

HA-881

John Norris House
Mr. William H.B. Howard
1001 Old Joppa Road
Joppa, MD 21085

This rubble stone dwelling is located far off Old Joppa Road and is built on top of a spring, presumably for protection of their water supply in the event of an attack by Indians. This Pennsylvania influence house was the home of the first generation of the Norris family at Olney Farm. (Olney Farm is on the National Register HA-154.)

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

John Norris House

AND/OR COMMON

John Norris House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1001 Old Joppa Road

CITY, TOWN

Joppa

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

first

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE | PUBLIC ACQUISITION | ACCESSIBLE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED | <input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER |

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. William H.B. Howard

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

1001 Old Joppa Road

CITY, TOWN

Joppa

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21085

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: HA 867

Folio #: 664

STREET & NUMBER

45 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

NA-881

7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input 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

This rubble stone dwelling, far off Old Joppa Road, is built on top of a spring. It faces east and is two and one half stories on that side. An enclosed porch runs the length of the east facade. On the western facade, a double hung, vertical board door leads to the spring room. A small window lights the ground elevation as well on this side which is three and one half stories high.

The gable flank roof is slate covered and has a box cornice. A dormer is located in the center of the both the east and west sides of the roof. The dormers are gable front, constructed of slate and frame. Two six light, casement windows are in each. A four light casement windows are at north and south ends. A large, corbeled, rubble stone chimney is at the south, inside end. Windows on the first and second elevation are six lights over six.

The main floor of the house, the first floor when using the eastern entrance, has plastered walls on three sides and a replaced wood floor. The south wall is paneled with vertical beaded boards with the fireplace in the center. There is a large iron crane in this fireplace. The winding stairway is located in the south east corner and it spirals up to the attic floor.

At the attic elevation, floors are random width pine, probably original. Ceiling beams are visible and these have been scored with Roman numerals-not exactly correct - I, II, III, IIII, V; VI, VII.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

| 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER |
| <input 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 type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| SPECIFIC DATES | BUILDER/ARCHITECT |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This small dwelling is thought to predate the large brick house at Olney by several years. This was probably the home of the first generation of Norris's living on this farm. Presumably this house was built over a spring for protection of their water supply in the event of an attack by Indians. The house has many Pennsylvania influences which should not be surprising when one considers the family's Quaker heritage.

This house will be included in a study done by the Bel Air American History Club, Inc. of extant 1798 dwellings in Harford County. Measured drawings will also be included.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Shriver, J. Alexis, "Permanence or Change", The Baltimore Sun Magazine, May 27, 1928, pp. 12-13.
 Preston, Walter W; History of Harford County, Press of the Sun Book Office, Baltimore, 1901.
 Wright, C. Milton; Our Harford Heritage, French Bray Press, Baltimore, 1967.

1783 Maryland Tax t
 1798 Federal Tax List
 1814 Maryland Tax List

Harford Directory, 1953.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 137.7929 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This property is bounded by Harriet Rogers lands in the north and Mountain Road on the west.

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

March 17, 1977

ORGANIZATION

Historic District Commission

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

45 South Main Street

838-6000 ext. 207

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland 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

SIGNIFICANCE (Revised)

John Norris House - HA-881

Although the 1798 Tax List does not include this portion of Harford County, this stone house on Olney Farm seems to date from the mid-to-late 18th. century. Henry Chandlee Forman suggests in Early Manor & Plantation Houses of Maryland that the house was built in 1720 by Edward Norris. An article by J. Alexis Shriver, owner of the farm in the early part of this century, claims that the house was built by John Norris in 1765. 1758 is the date given the house by C. Milton Wright, author of Our Harford Heritage.¹

Harford County land records, which go back to 1773, trace the house as far back as 1783 when a 204-acre plantation called "Prospect" was sold by John Bond to Daniel Tyson of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for 305 pounds 7s 6p. John Bond was one of the owners of the Bush River Iron Works and apparently quite a tycoon, owning and renting out a number of properties as indicated in his letter giving his power of attorney to his kinsman, Israel Morris.² This house on "Prospect" was probably one he leased out and not his own residence, since he refers to himself as "John Bond of Bonds Forrest".

