CARR-1408

Senseney Farm Tenant House
Linwood (vicinity)

Summary:

The Senseney Farm Tenant House is located on what was the Christian Senseney Farm in the early nineteenth century. The 1862 map shows two buildings in this general vicinity, one apparently a house occupied by D. Trump and the other a blacksmith shop probably operated by Trump. The 1877 atlas also seems to show the house and blacksmith shop and indicates that they were owned by John E. Senseney. According to the owner, Mrs. Knight, the house was occupied in the early twentieth century by the grandparents of Danny Jones. His grandfather was a blacksmith. The log house is in relatively good condition, despite being vacant, and has undergone few changes. The use of quirked moulding suggests a date after 1820, and log construction usually dates before 1860. The house is also significant for its connection with African-American history in Carroll County.

Survey No. CARR-1408

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Senseney Farm Tenant House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number McKinstry's Mill Road ___ not for publication

city, town Linwood X vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Carroll

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	___ occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	X private	X unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	X not applicable	X no	___ military	___ other:

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

name Louise K. & William I. C. Knight

street & number 413 McKinstry's Mill Road telephone no.: 775-7887

city, town Linwood state and zip code MD 21764

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Courthouse Annex liber LWS 1070

street & number 55 North Court Street folio 18

city, town Westminster state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. CARR-1408

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 Senseney Farm Tenant House is located on McKinstry Mill Road, approximately 1¼ miles south of the village of Linwood, and ¾ of a mile north of the village of McKinstry's Mill. The house is set right up on the east side of the road and faces west toward the road. It is a two-story, three-bay by one-bay log structure, with V-notch cornering, set on a rubble stone foundation. It has a gable roof. Brick pattern asphalt shingle siding was recently removed to expose vertical-board siding that has the ghost of battens marked on it. There is a two-story, one-bay by two-bay ell with a gable roof on the east elevation. On the west elevation, the first story has a center entrance with a two-panel door. On either side of the entrance is a former 6/6 sash. There is a one-story, one-bay porch that has been vandalized. The second-story end bays have typical openings matching those on the first story. There is no opening in the center bay. The first story is divided into two rooms by a beaded-edge, random-width, vertical-board wall that runs east-west and is set north of the center entrance. The north room has a brick fireplace centered on the north wall. It is shallow, has splayed jambs, and has a metal lintel. There is no mantel now. The second story is laid out on the same plan as the first story and is divided by an identical vertical-board wall with a door in it. The rafters are mill sawn and have a half-lap and peg at the ridge. The addition is built of 2 x 4 construction. The rafters on the addition are mill sawn and are mitered at the ridge and fastened with cut nails.

Contributing Buildings: 1

The Senseney Farm Tenant House is located on McKinstry Mill Road, approximately 1¼ miles south of the village of Linwood, and ¾ of a mile north of the village of McKinstry's Mill. The house is set right up on the east side of the road and faces west toward the road. It is a two-story, three-bay by one-bay log structure, with V-notch cornering, set on a rubble stone foundation. It has a gable roof with a ridge that runs north-south, and is covered with inverted-V-seam metal. Brick pattern asphalt shingle siding was recently removed to expose vertical-board siding that has the ghost of battens marked on it. There is a two-story, one-bay by two-bay ell with a gable roof on the east elevation.

On the west elevation, the first story has a center entrance with a two-panel door. The panels have sunk fields and quirked Greek ogee panel moulds. The architrave has a cavetto backband and a beaded interior edge. On either side of the entrance is a former 6/6 sash with the same architrave. The vertical-board siding on this elevation is mill sawn and fastened with cut nails. The logs beneath the siding are whitewashed. There is a one-story, one-bay porch that has a concrete deck. The porch has been vandalized, but originally had

two wood boxed posts at each side, with four horizontal board rails set in mortises between the posts. The soffit of the porch has been rebuilt with plywood and wire nails. The porch has a shed roof with inverted-V-seam metal. The second-story end bays have typical openings matching those on the first story. There is no opening in the center bay. There is an interior brick chimney centered on the gable on the north end. This chimney has a corbelled brick water table at the roof line. There is a wood-boxed cornice with returns.

