

G-V-B-079

John G. Hoffman House
Gorman
Private

ca.1897

The John G. Hoffman House stands high on the side of a hill facing Gorman and Gormanian to the northeast. The house is a largely proportioned, two story, balloon frame building on a stone foundation. Its basic configuration is a five bay by three bay square plan with a steeply pitched cross gable roof rehabilitation most of the exterior ornamentation was removed. The interior is a double pile, center hall plan with a fireplace in each room and servants' quarters in the attic. A small frame barn and another smaller outbuilding are also included with the site.

The John G. Hoffman House is one of the grandest houses in the rural areas of Garrett County both in terms of size and details. Although the exterior has been altered and stripped of its ornamentation, the interior does retain its original decoration which includes carved stone fireplace surrounds, interior shutters, ornate staircases leading to both the second floor and the attic level, and servants quarters. It is thought that the fireplace surround were imported from Italy. This house was built for Hoffman as a summer home.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

John G. Hoffman House

AND/OR COMMON

John G. Hoffman House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

US Route 50, N side, .6 mi. SW of Md. Rt. 560

CITY, TOWN

Gorman

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Garrett County

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Frank W. Robinette

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Garrett County Courthouse

Liber #: 278

Folio #: 121

STREET & NUMBER

Third and Alder Streets

CITY, TOWN

Oakland

STATE

Maryland 21550

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

G-V-B-079

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The John G. Hoffman House stands high on the side of a hill facing Gorman and Gormanian to the northeast. The house is a largely proportioned, two story, balloon frame building on a stone foundation. Its basic configuration is a five bay by three bay square plan with a steeply pitched cross gable roof rehabilitation most of the exterior ornamentation was removed. The interior is a double pile, center hall plan with a fireplace in each room and servants' quarters in the attic. A small frame barn and another smaller outbuilding are also included with the site.

The facade (E elevation) has a symmetrical, five bay, center door arrangement, three bays across on the first floor and five bays across on the second floor. A pair of raised five-panel doors and a large two-light transom fill the doorframe. The windows on this elevation, and the other elevations of the main block, are elongated 1/1 sash, the sash having been recently replaced. A smaller 1/1 sash pierces each gable. According to the owners, a porch with elaborate spindle ornamentation was removed from the facade.

The south elevation is articulated by two, two-story bay windows with shallowly pitched hipped roofs and lattice work around their foundations. The north elevation is pierced by three bays of 1/1 sash windows asymmetrically spaced on the wall.

The rear wing occupies only half of the west elevation on the main block, leaving room for a window and a door on that wall. The shed-roofed porch that shelters this is a recent addition. The wing is a full two stories high, but appears shorter than the main block because of the shallower pitch of its gable roof. The rooms were removed from its west end, and all of its window openings have been rearranged and replaced with modern sash. The interior of the wing houses a modern kitchen and bathrooms.

All of the exterior wall surfaces have been sheathed with aluminum siding. This process caused the removal of the door and window surrounds as well as any other ornamentation that may have been present. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has two large brick chimneys situated on the north-wouth ridgeline, one on either side of the crossing ridgeline. Six scroll brackets, embellish the short piece of box cornice that forms the gable end returns at each corner.

The interior is divided into four rooms of equal size per floor. A seventeen tread, straight run staircase rises along the south wall of the hall with turned balusters spaced two per tread. The newel post is square, has reeded surfaced, rope moldings at the corners, and sunburst panels near the top. From the second floor a similar flight rises sixteen treads to the attic. Each of the eight rooms is equipped with a fireplace at the center of its partition wall. Seven of the fireplace surrounds are made of carved stone. The fireplace in the second floor, southwest room has a metal surround that is painted to look like stone. Interior shutters are provided for the bay windows and five-panel doors are found throughout the house.

Two small servants bedrooms are located in the attic, set up as simple partitions at the north and south ends of this otherwise unfinished level.

