ADDENDUM/NEW INFORMATION

F-2-63 **Needwood-Thomas Lee Farmstead**

F-2-64 **Old Needwood**

F-2-65 **Needwood Forest**

F-2-66 **Outerbridge Horsey House and Distillery Site**

Additional research by Paul and Rita Gordon on the Needwood properties associated with Thomas Sim Lee was provided to the Frederick County Planning Department and the Historical Society of Frederick County Library in May 1999. The research is in typescript in a report cover, entitled *All The Needwoods*, copyright pending. The research reveals new documentary information in land records, personal histories, and other material that was not researched for the preparation of the existing Inventory of Historic Properties forms on the four properties in 1991.

The most important highlight is the apparent corrected identification of the building used as Bartholomew Booth's school for boys. Originally, the house now known as Old Needwood was believed to have been erected as the school. The Gordon research appears to confirm that the Booth school was the house called Needwood Forest. The date of Needwood Forest, estimated at 1808, may thus be incorrect. The school was known to have been in operation in 1777 and 1778 at the "Forest of Needwood". The Gordon research discusses the reasons for the identification of Needwood Forest as the school. The date of at least part of Needwood Forest may therefore be about 1775-1776.

Another highlight is the conclusion of the authors that Thomas Sim Lee did not live at Old Needwood until at least 1816. He died at Old Needwood in 1819. The Gordons discuss the land transactions and Lee's will to support this conclusion.

The *All The Needwoods* report is available for public research at the Historical Society of Frederick County, 24 E. Church St., Frederick, MD 21701 (301-663-1188) or the Frederick County Planning Dept., 12 E. Church St., Frederick, MD 21701 (Janet Davis, 301-696-2958).

Janet Davis
Historic Preservation Planner
Frederick County Planning Department
Frederick, MD
May 21, 1999

F-2-65
Needwood Forest 1808
Burkittsville vicinity
Private

Needwood Forest is a formerly agricultural grouping, now a private residence, consisting of an 1808 Federal style brick main residence with an adjoining frame outbuilding, a ca. 1800 stone tenant house, a carriage house of about 1860, a frame barn, and an ice house base altered for use as part of a children's fort. The house was built in 1808 by William Lee, the second son of Governor Thomas Sim Lee, and is significant for its unusual architectural form, a variation on the Federal/Georgian composition in which the service wing is on the same plane as the main section, giving the appearance of an 8-bay facade. The square tower at the southwest corner was added about 1855 as a new kitchen with servants quarters above by Samuel L. Gouverneur, husband of Mary Digges Lee, William's oldest daughter.

F-2-65
Needwood Forest
Burkittsville
Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Georgraphic 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 and Community Planning

Resource Types:

Category: Buildings

Environment: Rural

Function and Use:
Domestic/single dwelling/mansion
Domestic/single dwelling/residence

Known Design Source: None

M 83, P 10

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. F-2-65

Magi No.

DOE ___yes X no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Needwood Forest

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 1311 Lee's Lane ___ not for publication

city, town Burkittsville 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 Howard R. Stepler, Jr.

street & number 18 West Church 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 989

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street folio 903

city, town Frederick state Md. 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Paul Brinkman Survey of Frederick County #130

date 1968 ___ federal X state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Md. SHPO

city, town Crownsville state Md. 21032

7. Description

Survey No. F-2-65

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: 6

Needwood Forest is a formerly agricultural complex, now a private residence, consisting of an 1808 brick two-story dwelling house with a three-story square brick tower built about 1855, a 1-1/2 story stone tenant house of about 1800, a frame one-story outbuilding possibly originally a summer kitchen, a circa 1860 carriage house, the stone base of an ice house, and a frame barn. The ice house foundation may date to the second quarter of the 19th century; the remaining frame outbuildings probably were built in the last quarter of the 19th century. The grouping is located on the south side of Lee's Lane about 2 miles southeast of Burkittsville, Frederick County, Maryland.

