

McFadden House  
HA 1908

This circa 1901 two story frame house is located on the east side of Main Street in the village of Cardiff, Maryland. The plain vernacular structure is comprised of the original late Victorian house which is overshadowed by a large two story addition of a walk-in basement and first-story apartments to the north. As with the majority of houses of the town and unique to this region, the main house makes use of the region's world-famous slate in its roof shingles and coursed foundation. Built as a single family residence, this house was converted into a commercial enterprise with the large addition built onto the north endwall in the late 1940's. The building served as the postoffice from 1950 to 1966.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common McFadden House

## 2. Location

street &amp; number 1631 Main Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Cardiff

\_\_\_ vicinity of

congressional district 5th

state Maryland

county Harford

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input checked="" 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 / <i>apts</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" 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 (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name John A. and Kathleen S. McManus

street &amp; number RD 2 Forest Ridge Road

telephone no.: (717)456-5032

city, town Delta

state and zip code PA, 17314

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse

liber CGH1428

street &amp; number 20 W. Courtland Pl.

folio 841

city, town Bel Air

state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title none

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

## 7. Description

Survey No. HA 1908

### 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.

This two story frame house is located on the east side of Main Street in the village of Cardiff, Maryland. The structure is comprised of the original late Victorian house which is overshadowed by a large two story addition of a walk-in basement and first-story apartments to the north. The original house is three bays by a deep two with a southern service ell off the rear, east wall. A projecting cross gable is centered on the north-south gable roof of the west, main facade with a chimney directly above it at the main roof peak. A hip-roofed porch with square posts and a simple fence balustrade runs the length of the first-story main facade, the hip roof extending to become the roof of the northern addition. Both the original building's roof and coursed foundation are of the region's renowned slate. The house and addition are re-covered with white vinyl siding.

The original house is set on a high, raised foundation, with the main entrance to the house located at the south first-story bay of the main facade. The door's multi-light sidelights and transom provide the only ornamentation to this simple vernacular house. 2/2 sash windows articulate in all other main facade bays, with a 1/1 sash centered at the projecting cross gable. On the southern endwall, service ell, and gable, single windows are located in the upper and lower east bays, upper and lower ell bays, and centered at the gable, respectively. The northern endwall has the addition covering the first story with windows at the two upper story bays.

The plain addition located to the north of the original house has a central door onto Main Street at street level flanked by two large picture windows with multi-light sidelights. Two offset double 2/2 sash windows are located in the upper story of the addition's main facade. Multi-light windows overlook the adjacent parking area to the north at the ground level floor. In an effort to blend with the main house, the addition's roof is of a shallow hipped variety.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. HA 1908

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" 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.

This circa 1901 plain vernacular structure is one of the town's many houses that were built during the "boom era" of the late nineteenth century. The rapid development that occurred during this time was due to the area's tremendous slate quarrying industry that exploded with the completion of the Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad. As with the majority of houses of the town and unique to this region, the main house makes use of the region's world-famous slate in its roof shingles and coursed foundation. Built as a single family residence, this house was converted into a commercial enterprise with the large addition built onto the north endwall in the late 1940's. The building served as the postoffice from 1950 to 1966<sup>1</sup>.

Originally owned by Thomas Hawkins (farmer) in a patented land grant known as "Hawkins Chance", this land was part of the tract sold by the Hawkins family to Rowland Parry, a Welsh quarry owner who operated one of the first prominent commercial quarries in the area. It was Parry who exhibited Peach Bottom slate in the London Crystal Palace exposition in 1850, winning it international recognition as the world's finest slate. "Hawkins Chance" was divided and sold in pieces, passing mostly through the hands of Parry's relatives and countrymen in various forms. The parcel of 17 acres that created this lot was sold to the South Delta Land Company in 1896 through an Equity Case on behalf of Parry's great niece. As with this house, most of the structures at the north end of Cardiff were built around the turn of the century, after this subdivision took place.

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<sup>1</sup>Harford Historical Bulletin, Winter 1993.