In 1799, the plantation was sold to Jonathan Tyson, merchant, of Abington Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, brother of Daniel Tyson,³ who had died "intestate, unmarried, and without issue". 2 years later Jesse Tyson of Baltimore City purchased the 204-acre farm for 220 pounds,⁴ and in 1803 sold it to John Norris for 650 pounds. John Norris, son of Edward Norris also acquired part of "Prospect" and "Clegates Forrest" that had belonged to his father⁵ and various other parcels in that vicinity. John Norris built the brick house (HA-154) in 1810 and may have lived in this stone house until the other was constructed. John Norris was fairly prosperous as indicated by the brick construction of his new house and his personal inventory valued at \$1,057.40 with an additional \$2,350 worth of bank stock. Norris owned a "lott and warehouse in Baltimore City on Pratt Street at the head of Smiths Dock", which he left to his son, Charles Sidney Norris. His son John Saurin Norris inherited his farm and dwelling house and in 1842 was "intending to make considerable improvements on said farm"⁶ (according to a deed granting him his mother's right in the farm).

Subsequently, the farm was owned by Josiah Lee,⁷ Lloyd Norris⁸, Isaac Tyson, Jr., pioneer of chrome mining and manufacturing in Maryland,⁹ and in 1865 John Alexander Shriver, whose family has owned the farm since then.¹⁰ In a mortgage dated 1898, the farm was called "Olney Farm Prospect", Olney referring to the Olney of Buckinghamshire, England made famous by William Cowper's hymns written between 1771 & 1772 and John Newton's sermons, and the farm has been called Olney since then.

While much has been written about the Federal brick house on Olney farm, less notice has been taken of the mid-18th. century stone house that pre-dated it. Its existence and its retention of its original first floor plan and panelling is remarkable. A red flag should be planted here on the map and plans made to ensure its preservation.

Footnotes

1. Page 275
2. JLG E/37
3. JLG O/388
4. JLG P/603
5. HD V/504

6. HD 26/19
7. HDG 36/348
8. ALJ 8/275
9. WG 10/308
10. WHD 15/398

11. WSF 93/69

Natalie Shivers, Historic Site Surveyor
Historic District Commission
Harford County

TITLE SEARCH

HA-881

Mr. William Howard
1001 Old Joppa Road
Joppa, MD 21085

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------|-----------|---|
| 1. | GRG 381 507 | 9/24/1952 | Grantor: Harriet Lewis Van Bibber Shriver, widow, George Van Bibber Shriver and Katherine H. Shriver, John S. Van Bibber Shriver & Esther Jame Shriver, wife |
| 2. | JAR 150 17 | 7/30/1915 | Grantor: Clarence Shriver, trustee Grantee: J. Alexis Shriver |
| 3. | Docket 38-A/1 | 7/12/1915 | Grantor: J. Alexis Shriver Grantee: Clarence Shriver, trustee |
| 4. | WSF 93 69 | 2/18/1898 | Mortgagor: P. Olivia B. Shriver, extrx. Mortgagee: J. Alexis Shriver Sum: \$15,800 Acreage: "Olney Farm Prospect" |
| 5. | WHD 15 398 | 1/26/1865 | Grantor: Jesse Tyson, James W. Tyson (attorney) Elizabeth W., wife, James Chester Morris and Hannah Ann, wife Richard W. Tyson and Julia H., wife Grantee: John Alexander Shriver |
| 6. | WHD 15 425 | 2/17/1865 | Grantor: Jesse Tyson, et al Grantee: Isaac Tyson, Junior (first part) and John Alexander Shriver (second part) Sum: \$10,000 Acreage: "Prospect" |
| 7. | WHD 15/153 (Lease) | 12/2/1863 | Grantor: Jesse Tyson et al Grantee: John Alexander Shriver Sum: \$600/yr. Acreage: part of "Prospect", part of "Timber Hill", and part of "Bonds Pleasant Hills" |
| 8. | WG 10/308 | 1/15/1859 | Grantor: Lloyd Norris and wife Sarah Grantee: Isaac Tyson, Jr. of Balto. City Sum: \$50,000 Acreage: "all the estate & property of every sort & description, real, personal and mixed, lands, tenements, and hereditaments of whatsoever kind & wherever situate, of the said Lloyd Norris & Sarah his wife, & each of them & all goods, chattels & effects debts, evidences of debt & choses in action of the said Lloyd Norris" |

TITLE SEARCH (Con't)