The main dwelling house is a two-story, five-bay Federal style house with an adjoining two story service wing which is not differentiated on the principal north elevation from the main part of the house, giving the impression of an 8-bay facade. The facade is flemish bond and the side and rear elevations are 5:1 American bond. The brick was painted in the past, but has weathered for several years, revealing the original red brickwork. The cornice is corbeled brick. The roof is hipped standing seam metal with two pedimented dormers in both the north and south elevations and single dormers in the east and west gable ends. There are two interior end chimneys at each gable end. The window arches are gauged brick and the sills are wood. Louvred shutters flank the 6/6 windows. The center bay of the first in the main part is the entrance, which has a transom and one sidelight, a probable alteration of the mid-20th century. The door may also be a modern replacement. The south elevation mirrors the north elevation in having eight bays; the eighth bay at the southwest corner is in the square base of the ca. 1855 tower. Evidence of a one-story shed porch over part of the main section is visible in the weathered paint and in the filled-in anchor holes in the wall. This porch is also to be seen in an early 20th century photograph of the south elevation published in Williams and McKinsey, History of Frederick County, (1910), facing page 224. The tower is 4:1 American bond and is a darker red in brick color. It has a pyramidal roof. The west elevation has a side entrance to the kitchen and a covered breezeway over the cellar entrance. The breezeway connects with the one-story frame outbuilding which is now a recreation room. The siding of this building is tongue-and-groove and the windows are 2/2 squares with vertical board solid shutters.

The interior plan of the house was originally a symmetrical central hall type with double parlors on each side. The partition wall in the east parlor has been removed and the interior trim of chair rail, cornice, and surrounds may be early 20th century Colonial Revival reproductions. The paneled and columned mantels may be original. On the west side of the hall, the double parlor plan remains, with marble mantels of the second quarter of the 19th century. In the central hall, the hardware on the doors probably dates from the first quarter of the 19th century, although the doors may be later replacements. The service wing is separated from the main section by a narrow rear stairhall and a butler's pantry. The present kitchen has two main rooms with the open brick fireplace in the current breakfast room. Adjoining the kitchen is a laundry area in the base of the square tower.

(Continued on separate sheet)

8. Significance

Survey No. F-2-65

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
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates 1808; c. 1860 (tower) **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.

Needwood Forest is significant for its Federal architectural style and its unusual placement of the service wing as a continuation of the principal facade. In English-influenced houses in Frederick County, the service wing on the same plane as the principal section is common, but the wing is always recessed, often with a two-story open porch. The Needwood Forest arrangement may be unique for houses in the first quarter of the 19th century. The ca. 1855 square tower is also an unusual feature, having been built for use as a kitchen, perhaps replacing the original kitchen in the service wing, with servants quarters on the two levels above. Built in 1808 by William Lee (1777-1845), second son of Governor Thomas Sim Lee, about the time of his marriage, the house remained in the Lee family until 1949. The tower was added by Samuel L. Gouverneur, husband of Mary Digges Lee, William Lee's oldest daughter.

Needwood Forest should be studied in relation to the other Lee family houses on the "Forest of Needwood" tract: Old Needwood (ca. 1775; F-2-64), Needwood-Thomas Lee Farmstead (ca. 1850; ca. 1870; F-2-63), Outerbridge Horsey House and Distillery Site (ca. 1850; ca. 1870; F-2-66). Each house has architectural distinction both within the Lee family group and in a Frederick County context. In southern Frederick County, most large houses were built by landowners with English heritage and show characteristics more comparable to properties in central and southern Maryland. These are primarily Georgian and Federal plans and details. Needwood Forest is clearly one of this category and is most related to Old Needwood among the Lee houses; however, Old Needwood is at least 25 years older and has a unique Georgian plan.

Mary Digges Lee Randel's Needwood Forest: A Family Record, written in 1943, compiled much family tradition and information regarding Needwood Forest and the other properties on the tract. Among other anecdotes, the memoir states that Samuel L. Gouverneur, a member of an old New York family, was a Union sympathizer, although his wife favored the Confederacy. It was his influence, so the story says, that spared Needwood Forest from sacking and destruction during the Civil War. The house was used as a hospital for wounded from the Battles of South Mountain and Antietam. In addition to building the tower, Gouverneur laid out a formal garden with boxwood and radiating pathways, as well as a two-story garden house, a conservatory, and a carriage house. It is assumed that the carriage house mentioned is the existing building described as such in Sect. 7. The garden house and conservatory were

(Continued on separate sheet)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. F-2-65

Bond, Isaac, Map of Frederick County, 1858.
Land Records of Frederick County
Randel, Mary Digges Lee. Needwood Forest: A Family Record, 1943. Bound typescript in possession of Howard Stepler, Needwood Forest.
(Continued on separate sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 5 acres

Quadrangle name Harper's Ferry, Va.-Md.-W.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

Approximately a 5 acre circle around the main dwelling and outbuildings; Tax Map 83, Parcel 10.

