INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: Montpelier Tenant House, Barn Survey Number: HO-38

Project: Montpelier Research Park Agency: COE

Site visit by MHT Staff: ___ no _X_ yes Name L. Bowlin Date 1989

Eligibility recommended ____ Eligibility not recommended _X_

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)
In a consensus DOE in 1989, the Trust determined that Montpelier was eligible for the National Register under Criterion C. This determination did not address any other buildings on site. In 1994, the property owner undertook identification and evaluation of the tenant house, barn, and shed located in the southeast section (Parcel 125) of the Montpelier acreage. The gabled dwelling is a turn of the twentieth century frame structure located at 10904 Johns Hopkins Road. Rectangular in plan, the original two-story, central plan I-house has been significantly altered over the years by the construction of rear additions, alteration of the front porch, and the application of numerous exterior wall materials. A frame crib barn and concrete shed are situated adjacent to the tenant house. The three bay, two-story barn is contemporary with the dwelling, while the equipment shed appears to have a mid-twentieth century construction date. This office has concurred with the consultant's determination that this three building complex does not retain sufficient integrity to be a contributing resource of the Montpelier property.

An archeological investigation was conducted around these buildings as well. The survey did not result in any significant artifacts.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MD Inventory of H.P. for Montpelier and survey report

Prepared by: Traceries

L. Bowlin 20 June 1994
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: ✓ yes ___ no ___ not applicable

Ronald L. Andrew 6.30.94
Reviewer, NR program Date

Survey No. HO-38

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

____	Eastern Shore	(all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
____	Western Shore	(Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
XX	Piedmont	(Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
____	Western Maryland	(Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

____	Paleo-Indian	10000-7500 B.C.
____	Early Archaic	7500-6000 B.C.
____	Middle Archaic	6000-4000 B.C.
____	Late Archaic	4000-2000 B.C.
____	Early Woodland	2000-500 B.C.
____	Middle Woodland	500 B.C. - A.D. 900
____	Late Woodland/Archaic	A.D. 900-1600
____	Contact and Settlement	A.D. 1570-1750
____	Rural Agrarian Intensification	A.D. 1680-1815
____	Agricultural-Industrial Transition	A.D. 1815-1870
X	Industrial/Urban Dominance	A.D. 1870-1930
____	Modern Period	A.D. 1930-Present
____	Unknown Period (___ prehistoric	___ historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

____	Subsistence
____	Settlement
____	Political
____	Demographic
____	Religion
____	Technology
____	Environmental Adaption

IV. Historic Period Themes:

X	Agriculture
X	Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
____	Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
____	Government/Law
____	Military
____	Religion
____	Social/Educational/Cultural
____	Transportation

V. Resource Type:

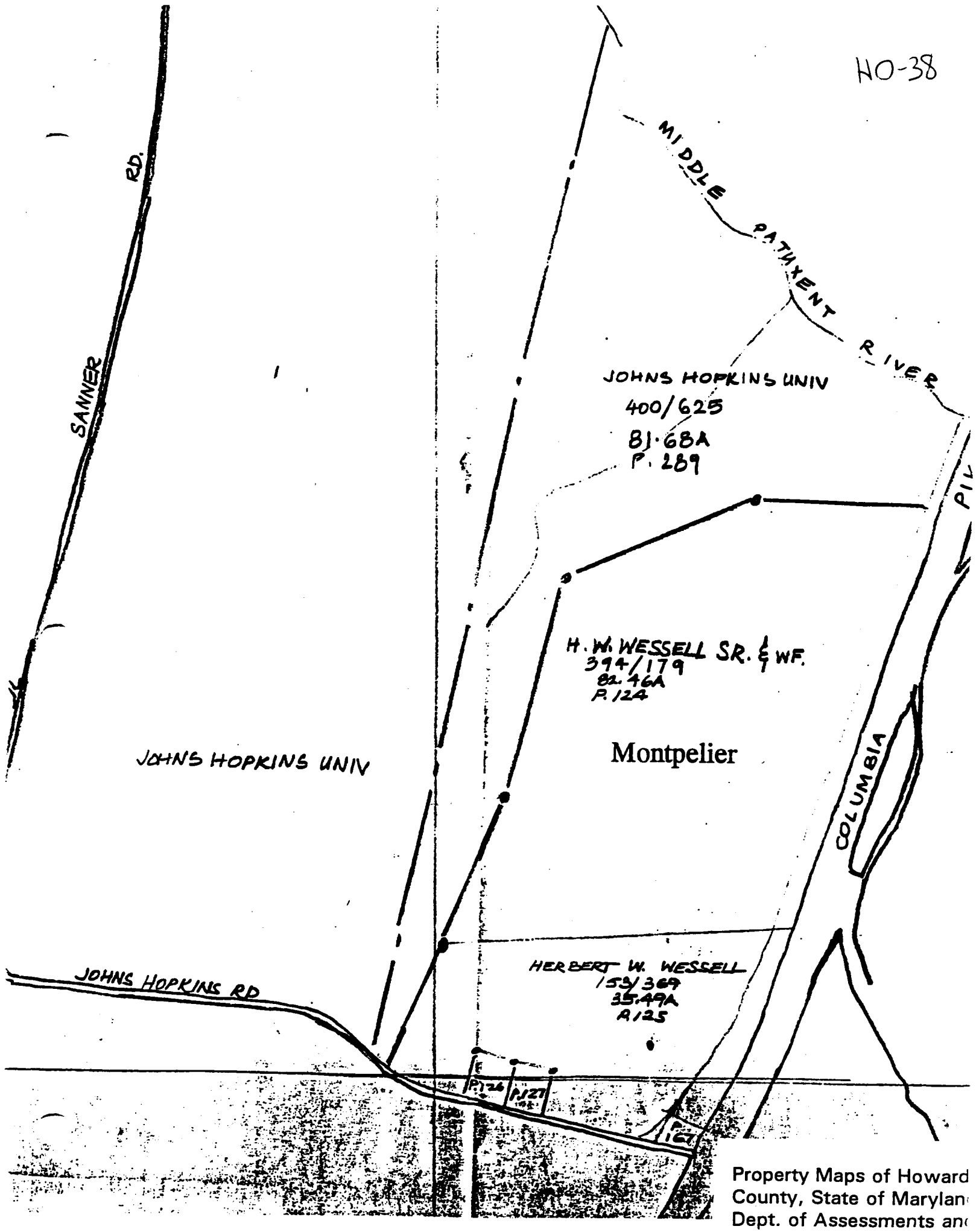
Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): domestic and agricultural

Known Design Source:

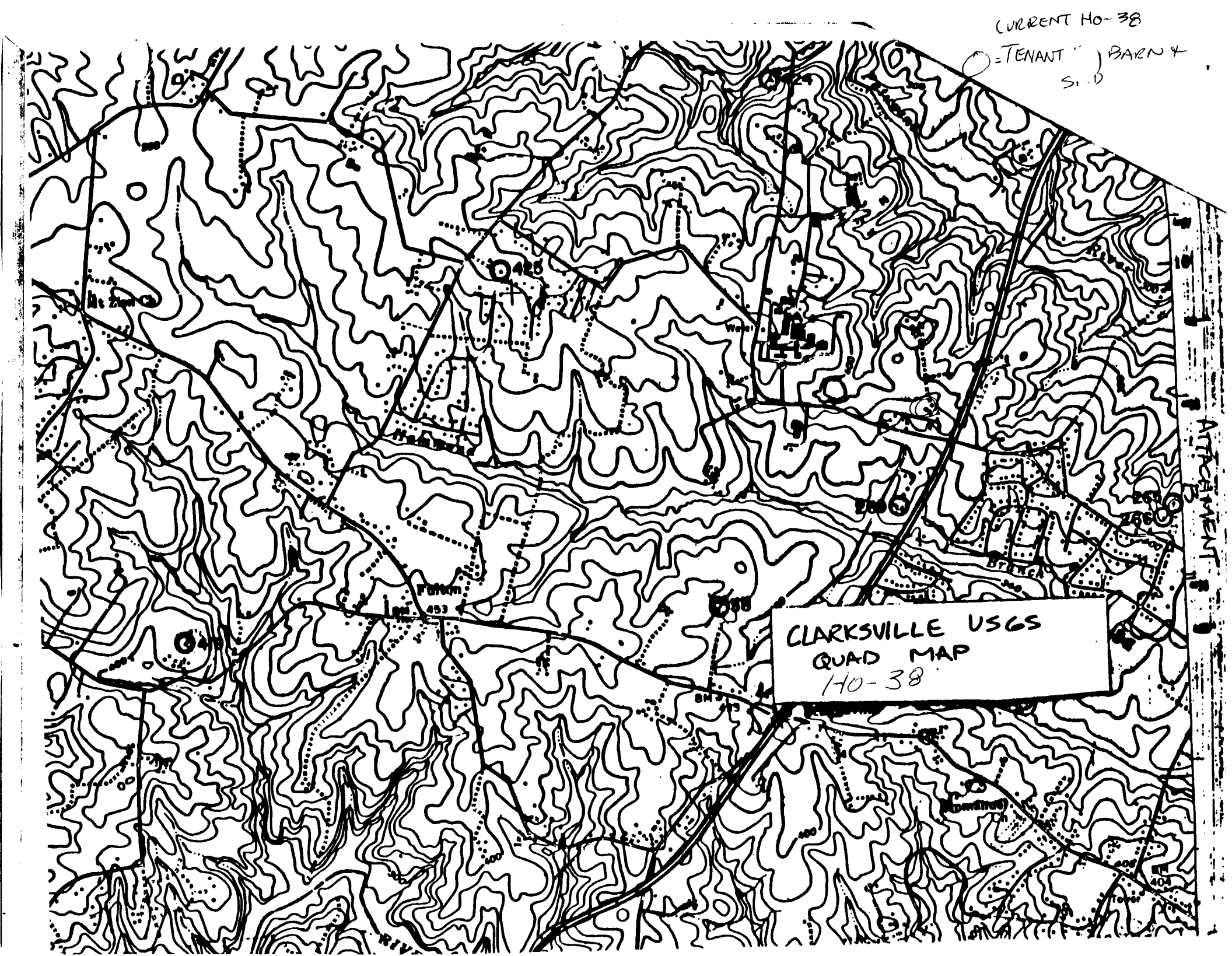
HO-38



Property Maps of Howard County, State of Maryland Dept. of Assessments and Taxation; 1967; Map No. 41

CURRENT HO-38

○ = TENANT BARN & SILO



CLARKSVILLE USGS
QUAD MAP
HO-38

ATTACHMENT B

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY, 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
VIEW OF TENANT HOUSE, BARN, AND SHED, LOOKING NE
1 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY, 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
VIEW OF TENANT HOUSE AND OUTBUILDINGS, LOOKING NE
2 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
VIEW OF TENANT HOUSE AND OUTBUILDINGS,
LOOKING NORTH
3 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
VIEW OF TENANT HOUSE AND OUTBUILDING, LOOKING SE
4 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
VIEW OF TENANT HOUSE AND SHED, LOOKING S
5 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
VIEW OF SHED AND BARN, LOOKING SOUTH
6 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
VIEW OF TENANT HOUSE AND SHED, LOOKING SE
7 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
FACADE AND SE CORNER, VIEW LOOKING NW
8 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
FACADE AND NE CORNER, LOOKING SW
9 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
FACADE AND PORCH, LOOKING SOUTH
10 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
NE CORNER AND PORCH, LOOKING SE
11 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
FOUNDATION, NE CORNER
12 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
CONCRETE BLOCK ADDITION AT NW
CORNER, LOOKING SE
13 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
CHIMNEY AND CORNICE DETAIL, WEST ELEVATION

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HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
WEST ELEVATION
15 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
WINDOW DETAIL, WEST ELEVATION
16 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
SW CORNER
17 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
REAR ADDITION AT SOUTH ELEVATION
VIEW LOOKING NW
18 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
SE CORNER OF FOUNDATION

19 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
FOUNDATION, SOUTH ELEVATION

20 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
FRONT ENTRY AT CENTRAL HALL
LOOKING SE

21 OF 88

Decal
Sheets

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
NEWEL AND BALUSTERS, CENTRAL
HALL AND MAIN STAIR
LOOKING SOUTH

22 OF 88

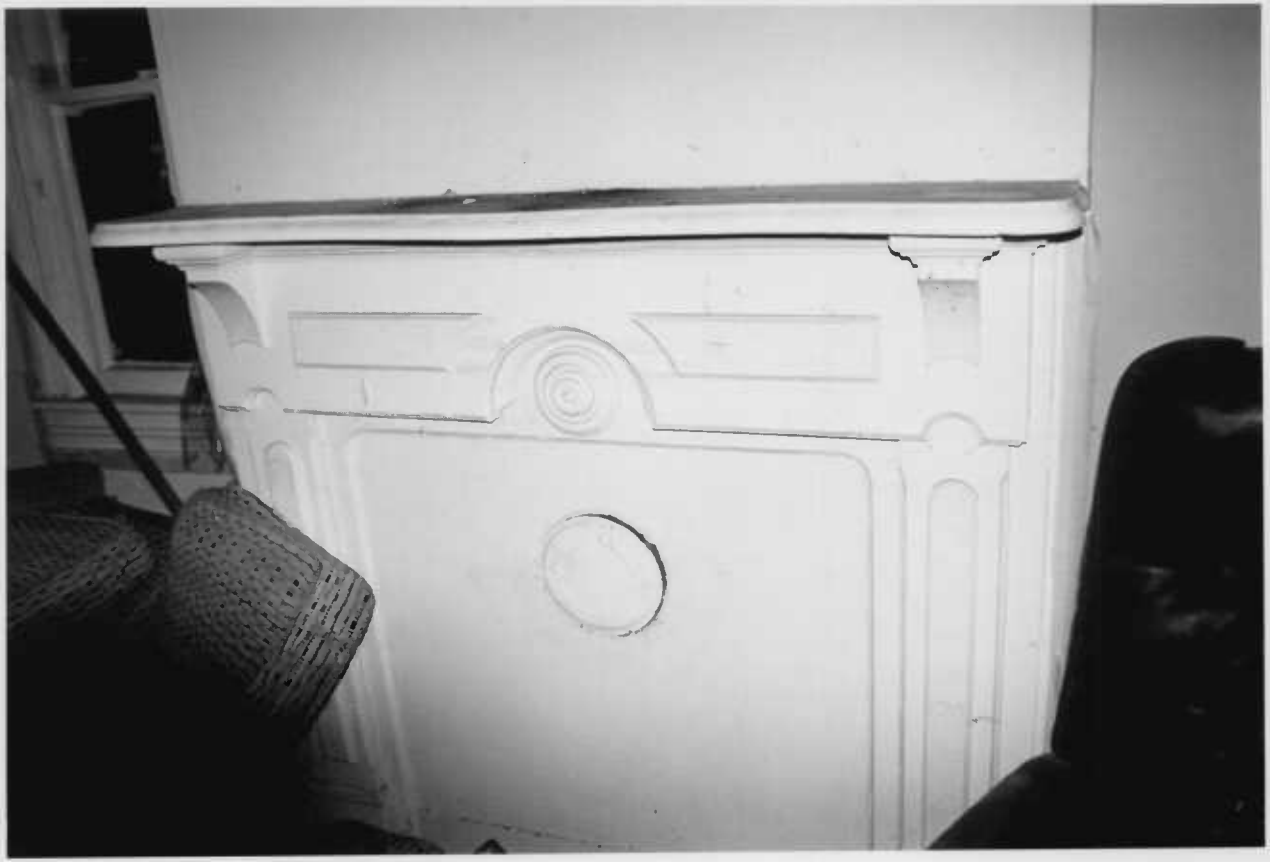
HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
BALUSTERS, CENTRAL HALL AND MAIN STAIR
23 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRALERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
1ST FLOOR, SOUTH PARLOR LOOKING
NORTHEAST

24 OF 88

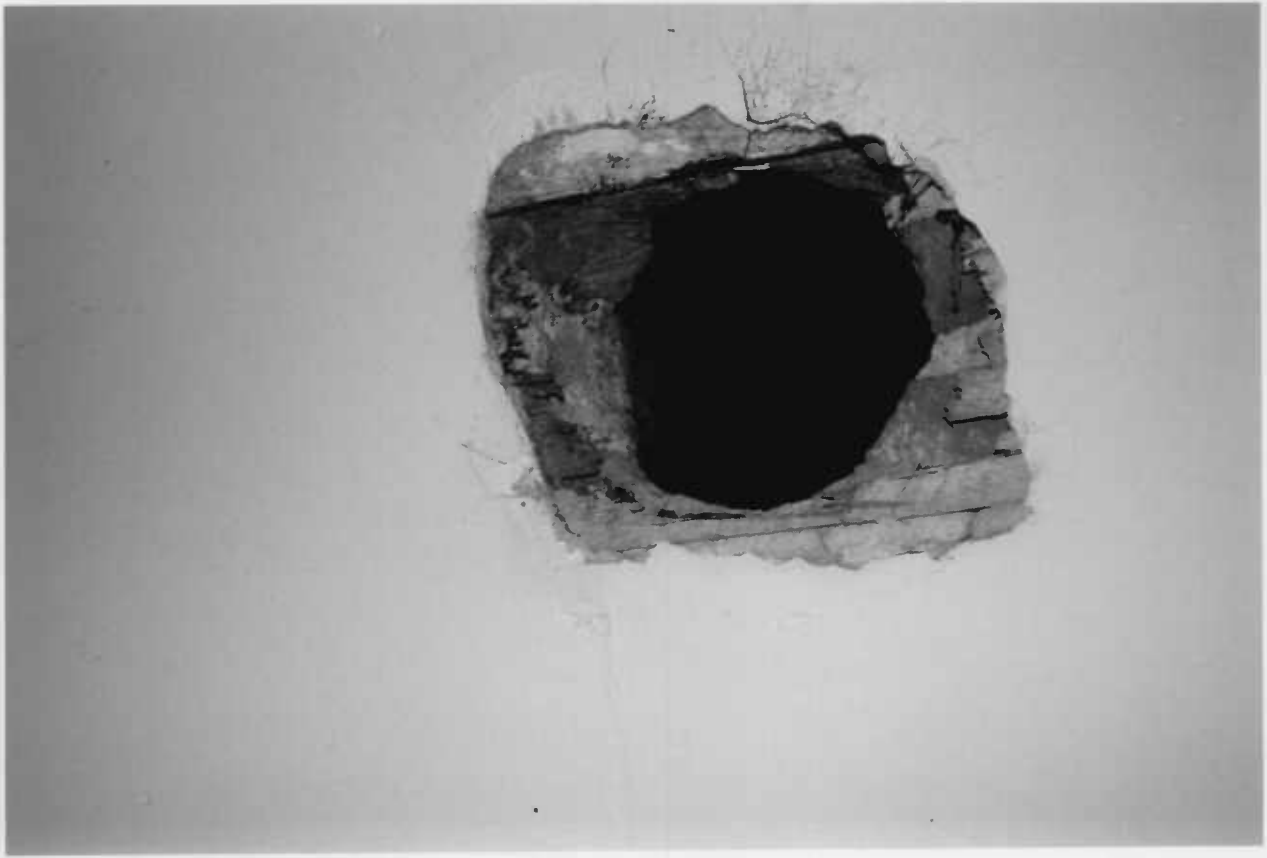
HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
1ST FLOOR, SOUTH PARLOR, EAST WALL, DETAIL OF WINDOW