The barn is a gable-roofed, frame building with board and batten siding on a white washed stone foundation. One of the rooms on the first floor is paneled with vertical tongue and groove board, and is thought to have been used as a tack room. Servants quarters occupy the second floor.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

G-V-B-079

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/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 type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1897

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John G. Hoffman House is one of the grandest houses in the rural areas of Garrett County both in terms of size and details. Although the exterior has been altered and stripped of its ornamentation, the interior does retain its original decoration which includes carved stone fireplace surrounds, interior shutters, ornate staircases leading to both the second floor and the attic level, and servants quarters. It is thought that the fireplace surrounds were imported from Italy.¹

In 1889, Hoffman's enterprise, T.G. Hoffman and Sons, assumed operation of the tannery in Gormanina, one of the largest tanneries in the state. Previous to this, Hoffman's business had been based on Wheeling, West Virginia. This residence was built for Hoffman as a summer home.²

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- ¹ Interview with Susan Robinette, 17 August 1981.
- ² Merritt Wilson, Jr. The Wilson Family. (Atkens, Ohio: Lazhead Press, 1971), p. 497.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE		Valerie Cesna, Historic Sites Surveyor	
ORGANIZATION	Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines	DATE	August 1981
STREET & NUMBER	Shaw House, 21 State Circle	TELEPHONE	(301) 269-2438
CITY OR TOWN	Annapolis	STATE	Maryland 21401

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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

G-V-B-079

John G. Hoffman House

Continuation of #7 description

The other outbuilding is a very small, gable-roofed, frame structure covered with German siding.

Chain of Title

G-V-B-079

John G. Hoffman House

Garrett County Land Records:

22 April 1967

liber 278, folio 121

Grantees: Frank W. and Cora Susan Robinette, of Garrett County

Grantor: Pearl Martin, widow, of Garrett County

Consideration: \$10.00, "and other good and valuable consideration"

Acreage: 29.25

Notes: "... being part of Lot 'H' of the subdivision of a tract of land called 'Winston,' which lies on the north and west limits of U.S. Route No. 50, which is particularly described as follows, to-wit:..." (meters and bounds given) Excepting all coal and mineral rights.

21 May 1952

liber 174, folio 25

Grantees: Carl A. and Pearl Martin, of Garrett County

Grantors: Doyle B. Crosten and Mary K. Crosten, of Tucker County, WV

Consideration: \$4,500.00 (\$2,650.71 cash in hand, \$1,849.29 mortgage)

Acreage: 29.25

Notes: Coal and mineral rights excepted from deed.

2 April 1948

liber 151, folio 223

Grantees: Doyle B. and Mary K. Crosten, of Grant County, WV

Grantor: Myers Coal Company, Incorporated, a Corporation of the State of WV

Consideration: \$3,500.00

Acreage: 29.25

1 May 1946

liber 145, folio 152

Grantee: Myers Coal Company, Inc., a corporation of WV

Grantors: Howard S. and Louise E. Myers

Consideration: \$10.00, "and other good and valuable consideration"

Acreage: 37, more or less

Notes: Lot "H" in Garrett County (37 acres), and several lots in Jefferson County and Ranson County, WV.

26 December 1944

liber 134, folio 434

Grantee: Howard Myers, of Jefferson County WV

Grantors: Emroy D. and Mary H. Bolden, of Garrett County

Consideration: \$7,500.00

Acreage: 37, more or less

26 March 1942

liber 126, folio 448

Grantee: Emroy D. Bolden, of Garrett County
 Grantors: Madge H. McCarthy, wife of Frank McCarthy, and Eleanor M. and
 George H. Heiner, of Ohio County, WV
 Consideration: \$6,000.00
 Acreage: 37, more or less

27 May 1937

liber 116, folio 245

Grantees: Madge H. McCarthy and Eleanor M. Heiner
 Grantor: The National Exchange Bank of Wheeling, Trustee
 Consideration: \$5.00
 Acreage: 37, more or less

28 August 1936

liber 114, folio 69

Grantee: The National Exchange Bank of Wheeling, Trustee
 Grantor: John A. Hiener, unmarried
 Consideration: \$5.00
 Acreage: 37, more or less

Notes: Same lot conveyed by John G. Hoffman, Jr., widower, to Christina Hiener, widow, 22 January 1898 (liber 34, folio 139); Christina Hiener later became the wife of said John G. Hoffman and died a widow; said property was devised unto John A. Hiener by Christina Hoffman (earlier named Christina Hiener) by her will dated 21 March 1929, and one codicil dated 21 September 1929, a certified copy being probated as a foreing will in the Orphans Court of Garrett County, Will Book D, Page 342.

