

## CAPSULE SUMMARY

F-1-208

Keefer-Markell Farmstead

Lime Kiln vicinity

Private

Ca. 1840-1920

The Keefer-Markell Farmstead is centered on a brick dwelling built in two main stages, the front four-bay section dating from about 1840 and the rear wing built about 1860. The house has been much altered on the exterior by sandblasting, a two-story addition, and an enclosed sun porch, all added in 1953-1954. Two entry porches on the east and south elevations also date from the 1950's. The house has two stone outbuildings from the 1840's, a smokehouse and a springhouse. A brick shed-roofed building near the wing may have been built in the 1860's as a meathouse or dairy. The frame bank barn and a horse barn, along with a wagon shed, date from the early 20th century. The original section of the house was probably built by Henry Keefer, who had a 223-acre resurvey made in 1839, named "Keefer's Prospect". James Finney owned the farm from 1850 to about 1862 and George Markell and his heirs from 1863 to 1910. During much of its existence, the farm has been worked as a tenant property for the owners, whose principal residences were elsewhere in the Lime Kiln-Buckeystown vicinity. Because of its considerable alteration in the 1950's, the house has minimal architectural significance, but still reveals features which illustrate the building periods of the mid-19th century. The stone outbuildings are good examples of their type.

F-1-208  
Keefer-Markell Farmstead  
Lime Kiln  
Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

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

Chronological/Development Period:  
Agricultural-Industrial Transition, A.D. 1815-1870  
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  
Domestic/secondary structure/smokehouse  
Domestic/secondary structure/other dependencies  
Agriculture/Subsistence/animal facility/barn

Known Design Source: None

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Keefer--Markell Farmstead

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 4944 Buckeystown Pike

not for publication

city, town Lime Kiln

vicinity of

congressional district 6th

state Maryland

county Frederick

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Westview South Associates Limited Partnership

street & number c/o J.F. Forstmann Co, Inc.

telephone no.:

5215 Chairmans Court-Stone House

city, town Frederick

state and zip code MD 21701

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse

liber 1482

street & number 100 W. Patrick St.

folio 244

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-1-208

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<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 of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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

## SECTION 7: Description:

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 6

The Keefer-Markell Farmstead is centered on a two-story brick dwelling built about 1840 on the south side of Ballenger Creek about 1/4 mile west of Buckeystown Pike (Md. 85), near Lime Kiln, Frederick County, Maryland. The rear wing of the house appears to have been added in the 1850's or 1860's, having segmental arched openings. In the 1950's, the house was extensively altered and remodeled, the exterior sandblasted, and a two-story addition made to the north elevation. The outbuildings include a stone smokehouse and a stone springhouse, both dating from about 1840, a shed-roofed brick outbuilding possibly built as a dairy or meathouse, about 1860, a frame bank barn of about 1900-1910, a wagon shed of the same period, and a second barn of the English type, currently used as a horse barn. The farmstead is reached by a driveway off Md. 85 crossing Ballenger Creek just east of the house. Dates of the buildings are based on architectural details, historical maps, and land records.

The earliest section of the house is a two-story brick structure with four bays on the east elevation. The 5:1 American bond walls have been sandblasted. The current owner, Mr. Alden Fisher, has photographs of the condition of the house in the early 1950's. Most of the deteriorated exterior features were removed, including windows and shutters. The composition roof is also a replacement of the standing seam metal roof extant in 1953. The window and door openings have gauged flat arches. The entrance is in the south inner bay and has a 1953 gable-roofed entry porch. Mr. Fisher says the deteriorated earlier porch covered the entire first story and had turned columns. The door is a 1950's replacement and a three-light transom tops the opening. The 6/6 windows are also replacements, as are the solid raised panel wood shutters. Interior end chimneys are at the north and south gable ends. The south elevation has a single off-center bay with segmental arches, a detail indicating that it was added about 1860, probably at the same time the wing was added, which has the same type of arches. The north gable end of the house is adjoined by the 1953 two-story brick addition. The rear wing extends from the southwest corner of the circa 1840 section. Although there is no clearly discernible seam between the wing and the main section, the brick is a darker color than the front section and the presence of the segmental arches indicates its later date, possibly about 1860. The sash is 6/6 and the shutters are louvred. A 1953 entry porch is over the south elevation entrance to the wing. One opening on the first story has been filled in with brick. An interior chimney rises above the roof of the wing. On the north side of the wing is a one-story enclosed porch with screens and jalousie windows added in 1953.

