HO-561
The Ryerson House ("Bessie Hall") Circa 1874
Columbia
Private

The Ryerson House ("Bessie Hall") faces east on the west side of Cedar Lane 2400 feet south of its intersection with Hickory Ridge Road.

It is a five bay wide, one room deep, two and a half story high, gabled roof (running north-south) frame structure with square brick chimneys inset into its north and south walls and an intersecting, central gable on its east elevation. This elevation holds a central rectangular, entrance door, flanked by three vertical side lights and surmounted by a four light transom.

Fenestration is rectangular, double-hung, holding two-over-two lights, proportionally scaled, vertically aligned, and decorated with black shutters.

A hipped roof, one story high, open porch runs along this elevation, supported by square wooden posts. A two bay wide, one room deep, two story high, intersecting gable (running east-west) frame kitchen "L" extends from the two north bays of the west wall of the house. Its west wall holds a central, square, brick chimney. Its south wall holds a central, rectangular entrance and a one light, rectangluar picture window, east of the door, with two rectangular, second floor windows, with two-over-two lights above. A shed roofed, one story high, enclosed porch runs along the south wall.

Bessie Hall is a good example of Howard County vernacular frame architecture, constructed in an "L" plan by John Wall, circa 1874.

HO-561
Dist. 5
Clarksville Quad.
MAGI # 1405615504

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
"Bessie Hall"

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
6050 Cedar Lane (Now on Cedar Court)

CITY, TOWN
Columbia

__ 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	__MILITARY	__OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mrs. Knowles A. Ryerson

Telephone #: 730-8350

STREET & NUMBER
15 Arlmonte Dr

CITY, TOWN
Berkeley,

__ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
California 94707

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Tax Map 35, p. 39
Hall of Records

Liber #: 689
Folio #: 711

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-561
Dist 5
Clarksville

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
X EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Ryerson House faces east on the west side of Cedar Lane 2400 feet south of its intersection with Hickory Ridge Road.

It is a five bay wide, one room deep, two and a half story high, gabled roof (running north-south) frame structure with square brick chimneys inset into its north and south walls and an intersecting, central gable on its east elevation. This elevation holds a central rectangular, entrance door, flanked by three vertical side lights and surmounted by a four light transom.

Fenestration is rectangular, double-hung, holding two-over-two lights, proportionally scaled , vertically aligned, and decorated with black shutters.

A hipped roof, one story high, open porch runs along this elevation, supported by square wooden posts. A two bay wide, one room deep, two stay high, intersecting gable (running east-west) frame kitchen "L" extends from the two north bays of the west wall of the house. Its west wall holds a central, square, brick chimney. Its south wall holds a central, rectangular entrance and a one light, rectangular picture window, east of the door, with two rectangular, second floor windows, with two-over-two lights above. A shed roofed, one story high, enclosed porch runs along the south wall.

The west bay of this porch has been enclosed to create what once may have been a pantry, whose south wall holds a rectangular, two-over-two light window and is now used as a powder room.

A rectangular entrance lies east of the enclosure with three tall, rectangular eight light windows east of the entrance. The main building

block of the house features a central hall with east and west rectangular entrances.

The interior of the Ryerson House features random width floors, cross paneled entrance doors and door and window frames flanked by fluted pilasters, surmounted by fluted lintels, joined by square blocks, decorated with circles. The house has an "L" shaped stone walled basement foundation, indicating the entire house was constructed at one time. The woodwork, interior doors and floors also match throughout the house, a further indication of this.

The front door is of particular interest. On the exterior it is a rectangular, Roman-arched, cross paneled door, while on its interior it is simply a rectangular, cross paneled door. The intersecting front gable once held a Roman-arched, double-hung window, holding two-over-two lights. These two features are representative of the second half of the Nineteenth Century.

HO-561
District 5
Columbia

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
__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	X OTHER (SPECIFY) Local History
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Circa 1874 BUILDER/ARCHITECT John Wall

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Ryerson House ("Bessie Hall") is a good example of Howard County vernacular frame architecture[1], constructed in an "L" plan by John Wall, circa 1874[2].