22 January 1898

liber 34, folio 139

Grantee: Christina Hiener, widow, of Wheeling, WV
 Grantor: John G. Hoffman Jr., widower, of Wheeling, WV
 Consideration: \$222.00
 Acreage: 37, more or less

28 May 1897

liber 32, folio 354

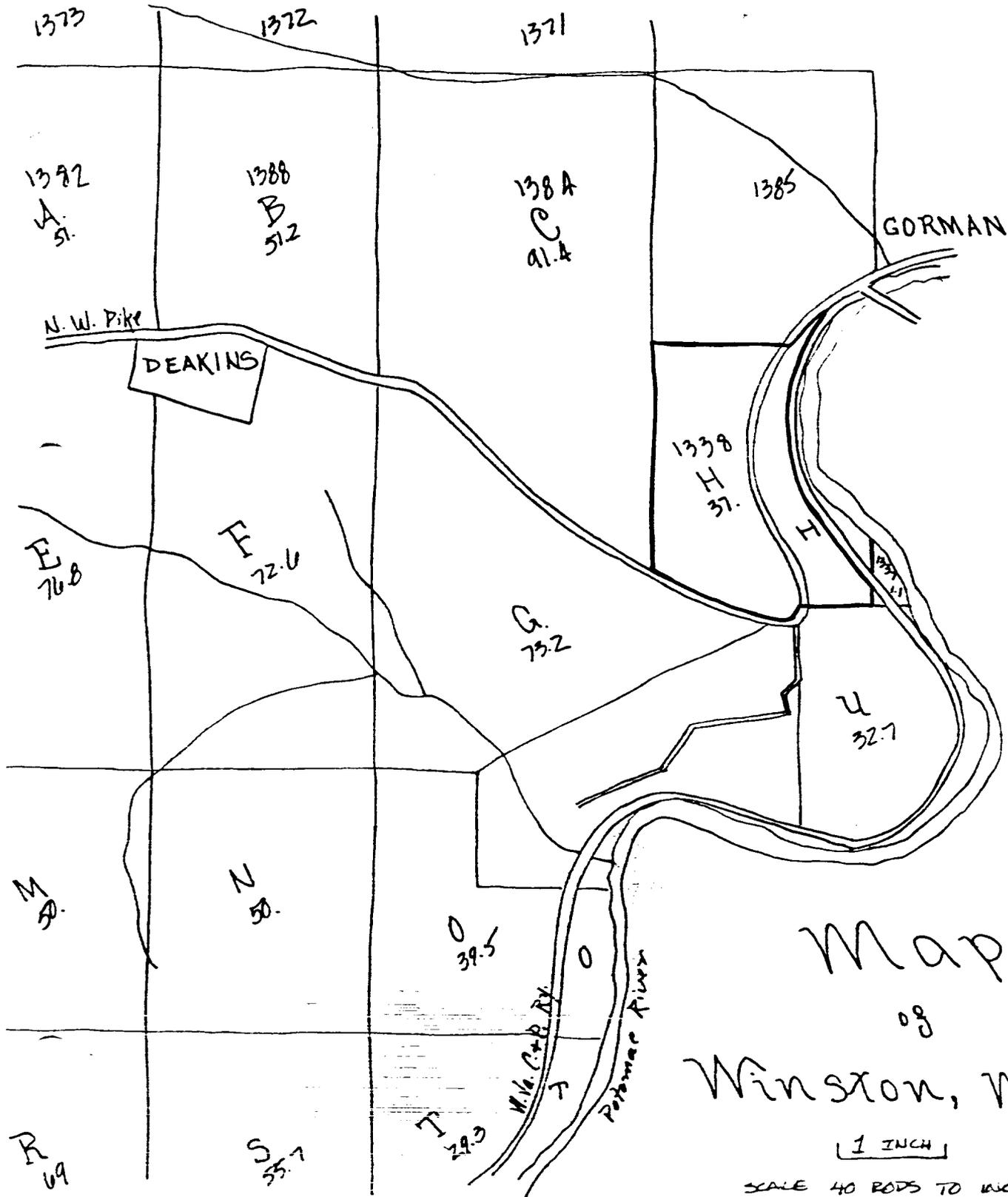
Grantee: John G. Hoffman, Jr.
 Grantors: John F. Mason, R. and Helen Mason, of the city of Baltimore
 Consideration: \$222.00
 Acreage: 37, more or less

Notes: "all that lot marked H on the plat and subdivision of Winston....
 Together with the buildings and improvements thereupon erected...."