The interior of the house had a two room plan originally, but the dividing partition wall was removed in the 1953 remodeling. A vernacular wood mantel of the first quarter of the 19th century on the north end of the room is not original to the house, having been installed in the 1950's. It is, however, a good representative of its type. The original mantels were removed in the remodeling.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. F-1-208

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 checked="" 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** c.1840-1920 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or

Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

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

**SECTION 8: Significance:**

The Keefer-Markell Farmstead is minimally significant for the architecture of the dwelling, built in two main stages, about 1840 and about 1860, which are defined by differences in brickmasonry and window arch type. The house was extensively altered and sandblasted in the 1950's, with additions to the north elevation and the rear wing and considerable interior plan changes. The stone smokehouse and springhouse are good examples of their type and period, having little alteration evident on the exteriors. The house was probably built by Henry Keefer in the 1840's, the tract "Keefer's Prospect" having been surveyed for 223 acres in 1839. Keefer had a mill nearby on Ballenger Creek. A son or grandson, Michael Keefer, later owned the nearby estate "Arcadia", a National Register site on Md. 85 (F-1-172). From 1850 to about 1862, the farm was the property of James Finney and was purchased by George Markell in 1863. The Markell principal residence was north of Ballenger Creek on the east side of Buckeystown Pike. During the family's ownership, until 1910, it was probably a tenant house. From 1910 to 1953, it was one of several farms owned by the Baker brothers, the most prominent landowners in the Buckeystown vicinity in the early 20th century. The rear wing was probably the work of George Markell and the present barns were apparently built during the Baker brothers ownership.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. F-1-208

Bond, Isaac, Map of Frederick County, 1858.  
Grove, William J., History of Carrollton Manor, Frederick: Marken & Bielfeld, Inc. 1928; 66.  
Land Records of Frederick County.  
Titus, C.O. Atlas of Frederick County, 1873.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 10 acres  
Quadrangle name Buckeystown, Maryland-Virginia Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

**Verbal boundary description and justification**  
Approximately 10 acres centered near the main dwelling on Tax Map 86, Parcel 3.

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

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janet L. Davis, Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Frederick County Planning & Zoning Dept. date August 1993

street & number 12 E. Church St. 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/DHOD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
514-7600

7.1 DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Domestic outbuildings:

Smokehouse: The stone smokehouse is located north of the house and currently serves as a garden shed. It has a generally square plan with a hipped wood shingle roof topped by a modern rooster ornament. The vertical board door is located in the south elevation. Just below the eaves of each elevation are vertical slits, the smoke escape holes. The interior of the smokehouse has an interior loft with wood steps at the southwest corner. The smokehouse dates from the 1840's.

Springhouse: The stone springhouse is located in a field northwest of the house at the base of a large tree. Although not closely observed, the building has a vertical board door on the south elevation and a corrugated metal gable roof. A boarded opening is on the northeast gable end. The interior was not observed, but similar outbuildings seen throughout Frederick County have a trough in the floor through which the spring, located either inside or just outside the foundation, flows to an escape hole on the lower side of the building. The spring does not appear to be active, as no wet ground is visible on the northeast side, where water would be expected to flow toward Ballenger Creek. The springhouse also dates from about 1840.

Brick outbuilding: The one-story brick outbuilding located immediately southwest of the rear wing of the house may have been built about 1860 as a dairy or a meathouse. It has a filled-in doorway on the north side with a wood lintel still in place and a standing seam metal shed roof sloping toward the north. A modern doorway is on the east side. The building has been most recently used as a dog kennel. Its interior is plastered.

Bank barn and wagon shed: The bank barn is located about 100 yards southwest of the domestic group. It has a stone foundation and german siding on the upper structure. Its height is somewhat lower than the usual early or mid 19th century bank barn, which, with the german siding, indicates that it was probably built about 1900-1910. It has rectangular louvred vents and a standing seam metal roof. A non-contributing loafing shed adjoins the barn at a right angle near the southeast end of the barn. The wagon shed is located west of the barn and has vertical siding and a standing seam roof. It does not have corn cribs flanking the drive through, suggesting that it may date from the 1920's, when corn may have been stored in other structures in the farmstead.

