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HA-716

AND

HA-717

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

1307165204
1307175204

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC: Park Farm or Park Place

AND/OR COMMON: Park Farm or Park Place

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: Southwest Corner of Wheel and Emmorton Roads.

CITY, TOWN: Bel Air — VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: first

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Harford County

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	__OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	X UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		X NO	__MILITARY	X OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME: Mrs. George Graham, Jr. Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER: 514 Anderson Avenue

CITY, TOWN: Closter — VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code: New Jersey 07624

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Liber #: HTB 14
Folio #: 266

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Harford County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER: 40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN: Bel Air

STATE: Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	X DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	X RUINS (partly)	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This stately, brick house, now abandoned and left to decay, is located on the corner property at Wheel and Emmorton Roads, approximately three miles south of the Bel Air town limits.

This two story brick dwelling is three bays by one and faces east. It is built onto low, rubble stone foundations. It has a gable flank slate roof. A brick chimney is located at each gable end. Both the east and south facades are of flemish bond construction while the north and west sides are of common bond. A brick water table surrounds the house. A four course, flemish bond string is on the front (east) facade. The principle entrance is located in the south bay of the east facade. This entrance has a four light transom. The pegged door and window frames are thought to be original. Windows are two lights over two.

Formerly L-shaped, the rear wing has fallen entirely except for the brick fireplace at the west gable end. The portion of the fireplace that remains measures approximately 36x40 inches. Traces of the wing roof along the west wall of the house show that a peaked roof ran east-west. This ruin is believed to have been the kitchen section of the house.

In side, the floor plan of this structure is a side through hall with two rooms. An open well stairway is located in the south west corner of the hall, and retains its fine Georgian woodwork. It has block and turned balusters. The interior retains excellent wainscoting, panelled doors and mantlepieces dispite vandalism and deterioration. Sliding doors are present between the two first floor rooms. These have eight moulded panels each. Chair rails are reportedly present in other areas of the house. A fireplace is present in each of the downstairs rooms and are serviced by the single brick chimney on this, the north side. This chimney/flue system is probably an inverted Y. There are no fireplaces on the south wall and the chimney appears to be solely ornamental.

A tenant house is located south west of the main house. This is a two story, frame structure consisting of two parts. It faces south. The larger section is three bays by two. Two chimney are located on the west gable end. The smaller section is two bays by two. Windows throughout are six lights over six. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
X 1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
__1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The tract, Gibson Park, appears to have been originally patented by Aquila Paca, for it is known that he owned 800 acres of the tract in 1709. The 1783 Maryland Tax List confirms the enclosed title search and shows that William Wilson, Esq. owned 400 acres of Gibson Park, while his sister, Rachel owned 200 acres.

McKenzie indicates that William Wilson built the brick house at Gibson Park in 1773, while Preston feels otherwise: "In 1786, William Wilson, who had married Pamela Bond, built, of bricks made on the place, the large house near Emmorton." It is definitely known that the house stood in 1798, as the Federal Tax Assessment of that year shows that William Wilson owned 600 acres and 18 slaves, with a brick dwelling (35x35 feet) and kitchen (28x16 feet), as well as a granary and slave quarter.

As can been seen in the enclosed geneological chart, the Wilson family settled at Gibson Park prior to 1753. William's sons, John and William, ran a store in Abingdon during the latter half of the eighteenth century. They carried tobacco and rum among their other items of exchange; this is indicated in a surviving ledger which is owned by Miss Eloise Wilson, a decendent.

An interesting development occurs in the wills handing down the Wilson property to the heirs. It is mentioned in several of the wills that the property should be divided among the female children. Cassandra Wilson stipulates in her will of 1847 that her share of the property should go to her sister Rachel and if she should marry, to the female children of her brother and her other sister, Ann Lee. Rachel, in turn, indicates in her will of 1882, that the property should go to her brother, Joshua, in trust, for his three daughters. The female line of ownership was broken when Ralph Wilson bought out his sister's interest in the Park Farm. He did, however, will the property to his granddaughter, the present owner, Emily.

This Georgian influenced, brick house is abandoned now. The kitchen wing has fallen in, but the main part of the house appears to be fairly sound. The Flemish bond brick work on the east and south facades is an unusual feature in Harford County. This house is not beyond hope by any means.

This fine, old house is endangered by the Route 24 alteration currently proposed by State Highways and should be considered when a final decision is made on that subject.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1783 Maryland Tax List
1798 Federal Tax List
McKenzie's Colonial Families
Preston, Walter W.; History of Harford County
Wright, C. Milton; Our Harford Heritage

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 197 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property is bounded on the east by Emmorton Road (Rte 24) and on the north by Wheel Road.