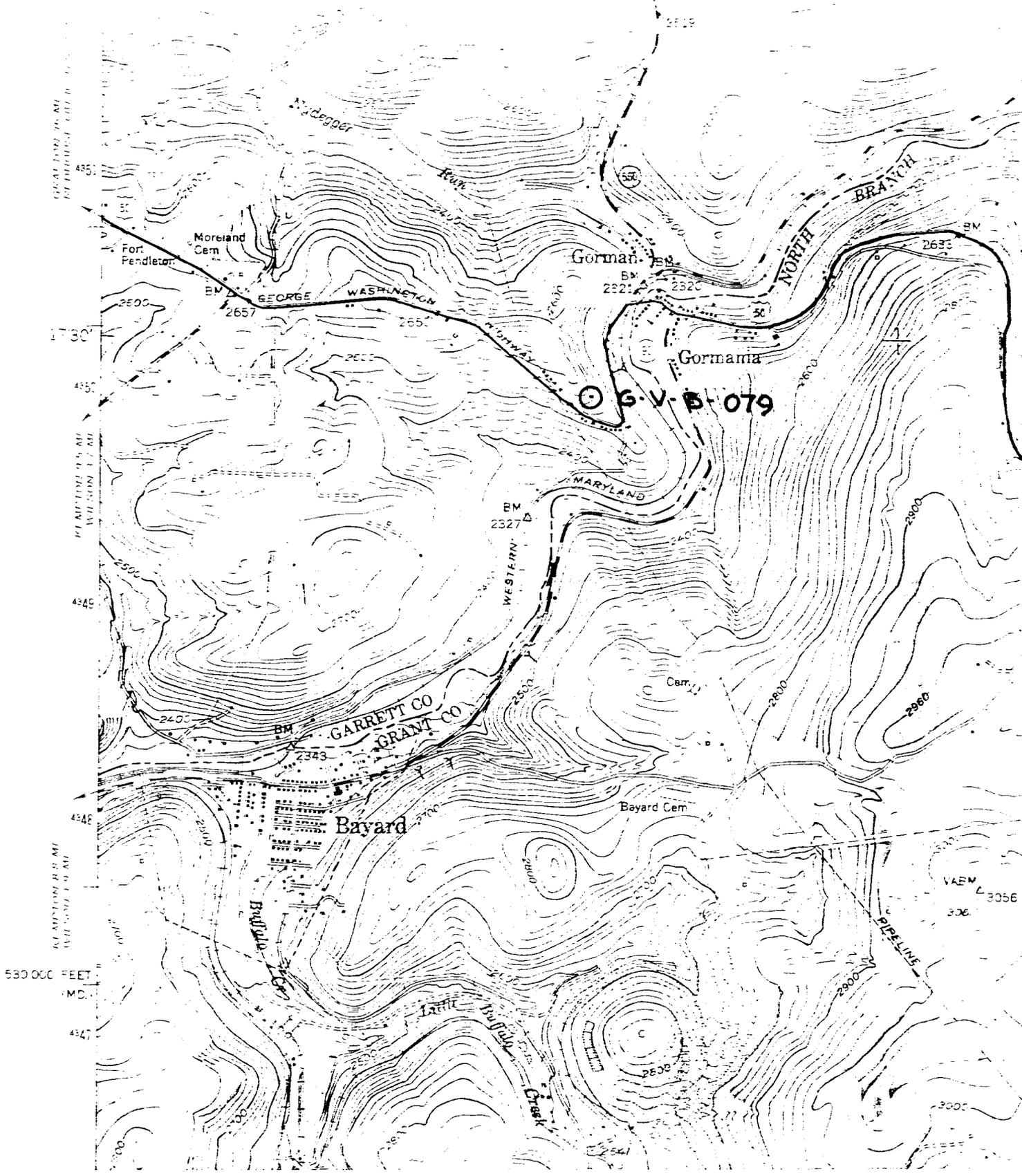
map of Winston, Maryland, 1897, drawn by
W. McCulloh Brown

Garrett County Land Records, Plat Book 1,
page 16.

(THIS MAP TEASED FROM ORIGINAL)



Map
of
Winston, Md.
1 INCH
SCALE 40 RODS TO INCH



Gorman, MD-WV
 USGS 7.5 Minute Series
 Scale - 1:24,000
 1949; photorevised 1974

Site #: G-V-B-079
 John G. Hoffman House
 US Route 50, N side, .6 mile SW of
 MD Rt. 560



G-V-B-079

John G. Hoffman House

Garrett County, MD

Valerie Cesna 8/17/81

Facade: E & N elevations



G-V-B-079

John G. Hoffman House

Garrett County, MD

Valerie Cesna 8/17/81

S elevation