

HA-398

Benjamin Silver House
3646 Harmony Church Road
Darlington vicinity
Private

1856

The Benjamin Silver House is the main building in the Silver farm complex, an important example of agricultural life and economy in Harford County during the second half of the 19th century. This complex is virtually complete as it existed in the late 19th century. Benjamin Silver, Jr. was one of the original five trustees of the Deer Creek Harmony Presbyterian Church and remained a prominent citizen of the Darlington area throughout his life.

NOT TO BE RELEASED FOR PUBLICATION WITHOUT OWNER'S CONSENT

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Benjamin Silver House

AND/OR COMMON

Moxley House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

3646 Harmony Church Road

CITY, TOWN

Darlington

 VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Howard N. Moxley et al.

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

3646 Harmony Church Road

CITY, TOWN

Darlington

 VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

MD 21034

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: 805

Folio #: 398

STREET & NUMBER

40 So. Main St.

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE
MD**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Maryland Historical Trust Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

c. 1970

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE
MD

7 DESCRIPTION

NA-399

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input 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 Benjamin Silver House is a 2½ story stone house dating from 1856 with late 19th and 20th century additions, which is located on the north side of Harmony Church Road about one-half mile west of Darlington Road (MD 161) in Harford County, Maryland. The house is on a slight rise facing southwest.

The main section has five bays on its southwest or principal elevation. The center entry has a one story shed porch with four Tuscan columns. The gable ends of the house are two bays wide with brick arched semi-circular windows near the gable peak. On the southeast gable above the fan window is an inset stone with carved initials and date: "B S 1856". Interior end brick chimneys break the slate roof. Two slate-sided pedimented dormers face southwest.

At the northeast corner, a stone ell adjoins the main section. A one story shed addition, apparently frame covered in aluminum siding, has been built in the angle between the ell and main section. The south gable end has a small shed entry porch with square piers.

The fenestration is six over six-light sliding sash. The main doorway has recessed paneled jambs and a six-light rectangular transom.

The major outbuildings of the Silver farm are described in individual inventory forms HA-399 - 406. An unnumbered small log structure, possibly a springhouse, is located west of the house at the fence separating the house lawn from the adjacent field. The V-notched structure has a low gable roof and gable ends covered with tongue-and-groove vertical siding. Modern roofing material covers the roof. A small door is located in the south gable end and small square windows open on both sides of the building.

A second unnumbered outbuilding is the Benjamin Silver Tenant House at 3700 Harmony Church Road, just southeast of the barn. This is a 1½-story house with five bays and a center entrance on its main or south elevation and an open porch on the east end of the house under the extended slate gable roof. The porch has two recessed paneled posts. A shed addition extends from the north elevation. A brick exterior chimney rises on the east gable end of the house. The six-over-six light windows have plain surrounds. The exterior is covered in aluminum siding, but was probably originally clapboard. The foundation is stone. The tenant house appears on the 1878 Martenet map of Harford County and probably was built about 1856 along with the main Silver house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

5A-150

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
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	
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	Local history
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1856

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Benjamin Silver House is the main building in the Silver farm complex, an important example of agricultural life and economy in Harford County during the second half of the 19th century. This complex is virtually complete as it existed in the late 19th century.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Benjamin Silver (1810-1894) was one of the nine children of Benjamin Silver, Sr., a prominent 18th century citizen of the Darlington area. Benjamin Jr. was well-known in his own right, being one of the original five trustees of the Deer Creek Harmony Presbyterian Church, appointed in 1837.

The Benjamin Silver House was one of several Silver houses in the area. Benjamin Jr. and three of his brothers married four sisters and all settled within a few miles of each other. Benjamin Jr. was apparently a "gentleman farmer" as were most of the Silvers and their neighbors. He was a graduate of Yale and was a Southern sympathizer in the Civil War.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Genealogy of William H. Silver of John and Edith Stokes Silver, vertical file at Harford County Library, Bel Air
Martenet's Map of Harford County, 1878

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
Janet L. Davis, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION
Harford County Dept. of Planning and Zoning

DATE
September 1982

STREET & NUMBER
45 So. Main St.