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Susan M. Deeney, Field Historian

DATE
December 2, 1976

ORGANIZATION
Historic District Commission

TELEPHONE
838-6000 ext. 207

STREET & NUMBER
45 South Main Street

CITY OR TOWN
Bel Air

STATE
Maryland

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-716, HA-717 Survey Graham-Wilson Havre Ha. Co.

JAMES THOMAS WOLLON, JR., A.I.A.
Architect
Craigs' Corner Road
Havre de Grace, Maryland 21078
734-7980

RECEIVED
FEB 22 1973
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

19 February 1973

Mr. Arthur Townsend
Maryland Historical Trust
2525 Riva Road
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Arthur:

This is an emergency letter.

We wish to call your attention to an early house which is, we heard yesterday, in or very near the path of a much-needed bypass around Bel Air, scheduled for construction in the near future. This road will be a relocation of state Route 24 (Emmorton Road), and the house is in Emmorton, a few miles south of Bel Air, on the west side of Route 24, south of Wheel Road, north of St. Mary's Church Road.

This house is 717, the Graham-Wilson House, on the Harford County Inventory.

We cannot tell you much about the house, but we are making immediate inquiries about it, and are sending you this emergency letter of information.

The house is brick, three bays, two storeys, Georgian style, rather formal in composition, with a flush end chimney at each end. With a side entrance, it probably has a side hall with two rooms on one side, but that is not necessarily so. From the road, it would appear to date from c. 1800. It is not particularly typical of Harford County, where formal houses of the Georgian period are rare. It has not been lived in for years, but does not appear to be in bad condition. Little else is known about it by us, except that we know it is owned by an absentee owner in Philadelphia or New York, or somewhere, and is definitely not for sale, for many people have wanted to buy it.

If it is in the path of the road, or its right-of-way, it will be sold, of course, to the state. Can the Maryland Historical Trust become involved?

We plan to try to get permission to inspect the house, and we shall keep you informed. Your advice will be much appreciated.

Very truly yours,

James T. Wollon, Jr.
Member, Harford County Committee, MHT

cc: Mrs. Johnson, Chairman

TITLE SEARCH
HA-716, HA-717

Mrs. George Graham, Jr.
514 Anderson Avenue
Closter, N.J. 07624

HTB	14	266	1/6/1909	Grantor:	Ralph L. Wilson, Last Will and Testement
				Grantee:	Emily R. Wilson
				Acreage:	All the residue of my estate
ALJ	55	336	3/7/1886	Grantor:	Ralph L. Wilson, Mortgage
				Grantee:	Rebecca B. Wilson
				Acreage:	Farm called "Park Place"
ALJ	56	286	3/9/1886	Grantor:	Alice A. Richardson, E. Hall Richardson, her husband, R. Barbara Wilson, Harriet A. Brown, B. Peyton Brown, her husband
				Grantee:	Ralph L. Wilson
				Acreage:	Sold their 197 acres interest in the farm, "Park Place"
ALJ	56	315	2/8/1886	Grantor:	Ralph L. Wilson
				Acreage:	Sold 4 acres of "Gibson's Park"
WSR	10	101	9/6/1880	Grantor:	Last Will and Testement of Dr. Joshua Wilson
				Grantee:	Ralph L. Wilson
				Acreage:	197 acres of a farm called "Park Place", formerly owned by Rachel and Cassandra Wilson
TSB	6	151	6/25/1847	Grantor:	Cassandra Wilson, Last Will and Testement
				Grantee:	Rachel Wilson
					Cassandra gave Rachel all of her property-"Real, personal and mixed" in trust if Rachel marrys, to female children of brother Joshua + sister Ann Lee
WSR	9	406	5/3/1882	Grantor:	Rachel Wilson, Last Will and Testement
				Grantee:	Joshua Wilson
				Acreage:	All the rest and residue of my estate in trust to receive the same and pay it over to his three daughters to wit: Alice A., Harriet A., and Barbara R. in equal shares as tenants in common
AJ	R	223	12/3/1790	Grantor:	Last Will and Testement of Rachel Wilson
				Grantee:	Property to her mother, and after she dies, property to be divided between her two brothers.
AJ	R	180	2/18/1774	Grantor:	Last Will and Testement of William Wilson.
				Grantee:	200 acres of Gibson Park to daughter Rachel. 400 acres of Gibson Park to son, William

WILSC of Gibson Park
(formerly Willson)

(Mostly from McKenzie's Colonial Famil.

