F-2-51
George Willard House
Jefferson vicinity
Private

1818

The George Willard House is a two-story brick house built in 1818 by George Willard, the owner of a tannery on the property which operated as early as 1798. It has a flemish bond facade on the south and a 1925 porch replacing an earlier entry porch. A goat shed, a frame dairy, a wagon shed, and a hog barn also exist, dating from the last quarter of the 19th century. The house is significant for the well-preserved form and interior trim at the doors and mantelpieces, which are typical of a rural farmhouse of the first quarter of the 19th century. The tannery may have been one of the earliest industries in the Jefferson area and the spring on the property, "New Freedom Spring" was intended to be used by lot owners in New Freedom, an addition to the town of Jefferson laid out in the early 1790's.

F-2-51
George Willard House
Jefferson
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:
Rural Agrarian Intensification, A.D. 1680-1815
Agricultural-Industrial Transition, A.D. 1815-1870

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

Resource Types:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use:
Domestic/single dwelling/ residence
Domestic/secondary structure/dairy
Domestic/secondary structure/other dependencies
Agriculture/Susbsistence/animal facility/barn

Known Design Source: None

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name: WILLARD, GEORGE, HOUSE

other names/site number: New Freedom Spring F-2-51

2. Location

street & number: 4804 Old Middletown Road N/A [ ] not for publication

city, town: Jefferson [X] vicinity

state: Maryland code MD county: Frederick code 021 zip code 21755

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property: Contributing	Noncontributing	
[X] private	[X] building(s)	1	3	buildings
[ ] public-local	[ ] district		3	sites
[ ] public-State	[ ] site		4	structures
[ ] public-Federal	[ ] structure		2	objects
	[ ] object	1	12	Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] nomination [ ] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [X] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official: STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER Date 6/16/93

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [ ] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

[ ] entered in the National Register.
[ ] See continuation sheet.

[ ] determined eligible for the National Register. [ ] See continuation sheet.

[ ] determined not eligible for the National Register.

[ ] removed from the National Register.

[ ] other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)
FEDERAL
GREEK REVIVAL

Materials (enter categories from instructions)
foundation LIMESTONE
walls BRICK
roof ASPHALT
other WOOD

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

The George Willard Farm, also known as New Freedom Spring, is a five-bay, brick, federal style house with a datestone bearing the year 1818. Two stories high with a gable roof, the house faces south toward the village of Jefferson in southern Frederick County. The facade is Flemish bond, and a two story wing projects from the back. On the interior, the house has a center passage, double pile plan with elaborately decorated Federal, and some later Greek Revival, woodwork and mantels. Once the center of a farm and tannery operation, the George Willard house now sits on an eleven acre tract overlooking a small farm pond. Also located on the property are a tenant house, several sheds, a garage, two concrete slabs, and some archaeological sites. The house is reached by a long drive leading off Old Middletown Road.

[X] See continuation sheet No. 1
For GENERAL DESCRIPTION

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
Architecture	c.1818–	c.1818
	c.1845	c.1845

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Significant Person: N/A

Architect/Builder: N/A

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The George Willard house is of architectural significance in a local context. Built about 1818 in the Federal manner with Greek Revival modifications made about 1845, the George Willard house represents the rural domestic architecture of the successful farmer in the first half of the nineteenth century in southern Frederick County, Maryland, a period of economic boom for the county. Typically, these houses were five bay, center passage, single or double pile structures. Though not a true double pile plan when built (originally three rooms flanked the central passage), the George Willard house is one of the grander examples of this type of house. The Federal mantels are bold in execution with two having large panels of reeded decoration, a delicate staircase with turned balusters rises to the third floor in the center passage, and the decorative interior trim is primarily of the two-step complex type. Willard was wealthy from farming and tanning activities. Enhancing the architectural character are the modifications made for Willard's son about 1845, when he acquired the property. Also wealthy, the son updated the house in a conservative manner typical of the area. The Federal mantels of the first floor public rooms were replaced with boldly executed Greek ones. The back first floor room on the east side was made a part of the front room when the opening between the two was significantly widened and hung with folding doors. The original facade-long porch was replaced with a Greek influenced porch which sheltered only the entrance. The house was now stylish for the area, but still reads as a Federal house.

☒ See continuation sheet No. 8

For HISTORIC CONTEXT and MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN data.

9. Major Bibliographical References

F-2-51

Beall, James. "New Freedom Spring," unpublished manuscript in possession of author, 1990.

Frederick County Land Records.

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties: Frederick County. Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, MD.

Rice, Millard Milburn. New Facts and Old Families. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1984.

☐ See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):
- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:
- ☒ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 10 acres

USGS Quad: Point of Rocks, MD

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	18	281300	436020
B	18	281300	436060
C	18	281080	436040
D	18	281050	436020

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

☒ See continuation sheet No. 15

Boundary Justification

The boundaries include the property as it now exists. Once the property consisted of a larger acreage than it now has. In 1988, the acreage was reduced to the present 10 acres which contains the historic resource and maintains the open setting which historically the property has had since the house was built about 1818. The property is surrounded by existing and planned development.

☐ See continuation sheet No.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paula S. Reed, Ph.D., Architectural Historian

organization Preservation Associates, Inc. date June 4, 1992

street & number 117 S. Potomac Street telephone (301) 791-7880

city or town Hagerstown state Maryland zip code 21740

★U.S.GPO 1988-0-223-918

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The George Willard house is situated on an area of level ground, overlooking the village of Jefferson which was developed about the same time as the Willard farm. The front elevation has flemish bond brickwork except where common bonding is used along the entire facade between the tops of the first story windows and the bottoms of the second story windows. This masonry treatment usually indicates that there was some type of full porch originally spanning the entire front elevation, although no other evidence of such a porch has been found. The present front porch appears to date from the 1920s. A photograph of the front of the house dating from about 1900, shows yet a different porch, a massive single bay structure of the Greek Revival style, probably dating from the mid-19th century. Beneath the central window at the second story level is evidence of disturbed masonry indicating that the present window once was a door. Again, the c.1900 photograph shows this opening to have been a window at that time. Another feature of the exterior masonry is a steeply pitched relieving arch above the cellar entrance.

All windows have narrow frames with beaded edges and six over six light sash. Flat arches of brick are visible above the windows. Most of the first story front windows have louvered shutters, and other windows have hinge hardware for shutters. Windows in the rear wing are smaller than those in the front section, as is often the case in the more utilitarian parts of a house.

The main entrance is located in the central bay of the front elevation. The six panel door is topped with a broad transom which extends above a pair of sidelights as well. This door would appear to be a mid 19th century modification of the original door. Doors are also located at the rear of the building, one from near the center of the north wall of the main block, at the ground story level, one at the ground floor of the wing, and one above it at the second story opening onto the porch. Another opens from the west wall ground floor of the extension. All of these doors with the exception of the front door are plain and without transoms or sidelights. Additionally, there is a cellar bulkhead entrance at the west foundation level of the main part of the house.

See Continuation Sheet No. 2

Extending across the entire front elevation is a front porch which appears to date from about 1920. It has a low-pitched hipped roof covered with standing seam sheet metal, and is supported by four large square posts. The posts have a molded band just above handrail level and molding forming a capital at the top. They have been reused from the Greek Revival style porch which is shown in the turn of the century photograph. The porch is enclosed by a balustrade and is accessed by a broad flight of steps between the central posts. The railing extends downward along each side of the steps. Along the east wall of the rear ell extension is a two story porch supported by chamfered square posts. The upper porch deck is enclosed by three parallel rails which reproduce original rails of which evidence remained on the posts. The lower level has no railing or balustrade.

