

F-6-85

Ca. 1900

Red Bird Lane House

Catoctin Furnace

Private

Red Bird Lane is located on the northern edge of Catoctin Furnace, Maryland. A row of six log houses, probable "worker's housing", is situated on Red Bird Lane. All of the buildings sit on the east side of the road, facing the west. One of the houses that has retained a high level of integrity is located on 6822 Red Bird Lane. Constructed circa 1900, this 1 & 1/2 story log building is sheathed in german siding. It represents the concentration of six log houses. Almost identical in plan and form, these buildings exemplify the use of vernacular log building into the twentieth century. They may have served as worker's housing for the nearby furnace.

F-6-85
Red Bird Lane House
Thurmont vicinity
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 1870-1930 A.D.

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

Resource Type:
Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Industrial Village

Historic Function and Use:
Domestic/single dwelling/residence
Domestic/secondary structure/wash house, outhouse, sheds
Agricultural/Subsistence/animal facility/chicken coop

Known Design Source: None

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. F-6-85

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Red Bird Lane House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 6822 Red Bird Lane not for publication

city, town Thurmont vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county County

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 Betty E. Miller

street & number 6822 Red Bird Lane telephone no.:

city, town Thurmont state and zip code MD 21788

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber 779

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street folio 541

city, town Frederick state MD 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

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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

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<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 checked="" 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

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:

Red Bird Lane is located on the northern edge of Catoctin Furnace, Maryland. A row of six log houses, probable "worker's housing, is situated on Red Bird Lane. All of the buildings sit on the east side of the road, facing the west.

The six buildings have the same original plan and form and are of log construction. Three of the buildings are sheathed in aluminum siding, two, in german siding, and one, in asphalt shingling. All of the houses are 1 & 1/2 stories. They vary in width from 2 to 4 bays with one being a double pen log plan (6814 Red Bird Lane). The gable rooflines are oriented on a north-south axis.

One of the houses that has retained a high level of integrity is located on 6822 Red Bird Lane. Constructed circa 1900, this 1 & 1/2 story log building is sheathed in german siding. The gable roof of standing seam tin has one exterior end concrete chimney. A one story german-sided addition with a standing seam tin gable roof extends from the rear elevation. It has a center concrete chimney.

The main (west) elevation has a center door and two 3/1 windows on the first floor and two 4 & 4 casement windows on the upper half floor. A one story open porch covers the three bays with square columns on a concrete base. The east elevation has 3/1 windows on the first floor and 4 & 4 casement windows on the upper half floor. The north and south gable ends have 3/1 windows and 1/1 attic windows.

The addition has pairs of 3/1 windows on the north and south elevations. A small enclosed porch with a shed roof projects from the east elevation. It also has 3/1 paired windows.