On the north elevation most of the vertical-board siding is circular sawn. There are no openings on this elevation. The gable end has random-width weatherboards. There is an ell addition attached to the east elevation at the center and south bays of the main block of the house. The north bay of the east elevation of the main block still retains its battens on the siding. The battens are wide and thin and have chamfered edges. The first story has a doorway, and the second story a window opening.

The north elevation of the ell on the first story has a window opening to the east, and a door opening to the west. The second story has a window opening to the east with nothing in the west bay. The ell originally had a shed-roof porch that was one story and was two-bays wide. The ghost of the profile of this porch can be seen on the east elevation of the main block. The east elevation of the ell has German siding and no openings. The south elevation of the ell also has German siding. The first story has a beaded-edge, vertical-board door set to the west that is now boarded over. The east bay has a former 6/6 sash set in a plain frame. The second story has nothing in the west bay. The east bay has a window opening with a plain frame. There is a wood-boxed cornice with returns and an interior brick chimney on the east end.

The south elevation of the main block has stone stairs that lead down to a doorway in the east bay for the foundation. This doorway has a vertical-board door. On the first story, is a former 6/6 double-hung sash set west of center. It has a typical architrave. The second story has no openings. The gable end has a boarded-up opening and has weatherboard siding.

There is a cellar under the main block of the house. The walls are plastered. The joists are hewn on top and bottom, and rest on top of a one-inch-wide board set on the foundation wall. The joists run east-west and are 5½ to 7 inches deep by 7 to 9 inches wide. They are spaced 34 to 35 inches on centers, and are not connected to the log walls. There is a stone chimney buttress on the north elevation. The hearth is supported by boards that have one end resting on the masonry buttress and the other end supported by a nailer attached to the side of the closest joist. The floor above runs north-south throughout the whole building. The door to the cellar is on interior strap hinges.

The first story is divided into two rooms by a beaded-edge, random-width, vertical-board wall that runs east-west and is set north of the center entrance. The boards appear to alternate between having tongues on both sides and having grooves on both sides. The west door opens into the south room. It has a random-width floor that runs north-south and is face-nailed with cut nails. The level of this floor is lower than that in the north room by about the thickness of the boards. The walls are plastered over vertical lath that appears to be circular sawn and fastened with cut nails. The openings have an architrave with a cavetto backband that is applied, and a beaded interior edge. The door on the west elevation has the same architrave. It has two panels with sunk fields and applied, quirked Greek ogee panel moulds. It is hung on cast iron butt hinges. The lock is missing. The door has an earlier grained finish under later paint. The north wall of the vertical boards is covered with horizontal lath and plaster and has a baseboard of German siding. There is a large opening in this wall that is a later alteration. Earlier, there was an average-size door hung on butt hinges on this wall. The rest of the room has a baseboard with a beaded top edge. The ceiling is plastered.

In the north room the floor has random-width boards that run east-west. They are face-nailed with wrought nails. The ceiling and walls have had their lath and plaster removed. The joists are mill sawn and are 6½ to 7½ inches deep by 2¾ inches wide. They are spaced 23½ to 25 inches on centers. There is a brick fireplace centered on the north wall. It is shallow, has splayed jambs, and has a metal lintel. There is a brick hearth, and there is no mantel now. The fireplace is whitewashed. The east wall has a doorway to the outside that appears to be an original opening. There is an enclosed winder stair in the northeast corner that has beaded-edge vertical boards. It had a door that was hung on cast iron butt hinges. The boards that enclose the stair alternate between having tongues with beads on both sides and grooves on both sides. The toenails in the board wall are not visible for inspection. Underneath the stair is plaster over both mill-sawn and circular-sawn lath that is attached with cut nails.