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** October 1991

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

city or town Frederick **state** Maryland 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)

Scharf, J.T., History of Western Maryland, Vol. 1, Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1882, p. 527.

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

Williams, T.J.C. History of Frederick County, Vol. 1, Frederick: L.R. Titsworth and Co., 1910. Reprinted. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1967. Pp. 122, illustration facing p. 224, Vol. II, pp. 1444-1445.

7.1 Description (Continued)

The ice house foundation is a stone-floored and walled earth mound west of the recreation room building over which a children's stockade fort has been constructed. Entry to the former ice house floor is through steps on the north and south sides.

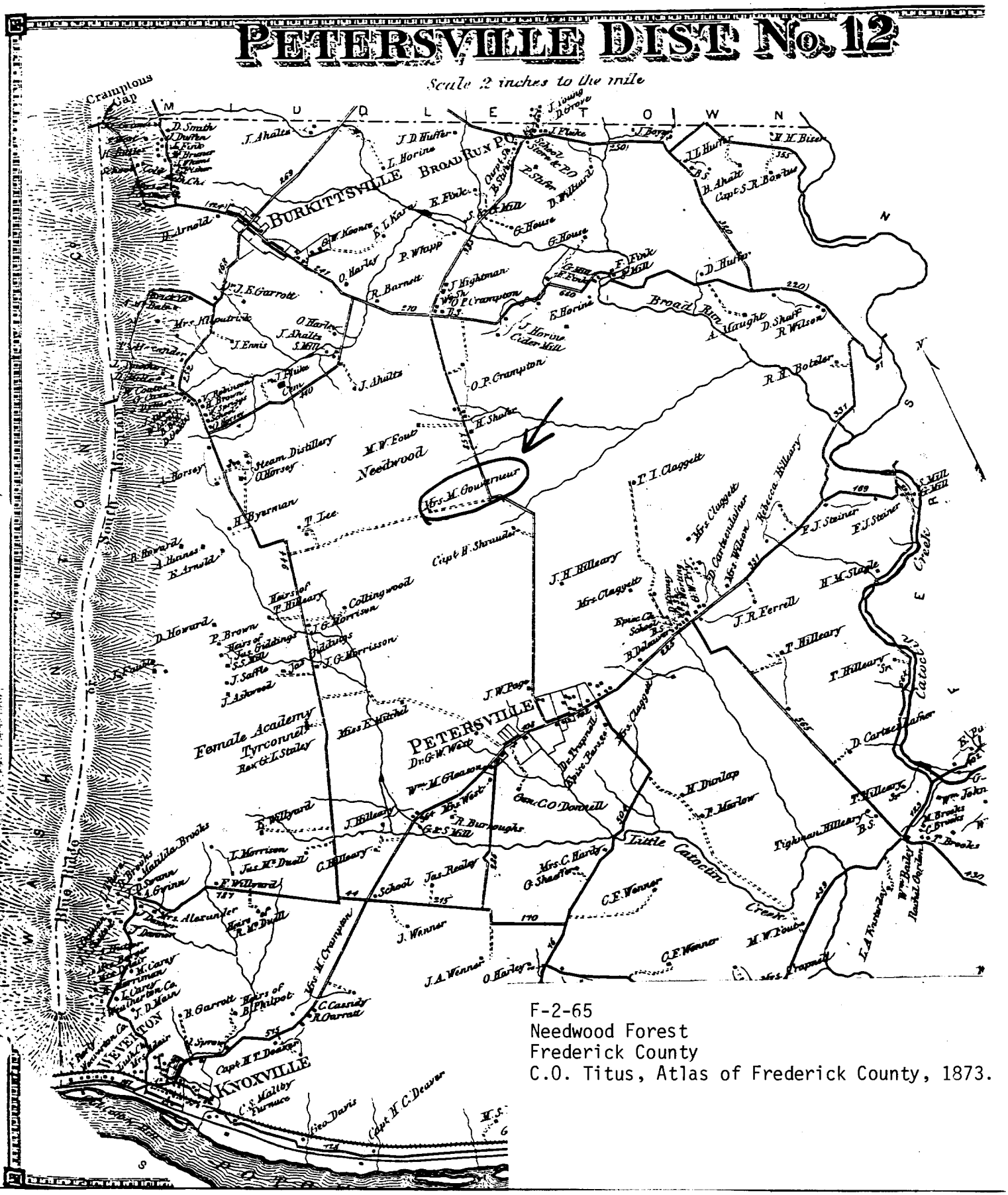
The carriage house is a one-story frame structure with board and batten siding and double vertical board doors on the north elevation. It has a standing seam metal gable roof and the interior has been remodeled as a storage area.