**McfADDEN HOUSE**  
Title Search

CGH1428/841 (1)(2)	September 4, 1987	Grantor: George P. and Yvonne L. Heffran Grantee: John A. and Kathleen S. McManus Granted: town lot fronting east side of Main St. 85.3'
HDC 1045/52 (1)(2)	October 24, 1977	Grantor: H. Delmar and Nancy B. McFadden Grantee: George P. and Yvonne L. Heffran Granted: same, combined lots
GRG 332/42 (1)	June 29, 1949	Grantor: Frank H. Jacobs, Jr. Grantee: H. Delmar and Nancy B. McFadden Shown as lot 32 on Plat HDC 1045/54
GCB 300/87 (2)	October 2, 1946	Grantor: Lucy B. Redding Grantee: H. Delmar and Nancy B. McFadden Granted: 50, 767 rds, 50' by 100' on west side of Chestnut St.
GCB 273/358 (2)	August 6, 1942	Grantor: Edmund Snodgrass, Treasurer of Harford County Grantee: Frank H. Jacobs, Jr. Granted: 50' by 100' lot on west side of Chestnut St. for \$22.00; tax auction for South Delta Land Co.
JAR 173/128 (1)	April 8, 1921	Grantor: Lionel V. Campbell and wife Grantee: Mary Vaughn and Lucy B. Redding (sisters) Granted: town lot on east side of Main St.
WSF 102/394 (1)	September 19, 1901	Grantor: South Delta Land Co. Grantee: Lionel V. Campbell Granted: town lot fronting Main St. 85' 3 and 3/5"
WSF 88/282 (1)	May 26, 1896	Grantor: Stevenson A. Williams, Trustee (Equity K No. 145/52, Elizabeth J. Parry v. Margaret Parry et al) Grantee: South Delta Land Co. Granted: 17 Acres, for \$2475.00
WSF 88/116 (1)	May 11, 1896	Grantor: Stevenson A. Williams, Trustee et al Grantee: Lionel V. Campbell Granted: town lot fronting Main St., 42' by 157', for \$168.00; being part of land of Richard Parry who inherited it from John Parry, Sr.

Will Records WS 10/440	September 12, 1888	John Parry, quarryman, bequeaths: To his daughter, Elizabeth, the house in which he resides and the 84' by 400' lot on which it stands. To his son, Richard Parry, all his remaining lands, approximately 17 acres To each of his children, Mary Williams, John, Richard, Jacob, and Elizabeth Parry 1/6 of his shares in the Welsh Slate Company of Harford County.
ALJ 28/407	May 14, 1873	Grantor: Hugh E. Hughes Grantee: John Parry Granted: 10 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$1050.00
ALJ 28/407	May 14, 1873	Grantor: Humphrey R. and Jane H. Lloyd Grantee: John Parry Granted: 2 acres of "Hawkins Chance" with improvements, on west side of Main St. (same as ALJ 25/346) for \$1200.00
ALJ 25/346	April 11, 1871	Grantor: Richard Hughes and wife Grantee: Jane H. Lloyd (daughter) Granted: 2 parcels of "Hawkins Chance", 1). 5 acres 105 perches and 2). 2 acres 1 perch (see ALJ 9/29)
ALJ 9/30	May 29, 1857	Grantor: Richard Hughes et al. Grantee: John and Ellin Parry Granted: 8 acres 35 perches of "Hawkins Chance" for \$500.00
ALJ 9/29	May 29, 1857	Grantor: John Parry Grantee: Richard Hughes Granted: 2 parcels of "Hawkins Chance", 1). 5 acres 105 perches and 2). 2 acres 1 perch
HDG 36/424	July 27, 1850	Grantor: Ro(w)land and Anne Parry Grantee: John Parry and Richard Hughes Granted: 3 1/2 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$350.00
HDG 36/215	February 5, 1850	Grantor: Rowland Perry Grantee: John Perry and Richard Hughes Granted: 12 acres of "Hawkins Chance" for \$600.00
HDG 36/212	January 22, 1850	Grantor: Archibald A. and Nancy Hawkins Grantee: Rowland Perry (Parry) Granted: part of "Hawkins Chance" for \$850.00, acreage unknown

HDG 34/492	February 9, 1849	<p>Grantor: Edward Proctor et al.          Grantee: Archabald A. Hawkins          Granted: "Hawkins Chance", being part of Thomas Hawkins landholdings; 74 acres 5 perches</p>
HD 14/336	August 3, 1831	<p>Grantor: Isaac Hawkins, heir to Thomas Hawkins          Grantee: Thomas Proctor, heir to Edward Proctor          Granted: The eighth part of land tracts "Hawkins Chance", "Williams Birthright", Mount Pleasant", and "Montgomerys Delight". The four tracts contain 188 acres total. No mention of "eighth part" acreage.</p>
Land Tract, Patented	After March 1774, when Harford est.	<p>"Hawkins Chance", tract of 74 acres 5 perches granted to Thomas Hawkins. Located on the Maryland and Pennsylvania line at the north end of present day Cardiff. Divided, sold, and reworked often.</p>

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Common Houses in America's Small Towns: The Atlantic Seaboard to the Mississippi Valley,  
John A. Jakle, Robert W. Bastian, and Douglas K. Meyer. 1989.

Land Records, Harford County Courthouse.

