frame, with mill-sawn timbers that are mortised-and-tenoned and pegged. The northwest wall has a mill-sawn wood peg rail. The west and south corners are splayed on the inside to thicken them, but only the west one has a wood box set in it. The upper story has a center threshing floor with one hay mow on each side and no granary. There apparently never was one. There are four bents, with the vertical members sawn and the horizontal ones hewn. The bents are simply framed, with four posts and corner braces on the end posts only. There is one girt. The roof has a purlin post truss set on this girt. The rafters are sawn, are about 3 by 4 inches, and support lath.

The beginning boundary stone of "Resurvey on Meadow and Something is about 1000 feet north of the house, on the northwest side of Clearview Road. It is set close to the road, just north of the S-curve, and is currently laying on its back. It appears to be granite, with irregular edges, but is roughly pointed at the top. It is about 4 feet long by

10 inches wide. The top one foot, seven inches is deeper than the bottom, and is carved with:

1789
B. of
Ro MS
M. PF.

KMS/lh:4/5/94:Carr1385.des

8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-1385

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	X agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
___ 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates c. 1893 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: __A __B __C X D
and/or
Applicable Exception: __A __B __C __D __E __F __G

Level of Significance: __national __state X local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Summary:

The John W. Few Farm was originally part of the Foutz Mill Farm (CARR-1384). When the heirs of Samuel Bare sold the latter in 1868, they divided it into two parcels. This parcel of 66 acres contained the mill buildings. It was sold to John W. Nissley for $7,184.37½. The 1876 tax assessment notes that Nissley had a stone house, frame mill, saw mill, frame stable, and other buildings. The 1877 Atlas shows the mill on the west side of the road, and Nissley's house further west of that. In that same year, Nissley was forced to sell the property because of mortgage problems. At the time, it was described as being ". . . improved by a good Log Dwelling House, good Stabling and all necessary outhouses, also by a No. 1 Grist Mill, a splendid Saw Mill and Bone Mill. It was purchased by Joseph Hoover. The 1880 Census of Manufacturers lists five mills on Meadow Branch in Uniontown District, none of them owned by Hoover. After Hoover died, his heirs sold the property in 1893 for only $,1700. It was purchased by John W. Few. Few sold it, after ten years of ownership, for $3,000. The rise in price is probably the result of building the house and barn on the property. The construction details of both buildings would typically date them from this period in Carroll County.

Geographic Organization: Piedmont
Chronological/Development Period: Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
Historic Period Themes: Agriculture, Architecture
Resource Types: Rural Vernacular, Small Family Farmstead

The John W. Few Farm was originally part of the Foutz Mill Farm (CARR-1384). When the heirs of Samuel Bare sold the latter in 1868, they divided it into two parcels. This parcel of 66 acres contained the mill buildings. It was sold to John W. Nissley for $7,184.37½. The 1876 tax assessment notes that Nissley had a stone house, frame mill, saw mill, frame stable, and other buildings. The 1877 Atlas shows the mill on the west side of the road, and Nissley's house further west of that. In that same year, Nissley was

forced to sell the property because of mortgage problems. At the time, it was described as being ". . . improved by a good Log Dwelling House, good Stabling and all necessary outhouses, also by a No. 1 Grist Mill, a splendid Saw Mill and Bone Mill, all in good condition . . . ." It was purchased by Joseph Hoover for only $2,730. It is not known why the value of the property dropped by about $4,500 in ten years, unless the mills were destroyed shortly after they were advertised and before final execution of the deed in February 1878. That this is possible is suggested by the 1880 Census of Manufacturers, which lists five mills on Meadow Branch in Uniontown District, none of them owned by Hoover. The other possibility is that the stone house listed in 1876 had been destroyed by 1877, if that report was actually accurate. The acreage had dropped from 66 to 55 acres, but that is not enough to account for the dramatic change.

After Hoover died, his heirs sold the property in 1893 for only $1,700. It was purchased by John W. Few. Few sold it, after ten years of ownership, for $3,000. The rise in price is probably the result of building the house and barn on the property. The construction details of both buildings would typically date them from this period in Carroll County. The small size of the farm and barn suggest that Few had a trade that brought in additional income. This is confirmed by the tax assessments, which note in 1903 that he had stock in trade worth $1,000. Just what his trade was, we do not know. Unfortunately, the tax records do not indicate the addition of a house or barn at any time between 1876 and 1910. Subsequent owners apparently made few changes to the property.