EXPLANATORY NOTES:

1. The Ryerson House, also known as "Bessie Hall", is typical of the two-story high, gabled roof, farm house with "L" service wing, which was being constructed in Howard County in the second half of the Nineteenth Century. Often these houses featured a central intersecting gable, such as we find here, inset with either a Roman-arched or Gothic-arched attic window. This latter feature, a Roman-arched attic window, has been covered so that it does not appear on the facade, only on the interior. The central, rectangular, cross-paneled doorway for the house also features two top, Roman-arched panels on its exterior, another feature of this period.

   The house also retains much of its original interior, such as its cross-paneled doors, basic floor plan, staircase, and woodwork, the latter of which is composed of fluted pilasters and lintels joined by square blocks, decorated with circles.

2. This house is situated on land once belonging to a farm given to

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

Amos Dorsey by his father, Eli. The third line of this farm once intersected Lot #3 of the division of real estate of Amos Dorsey, which Lot #3 was on April 8, 1818, conveyed to Charles Worthington and Mary Ann Worthington. On January 20, 1874, 145 acres of the original farm was sold at public auction to John P. Wall. This man is believed to have constructed the present house. He, James Wall and Robert Lilly entered into a petition to create a right-of-way to the public road known as "Cedar Lane", confirmed by Circuit Court of Howard County 30 March, 1880 (5-98). The residence of James Wall is also indicated on the Hopkins' Atlas of 1878, with no direct access to Cedar Lane at that time. By 1883, Pulaski Dorsey acquired the 145 acre farm, willing it to Annie E. Simpson. She, in turn, conveyed it to James Goodman in 1913, who lived there until the time of his death. By 1941, his widow, Pearl Lee Peters and their children, Woodrow Wilson Goodman, Irene Virginia Goodman, Vernon Eugene Goodman, and James Ellis Goodman conveyed the 145 acre farm to Emma A. Pierson. In her deed conveyance to Dorsey E. West in 1948, the following tracts of land were named, of which this farm was a part; "Dorsey Land","The Discovery", Luck Support", "Geists Plains" and "Dorsey's Search Enlarged."

In 1951, 32 acres of the farm were acquired by Neil and Beverly Besse. Ten years later, Hammond and Ella Mae Bosse acquired "Bessie Hall", holding it one year and then conveying it to its present owner, Mrs. Edith P. Popenoe Ryerson.

HO-561
Dist. 5
Clarksville Quad

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lane Records of Howard County
Interview with Mrs. Streich, resident of the house, July 25, 1978
Correspondence with Mrs. Edith Ryerson, September 28, 1978

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 32.24 Acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 35

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber 680 Folio 711

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
465-5000 x 257

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

PS-1108

TITLE SEARCH
HO-561 The Ryerson House (Bessie Hall")
Prepared by Cleora Thompson, AICP

DATE	LIBER - FOLIO	GRANTOR	GRANTEE	TRANSACTION
a July, 1974	689 - 711	Edith P. Ryerson	Charles H. Popenoe and Peter Popenoe	Deed to 32.24 acres 1/4 interest to Charles and Peter as tenants in common with the grantor of 32.24 acres.
Sept6, 1962	388 - 748	Hammond E. Bosse and Ella Mae Bosse	Edith P. Popenoe, now remarried to Knowles A. Ryerson	Deed to Lot 6 Block A as laid out on the plat of Cedar Acres, H.C. dated April 1951 # 4-11
May 12, 1961	368 - 26	Neil K. Besse & Beverly L. Besse	Hammond E. Bosse and Ella Mae Bosse	Same as above
April 16, 1951	224 - 315	Kensington Realty Co., Inc.	Neil K & Beverly L. Besse	Same as above
April 16, 1951	224 - 312	Dorsey E. West	Kensington Realty Co.	Deed to 145 acres ±
July 8, 1948	204 - 509	Emma A. Pierson and Everett, her husband	Dorsey E. West and Louise R. West	p/o tract called "Dorsey Land" p/o "The Discovery" (5th and 4th divis) p/o Luck Support p/o Geists Plains p/o Dorsey's Search Enlarged. Deeed to 2 parcels 1 - 14 5.9 acres ± 2 - 145 A±
31 May, 1941	170 - 383	Pearl Lee Peters etal (widow of James Goodman) Woodrow Wilson Goodman Irene Virginia Goodman Vernon Eugene Goodman James Ellis Goodman	Emma A. Pierson ——his children	Deed to 145 A±