TELEPHONE
(301) 838-6000, ext. 207

CITY OR TOWN
Bel Air

STATE
MD 21014

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

HA-398

Benjamin Silver House

ADDITION:

Northwest of the house is a small terraced "allee" of alternating fruit trees and boxwood leading north to a grove of large boxwoods enclosing an overgrown flagstoned space. The date of this landscaping is unknown. The large boxwoods may be 19th century plantings, but the fruit trees appear to be early 20th century and the smaller boxwoods to be very recent.

HA-399

Benjamin Silver Barn

ADDITION: The slate roof has a section of smaller slabs at the center, indicating a possible cupola which no longer exists. The interior structure is mortise and tenon with hand-hewn timbers.

HA-401

Benjamin Silver Servants Quarters

ADDITION: The first floor interior has exposed joists and rafters with some retaining strips of bark. There is no evidence that this was ever a finished interior suitable for habitation. It has many nails and hooks on both the rafters and joists, most of which are now used to hold tools, horseshoes, etc. Part of the room is occupied by a modern, concrete block-enclosed furnace linked to a brick chimney in the east wall. An open stair on the south wall leads to the second floor, which was used by the present owner as a children's playroom. If this was originally the slave quarters and later servants' quarters, it has been greatly altered during the 20th century.

Janet Davis
August 1983

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

MD. HISTORICAL TRUST
BOX 1704
ANNAPOLIS, MD. 21404 (Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Moxley - Silver house

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: North side of Harmony Church Road about 0.5 mi

CITY OR TOWN: Darlington west of Darlington Road

STATE: Maryland CODE: COUNTY: HARFORD CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Building</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Occupied</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: <u>Restricted</u> <input type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Private</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	In Process <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>
	Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Private Residence</u> <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: Howard Moxley

STREET AND NUMBER: Harmony Church Road

CITY OR TOWN: Darlington STATE: MD CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

STREET AND NUMBER: HARFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE 40 S. MAIN ST.

CITY OR TOWN: BEL AIR STATE: MARYLAND CODE:

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER DATE FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This fine large stone house, L shaped, is 2 1/2 stories. 5 bays x 3, the house faces west, the back wing runs east along the north wall, 3 bays x 2. The slate roof ridge line runs north south, with two dormers in the west side, and fan-shaped windows in the gable ends. Two chimneys rise from the peak, brick. A datestone in the south end wall reads P S 1856 for Benjamin Silver.

A map on HA 400 shows outbuildings.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian
- 15th Century
- 16th Century
- 17th Century
- 18th Century
- 19th Century
- 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Aboriginal | Education | Political | Urban Planning |
| Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/> | Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> | Religion/Phi- | Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Historic <input type="checkbox"/> | Industry <input type="checkbox"/> | losophy <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> | Invention <input type="checkbox"/> | Science <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Art <input type="checkbox"/> | Landscape <input type="checkbox"/> | Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> | Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> | Sociol/Humon- | _____ |
| Communicotians <input type="checkbox"/> | Literature <input type="checkbox"/> | itarian <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Conservation <input type="checkbox"/> | Military <input type="checkbox"/> | Theater <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| | Music <input type="checkbox"/> | Tronsportotion <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Built by a prosperous farmer, this house was restored by a retired Naval officer in the ~~mid~~ - 30's, and is now farmed by a local man whose business is land reaping. Mr Moxley has acquired many hundred acres in the Deer Creek valley in the last decade or so.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Empty box for major bibliographical references.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **JEAN S. EWING**

ORGANIZATION: **MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST** DATE: _____

STREET AND NUMBER: **50 STATE CIRCLE**

CITY OR TOWN: **ANNAPOLIS** STATE: **MARYLAND** CODE: _____

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

BENJAMIN SILVER HOUSE

HA-398-406

CHAIN OF TITLE (PARTIAL)