Brick chimneys are located inside each of the gable ends. Those on the front portion of the house are quite large, with several flues in each. The rear wing's chimney is slightly smaller. All three have a corbeled edge at the top. Just beneath the east end chimney is an arch-topped date tablet inscribed with the year, 1818. The gable roof terminates with barge boards set directly against the end walls and is covered with asphalt shingles.

The interior of the house is laid out in a center passage, double pile plan that has its roots in the formality of the Georgian style. The front entrance opens into a central passage, with doors leading to rooms on either side. The staircase, set toward the back of the passage, is typical of the 1818 period. It has a small, delicate newel post with a curved profile, a rounded handrail, and long, round balusters set two per step. The ends of the risers are decorated with curvilinear cut trim. Doors in the passage have six low relief panels which had a grain-painted finish. The current finish replicates the original graining on the doors, including lining along the perimeter of each panel. The passage is trimmed with chair rail and baseboard.

To the east of the passage is a double parlor divided by three leaves of doors. One pair of leaves is hinged together while the third is hinged to a partition wall. These doors each have six horizontally placed panels. Both leaves have wrought iron slide bolts attached to the top and bottom of the stiles which can lock the doors into a closed position. These doors were probably added

See Continuation Sheet No. 3

about the 1840s, but the room plan appears to be original.

When the doors are closed, two rooms are created of slightly unequal size, the larger being the front parlor in the southeast corner of the house. In the east wall of this room is a fireplace with a Greek Revival mantle embellished with a pair of doric colonnettes, bolection moldings across the frieze and round "bull's eye" carvings.

Adjacent to the mantlepiece is a build-in cupboard with doors matching the larger ones separating the parlors. Another feature of the room is its chair rail and baseboard which is high with a bead at the top. The back parlor has a similar mantle and trim.

These Greek Revival mantles are later than other woodwork in the house. Probably dating 1845-50, they were painted black, originally, while other mantles have black as their second coat of paint.

West of the central hallway is a large room, partially divided just north of its fireplace. Originally this division was complete. It now functions as a dining room and living room and may originally have had a similar function, principally as a dining room that could be reduced or expanded in size.

The back wing on the first floor is the kitchen. This space consists of one large room with opposing east and west doors, a large service fireplace in the north end wall and a separate set of stairs to the second floor and attic, located in the southwest corner of the room. The large cooking fireplace is located in the northwest corner of the room and has an adjacent cupboard. The fireplace retains an early crane and is able to function in its original manner. The crane is attached to the original bracket. Evidence remains of an attached bake oven as well. Along the walls is narrow tongue and groove wainscotting which was probably added about 1900.

The second floor has much the same layout as the first except for added bathrooms. Two bedrooms are located above the parlors, with the rear bedroom slightly larger than the front one. Mantlepieces are similar in form and reflect the delicacy of the Federal style, while different in detailing. In both cases, the mantle covers the entire width of the chimney although the

See Continuation Sheet No. 4

fireplaces only extend over about two thirds of the width. With the flue from the first floor fireplaces taking part of the projecting chimney area, the second floor fireplaces have a vertically aligned rectangular area of plaster, treated like a panel next to their fireboxes.

The mantle in the front bedroom, the smaller of the two, has a mantle shelf supported by symmetrically molded pilasters. Above these pilasters the mantle shelf projects slightly. In the back bedroom which is larger, the mantle piece is embellished with horizontal reeding across the frieze and reeded oval colonnettes.

West of the second floor hallway is a large bedroom, which has a fireplace with a reeded mantle similar to that in the northeast bedroom. This mantelpiece is distinguished by two part reeding on the frieze which projects in two semi-elliptical horizontal bands. Window panes in the bathroom, once part of this room have had initials, C, M, and J cut into them.

The second floor of the rear ell has a fireplace in its north end wall and an adjoining cupboard. The stairway leading down to the kitchen has a newel post only slightly less delicate than that of the main stairs, a high rounded handrail and square balusters.

All rooms on the second floor have chair rail and beaded baseboards. In several rooms, paint colors have been chosen to reproduce the originals. The house is in excellent condition.

Also on the property, are several non-contributing resources which appear to post-date the construction of the George Willard house. The resources include a frame, one-story tenant house, c.1900; a modern frame garage; two undated concrete slabs; and four frame sheds probably built about the close of the nineteenth century. Three archaeological sites on the property, part of in case of one, have been found and partially investigated. One of these sites reflects domestic life. It is below the back wing of the house. Another relates to the tannery which once was operated by Willard. The third, a native American site, straddles the present property line to the south. None of the archaeological sites have been adequately addressed for purpose of National Register listing.

See Continuation Sheet No. 5

PHOTOGRAPHS:

George Willard House
Frederick County, Maryland
Photo by: James Beall
Photo date: 3/92
Negative location: James Beall
4804 Old Middletown Road
Jefferson, MD

1. General view: Northeast, showing house, sheds, spring and tannery site
2. General view: Front (south elevation), north view
3. General view: Northeast view
4. General view: South and west elevations, northeast view
5. General view: North and west elevations, southeast view
6. General view: North and east elevations, southwest view
7. General view: South and east elevations, northwest view
8. General view: Detail, date tablet, east gable
9. General view: Interior, stair-entrance hall, first floor north view
10. General view: Interior, front parlor, southeast room, northeast view
11. General view: Detail, front parlor mantle, east view
12. General view: Kitchen fireplace, north view
13. General view: Second floor stair hall, northeast view
14. General view: Second floor, southeast room, fireplace, northeast view

See Continuation Sheet No. 6

15. General view: Second floor, northeast room, fireplace, east view

16. General view: Detail, mantlepiece, northeast room, second floor

17. General view: Second floor, west room, fireplace, west view

18. General view: Detail, mantlepiece, west room, second floor

See Continuation Sheet No. 7

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Rural-Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture
Economic

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
INDUSTRY

Known Design Source: None

See Continuation Sheet No. 9

HISTORIC SETTING:

New Freedom Spring is situated just north of the village of Jefferson in southern Frederick County, a few miles north of the Potomac River. Located in the Piedmont section of the state, Frederick County extends from Pennsylvania on the north to the Potomac River on the south. It is known for its highly productive agricultural land.

Initial Anglo-European migration into the Frederick County area occurred about 1730 with the establishment of the Monocacy settlement. Most of the earliest immigrants were Germans and Scots-Irish who came from Southeastern and South Central Pennsylvania. Frederick County retains much of the cultural heritage from the 18th century German migration in the form of place names, architectural expression, churches and still prominent surnames.

The English planter culture from Tidewater Maryland also had an impact on the development of Frederick County. The English, however, were more likely to be large land holders and many did not reside on their property. Their interest lay more in the area of speculation than in establishing farms and villages. Therefore, it was largely the Germans who developed 100-300 acre farms that produced primarily small grain crops. The grain production in the county resulted in a large 18th century grist and flour milling industry powered by the fast moving streams.

In addition to grain farming and consequent milling, rich grasslands allowed for profitable cattle and livestock production. Tanneries for processing hides into leather were a frequently seen industry in the 18th and 19th centuries in mid-Maryland. The Willard property, with its substantial brick farmhouse and attached tannery site, reflects the prosperity that grew out of the grain and livestock farming in Frederick County in the 18th and early 19th century. The property also reflects the experience of the Germans who settled in Frederick County and their assimilation into the more English culture, as expressed by their architecture which evolved over generations during the 18th and 19th centuries. The George Willard house, built by the son of a German immigrant, follows an English Georgian plan.

See Continuation Sheet No. 10

The house was built about 1818 for George Willard, who amassed several farms in the Jefferson area and established a tannery on his property in the late 18th century. Born in 1770, he was of German extraction; his father Elias had emigrated from Germany in 1746 at the age of 12.

