F-1-198
Waters-Thomas Farmstead
Adamstown vicinity
Private

Ca. 1850-1900

The Waters-Thomas Farmstead centers on a two-story brick dwelling built about 1850 with Italianate details in its elaborate one-story porch featuring scroll brackets and pendants, and the dentil cornice, extended eaves, and segmental brick arches with articulated "keystone" coursing. The house has a remarkably complete scroll-sawn balustrade on the rear wing porch and a patterned slate roof. The other contributing buildings are a frame and stone bank barn of about 1875-1900 and a wagon shed/corn crib of about 1900. The farm was established about 1846-1850 by Baker Waters with the house oriented toward the New Design Road which was incomplete at that date, but anticipated by many farmers along its length. Access to the farm in the earliest years was from Buckeystown Pike. In 1878, it was sold to George Thomas of Henry who settled two equal 185-acre parts of it on two of his sons, the southern part being willed to Curtis W. Thomas and the northern to Samuel C. Thomas (see F-1-197). The Thomas family retains ownership to the present. The farmstead is significant for the architecture of the main dwelling, a typically German building in form, but with the Italianate decoration which was one of the dominant national styles of the period 1840-1870.

F-1-198
Waters-Thomas Farmstead
Adamstown
Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont
(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Crederick, Howard, Montgomery Counties, and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Period:
Agricultural-Industrial Transition, A.D. 1870-1930
Industrial/Urban Dominance, A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes
Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning

Resource Types:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use:
Domestic/single dwelling/residence
Agriculture/subsistence/animal facility/barn
Agriculture/subsistence/storage/granary

Known Design Source: None

M103 P45

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. F-1-198

Magi No.

DOE ___yes x no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Waters-Thomas Farmstead

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 2313 New Design Road ___ not for publication

city, town Adamstown x vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Frederick

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 Clyde A. Thomas et al c/o Raymond L. Thomas

street & number W. 2nd Street telephone no.:

city, town Frederick state and zip code MD 21701

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber 1325

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street folio 142

city, town Frederick state MD 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. F-1-198

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.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 3

The Waters-Thomas Farmstead is centered on a two-story brick dwelling with Italianate details built about 1850 and two contributing agricultural outbuildings, a frame wagon shed/corn crib and a frame and stone bank barn, both built about 1890-1900. Several non-contributing agricultural buildings and structures surround the two agricultural outbuildings. The farmstead is a working dairy farm and residence located on the west side of New Design Road just northeast of the Mountville-Oland Road intersection near Adamstown, Frederick County, Maryland. The farmstead is sited in almost flat, open agricultural land and is visible from all directions, including Buckeystown Pike (Md. 85) to the east. In the mid-19th century, prior to the opening of New Design Road as a continuous road, access to the farmstead was from the east off Buckeystown Pike. It is possible that the western orientation of the house resulted from anticipation of the opening of the "new designed road" along the western boundary of the farm. The dates of the buildings were based on the architecture, land records, and historical maps.

The house's exterior walls are laid in 6:1 American bond and the west elevation has five bays with a one-story porch over the center three bays. A two-story rear wing with a two-story open porch on the south side extends from the northeast corner. The gable roof is covered with patterned slate and the cornice has a dentil molding and returns on the gable ends. The eaves are extended slightly. Interior chimneys are located at the north and south ends. The window and door openings on the west elevation have segmental brick arches with enlarged and slightly projecting center bricks, in imitation of a keystone. The first story windows on the west are floor to ceiling in height and have louvred shutters with 1/1 sash. The center entrance has a two-light arched transom and sidelights surrounding double doors with arched moldings. The porch has chamfered square piers, scroll brackets, and pendants. The deck is wood, supported on brick piers. The raised foundation is fieldstone. The north elevation has only two 2/2 attic windows flanking the chimney stack and the south elevation has a single bay at the rear of the house. The east elevation of the main section has no windows, but doors open from the front section on both levels of the two-story porch on the wing. The porch has a scroll-sawn balustrade on the upper level and brackets on the slender posts. The first story balustrade is probably a replacement of the original, having plain square balusters. The north side of the wing has a one-story porch, which is partially enclosed. Window and door openings in the wing have flat arches. The interior of the house was inaccessible for this survey.