TITLE SEARCH
HO-561- The Ryerson House
Prepared by Cleora B. Thompson, AICP

"All that farm situate and lying in of H.C." "at a stone st 3rd line in a deed from Eli Dorsey to his son Amos ....to intersect Lot #3 of the Division of real estate of Amos Dorsey, which Lot #3 was on 8 April, 1818 conveyed to Charles Worthington and Mary Ann - especially as an easement appurtengnce to said trust, a right of way to the public road, known as "Cedar Lane" established by County Commissioners on petition of John Wall and Robert Lilly confirmed by Circuit Court 30 March, 1880 5-98

DATE	LIBER - FOLIO	GRANTOR	GRANTEE	TRANSACTION
Feb. 13, 1913	94 - 316	Annie E. Simpson	James Goodman (on which he resided at time of his death)	Deed to 145 A "a certain Pulaski Dorsey willed 145A to Annie E. Simpson for life with a remainder to Mary Ann Carr
1 March 1883	46 - 86	Harrison Dorsey	Pulaski Dorsey	Deed to 145 A for $ 3,000
15 Sept, 1874	34 - 231	William A. Hammond, Mortgagee and trustee to John P. Wall	John P. Wall	Deed to 145 A

Trustee named in a mortgage from Dr. Charles Ridgely to G. Burke and Wm. A. Hammond 10 Dec. 1870 (3-253)

Expose at public aution at the Ct Hse door in E.C.
The property mentioned Jan 20, 1874
John P. Wall highest bidder for $1180
"together with all and singular the rights, privileges and appurtenaces . .