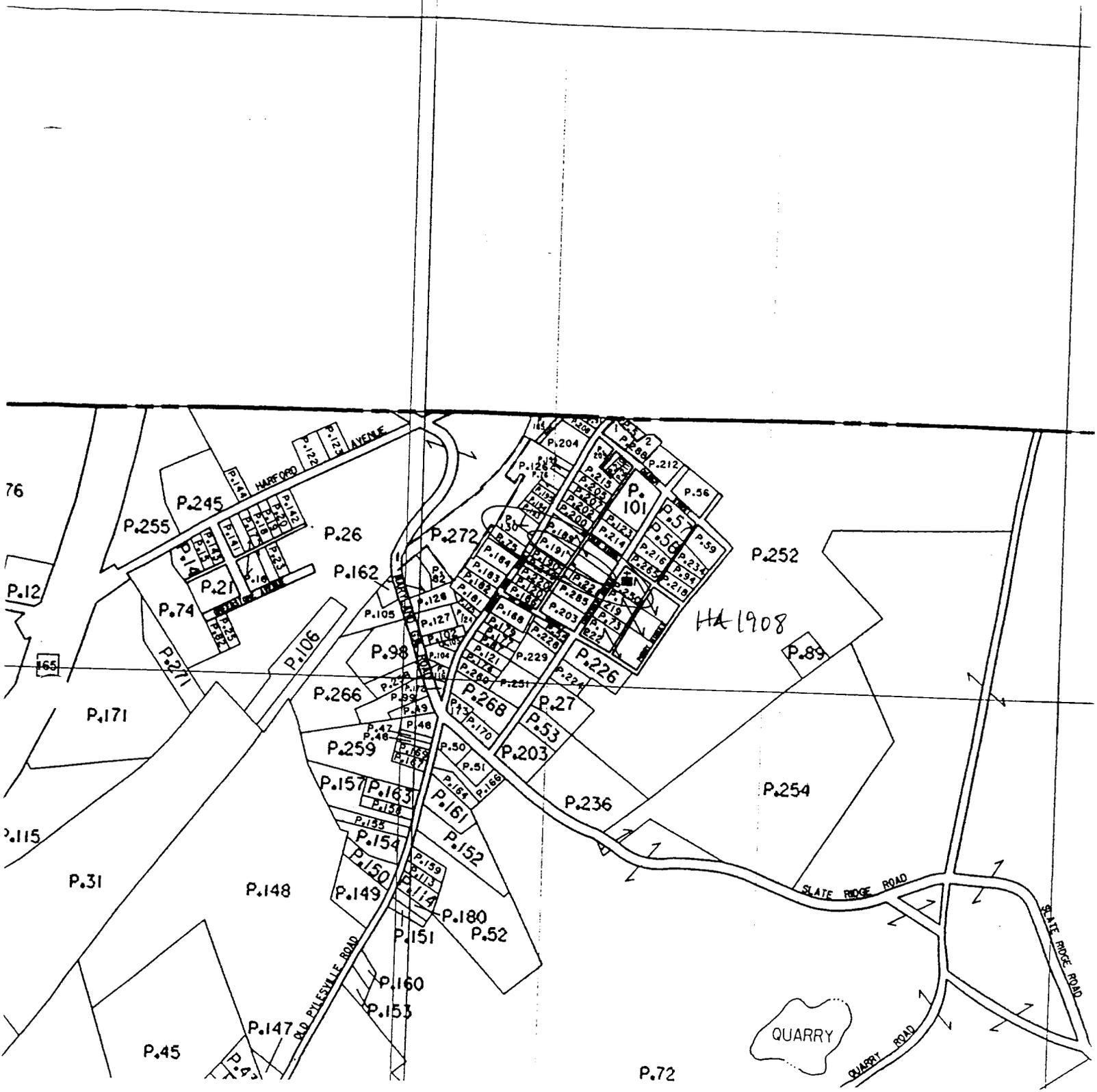
Delta Centennial, A souvenir book from the 1953 centennial celebration which was organized by the  
Delta-Cardiff Fire Company.

Harford Historical Bulletin, Winter 1993.

Conversations with Mrs. Marion Scabrough, June 20, June 22, July 25, and August 1, 1995  
regarding Parry family history.

Harford County Historical Society Archives.

Various conversations with area residents for a contextual history of the inventory structures.