Wagon shed/corn crib: The wagon shed is located southeast of the dwelling and faces west with a corrugated metal roof. The vertical siding on the west elevation continues on the side elevations of the cribs. A tongue-and-groove sliding door on the west elevation and a partial infill of the original opening has left a squared doorway on this elevation. A later one-story shed with an open side on the south was added to the wagon shed in the mid-20th century. The wagon shed was probably built about 1890-1900.

8. Significance

Survey No. F-1-198

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	___ 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 C. 1850-1900 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: ___A ___B x C ___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.

The Waters-Thomas Farmstead is moderately significant for the architecture of the dwelling, a traditional German building form with a five-bay facade and a perpendicular rear wing, but with certain Italianate details which date it in the mid-19th century. These include the "keystone" articulation of the segmental window arches, the dentil cornice, the scrolled brackets and pendants of the west elevation porch, and the extended eaves. In addition, the house has its original slate roof and a complete scroll-sawn balustrade on the rear wing porch. These features are among the most frequently altered in houses of the same period. The barn retains much of its traditional German form, in particular in the materials enclosing the lower level on the east. The wagon shed is of minimal significance, having been the most altered of the three contributing structures. The farm was established about 1846 by Baker Waters, with access to the farmstead from Buckeystown Pike, as shown on the 1858 and 1873 maps, since New Design Road had been only partially opened by 1858. The western orientation of the house may be the result of the anticipated completion of the new road flanking the farm on the west. In 1878, George Thomas of Henry bought the Waters farm, which encompassed 368 acres. His son John Franklin Thomas laid out a straight division line, cutting the farm into two equal 185-acre farms, which George Thomas eventually passed on to two other sons, the southern farm being devised in his 1879 will to Curtis W. Thomas and the northern farm to Samuel C. Thomas (see F-1-197). Several generations of the Thomas family have owned the property and still retain it as a rental property.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. F-1-198

Bond, Isaac. Map of Frederick County, 1858.
Land Records of Frederick County
Titus, C.O. Atlas of Frederick County, 1873.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 5 acres

Quadrangle name Buckeystown, Md. **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

Approximately 5 acres centered on the main dwelling on Tax Map 103, Parcel 45

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 Janet L. Davis, Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Frederick County Planning & Zoning Dept. **date** July 1993