KMS/lh:4/5/94:Carr1385.sig

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CARR-1385

Carroll County Land Records
Tax assessments, 1876, 1876-96, 1896-1910
Democratic Advocate, 3 March 1877, p. 3, c. 7
Census of Manufactures, 1880

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 54.84 acres

Quadrangle name Union Bridge

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM **References** do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth M. Short, Historic Planner

organization Carroll County Department of Planning **date** May 4, 1994

street & number 225 North Center Street **telephone** (410) 857-2145

city or town Westminster **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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

PS-2746

CARR-1385
John W. Few Farm
1525 Clearview Road

CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR	HOME COUNTY	GRANTEE	HOME COUNTY	DATE	LIBER	FOLIO	TRANS-ACTION	COMMENTS
Virginia Greer Stone, guardian of Lucille Burkett Stone - Carroll	Hernando, Co., FLA	Jayson C. & Patricia Sue Bowen (wife)	Carroll	1-25-1990	LWS 1191	388	Deed fee simple	$250,000, 54.84 acres
John J. & Emma M. Snyder (wife)	Carroll	Robert R. & Lucille B. Stone (wife)	Baltimore County	10-6-1931	EMM 156	300	Deed fee simple	$10.00, 55 acres, "Resurvey on Meadow and Something"
Ida Weishaar, widow	Carroll	John J. Snyder	Carroll	3-26-1931	EMM 155	313	Deed fee simple	$10.00, 55 acres
Sadie C. Smith, et al, children of heirs of George F. Weishaar	Carroll Carroll	Ida Weishaar	?	12-13-1920	EOC 137	525	Deed fee simple	½ interest, $10.00 George died intestate 3-24-1920
Harry M. & Flora E. Heltabridle (wife)	Carroll	George F. & Ida Weishaar (wife)	Carroll	3-21-1908	ODG 127	459	Deed fee simple	$2,800, 55 acres
John W. Few & Ollie E. A. (wife)	Carroll	Harry M. Heltabridle	Carroll	3-20-1903	JHB 97	221	Deed fee simple	$3,000, 55 acres
Sarah Hoover, et al	Carroll & York, PA	John W. Few	Carroll	4-1-1893	BFC 76	351	Deed	$1,700, 55 acres
Charles B. Roberts, attorney	Carroll	Joseph Hoover	Carroll	2-9-1878	FTS 49	190	Deed	Nissley defaulted on mortgage to David Foutz, 8-1-1876, $2,730, 55 acres, wife - Fayetta Nissley, Equity #1682, 6-19-1877

CARR-1385
John W. Few Farm
1525 Clearview Road

CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR	HOME COUNTY	GRANTEE	HOME COUNTY	DATE	LIBER	FOLIO	TRANS-ACTION	COMMENTS
Susan Garber, et al, heirs of Samuel Bare	Carroll Carroll	John W. Nissley	Carroll	3-28-1868	WAMcK 35	316	Deed fee simple	$7,184.37½, 2 parcels (1) part of 315 acres - 61+ acres (2) 4 acres
David Foutz & Deborah (wife)	Carroll	Samuel Bare	Carroll	4-10-1839	WW 3	307	Deed Indenture	$16,000, 315 acres (1)
David Foutz & John Stoner, execs. of Solomon Foutz	Carroll	Samuel Bare	Carroll	5-6-1839	WW 5	275	Deed Indenture	will - 2-27-1838, $200, 5 acres on Meadow Branch sold at public auction at Centre Mills (2) 3-13-1839 - in sight of the premises