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9. ALJ 8/275 3/5/1857 Grantor: Catharine E. Lee, George M. Gill of Balto. City, Trustees (Josiah Lees, dec.)
Grantee: Lloyd Norris
Sum: \$10,000
Acreage: "Prospect", "Timber Hills", "Bonds Pleasant Hills" = 226 1/2 A.
10. HDG 36/348 11/21/1850 Grantor: John Laurin Norris of Balto. City & wife Henrietta T.C.
2nd part: Charles Sidney Norris of Balto. City Thos. Myers of Washington, D.C. wife Sarah Ann (formerly Norris)
3rd part: Josiah Lee
Sum: \$10,000
Acreage: Part of "Prospect", part of "Timber Hill", part of "Bond's Pleasant Hills" = 226 1/2 A.
11. HD 26/19 1/7/1842 Grantor: Mary Norris of Balto. City
Grantee: John Laurin Norris
Acreage: her right in farm devised to her by John Norris - John Laurin Norris purposes to remove to & occupy the said farm formerly DCC. by his father in Harford County & intends to make considerable improvements on said farm
12. Will SR 1/491 Will of John Norris 1827
to son John Saurin Norris the farm & dwelling house where I now live.
13. HD R/198 k2/7/1803 Grantor: Jesse Tyson of Balto. City
Grantee: John Norris
Sum: 650 pounds
Acreage: the said plantation or tract "Prospect"
14. JLG P/603 11/18/1801 Grantor: Jonathon Tyson of Montgomery Co., Pa.
Grantee: Jesse Tyson of Balto. City
Acreage: "Prospect Plantation", 204 A.; owned by Hannah Luckins, dec., one of heirs of Daniel Tyson
15. JLG 0/388 7/29/1799 Grantor: Azor Lukens & Wm. Gregory of Pa., Exec. of Hannah Lukens of Philadelphia, Pa.
Grantee: Jonathan Tyson of Abington Township, Montgomery Co., Pa., Merchant (Daniel Tyson, brother of Hannah Lukens & Jonathan Tyson, "became seized in his

TITLE SEARCH (Con't)

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15. Con't)

demesne as of fee of and in a Ctn.
plantation or tract of 204 A. called
Prospect: died intestate unmarried and
without issue, land to brother and sister

Sum: 182 pounds 2s 6p lawful money of Pa.
Acreage: Hannah Lukens's one full equal & undivided
moiety or half part of...Prospect = 204 A.

16.

16. JLG D/419

6/14/1783

Grantor: John Bond by Israel Morris his attorney
Grantee: Daniel Tyson of Phila., Pa.
Sum: 305 pounds 7s 6p
Acreage: plantation called Prospect, 204 A.

INVENTORY NO. HA ~~581~~

ELECTION DISTRICT _____

DATE: _____

TAX MAP NO. _____

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

PARCEL NO. _____

NAME OF PROPERTY: Olney - surveyed as "Prospect" 8/29/1765 for Thomas Preston
NAME changed 1810 by Mrs John Norris

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: _____

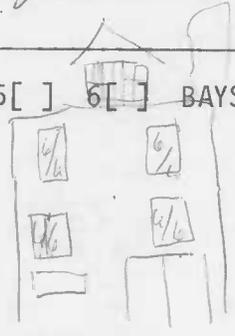
DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: east

NAME OF OWNER: Mrs Holden Rogers (Harriet Shriver Rogers)

ADDRESS: 1001 Old Joppa Rd

STORIES: 1[] 2[] 3[] 4[] 5[] 6[] BAYS: 1 x 2

WINGS, ADDITIONS: 2 1/2 east
3 1/2 west



WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten(type?)
- BRICK: Bond type- common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
- STONE: Bond type- rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
- LOG

WALL FEATURES: BELT COURSE, PILASTERS, OTHERS _____

FOUNDATIONS: HIGH, LOW, BRICK, STONE

WATER TABLE: NONE, PLAIN, BEVELED, MOULDED BRICK

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1[] 2/2[] 6/6[] 9/6[] 9/9[] other[]
pegged[] nailed[] wide[] narrow[]
original[] replaced[]

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: _____
HARDWARE: original[] replaced[]
FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: original[] replaced[]

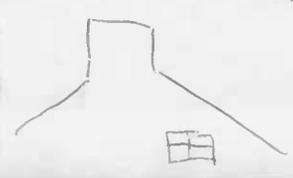
ROOF: GABLE FRONT, GABLE FLANK, HIP, MANSARD, FLAT, DORMERS
MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt original[] replaced[]