street & number 12 E. Church Street **telephone** 696-2958

city or town Frederick **state** MD 21701

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

7.1 Description (Continued)

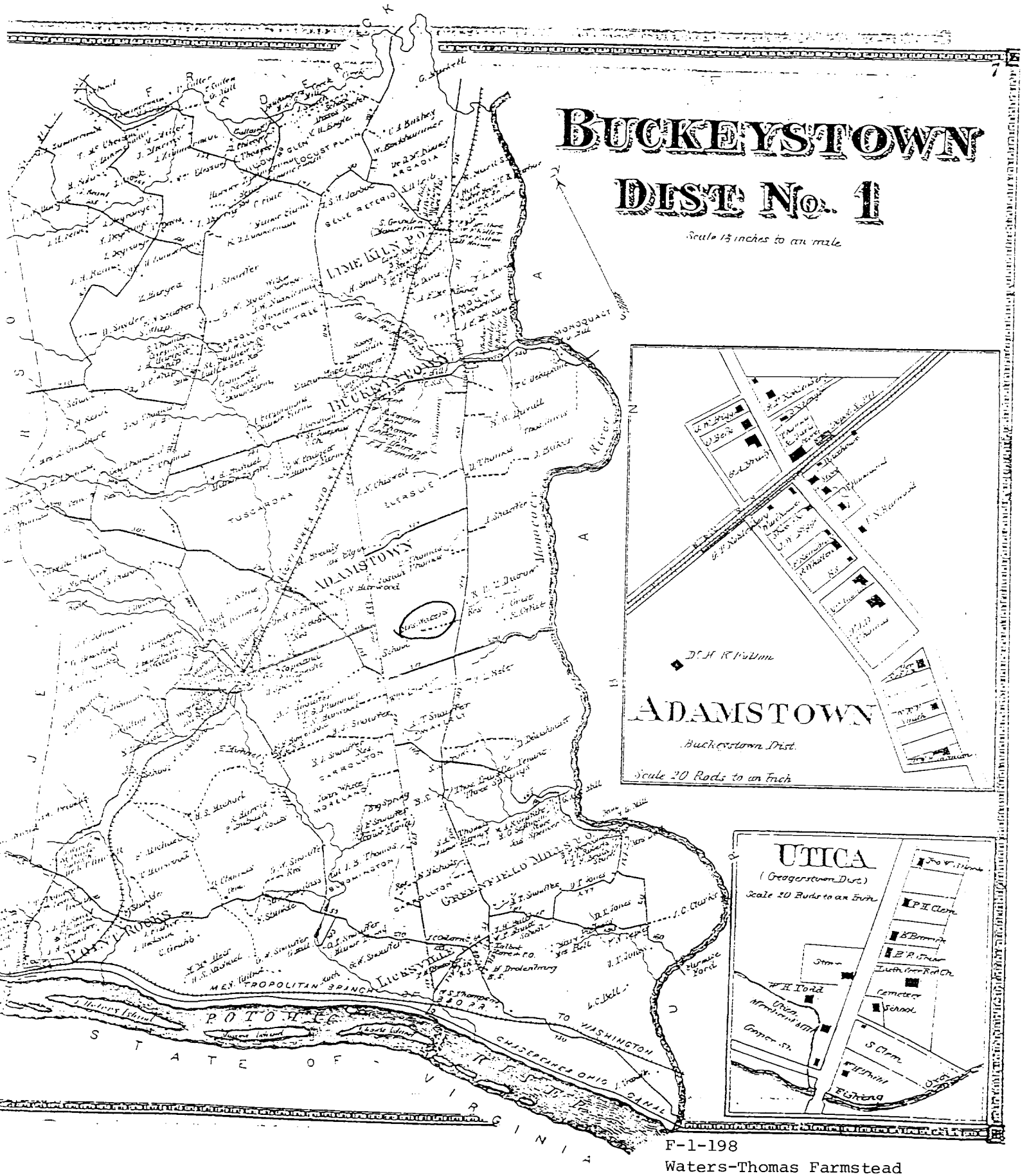
Bank barn: The frame bank barn is located east of the wagon shed with the ramp to the barn floor on the west elevation and the forebay on the east elevation. The barn has vertical siding with louvred arched vents. The roof is corrugated metal. The sliding doors on the west are also covered with corrugated metal. The interior framing members have circular saw marks, indicating that the barn was probably built in the last quarter of the 19th century. A dated stone near the northeast corner of the foundation reads "GWB 1927". This may refer to a major refurbishing in which part of the stall area was enclosed for dairy use. The stall level has a stone half wall with wood horizontal bars above. Currently a separate modern non-contributing concrete block dairy barn is being used for milking.

