

F-6-67

Ca. 1840

Houck House

Rocky Ridge vicinity

Private

The Houck House is a two story stone house with a 2 story rear stone ell facing north with the principal gable running east to west. Several outbuildings accompany the dwelling house including a large bank barn, a windmill and 3 sheds. The complex is significant in representing a house type in stone architecture: the 2 story, symmetrical 5-bay facade with a center entrance. Stone architecture was executed in a number of plans and forms in Frederick County; the Houck House exemplifies one of these. Although the property is no longer farmed, it was agriculturally prosperous judging from the scale of the barn and the house. A windmill that remains intact demonstrates a nineteenth century use of energy. The house is also important in remaining under the ownership of one family, the Houck family, for over one hundred years.

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Houck House
Rocky Ridge
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 1815-1870
Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930

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

Resource Type:
Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use:
Domestic/single dwelling/residence
Domestic/secondary structure/storage sheds
Agriculture/Subsistence/agricultural outbuilding/barn,
tractor shed
Industry/Processing/Extraction/energy facility/windmill

Known 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 Houck House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 10329 Mumma Ford Road not for publicationcity, town Rocky Ridge 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 | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <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 Anna V. and Mary Estelle Houck

street & number 10329 Mumma Ford Road telephone no.:

city, town Rocky Ridge state and zip code MD. 21778

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber 872

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street folio 153

city, town Frederick state MD. 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Anthony James Survey

date 1974 federal state county local

pository for survey records Frederick County Dept. of Planning & Zoning

city, town Frederick state MD.

7. Description

Survey No. F-6-67

Condition

excellent

good

fair

deteriorated

ruins

unexposed

Check one

unaltered

altered

Check one

original site

moved

date of move _____

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

(Typed on separate sheet)

8. Significance

Survey No. F-6-67

| 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/ 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

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.

(Typed on separate sheet)

7.1 Description:

The Houck House is located on Munna Ford Road in close proximity to the Monocacy River in the Rocky Ridge vicinity. The two story stone house with a 2 story rear stone ell faces north with the principal gable running east to west. Several outbuildings accompany the dwelling house including a large bank barn, a windmill and 3 sheds.

Built circa 1840, this two story stone house of uncoursed fieldstone has a symmetrical 5-bay facade with a center entrance. Large stone quoining was utilized at the corners. The gable roofline is covered with wood shingles and has two interior end brick chimneys. Gable ends have an incomplete cornice returns. The rear 2 story stone ell possibly predates the main section; it is 2 bays wide with a gable roof of wood shingles. Its roofline intersects with the gable on the main section and has an interior end brick chimney.

The main facade, facing north, has a center entrance bay with a double panelled door. The door has a 4 light transom. Symmetrical fenestration is composed of 1/1 windows (replacements). A one story, full-facade open porch has a shingled flat roof and tuscan columns. The west and east elevations of the main block are two bays wide with 1/1 windows; windows on the second floor are set closer together than those on the first. A door to the basement is exposed on the east elevation. The south elevation is connected to the rear ell; only one bay wide is not covered by the ell and it has no openings.

The west elevation of the ell is two bays in width with a one bay, flat-roofed, entry porch. The center bay projects from the wall and is 3-sided with weatherboard. The surrounding porch has turned columns. The south elevation reveals that one-third of the ell is sheathed in plywood on the south and east elevations. It was probably a double story porch that became enclosed. Windows in the stone portion are 1/1. The east elevation has ribbons of windows on the second floor and a one story enclosed entry porch with ribbon windows on the first.

The bank barn (circa 1890) is situated across the road from the house. It has a stone foundation and is covered in vertical siding. The gable roof is sheathed in corrugated tin. The upper floor of the barn was constructed of machine sawn lumber; the lower, hand hewn beams and posts. The west elevation, the banked section, has 6 sliding door openings with louvred windows in two bays. The east elevation has 7 stall openings. A vertical sided tractor shed is located several feet to the west of the barn.

Two other sheds are located close to the house; they are both vertical sided. A windmill is also close to the house; it was formerly utilized to generate water that ran underground to the barn.

8.1 Significance:

The Houck House is significant in representing a house type in stone architecture: the 2 story, symmetrical 5-bay facade with a center entrance. Stone architecture was executed in a number of plans and forms in Frederick County; the Houck House exemplifies one of these. Although the property is no longer farmed, it was agriculturally prosperous judging from the scale of the barn and the house. A windmill that remains intact demonstrates a nineteenth century use of energy. The house is also important in remaining under the ownership of one family, the Houck family, for over one hundred years.