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed[] hip[] gable[]

CHIMNEYS: NUMBER 1 BRICK[] STONE[] CORBELED[] original[] replaced[]
LOCATION: _____

ARCHES:

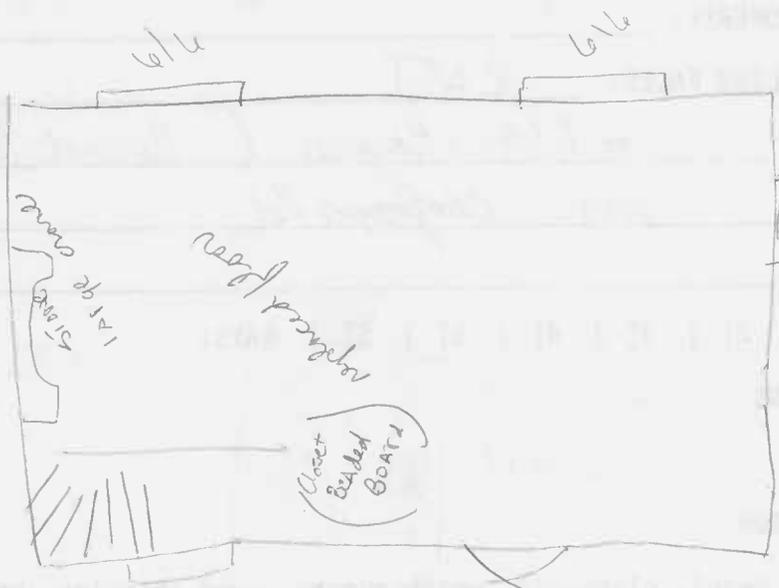
COMMENTS: vented (lowered basement (spring))



Brick Black- Sm. Th. Shop
w/ cream color dwelling

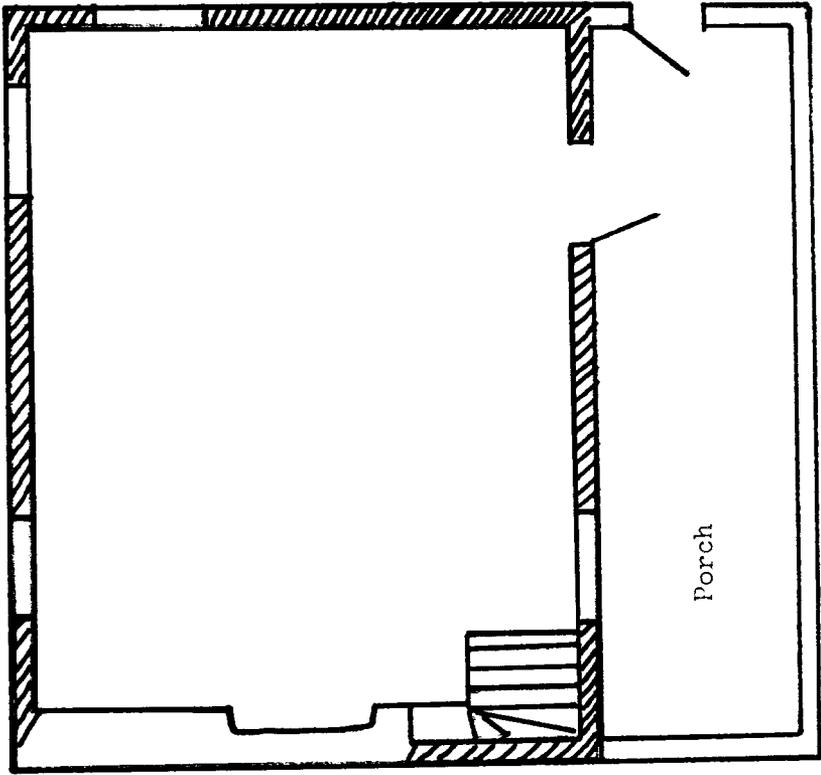
Windows small
MUN

four-paneled paneled board
wall



attic room - finished
 6 lt casement windows * 4 lt casement
 random plank pine
 scored rafters - roman numerals
 (II , III , IIII , V , VI , VII)

John Norris House
HA - 881



39°30'

Edgewood Quadrangle

HA-881

4372000m. N.