The second story is laid out on the same plan as the first story and is divided by a identical vertical-board wall with a door in it. The board wall is toenailed with cut nails. The doorway is set east of center and the door is hung on butt hinges. The second-story logs are exposed and have never been covered. The attic joists are also exposed, and always were. They are mill sawn, are 2½ by 6 inches and are spaced 23½ to 24½ inches on centers. In the north chamber there is a winder stair in the northeast corner that continues up to the attic. It is enclosed, as it is in the first story. The door to the attic has beaded-edge vertical boards with tongues on either side of one board and grooves on either side of the next board. The beads are run next to the tongues. The door is hung on cast iron butt hinges. The random-width floorboards vary from 5 to 7 inches wide and run north-south. They appear to have a tongue and groove on each board and are face-nailed with what appear

to be wrought iron nails. The baseboard has a beaded top edge and the architraves around the windows have a cavetto backband and a beaded interior edge. The south chamber has the same details and also a doorway to the addition.

The attic has a random-width floor with boards that alternate between having tongues on both sides and having grooves on both sides. The rafters are mill sawn and are 2½ to 3 inches wide by 3 to 3¼ inches deep. They are spaced 24 to 27 inches on centers. They have a half-lap and peg at the ridge. The rafters have sawn Roman numerals. They support lath and have diagonal lath wind braces. The rafter feet are cut off and are nailed to the end floorboard with one nail. The nail heads appear to be wrought.

The addition has only a crawl space. It is built of 2 x 4 construction with circular-sawn lath. The lath is fastened with cut nails. The baseboards throughout are of German siding and the architraves have a beaded interior edge. On the first story, the joists run north-south. They are mill sawn and are 2¾ inches wide by 5½ to 6 inches deep. The flooring is circular-sawn, tongue-and-groove pine that is 3½ inches wide, is wire nailed, and runs east-west. There is a doorway from the south room into the addition. The door is gone. The architrave for this doorway in the south room has only the beaded interior edge and is nailed with cut nails. Centered on the east elevation is a brick chimney and fireplace with straight plastered jambs and a simple wood mantel shelf. There is a winder stair in the southeast corner with two steps set below a beaded-edge, vertical-board door that is hung on cast iron butt hinges. There is a similar door underneath the stairs that leads to a closet. This door is now hung on new hinges, but originally had butt hinges. This room originally had 6/6 sash.

The second story in the addition has a plastered chimney on the east elevation, with a winder stair in the southeast corner. The random-width floor runs east-west. The rafters on the addition are mill sawn and are 2 inches wide by 3¾ inches deep. They are spaced 26 to 27 inches on centers, and are mitered at the ridge and fastened with cut nails.

8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-1408

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

Specific dates **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 Senseney Farm Tenant House is located on what was the Christian Senseney Farm in the early nineteenth century. The 1862 map shows two buildings in this general vicinity, one apparently a house occupied by D. Trump and the other a blacksmith shop probably operated by Trump. The 1877 atlas also seems to show the house and blacksmith shop and indicates that they were owned by John E. Senseney. According to the owner, Mrs. Knight, the house was occupied in the early twentieth century by the grandparents of Danny Jones. His grandfather was a blacksmith. The log house is in relatively good condition, despite being vacant, and has undergone few changes. The use of quirked moulding suggests a date after 1820, and log construction usually dates before 1860. The house is also significant for its connection with African-American history in Carroll County.

Geographic Organization: Piedmont
Chronological/Development Period: Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870; Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
Historic Period Themes: Architecture, Social
Resource Types: Rural vernacular, African-American Tenant House

The Senseney Farm Tenant House is located on what was the Christian Senseney Farm in the early nineteenth century. It apparently passed to his son, Washington Senseney, before 1837 and he, in turn, sold it to his son, John E. Senseney, though a deed was never recorded. Washington Senseney's will of 1868 clarifies this. John, in turn, bequeathed the farm to his son, G. Ernest Senseney after his death in 1921. The farm remains in the family to this day. The records make no mention of the tenant house on the property. The 1862 map shows two buildings in this general vicinity, one apparently a house occupied by D. Trump and the other a blacksmith shop probably operated by Trump. The 1877 atlas also seems to show the house and blacksmith shop and indicates that they were owned by John E. Senseney. According to the owner, Mrs. Knight, the house was occupied in the early twentieth century by the grandparents of Danny Jones. Mr. Jones came to live with them after his parents died in 1918 in the influenza epidemic. His grandfather was a blacksmith.