Within its historic context, the Houck House serves as an example for many other stone houses in the county that resemble it. The Creagerstown Election District is particularly noted as retaining a large number of early stone dwelling houses. Many of these houses provide excellent studies of their type. The Houck House has sustained some alterations partially due to a fire in 1978. These changes (such as 1/1 windows) have affected the integrity of the building but it has remained a good representation of its house type. The late nineteenth century bank barn on the property is in excellent condition and contributes to the significance of the property in its context. The windmill on the property is unique in the region where not many windmills have survived.

In a previous survey form, this house is referred to as "All is Safe Now". In 1858, the house was owned by Doctor Eichelberger; in 1873, A.T. Norris resided there. The Houck family took residence by the 1890s and have owned the property since that time.

F-6-67
Houck House
Rocky Ridge vicinity
Frederick County
C.O. Titus, Atlas of Frederick County, 1873

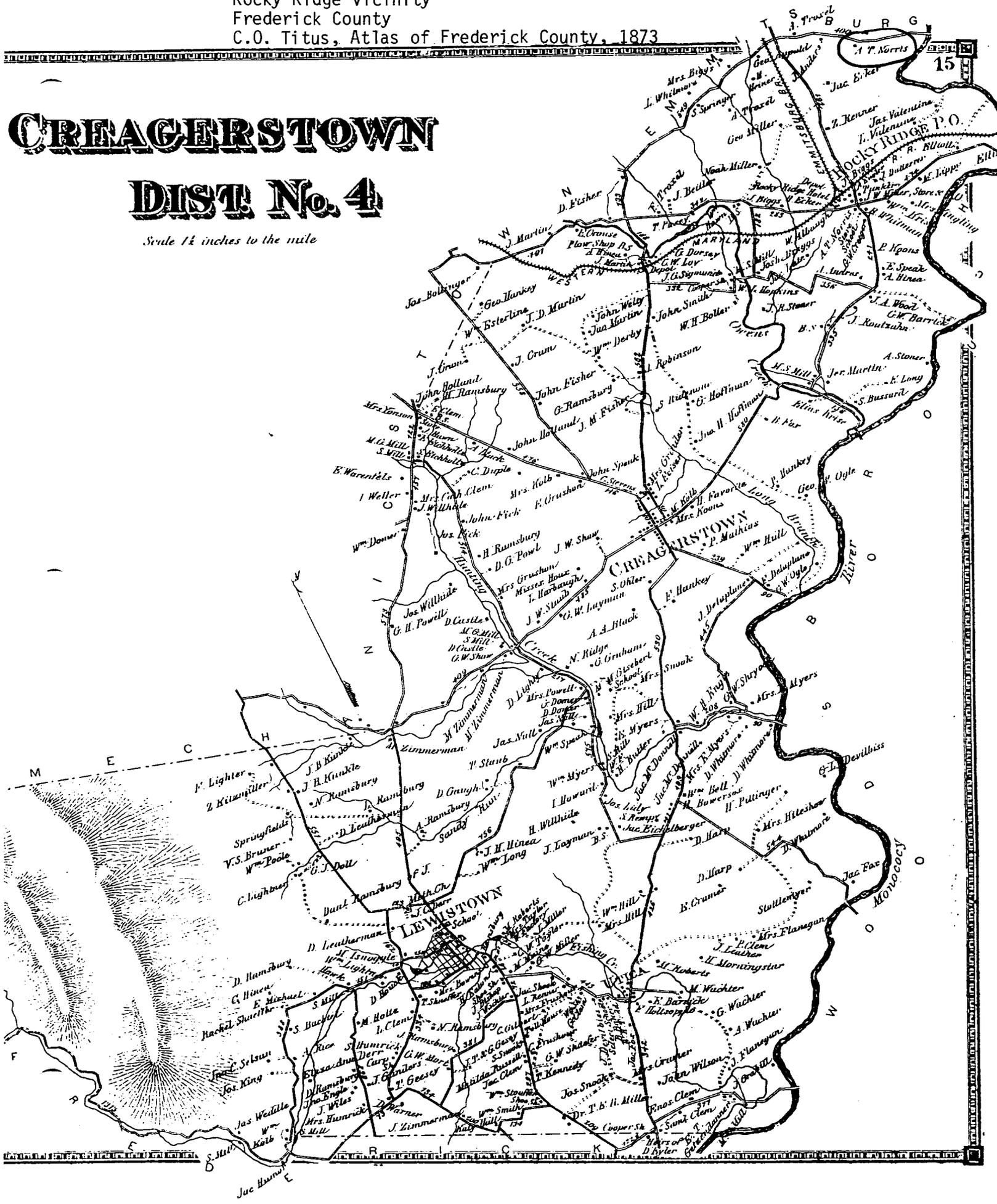


15

CREAGERSTOWN

DIST No. 4

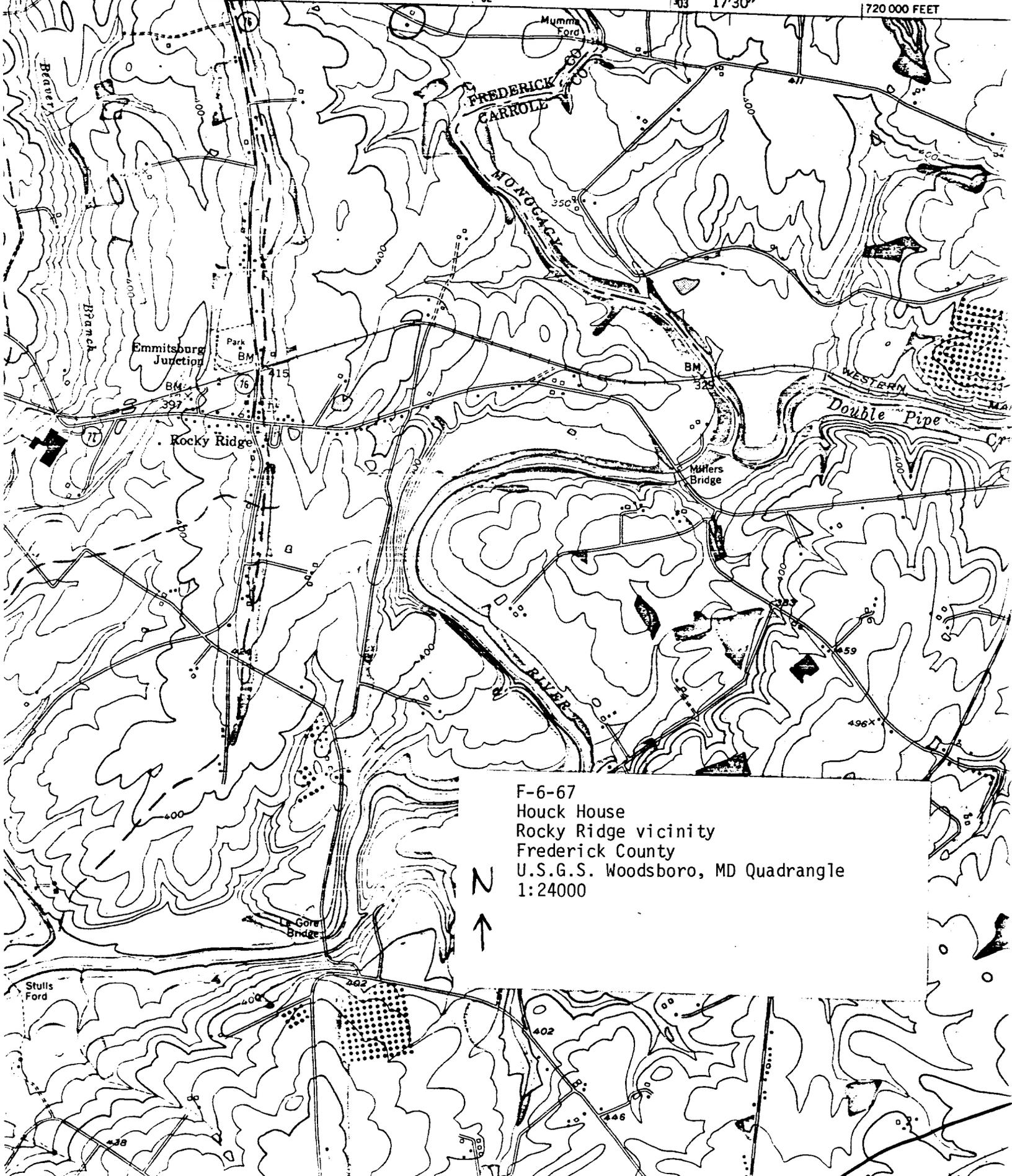
Scale 1 1/2 inches to the mile



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS

5563 III NE
(EMMITSBURG)

20' 300 EMMITSBURG 6.1 MI. APPOLDS 0.2 MI. 301 302 303 17'30" 720 000 FEET



F-6-67
Houck House
Rocky Ridge vicinity
Frederick County
U.S.G.S. Woodsboro, MD Quadrangle
1:24000



F6-67

Hack Hase

10329 Mumma Ford Road

Rocky Ridge vicinity

Fredenck County

Photo: MARY K SHIPE

APRIL 1991

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis MD

note elevation

1/3



F-6-67

Hack Hase

10329 Mumma Ford Road

Kocky Ridge vicinity

Frederick County

Photo. MARY K SHIPE

April 1991

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
Thurgood MD

South elevation

2/3



F-6-67

HOUCK HOUSE

10329 Mumma Ford Road

Rocky Ridge vicinity

Fredrick County

Photo: MARY K SHIPE

APRIL 1991

Neg. Loc: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis MD

BARN - south elevation

3/3