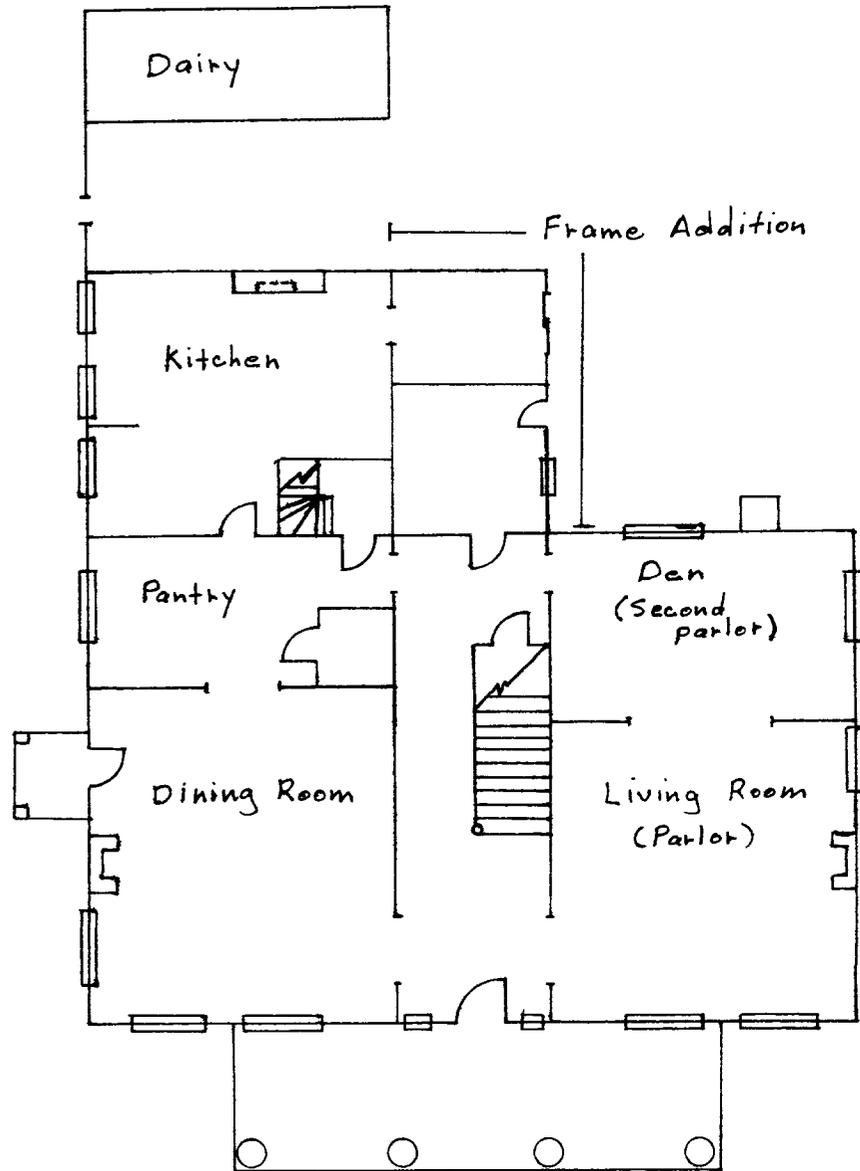
805/398	24 February 1969	Grantor: Laura M. Wilson, Francis D. Murnaghan, Jr., and First National Bank of Maryland, executors of the estate of Laurence B. Meacham Grantee: Howard N. & Dolores W. Moxley Acreage: 171.01 Amount : \$180,000
576/172	1 August 1961	Grantor: Ella Marie Kelley, widow Grantee: Laurence B. Meacham Acreage: 169.07
357/294	25 May 1951	Grantor: J. Rush and Mary T. Baldwin Grantee: Augustine B. and Ella Marie Kelley Acreage: 167, parts of "Green Spring Forest", "Green Spring Forest Resurveyed", "Mary's Lot", "Mary's Lot Resurveyed", "Peter's Resting Place".
292/258	8 December 1945	Grantor: Michael L. and Anne W. Eggar Grantee: J. Rush and Mary T. Baldwin Acreage: 167
261/354	14 August 1940	Grantor: John F. & Elizabeth H. Meigs Grantee: Michael L. and Anne W. Eggar
213/558	1 March 1930	Grantor: Granville S. Mink, widower, and Paul Mink, unmarried Grantee: John F. and Elizabeth H. Meigs Acreage: 167
211/59	1 October 1928	Grantor: John Z. Bayless, trustee for Emily Silver Bayless, infant heir of Mary W. Silver Grantee: Granville S. Mink, Paul Mink, Earl T. Adams
100/288	27 September 1900	Grantor: Isabella P. and Griffin T. Milton, et al., heirs of Benjamin Silver Grantee: Mary Warnock Silver Amount : \$6,629.53
37/271	24 June 1851	Grantor: Charity Silver et al. Grantee: Benjamin Silver Acreage: 129 Amount : \$5,532.73