The log house is in relatively good condition despite being vacant, and has undergone few changes. Most of the rooms have exposed logs, as they originally had, while one room has been plastered. The first-story vertical-board wall has been altered, but in general the house gives a very clear view of a typical small log home before the Civil War. The use of quirked mouldings suggests a date after 1820, and log construction usually dates before 1860. Unfortunately, there is little more to help narrow down the date of construction. The house is also significant for its connection with African-American history in Carroll County, at least early in this century. The possibility that earlier blacksmiths were also black deserves further investigation.

KS/lc:5-4-95:CARR1408.sig

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CARR-1408

Land Records
1862, 1877, 1917 maps
Tax assessments 1841, 1852, 1866, 1866-76, 1876, 1876-96

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1 acre

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** June 16, 1995

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

city or town Westminster **state** MD

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-1408
Senseney Farm Tenant House
McKinstry's Mill Road

CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR	HOME COUNTY	GRANTEE	HOME COUNTY	DATE	LIBER	FOLIO	TRANS-ACTION	COMMENTS
Louise K. Knight	?	Louise K. & William I.C. Knight	?	2-19-1988	LWS 1070	18	Deed fee simple	$0 (1) 10 acres (2) 3 acres (3) 3 acres (4) 126½ acres
David E. Kartalia E. Ronald Comfort, trustees	?	Louise K. Knight	?	9-22-1987	LWS 1059	568	Deed fee simple	Circuit Court, 11-5-1986, Elizabeth Roop Crout, etal v. Louise C. Knight (4) 126½ acres on road from Linwood to McKinstry Mills
G. Ernest Senseney	near Linwood	Annie M. Senseney (life interest) then to children of niece Edith Pfouts Roop	?	Oct. 1942	Wills HGB 15	352	Bequest fee simple	126-acre farm approx. 1 mile south of Linwood - inherited from father and mother to wife, Annie, for life, then to children of niece (4)
John E. Senseney	Carroll	G. Ernest Senseney (son)		7-7-1917 10-3-1921	Wills WA 12	420	Bequest	126-acre home farm received from father, Washington Senseney, by will 12-9-1868, must pay $1,600

CARR-1408
Senseney Farm Tenant House
McKinstry's Mill Road

CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR	HOME COUNTY	GRANTEE	HOME COUNTY	DATE	LIBER	FOLIO	TRANS-ACTION	COMMENTS
Washington Senseney	Carroll	John E. Senseney	?	12-9-1868 1-5-1869	Wills JMP 3	595	Bequest fee simple	lives at Linwood Station 146-acre (old) home farm already sold to John E. (son) formerly belonged to father, Christian Senseney, pay $1,000 per year for 10 years to other children of Washington
								Christian Senseney died intestate or before 1837 - no administration [no previous reference][not sold in Carroll County]