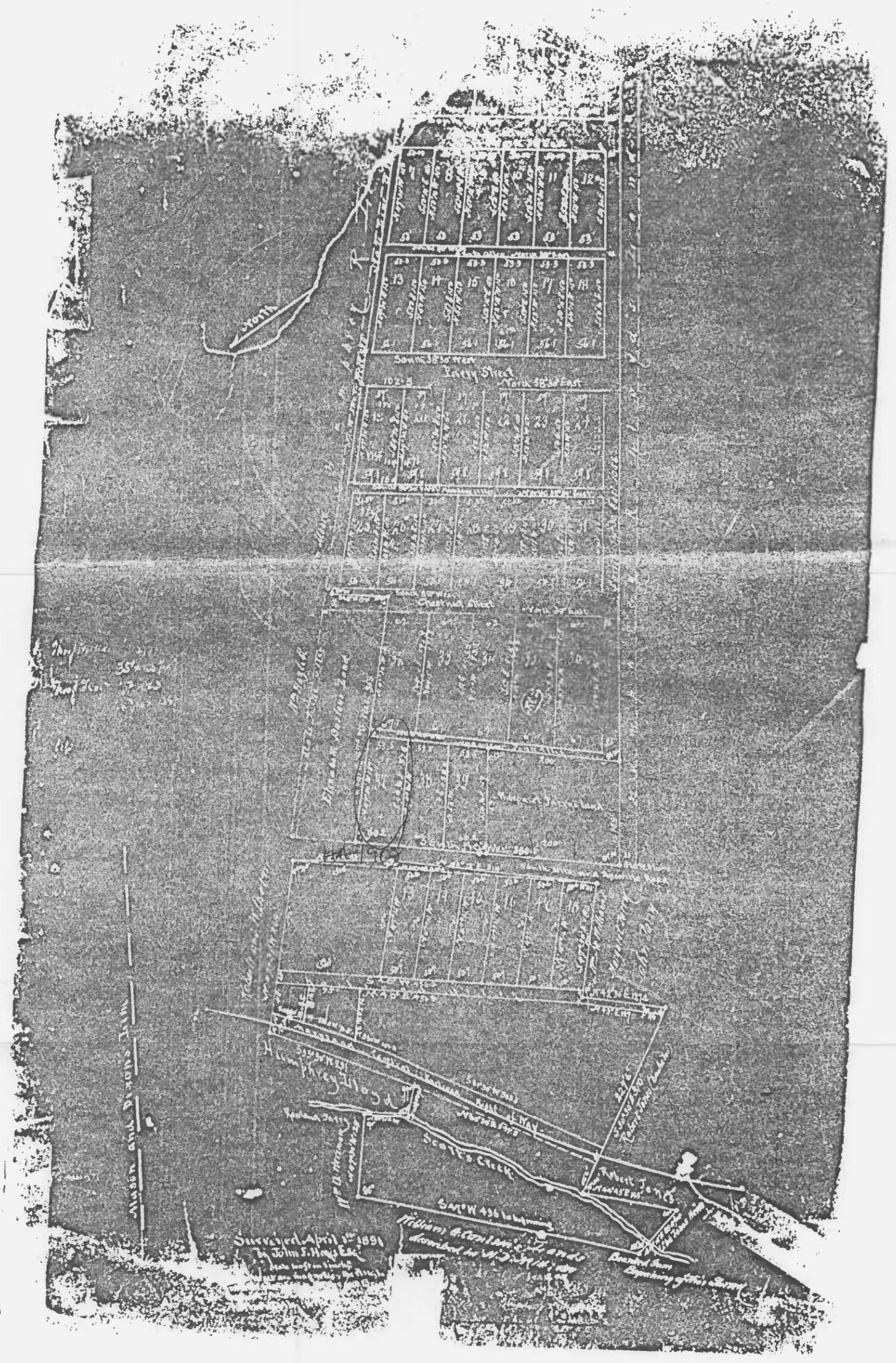


HA 1908

HA-1908

McFadden House  
Parcel 191, Tax Map 5

# PLAT of SOUTH DELTA LAND COMPANY! 1891



150 000 FEET  
(PA.)

P E A C H B O

4399

4398

42'30"

4396

4395

4394

4393

4392

4391

33

32

PENNSYLVANIA  
MARYLAND

YORK CO  
HARFORD CO

FIVE FORKS 3 MI.  
GRAVELION 0.6 MI.

WHITEFORD

WHEELER

SCHOOL ROAD

RAILROAD

PYLESVILLE

Pylesville

BM 358

5763 III NW  
(FAWN GROVE)

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BM 358



1631

HA 1908

McFadden House

Harford County, Maryland

Dianne Kline

3.95

Maryland SHPO

~~to be used Harford County Dept of Planning & Zoning~~

View date from Main Street

1/1



1631

NO  
PARKING

LA 1903

Robertson

Harford County, Maryland

Dinner Hair

3/95

Maryland HRP

~~Chris Weeks, Harford County Planning & Zoning Department~~

View date - on Main Street

1/1