2313 New Design Rd.

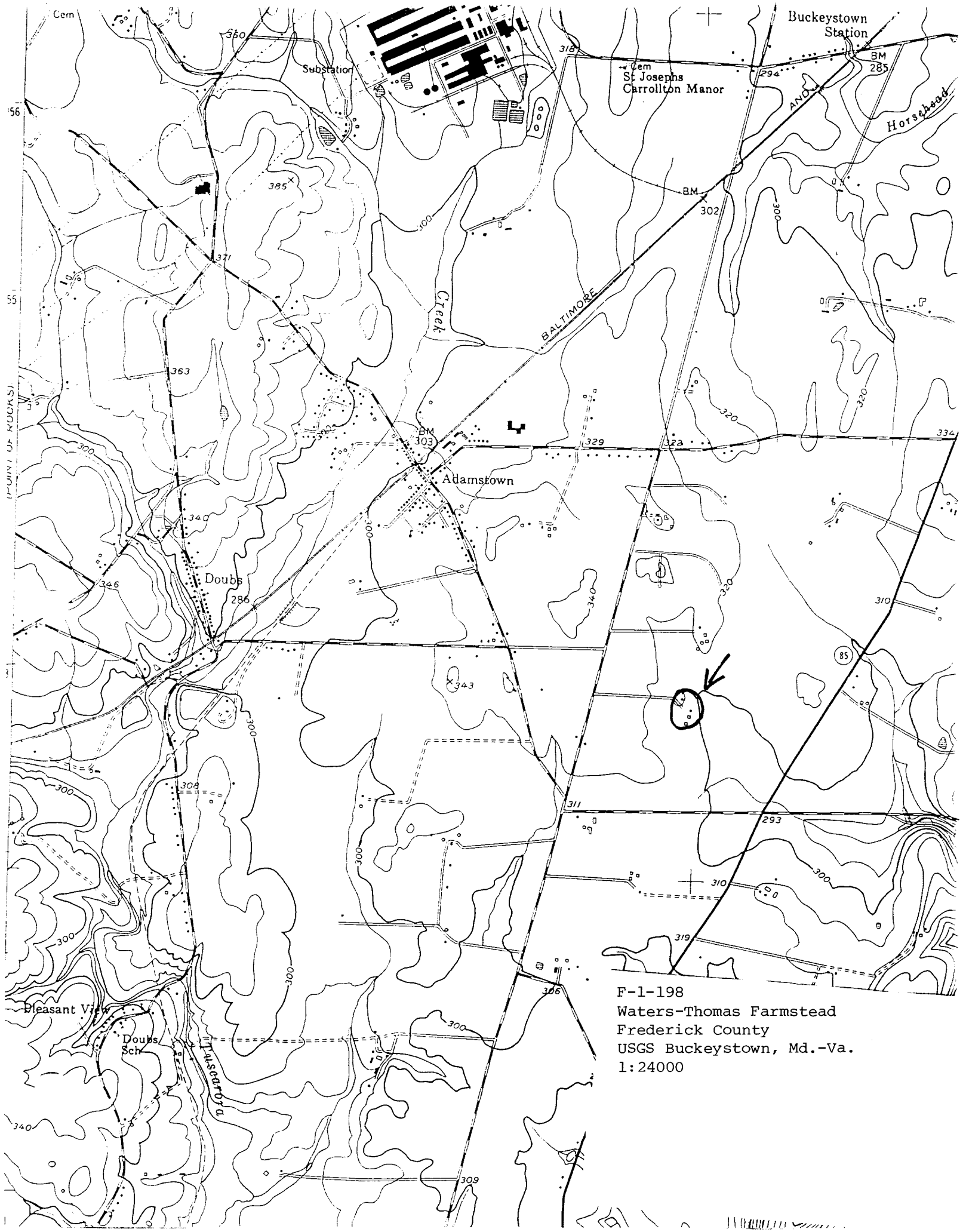
Liber/Folio	Grantee	Grantor	Lot Size, Description, Other Information, Original Tracts	Cost	Miscellaneous
1325/142 26 Feb 86	Clyde A., Raymond L. Thomas, Myrtle L. Painter & Lucille C. Sykes	Clyde A. & Raymond L. Thomas pers. reps. of estate of Kate C. Thomas, et al	185 a. (children & surviving heirs of Lee C. & Kate C. Thomas)		
374/436 14 June 30	Lee C. Thomas	G. Leicester Thomas & Lee C. Thomas, execs of LWT of Curtis N. Thomas	185 a et al		Described in will Record JPP 1/411 George Thomas of H.
Will Record JPP 1/411 29 Jul 1879	Curtis N. Thomas	George Thomas of H.	II Northern Half of farm 185 a. recently purchased from Mrs. Washington Waters to Samuel C. Thomas conveyed to George Thomas by TG 9/188 lying north of divisional line located by son John Franklin Thomas equally dividing farm bought from Mrs Waters. J. C. Thomas to pay $70 peace. (See 2507 New Design, F-1-197) III. to Curtis N. Thomas: the southern half of the said Waters farm 185 a. at $70/acre part of Lot #4, one of the Grand Divisions of Carrollton Manor	$25,000	368 a., reserving rights to growing wheat crop
TG 9/188 2 Apr 1878	George Thomas of H.	Washington & Ellen M. Waters			
WBT 3/4 1 May 1846	Baker Waters	William M. Beall, trustee			

F-1-198

F-1-198
Waters-Thomas Farmstead
Frederick County
Isaac Bond, Map of Frederick County, 1858



F-1-198
Waters-Thomas Farmstead
Frederick County
C.O. Titus, Atlas of Frederick County, 1873



F-1-198
Waters-Thomas Farmstead
Frederick County
USGS Buckeystown, Md.-Va.
1:24000

F-1-198
Waters-Thomas Farmstead
Frederick County
Photo: Janet Davis
July 1993
Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md
Northwest corner view
1/4

F-1-178
Waters-Thomas Farmstead
Frederick County
Photo: Janet Davis
July 1993
Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.
Southeast corner view
2/4

F-1-198
Waters-Thomas Farmstead
Frederick County
Photo: Janet Davis
July 1993
Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.
Wagon shed/corn crib, west elevation
3/4

F-1-198
Waters-Thomas Farmstead
Frederick County
Photo: Janet Davis
July 1993
Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.
Bank barn, northeast corner view
4/4