Adjacent to Jefferson, the property is linked to the history of that community. Originally known as Trappe, and then New Town, Jefferson came into being during the third quarter of the 18th century. About 1795, Elias Delashmutt, Jr. laid out an addition to New Town on its west side, consisting of 22 lots extending westward along both sides of State Route 180 from the Middletown Road. Delashmutt called his group of lots New Freedom. The first lot sold in New Freedom was lot #6, on the north side of the road. The deed for this transaction was dated January 17, 1795 and the purchaser was George Willyard or Willard. The deed describes the lot as "adjoining the alley leading to the Spring,"[1] and also included 49 square perches of "Childrens Chance," located west of the spring. On June 4, 1798, Delashmutt conveyed more land to George Willard, 775 square feet adjoining the previously acquired lot, "whereon is a tanyard."[2] This tannery is said to have been the first industry in the area of New Freedom.

In 1802, George Williard (Willard) purchased more land from Elias Delashmutt, Jr. This time he acquired 31 acres north of the New Freedom village and west of Old Middletown Road. This acreage adjoined the spring and the tannery. He eventually built his house on this land. In 1805, George Willard married Susanna Culler, and they resided in New Freedom.

In 1832, New Town and adjacent New Freedom were merged, and the name of the place was changed to Jefferson.

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[1]Millard Milburn Rice, New Facts and Old Families (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1984), p. 32, quoting Frederick County Land Records.

[2]Ibid, citing Frederick County Land Records WR 17-41.

See Continuation Sheet No. 11

RESOURCE HISTORY:

By 1817, George and Susanna Willard had six living children. About this time they began constructing a large brick house on the 31 acres of land George Willard had purchased in 1802. The size and construction of the house and its interior trim suggest that the Willards were successful, prosperous and aware of current style design elements. Although the Federal style was passing from favor in the major urban centers, it was still popular in outlying areas. The date tablet on this house bears the year 1818.

Willard continued to acquire property in the 1820s and 30s, eventually accumulating more land adjoining the home place, another farm and several rental properties in Jefferson. George and Susanna Willard lived in the New Freedom Spring house until about 1843 when they bought a house in Jefferson from a Dr. Lloyd Dorsey. By this time George Willard was 75 years old and his wife, 64. Their son John Willard and his wife Louisa had taken over the home place and likely the tannery operation by 1845. During the years that they were associated with the house George and Susanna Willard had nine children, five daughters and four sons, four slaves and, apparently, a hired man.

George Willard died on December 24, 1849. In his will, he gave the home place, the tannery, a blacksmith shop and rental properties in Jefferson to John. His other farm in Frederick County was bequeathed to his son Henry. All of his bequests were subject to a grant of one third of the property to his wife, Susanna. Census records of 1850 show that in that year the widow Susanna, her married daughter, Susannah and her husband, and an unmarried daughter, Ann Eliza, were all living together in Jefferson.

John Willard and his wife Louisa between the time that they moved into the main house and 1850 when they began to go deeply into debt, made some renovations to the house. They constructed a large one bay Greek Revival style porch with large double squared columns and a balustrade on the low pitched roof. The center front second story window may have been converted to a jib window at this time. To maintain a fashionable appearance, the parlors were also redone. The double doors were added, and the mantlepieces with their turned columns, bolections and decorated blocks. Interestingly, these features, while apparently added in the late

See Continuation Sheet No. 12

1840s, were known and used during the earlier Federal period as well. John and his wife also replaced the front door surround adding a broad transom and sidelights, typical of the then current Greek Revival style. These appear to have been the only major changes to the house except for rebuilding of the front porch early in the 20th century and the later addition of bathrooms.

In addition to John's going into debt in the early 1850s, presumably for improvements to the tannery and, perhaps, the house, in 1853, John, Henry and their wives and mother borrowed $13,000.00 from the Frederick Savings Institution. To raise this capital, they mortgaged all of their Frederick County property. No information has been found to indicate for what the money was needed. Henry, apparently wanted to resettle and start a business in Berkeley Springs, Virginia (now West Virginia). Perhaps John planned to enlarge the tannery again since he purchased in 1854 a new wood lot to supply tan bark. "By now, the tannery consisted of nearly 61 vats, several buildings, and two pits. It had a capacity to process 6,000 hides at a time. The tannery operations used the most modern equipment, including a 10 horsepower steam engine. The proximity of the [C & O] Canal and the [B & O] railroad had helped the tanning operations to grow into a large operation."[3]

Unfortunately, in June 1856, John Willard died at age 39. His untimely death set the stage for financial disaster for the already financially burdened family. Through a complicated series of events and transactions, including a lawsuit brought by John's creditors against his estate, the entire property was sold to satisfy the debts, and eventually acquired by Henry. Henry, however, by this time had relocated to Berkeley Springs and presumably did not live here. Apparently, John's widow, children and perhaps George's widow Susanna lived in the house.

It was during this period that the tannery ceased operation. There are no further references to it in any transactions after 1856. The present owners believe that Henry took the tannery equipment some time between 1856 and 1859, (Henry acquired title to the home farm on February 11, 1859); and Henry owned and operated

[3]James R. Beall, "New Freedom Spring," 1990, p. 8.

See Continuation Sheet No. 13

a steam tannery in Berkeley Springs about this time.[4]

On May 24, 1864, Susanna Willard died at the age of 83. In 1867, Henry and his wife, of Morgan County, West Virginia, sold the home place of 83.5 acres to Daniel Zimmerman for $11,250.00, a price substantial enough to indicate that the property was in good repair.

While the farm was still in Willard ownership, both Confederate and Union forces passed through Jefferson on September 12, 1862, just prior to the battle of South Mountain. A Confederate pistol and rounds from Union rifles were found near the spring.

The Zimmerman family owned the Willard property until 1915. During their ownership the property passed from Daniel H. to his son Charles E. in 1879. At some time during the Zimmerman ownership, the second floor of the rear ell was divided into two rooms, as was the large second story west room of the main section.

In 1915, Charles E. and Hattie Zimmerman conveyed the property to Albert and Lillian Buzzard. They transferred it the next year to Luther and Erma Buzzard. It seems likely that during the Buzzard's ownership, the front porch was modified to its present appearance, retaining the four square columns from the old porch.

Luther and Erma Buzzard conveyed the property to Ruth Elgin in 1944. She owned it for 40 years, transferring it to Carolyn Hallein in 1984. Carolyn Hallein sold the property, subdivided to its present size, to Gary and Virginia Murphy. In 1988 it was purchased by James and Sandra Beall, the present owners.

The house remains in excellent condition. Many details such as early or original paint colors and the post and railing system of the balcony have been reproduced.

RESOURCE ANALYSIS:

The George Willard house is an example of a first quarter

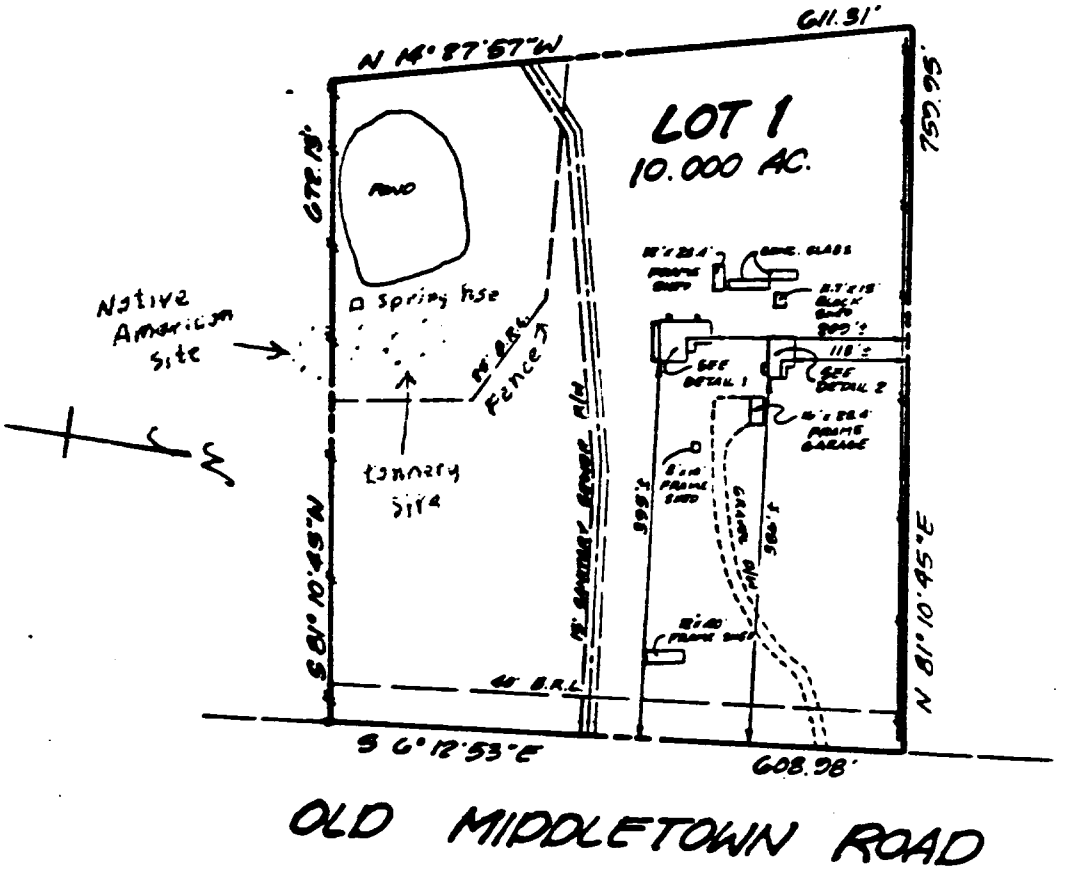
[4]Ibid, p. 11.

See Continuation Sheet No. 14

nineteenth century, five-bay two-story house with a center passage, double pile plan. This basic facade arrangement remained stylish throughout the 19th century, with trim and window and door treatment used to express current styles. Dated 1818, it is a well documented example of its type and also reflects the experience of many first generation German-Americans who abandoned traditional architectural expression for the more formal English-Georgian-influenced design. Detailed in the late Federal style, the house features delicate moldings, fluting and reeding typical of this Neoclassical style. Modifications to the house were few and were made early, about 30 years after initial construction, except for the present porch which was built in the early 20th century, using the columns from the preceding porch.

An historic sites inventory for the SHPO is underway in Frederick County. Records from the survey reveal listings for five other brick houses in the Middletown-Brunswick areas with the five bay central entrance arrangement. The most similar to the George Willard house is the John Coblentz house located only a few miles away at 4302 Cherry Lane, Middletown. Dated 1809, the five bay house has a flemish bond front with a band of common bond between the top of the first floor windows and the bottom of the second floor windows, like the Willard house. Its two leafed door and transom with a semi-circular muntin arrangement on the Coblentz house appear to be original. The interior of the house has reeded and fluted mantlepieces and stair trim. The George Willard house is distinguished from others of similar type because so much of its original or early replacement interior woodwork survives.

BOUNDARY AND RESOURCE SKETCH MAP, 1993



M 84 P 257

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. F-2-51

Magi No.

DOE ___yes X no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic George Willard House

and/or common New Freedom Spring

2. Location

street & number 4804 Old Middletown Road ___ not for publication

city, town Jefferson X vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Frederick

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	X occupied	___ 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 James R. Beall

street & number 4804 Old Middletown Road telephone no.:

city, town Jefferson state and zip code Md. 21755

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber 1511

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street folio 1036

city, town Frederick state Md. 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

epository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. F-2-51

Condition		Check one	Check one
X excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
___ 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: 5

The George Willard House is a two-story brick dwelling built in 1818 according to a dated panel in the east gable with 4 contributing and 4 non-contributing outbuildings located on the west side of Old Middletown Road about 1/4 mile north of Jefferson, Frederick County, Maryland. The contributing outbuildings were probably built in the last quarter of the 19th century and include a goat shed, a tractor or wagon shed, a dairy, and a hog barn. All are of frame construction. The house has been recently restored and has grained and stenciled exterior doors; during a 1960's renovation, the exterior brick was sandblasted.

The principal elevation faces south and has five bays with a circa 1925 one-story porch with fluted square columns on plain bases. The wall on the south elevation is flemish bond. The center entrance has an 8-light transom and sidelights with fluted jambs. The windows are 6/6 with bullnose frames. The window arches are gauged brick. The cornice is corbeled brick and the gable roof is covered with composition shingles. The chimneys are located on the interior at each gable end. The side elevation and rear ell are 5:1 American bond. A relieving arch in the brick over the cellar entrance is visible in the west elevation. The east and west elevations have two bays each and the rear ell has three bays with exterior door in the center on the west side and a two-story open porch on the east side. The arched date panel is located in the gable end on the east.

The interior was not accessible for this survey; however, photographs given to the MHT in June 1990 show that apparently original paneled mantelpieces, hardware, and possibly flooring are still intact. The same submission from the current owners, Dr. and Mrs. James R. Beall, discussed a possible early alteration to the center window on the second story of the south elevation, a jib window which was later removed. This window alteration was not visible from ground level in the current survey of the house and copies of the Beall photos of the area are not available to the surveyor. The 1925 porch replaced an entry porch with decorative urns onto which the jib window opened. A circa 1890 photograph in the Bealls' possession shows the porch. The north elevation of the ell reveals some repointing which may have occurred when a bake oven in the cooking fireplace was removed.

The goat shed is possibly a converted chicken house located northwest of the rear ell. It has board and batten siding and a standing seam metal shed roof. The wagon shed is a frame, open-sided building which may have been an agricultural building originally; it now is used as a garage. The dairy is a small frame building located east of the house with board and batten siding and a shed corrugated metal roof. The vertical board door is located in the north elevation and two 3/3 windows are located in the east and west sides. On the interior is a trough in the southeast corner. The interior walls are tongue and groove paneled. The hog barn is located in a pasture bordering Old Middletown Road. It is a rectangular structure with vertical siding and a corrugated metal gable roof. Three rectangular windows face west on the feeding aisle side of the plan. The door the aisle is in the north gable end. The pens within are in good condition and low doors on the east elevation apparently gave access to a corral or wallow.

8. Significance

Survey No. F-2-51

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	X 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
X 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
X 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates Ca. 1795; 1818 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: X 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 George Willard House is significant for its late Federal architectural details exemplified in the largely unaltered form of the house and the interior mantelpieces and trim. Built in 1818 according to a dated panel in the east gable end, the house is also significant for its association with the development of the town of Jefferson. The 1795 addition to Jefferson of New Freedom was located directly south of the farm and a spring on the property was known as "New Freedom Spring", intended to be used by lot owners in the addition. A tanyard owned by George Willard near the spring about 1798 was one of the earliest industries in the Jefferson vicinity.

Architecturally, the Willard House is comparable with several houses in the Walkersville planning region, especially the Baker Farmstead (F-8-119) and the Sollers-Maynard-Thomas Farmstead (F-8-128). Both of these dwellings date from approximately the same period and have the same general plan. The rear ell in contrast to the side service wing seems to be more common among the areas principally settled by German immigrants than in the southern area of the county where English settlers predominated. However, this difference is not fully researched and the Jefferson area was strongly influenced by both groups of early settlers. By the middle third of the 19th century, the English style of 5-bay house with center entrance was predominant, although the rear ell feature persisted well into the 20th century.