The stone tenant house is located southwest of the main dwelling house. It is built of rubble stone with brick gables probably rebuilt in the early 20th century. Interior end chimneys and a composition gable roof finish the building. The three-bay east elevation has wood lintels and sills and 6/6 windows with louvred shutters on the first story. On the west elevation is a one-story shed addition which attaches a probably formerly free-standing frame summer kitchen to the main stone section. The summer kitchen has board and batten siding and a one-story porch on the north side. An interior end chimney is located on the west gable end, but the interior fireplace opening has been closed off.

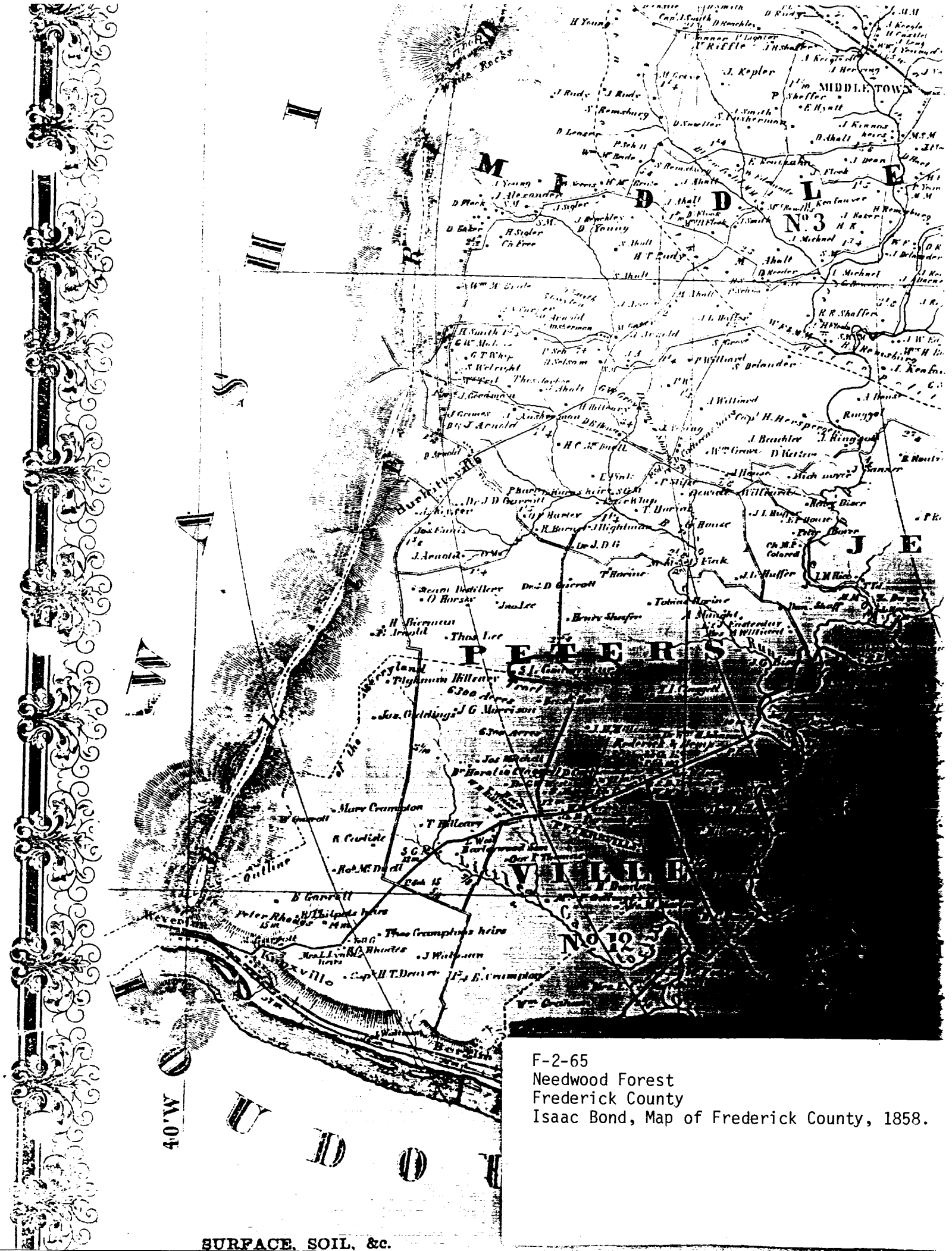
The frame barn is a small, rectangular building with vertical and board and batten siding located west of the rest of the group of buildings. It has a corrugated metal roof with an open-side shed at right angle to the main part. The barn may have been used as a cow barn, but is now a chicken house and equipment shed.