KS/lc:5-4-95:1408titl.ks

CARR-1408

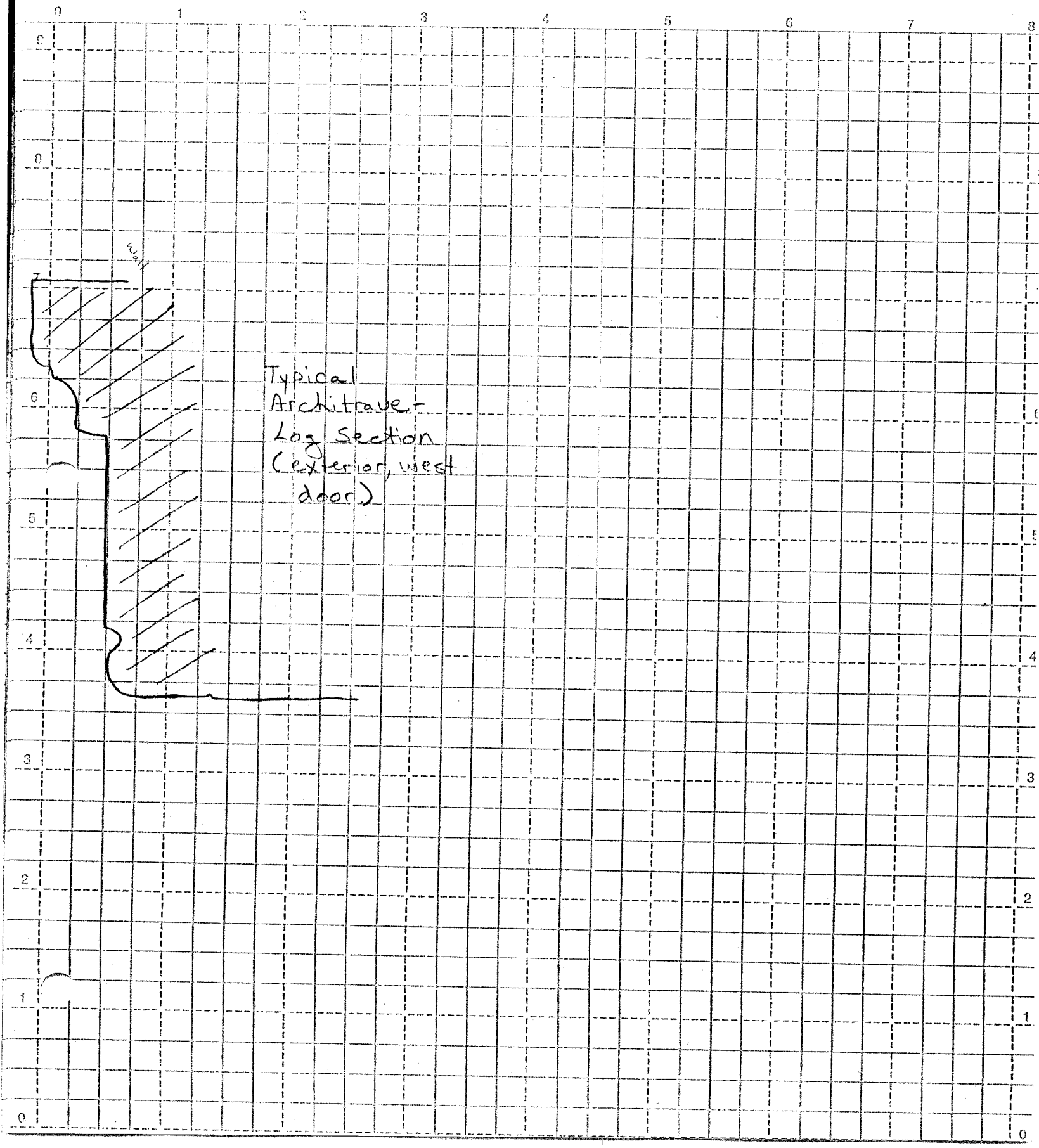
PAGE NO. 1/1

McKinstry Mill Rd - nr. Priestland

Moulding Profile

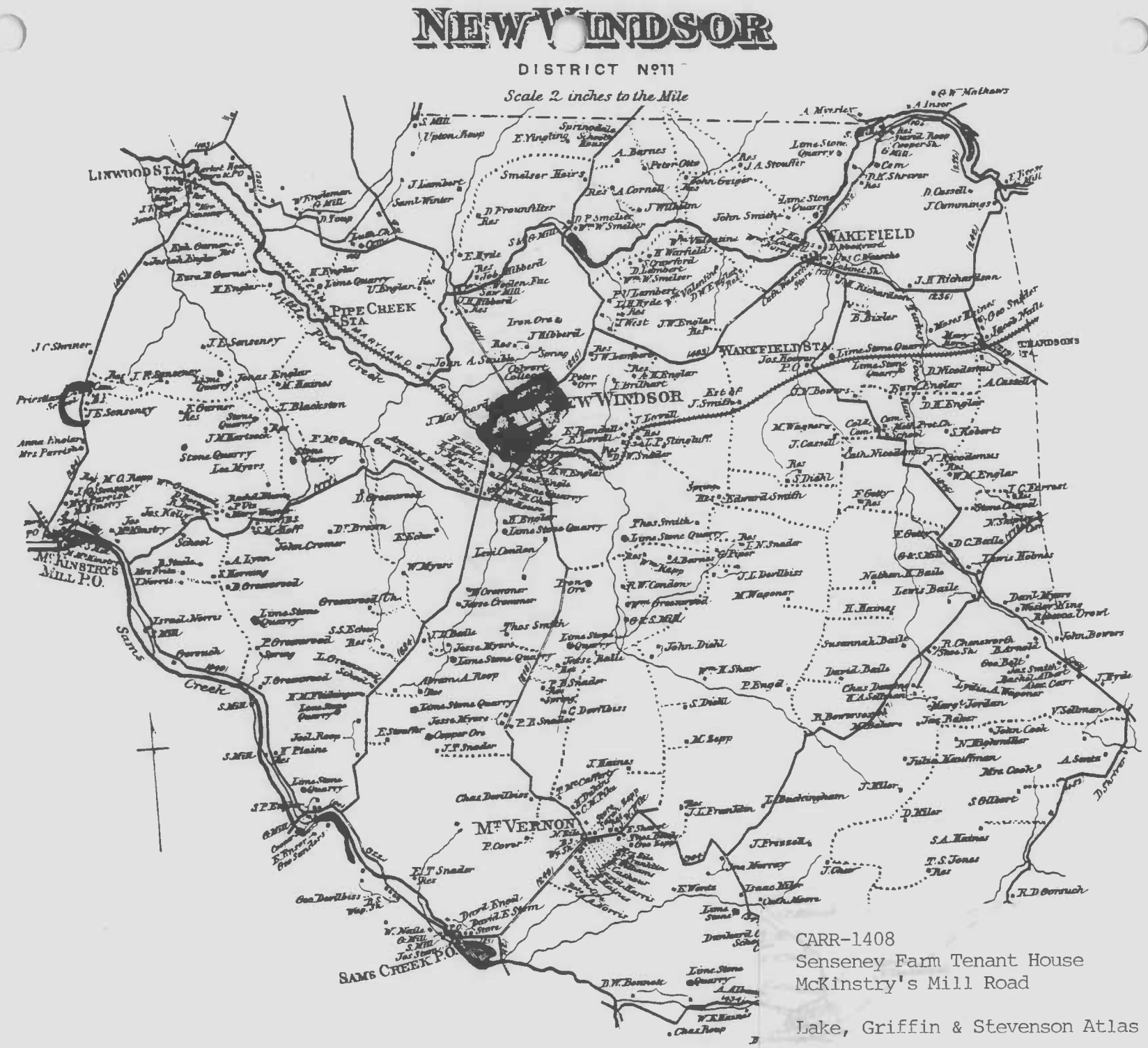
PREPARED BY: KMS

DATE: 8 Oct. '94



CARR-1408
Senseney Farm Tenant House
McKinstry's Mill Road

Martenet Map, 1862

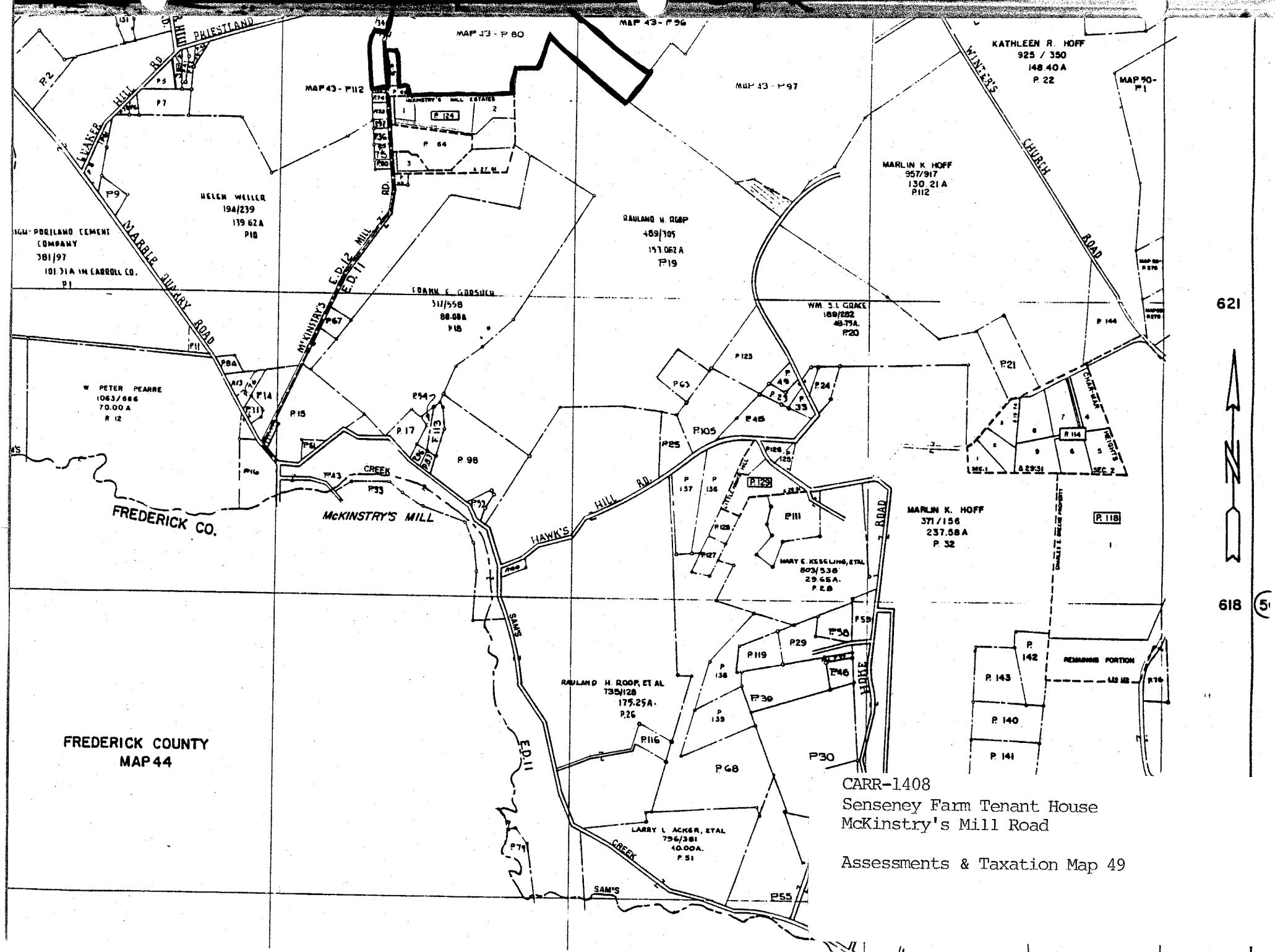