No information has as yet been discovered about George Willard, although his tannery and the size and finish of the house suggest relative wealth in early 19th century terms. Henry Willard, the owner in the 1850's and 1860's, appears on the 1858 Isaac Bond map and Daniel J. Zimmerman, owner in the period 1867 to about 1890, appears on the 1873 C. O. Titus Atlas map.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. F-2-51

Beall, James R., Letter of May 3, 1990 to Orlando Ridout V, MHT
Bond, Isaac, Map of Frederick County, 1858
Land Records of Frederick County
Rice, Millard Milburn Rice, New Facts and Old Families, privately published, 1976, p. 47 (Continued on page 9.1)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 10 acres

Quadrangle name Point of Rocks, Md. - Va. **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

Concurrent with Tax Map 84, Parcel 257.

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**	September 1991
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
301-514-7600

9.1 Bibliography (Continued)

Titus, C.O., Atlas of Frederick County, 1873.

4804 Old Middletown Rd. #155 James R. Beall M88 P 257

LIBER/FOL.	GRANTEE	GRANTOR	ORIGINAL TRACTS	COST	DATE
1511/1036 9 Sept. 88	James R. & Sandra M Beall	Gary J. & Virginia K. Murphy	10 a. Lot #1, Hallein Subd. Plat Book 33/28	$355,000	
1398/116 20 Feb 87	Gary J. & Virginia K. Murphy	Carolyn H. Hallein	10 a.		
1246/216 10 Jul. 84	Carolyn Hallein	Helen D. Sullivan, atty. for Ruth S. Elgin	98 a.	$135,000	
441/481 15 Mar 44	Ruth S. Elgin	Luther D & Erma E. Bussard			
316/354 3 Apr 16	Luther D. & Erma Bussard	Albert L. Bussard & Lillian A. Bussard, wife	98 a.		
312/253 1 Apr 15	Albert L. Bussard & wife	Charles E. & Hattie E. Zimmerman	98 a.		
1. JLJ 11/22 9 Apr 1895	Charles E. Zimmerman	Francis M. Zimmerman	83 a. (home farm of D. J. Zimmerman)	$6,261.53	
2. JLJ 11/21 9 Apr 1895	Charles E. Zimmerman	Francis M. Zimmerman	22 a.	$1,737.50	
1. CM 1/40 5 Dec. 1867	Daniel J. Zimmerman	Henry Willard	see also BGF 3/554 Ezra M. Thomas to Henry Willard	$11,250	("New Freedom") 83 a.

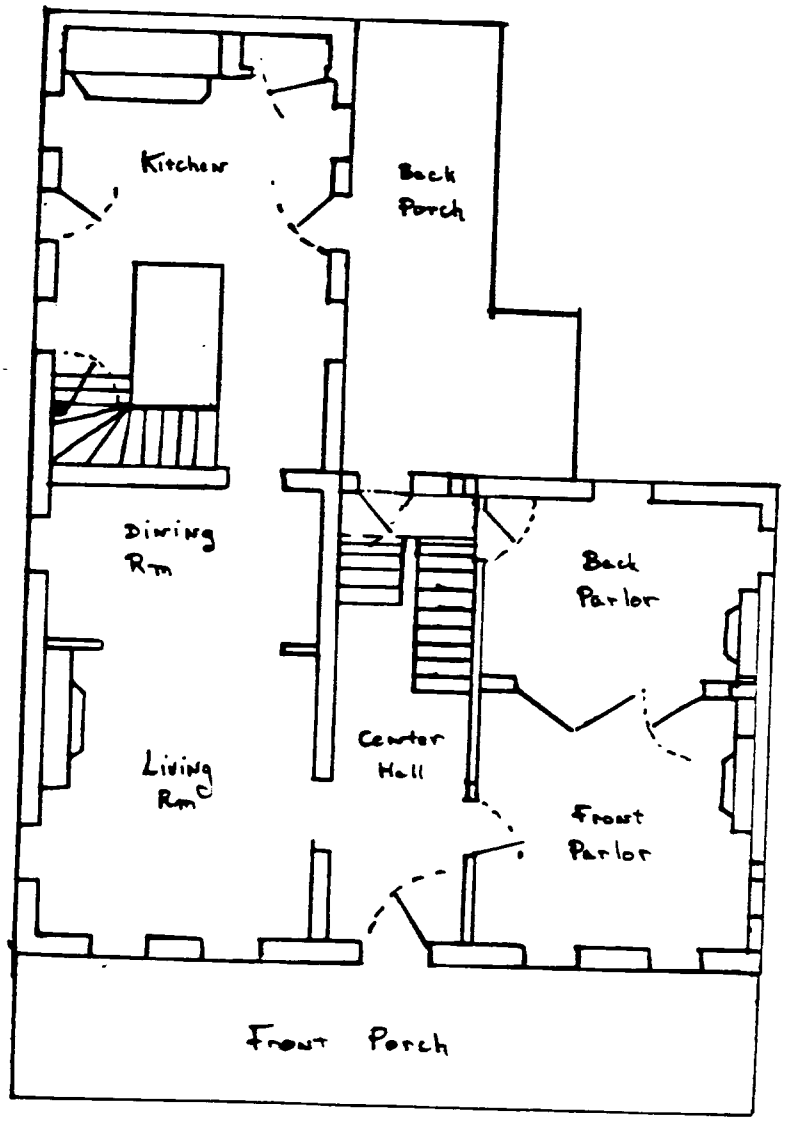
F-2-51

4804 Old Middletown Rd. Page 2

LIBER/FOL.	GRANTEE	GRANTOR	ORIGINAL TRACTS	COST	DATE
B GF 3/554 3 Feb-1859	Henry Willard	Ezra M. & Amanda Thomas	"New Freedom" 83 A.	$8,359.87	
(no further refs)					