Horse barn: The frame horse barn is located east of the bank barn. It has vertical siding and a standing seam roof. A one-story shed is attached to the south gable end of the barn. A single sliding door is visible near the northeast corner. Sliding doors are also on the east elevation. The barn was probably built about 1900-1910.

494<sup>1/2</sup> Buckeystown Pike

Liber/Folio	Grantee	Grantor	Lot Size, Description, Other Information, Original Tracts	Cost	Miscellaneous
1482/244 20 Apr 88	Westnewcomb Assoc. Ltd. Partnership	Alden E. & Robert T. Fisher	203.755A.		
1183/247 3 Nov 82	Alden E. Fisher	Alden E. & Harriet K. Fisher	<del>510</del> 214 1/2A. <del>500</del> 510/402, 6 Jan 53		
906/600 22 Mar 73	Robert T. and Alden E. Fisher	George C. & Mellie Hall	19.03A.		
510/402 6 Jan 53	Alden E. & Harriet K. Fisher	Mary S Baker	214 1/2A		
494/107 18 May 51	Mary S. Baker	Mary S. Baker et al, trustees under will of Wm. S. Babcock, dec.	P. 2: 214A. known as the Markell farm		
296/388 7 Sept 10	Wm. S. Baker	Eugene Sponseller et al	214A.		
HWB 290/509 17 Mar 10	Eugene Sponseller	Elizabeth Markell			
STH 271/336 6 Oct 05	Elizabeth Markell	Edwin C. & J. Roger McSherry Admin. of estate of George Markell, dec.	4 tracts from "Acadia Mansion", "Keefer's Prospect", "Acadia Resurveyed", "Charles' Meadow" 213A. 2D. 14.8P.		
Will Record GH 1/498	George Markell	John Markell	"Acadia Mansion"		
BGF 7/696 26 Sept 1862	George Markell	James Finney et al	"Keefer's Prospect" resurveyed for Henry Keefer 17 Dec 1839	\$6,712.50	89 3/4 A. WBT 11/87, 19 Feb 1850