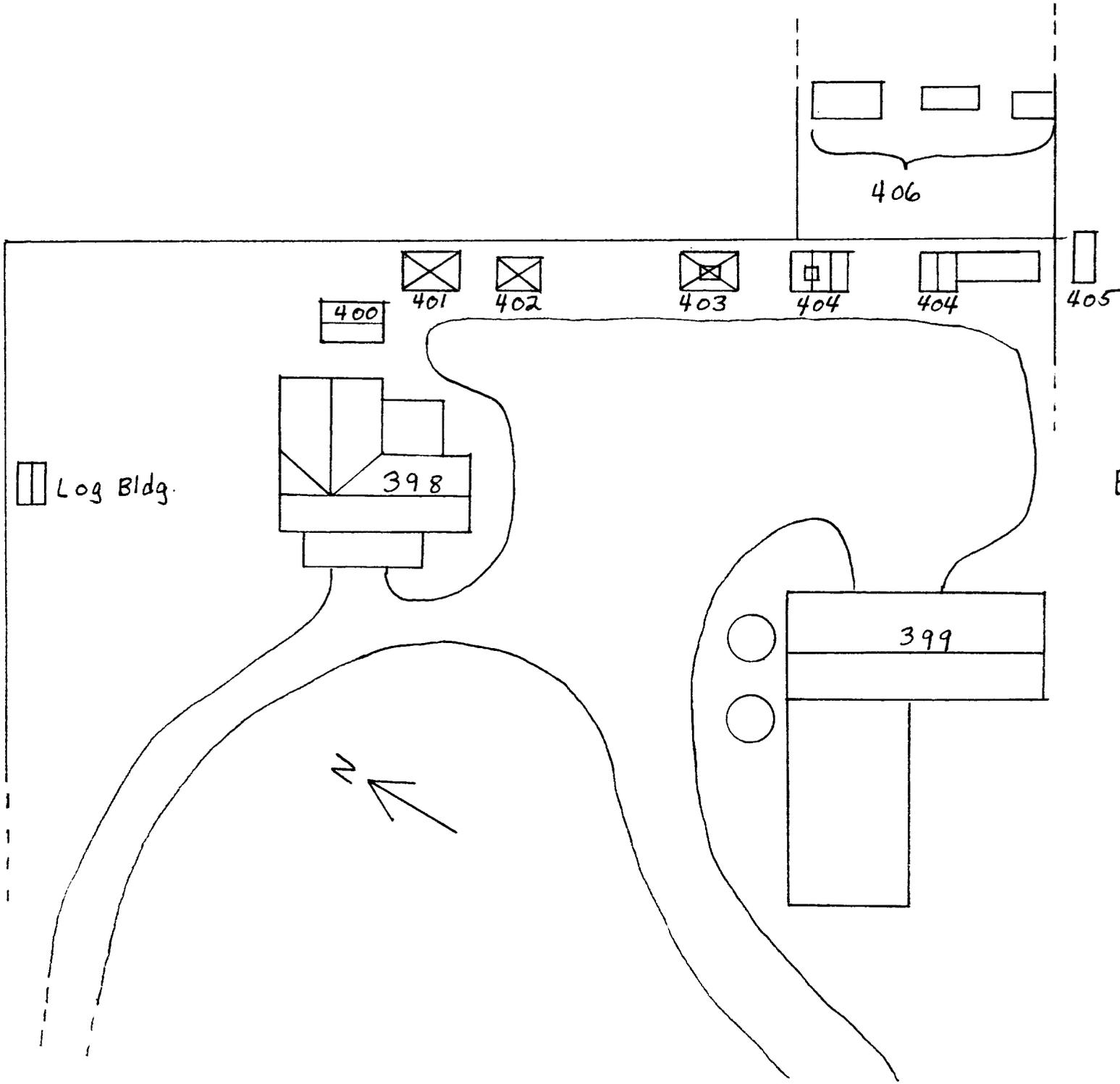
Benjamin Silver House

HA-398

August 1983 Not to scale

JLD

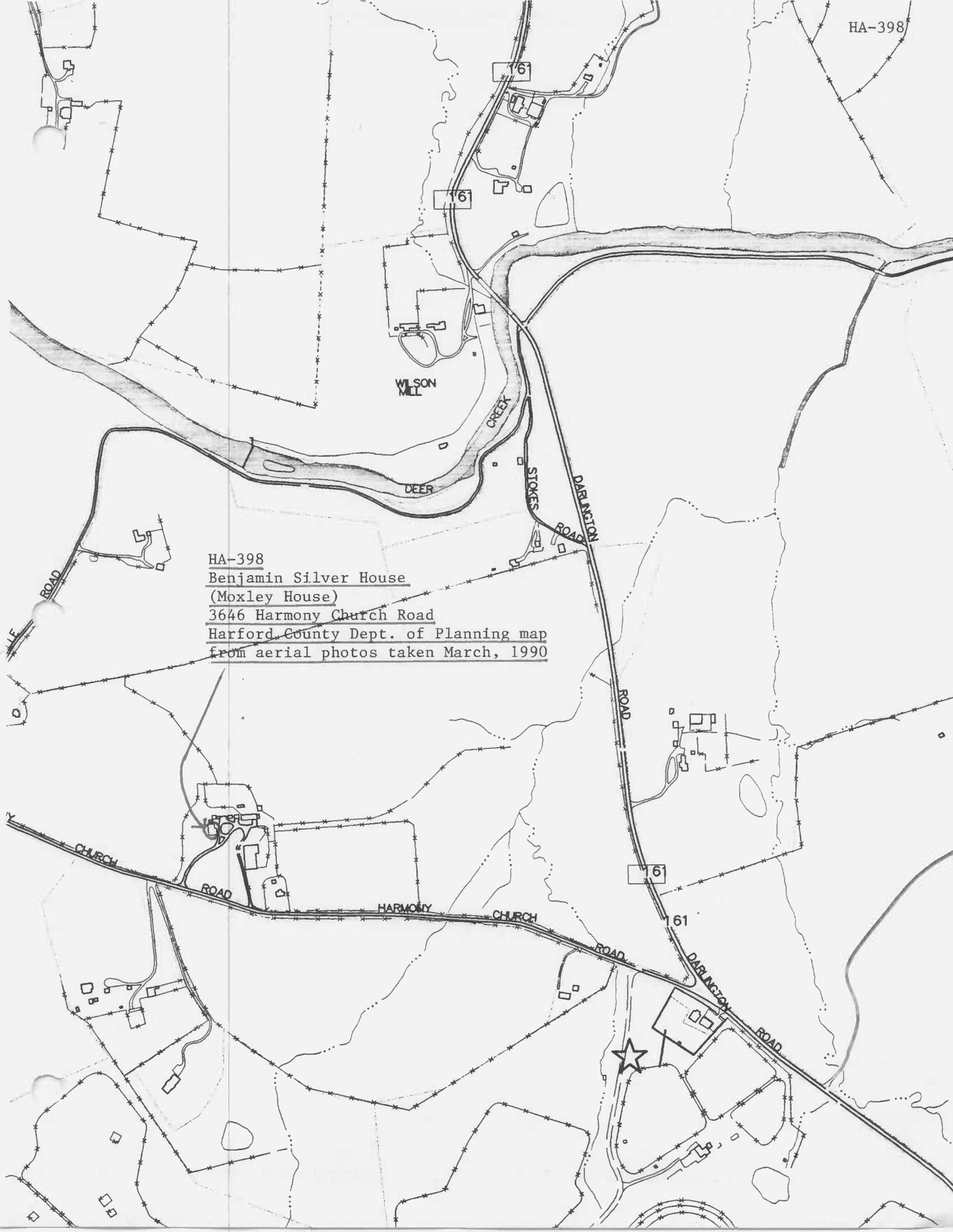