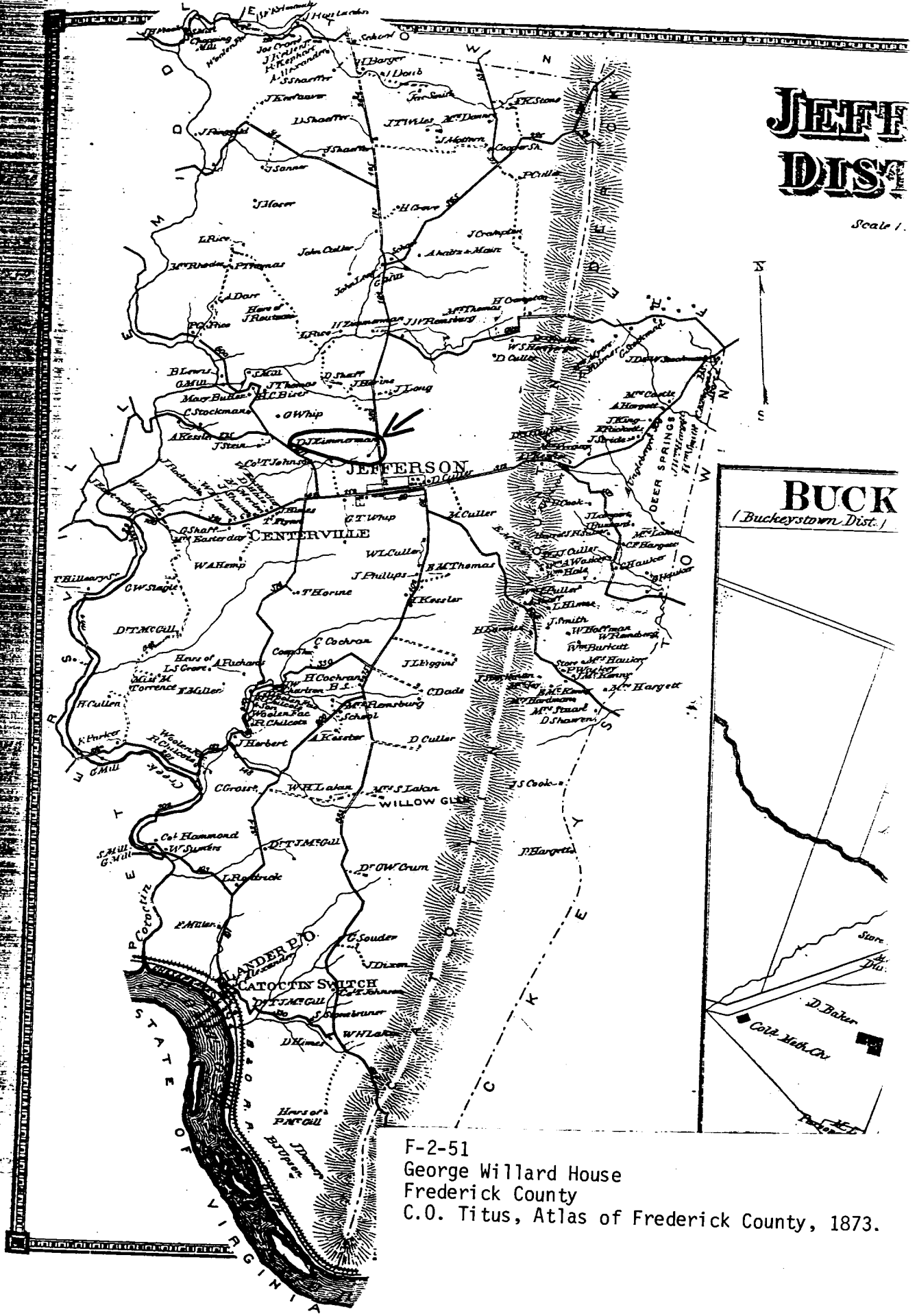
F-2-51

FIRST FLOOR PLAN



1st Floor

South Side



F-2-51
George Willard House
Frederick County
C.O. Titus, Atlas of Frederick County, 1873.

F-2-51
George Willard House
Frederick County
Isaac Bond, Map of Frederick County, 1858.

E, SOIL, &c.

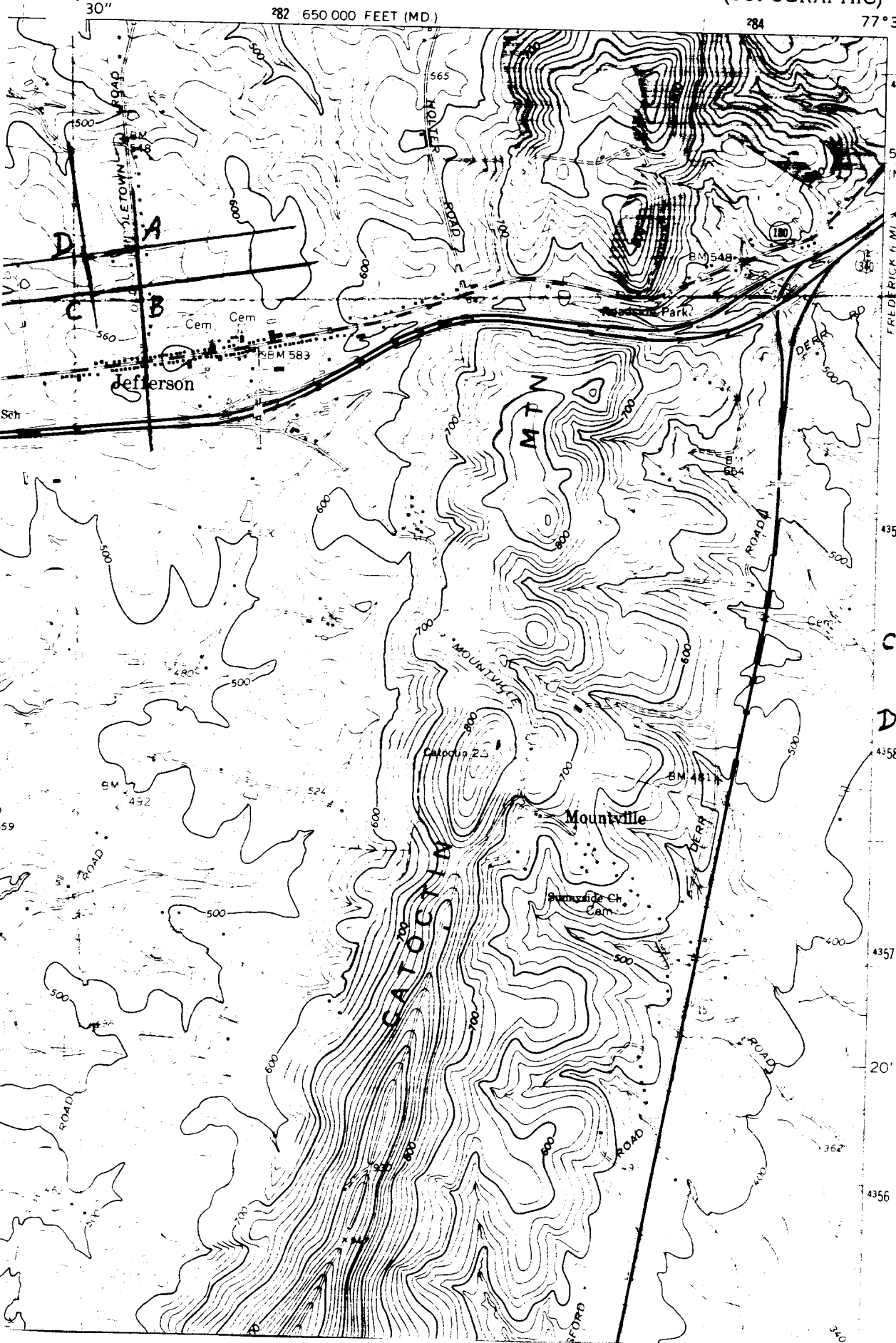
e northwest parts of 2, 4, 5 and 15. are
t timber, except in the rich and beau
s, about Wolfsville and Wolf's-tavern.