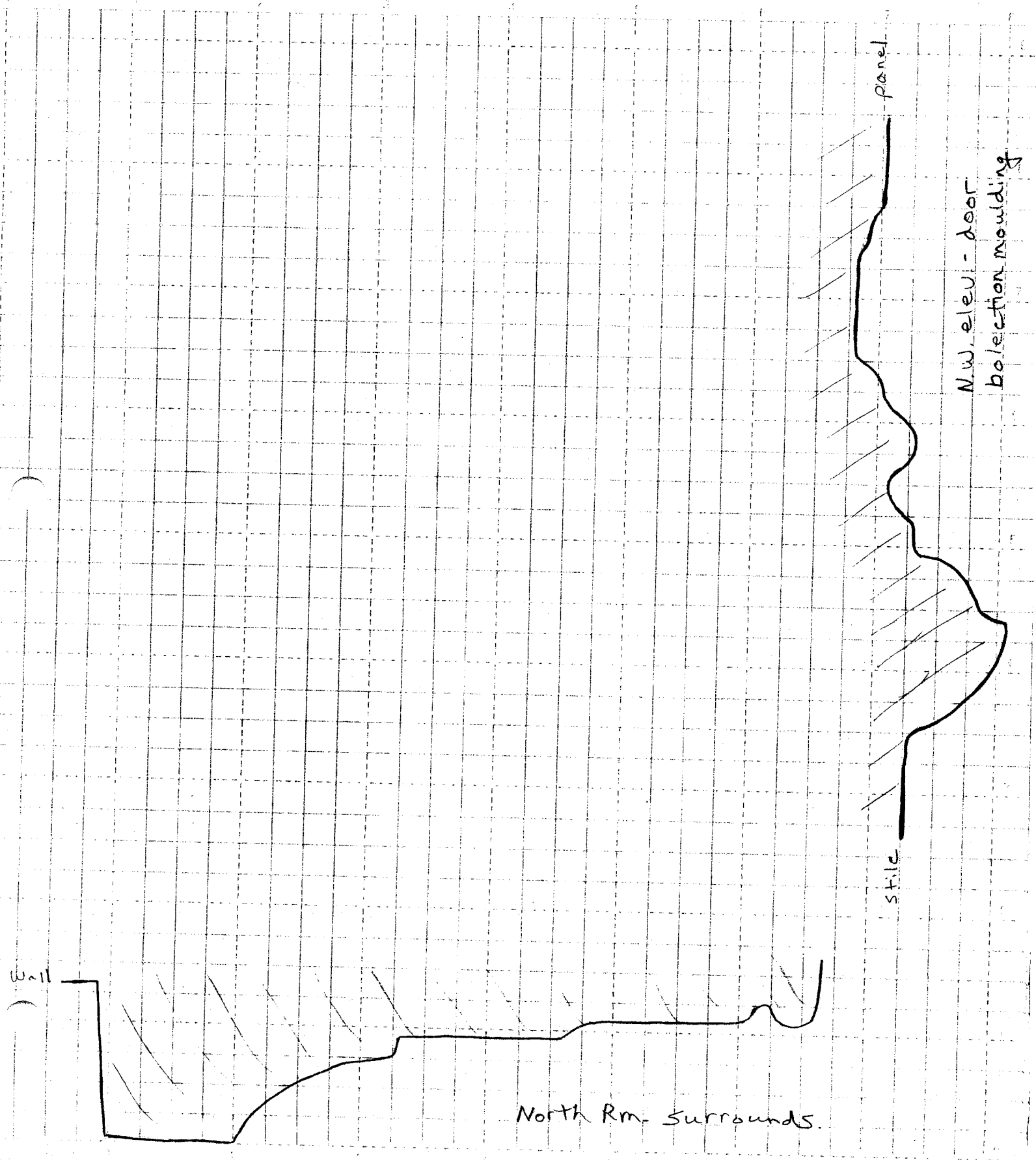
KMS/lh:4/4/94:1385titl

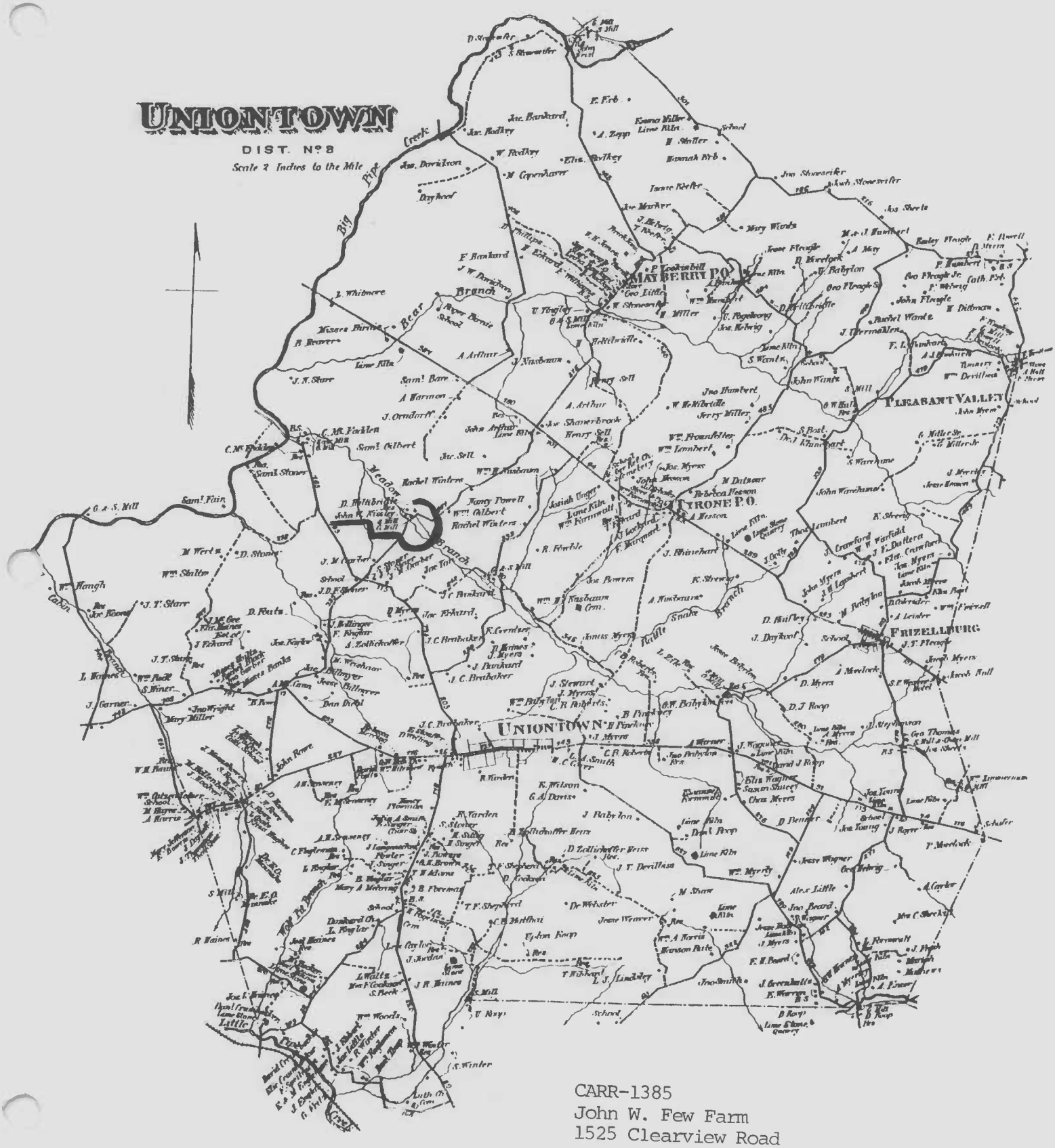
CARR-1385

1/1

1525 Clearview Rd
Moulding Profile

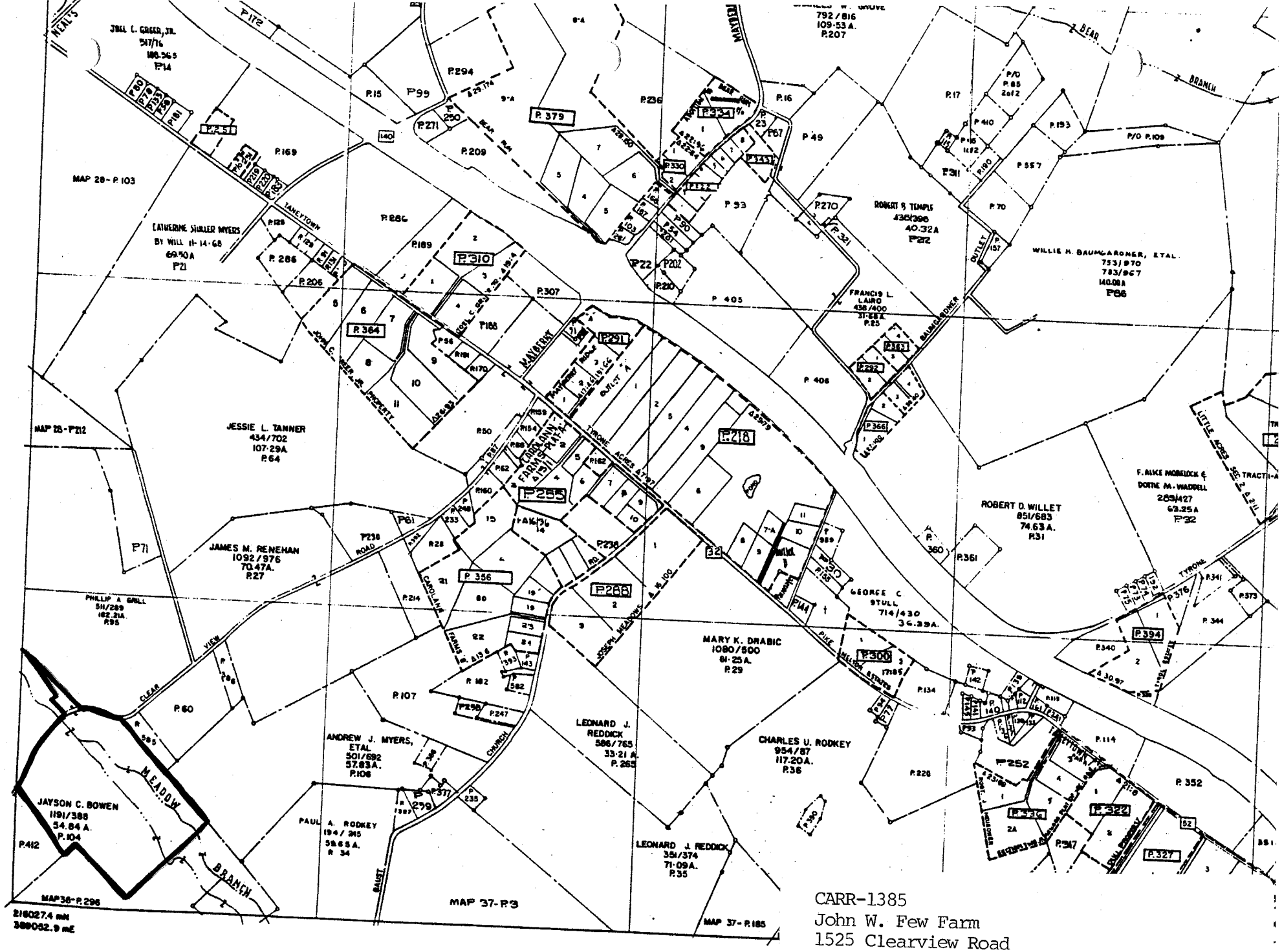
KMS
18Feb'94





CARR-1385
John W. Few Farm
1525 Clearview Road

Lake, Griffin & Stevenson Atlas, 1877



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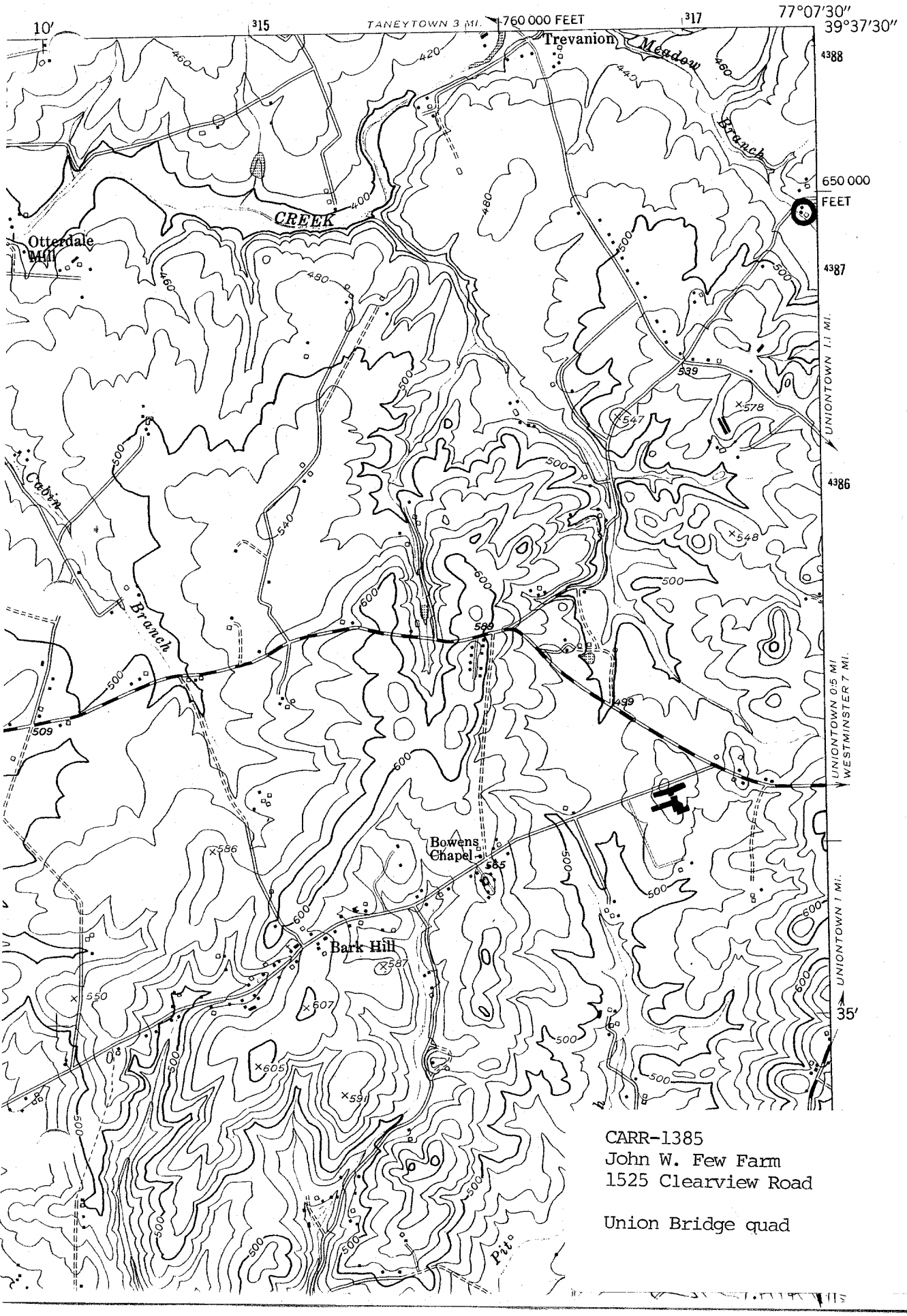
MD. DEPT. OF ASSESS. & TAX.

CARR-1385
John W. Few Farm
1525 Clearview Road

Assessments & Taxation Map # 29

UNION BRIDGE QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

5563 II NE (LITTLESTOWN)



CARR-1385
John W. Few Farm
1525 Clearview Road

Union Bridge quad

1525

CARR-1385

John W. Few Farm
1525 Clearview Rd.
Carroll County, Maryland
Date: May, 1991
Photo: Kenneth M. Short
Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
house - northeast & northwest elevations

CARR-1385

John W. Few Farm
1525 Clearview Rd.
Carroll County, Maryland
Date: May, 1994
Photo: Kenneth M. Short
Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
barn - south & east elevations
#4

CARR-1385

John W. Few Farm
1575 Clearview Rd.
Carroll County, Maryland
Date: May, 1994
Photo: Kenneth M. Short
Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
barn - north & west elevations
3/4

1789
B.C.J.
R.O.M.S.
M.P.R.

CARR-1385

John W. Few Farm
1525 Clearview Road
Carroll County, Maryland
Photo: Kenneth M. Short
Date: February 1994
Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
1789 Boundary Stone
4/4