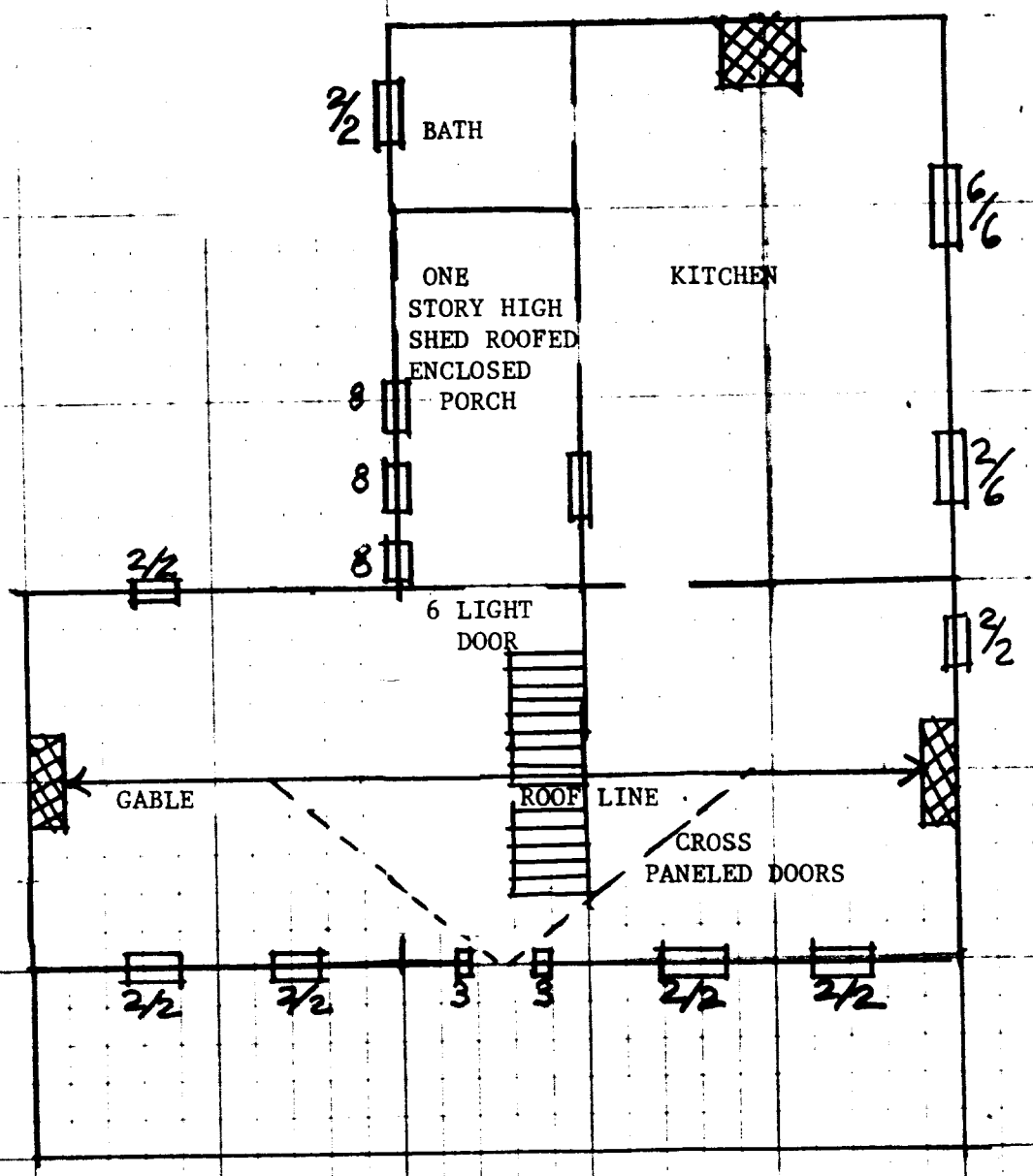