8.1 Significance (Continued)

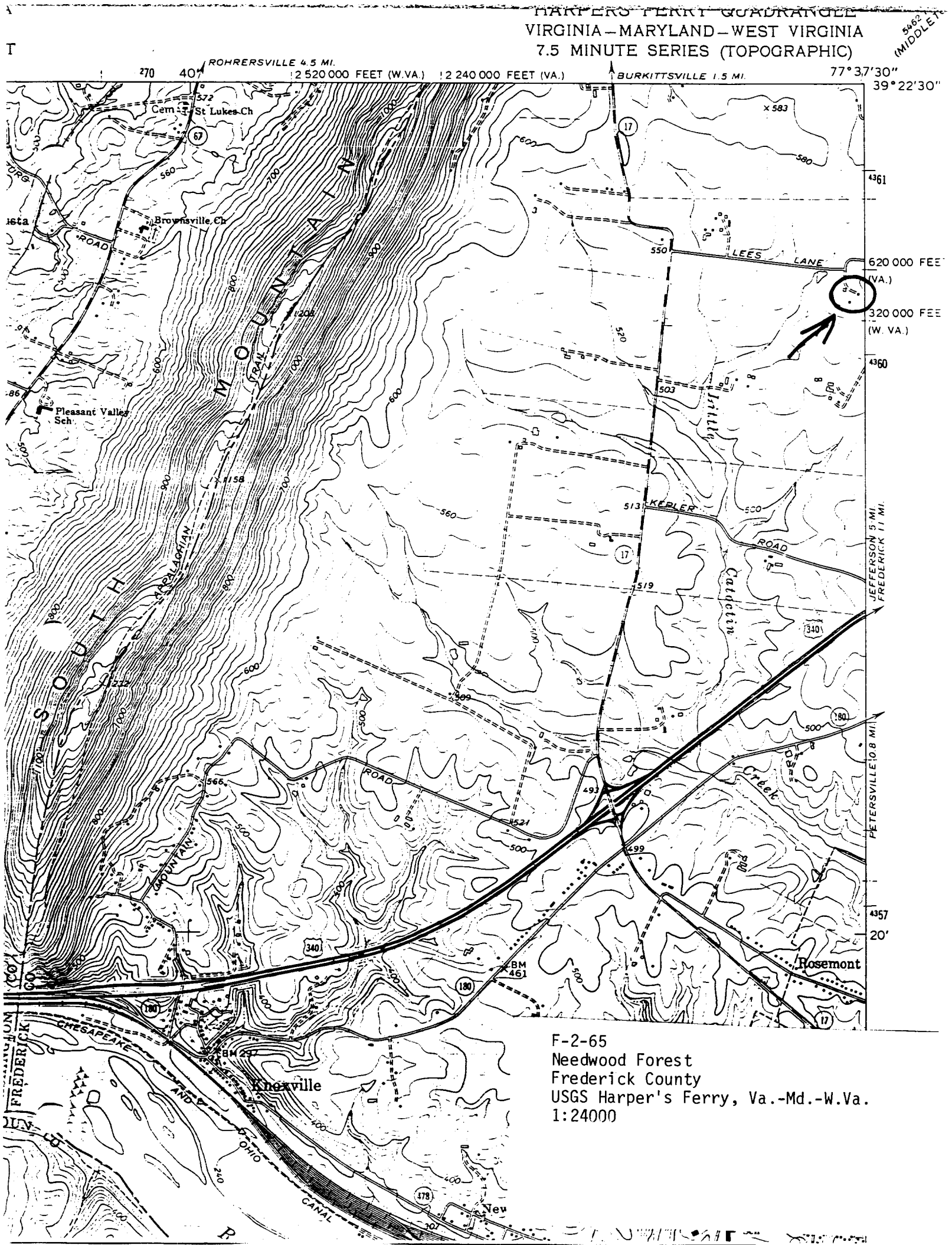
demolished prior to 1943 and the garden no longer exists. According to a photo of about 1910, a chicken house was located south of the house and sheep grazed on the south lawn. Mrs. Randel stated that one remaining log slave house of a row was still standing during her childhood in the early 20th century. This structure was also demolished later.