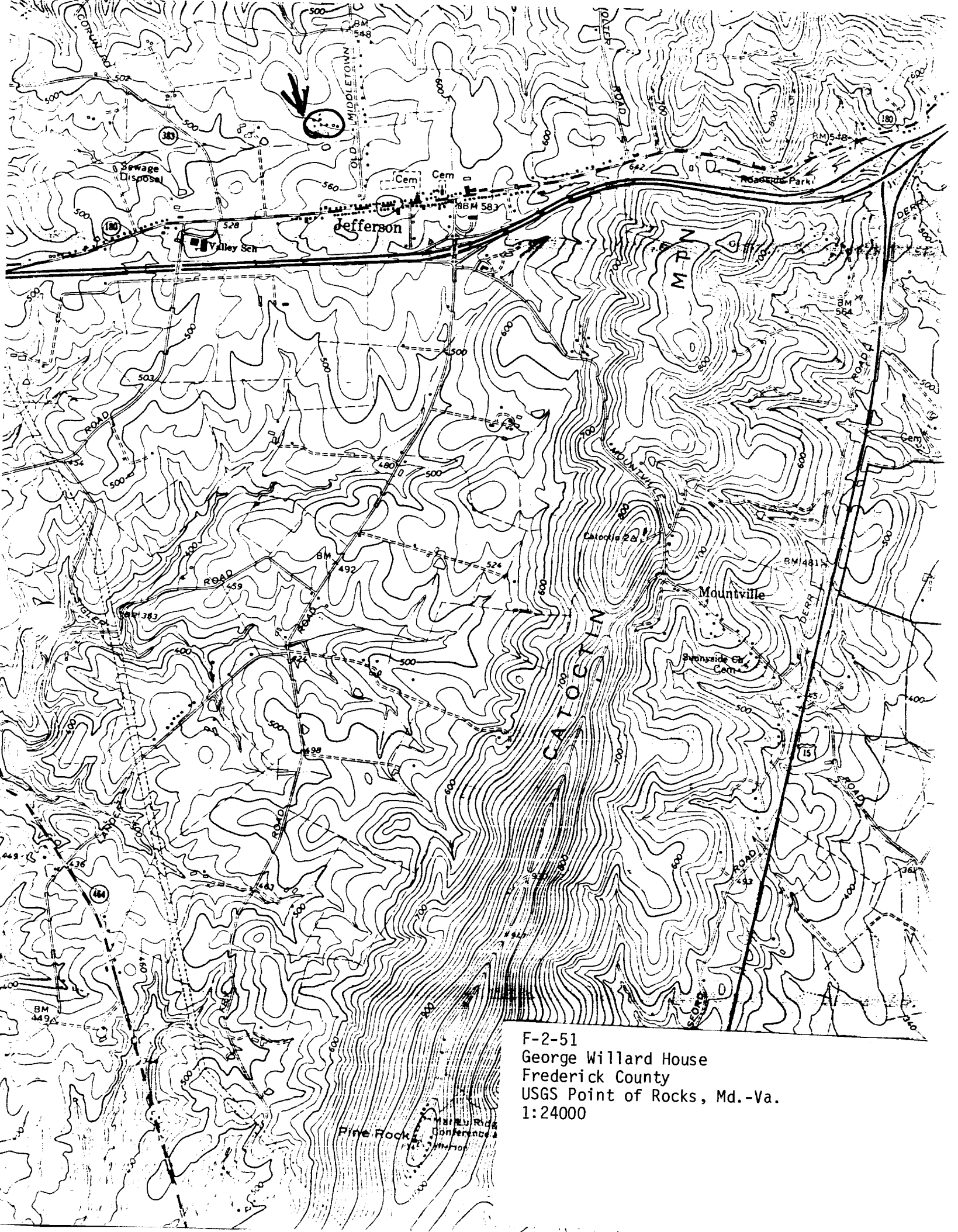
billy but productive and picturesqu-
egoing predominate in Epidote, Mica
with Iron, Copper, &c.

FOR CHILDREN'S FIRST LESSONS ABOUT

POINT OF ROCKS QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND–VIRGINIA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

5562 IV NW (FREDERICK)





F-2-51
George Willard House
Frederick County
USGS Point of Rocks, Md.-Va.
1:24000

GEORGE WILLARD HOUSE, FREDERICK CO., MD

#1

GEORGE WILLARD HOUSE, FREDERICK CO. MD.