4371

154

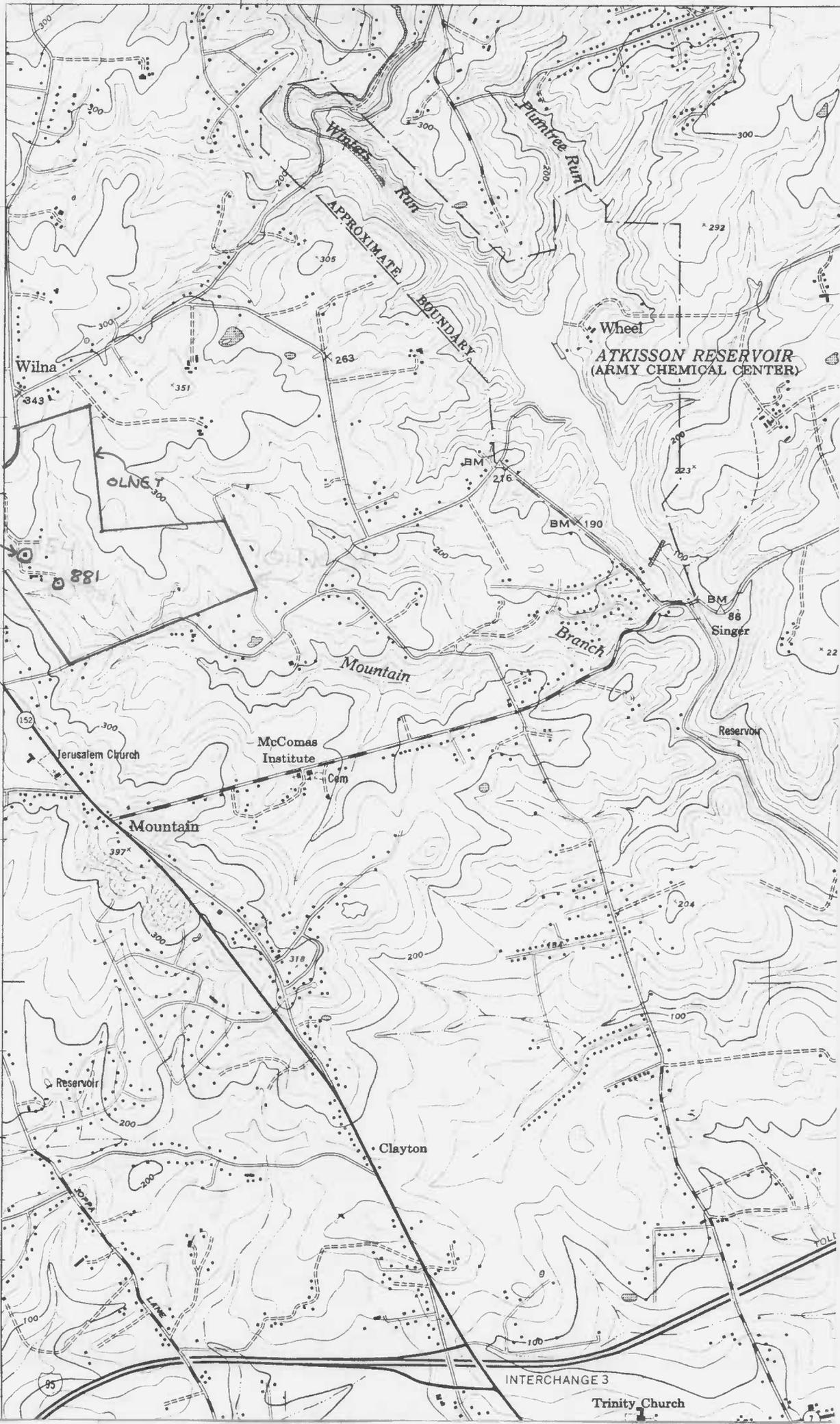
1.8 MI. TO U.S. 1
STOCKTON 0.4 MI.

4369

27°30''

4368

4367



4367

7



John Norris House
Joppa, MD 21085
Natalie Shivers
4/80
Southeast

HA-881



John Norris House at Olney Farm

HA-881

Joppa, MD

Susan M. Deeney

East

March, 1977



John Norris House
Joppa, MD 21085
Natalie Shivers
4/80
West

HA-881