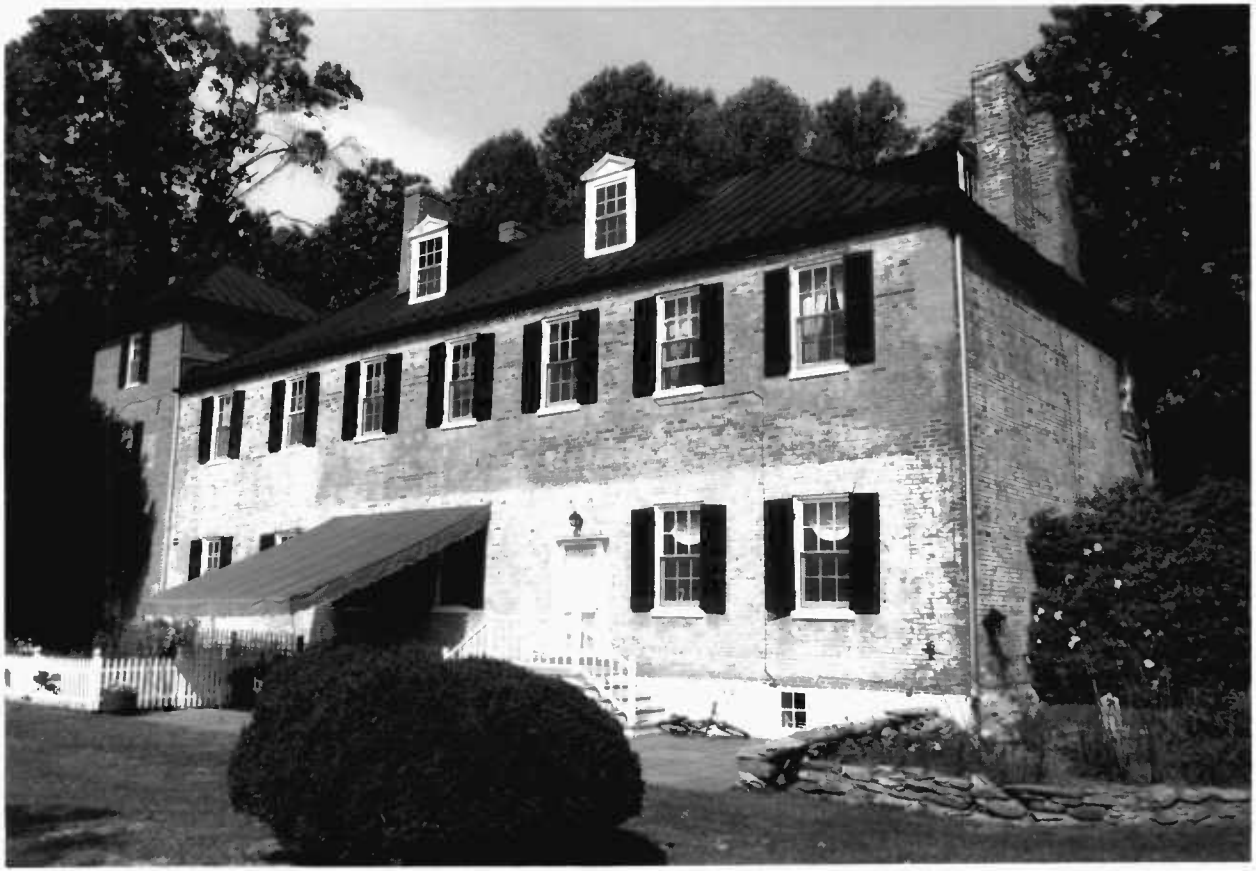
F-2-65
Needwood Forest
Frederick County
C.O. Titus, Atlas of Frederick County, 1873.



F-2-65
Needwood Forest
Frederick County
Isaac Bond, Map of Frederick County, 1858.



F-2-65
Needwood Forest
Frederick County
USGS Harper's Ferry, Va.-Md.-W.Va.
1:24000



F-2 65
Needwood Forest
Frederick County
Photo: Janet Davis
October 1991
Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO Crownsville, Md.
Scanning elevation
2/9