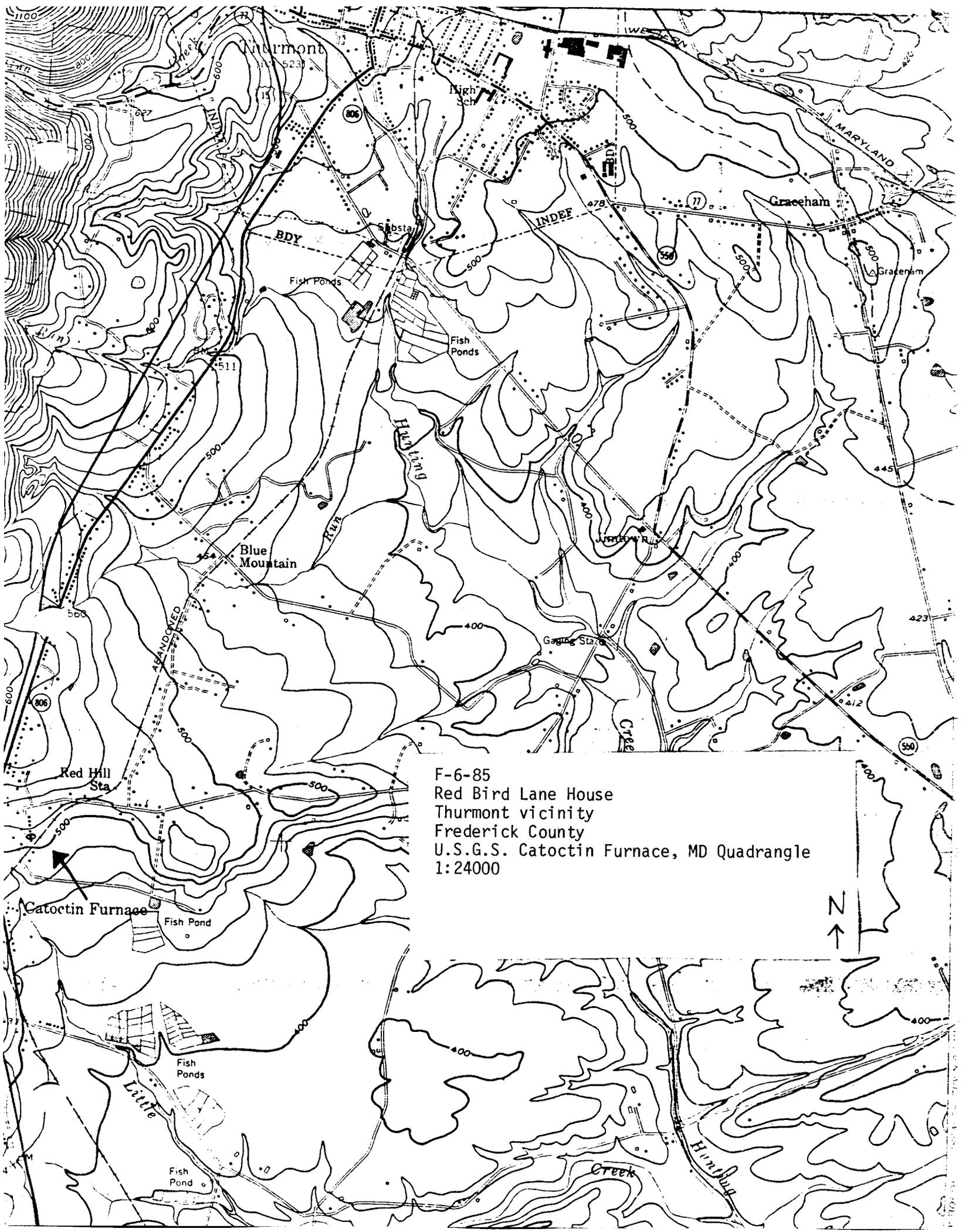
A cluster of domestic outbuildings is situated to the east of the house. A one story german sided washhouse has a gable roof of standing seam tin running east to west. There are two 6/6 windows and a center door on the south elevation. There is a one story concrete building next to the washhouse. A tongue and grooved outhouse is located several feet from the washhouse next to a vertical sided shed. A german-sided chicken coop (furthest from the house) has a shed roof.

8.1 Significance

The Red Bird Lane House represents a concentration of six log houses in close proximity to Catoctin Furnace. Almost identical in plan and form, these buildings exemplify the use of vernacular log building into the twentieth century. They may have served as worker's housing for the nearby furnace.

Other concentrations of buildings that suggest worker's housing are located in other sections of Catoctin Furnace and in Thurmont. Some later forms are the shotgun house while others are simple frame dwellings. The houses on Red Bird Lane may be the only concentration of identical log buildings dating from circa 1900. Overall, they have retained a good level of integrity.

These dwelling units were probably constructed by 1900. The iron works at Catoctin Furnace operated from the eighteenth century through 1910 and produced pig iron (Williams, Vol. I, 342). The company began to decline in the late nineteenth century due to increased competition from larger companies in the country.



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Frederick County
U.S.G.S. Catoclin Furnace, MD Quadrangle
1:24000





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6822 Red Bird Lane

Thurmont vicinity

Fredrick County

photo: MARY K SHIPE

May 1991

Neg. loc: MHT

west elevation

1/2



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Red Bird Lane House

6822 Red Bird Lane

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Photo: MARY K SHIPE

May 1991

Neg. loc: MHT

East elevation + outbldg.

2/2