HO-422
Avoca
Ellicott City
Private

18th & 19th Centuries

Avoca was once called Chews Resolution Manor which was patented in 1695 by Samuel Chew and comprised twelve hundred acres. It was resurveyed in January 25, 1718, and is noteworthy as the county residence of Dr. Arthur Pue of Baltimore City who acquired the property in 1802 and built the front section at about this time. In 1878 Alfred V. Thomas bought 176 acres with the Dr. Pue's mansion house and named it Avoca.

Constructed in three sections, it is one of the outstanding buildings of Howard County. A three bay wide, one room deep, one story high, stone structure has been raised to a second story and connects to Dr. Pue's five bay wide, one room deep, three story high, ashlar granite block, gabled roof mansion facing east by a, three bay wide, one room deep, two story high stone structure whose south wall holds a two story open porch with entrances to the east and west wings of the house.

Mature trees as well as stone dependencies surround this exceptionally fine stone house which evokes the ante bellum period in Howard County.

7. DESCRIPTION Avoca

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Avoca is a three sectional stone house located on the west side of Old Montgomery Road south of Avoca Drive.

East Section - Main Body of House

The east section is a five bay wide, one room deep, three story granite block and stone, gabled roof house, facing east with central hallway and east and west entrances. Brick chimneys are inset into the center of its north and south walls.

East Elevation of East Wing

The central east entrance is a double paneled door with four lite transom, flanked by four vertical lites and surmounted by a flat granite lintel. All fenestration is rectangular, double-hung, vertically alligned, proportionally scaled with projecting wooden sills and flat granite block lintels. Basement windows are two-two lite casement windows with iron bars set into their granite sills and lintels. The stone on the east elevation is ashlar granite with a beige hue which has been proportionally scaled. The attic or third floor windows are eye brow double-hung windows with three-over-three lites, similar in all other respects to the larger windows.

South and North Elevations of East Wing

The north elevation holds a first and second floor window, similar to those described in the west bay. Two north and south elevation small rectangular third floor double-hung windows are decorated with shutters. Cellar windows, similar to those described are located in the west bay of the north and south wall.

West Elevation of East Wing

The west elevation holds two first floor windows in the first two south bays with cellar door centered beneath, characterized by wide granite block steps and encasing. A second floor window lies in the first south bay and a third floor eyebrow window lies in the first south bay and a third floor eye brow window is centered over the first and second floor rectangular entrances which open on to the two story flat

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

roofed porch connecting the west wing to the east wing respectively. Nineteen wooden steps and railing on the south lead to the second floor of the two story open porch which runs along the south elevation of the connector.

Early Stone House Connector

An early stone house is connected to the main house by an early three bay wide, one room deep, two story high connector, which has a single first and second floor rectangular window with two-over-two lites on its north wall. The south wall holds two first and second floor windows and first and second floor rectangular entrances surmounted by three & two lite transoms. Its gabled roof runs east-west, covering the older stone structure and settling against the west wall of the newer part of the house which faces east.

The south elevation has similar fenestration and was perhaps the early main extension of the original stone structure.

North Wall of All Three Structures Contiguous

The north wall of the house is the most interesting as it tells the story of how the house was first constructed. A line between the old stone house and connecter is very well marked up to the projecting stone lintel of the second floor window of the early west or kitchen wing. Here it stops, leading us to believe that the early structure was a two story high dependency of some sort, probably for slave quarters or food storage as bars are located in the cellar window similar to those on the east wing. Its flat stone lintel is gray granite while the first floor rectangular window is beige granite, similar to the north wall first floor window of the connector. This original stone building was a two bay wide, one room deep stone dwelling with wide brick chimney set into its east wall. A ground floor east entrance and a second floor west entrance were located in the south bay of those walls. When the building was enlarged and a two story high, three bay wide east wing added to the east wall, a second floor was added and the gabled roof line was probably changed at this time from a north-south orientation to an east-west orientation. There is no break in the masonry of the north wall of the east wing and connector on the first floor level which leads to a belief that when the east wing was constructed, a one story high connector was also constructed to unify the east wing with the original old stone quarters. Soon after a second floor was added and you see the break between the east wing and connector, and between the west wing and connecter.

In addition, the flat stone lintels used here are gray rather than beige, belying, a different stage of construction.

Early Stone Structure

The earliest part of the house is a two bay wide, two bay deep, three story high (on the west elevation) gabled roof stone structure.

South Elevation of Old Stone House & Connector

The first and second floor porch along the south elevation of the old stone structure and connector was very early enclosed on the south west corner creating a one bay wide, two bay deep, two story high shed roof, frame addition which was constructed on a stone foundation. The west wall of the stone foundation indicates the addition of this corner. Fenestration is similar to the rest of the house.

West Elevation of Early Stone Structure

A batton wood door opens into a root cellar on the west wall of this later foundation while a rectangular ground floor, entrance leads into what originally was the dirt floor kitchen of the stone house.

A flat roofed partially enclosed, two story high porch (on north side) has a stone base with nine wooden steps and railing leading from the center of the west wall northward to the second floor landing (first floor on the east elevation).

The second floor of the west wall of the west wing holds two early rectangular windows with six-over-six original lites. They are very early with original panes.

OUTER BUILDINGS

Old Well

An old circular well lies west of the early stone house.

Three stone structures lie northwest of the house, the most westerly being a two bay wide, one bay deep, one and a half story high, gabled roof (running east-west) stone structure. It is characterized by flat stone lintels and stone quoining. The entrance is in the east bay of the south wall. Bars are on the west bay window of this wall. Rectangular, attic windows are located on the east and west walls, one very large one on the west wall. Foundation stones for a carriage house lie west of this structure.

On the south side of the driveway is a one story high, shed roofed stone structure with bars at a small square window, which is located in the west bay of the south wall. It is now used to store hay.

8. SIGNIFICANCE Avoca

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)*

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

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Avoca was once the Manor House for Chew's Resolution Manor which dates back to the land grant of 1695 patented to Samuel Chew comprising 1073 acres. Samuel Chew married Ann Ayres, daughter of the well known Puritan, William Ayres. He is known for laying out Herrington for which a patent was issued circa 1660. In 1660 Samuel Chew served as a delegate to Anne Arundel County and as a Justice six years later. Colonel William Burgess and Colonel Samuel Chew were ordered to go against the Indians on the Severn in 1675.

Avoca was originally a part of Chews Resolution Manor and Chews Vineyard which comprised twelve hundred acres which covered all the land from Columbia Pike to Elkridge Landing Road. In 1802 it was owned by Edward Hill Dorsey who sold the property to Arthur Pue (See liber N.H. 16 folio 486 Anne Arundel County.

An indenture (E.P.H. 7-2-305 of Howard County) made the 31 of January, 1848 between Rebecca R. Pue, widow of Doctor Arthur Pue, late of Baltimore City and Michael Pue, Arthur Pue, Priscilla M. Pue, Eliza R. Pue, Rebecca A. Carrol, wife of Charles Carrol and Maria Thomas wife of Charles Thomas, children of Doctor Arthur Pue ended in further negotiation which resulted in Michael Pue owning and making his residence at Avoca. Dr. Pue is located on the 1860 Martinet Map (see attachment 3).

On the 19 March, 1878 (LJW 39-89, Howard County Land Records) James MacKubin as the executor of the last will and testament of Michael Pue granted to Alfred W. Thomas in fee simple "all that piece or parcel of a tract of land"called "Chews Resolution Manor", for $13,000.

Four additional transactions were noted:

(1) Michael Pue to William Timanus (179 Acres)
(2) Michael Pue to James Clark
(3) Michael Pue to Doctor Stocket (8 3/4 Acres)
(4) Michael Pue to Mrs. Elizabeth Fisher (2 Acres)

The Hopkins Atlas of 1878 (see attachment 4) notes the residence of Alfred Thomas comprising 176 acres and called

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

"Avoca".

On June 11, 1906 (WWLC82-275- Howard County Land Records) Alfred W. Thomas granted to James Clark Thomas, as trustee the property with the provision that it was "subject to the right to the said Alfred W. and Emma.W. Thomas to use, occupy and enjoy a room (the room on the second floor that the said A.J. Thomas has been accustomed to occupy) in the dwelling house on the aforesaid property for and during the period of their natural lives".

On December 10, 1914 (HBN 104-430) the deed was granted and conveyed by Alfred V. Thomas and wife to James Clark Thomas. The will of Marian Brian Thomas, his wife (MFB 7-128-Wills, Howard County) left the property to Marian Emily McCloskey. On Dec. 3, 1950 (MWB 229-78) Emily Thomas McCloskey sold the property to Harvey W. Eschenbach and wife, and another portion to Paul T. and Evelyn McHenry (MWB 261-424).

On June 27, 1959 Mr. Paul T. McHenry granted 5.3735 acres to Edward and Virginia Bethard (RHM 334-576).

A plat hanging on the wall of the Howard County Historical Society shows Doctor Arthur Pue's Land and is dated Sept. 4, 1835. Wheatfields is not indicated on the plat map and neither is Mount Joy, once called Sante Fe. It indicates that Chews Resolution Manor on which Dr. Pue's mansion house is indicated was resurveyed Jan. 25, 1718. It is very possible that the stone quarters at Mt. Joy, Wheatfield and the first stone section of Avoca date from as early as 1718.

The connector between the stone house and front section whose facade faces Montgomery Road may well date from 1802 or earlier since buildings and premises are mentioned in the deed of 1802.

The front section was probably built by Dr. Arthur Pue sometime between 1802 and 1810. The log supporting beams in the cellar would support this early date. By 1835 it was established and the Plat Map notes it as Dr. Pues Mansion House.

Architecturally, Avoca is one of Howard County's most outstanding granite structures with unusually fine symetry and proportions, built in three sections in three periods of time which have been exceptionally and pleasingly well integrated.

For these reasons Avoca, once called Chew's Resolution Manor should be considered for the National Register of Historic Places, the State Critical Planning Program and any future local land mark legislation.

Note: On 14 Nov., 1832 an indenture was placed on the property by Robert Nicholas Worthington who loaned $16,000 to Dr. Arthur Pue. This was paid and on Nov. 21, 1841 Mr. Worthington conveyed the property back to Dr. Pue. The deed mentions buildings on all said lands as well as rents of the property.

HO-422
District 2

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Warfield, J.D. Founders of Anne Arundel and Howard County, Maryland

Plat of Dr. Arthur Pue's Land, 1835.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5.37 acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 31, Blk. 7, p. 440
622-41.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see attachment 1

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

STATE	COUNTY
Maryland	Howard
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist

DATE
May, 1977

ORGANIZATION
Comprehensive Planning Section

TELEPHONE
465-5000 Ext. 257

STREET & NUMBER
3450 Courthouse Dr.

CITY OR TOWN
Ellicott City

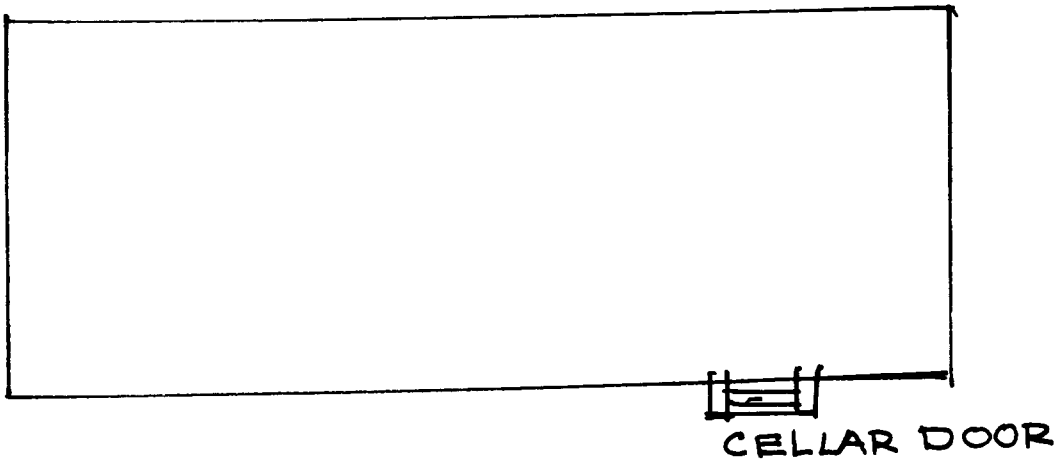
STATE
Maryland 21043

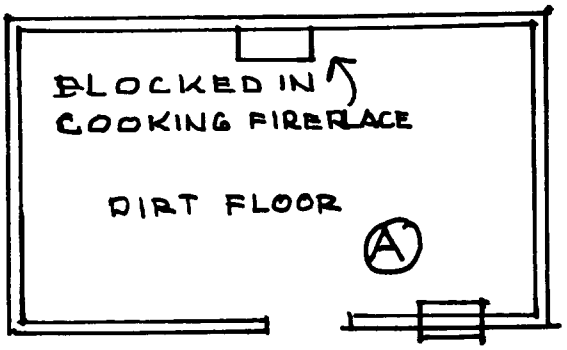
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

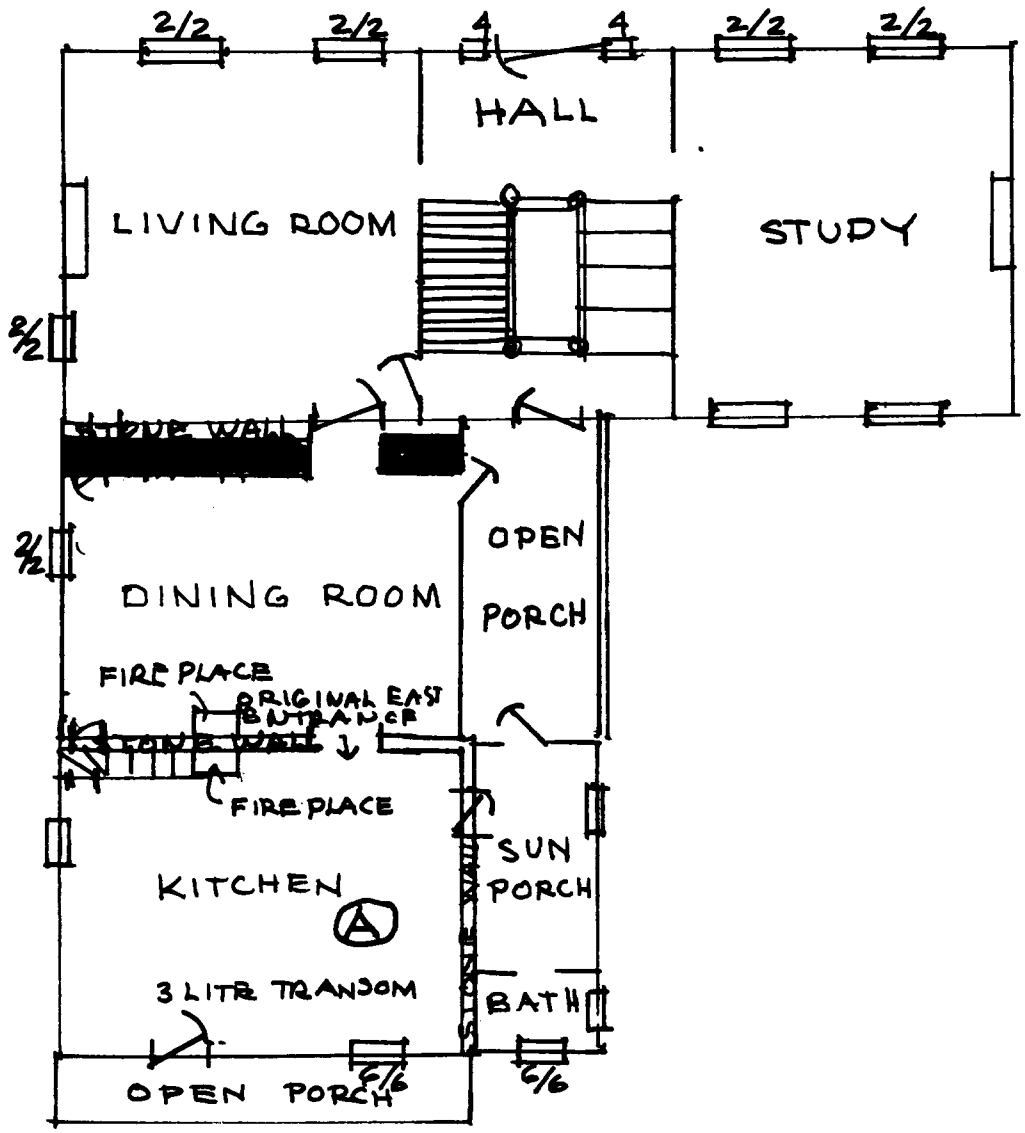
HO-422 AVOCA



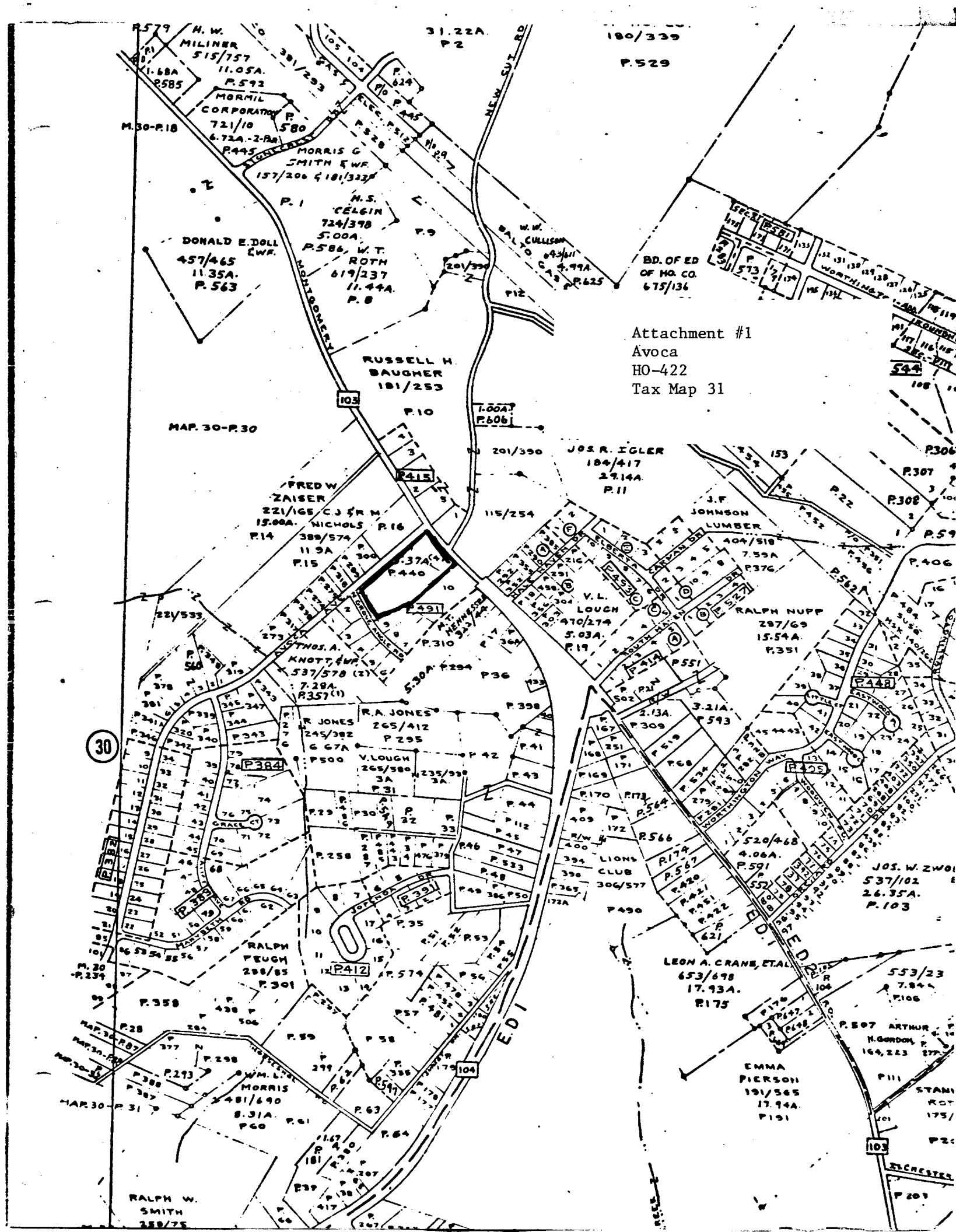


GROUND FLOOR PLAN (NTS)

AVOCA - Ho - 422 - PLAN



FIRST FLOOR (NTS)


Attachment #1
Avoca
HO-422
Tax Map 31
H. W. MILINER
515/757
11.05A.
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MORMIL CORPORATION
721/10
6.72A.-2-Par
P.445
MORRIS G SMITH & WF.
157/206 & 181/323
H.S. CELGIN
724/398
5.00A.
P.586
W.T. ROTH
619/237
11.44A.
P.8
DONALD E. DOLL & WF.
457/465
11.35A.
P.563
W.W. CULLISON
643/611
4.99A.
P.625
BD. OF ED OF HO. CO.
675/136
RUSSELL H. BAUGHER
181/253
P.10
MAP. 30-P.30
FRED W. ZAISER
221/165
15.00A.
P.14
C.J. & R.M. NICHOLS
389/574
11.9A
P.15
P.16
P.440
P.491
M.T. HENNESSEY
322/44
THOS. A. KNOTT & WF.
537/578 (2)
7.28A.
P.357 (1)
R. JONES
245/382
6.67A
P.500
R.A. JONES
265/412
P.295
V. LOUGH
265/580
3A
P.31
JOS. R. IGLER
184/417
29.14A.
P.11
115/254
J.F. JOHNSON LUMBER
404/518
7.59A
P.376
V.L. LOUGH
470/274
5.03A.
P.19
RALPH NUPP
297/69
15.54A.
P.351
P.551
2.13A.
P.309
3.21A.
P.593
LIONS CLUB
306/577
P.490
520/468
4.06A.
P.591
JOS. W. ZWOL
537/102
26.35A.
P.103
LEON A. CRANE, ET.AL.
653/698
17.93A.
P.175
RALPH PEUGH
298/85
P.301
WM. L. MORRIS
481/690
8.31A.
P.60
EMMA PIERSON
191/565
17.94A.
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RALPH W. SMITH
259/75
553/23
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ARTHUR H. GORDON
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MAP. 30-P.18
MAP. 30-P.31
MAP. 30-P.29
MAP. 30-P.28
MAP. 30-P.20
MAP. 30-P.234
31.22A.
P.2
180/339
P.529
NEW CUT RD.
MONTGOMERY
WORTHINGTON
BALTO. CAS.
ELEC. PS.
SEC. 2
103
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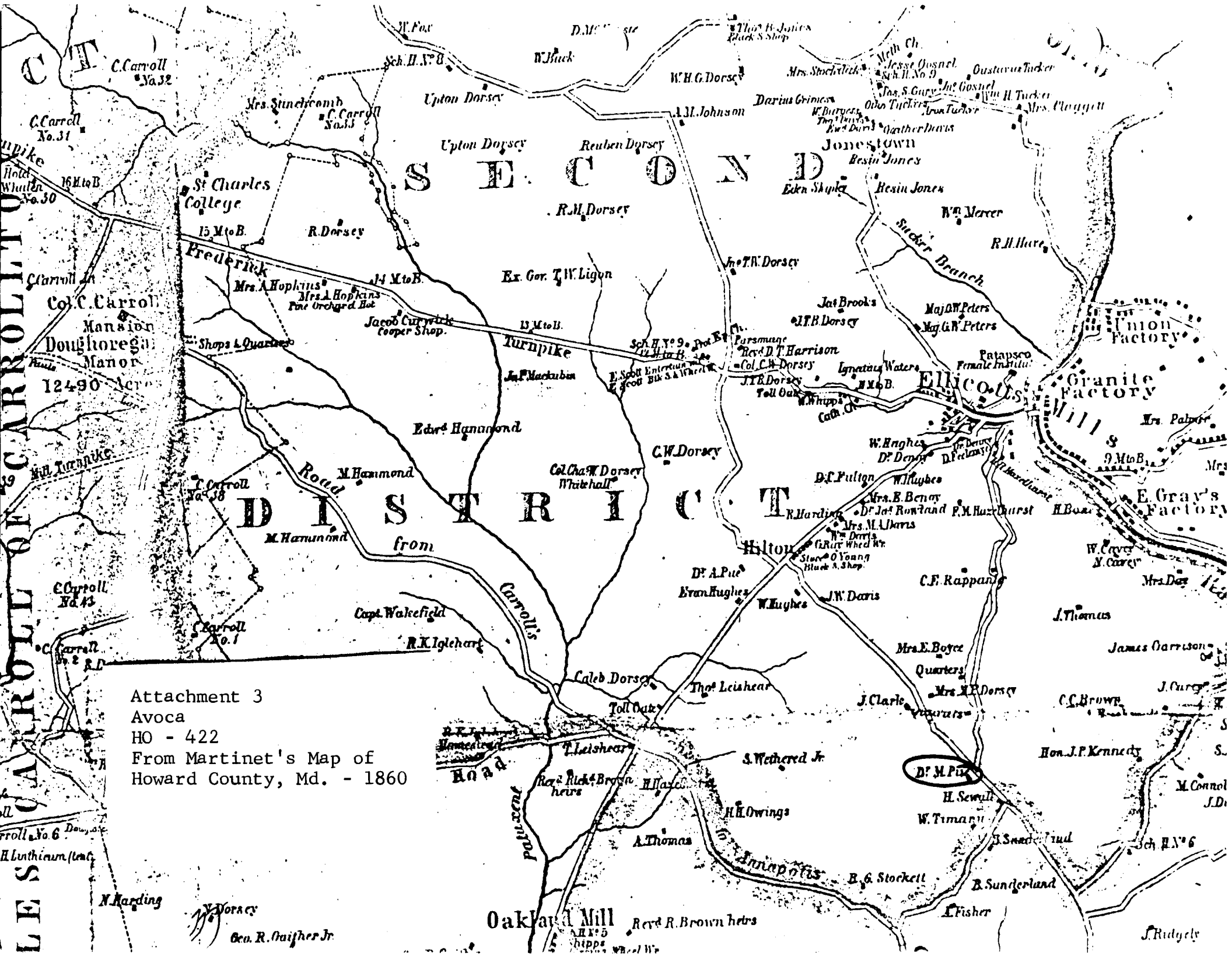
SECOND DISTRICT
Jonestown
Ellicott
Hilton
Oakland Mill
Frederick Turnpike
Road from Carroll's
Patuxent
Annapolis
Sucker Branch
St Charles College
Col. C. Carroll Mansion
Doughoregan Manor
12490 Acres
Union Factory
Granite Factory
E. Gray's Factory
Patapsco Female Institute
Upton Dorsey
Reuben Dorsey
R. M. Dorsey
R. Dorsey
Ex. Gov. T. W. Ligon
Jacob Curwick Cooper Shop
Shops & Quarters
Edwd Hammond
M. Hammond
C. W. Dorsey
Col. Chas. W. Dorsey Whitehall
Capt. Wakefield
R. K. Iglehart
Caleb Dorsey
Thos Leishear
Toll Gate
S. Wethered Jr.
H. H. Owings
A. Thomas
B. G. Stockett
B. Sunderland
Dr. M. Pue
H. Sewell
W. Timanus
Hon. J. P. Kennedy
C. F. Rappaport
J. Thomas
James Garrison
Mrs. E. Boyce Quarters
Mrs. M. P. Dorsey
J. Clark
C. C. Brown
Dr. A. Pue
Evan Hughes
W. Hughes
J. W. Davis
D. C. Fulton
R. Harding
Dr. Jas Rowland
Mrs. M. Ulmarris
Mrs. E. Berry
W. Hughes
Dr. Denny
W. Hughes
Darius Grimes
Jesse Gosnel
Gustavus Tucker
Jas. S. Gary
Jno Gosnel
Jno H. Tucker
Mrs. Cloggett
Gather Davis
Resin Jones
Eden Shipley
Wm Mercer
R. H. Hare
Jno T. W. Dorsey
Jas Brooks
J. T. B. Dorsey
Maj. G. W. Peters
Ignatius Waters
Parsonage
Rev. D. T. Harrison
Col. C. W. Dorsey
J. T. R. Dorsey
Toll Gate
Jas F. Mackubin
Mrs. A. Hopkins
Fine Orchard Bot
Mrs. Sunderland
Mrs. Stockslick
Thos B. Jones Black S. Shop
W. H. G. Dorsey
J. M. Johnson
W. Buck
D. McCuse
W. Fox
Sch. H. No 8
Sch. H. No 9
Sch. H. No 6
Sch. H. No 5
Rev. R. Brown heirs
Rev. Rich. Brown heirs
T. Leishear
H. Hasel
Geo. R. Gaither Jr.
N. Harding
W. Dorsey
H. Luthienum
Mill Turnpike
Hotel Whalen
16 M. to B.
15 M. to B.
14 M. to B.
13 M. to B.
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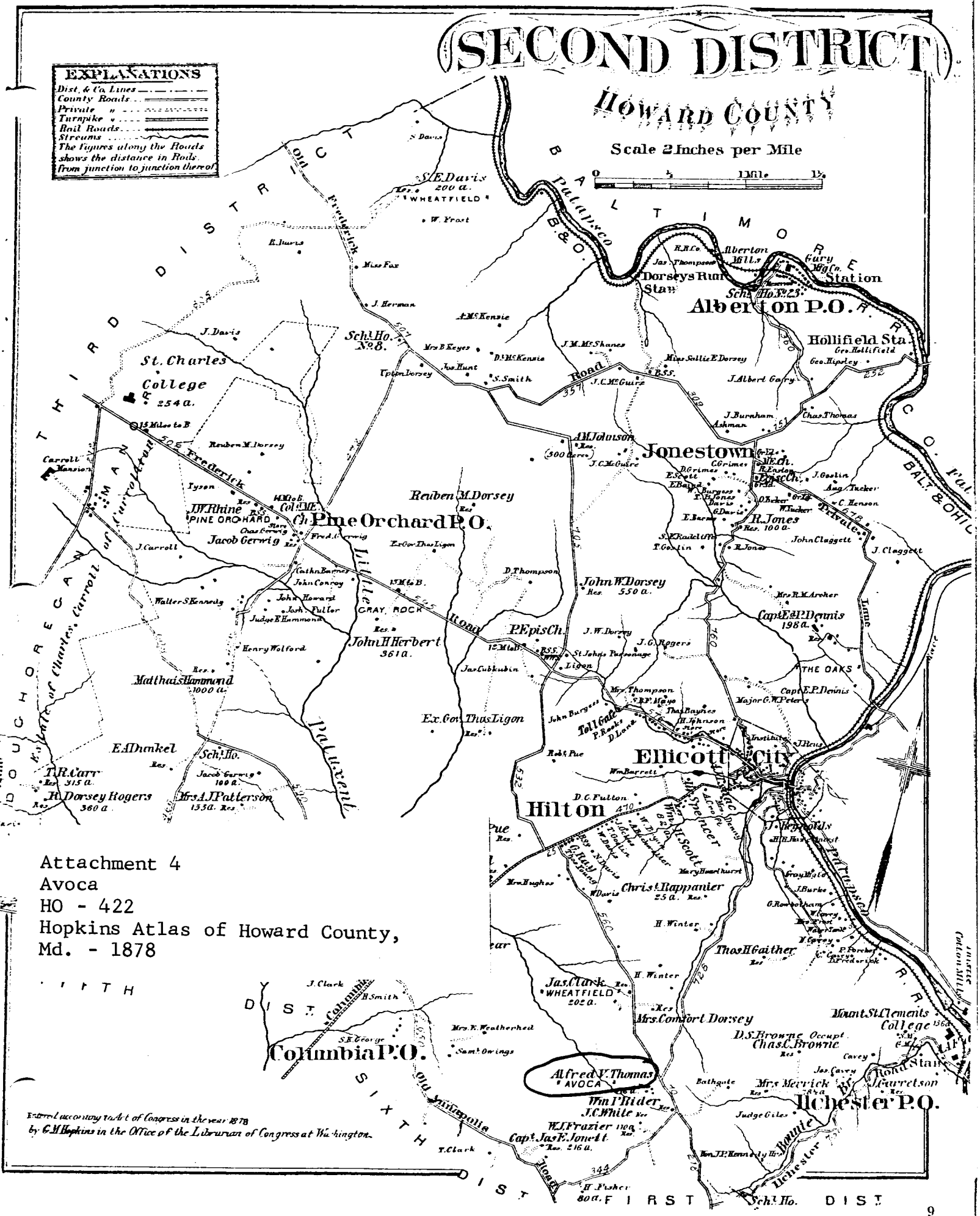
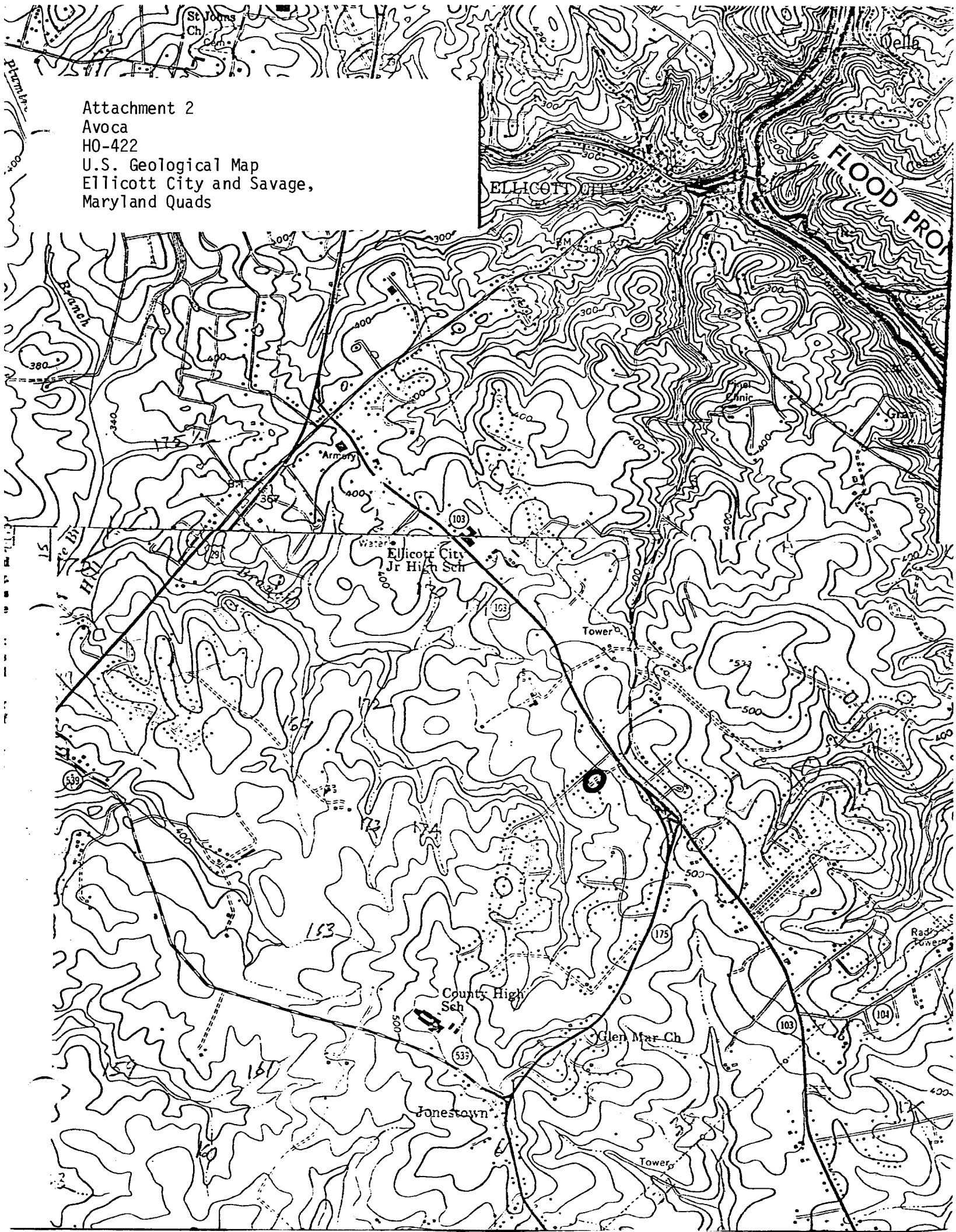
C. Carroll No. 32
C. Carroll No. 33
C. Carroll No. 31
C. Carroll No. 30
C. Carroll No. 38
C. Carroll No. 43
C. Carroll No. 1
C. Carroll No. 2
C. Carroll No. 6
Attachment 3
Avoca
HO - 422
From Martinet's Map of
Howard County, Md. - 1860



Attachment 4
Avoca
HO - 422
Hopkins Atlas of Howard County,
Md. - 1878

Attachment 2
Avoca
HO-422
U.S. Geological Map
Ellicott City and Savage,
Maryland Quads



CLEORA BARNES THOMPSON
PLANNING CONSULTANT
HISTORIC

AVOCA
HO-422
MAY-1977