

F-4-18

Bowlus-Holter Farmstead  
Braddock Heights vicinity  
Private

Ca. 1845-ca. 1862

The Bowlus-Holter Farmstead consists of a two-story log and frame house built in two sections from about 1845-50 to about 1862. A modern frame link connects a ca. 1850 summer kitchen to the main house. A frame wash house, also dating from about 1850, and an early 20th century frame garage moved to the farm from another property are located east of the house. The property also contains a non-contributing concrete block and frame horse barn, part of an extension to a larger barn which no longer exists. The farmstead is a fair example of a farmstead of the third quarter of the 19th century, showing the modest alterations linked to the level of agricultural prosperity during the last half of the 19th century. The farm was probably built by Stephen R. Bowlus, who was later a captain in the Home Guard during the Civil War. In 1862, he sold the farm to George B. Holter, who expanded the acreage and probably built the second section of the house and other outbuildings, most of which have been demolished. It remained in the Holter family until the first quarter of the 20th century.

F-4-18

Bowlus-Holter Farmstead

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:

Industrial/Urban Dominance, A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes:

Agriculture

Arch., Landscape Arch., Comm. Planning

Resource Types:

Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Suburban

Historic Function and Use:

Domestic/single dwelling/residence

Domestic/secondary structure/other dependencies

Know Design Source: None

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Bowlus-Holter Farmstead

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number Round Hill Road, north side  not for publicationcity, town Braddock Heights  vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Frederick

## 3. Classification

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

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

name George A. Simon

street &amp; number Box 2 telephone no.:

city, town Braddock Heights state and zip code Md. 21714

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber 647

street &amp; number 100 W. Patrick Street folio 127

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-4-18

<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.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 3

The Bowlus-Holter Farmstead consists of a two-story log dwelling with german siding with a frame connecting link to a log summer kitchen, a frame wash house with an exterior stone chimney, and a frame garage moved to the farm from another property. The house was built about 1850 and the attached summer kitchen and the wash house probably date from the same period. The garage appears to be an early 20th century structure. The farmstead is located on the north side of Round Hill Road on the ridge of Catoctin Mountain near Braddock Heights, Frederick County, Maryland. The farmstead is surrounded by a 1960's housing development.

The dwelling was built in two sections. The easternmost was probably the original, according to Mr. George Simon, the current owner, who provided a sketch floor plan. It was a one-room log house with a corner stair to the single room on the upper level. Probably after 1862, the house was extended with a section on the west side, adding another room with a fireplace on the party wall. The house probably attained its present appearance with this addition. It is generally rectangular, with a two-story porch on the south elevation. The north elevation has two widely spaced window bays. The sash is mostly 2/2, with some 1/1 replacement windows in various locations. The roof is standing seam metal. The german siding was probably applied in the last quarter of the 19th century. The originally free-standing summer kitchen was located directly south of the first section. It is one story in height with an exterior stone and brick chimney on the south. The siding is german. It was linked by a frame connection with the main house after 1960 and currently functions as the kitchen.

The garage is located directly east of the house and has board and batten siding over a frame structure. A single opening faces south and it has a corrugated metal gable roof. Mr. Simon moved the garage to the farmstead from another property after 1960; its date is probably in the first quarter of the 20th century. The wash house is located just east of the garage. It is a frame structure with vertical board siding and a single vertical board door in the southeast corner. An exterior stone and brick chimney is located on the north gable end. Single windows in the east and west elevations are 2/2. The gable roof is corrugated metal.

The property also contains a non-contributing concrete block and frame barn which was once an extension of a larger barn. It is the only remaining agricultural structure on the property, which Mr. Simon states once had several outbuildings in the area south and west of the present complex.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. F-4-18

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 checked="" 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** Ca. 1850-1862 **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. The Bowlus-Holter Farmstead is a fair example of a farmstead of the third quarter of the 19th century, with a log dwelling and two contemporary outbuildings which have been very little altered. The house was probably originally built about 1845-50 by Stephen R. Bowlus (ca. 1825-1898), who was later a captain in the Home Guard during the Civil War. Bowlus sold the property in 1862 to George B. Holter (1830-1908) who eventually expanded the farm to about 150 acres. The alterations to the main house probably occurred during the period 1862-1905 when Holter passed the property to his son Morris R. Holter. The modest expansion of the farm buildings exemplifies the middle class of Frederick County farmers who were able to achieve good, if not outstanding, economic results over long periods of cultivation by successive generations.