25 OF 88



HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
1ST FLOOR, SOUTH PARLOR, CHIMNEY BREAST
AND MANTLE, SOUTH WALL
26 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
1ST FLOOR, SOUTH PARLOR, SOUTH
WALL, CHIMNEY BREAST
27 OF 88



HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
1ST FLOOR, SOUTH PARLOR, OPENING IN
CHIMNEY BREAST
28 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
1ST FLOOR, SW ROOM OF ADDITION
LOOKING NE

29 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
1ST FLOOR, SW ADDITION, WINDOW
DETAIL ON SOUTH WALL

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HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
1ST FLOOR, NORTH PARLOR, VIEW LOOKING NE
31 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
1ST FLOOR, KITCHEN, NW ADDITION, LOOKING N
32 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
1ST FLOOR, KITCHEN, NW ADDITION, LOOKING EAST
33 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
CONCRETE BLOCK REAR ADDITION, LOOKING S

34 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
MAIN STAIR TO 2ND FLOOR
LOOKING WEST
35 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
2ND FLOOR, SE ROOM FROM HALL
LOOKING SOUTH
36 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
2ND FLOOR, SE ROOM, LOOKING SE

37 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
2ND FLOOR, SE ROOM, LOOKING SE
37 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
2ND FLOOR, SW ROOM OF ADDITION
LOOKING WEST

39 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
2ND FLOOR, BATHROOM IN ADDITION
LOOKING WEST

40 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
2ND FLOOR, NE ROOM, LOOKING NE
41 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
2ND FLOOR, NE ROOM, LOOKING EAST
42 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
2ND FLOOR, NW ROOM, LOOKING WEST
43 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
ATTIC, RAFTERS AND CHIMNEY, LOOKING EAST
44 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
ATTIC, RAFTERS AND CHIMNEY, LOOKING NE
45 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
ATTIC, RAFTERS, LOOKING NORTH
46 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
ATTIC, INTERSECTION WHERE GABLE ROOF MEETS
FLARED GABLE, LOOKING W

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HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
BASEMENT, S ROOM, SW CORNER

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HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
BASEMENT, S ROOM, SE CORNER

49 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
BASEMENT STAIR AND CENTRAL WALL, LOOKING N
50 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
BASEMENT, N ROOM, LOOKING NW
51 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
BASEMENT, N ROOM, LOOKING NW

52 OF 88

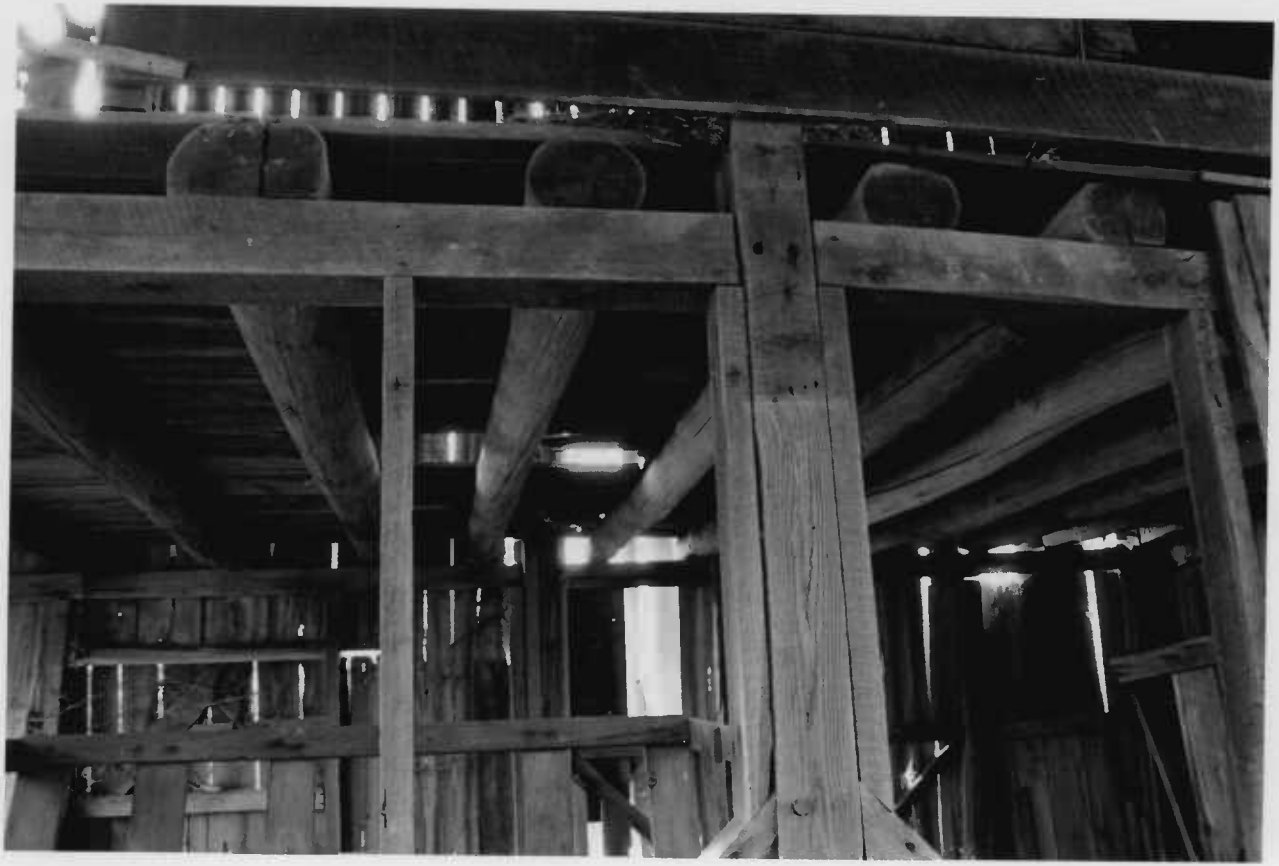
HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY, 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
BASEMENT, N ROOM, CEILING JOISTS, VIEW LOOKING NORTHEAST

53 OF 88

THE
2-28
1993

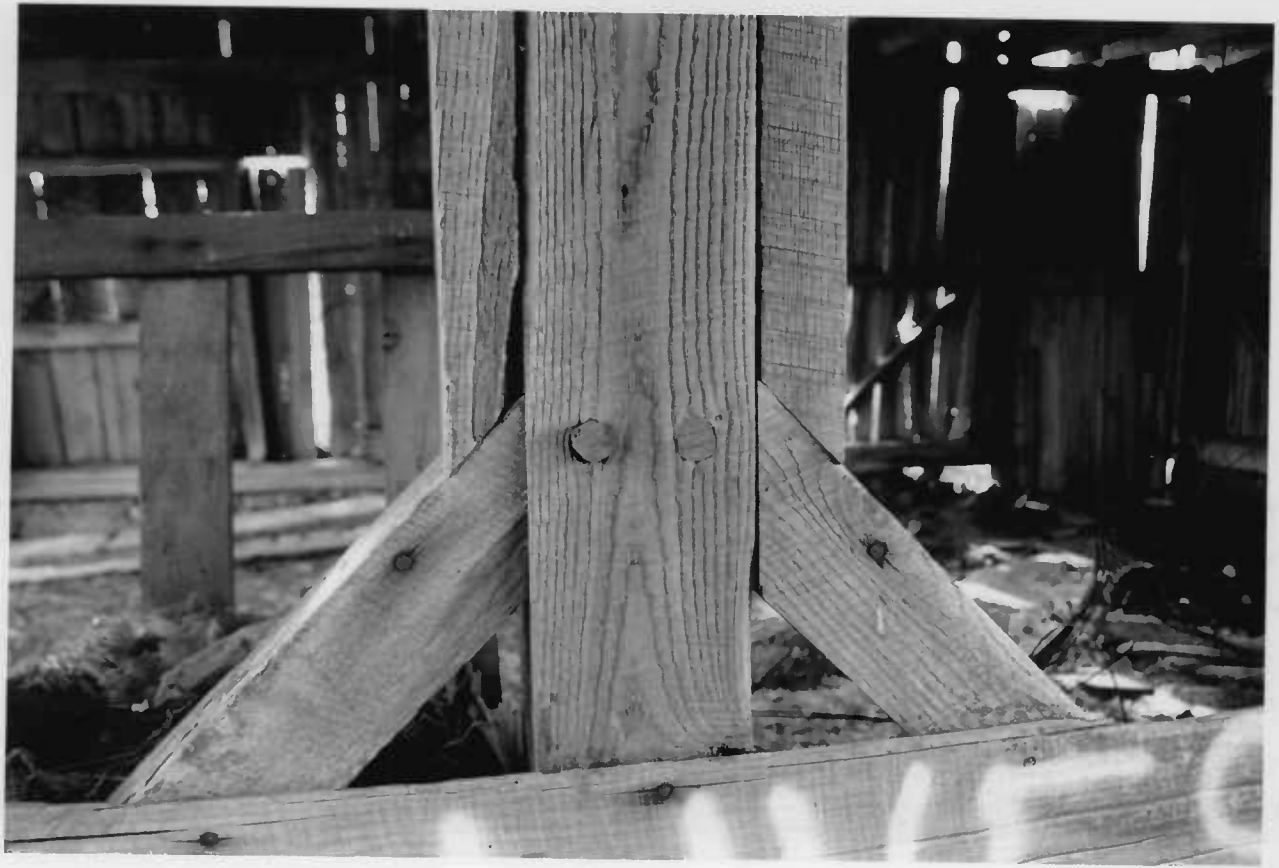
HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
BARN, EAST ELEVATION
54 OF 88

HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
BARN, STORAGE ROOM DOOR WITH
WRITING OF CONSTRUCTION
DATE



HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
BARN, INTERIOR DETAIL, VIEW LOOKING SOUTH

70 OF 88



HO-38
10904 JOHNS HOPKINS RD
HOWARD COUNTY
TRACERIES
JANUARY 1994
MARYLAND SHPO
BARN, INTERIOR DETAIL OF WOODEN PEGS AND
CIRCULAR SAW MARKS, LOOKING S

71 OF 88

HO-38

See MHT vertical file for additional photographs.

CAPSULE SUMMARY FOR THE MONTPELIER MANOR HOUSE
HO-38

The Montpelier manor house was constructed in circa 1770 by Colonel Henry Ridgely IV. Representative of the late 18th century Georgian form found in rural settings in Virginia and Maryland, the dwelling is located on a small portion of a vast tract of land, known in the 18th century as Ridgely's Great Park, that historically was associated with the Ridgely and Snowden families and occupied by the members of the Ridgely family until 1824. Rectangular in plan, the two-and-a-half-story, central-passage plan manor house is constructed in the Georgian style with a symmetrical composition and classical detailing. The dwelling is constructed of three-course American bond brick, now covered with scored stucco, and has a side gable roof with interior end brick chimneys. Although alterations and vandalism has seriously diminished its integrity, the Montpelier manor house retains its original form and spatial configuration.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. HO-38

ADDENDUM III TO MONTPELIER MANOR HOUSE (MHT FORM HO-38, 1976, 1994, and 1995)

1. Name of Property

historic name Montpelier
other names

2. Location

street & number 7700 Columbia Pike not for publication
city or town Laurel vicinity
state Maryland code MD county Howard code 027
zip code 20810

3. State/Federal Agency Certification N/A

4. National Park Service Certification N/A

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

- X private
- ____ public-local
- ____ public-State
- ____ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- X building(s)
- ____ district
- ____ site
- ____ structure
- ____ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	2	buildings
____	____	sites
____	____	structures
____	____	objects
1	2	Total

Is this property listed in the National Register?

Yes ____ Name of Listing
No X

Montpelier
7700 Columbia Pike
Howard County, Maryland

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic — Sub: Single Dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Vacant — Sub: Vacant

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Georgian

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone
roof Asphalt Shingles
walls Stucco over Brick
other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property.) See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

____ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

__X__ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

__X__ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

____ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

____ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

____ B removed from its original location.

____ C a birthplace or a grave.

____ D a cemetery.

____ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

____ F a commemorative property.

____ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Montpelier
7700 Columbia Pike
Howard County, Maryland

==========

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
Architecture

Period of Significance circa 1770
circa 1890

Significant Dates circa 1770
circa 1890

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation undefined

Architect/Builder unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property.) See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

==========

9. Major Bibliographical References

==========

(Cite the books, articles, legal records, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Articles, Books, Published and Unpublished Resources

Anne Arundel County Land and Will Records, Maryland State Archives, Annapolis, MD.

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Tetra Tech, Inc., "A Phase I Archaeological Survey of Montpelier, Howard County, Maryland. August 21, 1995.

Warfield, J.D. *The Founders of Anne Arundel and Howard Counties, Maryland*. Westminster, MD: Family Line Publications, 1990.

Maps

Hopkins, G.M., *Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Baltimore, including Howard County, Maryland*, Map 24, 1878.

Hopkins, G.M., Survey and Plat of Property in the City of Washington, D.C., within a Six Mile Radius, 1887.

Property Maps of Howard County, State of Maryland, Dept. of Assessments and Taxation, 1967. Map Number 41.

Rural Delivery Routes, Howard County, MD. Post Office Department, 1933.

United States Department of Geological Survey Maps of Howard County, 1910, 1927, 1940, 1949 revised 1954, and 1957 revised 1979.

Van Royen, William, *Historical Information about People and Places in Howard County*, 1960.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately 80 acres

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property designated as Montpelier occupies all of parcels 124 and 125 in Howard County. The manor house addressed in the addendum is located within the northern portion of parcel 124.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The buildings located on Parcel 124 have been historically associated with the site since its construction circa 1770.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Laura Trieschmann/Architectural Historian
organization Traceries date March 15, 1996
street & number 5420 Western Avenue telephone (301) 656-5283
city or town Chevy Chase state MD zip code 20815

12. Property Owner

name Hopkins Road Limited Partnership
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state MD zip code _____

==========

The Montpelier manor house at 7700 Columbia Pike was constructed in circa 1770 and has undergone several structural and interior alterations, as well as having suffered from vandalism and weather damage. The Georgian-style manor house retains its original form as a two-and-a-half-story, double-pile building covered with a gable roof. By the early to mid-19th century, the exterior of the brick building was clad with scored stucco, following the fashion of the Federal-style. The appearance of the Montpelier manor house was further altered in the late 19th century when it was "restored and modernized" by its current owner, August Wessel. At the turn of the 20th century, porches were added to the facade and the east elevation and the stucco finish was painted to give a Colonial Revival-style appearance. In the 1970s, following substantial neglect, the house was again renovated and altered to meet modern requirements.

SITE

The Montpelier manor house is located approximately 700 yards northeast of the intersection of Columbia Pike (Route 29) and Johns Hopkins Road overlooking the Middle Patuxent River to the north. The freestanding building is encircled by a gravel drive that currently extends north from Johns Hopkins Road. Historically, the main drive to the manor house stretched west from Columbia Pike and turned north approximately 200 yards from the manor house.

The outbuildings currently found on the site include a large multipurpose barn with a gambrel roof, a metal silo, and a frame shed. The barn and silo are located approximately 200 yards to the northeast of the manor house, while the shed is approximately 50 yards directly to the north.

HISTORIC APPEARANCE

As originally built in circa 1770, the Montpelier manor house was a formal, two-and-a-half-story, five-bay brick building. Set upon a slightly raised, irregular coursed stone foundation, the manor house had a central passage plan with two interior end chimneys. The building was covered by a gable roof, covered with wood shingles and slate tiles, respectively, with a boxed cornice ornamented with brackets. The symmetrically placed, elongated openings had 9/9 windows. The main entry on the south elevation

had a wood and glass double-entry door, retaining its original hardware. The opening was capped by a four-light transom.

The interior of the building consisted of a central passage and three rooms on the first floor, including a grand hall, dining room, and chamber.[1] The hall, running the depth of the house had a detailed mantel with an "eared" overmantel, a fashionable embellishment in the late 18th century. The interior entries contained six-paneled wood doors with wrought iron lock boxes. The floors were constructed of pine, two inches thick and six inches wide. The tongue-and-groove boards were supported by hand-hewned log joists of locust. The stair was ornamented with paneling and a tulip poplar handrail.[2]

Subsequent alterations and restorations included the reconstruction of the roof following a fire[3]; the addition of a contemporary one-story porch that replaced the summer kitchen addition on the east elevation; the addition of a one-story porch on the facade[4]; and the replacement of much of the interior architectural detailing in the late 19th century.

PRESENT APPEARANCE

EXTERIOR

Today, the Montpelier manor house appears as a two-and-a-half-story, five-bay, central-passage-plan house covered with a gable roof. Set upon a stone foundation of irregular coursed stone with a molded brick watertable, the house is constructed of brick laid in three-course American bond that has been covered with scored

[1] The historic description is based on architectural evidence as well as the Maryland Historical Trust Worksheet for the National Register, dated 1976, and several secondary sources.

[2] William G. Cook, *Montpelier and the Snowden Family*, (Prince George's County, MD: privately printed, 1976), p. 58.

[3] Cook, p. 58.

[4] Evidence on the facade of the building, as well as the foundation of the porch itself, indicates that the present one-story porch was not the first addition to be constructed on the facade.

stucco to obscure subsequent alterations and repairs. Evidence under the south and east porch additions indicate that the stucco was not originally painted. The deterioration of the stucco along the south elevation discloses tooled and scribed mortar joints. The north, east, and west elevations have been repointed, displaying a struck joint. A stringcourse marking the second story extends along the north and south elevations, terminating approximately one inch prior to the corners of the building. The side gable roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles placed in a diamond pattern. Brick interior end chimneys with corbelled caps project from the west and east side elevations. The chimney on the west elevation has been reconstructed. Originally clad in stucco, the larger chimney on the east elevation has four circular chimney pots, serving the corner fireplaces. A one-story frame porch with a half-hipped roof was added to the south elevation and a one-story cinder block addition has been constructed on the first story of the east elevation.