CARR-1408
Senseney Farm Tenant House
McKinstry's Mill Road

Lake, Griffin & Stevenson Atlas 1877

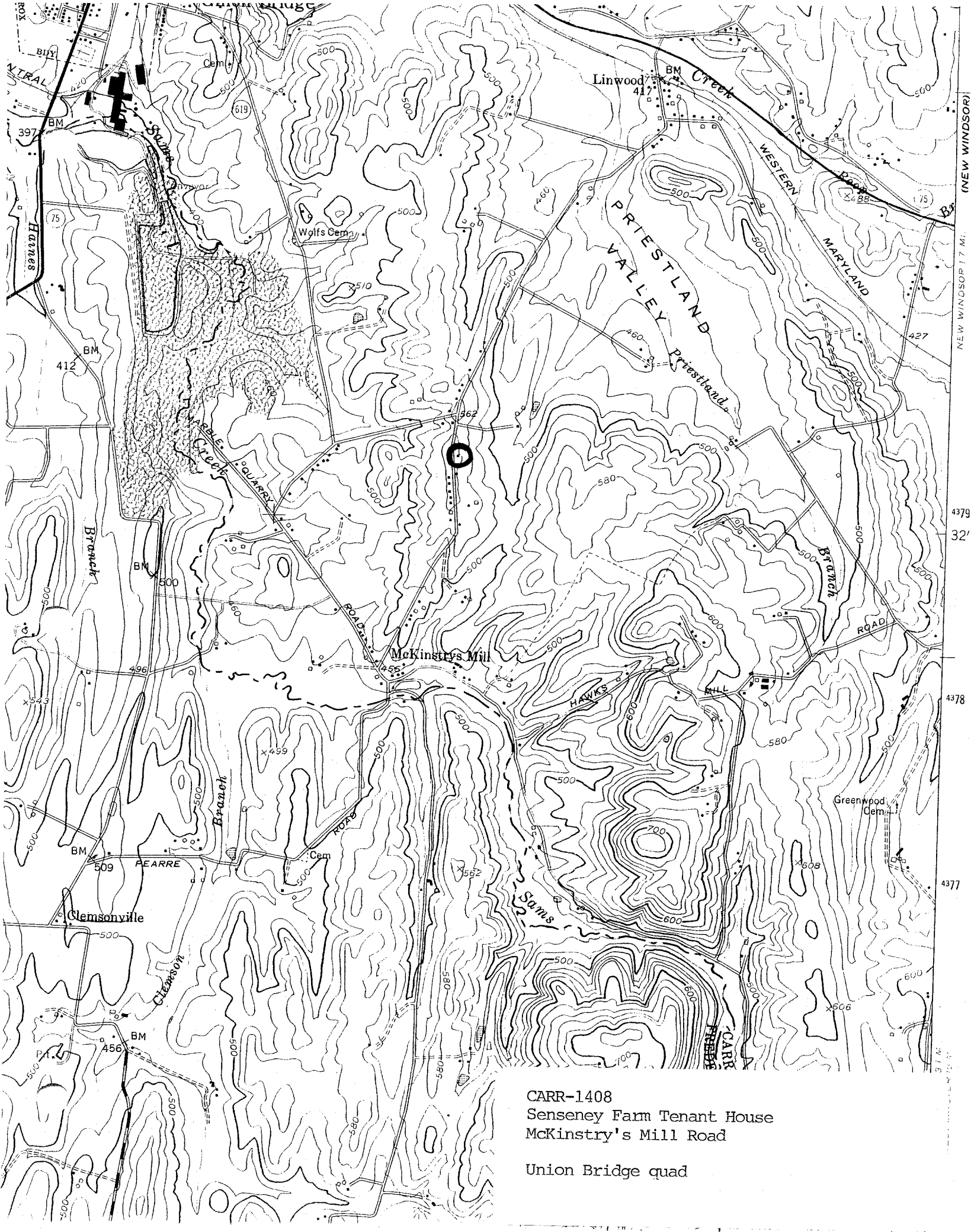
CARR-1408
Senseney Farm Tenant House
McKinstry's Mill Road

Rand McNally Map 1917



CARR-1408
Senseney Farm Tenant House
McKinstry's Mill Road

Assessments & Taxation Map 49



CARR-1408
Senseney Farm Tenant House
McKinstry's Mill Road

Union Bridge quad

CARR-1408

Senseney Farm Tenant House

McKinstry Mill Rd.

Carroll County, Maryland

Photo: Kenneth M. Short

Date: Oct. 1994

Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust

west and south elevs.

1/3

CARR-1408

Senseney Farm Tenant House
McKinstry Mill Rd.
Carroll County, Maryland
Photo: Kenneth M. Short
Date: Oct. 1994
Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
East and north elevs.
2/3

CARR-1408

Sensenay Farm Tenant House
McKinstry Mill Rd.
Carroll County, Maryland
Photo: Kenneth M. Short
Date: Oct. 1994
Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
Interior- 1st story, view north
3/3