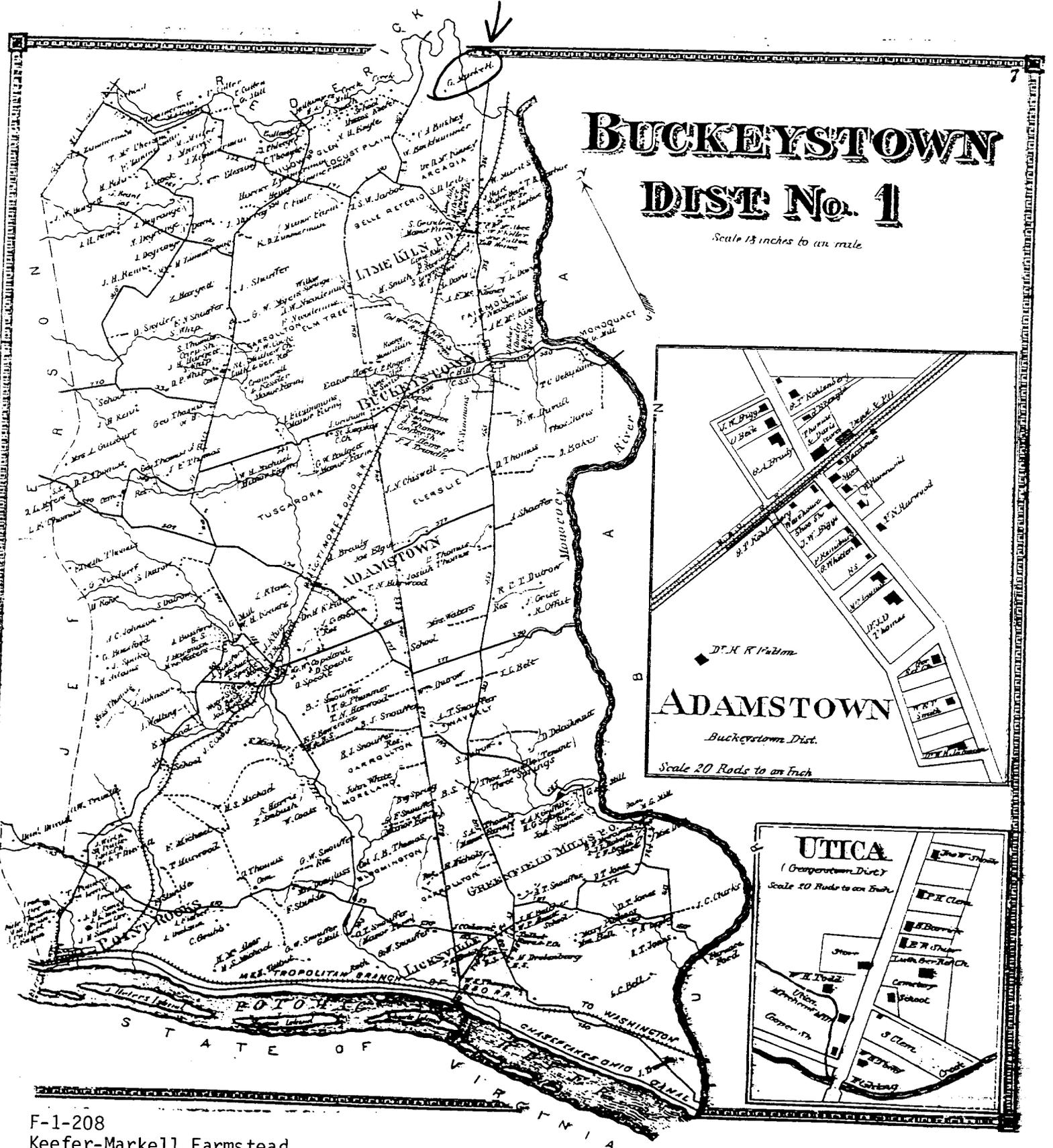
F-1-208

494 4 Buckeystown Pike p. 2

Liber/Folio	Grantee	Grantor	Lot Size, Description, Other Information, Original Tracts	Cost	Miscellaneous
BGF 8/306 21 Feb-1863	George Markell	R. H. Mc Hill	"Arcadia Resurveyed" 32A., 2R. 34p.	\$2,453.44	
WIP 1/506 23 Aug. 1886	George Markell	Christian A. Bushey	"Chance's Madley" 46A., 35.8p.	\$3,004.54	
WBT 11/87 19 Feb-1850	Charlotte Finney	Jacob & Michael Kefer, trustees in Equity cause	893/2 dated 12 <del>may</del> apr 1847, Jacob Kefer et al vs. James Finney et al	\$3,141.25	
Lurney Record THO 2/27 <del>18 Sept</del> 1839 17 Dec	Henry Kefer		223.2 A. "Kefer's Prospect"		

F-1-208





F-1-208  
 Keefer-Markell Farmstead  
 Frederick County  
 C.O. Titus, Atlas of Frederick County, 1873