The facade (south elevation) of the Montpelier manor house measures forty-eight feet, four inches in length and features a symmetrically placed central entry with a deteriorated three-bay wide Colonial Revival-style porch. The frame porch, set upon a twenty-seven feet wide cinder block and irregularly course stone foundation, is accessible by four poured concrete steps with solid side balustrades. The nine inch floorboards, running the width of the porch, were set upon hand-hewned logs. The porch has deteriorated severely and recently collapsed, exposing a second stone porch foundation that is approximately thirteen feet wide. The central entry is four feet wide and historically contained double doors. Capped by a rectangular transom, the entry is finished with pilaster molded surrounds of wood with back banding. The doors and transom have been removed and the opening is currently covered with particle board. The entry opening is flanked by two single window openings, measuring eleven inches in height and finished with brick jack-arched lintels. The openings are trimmed with square-edged surrounds with interior beading.

The second story of the Montpelier manor house is distinctly marked by a projecting brick stringcourse that terminates approximately one inch from the edges of the elevation. The symmetrically placed window openings measure ten-and-a-half inches in height. Unequally-spaced, the windows are finished with square-edged surrounds edged with back banding and set within the opening. The

replacement wood sills are chamfered at the center. All of the windows on the first and second story have been removed.

Overhanging sightly, the eave of the gable roof is finished on the facade with a boxed cornice. The soffit of the wooden cornice is supported by scotia-molded brackets. The fascia and the soffit are trimmed with ogee-molded cornices. The basement level is marked by symmetrically placed, segmental-arched openings. Two of the four original openings have been infilled with stone. As evidenced on the interior, the height of the extant openings has been reduced by brick infill. The openings, which do not retain any exterior surrounds, have single paned awning windows.

Measuring twenty-nine feet, ten-and-one-half inches in width, the east side elevation is two-bays deep and features a one-story enclosed porch addition. The porch addition is constructed of cinder block and has a half-hipped roof sheathed in asphalt shingles. The overhanging eaves of the roof are clad with metal coping. The south elevation of the addition has a double window opening with deteriorated 6/6 sash. The east elevation of the addition has a pair of triple windows, also with deteriorated 6/6 sash. The northern bay of the addition has a single entry accessible by poured concrete steps. The door has been removed. The north elevation of the addition has a small single window opening. Within the porch addition, the two symmetrically placed openings are visible. The southern-most bay contains an elongated window opening with square-edged surrounds edged by a single interior bead. While the lights of the sash do not remain, the double-hung sash is extant. The northern-most bay contains a single entry that provides access to the northeast chamber of the house.

The second story and attic level of the east elevation, visible above the addition, each have two asymmetrically placed window openings. The openings on the second story are trimmed with square-edged surrounds with mitred joints. The surrounds of the window openings on the attic level have been removed. All of the windows on the east elevation have been removed.

Originally five-bays wide, the north side elevation presently is four-bays wide due to the infill of the window openings in the eastern-most bay. The deterioration of the stucco exposes the brick wall which is laid in three-course American bond with

numerous glazed brick. The elevation measures forty-eight feet, eight inches in length. Although simpler in detail, the north elevation mirrors the facade with a brick watertable, stringcourse, boxed cornice, and flat arched brick lentils. The windows on the first story have been removed and the equally-spaced openings obscured with particle board. The centrally placed entry measures three inches in width and is capped by a single light transom. The entry has been infilled on the sides to allow for the installation of a smaller door made of wood with a single pane of glass. As the opening is set within the wall and partially obscured with particle board, the surrounds are not visible. It is accessible by three poured concrete steps. Poured concrete is found along the foundation level of the north elevation, extending approximately two feet from the building.

The second story, rising eleven feet, four inches above the stringcourse, has four window openings with wood sills and square-edged surrounds edged with back banding. All of the windows on the second story have been removed. The slightly overhanging eave of the north elevation is finished with a plain boxed cornice and an ogee-molded fascia.

The foundation level of the north elevation, although obscured from view by foliage, has two small rectangular openings on the western end. The opening in the westernmost bay has been enlarged to allow access into the basement and is covered by double metal doors.

The west side elevation has only two openings, located at the attic level. Flanking the interior end chimney, the window openings have contemporary metal surrounds. The windows have been removed.

INTERIOR

The Montpelier manor house has a central-passage, two-room deep plan. The first floor contains three rooms and a twelve foot wide central passage. The central passage is flanked by a large hall to the west with the dining room and chamber to the east. The central passage opens onto rooms on either side and runs from the main entry of the house on the south to the rear yard at the north.

An open dog-leg stair, measuring three feet, six inches in width, with a double-return is located on the eastern wall of the passage,

facing south. The double-return to the north is a winder stair, measuring two feet, eleven inches in width, which leads to a "musicians stairway," from which the chamber orchestra would preform for social functions and balls.[5] The southern portion of the double-return is a straight-flight stair, measuring three feet, six inches in width, leading to the main landing of the second floor. The risers are seven inches high and the treads are ten inches deep. The stair is finished with single beaded wall stringers, decorative stringer brackets, and round nosed treads. Although no longer in place, the balustrade was comprised of fancy turned balusters, three to a tread, and a molded handrail that measures four feet square.[6] Extant rails on the stringer of the stairs indicate that it was finished with vertical panels.[7] The panels were approximately seventeen inches wide and pegged to five inch stiles. While numerous risers and tread have been replaced on the stair, the supporting carriage appears to be original. An enclosed, straight-flight stair leading to the basement is located directly under the main stair.

The floor of the central passage is made up of six inch wide pine wood replacement boards, running the width of the space. It is edged with a single beaded baseboard, measuring five-and-a-half-inches in height. Eight inch high replacement baseboard is located in various places within the passage. The entry openings leading into the west hall and the dining room have a molded pilaster finish with back banding, while the opening to the northeast chamber has a single beaded, square-edged casing. The main entry to the south has a narrow trim with a large interior bead, while the north entry has wide square-edged replacement trim with mitred joints. The ten inch thick brick walls are covered with two layers of horse hair plaster two inches thick. Four foot high contemporary paneling and a double chamfered chairrail have been installed in the northeast corner of the space. The ceiling has been removed, exposing the hand-hewned joists and markings of the plaster and hand-split lath.

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[5] Celia M. Holland, *Old Homes and Families of Howard County, Maryland,* (Howard County, MD: privately printed, 1937), 347; Cook, p. 57-58.

[6] Fragments of the balusters and rail remain in the building.

[7] The Maryland Historical Trust Worksheet for the National Register, dated 1976, indicates that the stair had a "tulip poplar handrail...and paneled stingers."

The west hall, measuring approximately 25 by 36 feet, runs the depth of the house. The original pine floors have been replace with pressed boards. The ceiling has been removed, exposing the hand-hewned floor joists of the second floor. Metal I-beams, projecting from the basement to the second floor, provide additional support to the joists. Due to the deterioration of the plaster throughout the hall, the construction materials and brick bonding patterns are visible. Irregularly coursed stone walls flank the chimney breast, measuring approximately six feet, seven inches in width and project six inches into the room. The stone wall, which extends the height of the room, is visible on the west elevation under the stucco. The remaining five feet of brick wall that extends from the stone to the corners of the west wall have been furred out with hand-hewned studs and lath to create an even surface. The base of the north wall is laid in three-course American bond with a row of Flemish bond set directly under the sills of the elongated windows. The base of the south wall is laid in English bond, also extending to the sill of the windows. The field of both the north and south walls are laid in three-course American bond.

All detailing and trim, such as baseboards, chairrail, window casings, and mantel, have been removed. Ghosting on the plaster indicates that an eight inch wide chairrail encircled the room, located two feet, three inches above the floor. The entry opening is trimmed with molded pilaster casing with back banding, identical to those found in the central passage. The chimney breast, constructed of brick, protrudes three feet from the west wall. Ghosting on the chimney breast indicates that the mantel was four feet, ten inches high and six feet, four inches wide with a shelf that projected three inches. The fireplace opening, marked by a straight jack-arched lintel, has been infilled with plaster.

The dining room, located in the southeast room, is accessible from both the northeast chamber and the central passage. Measuring fifteen feet, two inches by thirteen feet, five inches, the dining room has a corner chimney in the northeast corner. The floor is made of three layers: the original six inch wide pine wood boards extending from east to west; three inch wood boards laid north to south; and square linoleum tiles. The floor is edged with five-and-a-half inch high baseboard capped with a single bead. The plaster walls are finished with a one-and-a-half inch wide chamfered chairrail, located two feet, eleven inches above the

floor. The entry opening to the central passage, located on the west wall, is trimmed with beaded casing, while the opening to the northeast chamber has a molded pilaster finish with back banding. The two window openings are trimmed with large single beaded casings. The fireplace opening is finished with a contemporary brick mantel laid in stretcher bond with a rowlock course shelf. The original ceiling joists are partially exposed, showing the markings of the original plaster and hand-split lath, as well as the construction of the present drywall ceiling. A narrow cabinet has been cut into the brick at the southern end of the west wall. The wood cabinet has two shelves and is trimmed at the edges with a single bead.

The northeast chamber, identical in size and form to the dining room, is accessible from the central passage, the dining room, and the porch addition on the east elevation. The floor is made up of six inch wide pine wood boards, running east to west, which are covered with three inch wide wood flooring, laid north to south. Extant on just three of the walls, the beaded baseboard is five-and-a-half inches high. The entry openings are trimmed with square-edged casing with single interior bead. The north wall originally contained two window openings; however, the opening to the east has been infilled with brick. The remaining window opening has a single beaded casing and a wood sill. The entry opening leading to the east porch addition was originally a window opening. It is currently trimmed with a narrow square-edged replacement casing. The corner chimney breasted is constructed of brick with a segmentally arched fireplace opening. The center of the breast has been punctured to provide ventilation for a stove or heater. Ghosting indicates that the mantel was four feet, six inches high and five feet, eight inches with a one-and-a-half inch shelf that projected five inches. The walls are covered with two layers of plaster which has severely deteriorated on the north wall, exposing the bonding patterns. Similar to the west hall, the base of the north wall of the chamber is laid in three-course American bond with a row of Flemish bond set directly under the sill of the window. The field of wall is laid in three-course American bond. The hand-hewned joists of the ceiling are exposed.

The interior of the porch addition on the east elevation has a contemporary finish. The wood floor is edged with a chamfered baseboard. The window and door openings are trimmed with narrow,

molded pilaster casings with back banding. Holes in the dry wall ceiling provide visual access to the unpainted scored stucco of the east elevation of the main house. A small modern bath has been installed in the northern end of the porch.

The second floor of the Montpelier manor house contains four rooms with a small central hall. The central hall has six inch pine wood floors, single beaded baseboards, measuring six-and-a-half inches in height, and two layers of horse hair plaster. The entry opening to the west room is trimmed with molded pilaster casing with back banding, while the openings to the two rooms on the east are trimmed with a single beaded, square-edged casing. No doors remain on the second floor, although part of the hardware for the lock boxes are extant.

Identical in size and scale to the west hall on the first floor, the west bedroom of the second floor has a centrally placed, projecting brick chimney breast with ghosting of a five feet high mantel. The chimney breast is covered with horse hair plaster and sawn lath. The floors are made of six inch wide pine wood, the walls are covered with two layers of horse hair plaster, and the hand-hewned ceiling joists are exposed. All detailing and trim has been removed, save the wood window sills, sections of the beaded baseboard, and the four inch wide square-edged casing with interior bead on the entry opening. Ghosting on the floor and side walls indicates that an interior wall was located just to the right of the chimney breast, dividing the large space into two rooms. The space was twenty-five feet wide and ten feet, seven inches deep with a four feet entry opening.

The two bedrooms to the east of the central hall are identical in plan and scale to the dining room and northeast chamber on the first floor. The square rooms, divided by an eleven inch wide interior wall, have six inch wide pine wood floors, trimmed with beaded baseboards. The entry openings are trimmed with square-edged casing with interior beading. The corner chimney breasts have segmentally arched fireplace openings. Ghosting indicates that the identical mantels were four feet, three inches high and six feet wide. The walls and ceiling are covered with horse hair plaster and hand-split lath. The window openings are covered with particle board, obscuring any extant casings. In the northeast room, the original window opening in the eastern bay has been infilled with brick and obscured by plaster.

A small room, presumably converted into a bathroom in the late 19th century, is located at the southern end of the central hall. The rectangular space has six inch pine wood floors, beaded baseboards, horse hair plaster walls, and exposed ceiling joists. The entry opening is trimmed with single beaded, square-edged casing. The casing of the window opening is obscured from view.

The attic level is assessable by the hollow-newel stair located on the east interior wall of the central hall. The stair, which originally was partially enclosed, is six feet, three inches wide and trimmed with a single beaded wall stringer. An entry door with beaded casing was located at the sixth step from the landing on the second floor. While the attic level was once a finished space with three rooms, the floor joists, brick walls, and roof rafters are currently exposed. The floor joists are made up of massive hand-hewned logs, measuring four inches in width and nine-and-a-half inches in depth. Several tongue-and-groove floorboards, measuring nine inches in width, remain in place. Spanning the nine feet, eight inch width of the central passage below is a hand-hewned log which is pegged to the joists and supporting the stairs. Several studs for the interior walls of the attic remain in place with half-dovetail notches to the roof rafters. The replacement rafters are mitred together at the peak of the roof with nails and are covered with ten inch wide boards onto which the asphalt shingles are nailed. The horizontal plate of the roof adds support for the boxed cornice which is anchored with full-dovetail notches. Brick chimney breasts with no visible fireplace openings are located at either end of the attic. No detailing or trim remains intact on the attic level.

Measuring twenty-eight feet, eleven inches by twenty-six feet, nine inches, the basement of the Montpelier manor house extends from the west elevation to the eastern wall of the central passage. The two room basement is accessible from the straight-flight wood stair in the central passage and the stone stair projecting from the north wall to the exterior. The unequal rooms are divided by a two inch thick stone wall. The floor is dirt, the walls are irregularly coursed stone, and the ceiling has exposed replacement joists and metal I-beams. A massive stone chimney breast with no fireplace opening protrudes two-and-a-half-feet from the west wall. Originally containing two window openings, the south wall has one extant segmentally arched window opening. The opening have been

partially infilled with brick. The window opening in the eastern bay of the north wall has been infilled with stone and is barely visible. The western bay of the north wall contains an exterior entry from the basement with stone steps and metal double doors. Concrete block piers, metal I-beams, and poured concrete have been installed in the basement to support the upper floors. A massive coal furnace and an oil furnace are located in the western section of the basement.

OUTBUILDINGS

The property presently contains two outbuildings: a frame shed and a barn with silo. The frame shed is located approximately 50 yards north of the Montpelier manor house. The structure is one-and-a-half-stories with a front gable roof clad with standing seam metal. Partially set on the ground, the northern section of the shed is positioned on a irregularly coursed stone foundation. Constructed of posts and beams, the shed is clad with vertical wood boards, measuring ten inches in width. The two room plan shed is opening on the south elevation to allow agricultural vehicles to enter.

The barn and silo are located approximately 200 yards northwest of the manor house. The barn is two-and-a-half-stories in height with a gambrel roof clad in metal sheets. Set upon a concrete block foundation, the barn is constructed on concrete block on the first story and wood frame on the upper stories. The three bay wide barn is ten bays deep. The rectangular openings contain 2/2 wood sash windows. The main entries, facing north and south, has double-wide sliding entry door of wood. Symmetrically placed, identical double-wide openings are located on the upper story.

The interior of the barn consists of a poured concrete floor, parged walls, and circular-sawn joists. The joists are supported on the first floor by round metal posts. The first floor was used for the housing of agricultural animals, while the upper floor contained the hay loft.

A concrete block addition was construction on the southeast corner of the barn. The side gable addition is three bays wide and one bay deep. The openings contain 2/2 windows and double entry doors. A circular silo is located at the southwest corner of the barn. Constructed of metal, the silo has a domed roof clad in metal

sheets. The silo is attached to the barn by a side gabled breezeway constructed of concrete block.

The Montpelier manor house was constructed in circa 1770 by Colonel Henry Ridgely IV. The dwelling is located on a small portion of a vast tract of land, known as Ridgely's Great Park, that historically was associated with the prominent Maryland Ridgely family. The creation of Parcels 124 and 125, at the intersection of Columbia Pike and Johns Hopkins Road in Howard County, documents the subdivision of the vast 18th century estate into smaller tracts of land during the 19th and 20th centuries. The brick manor house is representative of the late 18th century Georgian-style form found in rural settings in Virginia and Maryland.

THE HENRY RIDGELYS

The property today known as Montpelier was located on a 307-acre tract historically called Broken Land. The association of the Ridgelys with the manor house at Montpelier is limited to Henry Ridgely IV and V, while the association with the property dates back to 1711 when Henry Ridgely III first purchased the land.

Henry Ridgely III (1690-1749) was the son of Henry II (1669-1699) and Katherine Greenberry Ridgely, and the grandson of the first Henry Ridgely, surveyor of Ridgely's Beginning, Waldridge, and Broome. Ridgely III became one of Maryland's largest landholders through the inheritance of Larkin's East with the adjoining 100 acres in 1699 and Ridgely's Beginning in 1710, the joint ownership of Ridgely's Forest circa 1711, and his marriage in 1722 which gave him rights to Wincopin Neck. Ridgely III and his uncle Charles Ridgely jointly owned Ridgely's Forest and a plantation dwelling in Lower Anne Arundel that was part of the Greenberry estate. By deed of transfer in 1712, Charles Ridgely received full ownership of the Lower Anne Arundel estate known as Ridgely's Beginning that contained 282 acres, while Ridgely III obtained sole ownership of Ridgely's Forest, a 262-acre tract of land east of Guilford that stretched south to Savage.[8] Information gleaned from indentures dating from 1712 identify the lands' residential and agricultural nature.

In October 1722, Ridgely III married Elizabeth Warfield (?-1762), the only daughter of Benjamin Warfield. Warfield had given Elizabeth the large tract of 883 acres referred to as "Wincopin

[8] Land Records of Anne Arundel County, 1708-1712 (1712), Liber PK Folio 507.