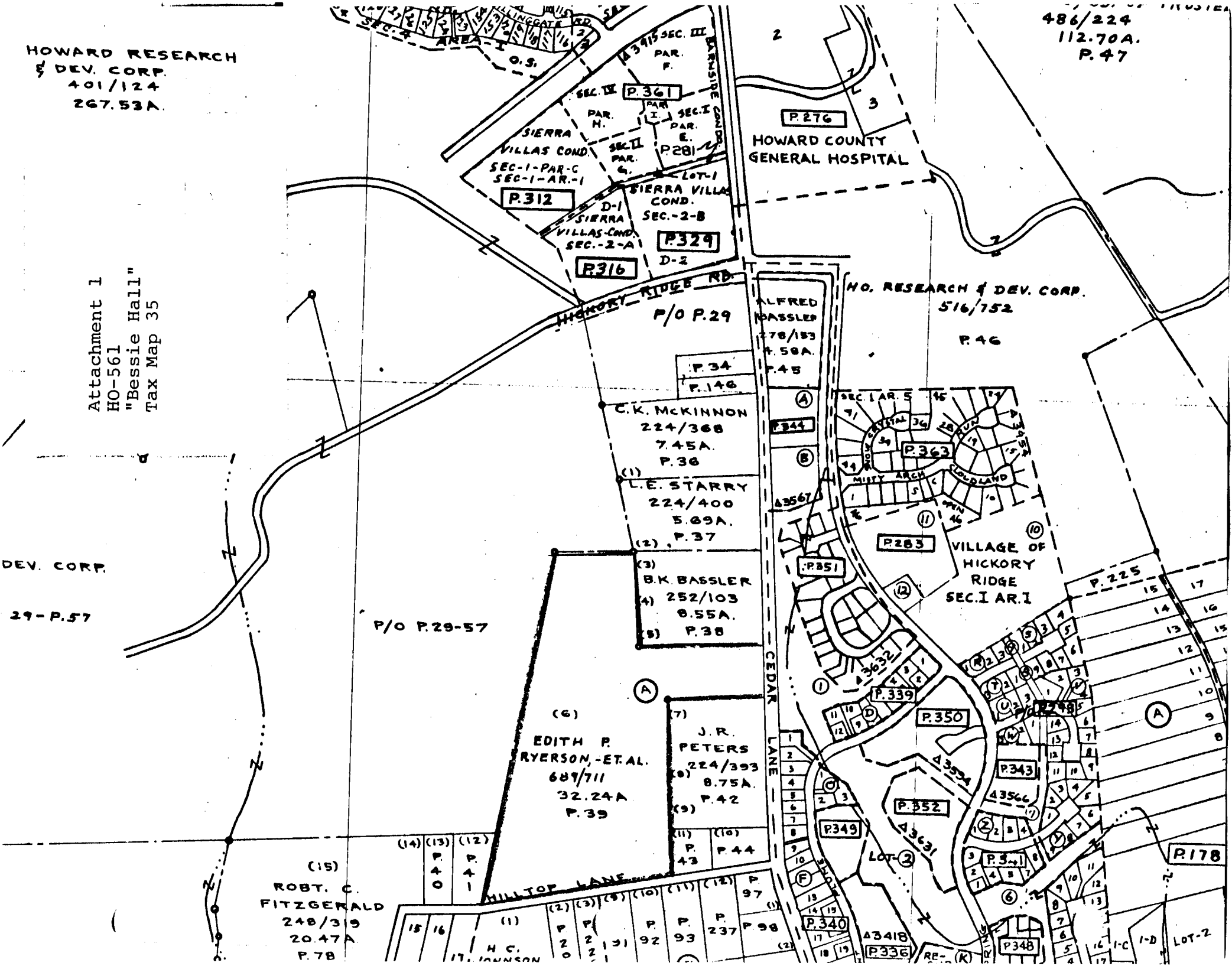
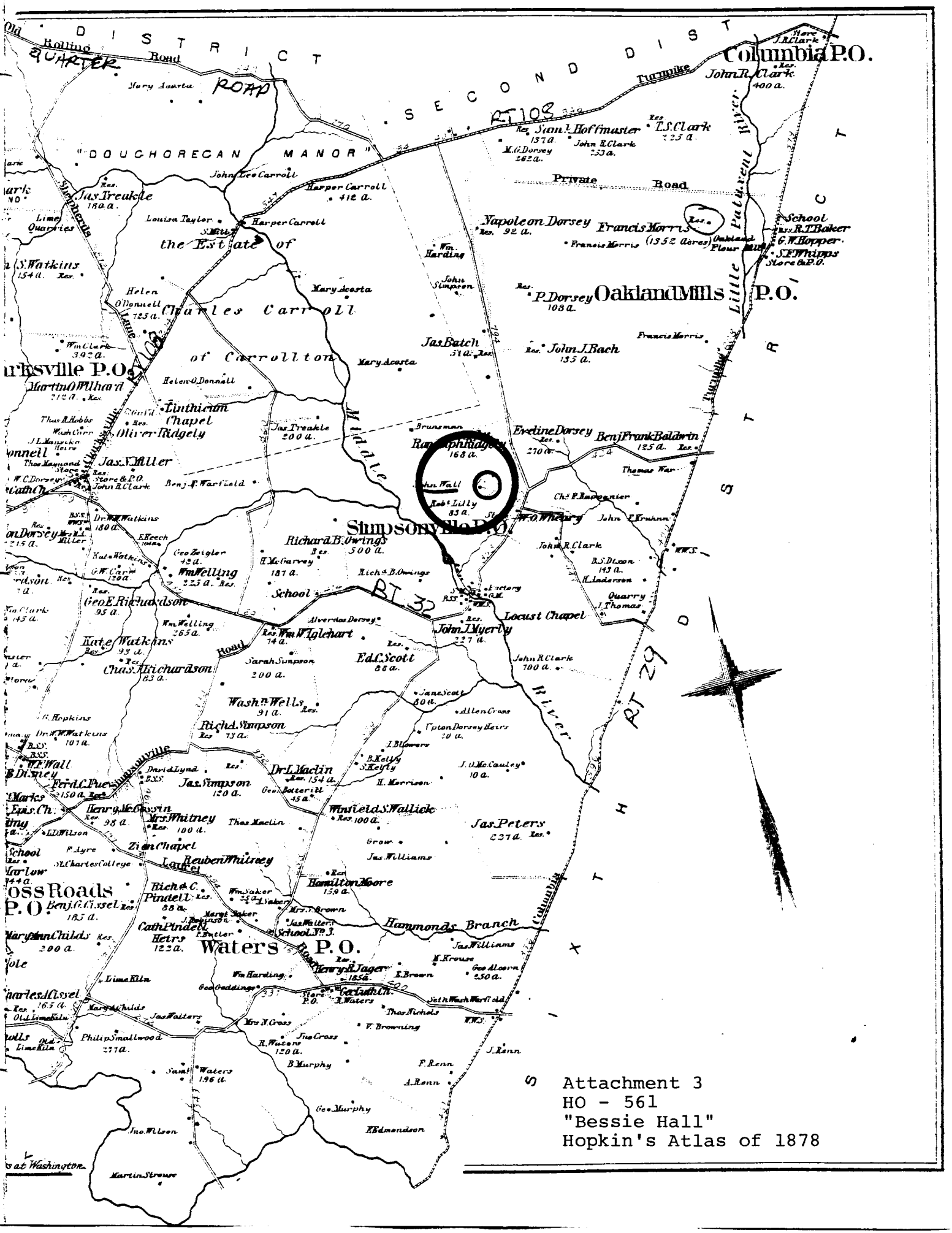