In the Ridge Road area on Catoctin Mountain, there are very few remaining agricultural groups, the region having been dominated by the development of Braddock Heights to the south by the Frederick and Middletown Railway. The Bowlus-Holter Farmstead is the most complete agricultural group in the vicinity of the village. Compared with the large farms in the Middletown and Monocacy Valleys, the farmstead is not as complete in the number of outbuildings remaining, and its formerly isolated setting has been compromised by the modern housing development surrounding it.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. F-4-18

Bond, Isaac, Map of Frederick County, 1858.  
Land Records of Frederick County  
Titus, C.O., Atlas of Frederick County, 1873  
Williams, T.J.C. and Folger McKinsey, History of Frederick County, V. 2, 1910. Reprinted  
Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1979, p.1100, 1275-1276.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 6 acres

Quadrangle name Middletown, Md.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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## Verbal boundary description and justification

Concurrent with Tax Map 66, Parcel 3.45

## 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 February 1992

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

city or town Frederick state Md. 21701

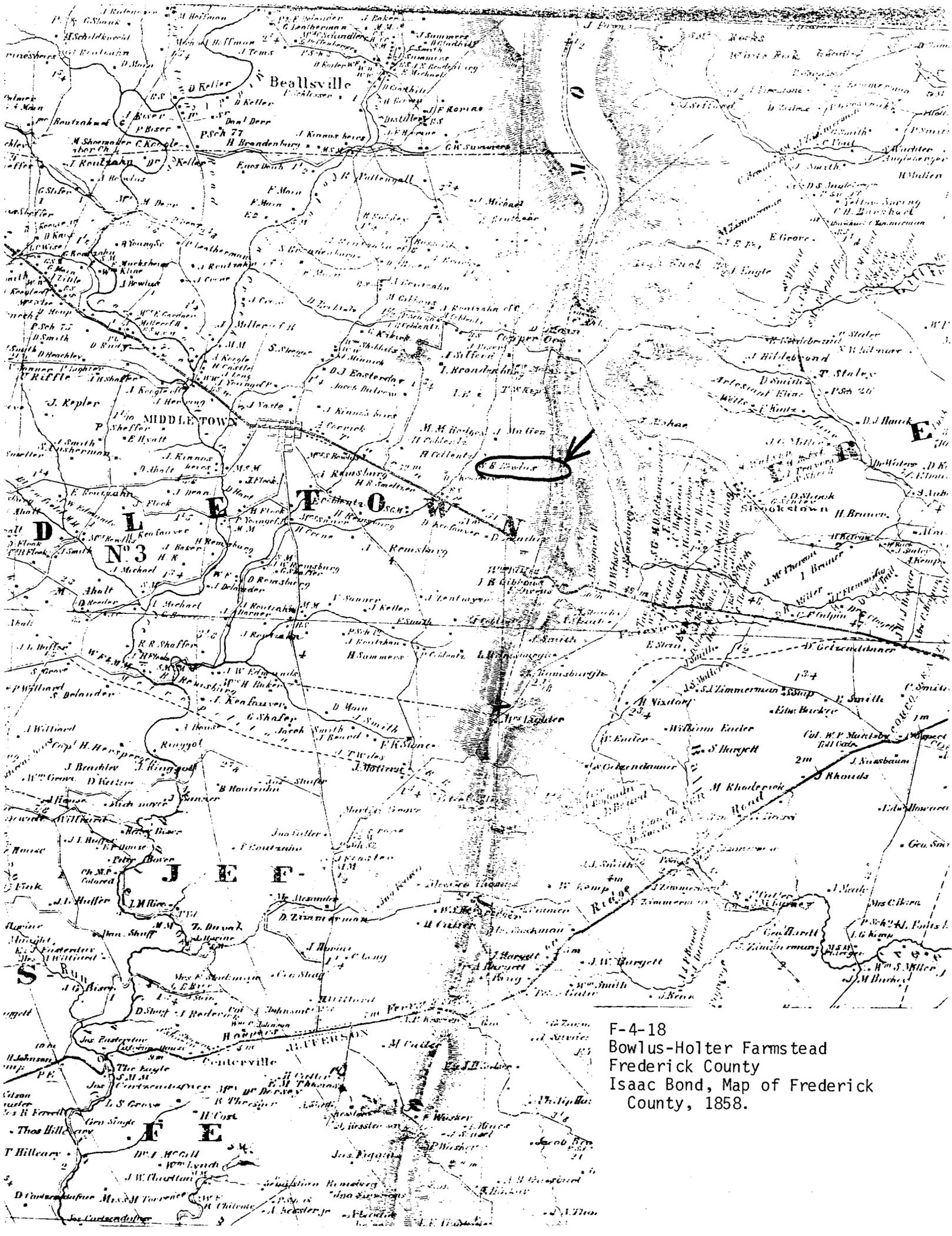
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