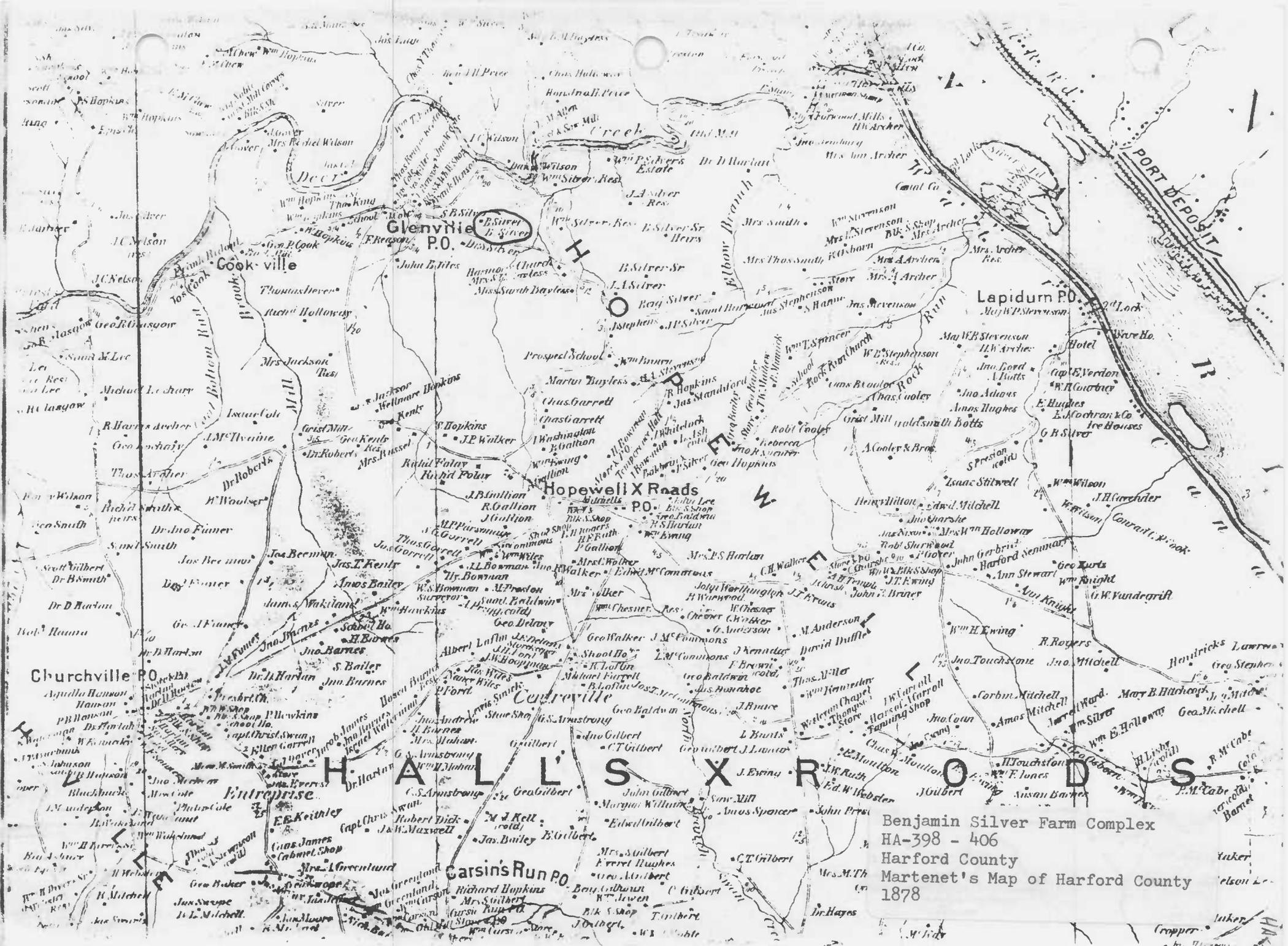
Benjamin Silver
 Farm Complex
 HA-398-406
 Site Plan
 NOT TO SCALE

HA-398





HA-398
Benjamin Silver House
(Moxley House)
3646 Harmony Church Road
Harford County Dept. of Planning map
from aerial photos taken March, 1990