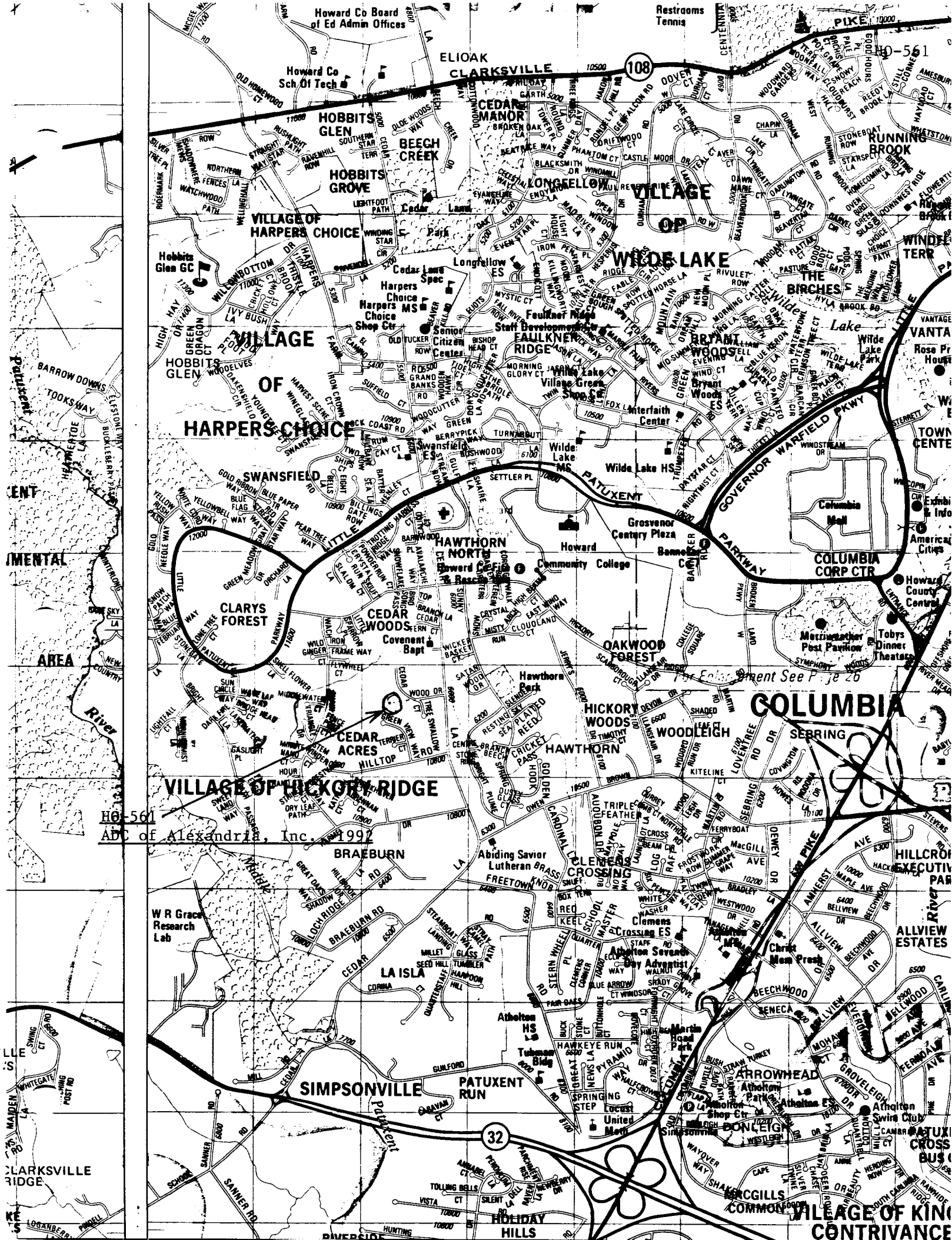