John
England to Anne Arundel County

William
d. 1753
settled on 800 acres "Gibson Park"
m. Rachel Child

John
(ran store with bro. Wm. at Gibson Park, exported tobacco from Bush River)

William
1720-1780
m. Cassandra Gover

William
1745-1819
"built house at Gibson Park 1773"
m. Pamela Bond

Samuel
m. Mary Lee

Rachel
d. ca 1793
left Gibson Park to mother + brothers
"Lived at the Brick House, Gibson Park"

Cassandra
1789-1847

Rachel
1795-1883

Ann
1790-1884
m.
Wm. Dallam Lee

Dr. Joshua
1797-1885
lived at Gibson Park
member of Legislative
m. Rebecca Lee

Dr. William G.
1827-
(Shelbyville, Ill.)
grandfather of Eloise

Alice Anna
1825-
m. Dr. Elisha Hall Richardson

Henry Clay
1832-
m. Delia Lee Archer

Alice

Pamela Bond
1829-1857
m. Dr. Wm. Stump Forwood

Ralph Lee
1834-
m. Susan C. Silver + Estelle Hunt

Emily
b. 1873
m. John Z. Bayless

Harriet
m. Samuel M. Dixon
+
Rev. Peyton Brown

Cassandra
(m. Chas Duer)
Rebecca
Barbara

David Joshua

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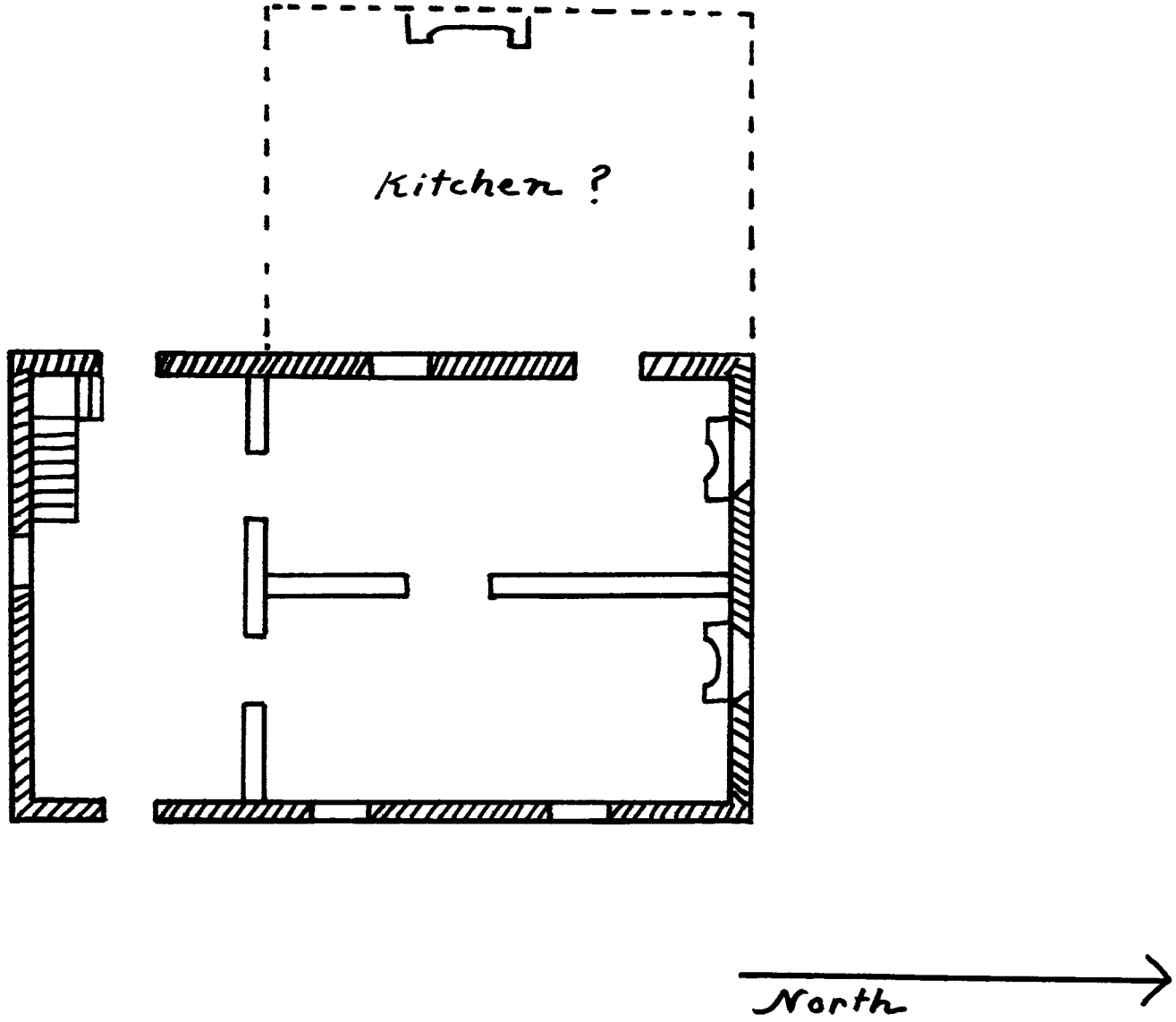
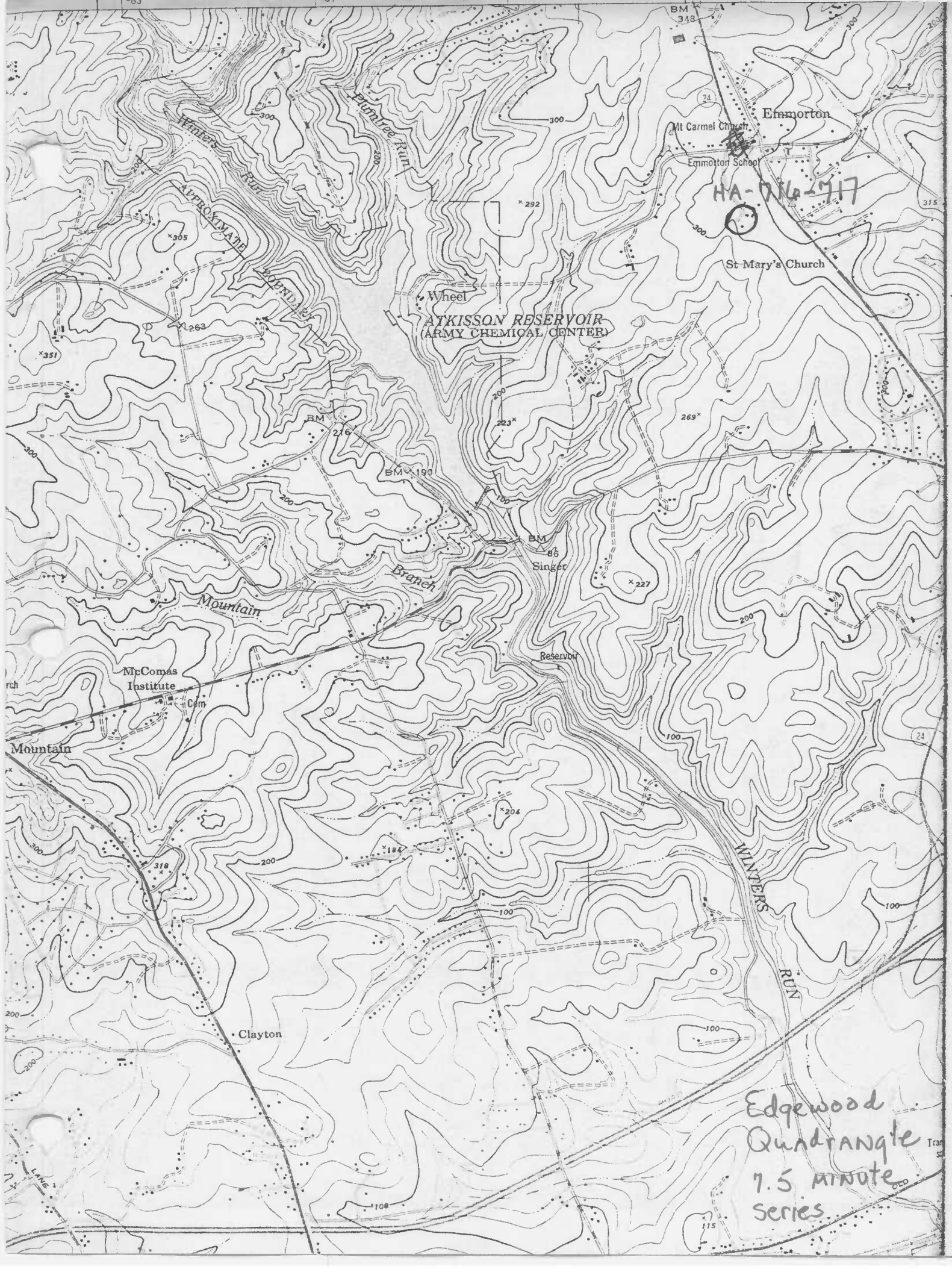


Park Place
HA-717


BM 348
Emmorton
Mt Carmel Church
Emmorton School
HA-716-717
St Mary's Church
Plumtree Run
Winters Run
APPROXIMATE BOUNDARY
Wheel
ATKISSON RESERVOIR
(ARMY CHEMICAL CENTER)
BM 216
BM 190
BM 86
Singer
Branch
Mountain
Reservoir
McComas Institute
Cem
Mountain
Clayton
WINTERS RUN
Edgewood Quadrangle 7.5 minute series

Park Farm HA-716
Wheel Road
Emmorton, MD
Susan M. Deeney
East
March, 1977

End Here

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And

Copy for Multiple Numbers

HA-716

AND

HA-717