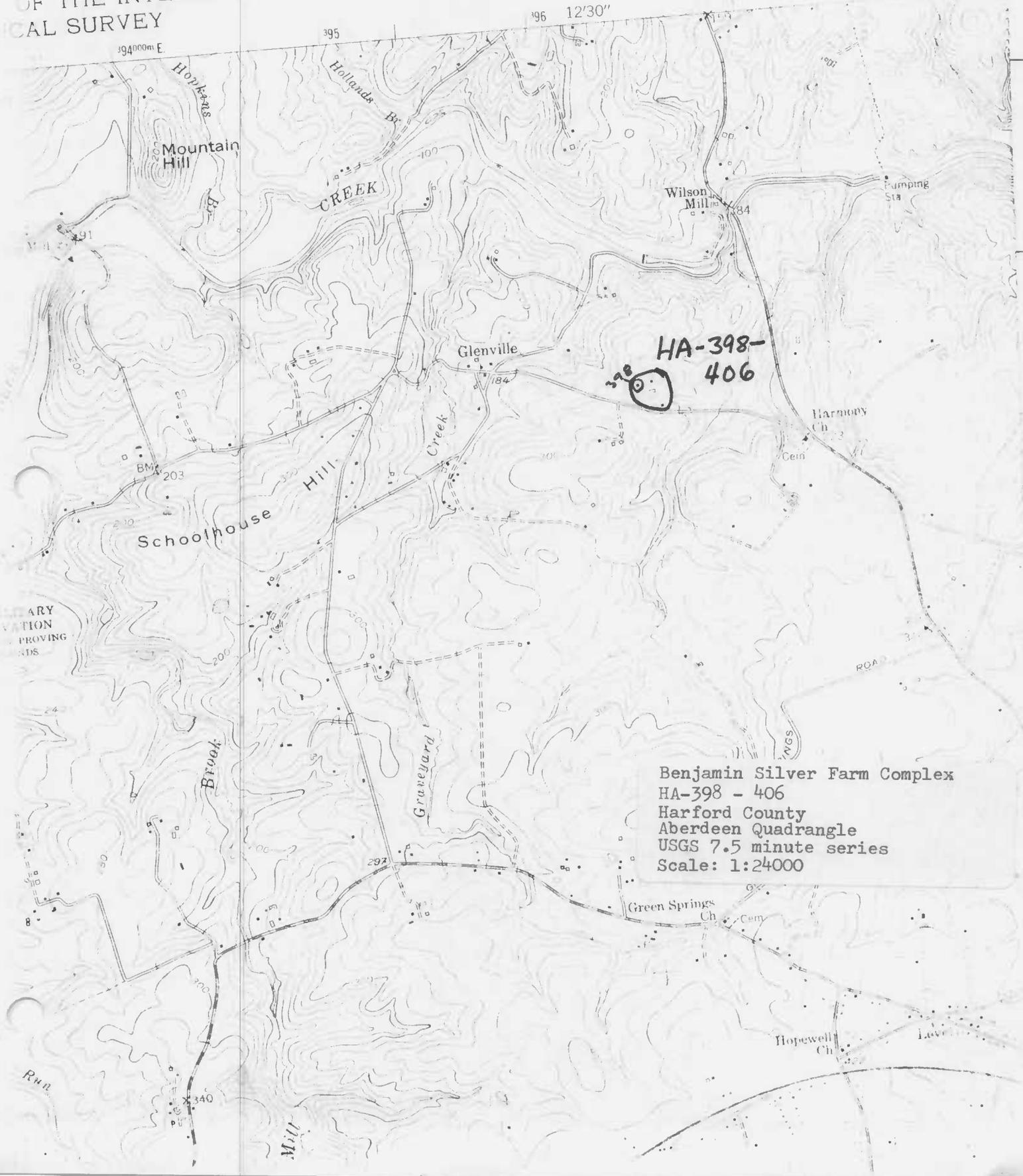


Benjamin Silver Farm Complex
 HA-398 - 406
 Harford County
 Martenet's Map of Harford County
 1878

HA-398

PHOTO REVISÉD 1970
AMS 5765 II SW-SERIES V833
1953

UNITED STATES
OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



HA-398-406

Benjamin Silver Farm Complex
HA-398 - 406
Harford County
Aberdeen Quadrangle
USGS 7.5 minute series
Scale: 1:24000

PRIMARY
ROADS
PROVING
ROADS

R.R.



Benjamin Silver House
Glenville vicinity
Harford County
Photo: Janet Davis
September 1982
South elevation
1/3

HA-398



Benjamin Silver House

HA-398

Glennville vicinity

Harford County

Photo: Janet Davis

September 1982

Log structure, east elevation

2/3



Benjamin Silver House

HA-398

Glenville vicinity

Harford County

Photo: Janet Davis

September 1982

Tenant house, south elevation

3/3