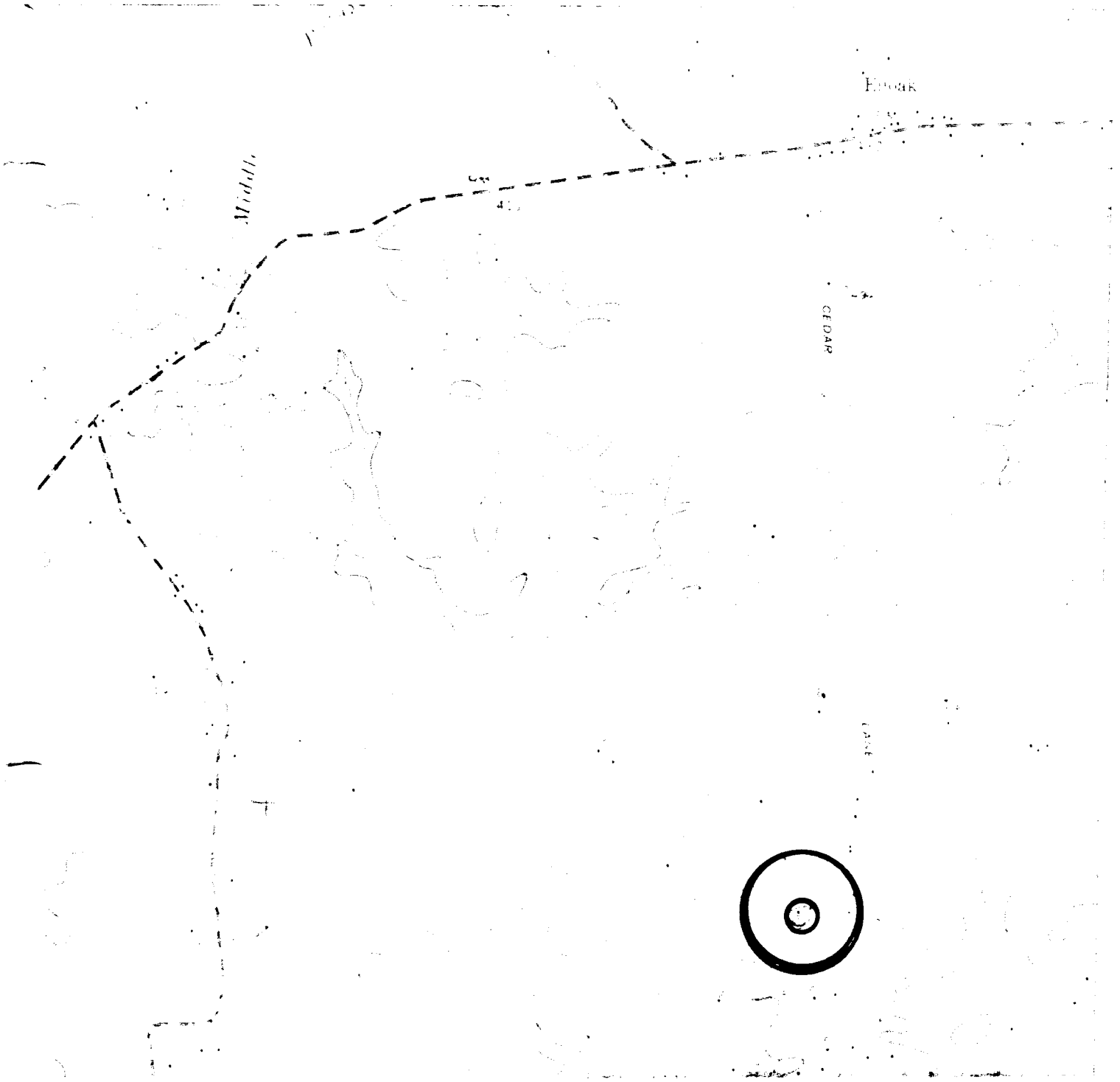
FIGURE 1
HO-561
THE RYERSON HOUSE, "BESSIE HALL"
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