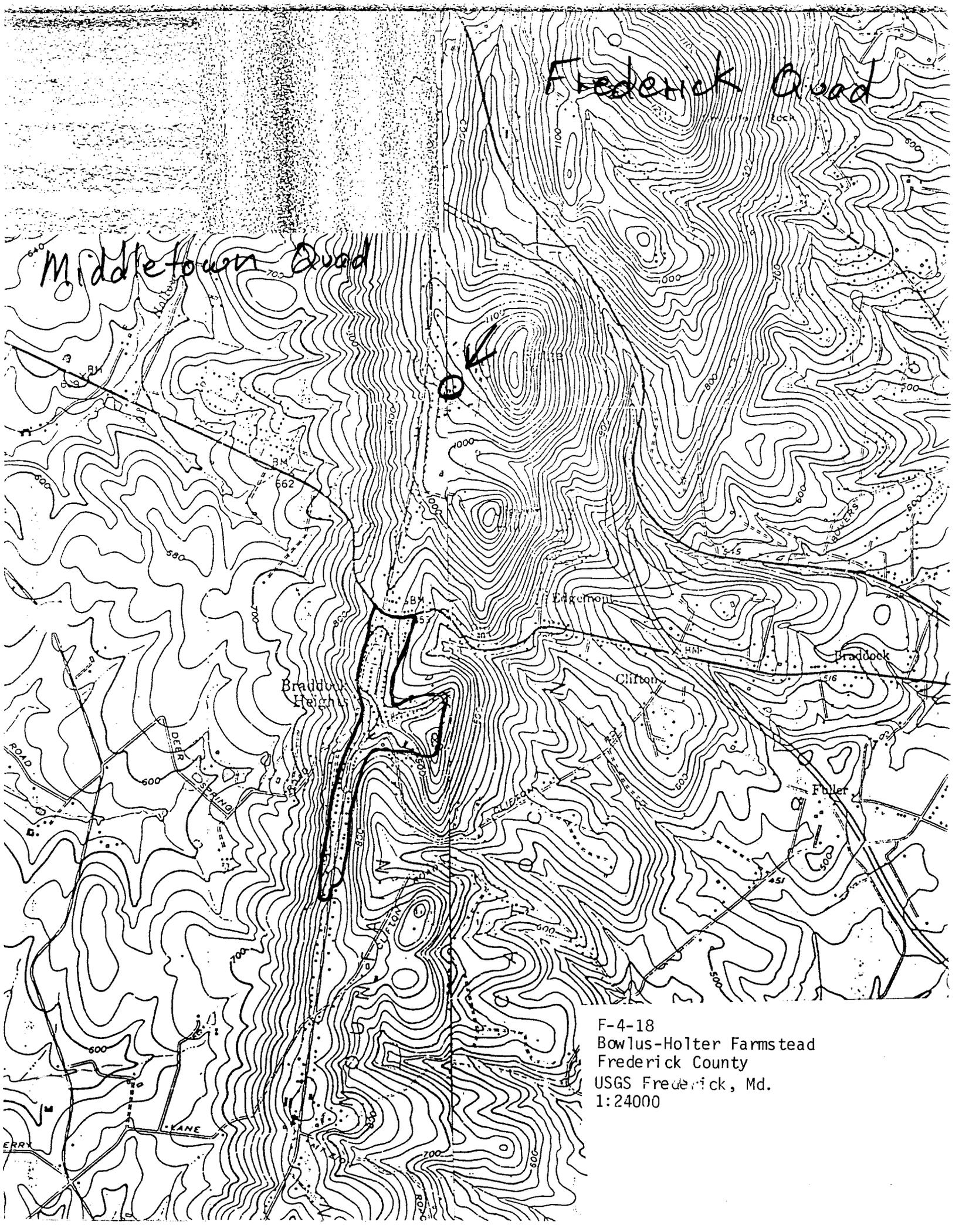
return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FEB 23 1992  
FBI - ANNAPOLIS





F-4-18  
Bowler-Holter Farmstead  
Frederick County  
Isaac Bond, Map of Frederick  
County, 1858.



F-4-18  
Bowlus-Holter Farmstead  
Frederick County  
USGS Frederick, Md.  
1:24000



F 2 13

Brachycephalus fuscus

10. 1. 1911

Prof. T. J. Van Dyke

January 1911

No. 1. 1. 1911. 1911

1. 1. 1911

1/3



F-4-18

See - 1/2 - of 100 - 100

100 - 100 - 100

100 - 100 - 100

100 - 100

100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100 - 100

North of 100 - 100

100



F-4 18

Bowling: 10 pins Four instead  
Frederick Cow-V

Photo: Janet Cow-V

Jan 21st 1992

1000. 1000. 1000. 5000. 5000. 10000. 10000.

Was: 10000. 10000. 10000. 10000.

2/2