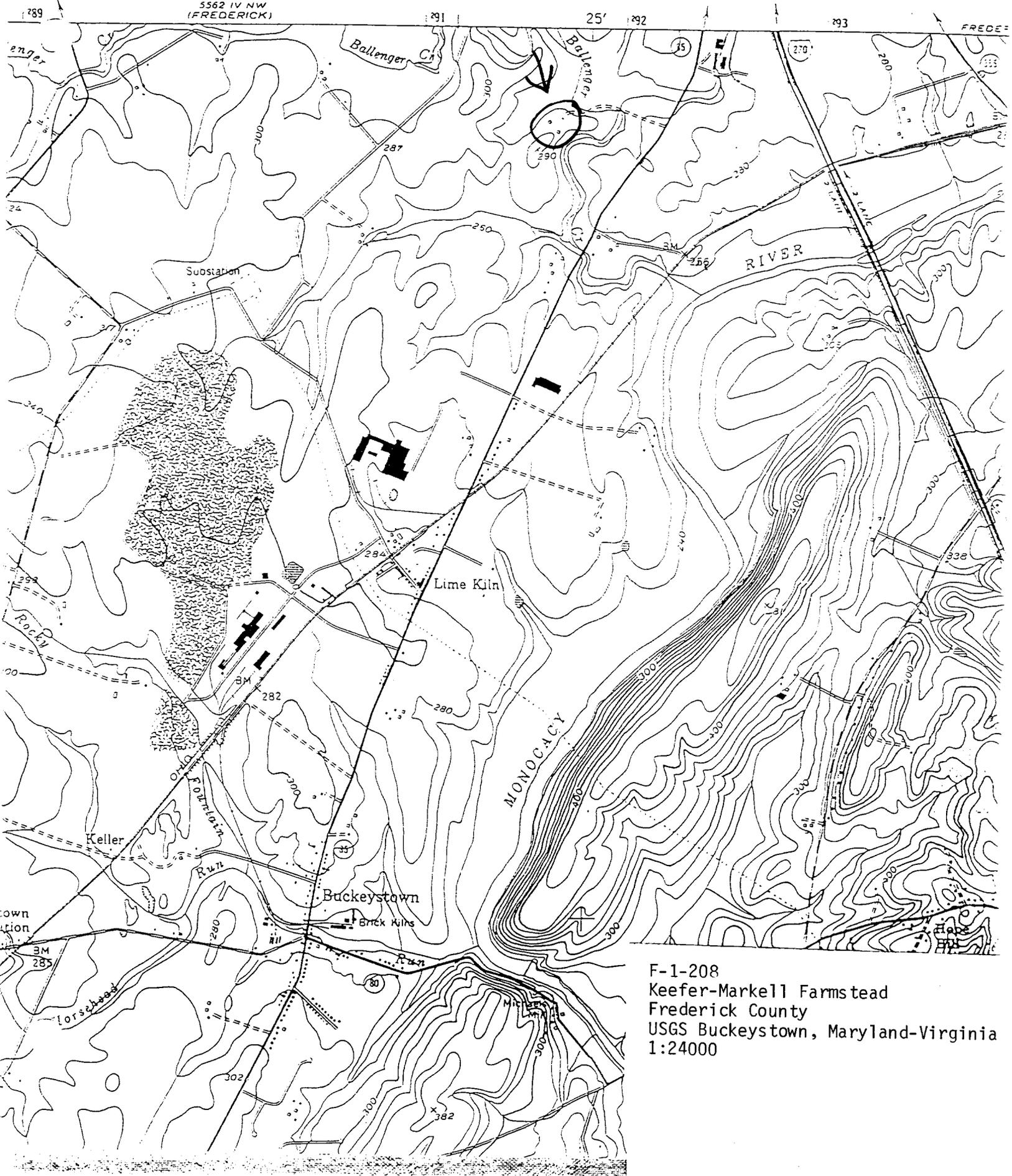
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS

HAGERSTOWN 25 MI.  
FREDERICK (JUNC. U.S. 40) 3.5 MI.

3.6 MI.  
S. 340

FREDERICK 3 MI.

5562 IV NW  
(FREDERICK)



F-1-208  
Keefer-Markell Farmstead  
Frederick County  
USGS Buckeystown, Maryland-Virginia  
1:24000



F-1-208

Keefe - Markell Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1993

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md

Southeast corner view

1/8



F-1-208

Keefe-Markell Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1993

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.

Northwest corner view

2/8



F-1-208

Keeler-Markell Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1993

Neg. loc.: Md. SH/PO, Crownsville, Md.

Early 19th century mantel of unknown  
origin installed in 1950's

3/8



F-1-208

Keefe-Markell Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1993

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md

Brick outbuilding, east elevation

4/8



F-1-208

Keefe-Markell Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1993

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.

Smokehouse, southeast corner view

5/8



F-1-208

Keefe-Markell Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1993

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.

Springhouse, southeast corner view from  
distance

6/8 .



F-1-208

Keefer-Morkell Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1993

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.

Bank barn, east elevation

7/8



F-1-208

Keefe-Markell Farmstead

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

July 1993

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md

Horse barn, northwest corner view

8/8