Attachment 1
HO-561
"Bessie Hall"
Tax Map 35




DISTRICT
SECOND DISTRICT
Rolling Road
QUARTER ROAD
Turnpike
RT 108
Columbia P.O.
"DOUCHORECAN MANOR"
Private Road
the Estate of
Charles Carroll
of Carrollton
Oakland Mills P.O.
Little Patuxent River
Simpsonville P.O.
Waters P.O.
Hammonds Branch
Locust Chapel
Linthicum Chapel
Ziion Chapel
Laurel
Columbia
RT 32
RT 29
Middle River
Shipley's Lane
Simpsonville Road
Stanl. Hoffmuster
T.S. Clark
John R. Clark
Napoleon Dorsey
Francis Morris
(1352 Acres)
Oakland Flour Mills
P. Dorsey
Jas. Batch
John J. Bach
Jas. Treakle
Harper Carroll
Louisa Taylor
Helen O'Donnell
Mary Acosta
Wm. Clark
Martin O. Willard
Oliver Ridgely
Jas. Miller
Benj. F. Warfield
Dr. W. Watkins
Richard B. Owings
Geo. Zeigler
Wm. Welling
Geo. E. Richardson
Kate Watkins
Chas. Richardson
Wm. Wiglehart
Ed. C. Scott
Wash. Wells
Richd. Simpson
Dr. L. Maclin
Jas. Simpson
Henry M. Cassin
Mrs. Whitney
Reuben Whitney
Bich. C. Pindell
Benj. G. Cissel
Cath. Pindell Heirs
Jas. Peters
Hamilton Moore
Jas. Williams
Henry R. Jager
Geo. Alcorn
Philip Smallwood
Sam'l Waters
Geo. Murphy
Jno. Wilson
Martin Strouse
Evelina Dorsey
Benj. Frank Baldwin
Thomas War
Ch. P. Bassgeter
John J. Krumm
Quarry
Jane Scott
Allen Cross
Upton Dorsey Heirs
J. McCauley
Thos. Nichols
V. Browning
Jno. Cross
R. Waters
B. Murphy
F. Renn
A. Renn
J. Renn
Geo. Geddings
Wm. Harding
Lime Kiln
Old Lime Kiln
Mary Childs
Jas. Walters
Mrs. N. Gross
Jno. Wilson
Geo. Murphy
F. Edmondson
Martin Strouse
Attachment 3
HO - 561
"Bessie Hall"
Hopkin's Atlas of 1878


HO-561
Howard Co Board of Ed Admin Offices
Restrooms Tennis
ELIOAK
CLARKSVILLE
108
Howard Co Sch Of Tech
HOBBITS GLEN
BEECH CREEK
CEDAR MANOR
HOBBITS GROVE
LONGFELLOW
VILLAGE OF WILDE LAKE
RUNNING BROOK
VILLAGE OF HARPERS CHOICE
Cedar Lane Park
Hobbits Glen GC
Longfellow ES
Cedar Lane Spec
Harpers Choice MS
Harpers Choice Shop Ctr
Senior Citizen Center
Faulkner Ridge Staff Development Ctr
FAULKNER RIDGE
THE BIRCHES
Wilde Lake
BRYANT WOODS
Wilde Lake Village Green Shop Ctr
Bryant Woods ES
Interfaith Center
VILLAGE OF HARPERS CHOICE
HOBBITS GLEN
Swansfield ES
Wilde Lake MS
Wilde Lake HS
GOVERNOR WARFIELD PKWY
PATUXENT
SWANSFIELD
Columbia Mall
Grosvenor Century Plaza
Bannekar Ctr
HAWTHORN NORTH
Howard Community College
COLUMBIA CORP CTR
Howard County Central
CLARYS FOREST
CEDAR WOODS
Covenent Bapt
OAKWOOD FOREST
Merriweather Post Pavilion
Tobys Dinner Theater
For Enlargement See Page 26
Hawthorn Park
COLUMBIA
HICKORY WOODS
WOODLEIGH
SEBRING
CEDAR ACRES
HAWTHORN
VILLAGE OF HICKORY RIDGE
BRAEBURN
Abiding Savior Lutheran
CLEMENS CROSSING
W R Grace Research Lab
Clemens Crossing ES
Atholton Seventh Day Adventist
Christ Mem Presb
ALLVIEW ESTATES
LA ISLA
Atholton HS
Tubman Bldg
Martin Road Park
ARROWHEAD
Atholton Park
Atholton ES
Atholton Shop Ctr
Atholton Swim Club
SIMPSONVILLE
PATUXENT RUN
Locust United Meth
DONLEIGH
32
MACGILLS COMMON
HOLIDAY HILLS
VILLAGE OF KING CONTRIVANCE
CLARKSVILLE RIDGE
Patuxent River
Middle Patuxent River
AREA
HO-561
ADC of Alexandria, Inc. 1992



Attachment 2
HO-561
"
Bessie Hall"
U.S. Geological Survey Map
Clarksville Quadrangle