Neck," lying between the Middle and North Branches of the Patuxent River in Savage. With the inherited land, his wife's dowry, and his own purchases, Ridgely III created a 2750-acre plantation. These 2750 acres (including Round About Hills, James Luck, Coopers Lot, Popular Bottom, Ridgely's Great Range, Ridgely's Forest, and Broken Land) were incorporated into a single entity, named Ridgely's Forest.[9] The majority of this land was located in Anne Arundel and Baltimore counties.

Deed of conveyances and indentures suggest that planter Ridgely III resided in Baltimore County as early as 1712; however, he died in Anne Arundel County in 1749.[10] Presumably his main residence since his marriage to Elizabeth Warfield in 1722 was located in Wincopin Neck, east of Guilford. According to his will, Ridgely bequeathed his holdings among his children, devising their homestead, Harry's Lot and one-third of his personal property to his wife Elizabeth.[11] Despite his ownership of Broken Land and his reputation as a surveyor and builder, there is no indication that Henry Ridgely III was associated with or occupied the manor house known as Montpelier.[12]

Colonel Henry III and Elizabeth Ridgely had nine children. Their second son, Henry IV was born on May 17, 1728 in Queen Caroline Parish, Anne Arundel County. In 1749, Henry III died, devising his holdings among his wife and surviving children. Henry IV inherited all of Ridgely's Forest and resurveyed it under the name Ridgely's Great Park. Included in his inheritance was the 307-acre tract known as Broken Land, the future site of the manor house known as Montpelier. His livelihood appears to be based on his position as a planter and gentleman in Colonial Maryland society. He held several public judicial offices and served in the military.

In 1750, Henry IV married his first cousin, Anne Dorsey (1730-

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[9] J.D. Warfield. *The Founders of Anne Arundel and Howard Counties, Maryland.* (Westminster, MD: Family Line Publications, 1990), p. 351.

[10] Land Records of Baltimore County, Liber PK Folio 458 and 474.

[11] Will Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber 27 Folio 160.

[12] Previous documentation has claimed an association; however, no evidence has been found to support this claim.

1767), daughter of Captain Joshua and Ann Ridgely Dorsey. The couple resided somewhere in Queen Caroline Parish, Anne Arundel County, between the Middle and North Branches of the Patuxent River near Guilford. They raised only five of their nine children to maturity, four daughters and one son. All nine children were born in Queen Caroline Parish, Anne Arundel County.

1. Henry Ridgely V, 1st: 1751-1751.
2. Elizabeth Ridgely: 1752-1808, married Dr. Charles Alexander Warfield, 1771.
3. Ann Ridgely: 1754-1824, married Major Thomas Snowden, 1774.
4. Mary Polly Ridgely: 1756-?, married Thomas Sappington, Jr., prior to 1783.
5. Henry Ridgely V, 2nd: 1758-1811, bachelor.
6. Henrietta Ridgely, 1st: 1760-1760
7. Henrietta Ridgely, 2nd: 1761-?
8. Joshua Ridgely: 1763-1767
9. Sarah Ridgely: 1766-1804, married Dorsey, after 1790.

In 1752, Ridgely IV raised a company of volunteers to join Maryland Governor Horatio Sharpe with the French and Indian War efforts. After a successful campaign at Fort Cumberland, Ridgely IV was promoted to the rank of colonel in charge of the militia. In 1762, Ridgely IV's mother, Elizabeth Ridgely died. She devised her estate among her surviving sons and daughters, including Ridgely IV.[13]

Although prominently serving as justice for Anne Arundel County from 1764 to 1779, Henry Ridgely IV was deeply indebted to London merchants by 1768.[14] There is no archival documentation to elaborate on the cause of Ridgely IV's indebtedness; however, sometime in this period, Ridgely IV moved his family to the Broken Land tract and was responsible for building a house, which became known as Montpelier. Anne Ridgely died in 1767, nine days after the death of her four-year-old son Joshua. Ridgely IV was left as the sole parent of five children ranging in age from 16 to 1 year,

[13] Will Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber Box L31, Folder 99.

[14] Provincial Court Deeds, Liber DD 5 Folio 4.

three of whom were rapidly reaching marriage age. In April 1770, Ridgely IV mortgaged 1340 acres of his vast estate to his brother-in-law, Brice T.B. Worthington, who paid the debts of over 2300 pounds sterling.[15] In an effort to relieve his debt to Worthington, Ridgely requested that Worthington sell 21 slaves, 110 heads of livestock, and 1000 acres of land; however, the sale never occurred. Although clearly Ridgely IV was in serious debt, these documents suggest the extent of his assets and the activities of his land as a working plantation.

In 1773, Ridgely IV married Rachel Dorsey Hall (?-1792), the widow of William Hall, and daughter of John and Elizabeth Dorsey.[16] His marriage, as well as that of his daughters, might possibly have triggered the construction of a new house. In 1771, Ridgely IV eldest daughter, Elizabeth Ridgley had married Dr. Charles Alexander Warfield. In 1774, Ann Ridgely married Major Thomas Snowden (1750-1803). Tradition holds that the couple was married in the manor house known as Montpelier. Snowden and his wife took up residence in Prince George's County in his Georgian-style manor house originally constructed about 1740. The Snowden homestead was remodeled and enlarged by 1774 and reputedly named "Montpelier" by Ann Ridgely Snowden after her family home.[17] A third Ridgely IV daughter, Mary "Polly" Ridgely married Thomas Sappington, Jr. sometime prior to 1783.

Records indicate that upon the organization of the Elk Ridge Militia in 1775, Ridgely IV sought leadership of that unit, despite his age of 47. Yielding his place to Colonel Thomas Dorsey, his brother-in-law, in May 1776 Ridgely IV petitioned the Convention for exemption from militia duty.[18] In his later years, Ridgely IV served as judge of the Court of Appeals for Tax Assessments in 1786; and justice of the Orphans' Court in 1791.

In 1789, Ridgely IV again mortgaged portions of his property to sons-in-law Dr. Charles Alexander Warfield and Major Thomas Snowden

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[15] Provincial Court Deeds, Liber DD 5 Folio 4.

[16] Ridgely IV and Rachel had no children.

[17] Cook, p. 1.

[18] Holland, p. 346.

for over 1200 pounds sterling. Again, Ridgely IV requested payment of the debt through sale of 22 slaves, 140 heads of livestock, and 760 acres of land; and again it did not happen. In 1791, Ridgely IV died, leaving only substantial debt and instructions to sell his holdings to settle the accounts. No mention is made of any specific house or tract of land.

THE MONTPELIER MANOR HOUSE

The Georgian-style brick dwelling that is presently located on Columbia Road in Laurel dates to the last period of the life of Ridgely IV. A date of circa 1770 is placed on this house based on an intensive analysis of archival records, on-site study, and archaeological investigation.[19] The land which surrounds the house, originally part of Upper Anne Arundel County, is now part of Howard County. The manor house is set upon a small ridge over looking the Middle Patuxent River to the north. Although a part of Ridgely's 2750-acre estate, its immediate setting was limited to the 307 acres that comprised the tract called Broken Land. (*n.b.* Over the 19th and 20th century, this land has been reduced to approximately 80 acres.)

The first documented record of a house on this site is the Federal Direct Tax of 1798. This document indicates that at that time Henry Ridgely V resided in a two-story brick dwelling house, measuring fifty (50) feet by thirty (30) feet with eight outbuildings: one stone (28'x28'); one frame (20'x18'); one frame (18'x18'); one frame (30'x10'); one frame (10'x10'); one frame (16'x10'); one frame (14'x12'); one frame (24'x18') on the tract of land known as Broken Land.[20] This information is consistent with biographical history, archival records, and physical evidence that supports Henry Ridgely IV's construction of a manor house and the operation of Broken Land as a plantation.

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[19] The earliest identifiable artifacts are pearlware ceramic sherds that date to circa 1780 to 1820, and two possible tin-glazed sherds that date from the 16th through mid-18th century. To address the question of the construction of the house, apart from the possible tin-glazed earthenware sherds, the earliest datable artifacts are from the late 18th century. (Tetra Tech, Inc., "A Phase I Archaeological Survey of Montpelier Howard County, Maryland, August 21, 1995, p. 30).

[20] Anne Arundel County Federal Direct Tax of 1798, Patuxent and Huntington Hundred, Number 9.

An intensive visual study of the manor house, in conjunction with archival and archaeological research, indicates that it was originally constructed in circa 1770. It was built as a two-and-a-half-story, double-pile building covered with a gable roof. The house has been described as a grand mansion "built for daughters who entertained largely."[21] However, this study also shows that this building has been the subject of many inaccurate accounts. This appears to stem from erroneous anecdotal history and the employment of construction methods in the building that do not meet expected standards for the late 18th century, as well as subsequent alterations that mask its original appearance.

The manor house is a side-gable roof subtype of the Georgian-style with extant proportions and architectural elements typical of the style and period. These elements include the masonry stringcourse; molded cornice with brackets; elongated window openings; and molded brick watertable. A photograph, dated 1976, indicates that the openings contained 9/9 windows that were believed to be original.

The masonry building is laid in three-course American bond brick, a bonding pattern that is commonly associated with the early 19th century. The manner in which the brick is laid and mortared fails to display the craftsmanship associated with 18th or 19th century builders and craftsman. This is particularly puzzling as it is directly in contrast to the scale and proportions of the manor house, as well as to the caliber of interior finishes said to have been within the house.

The facade (south elevation) is clearly delineated by finely laid brick with tooled and scribed mortar. The jack-arched lintels above all of the openings on the facade are composed of formed bricks. In contrast, the remaining three elevations reveal struck joints, numerous glazed bricks, and sloppy workmanship. The lintels are flat, formed by rowlock course of bricks. The first story of the west elevation is constructed in part of irregularly coursed stone. On the interior of the building, the exposed stone flanks the chimney breast, measuring approximately six feet, seven inches in width and project six inches into the west hall. The remaining five feet of the west wall is constructed of brick. The limited existence of the stone and its irregular presentation are

[21] Warfield, p. 352.

not in keeping with any known traditions for combining brick and stone. It might be speculated that the stone once formed a portion of a previous structure that existed on the site. Examination of the brick on all four elevations indicates, despite the disparity of the brick, that the present building was constructed at one time.

The manor house has a stucco finish that has been scored to look like stone. While it would have been typical to stucco a building constructed with inferior bricks and stone, this building possesses only three elevations suitable for stucco; the facade displays the workmanship and design appropriate for exposed brick. There is no evidence to suggest that any one wall of the building was originally stuccoed. It is possible that the building was stuccoed during the Federal period (during the Snowden ownership and Ridgely V's occupancy) when this was a fashionable practice; however, the date of this major alteration has not been determined. The stucco has subsequently been painted and repaired with concrete.

There is evidence of a hand-hewned log stoop set upon a stone foundation centrally placed at the entry on the facade of the house. Ghosting of a previous front porch can be seen above the stringcourse just below the central window. This ghosting is visible on the stucco and does not match the dimension of the log stoop.

The interior of the brick wall is exposed on the first floor in the west hall. The base of the north wall is laid in three-course American bond with a row of Flemish bond set directly under the sills of the elongated windows. The base of the south wall is laid in English bond, also extending to the sill of the windows. The field of both the north and south walls are laid in three-course American bond. The change in the brick bonding pattern on the interior does not correspond to the placement of the molded brick watertable on the exterior or the window openings.

While the entire building is fully supported by an irregularly coursed stone foundation, the basement extends from the west elevation to the eastern wall of the central passage and is accessible from the exterior and interior of the manor house. The purpose of the basement has not been determined and no archaeological evidence has been located to support anticipated uses, such as a winter kitchen.

The original form and interior spatial arrangement of the house is still discernable and the house retains its two-and-a-half stories, five-bays and central-passage-plan. The central hall holds a large dog-leg stair with double return that is original in form, but sections have been reconstructed. A large hall with a centrally placed chimney breast fills the entire west side of the house, while a dining room and chamber, with corner chimney breasts, are set to the east. The upper floors retain their interior brick walls. No significant original interior detailing remains.

THE SNOWDEN PERIOD

The will of Henry Ridgely IV instructed that his estate be divided and sold in order to pay his debts.[22] Despite Ridgely's attempts to reduce his debts during his lifetime, Worthington, Warfield, and Snowden held off making any claim to Ridgely's estate until this time. As a result, agricultural and personal items were sold at auctions in 1795 and 1800.[23] Ridgely IV's brother-in-law Worthington obtained rightful ownership of the 1340 acres mortgaged to him by Ridgely in 1770. It included Popular Bottom, Hollands Adventure, Williams Contrivanna, part of Coopers Lot, Jones Luck, Ridgely's Value and part of Broken Land. On December 15, 1791, Major Thomas Snowden purchased the property mortgaged to Worthington for 2000 pounds current money.[24] The fact of this purchase contradicts traditional suppositions dating from 1789 as to Ann Ridgely Snowden's having inherited Montpelier, the apocryphal perceptions of Ann Ridgely Snowden as the "great heiress," as well as to the relative financial positions of Ridgely IV and Snowden.[25]

Henry Ridgely V was named executor of his father's estate. As such, he was responsible for the division and sale of any

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[22] Will Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber JG 1, Volume 36, Folio 245.

[23] Will Inventory, Liber JG 4, Volume 54, Folio 31.

[24] Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber NH 6 Folio 470 and 473.

[25] Robert Lewis, "Sidelights: A Journey from Fredericksburg, Virginia to New York." *Maryland Historical Magazine* (Baltimore, MD: Maryland Historical Society, June 1958), p. 180-185; Warfield, p. 352.

additional real estate and personal property to pay off existing debts. Ridgely V, a bachelor said to weigh 500 pounds, failed to pay the debts, and was cited for contempt in 1799 and jailed by 1800. A possible source of confusion regarding Ann Snowden's inheritance of Montpelier may be the fact that, following Thomas Snowden's purchase of the land and the manor house, Henry Ridgely V continued to reside in the house. It is known that Thomas and Ann Snowden never occupied the house.

Henry Ridgely V, having paid his father's debt by 1802, served as an Associate Judge of the Third Judicial District of Anne Arundel County.[26] Secondary sources indicate that Ridgely V was buried following his death in June 1811 beneath a huge tree at the rear (north) of the house, although no physical evidence has been discovered to support this claim.[27] His personal property was inventoried in December 1811 and valued at $5120.82.[28]

Thomas Snowden died in 1803, devising his estate (including Montpelier in Upper Anne Arundel County and their own Montpelier in Prince George County) to his wife and children. Upon Ann Ridgely Snowden's death in 1824, the Ridgely Montpelier was specifically itemized for division among her children, Nicholas and Mary, and the heirs of her deceased son Richard Snowden.

> ...Item, I give and bequeath unto the children of my deceased son Richard Snowden, to my son Nicholas Snowden, and to my daughter Mary Herbert, the tract of land upon which my Brother Henry Ridgely has long lived in Anne Arundel County called Montpelier in a late Resurvey of the same to be divided as follows, that is to say give and bequeath one third of the said Land to the children of my deceased Son Richard Snowden and their heirs forever, one third to my Son Nicholas Snowden to him and his heirs forever, and one third to my daughter Mary Herbert to her and her heirs forever.[29]

This will is the first time that the house and tract at Broken Land

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[26] Obituary of Henry Ridgely V, *The Maryland Gazette*, June 26, 1811.

[27] Holland, p. 347; "Montpelier, 10900 Old College Road, Howard County." Cemetery Inventory, 1984, ID # 41-4; and Tetra Tech, Inc., August 1995.

[28] Will Inventory, December 6, 1811. Liber JG 7, Volume 57, Folio 503.

[29] Will Records of Prince George's County, Liber TT 1 Folio 359; Holland, p. 347; Cook, p. 321-322.

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is referred to in a document by the name Montpelier.

THE 19TH CENTURY

In 1826, the heirs of Ann Snowden had the estate at Montpelier surveyed and subdivided into three portions. Nicholas Snowden was to receive 410 acres, John C. and Mary Herbert were to receive 362 acres, and Thomas Snowden, Jr. *et al* was to receive 518 acres. Despite the somewhat equal division of the land, the actual sectioning did not occur largely in part because of the fact that several of the heirs were under age. The matter was referred to the Chancery Court by February 1829. The court appointed Thomas Alexander as trustee for the estate and empowered him to sell the land known as Montpelier. Between 1829 and 1833, Alexander made several attempts to sell the property at public and private sales. By April 1833, the property was advertised to be sold at public auction to the highest bidder at the Waterloo Tavern in Anne Arundel County. The northwestern side of Columbia Pike, which included 283 acres and the manor house, was sold for $1,526 to Alfred Scaggs. The southeastern portion of Columbia Pike was sold to John C. Herbert for $1,436 and included 310 acres.[30] It is unclear who received title of the remaining 697 acres of the estate. Additionally, there is no evidence to indicate that any member of the Snowden family occupied the manor house at Montpelier following the death of Henry Ridgely V.

By November 1833, the estate was owned by the heirs of James Rawlings[31], thus indicating that Scaggs conveyed the property to Rawlings immediately after purchasing it at auction. The Rawlings heirs conveyed the estate to Dr. Charles Richardson, who together with his wife Julianna occupied the property until 1848.[32] At that time, the manor house and 186 acres of the once vast estate were

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[30] Anne Arundel County, Chancery Court Case 11062, February 28, 1829, "Thomas Snowden, Jr., et al versus Richard Snowden et al."

[31] No evidence has been located to establish a familial relationship between James Rawlings and the Snowden heirs.

[32] Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber WSG 18 Folio 343.

sold to Columbus O'Donnell for $5,000.[33] Within ten years, the property was conveyed to Dudley Poor and his wife Deborah H. for $5,000.[34] Following the death of Dudley Poor in 1860, Deborah Poor and Elliott O'Donnell Poor, the Trustee for the estate under the will of Dudley Poor, sold the property to Rebecca Ann Jackson.[35]

In 1862, Samuel Snowden, Trustee for the George Peters' estate, purchased Montpelier and the 186-acre tobacco farm from Rebecca Ann Jackson and her husband James R. Jackson for $7,000.[36] The property was placed in trust for Peters' children, many of whom were under age at the time of the sale. The 1886 Tax Assessment for James L. Peters documents the agricultural activity at Montpelier. When James L. Peters died in 1893, the family petitioned the Court to allow the sale of the property. The Court again appointed Samuel Snowden as Trustee, and he conveyed the property to Alice B. and Allen Peters for $13,000, who then immediately reconveyed it to August and Annie Wessel for $16,050.[37]

It is known that these four families owned the property during the 19th century, but no documentation has been found to establish their direct association with or impact on the physical appearance of Montpelier.

THE WESSEL PERIOD

In 1894, August and Annie Wessel purchased 186 acres, including the manor house known as Montpelier. The March 1895 Tax Assessment indicates improvements on the land held a value of $750 and their personal property included two horses, one colt, three cows, a sow, five pigs, furniture, and implements, which, with the land, created

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[33] Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber EPH 7 Folio 475.

[34] Land Records of Howard County, Liber WWW 18 Folio 156.

[35] Land Records of Howard County, Liber WWW 21 Folio 351.

[36] Land Records of Howard County, Liber WWW 22 Folio 641.

[37] Land Records of Howard County, Liber JHO 61 Folio 560, Equity Case 1117: James L. Peters versus Florence Scaggs; Land Records of Howard County, Liber JHO 61 Folio 562.

a total assessed value of $3,792.[38] In 1922, the assessments indicate that the only 86 of the 172 acres were tillable. Wessel is assessed for one dwelling and eight outbuildings. By 1928, Wessel is assessed for 172 acres, a dwelling, barrack, corn house, cow shed, stable, garage, silo, four horses, thirteen cows, one bull, one sow, two yearlings, and various vehicles. The estate was valued at $7,559.

Interviews with a member of the Wessel family in 1983 records the family's renovations of Montpelier.[39] The major alteration took place during the first years of the Wessel ownership from 1894 through 1905, while substantial modernizations occurred during the 1970s. Known alterations from the turn of the century include the addition of a porch on the facade, a porch on the east elevation replacing a summer kitchen addition, the reconstruction of the roof and west interior end chimney following a fire sparked by lightning, and interior repair and reconstructions.[40] Soon after the purchase of the property, August Wessel constructed the vernacular tenant house and barn(s), approximately 500 yards from the main dwelling. It is known that Herbert W. Wessel, Jr. the grandson of August Wessel, occupied the tenant house in the mid-20th century.[41]

August Wessel retained ownership of the property until his death, when it was bequeathed to his son Herbert W. Wessel, Sr. in February 1956. "I give the use of my tract called Montpelier Farm to my dear wife Annie Wessel during her life...and after our death that the farm on which we now live, with all personnel property to go to one of our sons Herbert W. Wessel...."[42]

Although Herbert W. Wessel Sr. lived in the house for 62 years, he rented it in 1967 to Norman Tyson and family. Tyson is credited

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[38] See attached Assessment Ledgers Records.

[39] Holland, p. 347.

[40] Cook, p. 58.

[41] Property Maps of Howard County, State of Maryland, Department of Assessments and Taxation, 1967, Map No. 41.

[42] Will Records of Howard County, Liber RLP 11 Folio 191.

with continuing to maintain the house, despite his status as a renter. However, when it was subsequently leased in the 1970s (?), the manor house and property suffered negligence and vandalism. Following this period of neglect, the dwelling was occupied by Donald L. Wessel, son of Herbert Wessel Sr. and grandson of August Wessel.[43] Donald Wessel is said to have begun an extensive campaign to repair the seriously damaged house with the intent of saving the building. However, the property did not remain in the family's hands long enough to complete the restoration.

In 1963, Herbert W. Wessel, Sr. sold approximately 81.685 acres to the west of the manor house to The Johns Hopkins University for development.[44] Beginning in 1976, Wessel began to deed the remaining portions of the estate to his three children, Donald L. and his wife Gloria, Lillian Wessel Kerwin, and Herbert W. Jr. and his wife Mary F. By 1980, the children had acquired full ownership of the approximately 102 acres from their deceased father.

In 1985, the Wessel children sold the remaining 100 acres and the two dwellings to the Hopkins Road Limited Partnership.[45] Following the sale of the property, both the tenant house and the plantation dwelling were abandoned and vandalized. The tenant house and its ancillary buildings were demolished in 1994.

BARN AND SHED

Physical evidence documents the construction of the barn during the mid-20th century. U.S.G.S. map research documents the existence of a barn to the northwest of the manor house by 1951. By 1957, map research indicates the property directly surrounding the manor house contained seven outbuildings, only two of which remain extant.

These buildings are currently not in use. Although it is known that the Montpelier estate functioned as a tobacco plantation in

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[43] Holland, p. 347.

[44] Land Records of Howard County, Liber WHH 400 Folio 625.

[45] Land Records of Howard County, Liber CMP 1422 Folio 671.

the 18th and 19th centuries, recent use of the farmland has been limited to soybean production and cow pasture. There is insufficient evidence to determine any specific historic use of these agricultural buildings.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
Addendum III to Montpelier Manor House(MHT FORM HO-38, 1976, 1994, and 1995)

CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. HO-38

Montpelier
name of property
Howard County, MD
county and state

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Development Period (s):

Rural Agrarian Intensification, 1680-1815
Agricultural-Industrial Transition, 1815-1870
Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme (s):

Agricultural
Architecture, Landscape Architecture and
Community Planning

RESOURCE TYPE(S)

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function (s): Domestic/Single Dwelling

Known Design Source: Unknown

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
Addendum III to Montpelier Manor House (MHT FORM HO-38, 1976, 1994, and 1995)

CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. HO-38

Montpelier
name of property
Howard County, MD
county and state

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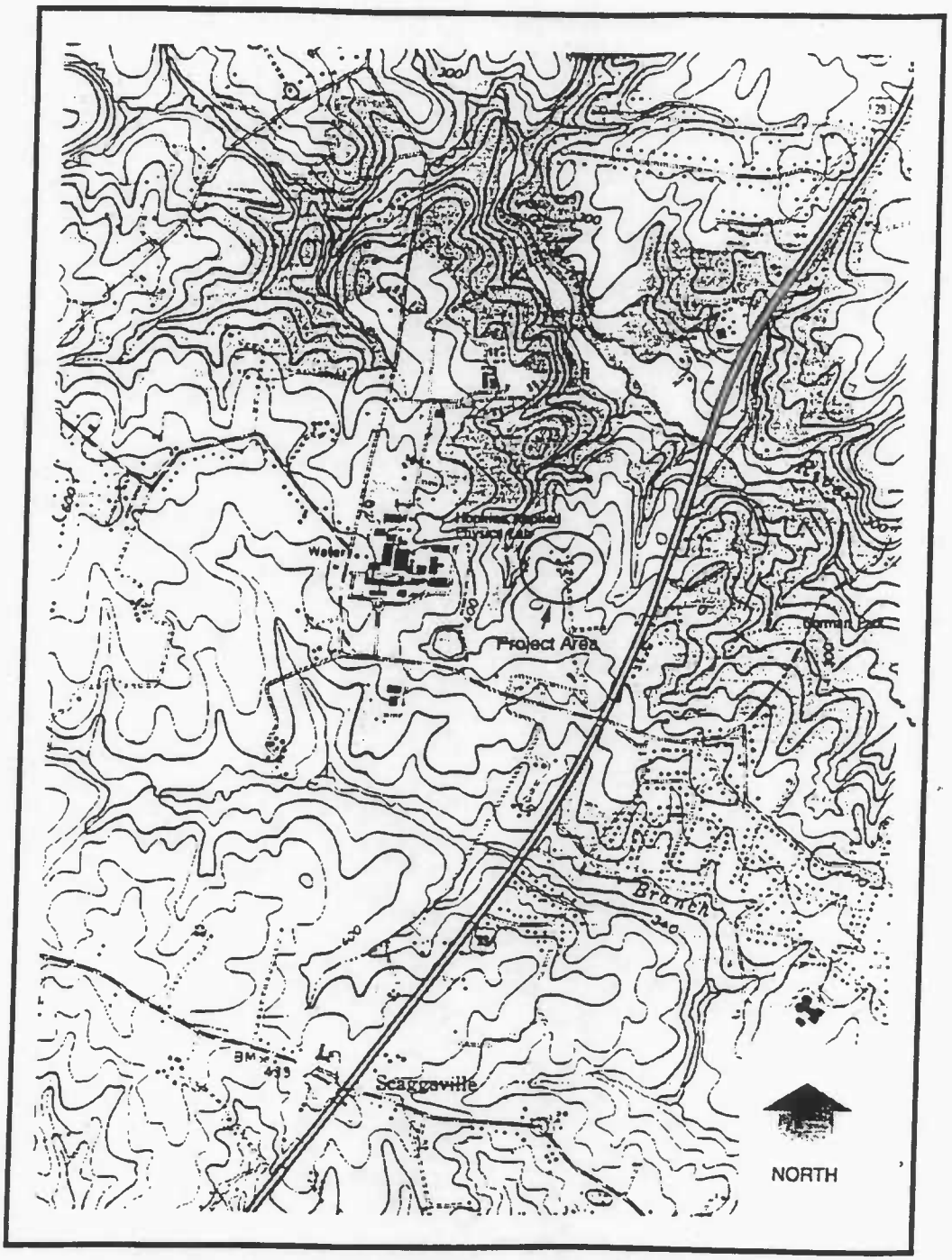

Source: U.S.G.S. 1979
Clarksville Quad
Scale 1:21818

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Chain of Title for Montpelier:

1711: Colonel Henry Ridgely, III inherited portion of property. Acquired additional land, creating a 2750 acre tract of farm land.

1749: Captain Henry Ridgely, IV inherited 2750 acre tract.

1770: Ridgely mortgaged to brother-in-law Brice T.B. Worthington
Provincial Court Deed
Liber DD 5 Folio 4

1789: Ridgely mortgaged to son-in-law Thomas Snowden

1790-1: Brice T.B. Worthington received title to property by default

1791: Captain Henry Ridgely, IV died

1791: Brice T.B. Worthington to Thomas Snowden and Ann Ridgely Snowden
Henry Ridgely, V resided at Montpelier until death in 1812.
Anne Arundel County Land Records
Liber NH 6 Folio 473

1824: Ann Ridgely Snowden willed to her children Nicholas and Mary, and the heirs of her deceased son Richard Snowden.
Prince George County Will Records
Liber TT 1 Folio 359

1833: Thomas Alexander, Trustee for the heirs of Anne Ridgely Snowden, to Alfred Scaggs

1833: Alfred Scaggs to James Rawlings
Portion of Montpelier estate to the northwest of Columbia Pike

1833: Sally Powell and Rebecca Watts, heirs of James Rawlings, deeded to Dr. Charles Richardson
Anne Arundel County Land Records
Liber WSG 18 Folio 343

CONTINUATION SHEET Inventory No. HO-38

Montpelier
name of property
Howard County, MD
county and state

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1848: Dr. Charles and Julianna Richardson deeded to Columbus O'Donnell
186 acres and Montpelier
Howard County Land Records
Liber EPH 7 Folio 475

1857: Columbus and Eleanor O'Donnell conveyed to Deborah H. and Dudley Poor
Howard County Land Records
Liber WWW 18 Folio 156

1861: Elliott O'Donnell Poor, Trustee and Deborah H. Poor, widow of Dudley Poor, conveyed to Rebecca Ann Jackson
Howard County Land Records
Liber WWW 21 Folio 351

1862: James R. and Rebecca Ann Jackson deeded to Samuel Snowden, Trustee under Will of George Peters
Howard County Land and Will Records
Will Liber JS 3 Folio 263
Liber WWW 22 Folio 641

1894: Samuel Snowden, Trustee for James Peters empowered to convey to Alice B. and Allen Peters
Equity Case 1117, Book 2, page 127
James L. Peters versus Florance Scaggs
Howard County Land Records
Liber JHO 61 Folio 560

1894: Alice B. and Allen Peters conveyed to August and Annie V. Wessel
Howard County Land Records
Liber JHO 61 Folio 562

1956: Herbert W. and Gertrude L. Wessel, Sr. inherited from August Wessel
Howard County Will Records
Liber RLP 11 Folio 191

1963: Herbert W. Wessel and Gertrude L. Wessel to The Johns Hopkins University
81.685 acres
Howard County Land Records
Liber WHH 400 Folio 625

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
Addendum III to Montpelier Manor House(MHT FORM HO-38, 1976, 1994, and 1995)

CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. HO-38

Montpelier
name of property
Howard County, MD
county and state

==========

1976-80: Herbert W. and Mary F. Wessel, Jr.; Donald L. and Gloria A. Wessel; and Lillian W. Kerwin, heirs of Herbert W. Wessel, Sr. deeded property in sections.
Howard County Land Records
Liber CMP 759 Folio 220
Liber CMP 806 Folio 69
Liber CMP 870 Folio 206
Liber CMP 802 Folio 506
Liber CMP 980 Folio 451
Liber CMP 1004 Folio 3
Liber CMP 1009 Folio 298 and 302

1985: Herbert W. and Mary F. Wessel, Jr.; Donald L. and Gloria A. Wessel; and Lillian W. Kerwin to Hopkins Road Limited Partnership.
Howard County Land Records
Liber CMP 1422 Folio 671

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TAX ASSESSMENT LEDGERS FOR HOWARD COUNTY
Montpelier, Howard County (HO-038)
1798-1933

FEDERAL DIRECT TAX OF 1798

Henry Ridgely of Henry

1798 2 story brick dwelling house 50 by 30, 1 outhouse 28 by 28 stone, 1 outhouse 20 by 18 wood, 1 outhouse 18 by 18, 1 outhouse 30 by 10, 1 outhouse 10 by 10, 1 outhouse 16 by 10, 1 outhouse 14 by 12, 1 outhouse 24 by 18.
Land: part of Broken Land Patuxent Hundred

2 acres $ 900.00

1841-1851 ASSESSMENT LEDGER

Dr. Charles Richardson

1841				$ 4,797.00
1843	By release	11 acres	minus	< 300.00>
nd	By release		minus	<1,037.00>

($4,797 - $1,337= $3,460)

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1852-1866 ASSESSMENT LEDGER

Dudley Poor

1852	To assignment		2,275.00
1865	By transfer	470 acres	2,275.00
	transfer to James Peters	470 acres	2,275.00

James Peters

1886		186 acres at $15	2,790.00
		40 acres	600.00
		improvements	2,550.00
		tools, animals, stock	
1893	Release	personal	568/775
Sept 1893	transfer to Allen Peters	40 acres	600.00
		improvements	800.00
March 1895	transfer to August Wessel	186 acres	2,790.00
		improvements	750.00
	Release	improvements-minus	<1,000.00>

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1876-1895 and 1895-1910 TAX ASSESSMENT DISTRICT 5

August Wessel

March 1895	186 acres at $15 (from James Peters)	2,790.00
	improvements on land	750.00
	2 horses	100.00
	1 colt	25.00
	3 cows	60.00
	sow and 5 pigs	12.00
	furniture	25.00
	implements	30.00

(Total real property = $3,540.00 + total personal property = $252.00 equals total property = $3,792.00)

1910-1917 TAX ASSESSMENT DISTRICT 5

August Wessel
Laurel on Columbia Road

1910	172 acres at $15	2,580.00
	improvements	1,285.00
	personal	930.00

(Total real property = $3,865.00 + total personal property = $930.00 equals total property = $4,795.00)

1914	Exempt	furniture minus	<125.00>

(Total property = $4,670.00)

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1918-1921 TAX ASSESSMENT DISTRICT 5

August Wessel
Laurel on Columbia Road

172 acres and improvements	
barns	150.00
other buildings	500.00
dwelling	800.00
# of tillable acres, 86 at $20	1,720.00
# of wooded acres, 86 at $12	1,032.00
horses	452.00
cattle	500.00
hogs	45.00
motor vehicles	200.00
other vehicles	200.00
corrections	5,560.00

(Total real property = $4,202.00 + total personal property = $ 1,360.00 equals total property = 5,562.00)

1922-1927 TAX ASSESSMENT DISTRICT 5

August Wessel
Laurel, RFD, on Columbia Road

1922	172 acres	
	-86 acres tillable at $32.00	2,752.00
	-86 acres wooded at $18.00	1,548.00
	dwelling	1,500.00
	other buildings (8)	800.00
	5 horses	250.00
	8 cows	320.00
	1 bull	40.00
	3 hogs	60.00
	Dodge trg(?) 1915	200.00
	Ford tractor 1920	150.00
	vehicles, etc.	75.00
	personal	1,095.00

(Total real property = $6,850.00 + total personal property = $1,095.00 equals $7,945.00)

October 1923	Abate	$6 per acre on wooded land - 86 acres	minus	<516.00>
1927	Abate	cars	minus	<350.00>

(Total property = $7,079.00)

1927-1939 TAX ASSESSMENT DISTRICT 5

August Wessel
Laurel, RFD, on Columbia Road

1928	172 acres	
	-86 acres tillable at $32.00	2,752.00
	-86 acres wooded at $12.00	1,032.00
	dwelling	1,500.00
	barrack	400.00
	corn house	50.00
	cow shed	100.00
	stable	300.00
	garage	50.00
	silo	200.00
	4 horses	200.00
	13 cows	780.00
	1 bull	50.00
	2 yearlings	50.00
	1 sow	20.00
	Vehicles	75.00
	total real	6,384.00
	personal	1,175.00

(Total real property = $6,384.00 + total personal property = $1,175.00 equals $7,559.00)

April 11 1933	Abate	1/3 on 13 cows	minus	<260.00>
	Abate	1/2 on 1 sow	minus	<10.00>

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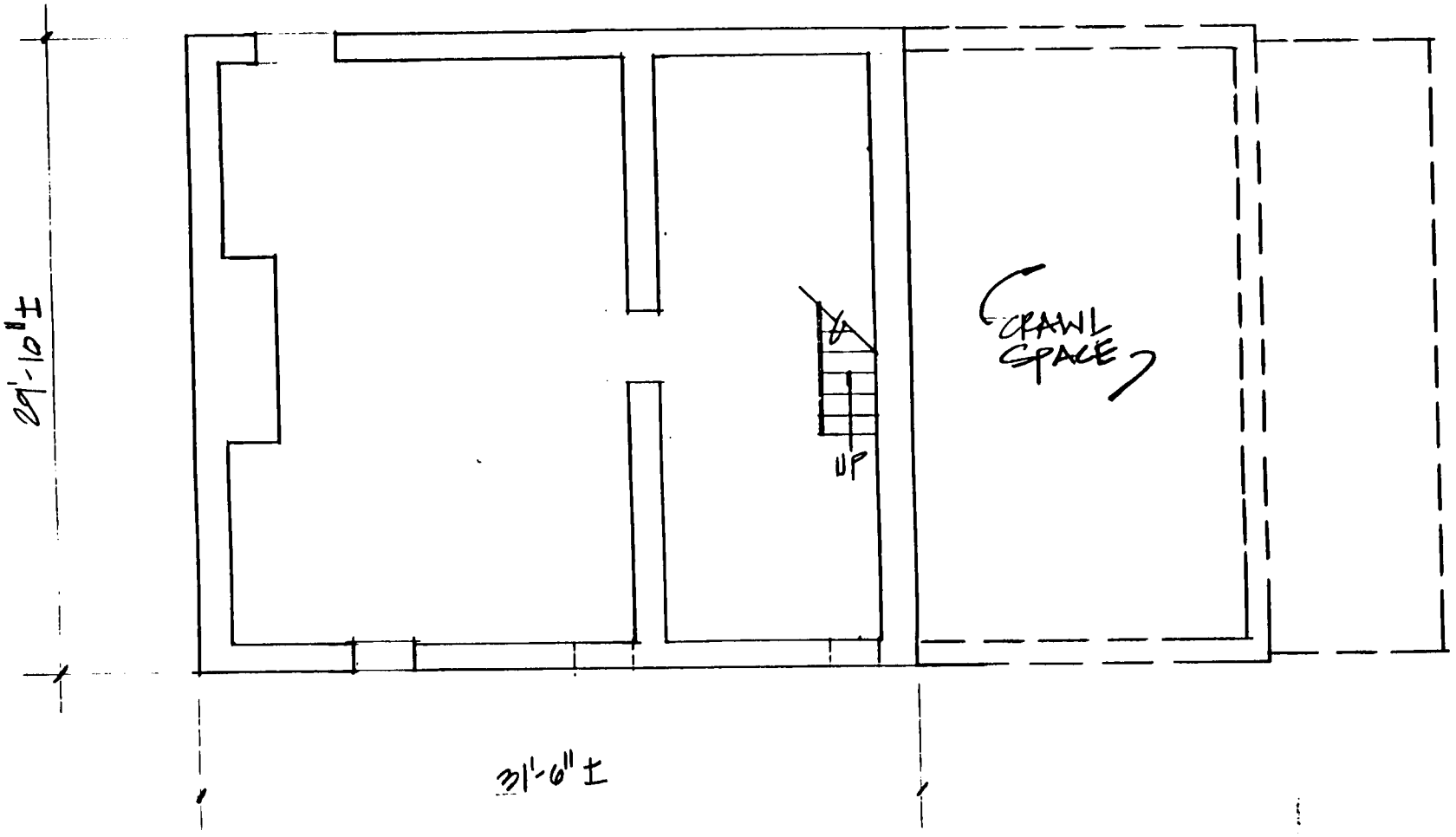
QUEEN CAROLINE PARISH (1728),
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY (later Howard County)

Boundaries: All the Remaining Part, heretofore called Elk-Ridge Hundred, which was not annexed to Westminster Parish, being now Part of St. Paul's Parish aforesaid; and all that part of All-Hallows Parish, bounded by a Line drawn from the Mouth of Rogue's-Harbour-Branch on Patuxent River, to the North Branch, or Snowden's River, on the Southward of Thomas Jones's Plantation; also all that Part of St. Anne's Parish bounded by a Line drawn from the Mouth of a small Branch running into Patuxent River, and lying between the Plantations of John Ryan and Rose Lee, and running by a Strait Line through the Woods till it intersects the former divisional Line between Anne Arundel and Baltimore counties.

Ministers: 1729, James MacGill, probationer
May 13, 1730-75, James MacGill
1785-87, William Duke

Churches: Parish Church erected 1728-30
Vestry House, 1738-40
Chapel at Poplar Spring, 1750

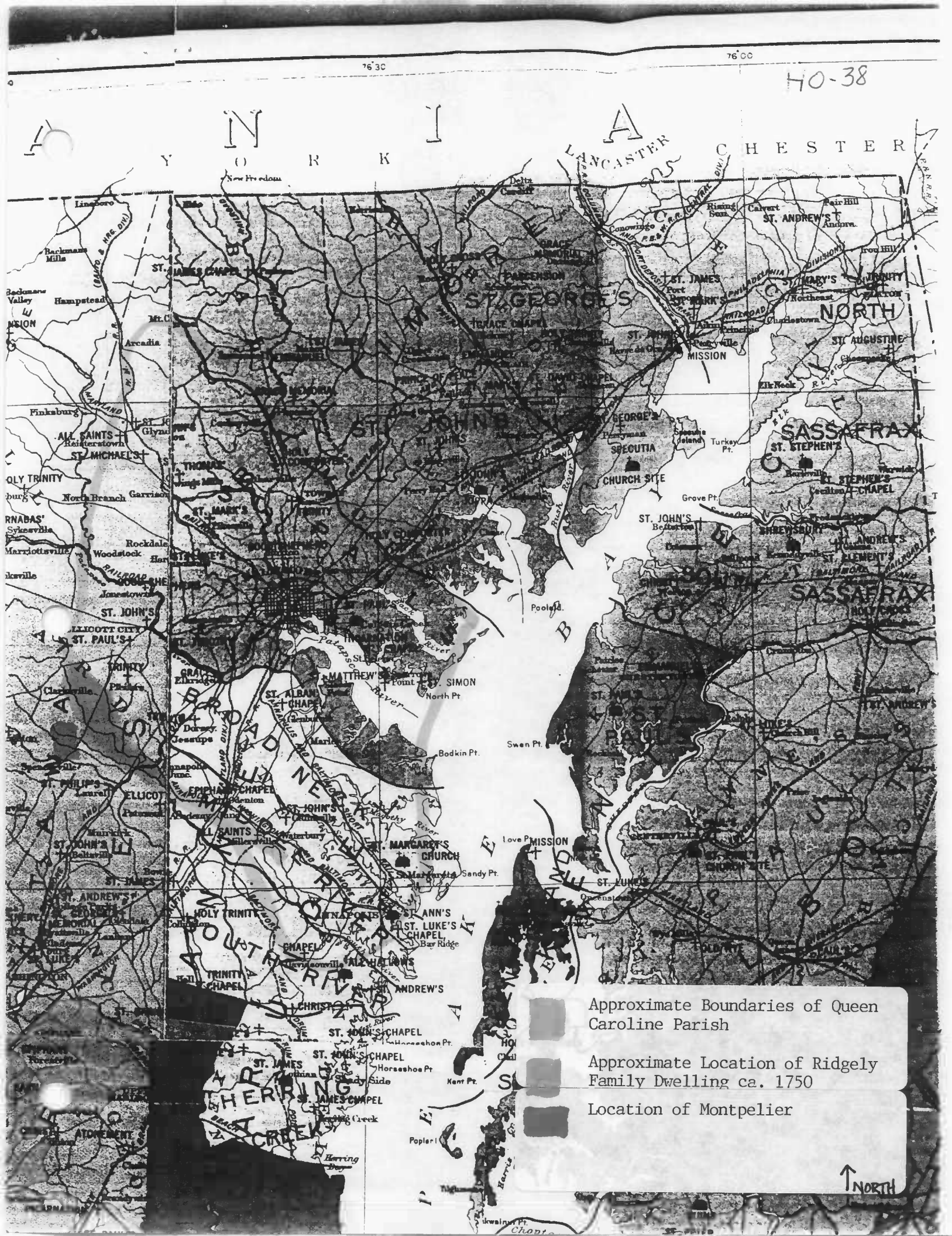
[Taken from Nelson Waite Rightmyer, *Maryland's Established Church*, (Baltimore, MD: The Church Historical Society for The Diocese of Maryland, 1956), p. 139-140.]



BASEMENT PLAN

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

HO-38



Approximate Boundaries of Queen Caroline Parish
Approximate Location of Ridgely Family Dwelling ca. 1750
Location of Montpelier
NORTH

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
JULY 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
VIEW OF FARM, LOOKING NE
1 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
AUGUST 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
SOUTH ELEVATION, LOOKING NORTH
2 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
AUGUST 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
SOUTH ELEVATION, LOOKING NE
3 OF 24

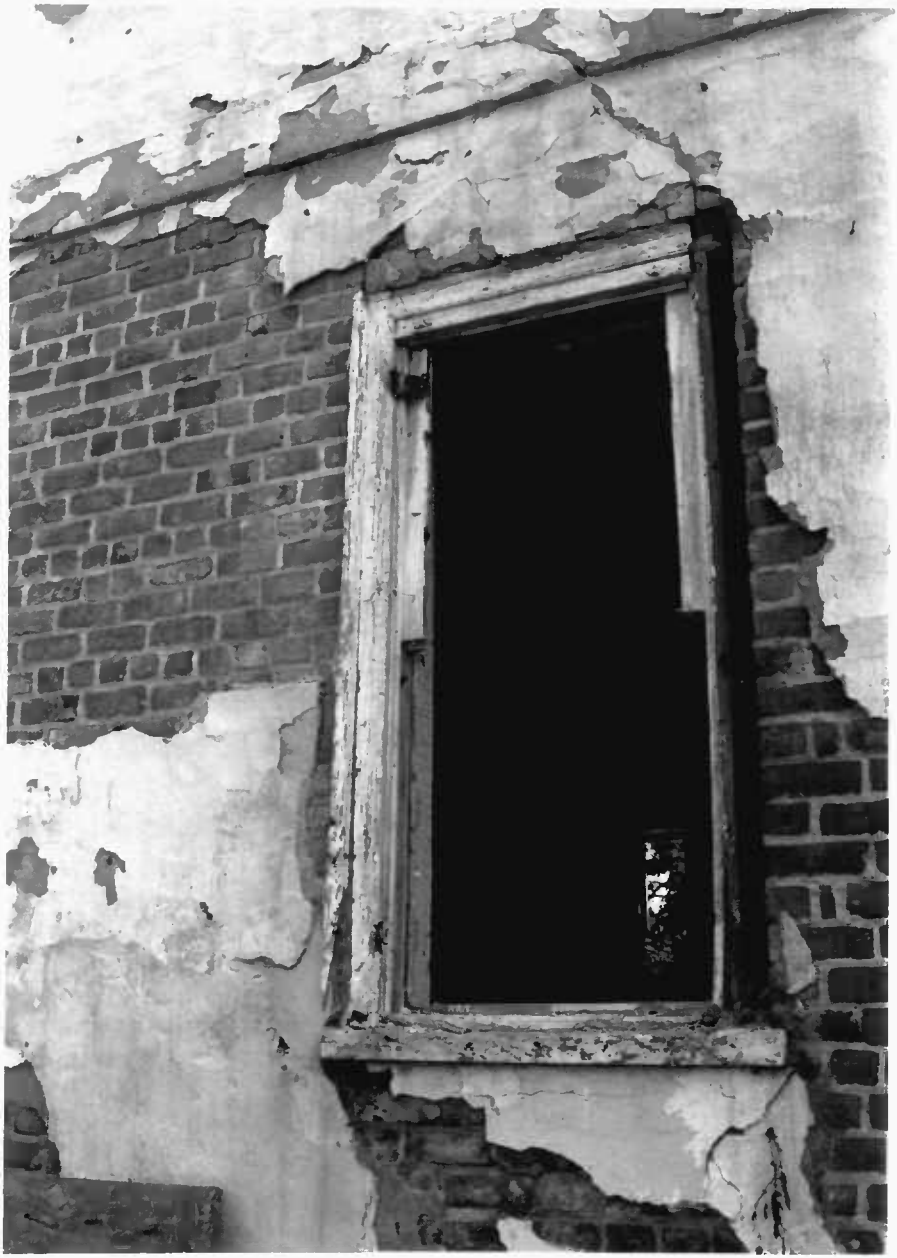
HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
AUGUST 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
SOUTH ELEVATION, ABOVE PORCH ROOF,
LOOKING NORTH

4 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
AUGUST 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
MOLDED BRICK WATERTABLE,
SOUTH ELEVATION, LOOKING NW
5 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
AUGUST 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
EAST ELEVATION,
LOOKING WEST
6 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
AUGUST 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
NORTH ELEVATION, LOOKING SOUTH
7 OF 24



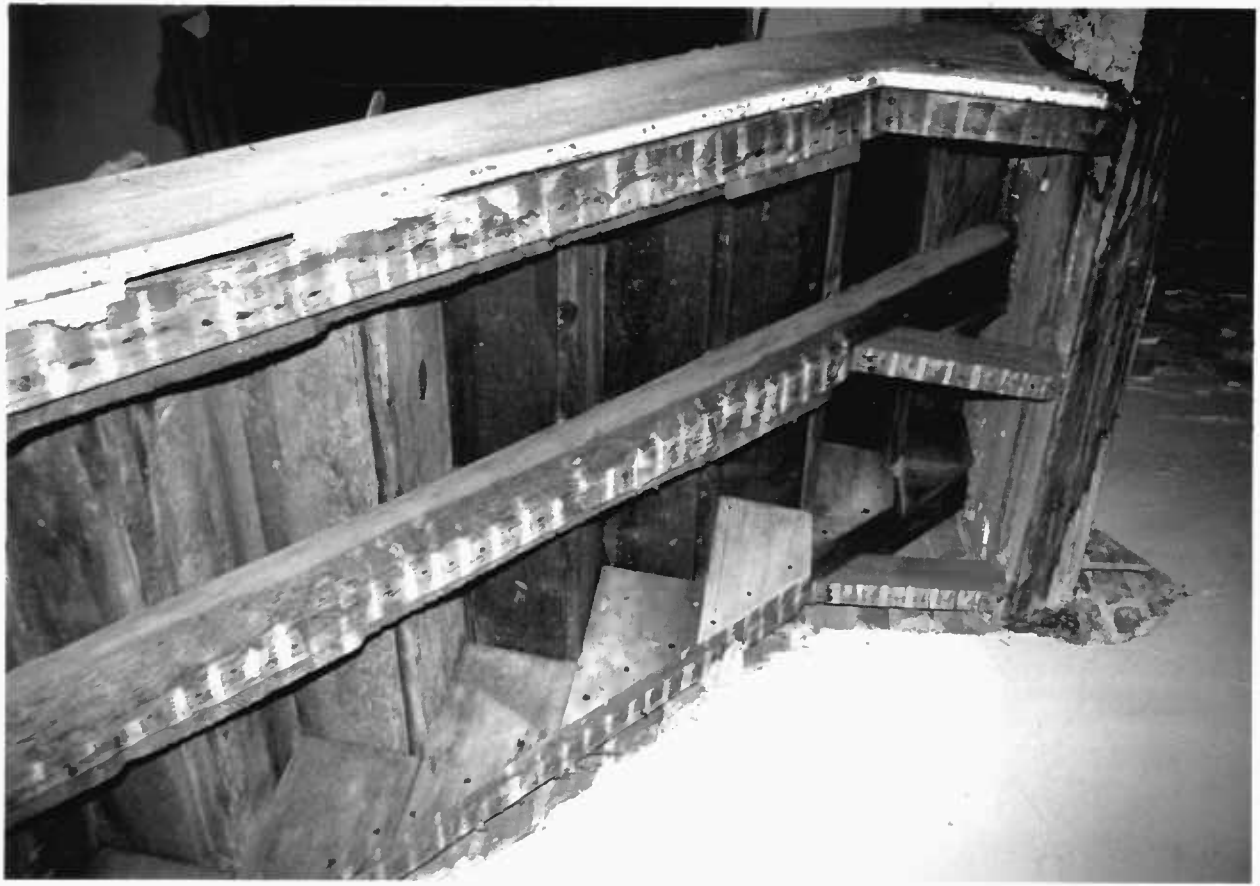
HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
AUGUST 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
FIRST STORY, WINDOW OPENING,
NORTH ELEVATION, LOOKING
SOUTH
8 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
AUGUST 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
NW CORNER, LOOKING EAST
9 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
AUGUST 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
STAIR IN CENTRAL PASSAGE,
LOOKING NORTH
10 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
JULY 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
CENTRAL PASSAGE, FIRST FLOOR,
LOOKING SOUTH
11 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
JULY 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
UNDERSIDE OF STAIR TO SECOND FLOOR, LOOKING NORTH
12 OF 24



HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
JULY 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
UNDERSIDE OF STAIR TO ATTIC
LOOKING SE
13 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
JULY 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
WEST HALL, FIRST FLOOR, LOOKING NW
14 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
JULY 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
CHIMNEY BREAST, WEST HALL,
1ST FLOOR, LOOKING WEST
15 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
JULY 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
GHOST OF CHAIRRAIL AND
BASEBOARD, WEST HALL,
FIRST FLOOR, LOOKING EAST
16 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
JULY 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
CHIMNEY BREAST, DINING ROOM, 1ST FLOOR,
LOOKING NE
17 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
JULY 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
NW CORNER OF NE CHAMBER,
FIRST FLOOR, LOOKING NW
18 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
AUGUST 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
CEILING, SE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR,
LOOKING SE
19 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
JULY 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
CONSTRUCTION OF BOXED CORNICE FROM ATTIC, LOOKING NE
20 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
JULY 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
STUDS JOINED TO RAFTERS,
LOOKING SOUTH
21 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
JULY 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
BARN AND SILO, SE CORNER, LOOKING NW
22 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
JULY 1995
MARYLAND SHPO,
BARN AND SILO, NORTH ELEVATION,
LOOKING SOUTH
23 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
AUGUST 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
SHED, SOUTH ELEVATION,
LOOKING NORTH
24 OF 24

HO-38
MONTPELIER
LAUREL, MD
TRACERIES
JULY 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
WINDOW OPENING, SOUTH WALL,
WEST HALL, LOOKING EAST
FIRST FLOOR

CAPSULE SUMMARY FOR MONTPELIER PLANTATION
HO-38

Located on the Columbia Highway south of the Middle Patuxent River, the Montpelier plantation historically consisted of approximately 2750 acres, independently referred to in the eighteenth century as Round About Hills, Ridgely's Great Park, and Ridgely's Great Range. The plantation dwelling (manor house) was constructed in the 1740s by Colonel Henry Ridgely, III. This large residence was occupied by the Ridgely family until the estate was sold sometime between 1812 and 1833. Rectangular in plan, the two-and-a-half-story, central-passage dwelling is designed in the Georgian style with a symmetrical composition and classical detailing. The dwelling is constructed of three-course American bond brick covered with scored stucco. It has a side gable roof with interior end brick chimneys. Although minor alterations have occurred over the years and it is vacant, this dwelling retains much of its original exterior and interior architectural ornamentation.

The Ridgelys' vast eighteenth century holdings were subdivided into smaller tracts of land during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Of these subdivisions, the present Montpelier is derived from the 186 acres of tobacco farm land (including the manor house) that was sold to Augusta Wessel in 1894. A small complex consisting of a tenant house and barn were constructed sometime between 1895 and 1910. A large equipment shed appears to date from the third quarter of the twentieth century. (A second tenant house may have existed as part of this complex.)

Reduced to 102 acres located to the northwest of the crossroads of Route 29 and Johns Hopkins Road, Montpelier is generally intact as an agricultural setting. Major changes dating from the latter half of the twentieth century include the construction of a modest residential development near Johns Hopkins Road, the construction of the Johns Hopkins Physics Laboratory to the west, the introduction of a new entry road system, and the widening of Route 29.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. HO-38

ADDENDUM TO MONTPELIER PLANTATION DWELLING (MHT FORM HO-38, 1976)

1. Name of Property

historic name _____
other names Montpelier Tenant House and Associated Outbuildings

2. Location

street & number 10904 Johns Hopkins Road not for publication__
city or town Laurel vicinity ___
state Maryland code _____ county Howard code ___
zip code 20810

3. State/Federal Agency Certification N/A

4. National Park Service Certification N/A

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

X private
____ public-local
____ public-State
____ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

X building(s)
____ district
____ site
____ structure
____ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
____	3	buildings
____	____	sites
____	____	structures
____	____	objects
____	3	Total

Is this property listed in the National Register?

Yes ____ Name of Listing _____
No X

==========

6. Function or Use

==========

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	Domestic	Sub:	Dwelling
			Apartment

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	Vacant	Sub:	Vacant

==========

7. Description

==========

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Vernacular I-house

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone/Concrete Block
roof Standing Seam Metal
walls German Weatherboard
Vinyl Siding
other Aluminum Siding

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property.) See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

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8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

____ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

____ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

____ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

____ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

____ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

____ B removed from its original location.

____ C a birthplace or a grave.

____ D a cémetery.

____ E a reconstructed building, object,or structure.

____ F a commemorative property.

____ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

==========

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
Architecture

Period of Significance 1895-1910

Significant Dates 1895-1910

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property.) See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, legal records, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Articles, Books, Published and Unpublished Resources

Evans, Henry Ridgely. Founders of the Colonial Families of Ridgely, Dorsey, and Greenberry of Maryland. Washington, D.C.: W.H. Lowdenmilk and Co., 1935.

Holland, Celia M. Old Homes and Families of Howard County, Maryland. Privately Printed, MCMLXXXVII.

Jennings, Jan and Herbert Gottfried. American Vernacular Interior Architecture. New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold Company, Inc., 1988.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee McAlester. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1985.

"Montpelier, 10900 Old College Road, Howard County." Cemetery Inventory, 1984. ID # 41-4.

National Register of Historic Places, National Parks Service, Nomination Form. "Montpelier, District 5, HO-38."

Richardson, Hester Dorsey. Side-lights on Maryland History. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1967.

Stein, Charles Francis, Jr. Origin and History of Howard County, Maryland. Baltimore: Howard County Historical Society, 1972.

Tax Assessment Records, State of Maryland, District Five, 1876-1895, 1895-1910.

Warfield, J.D. The Founders of Anne Arundel and Howard Counties, Maryland. Westminster, Maryland: Family Line Publications, 1990.

Maps

Atlas of fifteen miles around Baltimore, including Howard County, Maryland, Map 24. G.M. Hopkins, 1878.

Historical Information about People and Places in Howard County. William Van Royen, 1960.

==========

Property Maps of Howard County, State of Maryland, Dept. of Assessments and Taxation, 1967. Map Number 41.

Rural Delivery Routes, Howard County, Maryland. Post Office Department, 1933.

Survey and Plat of Property in the City of Washington, D.C., within a six mile radius. G.M. Hopkins, 1887.

United States Department of Geological Survey Maps of Howard County, 1910, 1927, 1940, 1949 revised 1954, and 1957 revised 1979.

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property designated as Montpelier occupies all of parcels 124 and 125. The tenant house and associated outbuildings addressed in the addendum are located within the southeastern portion of parcel 125.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The buildings located on Parcel 125 have been associated with Montpelier (located on Parcel 124) since their construction between 1895 and 1910.

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11. Form Prepared By

==========

name/title Laura Trieschmann/Architectural Historian
organization Traceries date March 31, 1994
street & number 5420 Western Avenue telephone (301) 656-5283
city or town Chevy Chase state MD zip code 20815

==========

12. Property Owner

==========

name Hopkins Road Limited Partnership
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state MD zip code _____

==========

Located on the Columbia Highway south of the Middle Patuxent River, the vernacular Montpelier tenant house and associated buildings are sited approximately 500 feet southeast of the Montpelier plantation dwelling (1740s). Constructed between 1895 and 1910, the tenant house was constructed as a single family dwelling along with a pair of agricultural-related buildings. Rectangular in plan, the original two-story, central-plan dwelling has been significantly altered over the years by the construction of rear additions, alteration of the front porch, and the application of numerous exterior wall materials.

The two-story, three-bay, I-house is covered by an overhanging side gable roof clad with standing seam metal. The original portion of the building is set upon a coursed rubble foundation with a two-room basement. Constructed of wood frame, the dwelling is clad with layers of aluminum siding and asbestos shingles applied over the original weatherboard. The facade, measuring approximately 45 feet in width, is three bays wide and features a one-story porch. The rear of the dwelling has a one-and-a-half-story ell that was constructed as an extension of the main gable roof.[1] Two interior gable-end brick chimneys with corbel caps are located on the main block of the dwelling, while a third, identical brick chimney is located in the ell.

The facade (east elevation) features a one-story, hipped roof porch. Set upon an enclosed concrete block foundation supporting a concrete slab floor, the porch roof is supported by four plain, square, wood columns and has a beaded board ceiling.[2] The first story of the facade consists of a central entry flanked by single 2/2 double-hung, wood sash windows. The single entry contains a wood door with six-lights over two recessed panels. The second story has three 6/6 double-hung, wood sash windows. All the windows have plain square-edged trim with a slightly projecting wood sill. Above the second story windows, a plain frieze board extends the length of the front elevation, surmounted by a boxed

[1]Based on the evidence found within the attic, the ell was possibly constructed at the same time as the main portion of the dwelling, or closely following its construction.

[2] The porch roof appears to date to the original construction; however, the concrete block foundation, concrete slab floor and wood posts are substantially later in date.

cornice.

The north elevation has two single 2/2 double-hung, wood sash windows on the first story and one single 6/6 double-hung, wood sash window on the second story. The south elevation has two 2/2 double-hung, wood sash windows on both the first and second story. The windows all have plain square-edged trim and louvered aluminum shutters.

The original rear (west) elevation is currently obscured by a one-story addition on the north end and a two-story addition on the south end. The one-story addition appears to date to the third quarter of the twentieth century, while the two-story addition was possibly constructed in the second quarter of the twentieth century. The one-story addition is built of concrete block. The block is partially clad with aluminum siding and contains a single door opening flanked by two square window openings. This addition, covered with a shed roof sheathed with standing seam metal, abuts the original rear wall, abruptly interrupting the window opening of this elevation. This opening contains only the upper sash of a 2/2 double-hung, wood sash window. A two-story addition, located on the south end of this elevation, has a standing seam metal shed roof that extends from the ridge of the side gable roof. Set upon a concrete block foundation, the first story has a single door opening flanked by a square, two-light casement window to the north and a rectangular opening to the south.[3] The second story has a square 1/1 double-hung, aluminum sash window and a 2/2 double-hung, wood sash window.[4]

The interior of the dwelling has a single pile, central passage plan with rear additions. The square parlors, identical in plan and size, contain projecting chimney breasts and ornamental casing. The southern parlor was ornamented with a typical Victorian style mantel (removed during the period of documentation), while there is no evidence of the mantel nor the fireplace opening of the northern parlor (removed and closed at an earlier date). The window trim of the parlors consists of reeded and concave pilaster casing. The

[3]Due to the present abandoned and neglected state of the dwelling, several of the windows are missing or hidden from view.

[4]The 2/2 window is probably re-used from the original rear wall.

four-panelled, wood doors have central beaded pilaster casing. A closet has been constructed to the right of the chimney breast of the north parlor.

The two-story rear addition contains two rooms on the first floor. A small square room with a recently installed closet is located to the east, adjacent to the southern parlor. The room contains the same window casing as that found in the parlor, while the doors have round-edged casing. Beyond the square room to the west is a rectangular room with round-edged casing and contemporary kitchen fixtures.

The one-story north addition contains two rooms. Located to the east of the northern parlor is a large, contemporary (second) kitchen with the same reeded and concave pilaster casing as found in the parlor. In the southeast corner of the kitchen is a hall that provides access to the pantry and basement stair. Beyond the kitchen to the west is a small contemporary entry room trimmed with round-edged casing.

The second floor of the building contains four bedrooms located off an L-shaped hall. Historically, the second floor contained two north and south bedrooms with an additional room at the northern end of the west elevation. The construction of the two-story addition to the southern end of the west elevation provided another bedroom and a contemporary bathroom. The window and door trim consists variously of reeded and concave pilaster casing, beaded and cove molded casing, or round-edged casing.

The attic runs the full width of the original house. Accessible through a hole in the ceiling, it provides a view of the roof. Uncut log rafters support wood sheathing boards upon which the standing seam metal roof is attached. The floor joists have circular-saw marks.

The basement, located directly under the parlors, has coursed rubble walls with an earth floor. The two-room basement is accessed by a straight-flight stair constructed of wood boards leading into the southern room. To the north of the stair is an opening in the central wall, providing access to the northern room of the basement. The floor joists of the northern room are large hewn logs, while the joists in the southern room are smaller circular-sawn boards.

==========

BARN

Located approximately 30 feet west of the vernacular tenant house, the barn is one of a pair of agricultural-related buildings within an open field. Used to store hay, the structure is a two-story, three-bay, single-door, drive-through crib barn covered by a gable roof clad with metal sheets. The exterior walls of the barn are clad with vertical board wood siding. A single-story shed roof extends along the north end of the two-story structure. Set upon wood sills on a stone foundation, and underpinned by concrete blocks at the corners, the barn is of mortise and tenon construction with flanking King post rafters supporting the central bay. All of the primary support posts are approximately 4" x 4", are joined by wooden pegs, and show circular saw marks. Secondary support structural units (i.e. corner bracing) are similarly circular sawn and joined by wooden pegs.

The gable roof covering the crib barn appears to have replacement rafters and replacement sheathing boards. The shed roof of the north end wing is supported by tree trunks approximately 4" in diameter. Additional support is provided by circular-sawn 2" x 4" boards.

The interior of the barn is divided into three principal bays, plus the additional room provided by the shed roof wing on the north. The central bay of the main structure is a full two stories in height and consists of the drive-through crib, while the bays to either end are divided into two floors. The first floor of the southern bay is one open room (animal stall?); the second floor, supported by tree trunks serves as the hay loft. The northern end of the barn is a storage area on both the first and second floors. An equipment closet is located at the southeastern corner of the northern end. Inscribed in pencil on the interior of the closet door is the date "1910."

The shed roof wing on the north end is contemporaneous to the construction of the barn and appears as a continuous, integral extension to the barn. Used for the storage of machinery, the shed wing features a large door opening, intended to be closed off by a hanging door that is no longer present.

==========

SHED

A shed, used to house farming equipment, is located between the tenant house and the barn to the north. Rectangular in plan, the five-bay wide shed has concrete block walls on the north, east, and west elevations, while the south elevation consists of two closed and three open bays with two vertical board sliding doors. The open bays of the south elevation contain large circular-sawn square posts, although one post has been replaced with a cut log, topped by triangular-shaped capitals. The shed has a side gable roof sheathed with standing seam metal and vertical wood boards within the gable ends.

The interior of the shed consists of the exposed roofing system, concrete block walls, and earth floor. The roofing system is comprised of rafters, ridge board, and tie beams supported by cedar joists.

Constructed in the period between 1895 and 1910, the vernacular tenant house located to the southeast of the Montpelier plantation dwelling is sited on property that was originally part of the large tract of land associated with the Ridgely family. The creation of Parcels 124 and 125 document the subdivision of the vast eighteenth century plantation into smaller tracts of land during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The tenant dwelling is representative of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century I-house form found in rural settings in Virginia and Maryland.

Designated as Ridgely's Forest (later renamed Harry's Lot), the property was originally owned and surveyed by Colonel Henry Ridgely, III in 1711. Henry Ridgely, III was the son of Henry and Katherine (Greenberry) Ridgely, and the grandson of the first surveyor of Ridgely's Forest, Waldridge, and Broome. Ridgely and his uncle, Charles Ridgely, were joint owners of Ridgely's Forest and a plantation dwelling in Lower Arundel that was part of Greenberry estate. By deed of transfer, Charles Ridgely received full ownership of the Lower Arundel estate, while Henry Ridgely obtained Ridgely's Forest, a tract of land east of Guilford that stretched south to Savage. In 1722, Ridgely married Elizabeth Warfield, the only daughter of Benjamin Warfield. Warfield had given Elizabeth the large tract of 883 acres referred to as "Wincopin Neck," lying between the Middle and North Branches of the Patuxent River in Savage. The addition to Ridgely's Forest created a 2750-acre plantation, independently referred to as Round About Hills, Ridgely's Great Park, and Ridgely's Great Range.[5]

Henry Ridgely, IV, the second son of Colonel Henry and Elizabeth Ridgely, III, was born in 1728. In 1750, he married his cousin, Anne Dorsey, daughter of Captain Joshua and Ann Ridgely Dorsey. Henry IV and Anne made their home in the plantation dwelling located at Ridgely's Forest, called Montpelier, constructed by Colonel Henry, III in the 1740s.

In 1753, Ridgely raised a company of volunteers to join Governor Horatio Sharpe with the French and Indian War efforts. After a successful campaign at Fort Cumberland, Ridgely was promoted to the rank of colonel in charge of the militia. Records indicate that upon the organization of the Elk Ridge Militia in 1775, he sought

[5]J.D. Warfield. The Founders of Anne Arundel and Howard Counties, Maryland. (Westminster, Maryland: Family Line Publications, 1990), p, 351.

leadership of that unit, despite his age. Yielding his place to Colonel Thomas Dorsey, his brother-in-law, he offered instead to serve as a private in the ranks.[6] In 1753, with the French and Indian War over, Colonial Henry returned to Montpelier. He and his wife Anne raised only five of their nine children to maturity, four daughters and one son.

Following the death of his parents and the departure of his four sisters, Henry Ridgely, V became the sole resident of Montpelier, although his sister, Ann Ridgely Snowden, inherited the estate at the time of her father's death in 1791. Several sources state that Henry Ridgely, V was buried beneath a huge tree at the rear of the house in 1812, although no physical evidence has been discovered to support the claim.[7] Upon the death of Ann Ridgely Snowden (n.d.), the estate was willed to her children, Nicholas and Mary, and the heirs of her deceased son Richard Snowden.[8]

No deed of conveyance have been located to determine when or to whom the Snowden heirs sold the property. However, by 1833, the estate was owned by the heirs of James Rawlings, who conveyed it to Charles Richardson.[9] Richardson and his wife, Julianna, occupied the property until 1848. At that time, the plantation dwelling called Montpelier and 186 acres of the vast estate were sold to Columbus O'Donnell for $5,000.00.[10] Within ten years, the property was conveyed to Dudley and Deborah H. Poor for $5,000.00.[11] Following the death of Dudley Poor in 1860, Deborah Poor and Elliott O'Donnell Poor, the Trustee for the estate, sold it to Rebecca Ann Jackson.[12]

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[6]Celia M. Holland Old Homes and Families of Howard County, Maryland. (Privately Printed, MCMLXXXVII), p. 346.

[7]Holland, p. 347.

[8]Holland, p. 347.

[9]Liber WSG 18 Folio 343

[10]Liber EPH 7 Folio 475

[11]Liber WWW 18 Folio 156

[12]Liber WWW 21 Folio 351

In 1860, Samuel Snowden, Trustee for the George Peters' estate, purchased Montpelier and the 186-acre tobacco farm from Rebecca Ann Jackson, and her husband James R. Jackson, for $7,000.00.[13] The property was placed in Trust for the Peters children, many of whom were under age. After James L. Peters petitioned the Court to allow the sale of the property, the Court appointed Samuel Snowden as Trustee, who conveyed it to Alice B. and Allen Peters. The Peters family maintained Montpelier until 1894, when Alice B. and Allen Peters conveyed it to Augusta and Annie Wessel for $16,050.00.[14]

Augusta Wessel continued the operation of the tobacco farm. He restored the plantation dwelling and lived there with his wife and three children. Soon after the purchase of the plantation, Wessel constructed the vernacular tenant house and barn(s), approximately 500 feet from the main plantation dwelling. There is no evidence to document the original purpose or occupants of the tenant house. It is known that Herbert W. Wessel, Jr. the grandson of Augusta Wessel, occupied the dwelling in the mid-twentieth century.[15]

Augusta Wessel retained ownership of the entire 186-acre property until his death, when it was bequeathed to his son Herbert W. Wessel, Sr. sometime before 1952.[16] In 1963, Herbert Wessel, Sr. sold approximately 81.685 acres to the west of the plantation dwelling to The Johns Hopkins University for development.[17] Beginning in 1976, Wessel deeded the remaining portions of the estate to his three children, Donald L. and his wife Gloria, Lillian Wessel Kerwin, and Herbert W. Jr. and his wife Mary F. By 1980, the children had acquired full ownership of the approximately 102 acres from their deceased father.

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[13]Liber WWW 22 Folio 641

[14]Liber 61 Folio 562

[15]Property Maps of Howard County, State of Maryland, Department of Assessments and Taxation, 1967, Map No. 41.

[16] Attempts to locate Augusta Wessel's date of death in Howard County records were unsuccessful.

[17]Liber 400 Folio 625

During the ownership of Herbert W. Wessel, Sr., son of Augusta, the plantation dwelling was leased several times, suffering neglect and vandalism. In the 1970s, the plantation dwelling, Montpelier, was occupied by Donald Wessel, the grandson of Augusta Wessel, but there is no documentation regarding the occupancy of the tenant house.[18] The existence of two kitchens and other physical evidence indicates that the building was used as two residential apartments.

Eventually, the Wessel family sold the remaining 100 acres and the two dwellings in 1985 to the Hopkins Road Limited Partnership.[19] Following the sale of the property, both the tenant house and the plantation dwelling were abandoned and vandalized.

BARN AND SHED

Physical evidence documents the construction of the barn during the same period as the vernacular tenant house (1887-1910). "August 1910" is written in pencil on the interior door to the storage room of the barn. U.S.G.S. map research does not document the existence of the barn or shed until 1954.

These buildings are not in use. Although it is known that the Montpelier estate functioned as a tobacco plantation in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, recent use of the farmland has been limited to soybean production and cow pasture. There is insufficient evidence to determine any specific historic use of these agricultural buildings.

[18]Holland, p. 347.

[19]Liber 1422 Folio 671

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
Addendum to Montpelier Plantation Dwelling(MHT FORM HO-38, 1976)

CONTINUATION SHEET Inventory No. HO-38

10904 Johns Hopkins Road
name of property
Howard County, MD
county and state

==========

Historic Period Theme: Agricultural

Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period: Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930

Resource Type(s): Standing Structure

==========

Chain of Title for Montpelier and 10904 Johns Hopkins Road:

1711: Colonel Henry Ridgely, III inherited portion of property. Acquired additional land, creating a 2750 acre tract of farm land.

1740s: Captain Henry Ridgely, IV inherited 2750 acre tract. Construction of Montpelier begins.

1791: Ann Ridgely Snowden inherited property.
Henry Ridgely, V resided at Montpelier until death in 1812.

Ann Ridgely Snowden willed to her children Nicholas and Mary, and the heirs of her deceased son Richard Snowden.[20]

1833: Sally Powell and Rebecca Watts, heirs of James Rawlings, deeded to Charles Richardson
Liber WSG 18 Folio 343

1848: Charles and Julianna Richardson deeded to Columbus O'Donnell
186 acres and Montpelier
Liber EPH 7 Folio 475

1857: Columbus and Eleanor O'Donnell conveyed to Deborah H. and Dudley Poor
Liber WWW 18 Folio 156

1860: Elliott O'Donnell Poor, Trustee and Deborah H. Poor, widow of Dudley Poor, conveyed to Rebecca Ann Jackson
Liber WWW 21 Folio 351

1860: James R. and Rebecca Ann Jackson deeded to Samuel Snowden, Trustee under Will of George Peters
Will Liber DMP 23 Folio 399
Liber WWW 22 Folio 641

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[20]No evidence was located to indicate when the children of Ann Ridgely Snowden inherited or conveyed the property. Deed Research indicated that James Rawlings held the deed in 1833.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
Addendum to Montpelier Plantation Dwelling(MHT FORM HO-38, 1976)

CONTINUATION SHEET Inventory No. HO-38

10904 Johns Hopkins Road
name of property
Howard County, MD
county and state

==========

1894: Samuel Snowden, Trustee for James Peters empowered to convey to Alice B. and Allen Peters
Equity Case 1117, Book 2, page 127
Liber 61 Folio 560

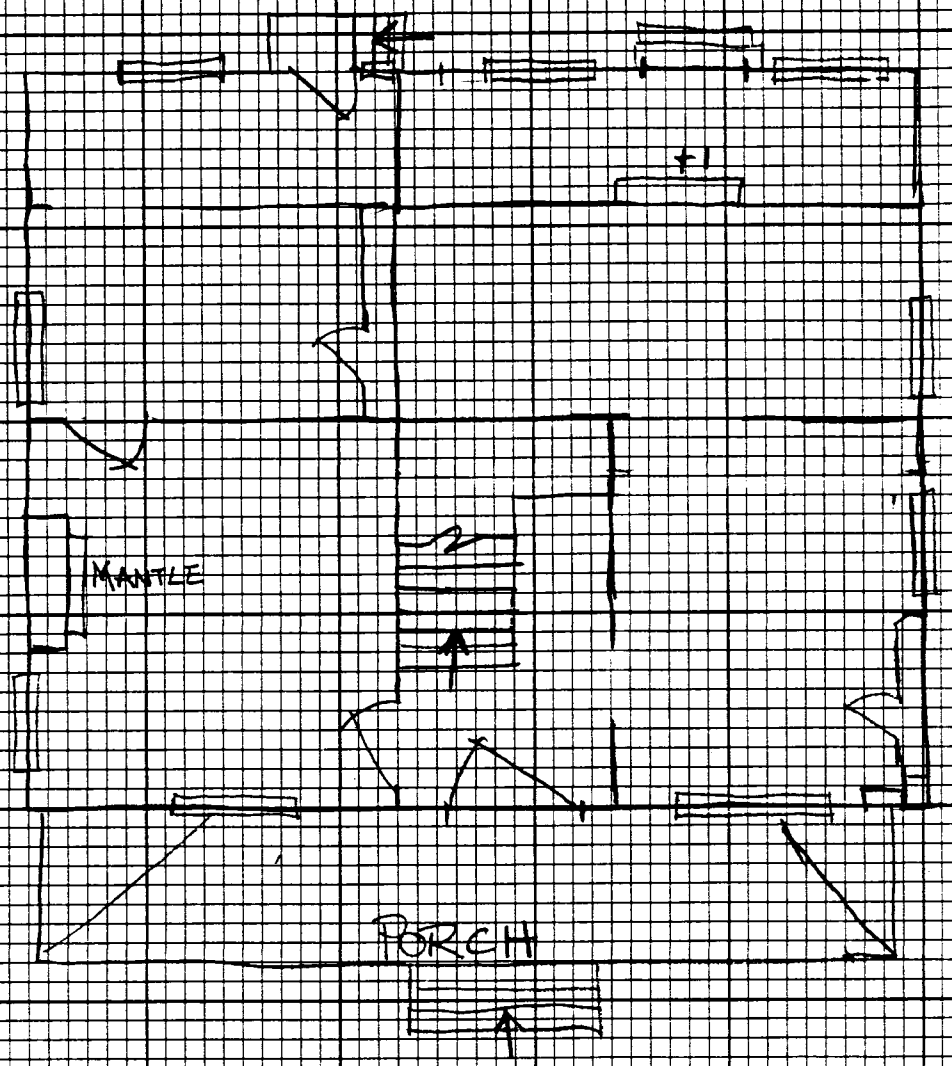
1894: Alice B. and Allen Peters conveyed to Augusta and Annie V. Wessel
Liber 61 Folio 562

pre 1952: Herbert W. and Gertrude L. Wessel, Sr. inherited from Augusta Wessel

1963: Herbert W. Wessel and Gertrude L. Wessel to The Johns Hopkins University
81.685 acres
Liber 400 Folio 625

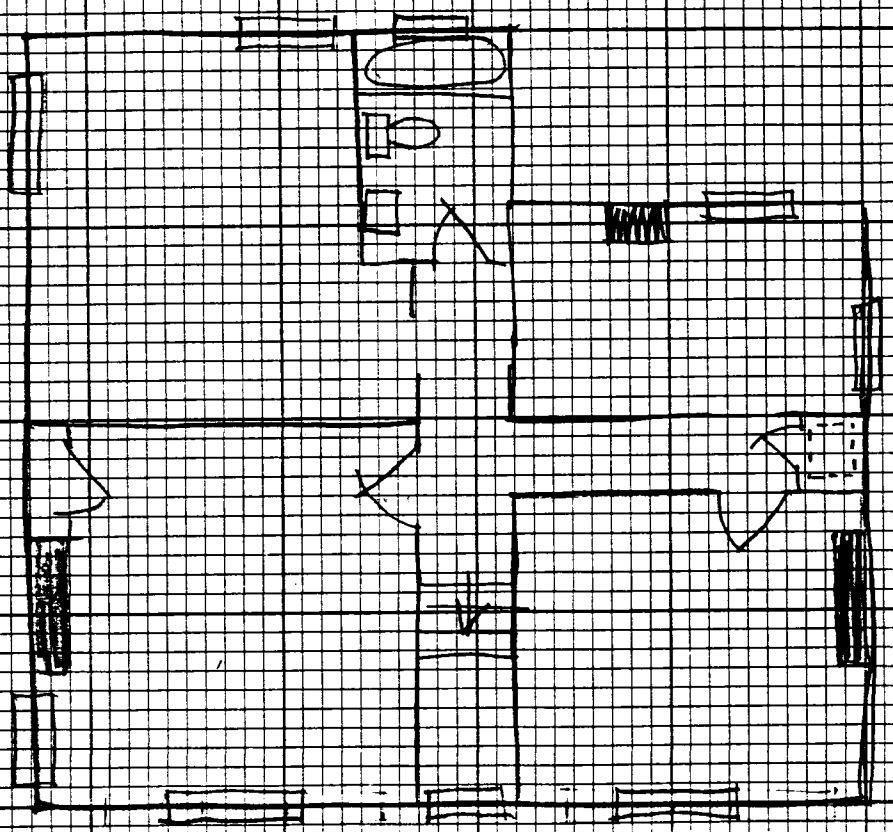
1976-80: Herbert W. and Mary F. Wessel, Jr.; Donald L. and Gloria A. Wessel; and Lillian W. Kerwin, heirs of Herbert W. Wessel, Sr. deeded property.
Liber 759 Folio 220
Liber 806 Folio 69
Liber 870 Folio 206
Liber 802 Folio 506
Liber 980 Folio 451
Liber 1004 Folio 3
Liber 1009 Folio 298 and 302

1985: Herbert W. and Mary F. Wessel, Jr.; Donald L. and Gloria A. Wessel; and Lillian W. Kerwin to Hopkins Road Limited Partnership.
Liber 1422 Folio 671



FIRST STORY

N



SECOND STORY

N

HO-38 Circa 1749
MONTPELIER
Laurel
Private

Montpelier boasts a proud heritage as the home of the Ridgely's of Howard County and Ann Ridgely who with her husband Thomas Snowden built the outstanding Georgian structure in Laurel named after this house.

Montpelier was built during the first half of the eighteenth century and is representative of the fine brick houses which dot Howard County.

Of ballast brick transported from Elkridge Landing by ox cart, it is now covered with plaster. A water table runs along the south facade of the house as well as a decorative projecting brick course which separates the first and second floors.

The south facade is five bays in length with the existing windows holding their original lites. Two massive brick chimneys are inset into the east and west walls, while a row of dentils decorates the cornice.

The floor plan features a central hall with north and south central entrances. A large west living room and east dining room and kitchen. A fine mantle and chair rail remain in the east room while the hall holds a lovely staircase with paneling similar to that found in Montpelier, Laurel.

HO-38
District 5

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

1400385104

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Montpelier

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 7700 U.S. Route 29

CITY OR TOWN: Laurel

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Howard

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
[X] District [ ] Building	[ ] Public	Public Acquisition:	[X] Occupied	Yes:
[ ] Site [ ] Structure	[X] Private	[ ] In Process	[ ] Unoccupied	[X] Restricted
[ ] Object	[ ] Both	[ ] Being Considered	[ ] Preservation work in progress	[ ] Unrestricted
				[ ] No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

[X] Agricultural	[ ] Government	[ ] Park	[ ] Transportation	[ ] Comments
[ ] Commercial	[ ] Industrial	[X] Private Residence	[ ] Other (Specify)	
[ ] Educational	[ ] Military	[ ] Religious		
[ ] Entertainment	[ ] Museum	[ ] Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Herbert W. Wessel Sr. and Sons

STREET AND NUMBER: 7700 U.S. Route 29

CITY OR TOWN: Laurel STATE: Maryland 20810

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Hall of Records

STREET AND NUMBER: Howard County Court House

CITY OR TOWN: Ellicott City STATE: Maryland 21043

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): Tax Map #41, 394/179 76 Acres, p. 124

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Howard County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1976 [ ] Federal [X] State [ ] County [ ] Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER: 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland 21401

HO-38

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☐ Excellent	☒ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)		(Check One)			
	☒ Altered	☐ Unaltered	☐ Moved	☒ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL *(If known)* PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Montpelier 1749

Montpelier is situated on the top of a small ridge approximately 500 feet northwest of the interesection of Route 29 and Johns Hopkins Road in Howard County, Maryland

Montpelier was built during the first half of the eighteenth century and is representative of the fine brick houses which dot Howard County. The house, five bays wide and two deep, is two and one-half stories facing south with a central double door.

The walls are constructed of ballast brick transported from Elkridge Landing by ox cart. The brick is quite soft and has been covered with plaster. A water table runs along the south facade of the house as well as a decorative projecting brick course which separates the first and second floors. The flat-arched brick lintels have been covered with the plaster.

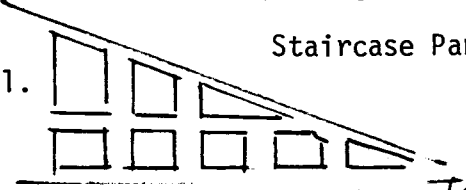
Upper and lower windows are vertically aligned within the walls. All windows have double-hung sashes with nine-over-nite lites (the first floor windows 11" high, the second floor windows 10½" high) proportionally scaled. Small basement windows are also found on the south facade of the house and two third floor windows on the west and east facades with six-over-six lites and wooden sills. All the first and second floor windows have flat wooden sills and shutters. Entrances are located in the central bay on both the south and north facades. The south entrance is surmounted by a four lite transom while a one lite transom surmounts the north or rear entrance. Another entrance is found on the northeast end of the building leading into the present kitchen.

The simple gable roof runs east-west and terminates with a simple boxed cornice with a row of brackets decorating the south facade. Two massive brick chimneys are placed within each gable end.

Originally a summer kitchen was attached to the east wall. Now a one-story cinder block addition with flat roof and ballustrade runs along the east wall. Its east elevation holds two tripartite windows consisting of three double-hung windows with six-over-six lites and a rectangular door with nine lites in its upper half surmounted by a one lite transom. The south elevation holds a double window similar to the tripartite windows with a single rectangular double-hung window with six-over-six lites on the south.

A stone foundation holds the porch which runs along the three central bays on the south facade and is supported by four doric columns and two doric half columns against the south wall. It may well be that this is a later addition and that a simpler central portico existed at an earlier date.

In plan, the building has a central hall, double pile organization much of the original paneling of the house remains. A fine mantle and chair rail remain in the large well proportioned east room (living room) while open bible and cross paneled doors enter the hall, which holds a lovely staircase with a tulip poplar handrail.



Staircase Paneling

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)* c.1749

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

Aboriginal	☐ Education	☐ Political	☐ Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	☐ Engineering	☐ Religion/Philosophy	☐ Other *(Specify)*
☒ Historic	☐ Industry	☐ Science	
☐ Agriculture	☐ Invention	☐ Sculpture	
☒ Architecture	☐ Landscape Architecture	☐ Social/Humanitarian	
☐ Art	☐ Literature	☐ Theater	
☐ Commerce	☐ Military	☐ Transportation	
☐ Communications	☐ Music		
☐ Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Montpelier is a massive brick house built in the Georgian tradition some time after 1728. Most of the original interior wood wook is well-crafted. The mantle piece has fluted ½ columns on each side while the original lock and key to the front door remain. The Montpelier land was owned by Colonel Henry Ridgely who in 1728 was the chief surveyor and builder of Christ Episcopal Church Queen Caroline Parish, Chapel of Ease for St. Anne's in Annapolis. He held pew #1 in 1736.

The last Ridgely and one son of Colonel Henry Ridgely 4th to live here was a batchelor, Harry Ridgely who weighed 500 lbs and rode in a chair carriage especially designed for him. The double door on the south was especially designed to allow his entrance and presently holds lites in the upper door panels which were in all probability wood originally. This door might well have had 5 side lites as the central back door has which were taken out to allow greater width.

The building certainly dates from 1800 and the time of Harry Ridgely, batchelor who died in 1812 and is buried rear of the mansion.

Mr. Warfield feels the mansion was not built for or by a bachelor, but for a family with daughters who entertained "largely", believing it to have certainly been the home of the later Colonel Ridgely who took his cousin, Ann Dorsey, as wife. They had four daughters one of whom, Ann Ridgely went down the Patuxent as bride of Major Thomas Snowden. They named their home in Laurel "Montpelier" after her old home.

The house is believed to have existed in 1749 at the time of Colonel Henry Ridgely's will.

This seems reasonable as Ann Ridgely of Montpelier Howard County, married Major Thomas Snowden and resided at Montpelier in Laurel. They named their home after her home in Howard County. The beautiful interior woodwork under the staircase is similar in both. The carving in Laurel was supposedly executed by an indentured Hessian wood carver sent to Snowden by Washington. Perhaps instead her father sent his wood carver. An outstanding chair rail runs all around the living room of the house in Howard County but has no similarity to those at Laurel, which were altered during the 1920's.

A couple of inventories of Thomas Snowden in 1772, do not indicate furnishings for a house this size. Furthermore, two fire backs have been found in the fireplaces of the southeast and southwest bedrooms of the second floor Laurel house with the identical inscriptions TAS 1783.

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

HO-38

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Wilfong, James, Jr. "Montpelier", News Leader, September 26, 1968 Laurel, Maryland.

Cook, William G., Montpelier and the Snowden Family, 402 Greenhill Ave. Laurel, Maryland 20810.

Warfield, J.D. Founders of Anne Arundel and Howard Counties, Maryland. Baltimore, 1973.

Interview with Mrs. Norman Tyson, occupant.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY						OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES					
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE				LATITUDE			LONGITUDE	
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"		°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"							
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"							
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"							

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

Please see Tax Map #41
394-179 p. 124

76.00 Acres

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist

ORGANIZATION
Office of Planning & Zoning - Comprehensive Planning

DATE

STREET AND NUMBER:
3450 Court House Drive

CITY OR TOWN:
Ellicott City

STATE
Maryland

21043

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Montpelier - Description (Continued)

In the upper story two equal bedrooms lie on the west side of the hall and three bedrooms on the east side with a bath at the south end of the central hall.

An old pump house used for washing lies east of the house with a gable roof running north-south and holding a nine lite window on the north bay, a six-over-six lite double-hung window in the center bay and a rectangular batten wood door on the south bay.

Montpelier - Significance (Continued)

They stand for Thomas and Ann Snowden and the year of Montpelier's completion.

The house in Howard County certainly ante dates 1783 and probably ante dates the time of the 1749 will of Colonel Henry Ridgely.

A beehive oven has also been found in the Howard County house which were in use before the revolution. From all this it seems reasonable to assign a date of circa 1750 to the Howard County house.

As a pre-revolutionary house, Montpelier sits on a tract of 76 acres with out buildings and simple farm houses. It is in close proximity to suburban development and lies on the west side of Route 29.

Its significance as a home of the Ridgely's of Howard County and its associations with Montpelier, the outstanding georgian structure in Laurel, make it unique and a cultural resource of Howard County whose integrity and preservation should be insured.

MONTPELIER

DIST. 5 HO-38
MONTPELIER
CB THOMPSON