HO-497, Railroad Building
5600 Main St., Elkridge
Surveyed by: Kristin Hill
April 2003

ADDENDUM

Section 3. Owner of Property

Springvale Trust Corporation
54 Windemere Parkway
Phoenix, MD 21131

Section 4. Location of Legal Description

Howard County Courthouse
Ellicott City
Liber 5904, Folio 621
Tax map 38, Parcel 567

Section 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

X Other Contributing building in the Elkridge Landing Historic Survey District, HO-784

Section 7. Description

Condition: vacant, altered, fair
Date: ca. 1840 and ca. 1860

This interesting and much altered building sits on the northeast corner of Brumbaugh and Main Streets right next to the railroad tracks. Several distinct building periods are evident from the exterior and it is difficult to say what the front façade of the original building was. The earliest portion of the building is the rear two story brick section on a stone foundation which now fronts Brumbaugh Street. This part of the building has a side gabled roof and a brick interior end chimney on the north wall. It is constructed of 5:1 common bond and has a corbelled brick cornice with brick dentils. The west façade of the building is two bays wide with two windows on the second story, a window and a door on the first story, and two windows into the basement. The basement and first floor window openings are capped with jack arches while the second floor openings have plain wood lintels. Unfortunately, all of the windows have been replaced and the window openings altered in size to accommodate modern standard vinyl windows. A modern pent roof of asphalt shingles extends across the entire first story and obscures the jack arches. The door on the first floor is also a modern replacement; an original transom above it has been blocked in with a piece of plywood.

At the south end of the west façade, the building turns the corner and extends east for about six feet before it turns south again and continues for another three feet. There is an obvious vertical seam at this point between the original building and a later addition built on the south façade. This short three foot section has the same corbelled cornice

ADDENDUM

with dentils that is found on the west façade and it has a segmental arched door opening at the basement level.

A large two story brick addition was made to the south façade of the original building. This part of the building has a hipped roof with a wide eave overhang and is constructed of 5:1 common bond on a stone foundation. On the west façade facing Brumbaugh Street, there is a boarded up window opening at the basement level and a door opening. On the first floor there is a door located all the way at the south end of the west façade. This door opening has been surrounded by formstone and capped with a pent roof sometime in the 20th century when the building was used for commercial purposes. There are no other apertures on this façade.

The east façade of the original building, facing the railroad tracks, has the same corbelled brick cornice with dentils as is found on the west façade. This façade is three bays wide with three windows on the second story capped by flat wood lintels (one window is a replacement and two are boarded up) and three openings on the first story capped by brick jack arches. The original size and function of these openings is unclear because the bottoms of them are concealed by a single story cinderblock addition that extends at basement level along the entire façade.

The east façade of the hipped roof brick addition is also three bays wide with three closed apertures on the second floor capped with segmental brick arches and filled with cinderblocks, and two windows and one door opening on the first floor. These first floor openings are also closed up and are capped with brick jack arches. There is a large interior brick chimney located on the east wall in between the center and northern-most bay. On all three visible facades of the hipped roof portion (the north façade attaches to the south façade of the original building) there is a wide cornice. Two parallel bands of molding are separated by 8-12" of exposed painted brick giving the illusion of a wide cornice.

The south façade of the hipped roof portion has a window and door opening on the second floor capped by segmental brick arches and a closed window opening and a door on the first floor capped with brick jack arches.

Two 20th century cinderblock additions were made to the north and east sides of the original portion of the building. Both are one story and covered with stucco.

The roof of the entire building is covered with asphalt shingles and the building is painted white. It is currently vacant and neighbors report that it was recently sold. A large dumpster is sitting in the parking lot so renovation work may be happening.

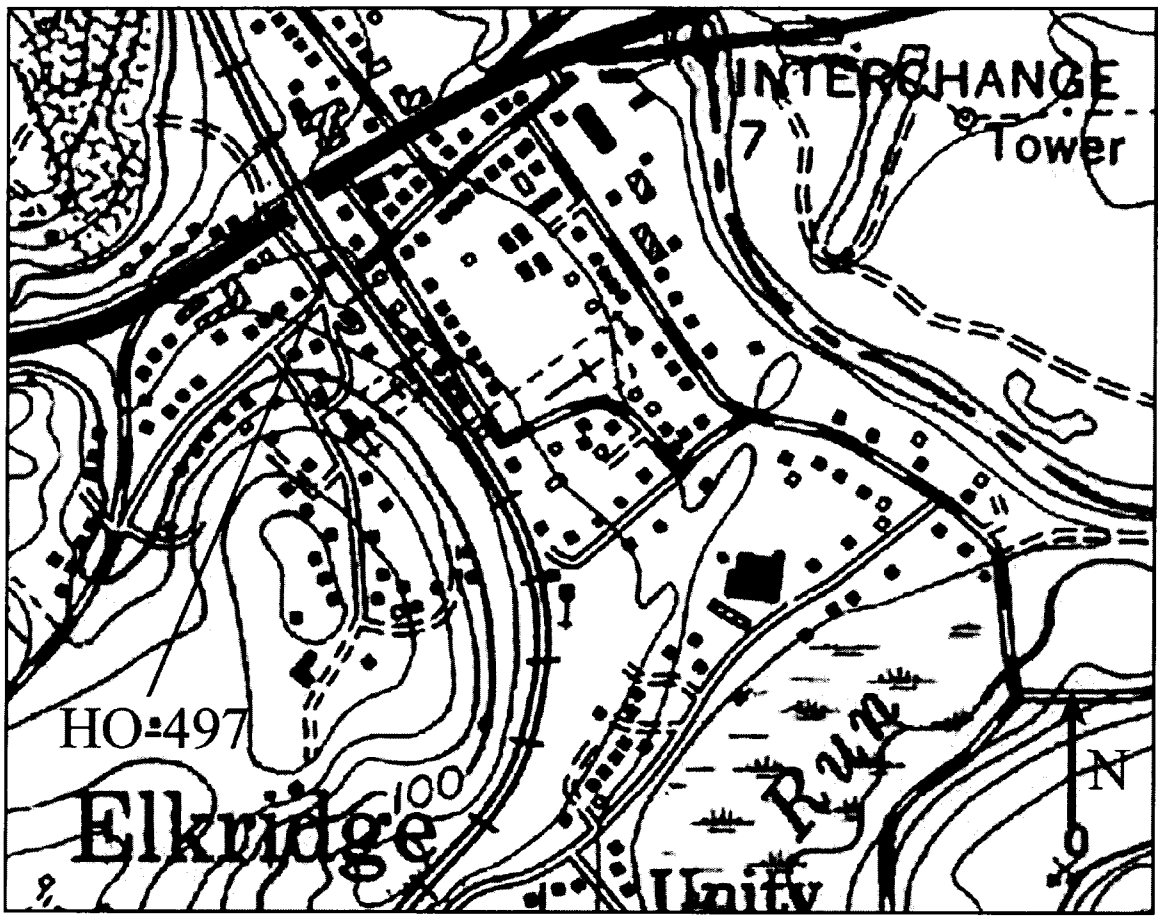
Based on the fenestration, it seems likely that the front of the building was originally the east façade both on the earliest part of the building and on the hipped roof addition. Based on the brick cornice, the earliest part of the building (the section with the gabled roof) probably dates to the 1830's or 1840's while the two story hipped roof brick addition probably dates to the 1850's or 1860's.

HO-497, Railroad Building
5600 Main St., Elkridge
Surveyed by: Kristin Hill
April 2003

ADDENDUM

Section 11. Form Prepared by

Kristin H. Hill, Architectural Historian
Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043
410-313-4335
May 2003



HO-497, Railroad Building
Elkridge, Howard County, MD
USGS Topographic Quadrangle, Relay
7.5 Minute Series, 1957 (PR 1966 and 1974)

HO-497, Railroad [illegible]
5600 Main Street, Elkridge Landing Historic District
Howard County, MD
Kristin Hill, 4/03
Negative at MDSHPO
West elevation

1 of 2

HO 497, Railroad Building
5600 Main Street, Elkridge Landing Historic District
Howard County, MD
Photo #1, 403
Negative at MDSHPO
East elevation

2 of 2

HO-497
The Railroad Building
Private
Elkridge

Circa 1851

The Railroad Building faces south on the northeast corner of Main and Brumbaugh Streets, just west of the Railroad tracks. A two bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running north-south) brick (laid in English garden wall brick bond) building with square, brick chimney centered into its north wall extends southward into a two story high, hipped roof (running north-south) brick (laid in English garden wall brick bond) building, constructed and extending east from the east side of the gabled roof building's south wall, with wide brick chimney inset into the north side of its east wall.

Fenestration for the gabled roof and hipped roof, brick buildings are vertically aligned.Windows in the gabled roof section are rectangular and decorated with stretcher brick, flat arched lintels. Those in the hipped roof section have similar first floor windows with second floor windows decorated with stretcher brick, arched lintels and flat wooden sills.

Entrances occur on the west and south elevations.

HO-497
Dist 1
MPCI # 140-1475519

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON
The Railroad Building

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
5600 Main Street

CITY, TOWN
Elkridge

__ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
6th

STATE
Maryland

COUNTY
Howard

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
X DISTRICT	__ PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	__ AGRICULTURE	__ MUSEUM
__ BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__ UNOCCUPIED	X COMMERCIAL	__ PARK
__ STRUCTURE	__ BOTH	__ WORK IN PROGRESS	__ EDUCATIONAL	__ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__ SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ ENTERTAINMENT	__ RELIGIOUS
__ OBJECT	__ IN PROCESS	__ YES: RESTRICTED	__ GOVERNMENT	__ SCIENTIFIC
	__ BEING CONSIDERED	X YES: UNRESTRICTED	__ INDUSTRIAL	__ TRANSPORTATION
		__ NO	__ MILITARY	__ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Henry and Audrey Walsh

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER
5548 Southwestern Blvd.

CITY, TOWN
Baltimore

__ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC
Tax Map 38 p. 567
Hall of Records

Liber #: 455
Folio #: 618

STREET & NUMBER
Howard County Court House

CITY, TOWN
Ellicott City

STATE
Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Howard County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE
1978-1979

__ FEDERAL X STATE __ COUNTY __ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN
21 State Circle, Annapolis

STATE
Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

HO-497
Dist. 1

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
X EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Railroad Building faces south on the northeast corner of Main and Brumbaugh Streets, Elkridge, just west of the railroad tracks. A two bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running north-south) brick (laid in English Garden wall brick bond) building with square brick chimney centered into its north wall extends southward into a two story high, hipped roof (running north-south) brick building (laid) in English Garden Wall brick bond) constructed and extending east from the east side of the gabled roof buildings south wall with wide brick chimney inset into the north side of its east wall.

The west wall of the gabled roof, brick building holds two rectangular, six-over-six light windows on its ground floor and a rectangular, first floor entrance in its south bay, surmounted by a one light transom, covered by an aluminum shed roofed hood, and approached by iron steps. A first floor six-over-six light window rests in the north bay, surmounted by a stretcher brick, flat arched lintel. Two similar, second floor, vertically aligned and proportionally scaled windows rest above. The east wall of this gabled roof section holds three first and second floor windows, all of which have been blocked in except the one located in the second floor central bay. It holds a one-over-one light window. A shed roofed, one story high frame appendage runs along this east wall.

Along this section's north wall extends a one story high, gabled roof (running north-south) frame appendage, off whose north wall rests another one story high, shed roofed, frame appendage.

A single second floor window rests on the west side of the gabled roof, brick building's north wall.

The east elevation of the Railroad Building's hipped roof section held at one time three first and second floor windows. Those on the first floor were decorated with stretcher brick, flat arched lintels. Those on the second floor were decorated with stretcher brick, arched lintels. Today all have been blocked in or shuttered, as in the case of the north and south bay second floor windows. The building projects eastward one bay from the south wall of the gabled roof building, revealing a similar first and second floor window in the east bay of its north wall. The building's south wall has been altered. Both first floor openings have been blocked in and a fire escape staircase installed along this wall, leading to the second floor rectangular entrance, decorated with a stretcher brick, arched lintel, located in the west bay. A shuttered second floor window, similarly decorated rests in the east bay.

A cellar door rests beneath the blocked, first floor window in the

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

west bay of the south elevation, fronting Main Street, while the south side of the west wall's first floor is covered with formstone, into which a double entrance door has been placed, flanked by fluted pilasters and surmounted by a flat wooden lintel, decorated with a row of lintels and crowned by a cornice.

These two attached brick buildings are in excellent condition and are both painted yellow.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

HO-497
Dist. 1

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1800-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		local history

SPECIFIC DATES Circa 1851 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Railroad Building is significant architectually and historically to Howard County and the State of Maryland as a fine example of brick architecture, constructed in two periods belonging to a number of owners.

In 1851, the land on which the Railroad Building stands was once a part of the tract called Hanover and was the property of James Hill and his wife, who conveyed the property to John Joseph Hillman on December 14, 1851 (12-69) for $158.00. By 1859, John Joseph Hillman and his wife, Margaret of Baltimore County, had made considerable improvements to the property which probably consisted of the buildings as we see them today. The property was conveyed to J. Solan and Sarah S. Linthicum, also of Baltimore County, for $3,000.00 on December 16th of that year. It is certain that the present buildings were constructed between the years 1851 and 1859, though the gabled roof dwelling may have been constructed prior to that time.

On December 4, 1862, the Linthicums conveyed the property to Joseph D. Pettit for $3,000.00 (22-208),"together with improvements made, being and erected". It is conceivable that the gabled roof building was constructed circa 1851, and the hipped roof brick building circa 1862.

From 1862 through 1885, the building, located just west of the B & O railroad tracks passed through the hands of Joseph D. Pettit (22-208) to Emma Pettit, (38-394) who mortgaged the property to George Ehrman to Lewis Silbereisen (49-574 - July 21, 1885) to the B & O Railroad on August 22, 1914 (97-512).

An equity case (59-611) mentions the property as improved by a brick and frame combined storeroom and dwelling (August 23, 1927 - by Reuben D. Rodgers to Aloysius W. Hobbetal.)

Today it is owned by O'Henry Walsh and is used for commercial purposes.

It is, however, in its architecture, that this building complex makes its greatest contribution. Here side by side, stand a two story high

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

gabled brick building with an earlier hipped roof building, featuring arched stretcher brick lintels, as well as a continuity of the flat arched brick lintels which decorate the windows of the earlier gable roof building.

Its symmetry and scale, as well as its unity of composition, resulting from the use of the common material, brick, as well as its similar scale and proportion, create a very important architechural landmark on the northeast corner of Brumbaugh and Main Streets, Elkridge.

For these reasons this building complex, in conjunction with the Main Street, Elkridge Area should be placed on the National Register of Historic Places and included in any future local landmark ordinance, as well as the State Critical Areas Program.

Note: The Railroad Building derives its name from its location close to the west side of the Washington branch of the B & O Railroad. Traditionally it has been a commercial building, operated in 1860 by M. K. Smith as a Post Office and store. This was true of the front section only. By 1878, the back section had been constructed and the commercial complex was owned by Thomas Pettit.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Howard County Land Records

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .183 acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 38, p. 567

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber 455 Folio 618

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

STATE Maryland COUNTY Howard

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist

ORGANIZATION
Office of Planning & Zoning-Comprehensive Planning Section

DATE
465-5000 x257

STREET & NUMBER
3450 Court House Drive

TELEPHONE

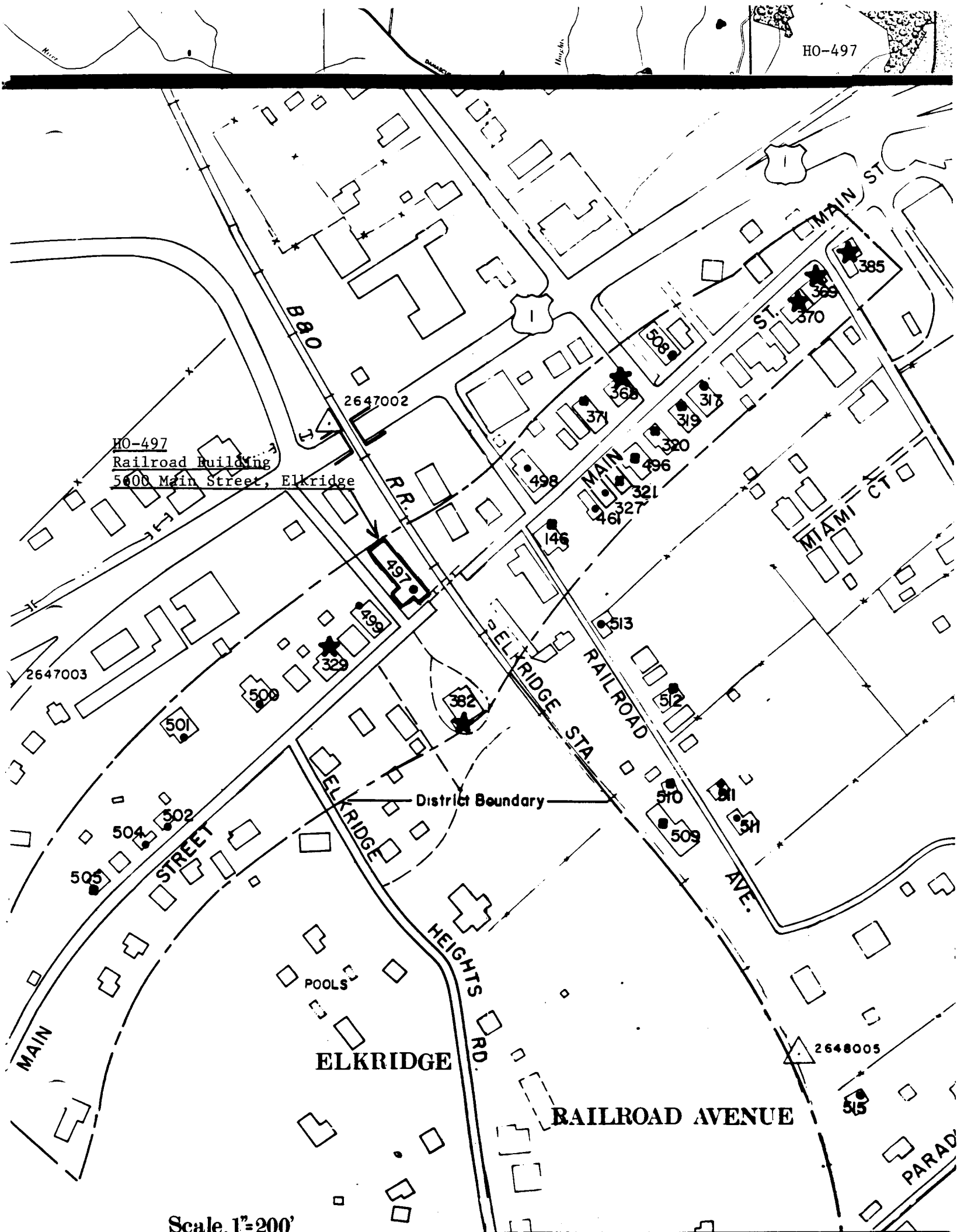
CITY OR TOWN
Ellicott City

STATE
Maryland

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

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

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


HO-497
HO-497
Railroad Building
5600 Main Street, Elkridge
B&O
RR.
2647002
2647003
MAIN ST
MAIN
ST.
MIAMI CT
ELKRIDGE STA.
RAILROAD
AVE.
ELKRIDGE
HEIGHTS RD.
MAIN
STREET
District Boundary
POOLS
ELKRIDGE
RAILROAD AVENUE
2648005
PARAD
385
369
370
508
368
371
317
319
320
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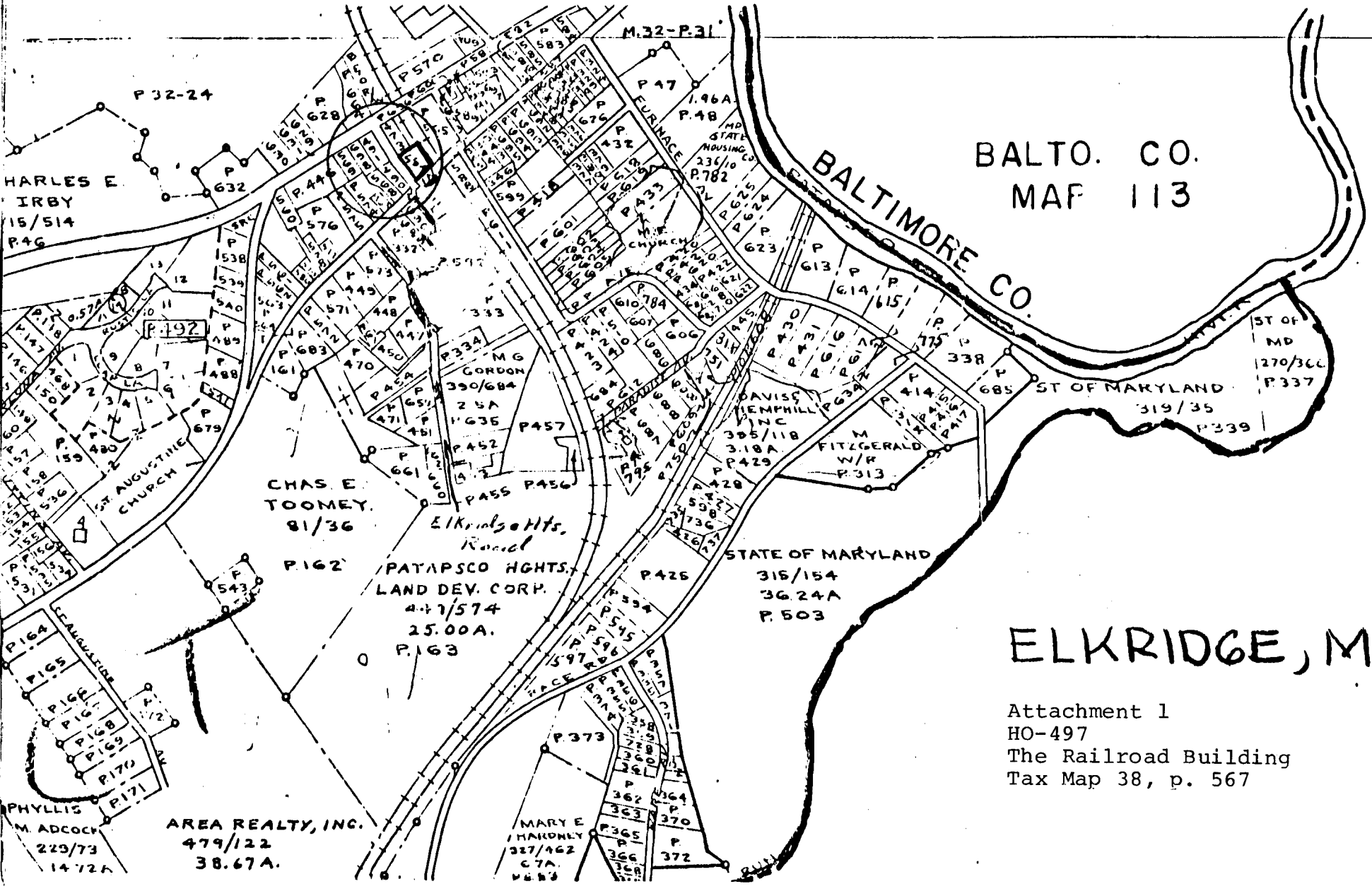
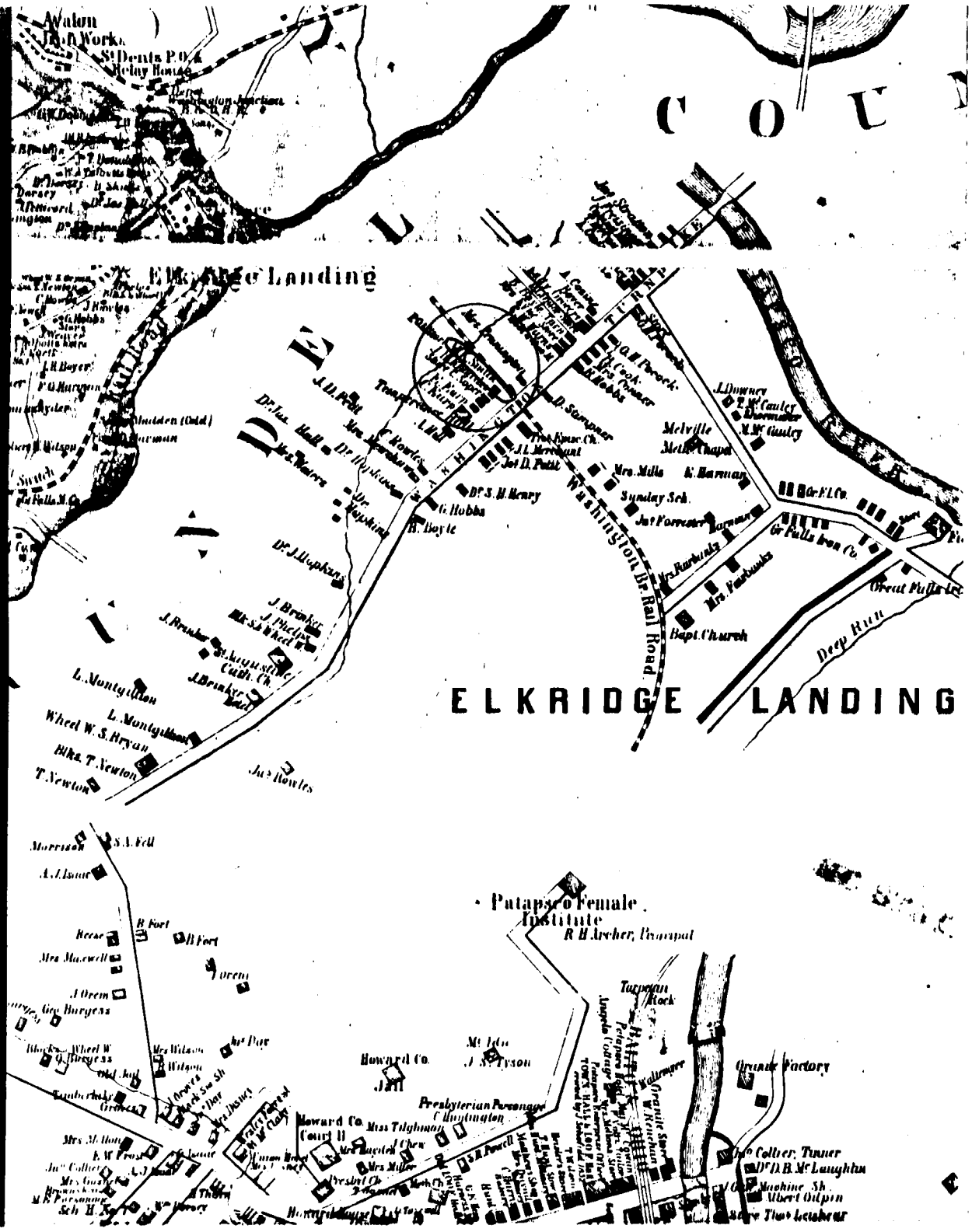
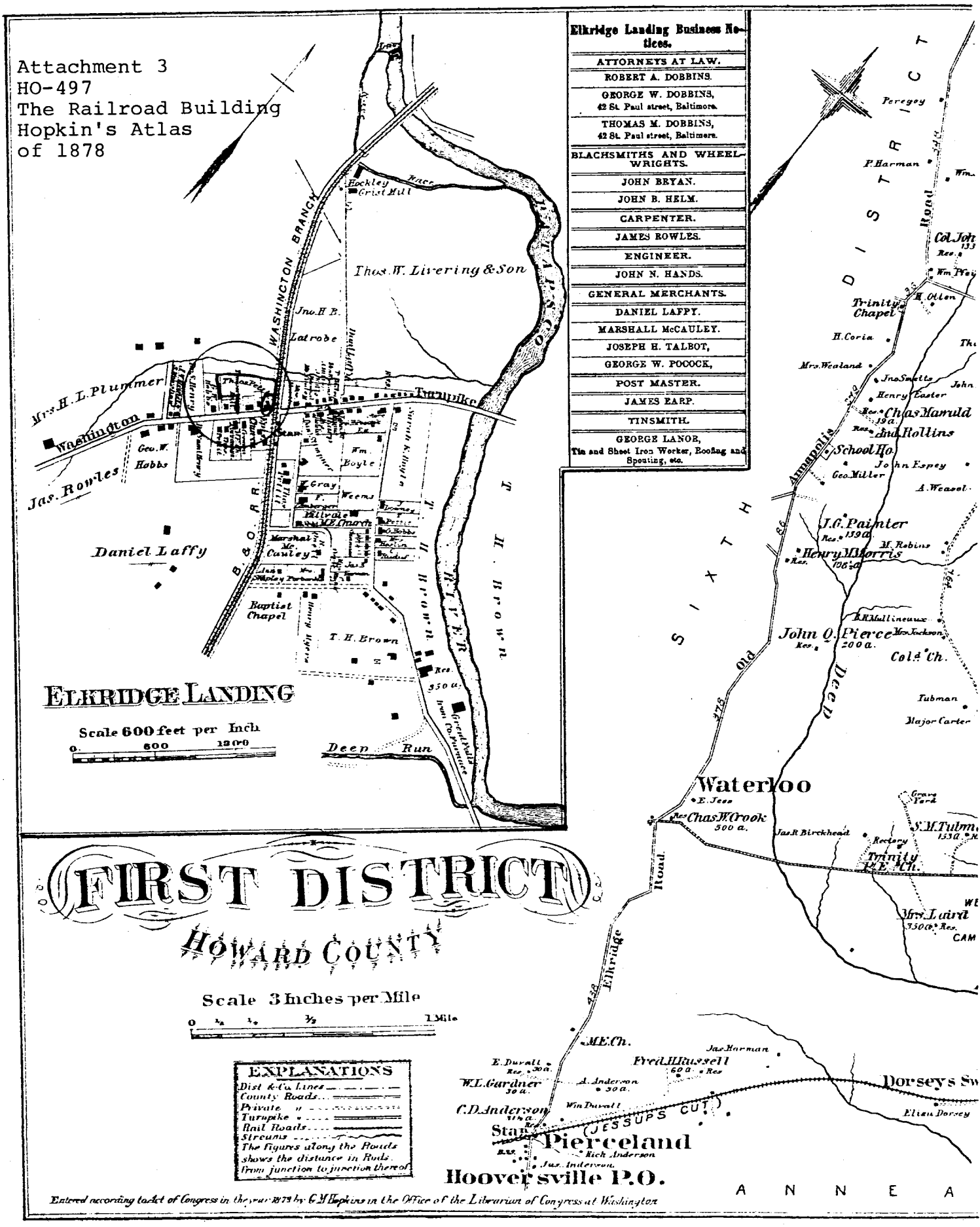


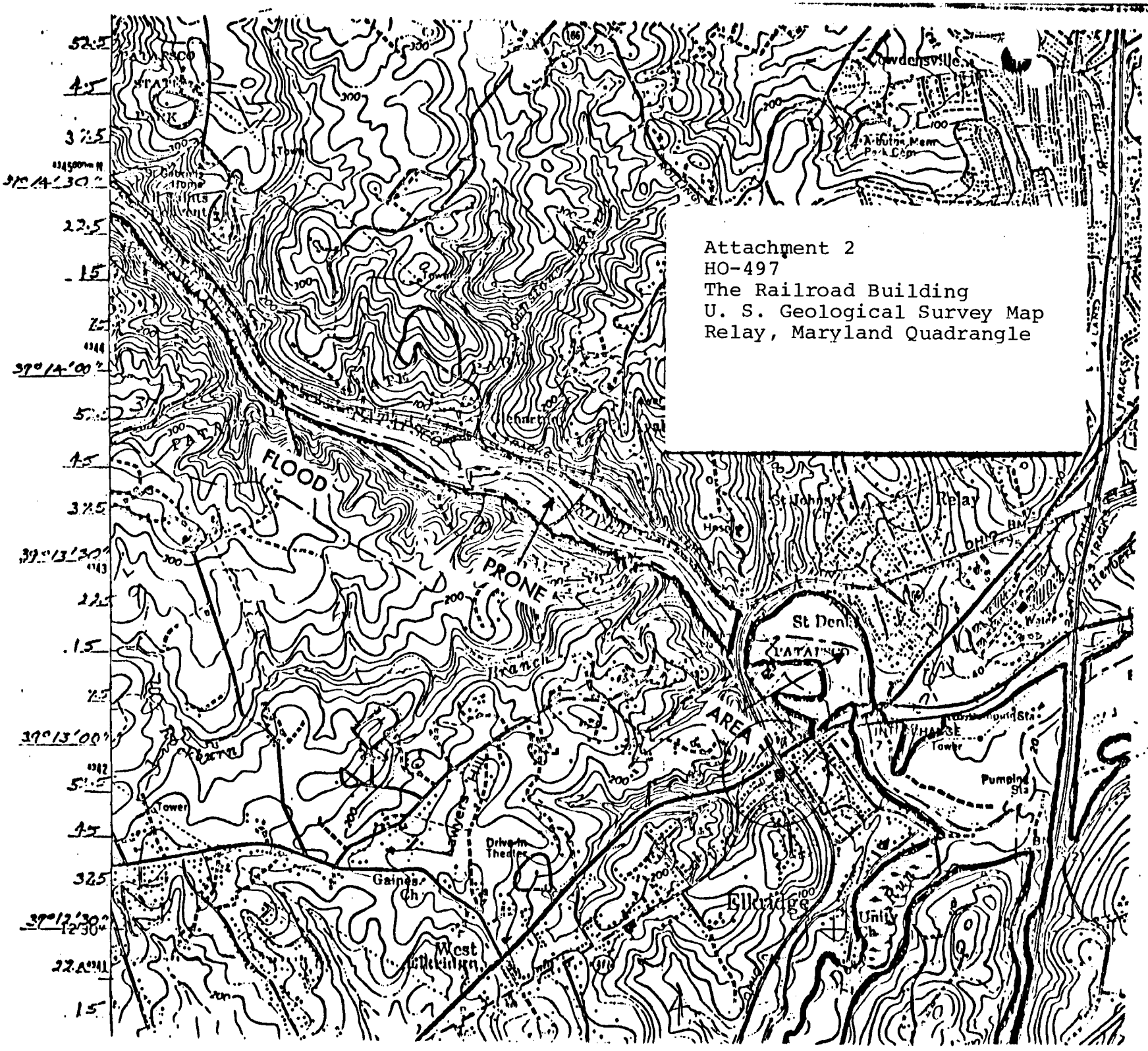
Attachment 1
HO-497
The Railroad Building
Tax Map 38, p. 567

Attachment 4
HO-497
The Railroad Building
1860 Martennet Map

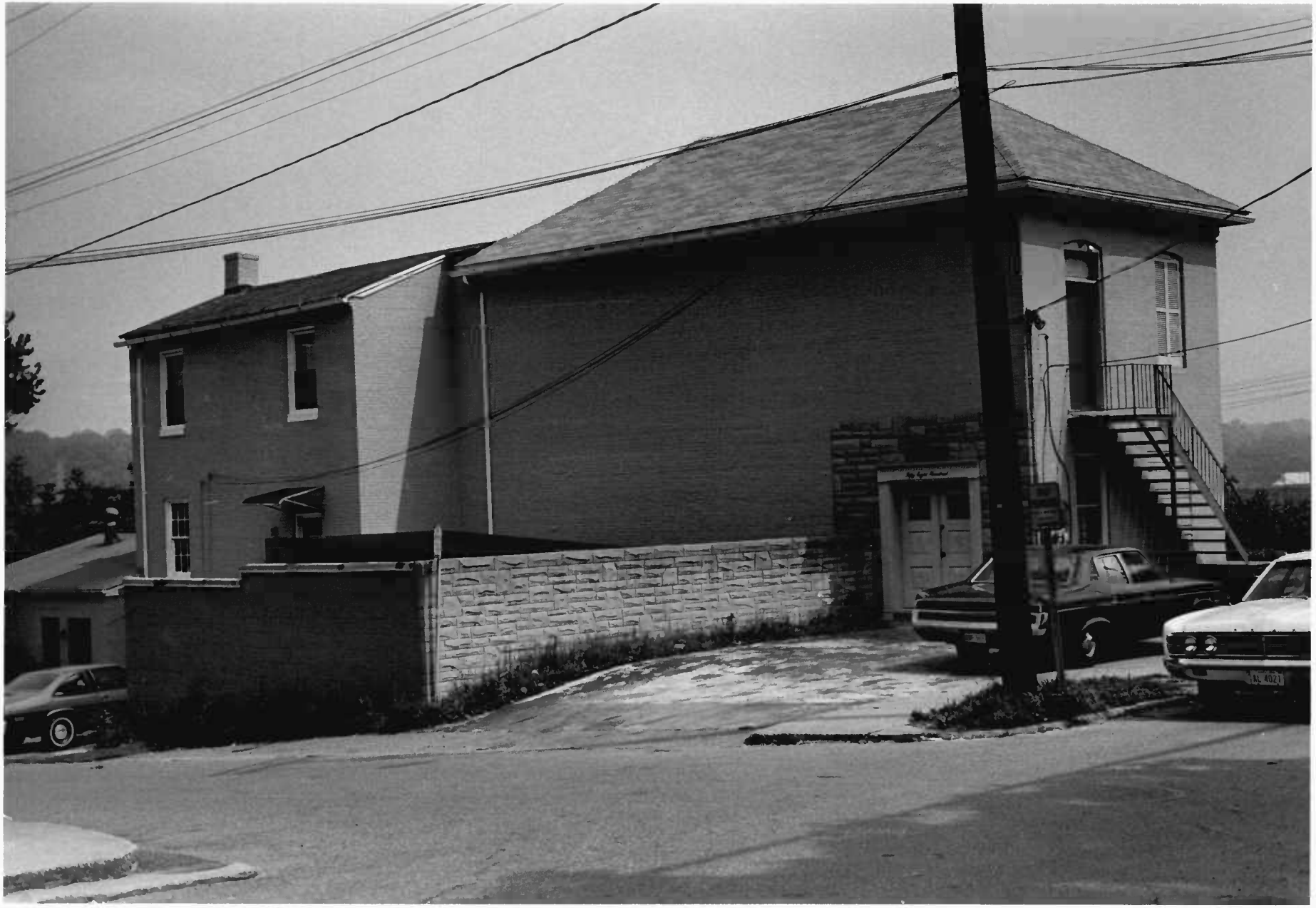


Attachment 3
HO-497
The Railroad Building
Hopkin's Atlas
of 1878





Attachment 2
HO-497
The Railroad Building
U. S. Geological Survey Map
Relay, Maryland Quadrangle


AL 4021

Ho-497
The Railroad Building
N.E. Corner Brumbaugh &
Main Sts. Elkridge
Southwest · JAN '79
CB Thompson, A.I.C.P.