#2

F-2-57

GEORGE WILLARD HOUSE, FREDERICK CO. MD

#3

F-2-51

GEORGE WILLARD HOUSE, FREDERICK CO. MD #4

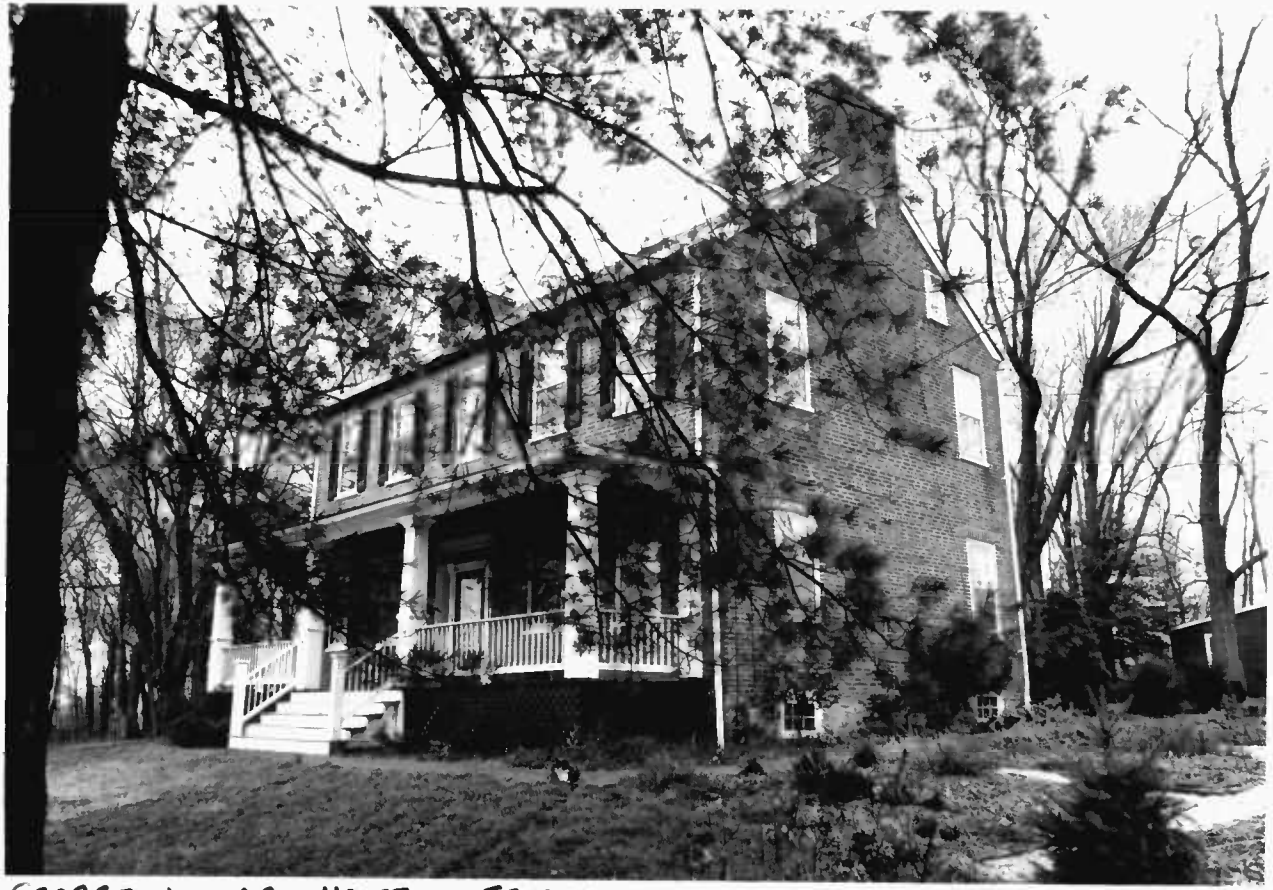
F-2-51

GEORGE WILLARD HOUSE, FREDERICK CO. MD #5

F-2-57

GEORGE WILLARD HOUSE, FREDERICK CO., MD #6

F-257



GEORGE WILLARD HOUSE, FREDERICK CO. MD #7

F-7-51

GEORGE WILLARD HOUSE, FREDERICK CO. MD #8

Ex 51

GEORGE WILLARD HOUSE FREDERICK CO. MD #9

F-2-57

GEORGE WILLARD HOUSE FREDERICK CO. MD #10

F-2-7

GEORGE WILLARD HOUSE FREDERICK CO. MD #11

F-2-51

GEORGE WILLARD HOUSE FREDERICK CO. MD

12

F 2-2

GEORGE WILLARD HOUSE FREDERICK CO. MD #13

F-2-51

GEORGE WILLARD HOUSE FREDERICK CO. MD #14

F-2-51

GEORGE WILLARD HOUSE FREDERICK CO. MD

15

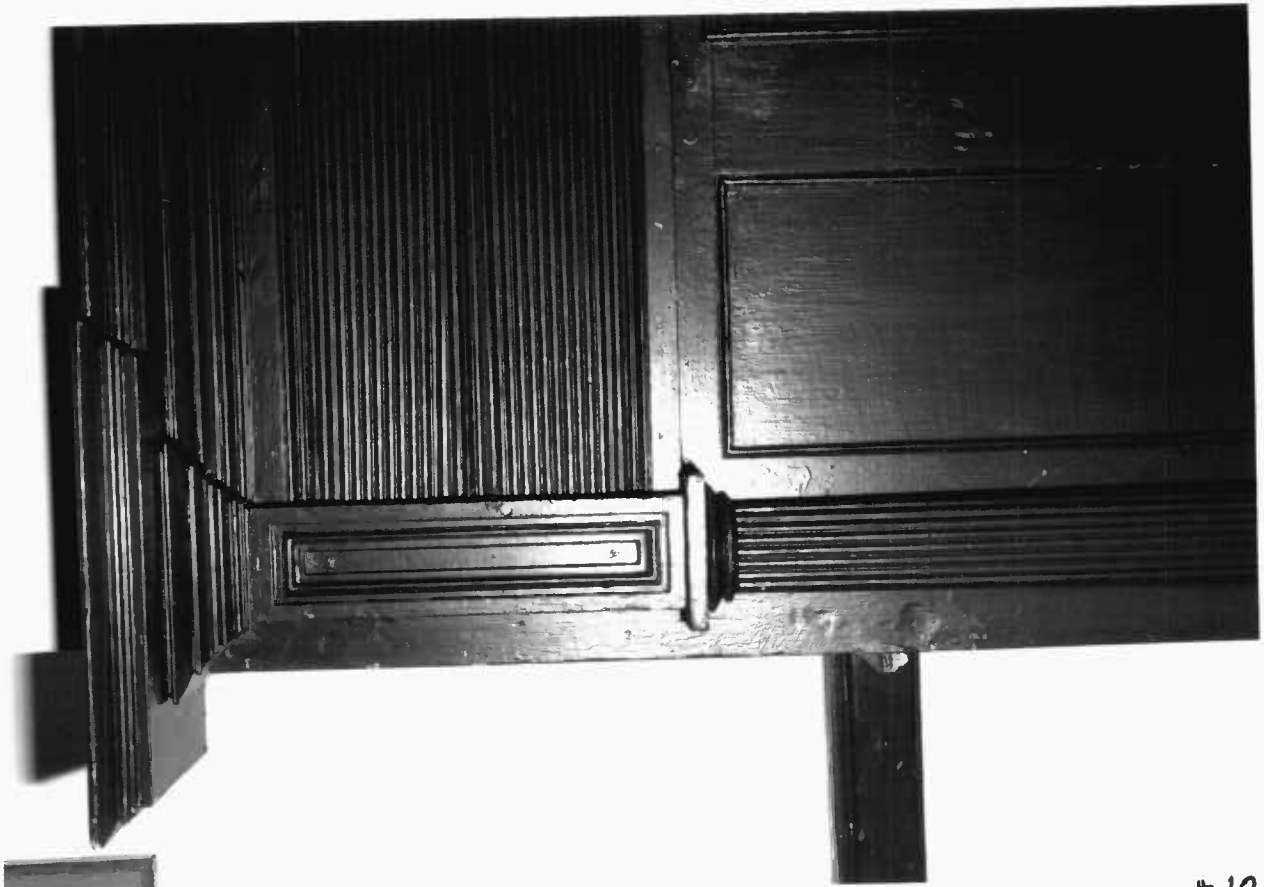
F 2-5'

GEORGE WILLARD HOUSE FREDERICK CO. MD #16

Fig-51

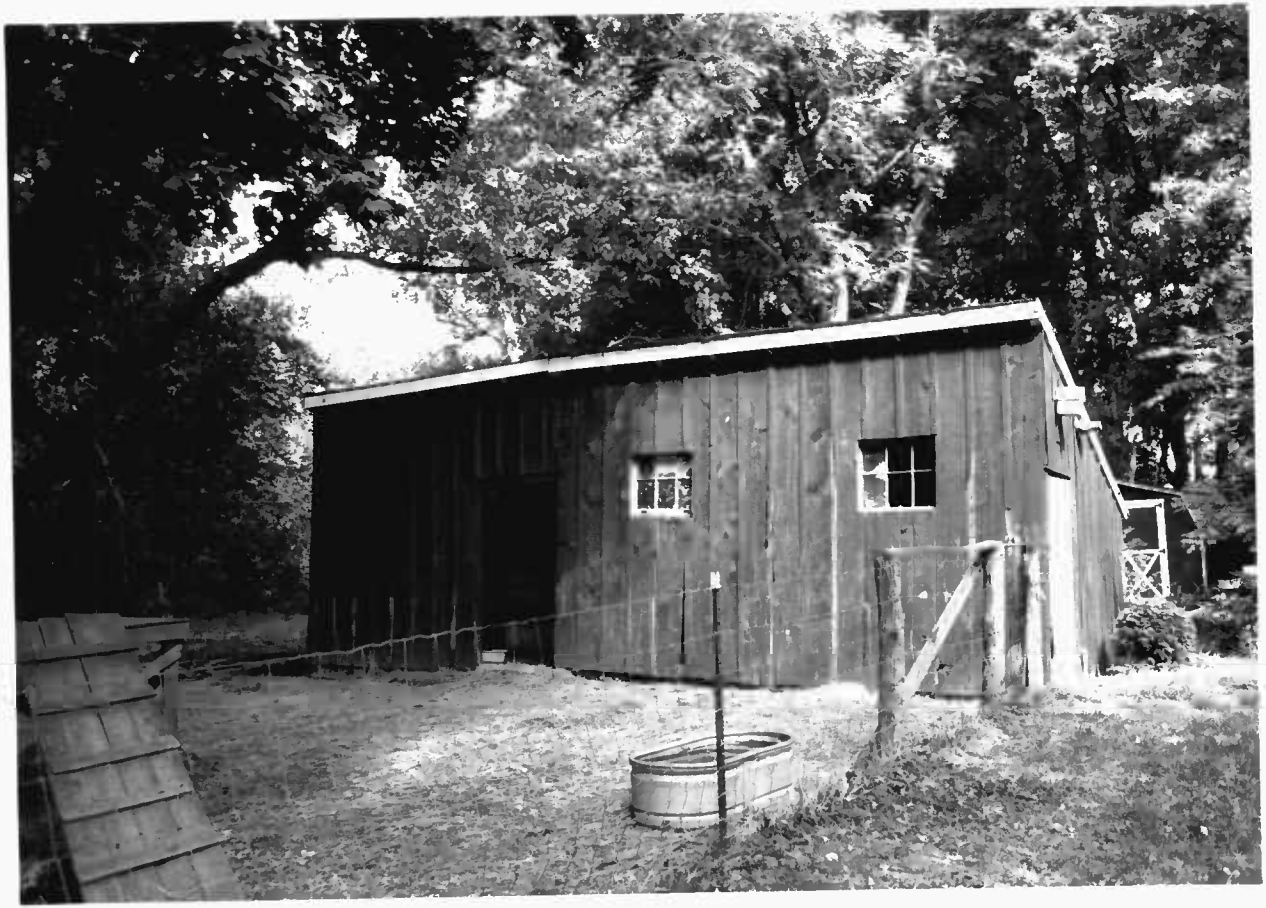
GEORGE WILLARD HOUSE FREDERICK CO. MD #17

F-2-51



GEORGE WILLARD HOUSE FREDERICK CO. MD #18

F 2-51



F-2-51
George Willard House (c. 1890 photo)
(New Freedom Spring)
4804 Old Middletown Road
Jefferson

F-2-51
George Willard House
4804 Old Middletown Road
Jefferson, MD

(c. 1890 photo)

SEE VERTICAL FILES FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION