HO - 542

Circa 1840

The Brown House
Elkridge
Private

The Brown House faces east on the west side of Rockburn Hill Road. Originally, the house faced north and was a three bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running east-west) log (covered with siding) house, resting on a stone foundation and featuring mortice and tenon construction, marked with Roman numerals. Two additions were made. One is a two story high, two bay wide, one room deep, intersecting gable roof (running north-south) frame south kitchen addition, with bedroom and bath above, along two thirds of the building's south wall. The other is a one bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running north-south) frame north living room - master bedroom addition, along the west side of the building's north wall. This addition features a two story high north bay window.

The interior of the log house features the original central staircase, random width floors, and batten wood door, while its north addition, through the north bay window, creates a sense of spaciousness. Both the north and south east corners of the building are filled in with one story high, open porches covering rectangular east entrances, resulting in a square first floor plan.

Believed to be the oldest building on Rockburn Hill, the Brown House was owned by Joseph Earp and later by William Burchall, Jr., in the latter part of the nineteenth century.

HO - 542
Relay Quad.
Dist. I

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MAGI# 1405425404

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON
The Brown Residence

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
6275 Rockburn Hill Rd.

CITY, TOWN
Elkridge

__ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
6th

STATE
Maryland

COUNTY
Howard

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO limited	__MILITARY	__OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mrs. Gisela M. Brown

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER
6275 Rockburn Hill Road

CITY, TOWN
Baltimore

__ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 21227

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Tax Map #32, p. 59
Hall of Records

Liber #: 732
Folio #: 268

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

HO - 542
Relay Quad.
Dist. 1

7 DESCRIPTION

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 Brown House faces east on the west side of Rockburn Hill Road.

Originally the house faced north and was a three bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running east-west) log (covered with siding house, resting on a stone foundation and featuring mortice and tenon construction marked with Roman numerals. Two additions were made to the house. One is a two story high, two bay wide, one room deep, intersecting gable roof (running north-south) frame south kitchen addition with bedroom and bath above along two-thirds of the building's south wall. The other is a two bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running north-south) frame north livingroom addition, with bedroom above, along the west side of the building's north wall. This addition features a two story high north bay window.

The interior of the house features a central staircase with a room on either side. Early construction can be seen in its wide random width floors and batten wood, rectangular, upstairs bedroom door in the original part of the house. Cross paneled interior doors and random width floors are also featured in the other areas of the house.

Both the north and southeast corners of the building are filled in with one-story high, open porches, covering rectangular east entrances, resulting in a square first floor plan.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

HO - 542
Relay Quad

Distric 1

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
—PREHISTORIC	—ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	—COMMUNITY PLANNING	—LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	—RELIGION
—1400-1499	X ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	—CONSERVATION	—LAW	—SCIENCE
—1500-1599	—AGRICULTURE	—ECONOMICS	—LITERATURE	—SCULPTURE
—1600-1699	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		

SPECIFIC DATES circa 1840 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Brown House is significant to Howard County and the State of Maryland architecturally as an example of a simple "I" plan, log house, evolving into basically a "T" plan, filled in on the first floor by one story high, open porches. It, therefore, represents the evolution of this type of simple, two story high, four room house, extended at a later date to accommodate the needs of its owners.

There are similar houses in the Rockburn Hill Area, namely the residences of Mrs. Cordelia Hansen, Miss Anita Berret, The Goldbeater's Cottage and the Humphries Tenant House, which feature the same interior plan, although the Humphries Tenant House holds a corner staircase, while all the others feature a central staircase.

Historically, the building was once associated with Belmont. Most recently it has been the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Brown, who acquired the property from James L. Enoss on June 19, 1946 (190-373), who in turn originally received the property from William Burschardt on February 6, 1909. (86-589) Formerly, the property had belonged to William Burchall who conveyed it in 1906 to William Buschardt. (82-145)

In the nineteenth century the house was owned by Joseph Earp, who conveyed it on October 25, 1880 to David Todd (42-655), from whom William Burchall acquired the property (67-473).

Believed by local residents to be the oldest structure on Rockburn Hill Road, it should be considered for inclusion to any proposal for The Lawyer's Hill-Belmont Area to become a National Register of Historic Places District, should its owner so desire.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

HO - 542
Savage Quad.
Dist. I.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview on November 19, 1979 with Mrs. Gisela Brown and Mrs. Cordelia Hanson at The Brown Residence.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .968 Acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 32

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber 732 Folio 268

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

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.

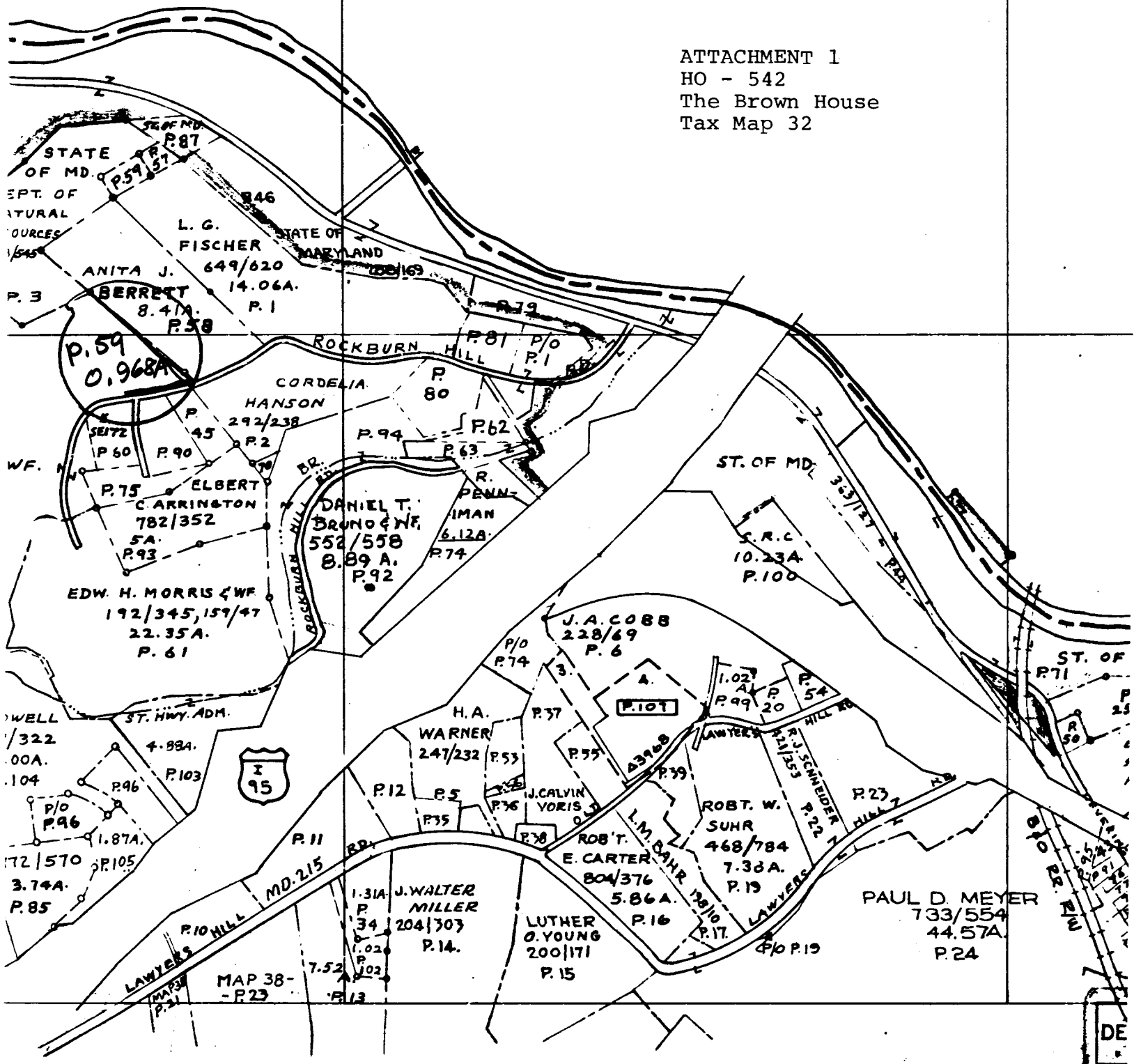
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

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

BALTIMORE COUNTY

MAP 108

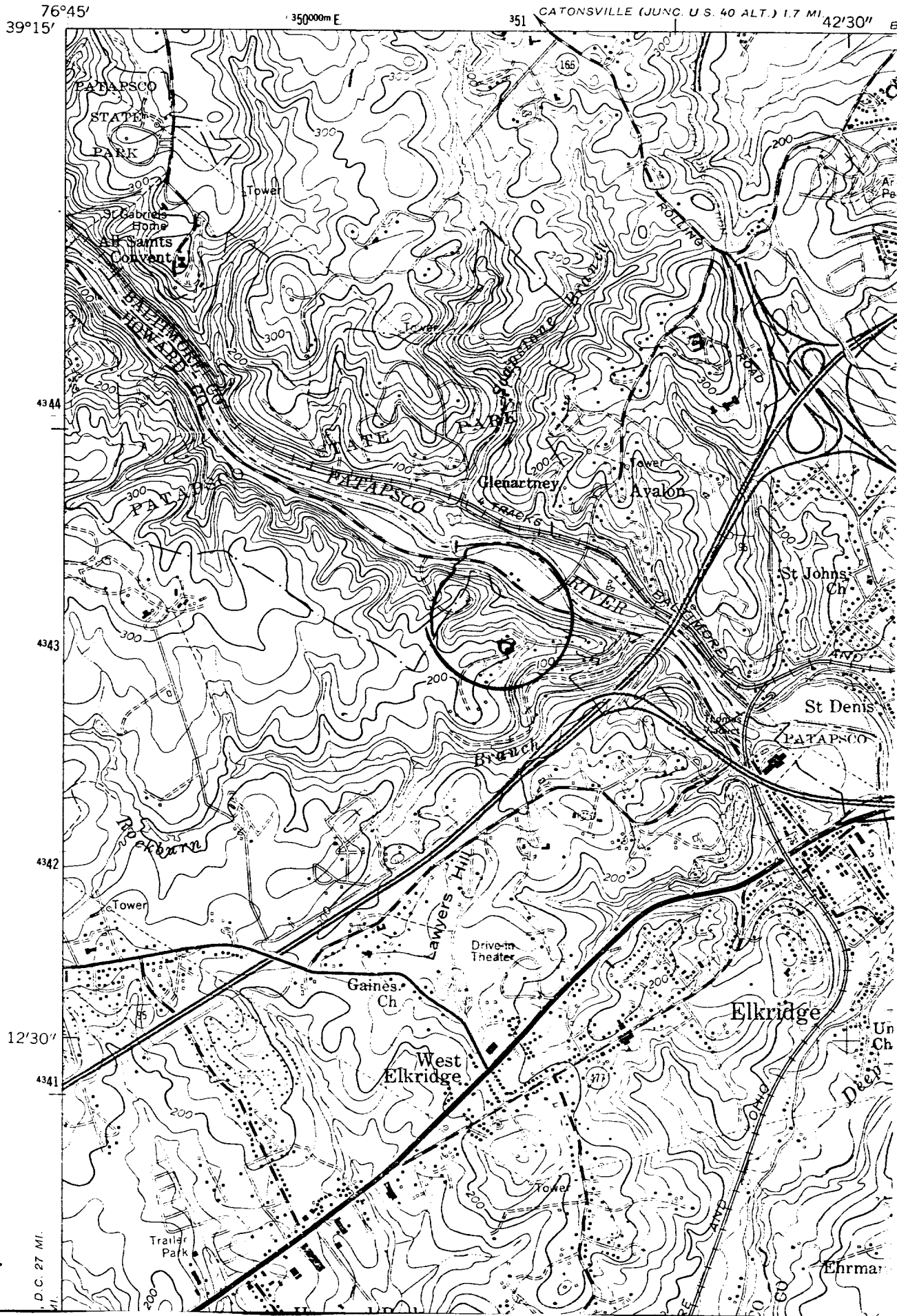
ATTACHMENT 1
HO - 542
The Brown House
Tax Map 32



Attachment 2
HO-542
The Brown House
U.S. Geological Survey Map
Relay, Maryland Quadrangle

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

5662 IV SE
(ELLICOTT CITY)



Ho. 542
The Brown House
SOUTHEAST

DECEMBER, 1979

OB THOMPSON AICP